

2008.1.1.1.1.107

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

Macleod, May 4th 1898.

My own dear old Boy,

Although I have only had yours of Apr 20th a few moments ago, still I sit down to answer it at once, hoping it will cheer your sad, lonely heart for a short time. I know I could live well in Montreal on the money I spend here, as I would not have much more to pay for, house rent being the most important. You know dear, as I told you in mine of yesterday (which will I trust reach you safely as the power of Atty was with it) I would not hesitate one moment were it not for the dear wee ones. If you say they can live on the food, it will be all right. So all good men who love their wives (or their own comfort, which is it?) retire early? well, that must be a Yukon idea, surely dear. it was not the way down here, was it? I think I sent one of Flora peeping through the curtains by Mr. Jarvis, did I not. I forget which ones you have. I am pleased that Major W. has improved with years, as it [reverse]

is so much nicer to be surrounded by people one can get on with than otherwise. Certainly, should Montreal be my destination I shall call on Mrs. Walsh – her daughter's husband I knew quite well when he studied in McGill. I will be on the look out for the Globe & will ask some of the Officers to send it in. I have seen the [Mess] papers only a few times since your departure. Regie wrote a few lines & says he has written you by same mail. He is anxious to go, as he says "he knows you would not want him to go unless you thought it a good thing". Marie as I told you before is very anxious to come & Congdon says "if any policeman is allowed to accompany me, he is going to apply". Moore has a job in the C.P.R. stores. I did all I could to recommend him & hope he will get on well. The Comr. is expected some of these days I hear, to hold the Sanders investigation, I presume. Sergt. Pattison came & asked me this a.m. what I wanted put [pg 1]

[pg 2]

in the garden. I answered that I should not need it, as I would either be in Tagish or Montreal. he said, he has very sorry indeed to hear it. Jack Allan

from here is returning. The Klondyke is too rough for him, more than he can stand. so people are surprised that there is question of my facing it. Alice is well, but sorry at the prospect of parting – she has, I think enjoyed her stay among us, although people are so very queer. [Bryan] has lent her a pony lately, so she has been able to enjoy some rides, without troubling Capt. Deane or the Sergt Major. Alec did not go to B.C. after all to look after Uncle Willie's effects. I heard he dare not go to B.C. I wonder if there is truth in it? Mrs. Mac sent me a little present for my birthday, a silver paper knife or letter opener. No news from home for some time. The children are still suffering from that beastly cough

[reverse]

although Flora is almost well, Gertrude fairly so, but Baby has it badly yet – it is a horrible thing I can tell you. Well, my dear old darling, I will cease my chatter ere my letter gets monotonous. Be sure & write often & decide the important question which now troubles me – would it not be a good idea to bring white enamel dishes instead of my nice ones, as they might all get broken on the way? – All these questions you must not forget to answer like a dear old fellow – will I bring your helmet, & what will I do with all the clothes that remained behind? – You know Moore did not put in half yours, as he thought you would return at no distant date. Well, dear I think I have asked all I want to know, carpets furniture, clothes, all have been mentioned. With ever so much love from the little ones in which Alice joins me, Ever

Your own true, warmhearted

Maye.

Your books & private letters & papers of all kinds, desks etc must also be considered – don't forget to tell me what to do with them.

[/pg 2]