

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mr. Gilder, January 19, 1897

424 Personal January 19th. 1897. Mn Dear Mr. Gilder:—

The admirable article in the Century by Mr. Wright upon the Oral Method of Instructing the Deaf will attract a great deal of attention, and from my knowledge of the advocates of the sign method I venture to predict that you will be deluged by letters in opposition from all parts of the country, worked up by solicitation, to create the impression of a spontaneous expression of opinion.

Should this prove to be the case, and you should desire to ascertain the opinions of principals who have not been solicited to write to you, I can give you the names and addresses of all the principals of the schools for the deaf in the United States.

I forwarded to you yesterday a copy of my paper upon the "Growth of the Oral Method" which will give you the statistics on the subject up to 1893. I can also, if desired, supply the statistics up to the present time which will show that the percentage of pupils taught by the oral methods is still continuously on the increase.

Yours sincerely, Alexander Graham Bell