

Letter from Gertrude McCurdy Hubbard to Alexander Graham Bell, February 5, 1877, with transcript

L. G.M.H. to A.G.B. 1877 Family. Feb. 5 Washington speaks of Mr. Bell's morbid sensitiveness— Mr. Hubbard's efforts to be kind.

We have been looking day after day for a long time for letters from you, Mr. Hubbard and I. Don't tell me of piles of letters waiting to be answered, or of days and nights filled with lectures and experiments, etc. What a morbidly sensitive man you are — you think that we have been disappointed that you have not given up your whole time to telephony, and you shrink from writing and frankly telling us. We have both written as kindly as we could and while we acknowledged our disappointment have expressed our confidence in you and concurrence in whatever you decide to be right. Could we do more? Perhaps we too, are sensitive and want you to trust us more and believe more in the real affection which we feel for you. I know that you are harrassed and troubled, anxious and at times discouraged. It has been in our earnest desire to see you relieved and contented that we have urged to strongly the immediate completion of the telephone.

Thanks for the newspapers giving an account of your experiment with Malden. I should judge that it must have been a very successful one. Were the sounds louder and more distinct than before? Do let us know what you are doing.

Mr. Hubbard continues as much occupied as ever. His report is at present waiting for the decision of Congress as to whether it must be presented in an incomplete form or whether the time shall be lengthened.