

2008.1.1.1.1.357

Marie Steele to Sam Steele
2 sheets

[pg 1]

1513, 1st St W.
Calgary, May 26th

My own darling,

Your letter of the 23rd reached me on the 25th by the first mail & received the same warm welcome that yours always do.

You are always met by your little soldier who seems very devoted; Ketchen is attentive also.

I wrote you a few lines this morning in haste re the house. The Sproats have without doubt rented this one, so it depends on whether you are in Winnipeg at the end of June or not to decide our going then. They will not mind waiting I know.

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

How strange it is that you should meet Cap^t. Nelles! I did not know M^{rs}. Stubbs had any relations in this country.

You ask if the leaves are out - well, they are only beginning & are still tightly furled & only appeared two days ago - it is a very backward spring & we really have had no heat yet - this is the first day without rain since you left - it poured on Monday, & Tuesday - bad thunderstorms & it is still cloudy & unsettled!. [sic]

Very nice of M^r. Simpson to say he learned so much from conversing with you for half an hour, my darling!. [sic]

I did not see Cap^t. Gagnon's death in the papers, but not getting "The Star" prevents one seeing much news of that sort.

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

I saw in last night's Herald "A. M. Jarvis Regina" registered at "The Alberta." I cannot imagine who it is, as I suppose were "Buzz" here he would phone, but perhaps he may be here in place of M^r. Shaw.

Your second letter of the 23rd received by second delivery on the 25th. I wrote more than one which awaited your coming & have written the "Man. Alberta Hotel, Med. Hat" to please forward the one sent there. How very thoughtful your friends are to invite you out at once on arrival & I am sure you enjoyed it all. You do look well when bronzed & like to be that way. You

are quite fit, do not worry.

It is too bad Major Macdonell has to bear the brunt concerning the Q. M. I. He may be more leniently dealt with than he expects - let us hope so.

Is Gen^l French on his way to Australia again, or merely paying Canada a visit?. [sic] I shall do all in my power to treat him well - would he care for the height of hospitality do you think? we [sic] might be able to oblige him, the 'peg has many pretty women not averse to such things!!.
[sic]

I wrote Esther a nice, newsy letter & asked her to stop off & also to pay us a long visit on her return journey. If we are packing it will be hard to make her comfortable, but we shall be charmed to see her.

I do not write often because you & Torla do so & there is

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

no use writing stale news. They all know how fond I am of them & how much I appreciate even yet their extreme kindness to me since I met them.

I see you presided at the banquet to Major [Swinford] & am certain you did it in your usual happy way. I know no particulars. So they have a riding club! how [sic] very nice! I think somebody is fishing for compliments between you & me about his appearance & he knows quite well he looks perfectly splendid in the saddle.

Have not heard from Antoine or Tilsey lately, so your news was a great surprise. I fear he will hanker for the west & do not think there can possibly be enough work for

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

two in Montreal - that is pay for there is any amount of work but the people there want everything for nothing.

What a queer thing for the Quebec govt to do. purchase [sic] a novel with such sentiments - they must be dolty!!.
[sic]

Yes, Antoine can make a little extra by his voice & like yourself, I wish he would go to Vancouver. I suppose he will soon be going. Reg will be sorry to part with him & will miss him, I feel sure.

On Sunday, Miss Lee came in for a couple of hours & M^r Grieg spent the evening with us. On Monday, I took them to the San Francisco Opera Co. - it was a very poor affair. (Minnie was speaking at the telephone and put me out) by

[/pg 5]

[pg 6]

them I mean the children. Minnie & Miss Lee came also - it was vulgar &

course I found & not what they were at all when we saw "Robin Hood".

The college sports were this p.m. Torla went with M^{rs.} Talbot & enjoyed them. I was busy & did not care to go. Col. Cruikshank was there & was in great demand, measuring distances, etc.

I wrote M^{rs.} Mackie a long letter on Sunday. I suppose he is back & that you have seen them both. She does not want to return here as the climate does not agree with her, so I am anxious to know what they will do. Harwood is to make his 1st communion on the 16th or 18th of June - he is much pleased.

Flora had a letter from mother today & in it she says "Louise is taking out a separation from Willie & intends spending the summer in St Lambert to see the matter through" - she wants enough to educate the boy & keep herself - at least something.

M^{rs.} Cunningham is going to Montreal about the middle of June to consult a stomach specialist - she has been very ill lately & cannot go on as she has been suffering almost constantly - will likely be away all summer. The children are well & send love. Torla is next door at the McKinnon's speaking "the Garlic & Scotland" whatever " without a doubt. God bless you, my own darling.

warm hugs from your ain wee dotting wifie

Maye

[/pg 6]