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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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1513 1st St. W.  
Calgary, Sept. 19th

My own darling boy,

Your very dear letter of the 16th came this morning & received the usual warm welcome. I went out as I said & paid the H.B.Co. a/c, got the [P.O.O.] for the Mother Superior & had my own cheque cashed. The Farmer's meat market a/c is \$27.45 cts. so if my letters containing the bills has not yet come to hand, you will know what the amount of the bill is. I shall give them all at the end of this letter or pay them out of what I have if you wish.

I shall write Torla as you desire. She may yet change her mind after being comfortably settled for a time. It is fortunate Mrs. Thomson was a lady! she might have been anything. It would be better in the case of a move, that she should come when we reached Winnipeg.

I am sure that the people will find a difference in the work done, now that you are there - you always aim to have everything as nice as possible & not have the worst post either!.

You will be like Edward, the Peacemaker, trying to reconcile all parties, Militia & Police - trust you may succeed in having every one in perfect harmony.

It will be fine if the Highland Regiment is raised -

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the sight of the [Kiltees] seems to rouse people to enthusiasm. It was only when Bagnell was bitten to the tune of over \$200.00 by [Ringham] that he turned - he fancied I suppose, that I was too blind to notice that Ringham's coming for orders every day at ten a.m. meant breakfast at our expense: ceasing to come for same after Bagnall left, confirmed my suspicions - he, in fact took all his meals here on Sunday, not to mention other stragglers who happened in. It was like a miniature boarding house. Bagnall has lost pounds since he left & is half the size he was when here - his face is like a knife -

he has worked much harder, I tell you & I am sure, knows now, what a snap he had.

As for the move, I told you evidently in the letter that was lost, that I would not like to remain here, if you had to stay in Winnipeg - much as I like the climate & some of the people, I would not care to live away from you. You are lonely & not as happy, as if we were all together, while I but what is the use of telling you you how I feel? Then, again, it is the expense one must think of. While your messing may not amount to much, still it is something added to the rest, although I try to curtail my bills. When the affair is decided, you must let me know, so that I may begin packing if necessary. You would have to come up & see to things in the office anyway. So many say they hope you are not going there. I reply: "I know nothing

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nothing about it so far - however, if the move does come, the Calgary people will know what they have lost after Col. Steele's departure" - one fellow said today "the Winnipeg people know a good thing & are wide awake & will try hard to keep the Col."

I would not care to spend the winter without you. In the first place the old man Draper is not much good - he knows nothing about furnaces, never having attended to one & ours is not yet fixed as you know - I am afraid of fire so cannot have it going until it is repaired. It has been quite cold & we had fire in the library grate yesterday, but today was lovely so we did not require it.

Mr. Hall, wonderful to relate, rallied once more - today he was sitting up & the Drs. are surprised - of course, it may not last!.

We were at Miss Lee's on Thursday evening - just about twelve all told & enjoyed it. I sang for them. Who is Pearson of Strathcona's Horse? his brother was there.

Capt. Deane admired the flowers very much yesterday - the whole drawing room was filled with them & they certainly looked very nice. He is looking so well & years younger - she too is improving in her looks & is quite nice & affable. The evening was spent quietly reading.

When should Draper bring in the vegetables? They have not been touched by frost, so far - we have used

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used them all summer, as you know.

I heard today that there were many cases of small pox in town - it was thought to be chicken pox for a time. I intend asking Dr. Macdonell tomorrow, as I want to know positively. You see they had it at Gull Lake in the summer & no precautions whatever were taken, the people going about indiscriminately & mixing with every one & this may be the result.

I bought an "Eyeopener" this morning to send you - notice what is said re Howard Douglas & Minnie's property - how did Edwards get hold of that I wonder.

Well, my darling it is getting late & I suppose I shall have to say good-night before you weary of this letter. Hope you enjoyed Mrs. Gardiner's evening. All are well & send fond love. The second p.c. "young lady lying down on the sea-shore" is very fine, is it not? You admire that style of dress, do you not, dear - it is a peculiar series & would scarcely do for Torla's album. The children received their letters yesterday & were charmed that you remembered them with p.c.s too. They intend writing tomorrow.

God bless you dear & write soon again.  
Kisses & fond love from the family.

Yours as ever most devotedly & affectionately  
little wifie,  
Maye

Butcher - \$27. 45 cts.

Freeze - &3.10 cts      Shelly - Baker \$5.00

Draper - (Grocer) \$3.60 cts   P. Burns & Co. \$2.22

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