

January 5, 1923

Mr. Charles J. Bell,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bell:

I learned last night with the most real sorrow, as I know you will believe, of the death of Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell.

I am not surprised. It was hard for me to think of Mrs. Bell's living on long in the world without Mr. Bell. She seemed an inseparable part of him, and she was so rare and beautiful a member of your family group that I think I understand a little of what it is going to cost you all to lose her. Please believe me that you have my deepest sympathy.

I would not be writing now of the matter of the Riggs National Bank if your letter of the 3rd did not tell me that you had already approached Mr. Ailes and that he was going to speak to Mr. Robert Lincoln, which of course is the proper thing to do.

Mr. Lincoln has always been very courteous to me when I have approached him on any matter in reference to his father; but he is not well and so overwhelmed with inquiries of this kind that I have disliked to trouble him. In order not to give you any more trouble, I am writing directly to Mr. Ailes.

Please believe, dear Mr. Bell, that I appreciate your prompt and generous attention to my request.

Faithfully yours,