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Flora Steele to Sam Steele

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A. 6. Pasadena Court
Hugo Street
Winnipeg
July 11th 1915

My dearest father:

Another rainy day! "For the rain it raineth every day" as Shakespeare says - it is very true of this summer – nevertheless, we are doing our best to extract some enjoyment out of it, despite the weather!

Thank you very much for your letter of the 23rd [ult] – but you need not stamp your letters so lavishly, as the contents do not weigh much.

It made me feel pretty sick to read about

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the rotten time you are having - and I do hope it will turn out alright. I trust that Borden will stand up for you. It is shameful that our men should be considered good enough to die in the ranks, hold small commands & such like, but that not one should be allowed to command a division. I understand just how you feel about it... & if anything good turns up, please cable us because we are existing merely for that end.

In any case, I shall start work. I wish my aimless days to be at an end, & should like best of all to do nursing for our brave soldiers. I hope

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I shall be able to do it soon.

I think Harwood is a "[piker]", not to write us for a month. Perhaps we shall hear next week.

I went swimming on Mon. morning - then Gertrude & I lunched with Mrs. [Flester] & had tea with Mrs. Gordon. Had singing Tues. morning - went to the exhibition & gave demonstrations in First Aid & Home Nursing with our Division. Went on my paper collecting job early Wed. morning, made over \$7.00: had tea with Mrs. Ketchen in the afternoon, & ^{we} were with Katie in the evening. Thurs. morning went shopping and at

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2 o'clock Mrs. Gordon, Gertrude & I went to Boundary Park, one station beyond Wpg. Beach, where we had some pleasant hours with Kitty + Jack O'Reilly at their little cottage near the lake. We got back to Winnipeg at 9:15 or thereabouts. On Fri. morning I had singing, went to see Mrs. Ketchen in the afternoon, and went to bed early. Saturday morning Mrs. Gordon, Gertrude and I left town by the Moosejaw local at 8.25, & went to Sewell. We lunched with Mr. [Stander] of the 44th – went to see the 46th: Strathcona's, & Artillery, & finally after

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tea at 4.30 took the 5.35 reaching "The Peg" at 9 o'clock. The camp was looking lovely – the rain merely sinking into the sand, making no difference to walking. I believe Gen. Lessard was pleased with the camp, but blew up certain ones in the artillery. There are rumours that Major French has resigned, being "fed up" – also that a certain wealthy Major may buy the Colonel "out" – for the command.

Mrs. Ketchen hopes to go to England in

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October as the Colonel told her she could suit herself & by then she should have her grain money, & Mr Ketchen & his wife will cross with her. It will be fine for her as she really is most awfully lonely.

We are hoping to go & stay with Mrs. Larson in Lang, Saskatchewan in a fortnight's time. It will be a nice change. I wish poor mother could get a change, but she won't leave Grandma, even if one of us offers to

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remain at home. It is a great pity because the poor dear is getting run down, & she is very lonely too. However, don't worry, she is not ill, only rather tired of things.

Heaps of love darling Dad and trust all will turn out well.

Ever yours,

Torla.

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