

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Alexander Melville Bell, 1871, with transcript

Copy of a letter written by Alexander Graham Bell to his father. 1871? Dear Papa:

Another glorious success! Visible Speech for the Blind!

Just finished an Exposition before the Trustees of the Blind Asylum. I have been hard at work raising the symbols — and by a little mechanical device I was enabled to give a full exposition of the power of the symbols.

Miss Jones of Northampton read French, English and German words and noises dictated by those present by the sense of touch alone — although she saw the raised characters for the first time last Monday.

The Trustees are thoroughly interested. This will lead to some application to the Blind.

I stated that the system need not be antagonistic to other systems of raised letters — that it had special uses of its own. This had a marked effect and I doubt not will lead to important results. Another exposition before a scientific society in store for next week.

AGB.