

2008.1.1.1.1.334

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

1513, 1<sup>st</sup> St W.  
Calgary, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>

My own darling pet,

Yours of the 29<sup>th</sup> telling me of the dinner at Govt. House received with much pleasure on Monday morning, as well as that of same date with M<sup>rs</sup>. Henderson's photo from [Ludia] enclosed - the two of the 30<sup>th</sup> came by the last mail on that day as well, so I feel that I indeed have a most kind & considerate husband. I know of the [Alloway] family, but never met any of them. You are right - many who can converse well are prevented from doing so at such gatherings by others whose conversational powers are limited but who dearly love to hear themselves talk. The Lt. Gov. has a good memory I suppose. Hugh Clarke will be pleased I am sure to get the message. I trust you do not suffer from insomnia, as it is such a disagreeable thing. I rest better since I commenced the electric treatment.

About the white shirts dear. There are a few here but they need new neck bands, so I think you had better purchase some. You require them & use

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

them much more frequently there than you did here. Do not dispose of your old ones until I see them, my dear they may be fixed & made good for a long time yet. You have some here which you find tight & which button down the back, so there is no use sending them. I suppose you got the big blue coat for you never acknowledged its receipt - had it not reached its destination I no doubt would have hear about it. M<sup>rs</sup> H. [Dixon] was very prompt I must confess in writing to thank us for the vase - quite nice of her.

Capt. Clarke is proud of having had you as one of his boys I suppose, & these old chaps are apt to draw the long [bow] if one whom they knew in the past distinguishes himself. How sympathy pleases a person! I am sure he was delighted to hear from you. I do not agree with you about the hero. I think there were several & that you were one of them, my dear.

Your cold has evidently pulled you down, but that is most

satisfactory to you, I know. Our weather is beautiful - sunny, pleasant & not much snow.

Your last contains Genl. [Lyttleton's] letter - is it not funny what a strange idea these gentlemen seem to have of the country - the address is such a peculiar one. If Genl. L. came & visited this country, he could not believe

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

his eyes at the wonderful change that has taken place. Harwood is busy answering your's [sic] received yesterday - he was tickled to death at being addressed as [Sq.] & says "Papa wrote me a very sporty letter & just as if I was a man"- he was pleased - he writes a very good letter, does he not & is never at a loss for a word?

I do not know what is wrong with young Lake but he is not quite right & at times acts in a most extraordinary manner.

You must have enjoyed your dinner at the Mitchell's - pleasant surroundings make everything taste much better, do you not think so?

Surely the [B] affair will soon be settled! - they cannot possibly delay much longer. I am told she gave a farewell tea some time ago.

Yes, the children did laugh at Aunt Minnie's hard time at bridge! She dislikes it, only because she has not good cards, I believe. It is strange you never met the Sheriff ([Lukstos]) before - where does he reside? So it was a mutual admiration party was it dear? Col. Irvine appreciates having you near, I am sure & enjoys seeing you.

I told you all about M<sup>rs</sup> Talbot's in my other letters. Sunday evening Harwood tells you about! - it was funny to sit & hear the conversation going on, as I did.

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

Yesterday p.m. on my way to D<sup>r</sup>. Macdonald's I stepped into D<sup>r</sup>. [Blow's] about the a/c. I found D<sup>r</sup>. [Blow] has gone to Chicago for about six weeks, but D<sup>r</sup>. Smith had the bill receipted as soon as I showed him the paid cheque endorsed by D<sup>r</sup>. Blow. As my throat has troubled me somewhat & I have not been able to sing, I got him to look at it - he found it inflamed as well as the vocal chords - sprayed it & says he thinks it will be all right in a short time, but that it was a kind of Catarrh of the throat & much better not to neglect it.

In the evening I went with M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Talbot to the English's, where Gertrude went to the fancy dress party - it was bridge & we had a pleasant time - the [M<sup>rs</sup>] Talbot, [Dent], M<sup>c</sup> L. Hawkins, Hamilton,

[Foulkes], D<sup>r</sup> Mc Crea, Peake, [Mapson], D<sup>r</sup>. Smith & [illegible] Talbot, [Dent], M<sup>c</sup> L. Hawkins, Hamilton, [Foulkes], [Mapson], Peake, Darkes, Wilfred, the Lilly's & myself. Nice refreshments, good cards, music etc. I am progressing in my playing! Today called on D<sup>r</sup>. M. then went to M<sup>rs</sup> Hawkins whose day it was & helped her pour tea; she had quite a number of visitors. Thursday, M<sup>rs</sup>. [Von] Pearce has asked us to lunch & we intend going. Friday p.m. M<sup>rs</sup>. [Lugs] gives a card party & we favour her.

I enclose a clipping from tonight's paper which will please you. I phoned [Burringess] immediately

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

after dinner & congratulated him on his promotion, wishing him success & prosperity, said how pleased you would be, etc. He asked if he might call so I said I should be delighted - he came a short time ago, remaining about twenty minutes & he is simply delighted at his success - says you are the best friend he ever had! etc.

Well dear I enclose a letter received from Gus this p.m. They have had their share of trouble & I hope poor little Roddy will pull through all right. All are in good health & send very much love to dear darling Papa. God bless you, my own dear boy. Try & come home soon to the little ones & to

Your own devoted, lonely, loving little wife  
Maye.

Did you ever pay Pollard for Gertrude's photos? I sent you the bill in Sept. I think & he has sent another today.

Bagnall has had a cold but is a little better today - the changeable weather is the cause of it.

[/pg 5]