

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, December 5, 1885, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. December 5, 1885.

My dear Alec:

Since I have not heard from you and besides worked hard for you until 1.30 last night, and all today you must not complain at a short scrawl now. Your affairs are further than ever from settlement in consequence of my efforts. I don't know how things will turn out, you will have to take the consequences of leaving me with full powers. I can only do the best I know.

I am very sorry about Dr. Gillett e but I believe Nellie really made a very good show with the babies and Dr. Gillett e remarked, "I see you do not use gestures at all. I hope the time is not far distant when they will be abolished in all the institutions."

Sara has mastered a word — "water" — she knows it by heart can spell it on her fingers and knows what it means and is very proud of it. Nellie says Dr. Gillette was pleased with that and particularly with the way in which at Nellie's bidding she went and got the card marked "Good morning" and gave it to him with a low bow. He took her up in his arms and played with her.

The children, our, not yours , are very well and going on nicely with their music. I think by the time you return they will have mastered the notes perfectly. They recognize them in books now and are delighted when at the end of a practice lesson Nellie lets them play a tune from the Nursery rhymes.

I am not going to N.Y. Grace has changed her mind and doesn't want to go. Papa is still much under the weather but Dr. Johnston whom I called this evening said it was only the

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weather his cold was nearly over and his weakness was a result not so much of the cold for 2 he has had no fever but of the confinement to the house and enforced abstinence from exercise.

After all I have written quite a respectable letter.

Goodnight pleasant dreams. Let me hear from you sometime. I get along very well without you for a day or two and then grow homesick. I am approaching that state but a letter would arrest the process of my disorder for a day or two.

Your loving, May.