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Alice Farish to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

835 Logan Avenue,  
Denver, Colo, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> 1902

My dear Sam,

Fred & I were so pleased to hear from you, & hope you are well, & still enjoying your stay out there. Our New Year has come, in mild, spring like, weather. The glass registering about sixty above. This is a glorious climate; but its 5000 ft. altitude are beginning to tell on me, a sea-level bird. I heard from Maye & mother lately, all seemed

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

well with them. My boy is strong & hearty - he shows his first [illegible] today, being just seven months old. There is nothing girlish about his appearance [sic]; he has a well formed head, covered with white hair, like all our babies at home. & can kick hard, & beautifully. Fred predicts his growing up to be a Champion Baseball player. Fred returned from an examination in Mexico just on time for Christmas, leaving the following Friday for one of the mountain towns - sampling the "Butterfly -[Terrible]" Isn't that a combination name for you?

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

I am spending the winter in Mr. John Farish's house; his family having taken apartments in New York city for a year. Along with the house, I inherited Maggie Ahern, a perfect specimen of the [ould coultree] race - [bright], strong & [illegible]. She is a great help & comfort to me, & thinks our baby the purtiest in Denver.

Mr. John Farish is a Mining Engineer with quite a reputation. He is well known in London, expecting for English companies, mainly; has large offices here. & is a very clever, well read man.

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

That Mining Engineer you met in the Yukon, I forget his name, but he is a very large, stout, man, is a great friend of Mr. Farish's. Fred is kept

busy, & is away most of the time. If you find him a good position out in S. Africa he will be delighted & would go as soon as cabled for.

It would be so nice to meet again although it would bring sadness to our hearts, for we could not help thinking of missing all the nice fellows who are gone beyond all recall. I so often think of poor Fred [Morden].

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

Fred is attracting considerable notice by his work. This summer he was sent up to the "divide" to sample The Humboldt Mine, which is at an altitude of about 14.000 [sic], & where I have spent a week at a time. However, he returned his assays, not knowing that a London Exploration Co. expert was following him up & going over it all himself. When comparisons were made, the assays corresponded to a figure, which proved a big feather in my Engineer's cap. You need not be afraid to trust him in every way, for his is honest,

[/pg 5]

[pg 6]

too honest to make money very quickly, hardworking, & clever. I fancy parts of S. Africa are like Mexico. That is, the western coast of Mexico. Mama tells me Maye is going to a good many social functions. I am glad to hear it as she has taken your continued absence so much to heart. It has told & [w] her general health very much. That her interests at last awakened sufficiently to make her enjoy meeting people, is a good sign. You would rather feel she is not moping, would'nt [sic] you?

[/pg 6]

[pg 7]

I hear from Aunt Min, that ranching is not such an ideal life, when one has to do all the housework oneself.

John and Mabel seem contented enough. Reggie wrote me of Nellie Ives' marriage to a partner of Mr. McKenzie's, & of how her father losing the Custom Horse in McLeod. Aunt Min tells me of Lily Deane's engagement to Mr. Primrose, & how please her parents are. Is [Kerr] Jarvis with you? If still a bachelor he deserves hard labour & C. B. for a year, when there are such myriads of nice, sweet, affable girls,

[/pg 7]

[pg 8]

floating around the world. No one has mentioned Elmes; name to me, for an age, so I do not know where he is.

Harmless gossip will give you a rest from business cares & I wish I had a budget of it in store for your benefit - but, being so far from the scene of its actions & a stranger in this country, I have only piper's news to write about. Mr. John Farish teases me very much about my nationality - calls me "Canuck" - & tells me, I should be grateful to Fred for bringing me out of such a country.

[/pg 8]

[pg 9]

I retaliate, by dangling before him, the fact that the richest & most successful men, here in Denver, are Canadians - that it took Canucks to show them how to make money. These men are Maritime Province men, who, of course, have been here for years. I hope you will favour me again. A letter from you is a treat to Fritzie & myself. It is not too late for New Year good wishes, & many happy returns. That it will bring you Maye & the children, & your

[/pg 9]

[pg 10]

own home, before it closes, is the sincerest wish of us both. My boy's name is Edward Tilghman, he is called for his paternal grandfather. With love & remembrances believe me,

Your affectionate sister,

Alice H. Farish

[/pg 10]