

Letter from Edward E. Hale to Alexander Graham Bell, May 16, 1894

FROM EDWARD E. HALE. 39 Highland St. Roxbury, Mass., May 16, 1894 My dear Mr. Bell,—

Your letter should have had an earlier answer, but I have taken a good deal of time, and awaited the opinion of one or two friends.

I am not the right person to be this trustee. In the first place, I hate all schools and colleges. In the second place, I dislike all women's colleges of which I know anything, for good reasons. In the third place, I think our dear Helen is likely to be killed, as it is, by the pressure of the tenderness and enthusiasm of her friends. It seems to me that if she were in one of these colleges, the admiration and enthusiasm of the girls would drive her out of this world before six months were over.

Really, I feel this so much that I cannot be a party to placing her in one of them.

I went down at once to consult John Spaulding about it. If you know him, you know how sound his judgment is. He had already planned for Helen an arrangement by which she should spend this summer, if she wished, at his charge, at that quiet old place at Brewster where she has been before. That would dispose of all questions till next October. Why not let things lie till then, and then do as the good God shall direct us?

Truly yours, Edw. E. Hale