

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, July 13, 1897, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. (Postmarked Baddeck — July 13, 1897) My darling Alec:

Thanks for your telegram of remembrance. I had tried to send one to Boston but Dunlop rarely condescends to notice our calls nowadays and two of my telegrams are unsent. I wanted you to know I remembered you and that I heartily congratulated you on your good work. I am so thankful that at least your sacrifice of time, strength and comfort was of use. I know no soldier went more truly to battle than you did when you left here, and I am so glad you have come out of the fray alive and I trust not seriously injured.

Charles and Miss Fuller remembered the day. The one put up “Many happy returns” and a bunch of white roses by my plate, the other collected a card of good wishes from each member of the family and put them on my plate. Elsie's was characteristic. She writes “I am glad you and Papa were married or there would not have been I”.

This evening Miss McPhee and Miss McCurdy took supper with us to meet Miss Fuller. Miss Fuller was very much pleased with Miss McPhee. She said she was very courteous and careful in expressing herself, looking ahead to where her words would fall. She told her she would like her for a teacher of the deaf, but I said we could not spare her, and if we could there was a man who would not.

It's rather funny sometimes taking care of your father, to know things others do not and to see the hidden meaning of things. It's hard though not to betray myself sometimes and it must be doubly so for others. Your father is absolutely incorrigible but so far he is held well in hand. I think however he is waiting for your arrival for a grand effort to break bounds. I don't think the other side will give way though. Grace and her family are here

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and I am enjoying them very much. The children with Miss Fuller and Gracie go on a hay ride tomorrow evening. I stay with your father. Won't he be delighted? Would you still prefer my company?

Ever yours. Day sends her love.