

2008.1.1.1.1.25

Marie Harwood to Sam Steele

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Vaudreuil
March 19th / 89.

My own Darling Sam,

Your very short note written on the 10th I received today & very warmly welcomed. Only the thought that another would come tomorrow consoles me for it's [sic] brevity. Of course yours of the 6th was long, but its length might have been double to content your little girl sufficiently, for no matter how much she gets, she always longs for more from her own darling. I see you are very busy inspecting & have ample time for reflection during your long solitary drives. I trust your own Maye is often before your eyes & recalled ever with pleasure. I have often, that is two or three times, been out with Mrs. Neale in the wagon you refer to & found it very comfortable, little dreaming the day might come, when it would be placed at my disposal. how things come round sometimes & take a turn

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one never looks for! – You must feel rather fatigued when your drives are over; far more so than when you rode in the autumn, the distances you travel being much greater. You cannot be surprised that Capt. Neale made strenuous efforts to retain possession of the wagon, knowing how easy it is, but I am delighted you have it you may be sure. Why had you become pale, since my departure, that the bronze coloring pleases you so much? – So you talk in your sleep, my pet – hold on then, will I not question you & find out all your secrets in that way. You will then wonder who told me & be

ready to accuse first one, then the other – that is a thing I never do, as I sleep so lightly, that I would be sure to awaken at the faintest sound of my voice. How I wish I could hear you mention my name & be near, unknown to my pet! – I hope Mr. Wroughton was not disappointed in his trip & that the ladies proved what they always are, charming – he deserves to meet with consideration, at their hands, as he is very nice & has done his best to meet them several times, when stern fate always interfered!!.. I am happy to learn Mrs. Mac. thinks you so much in love & trust you will continue to be so for

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sometime to come. I am afraid we both are a surprise in that way, as if people knew how much proud, haughty Maye feels, they would scarcely believe [sic] her capable of so much real affection! – I have always seemed indifferent & could hide my feelings very successfully. You have never seemed anything but nice to me but I believe you can be stern, very stern when necessary. Your whole demeanor shows me that & the look in your eye as well. You certainly have been more loving to me than any one else before, but you had a willing victim. Why would you be a miserable creature if you did not love me so well? Such a thing might be, did you in any way deem me unworthy of so much fondness. true my love might win more from you, but were you colder, so would I – a perfect icicle not to be melted by the warmest rays or the sweetest glances. I pray so earnestly for you, darling every day & trust my prayers will be heard for your happiness & welfare. Some persons seem to take a great deal of interest in Mr. Macp. & his escapades prove as pleasing as the latest novel. There can be very little going on since such things serve as good topics for conversations!! he must be quite a lady-killer! Will he be there when I go back, I wonder? – we will not get on at all I fancy, at least, not admiring men of his stamp, it is not likely & my dear boy's kind looks & smiles are more than sufficient for my enjoyment. Now, do you really mean it when you say, it is a pity I did not

remain for the winter? Why, the parting would have had to come anyway & it would have been even more difficult later, though Heaven knows it was hard enough to me when it did take place. You little know how broken-hearted your little girl was when she sat so quietly opposite you the morning † she left Dunmore. Only now and then you would persist in asking if I wanted anything, what was the matter? I would not have told you for the world, desiring to screen myself at the very last & appear anything but what I really was. However, it is over now & the thought of the happy meeting the future has in store for me, keeps my spirits up immensely – we are three months parted now & [illegible], so the time is that much shorter my own darling. It will be no trouble to commence riding again & I hope I shall be able to have any amount of it, as I love it, thanks to you. I see myself so often on the pony with you by my side & then my mind wanders on into the future & back to the past – think of what we were when

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first you took me out, & what we will be the next time we have a canter together!!. it gives me plenty of food for reflection & affords much pleasure, where much love dwells! – How much I spoke of you on Sunday to Aunt Emma! she is prepared to welcome you as her big nephew & I think you will like her – she has been more or less a confidante [sic] of mine for many years & has always shown me much sympathy. You see had I remained with Mrs. Mac until Spring, we would have had to wait six months longer, than we will if you come this autumn – what would you have preferred? Well, my darling, as I anticipate a loving, long letter tomorrow, I will say au-revoir for tonight – Heaven bless you my treasure, and may your dreams be very happy ones. With very many warm sweet kisses, your little girl reluctantly leaves you for the present! –

20th. I had looked forward to the mail so eagerly that I never for one moment dreamed I should be doomed to so bitter a disappointment - dear old Father Lacombe's photo came, but no letter from my pet. Thank you

very much for sending it on

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to me. I shall write & thank him in a few days for his kind remembrance. No doubt you may have written since the photo came & yet again, may have been too much occupied. it does make my heart so sore not to receive news when I expect it!! – however this is a time for penance & sacrifices, so I should submit without even the slightest murmur. My Father received the book & paper you sent last week & thanks you very much for your attention, as they proved of great interest – the more he knows of the country, the more he will feel inclined to let me go, as he will realize it is not quite out of the world altogether. The snow is fast disappearing & spring will I trust soon come without too much water around our house. Well, my own darling, before I get too insipid, I will say bye-bye. Give the enclosed to Mrs. Mac please – write me very soon, your letters afford me so much pleasure & my pet is so very far from me. With many sweet kisses ever

Your own dear

Little Girl

Trust mine of the 3rd reached you & that of the 6th & 10 as well so far.

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