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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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1513, 1st St. W.
Calgary, Nov. 14th

My own darling boy,

Yours of the 11th with telegram from Gus enclosed came to me yesterday, Friday morning, & the papers re Federal Life this morning, but too late for me to send off tonight.

This appendicitis is a terrible disease, is it not, so often ending fatally. Strange that it is so difficult to detect & in consequence has such a hold on the system that it is too late. The funeral was, no doubt, a very imposing one. So Buzz is on leave, after all! I wonder whether he will make it up with his lady love & marry soon. He will have a nice trip, meeting Mr. & Mrs. Hope en route & likely all his time will be spent with them.

Very likely it is true about H.J - it is too bad that husband & wife are not on better terms - what tragedies there are in some lives, but of their own making. As for rooming apart, that is easily overcome by some people - one hears of such things every day.

Hope you had a pleasant evening at the Gardner's. It was the six sacks pf potatoes that were frozen - the rest were all right, as you know.

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The potatoes came about two hours before your departure on the 2nd & I don't suppose we will find a bushel fit to use.

It is very nice of the Mother Superior to praise Flora which, I am sure she deserves. Flora says she has 100% on her exams & is 1st in music too. I do not think she can be persuaded to remain until June. She can go to the Convent here, I suppose, & it will of course cost less than where she is. What do you think? I will sign & send papers to you, my dear, & you can send them on to [Popsham]. I hope things will be all right & that the Bank will not come out ahead in the transfer. I am sorry you are compelled to make this loan, as I did hope you affairs were getting paid up satisfactorily & that very little was owing now. It is so hard to get out of debt, when one is in it, is it not? however, let us hope for the best. If only "The Empire" would

turn out something good! how long it takes & what patience one must have to wait, & wait!!

Sunday a.m.

I got this far yesterday when I left to go to confession and found it impossible to continue in time for this to leave last night. We went to communion at 8 a.m. mass. The day is fine, but cool. Capt. Mackie goes to Lethbridge in the morning

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& Minnie will go & stay with Mrs. M. during his absence. He expects to be home by Wednesday evening. They are getting nicely settled & will be comfortable. She has not been well, suffering from neuralgia in her system. On Friday we went to a bridge & five hundred at Mrs. J.J. Young's. We played the latter with the [Mcadams], Costigan, Sutherland, Newburn, Hull, McCarthy, (Dr.) Macdonald, & I won the prize, a pretty little vase. I was surprised, I assure you. Dr. & Mrs. Smith took us to the door, the husbands' of several of the ladies calling for them. I do not believe in going about by myself or without an escort at night & intend refusing after this, it not being safe now - girls & women have been insulted & stopped lately - of course, Minnie was with me, still we are not going to do it.

The enclosed bills came - what is the Bain Stable one? I do not know anything about it to my knowledge. did they ever send a bill before? "Ruttle & Young" are the proprietors."

The children are well, except for slight colds. Harwood's nose is much improved, inside I mean, the Dr. being pleased with its appearance yesterday. There is not much news to give you. Mrs. Costigan the mother-in-law is on the scene, I hear. Things will improve somewhat owing to that fact, I suppose.

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The poor youngsters are trying to make a sink over the garden, but the old crank that we have in the kitchen is enough to freeze one without the cold. They seemed to do better for a day or two, but I know they cannot stand the poor kids as they call themselves & as we must keep them (as we are not likely ever to have anymore,) I suppose there will have to be a change in the kitchen either on the 20th of this month, or the next. If only you were near, it would seem so easy to settle.

Well, good bye & God bless you, my darling. I must write Torla. Mother left for Denver yesterday, I believe, no doubt accompanied by

Louise & her boy. Hope the trip will prove enjoyable & beneficial - her eyes are troubling her again. Hope you are well & with fond kisses from the dear little ones & myself & many warm, loving hugs which we so often have to do without.

Believe me,

Your own devoted, affectionate little wifie.

Maye.

The strangest thing happened yesterday. I got a letter with printed address & enclosed found a \$2.00 bill & the following also printed "Dear Mrs. Steele. Enclosed find some money I owe you for sometime. I still owe you a few dollars more which I will send sometime" - it was sent from Montreal nothing of any sort to let me know the sender. I cannot think

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who it is, but it is conscience money, of course. that is strange, is it not?

M.

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