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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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162 Hutchison St.
Aug 12th, 10 a.m.

My darling Boy,

Your dear letter of the 7th has just come & I hasten to answer so that you may not be disappointed, as I must go out later on. I made a mistake & dated mine of yesterday the 10th at least I did other letters & may have done the same with yours. I mention the fact, in order that you may know I did not let Sunday pass without sending & mailing mine commenced on Saturday morning. I will tell Gus of the policy premium & he will attend to the matter. It is, of course, a very

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good thing & can do no harm - the expense is not much either. As usual you did a gracious, nice, affectionate act in writing such a charming letter to Gertrude, who was more delighted than you can imagine at receiving it – “You are a darling papa” she says - “every letter is longer than the last!”-

I will not say anything of Mrs. Howe & Mr. [Vobart] to Mrs. Mac - in fact, have never mentioned their names together, but it would not surprise me - she is attractive, I am sure & he has a fine position, & is a good match!

Last night was the hottest we have had so far - it rained early this a.m, but it is fine once more. Torla has gone with Frank

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to get her teeth fixed - he has filling & other work before he can put the arrangement in. [Ermatinger] must have entertained you & given you an insight into the doings & sayings of the C.M.R. during the war. If Sargt. Macleod entertained his aunt in the same way, it is no wonder she did not think much of them all. The lack of discipline must have been awful & Gen. Hutton must have resented being called by such a name very keenly. That alone would tend to lower Canadians

very much in the eyes of regulars, would it not & all would suffer thereby. Mrs. Bolt an old friend has just telephoned & asked me to bring Torla on Wednesday evening. She saw us at church yesterday & I introduced them all to her. In the p.m. she met the girlies on the street & they recognized her & had a talk - the result is, the invitation as she says "your daughter recognized me & I find her a charming girl - we are going to have a little music & she may enjoy it & it will be a change for her" - very nice, is it not?

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Mother & I were asked some days ago & I accepted & was pleased – she is the first to welcome us, so far, barring the [Girdwoods]. Mother, Harwood & I called on the Hunters & saw Mrs. Maguire, who needless to say, was delighted to see me. Poor Henriette! She feels her loss very keenly & says "I had three years of happiness" – she might have had six times that or more, had she consented to marry him years ago - she would not, because he was her first cousin. Gertrude & Torla went to see Miss Mare, Frank's finacée, in the p.m. & had a delightful visit. She is nice to them & they appreciate it immensely. Bagnall had the "Calgary

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Herald" of the 6th from Bingham. I read about their indignation re question of "Strathcona's Horse" being in Med. Hat. I am not surprised & quite understand their feelings if they are treated in that way. It is really the most suitable place for the Corps, is it not? - Your dear letter of Aug 8th has just come in, as I write - in it you tell me of your intended trip to Med. Hat last Friday. I am sure there will be a big row about it - they are right – it may turn the country conservative, for aught we know.

Today you are in Edmonton & no wonder my ears are burning. You will be warmly welcomed, I am sure. You will be kept very busy & will not have much time to converse. It is indeed good to say you will write me daily, for I know how much you think of me, my own dear, darling pet.

I see they had a fire in Claresholm, but no particulars of it. I hope you do not feel the heat but fortunately there are no long rides over prairie or velch necessary, as in the past, when you are

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inspecting. There are railways to every place you mention. They admired Harwood very much yesterday & he looked nice - they find him so erect!

They all have their admirers - some find Gertrude lovely - others Torla - & Harwood is considered a handsome boy, so all is well. Well, my darling, I will leave you now, as I must away to some sewing.

God bless & guard my darling is my fervent prayer.

With many kisses from all, ever your own
true & devoted little wifie,

Maye

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My darling,

After I had finished mine to you yesterday, I wrote a long one to Mrs. Henry Steel, of [Blaenavon]; also a very long one to Mrs. Shilling, which will I hope make up for my silence - after we are settled, I shall be a better correspondent. I also wrote [Prissie] Steel a week ago, so you see dear, I am trying hard to do the right thing. Many sweet embraces - would you were near.....

Your own wifie.

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I have been thinking my darling, that you may have forgotten to write Capt. [H.] Kyle - as your last letter was returned from the dead letter office, he may be wondering if your whereabouts are in Eng or Canada.

In haste,

Your own Maye.

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