

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, October 11, 1913, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Sat. Oct. 11, 1913.

Darling Alec:

By coming in with David I get a chance to write you. Nobody else here but the janitor, Rhoda's husband who is painting the office ceiling for the seventh time! David wants him fired, but we've too much to do getting our own selves into shape.

Miss George went to Northampton Wednesday and is to be back today. I hope she got what I wanted out of it. They have everything in Northampton except the Montessori idea, which I take it means opportunity for individual development limited only by the equal right of everyone else to the same opportunity.

My business here is chiefly in the way of authorizing expenditures which seem to me necessary, but which would be practically impossible otherwise. For instance gymnastic equipment and awning curtains for the verandah, and the note-books. Please say you agree with me about the note-books. Miss True bewails the destruction of all the papers she used in my instruction, and I do think the systematic and faithful record day by day of each child's development will be of immense utility in considering the effect to be expected of this treatment of children. We have seventy-five enrolled, but this enrollment is not equal, for instance there are children on the waiting list for some groups and not enough in others.

Mr. DeLand has been invaluable. David cannot say enough in his praise. He told me he did not mind the heat here, but his wife did. David wants most anything done to keep him, and says 2 his heart is in the work, but of course his wife has first consideration.

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Much love, Your Mabel.