

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 6, 1900, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Ave. Washington, D. C. Sunday, May 6th, 1900 My dear Alec:

Your telegram with it's promise of your return at the end of the week was a great relief. I began to fear from your sending for the statistics that you did not intend to return as soon as I had hoped.

Mrs. Pratt and Bessie have been working very hard and every thing will be ready for you against your return.

I took Mr. and Miss McCurdy and Mrs. Pratt out for a most beautiful drive this afternoon. We went first to the Soldiers Home, Rock Creek Cemetery and then through the country to Cleveland park, over the Aqueduct bridge to Arlington reaching home nearer eight then seven and we started before 3.30.

Daisy leaves for Kentucky this evening. I hate to have the child go but think the change will be interesting and beneficial. She is not as strong as she ought to be. Miss McCurdy leaves on Tuesday and Mr. McCurdy also. His things are moving along very slowly, the Philadelphia man seems very stupid, he absolutely declines to follow Mr. McCurdy's instructions pure and simple but must always add what he considers improvements of his own. His last is to declare that it is a waste of time and money for Mr. McCurdy to try white paper backed films because the numbering wont come out in the Eastman Camera window. As if Mr. McCurdy hadn't been working to get something entirely different which would do away with the window. Another time Mr. McCurdy sent a formula and asked his to make up a preparation according to it. First he sent Mr. McCurdy something and when asked if it was according to the formula said no but something he thought better for Mr

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McCurdy's purpose. So a second request was sent him to put up the formula and he has now replied saying that he has done so with the addition of his red fluid!

Mr. McCurdy thinks when he goes on that he will not return until we go to Norfolk. I have got your study all nice and clean for you.

It is still very cool here I wish you were here to enjoy it.

My bust is not improving any. I wish you would look after it.

Now I haven't anything more to say,

So goodnight, Ever your, Mabel.