

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

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. My dear Alec:

I have just sent over your note to Mr. McInnis for I think it is well he should understand that you are annoyed. But now comes the question whether you are doing wisely in ordering the work stopped. I do not believe we will care to make the present our permanent location, but we shall almost certainly spend next summer where we now are, and it will add immensely to our comfort if we had plenty of fresh cold water. I have been very much annoyed ever since the water was turned on by its being so warm and spiritless. That first glass of fresh ice-cold water you gave me is the only one I have had yet. It seems to me evident that the water cannot be otherwise than warm, running as it does half a mile exposed to the sun and running through a pipe that at times will be very hot. We can cool the water for drinking, but there are many things in the kitchen for which we require cold water from the faucet.

Again — I want the field in the home enclosure across which the pipe goes plowed up this fall and sown with winter rye and new grass. The pipe lying on the surface will interfere very much with the plowing.

The trench is fully dug across the road, and half dug across the home enclosure. It seems to me it would be nearly as much a waste of labor to order the work stopped now, as to take it up by and by. I really think that the increase of comfort in having the pipe covered from the sun's rays next summer and from the frost this fall will pay for the labor. I always supposed you meant to bury the pipe in the earth, only not as deeply as necessary for a permanent pipe, and this is what I think ought to be done, and which I would 2 very much like to have done.

## Library of Congress

If Aileen wants I will come down on Wednesday. No word from your father or anyone.

Lovingly ever, May. It was mean in you to pack us off in such a hurry willy-nilly. I wouldn't mind if it were to Beinn Bhreagh, but when we have got to stop here at Crescent Grove it is a sell. Word has just come that there is something wrong with the pipe and there is no water and we are kindly requested to stay where we are for the present. I hope you feel badly, when you are out rowing. or gliding in the canoe and think of your banished wife and babies. Elsie and Ninie and I send love. from Baby.