

## Letter from Sarah Fuller to Mabel Hubbard Bell, August 31, 1895, with transcript

Copy of a letter from Miss Sarah Fuller to Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell August 31, 1895  
Copied from the collection of Biographical Material in "Dr. Bell's Room." Newton Lower  
Falls August 31, 1895 My dear Mrs. Bell:

I think I need not apologize for writing to you when what I have to say will give you great pleasure. Had I found an opportunity to give you a few minutes, soon after the meeting at Flint, I think I could have written more fully than I can today.

I suppose your husband has told you much about the sessions, and of the formal adoption of a constitution, but I think he may have omitted to mention that he made a memorable address, after the unjust and cruel attack upon him by Dr. E. M. Gallaudet. He spoke as if inspired. I can recall only fragmentary portions, but the impression of the entire address was most delightful. Not a word of retaliation, not a thought of anything but entire truth, and with a request to all to ask any questions which might present themselves, the speech was a model for the highest type of a Christian gentleman. He lifted the entire audience into a broader, better, clearer atmosphere, and unconsciously, to himself, revealed what seems to me to be the secret of his great power over man — his intense desire to be true in everything he says and does. I wish that I might hope you could see the report of this speech, but I fear that our stenographer was unequal to her duties. I heard that her notes were almost useless, because of the many inaccuracies. The address, which was arranged for the second session of the oral department was very fine. Altogether the result of your husband's words and acts was most beneficent. You have great cause for thankfulness that he can be so helpful to others, and find real joy in his efforts.

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I was more pained by the remarks of Dr. Gallaudet than I can express, but I afterwards thought that the sweetness and beauty of your husband's words and spirit could not have been known and understood except for the bitterness of his critic.

I begin my school work on next Wednesday. I have had rest in change, and perhaps it has been as well as if I had had more time to recall the sad, sad days of the past year.

Our dear little Dorothy has been ill during the past month, but is somewhat better now. Baby Edith is improving in appearance, and is nearly as large as other babies of her age.

I trust that you and yours are well. With love to each one, I am,

Affectionately yours, Sarah Fuller