

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, December 3, 1885, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. December 3rd. 1885. My dear Alec:

I didn't write y t o you yesterday which was very bad of me but I had my excuse. I write at night and am pretty sure of an uninterrupted hour for my writing. Last night however Mr. Johnson called just as we finished tea and remained until half after nine looking at my photographs and rummaging in your study for the McCurdy geneology through which he hoped to r t race the relationship of his wife's father and Uncle Charles. Immediately after he left Charlie came in to look at my checque book as the two balances, his and mine did not agree. Of course he found that he was right and I was wrong, he always does the horrid boy. Then he hurried home to see his baby who had a bad earache and I yielded to the temptation to look over the pile of Club papers just brought, in consequence it was twelve before I got through.

Mamma asked me what you would do about Helen she has had a good deal of earache lately off and on. Not very bad or of long duration, still she has had some and Mamma wants to know if you would advise her wearing bonnets or hoods to cover the ears? She says boys never have their ears covered, why shou d l d girls. Charlie says he used to have a good deal of earache as a boy.

I have not succeeded in straightening out the affairs of the school yet. I expected to make it all right with Miss Hesselback today but Mrs. Home complicated matters by saying that she would like to have Aileen come and take her place when she left to keep it open for her in case she should return. Both Dr. Radcliffe and Papa never advise me against it. They say if Mrs. Home decides to return next winter it will be time enough then to think of buying Mrs. Spier ' s 2 interest in the school. Meanwhile to stick to my idea of remitting

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the rent after your cousin leaves. If Miss H. chooses to employ Aileen she can do so, at present it would require several days delay to hear if she, Aileen, would accept the position. I believe all is going well in the school. I went over there yesterday. Nellie thinks she is doing well with the Dr's children. Mrs. Davis had just left and Miss Van Ranslea began with George.

We are all well, Papa looks brighter this P.M. Daisy wrote enclosed letter from copy, quite alone. Elsie's is not quite finished. Daisy remarked today she could find her little friend's house because she had promised to put a stick in the ground to mark it!

Lovingly, Mabel.