

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, October 10, with transcript, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Beinn Bhreagh, Victoria County, Cape Breton, N. S. Oct. 10, Maine (1901) My darling Alec:

I did so hate going off and leaving you and I think it was worse saying Goodbye to you when you did not know I was going. I kissed you and told you I was going and could not make you understand, and then the boat went off and left me without a parting Goodbye from you.

Did you sleep comfortably, did you wake even after you reached Baddeck? and then what did you do? It seems so strange to have been in with you and knowing all you were doing and then to be suddenly shut away from it all. I am homesick already. How did your string kite fly and have you tried your all over cloth kite yet. Of course not it is only yesterday that I left, it feels an age. Did you mind the childrens going off? I did not think you really would as they were so tired they could not have helped you much anyway.

I did a thing yesterday that I was rather proud of. I found that the train would stop at Truro at 6, and that I would have to wait there until 12 P.M. for the next, well I was awfully tired and the prospect of hanging around for six hours going to bed at 12 and getting up next morning at 6 wasn't alluring. I found that my train went on to Halifax and the St. John one came from there so I just went right on to Halifax, got there at 10:15 and went straight on board the other train and went immediately to bed and to sleep, thus securing about two hours extra sleep. I have telegraphed to Cousin Mary to know if she wants me to stay overnight with her. I haven't seen her for years and I hear that she is not well, so I want to see her if I 2 can manage it. We have just been stopping at Waterville, it's a beautiful country college town with such fine lawns old elms, rocks, water, pretty villas and general air of trimness and prosperity. And all the farmhouses lengthen out into the barns. I don't

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after all see why the boarding house isn't the one to be connected with the barn. Stewart wants \$290 and Bert's man \$390 for building Mr. Davidson's combined tool cart seed and coal house. It seems to me that this is too much. I went over the ground with Mr. Davidson the other day, but coming to think of it I can't see why the gardener's cottage should not be utilized and the cart shelter joined on to it. I like long low buildings. The gardener's cottage is quite unused now, and there is after all no reason why it should not be put to some use until the time when we need it for something else.

The coloring of the woods is most gorgeous, I have passed some trees standing by themselves with every leaf on and a perfect mass of brilliant red. The railroad fence is like the kind I wanted, except that there are no little rings on the top. It is a new and beautifully put up fence, the posts strengthened with right-angled supports.

Much love my dear, Your Mabel. Love to my dear little girl and Bessie.