

CHICAGO, MARCH 19TH, 1878.

DEAR POPE:

MARCH 14TH AT HAND. I AM GLAD, YOU SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MATTER MENTIONED IN MY LETTER OF THE 7TH INST. IT GROWS UPON ONE THE MORE IT IS STUDIED. I HAVE BEEN EXPERIMENTING SINCE I LAST WROTE YOU. I HAD A BATTERY TELEPHONE NEWLY SET UP AND WAS CAREFUL NOT TO CHARGE IT BEFORE MAKING A TEST. I THEN PUT IT ON AT THE RECEIVING END OF THE LINE, LEAVING THE LOCAL CIRCUIT OPEN. I PUT MY BEST TRANSMITTER AT THE SENDING END, THEN HAD A MAN SHOUT AT THE TOP OF HIS VOICE IN IT, BUT COULD NOT GET THE GHOST OF A WORD THROUGH, UNTIL I PUT ON THE LOCAL BATTERY AND CHARGED THE MAGNET, WHEN IT WAS AS GOOD AS ANYBODY'S TELEPHONE. I HAVE MADE THIS EXPERIMENT SO OFTEN AND UNDER SUCH VARIED CIRCUMSTANCES, THAT THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION AS TO THE FACT--THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE THE RECEIVER MAGNETICALLY CHARGED BEFORE IT IS IN CONDITION TO RECEIVE ANY SUCH VIBRATION AS ARE SENT FROM A SPEAKING TELEPHONE TRANSMITTER.

YOURS TRULY,

ELISHA GRAY.