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Marie Steele to Sam Steele
3 sheets

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1513, 1st St W.
Calgary June 12th

My own dear old duck,

Yours of the 8th & 9th I have mentioned having received as well as the telegram, but I shall now answer them more fully.

I trust you will be most successful in bringing the Port Arthur reg^t to a better state of efficiency & that the men will take more pride in their work. You can say sharp things if you please & no doubt they will produce good results.

It was a shame for the lawyer to advise Guerard as he did & the foolish fellow must regret following

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the very bad advice given him. Fancy a man in such a plot being a policeman in this city - such men cannot be trusted. what [*sic*] they do in one place, they will likely do in another.

You no doubt had a very pleasant evening at Col. Laurie's - it was nice to meet such old friends as the [Gills]. Yes, my Father knew the Senator - contrary to the usual rule. You, listener, overheard nice things about yourself.

As I said, Biddell's a/c is right. he [*sic*] sent me the April a/c but not the half month. I paid ^{for} every ton of coal to both [Lott] & Toole, Peet & Co. & would like the one they sent to you. I have my receipts.

How charming to have nice girls feed one on strawberries &

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& cream. They are so high priced here, that we merely gaze at them as we pass by!. [*sic*] I know full well that you pleased every one, my dear, for you always do & your inspection will put them on their metal & no doubt do them all much good. You were up to your old tricks running your gloves along the shelves, but woke them up all right. It was very nice of you to write me so soon after your trip, my dear.

Your next letter is that of the 9th which made me feel deeply all your worries & I would do anything in the world to lighten your burdens as I said

before. I told you what I could do if you think it would be better & still am quite willing to go east, if you think by so doing it would lessen your expenses. Yes, dear it is very hard to realize that it takes all your salary to keep us going & I would dearly love to help you in some way. I knew you were worrying, but did not like to question you - a certain delicacy restrained me & I felt that some day you would take me into your confidence. If you want me to look about here for a small house, I shall do so, but I feel sure I cannot get one in a suitable locality - the Sifton's paid far more than we do (\$100.00) & their's [sic] but a tiny [bandbox], fairly furnished. The Dep^t should give you enough to pay the full rent, when they know we are very economical & that rents & living are so very high. I fear I am but repeating what I have already written in my last, but I see no other way out of the difficulty but that already suggested. If you can solve the matter, let me know as soon as possible.

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Your next short note of the 9th came this a.m. & was written to cheer me up. I fully appreciate your good intentions, but feel it just the same! It is right for me to know although I must say, I do not believe I can do more.

Last evening I gave the children their party - there were eighteen invited, fourteen came. They played on the lawn, then danced & enjoyed games. at [sic] ten, refreshments consisting of sandwiches, cake, biscuits, salted almonds & sweets & lemonade - remains of my reception. they [sic] had plenty of everything & cleared the plates - they remained until 11.30 & even then I could not coax them to go. they [sic] had a glorious time. This p.m. M^{rs}. Talbot, of 17th Ave. gave a farewell tea for me - twenty or more & it was a

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very great success. Every one is expressing the deepest regret at our near departure, I mean our friends. Well, as it is after half past ten, & I was up late last night, I shall leave you for tonight. God bless & keep you dear. courage [sic], poor dear!. [sic] I shall pray hard that we may weather it through. My own dear one, sweet kisses & pleasant dreams.
Sunday, 12.30.

Have just come in from church. The day is sunny but cloudy cool for the season, but good growing weather. After I finish this to you, I am going to fix up a few boxes of my belongings so the day will not be spent in idleness. I think it would be a good plan for me to remain at the hotel here for some days in order that the car may get well on the way ere we leave,

so as to save

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hotel expenses in Winnipeg. That is, of course, provided it is cheaper. Are the meal ~~expenses~~ tickets paid for by us, then refunded to you? I want to be sure of all this ere we go, so that we may do things as economically as consistant [*sic*] with your position. It worries me, I assure you & I am so anxious to do all well.

I will see M^r. Laprell personally & use my nice little ways to as much advantage as I can. There are seven persons so he should make some reduction in his charges.

M^{rs}. Macdonald leaves Friday noon with her girlies for the Island, reaching the 'peg Saturday evening. I am sure she would be agreeably surprised if you were there to see her as she passes through. We are all very anxious for news of M^{rs}. Mackie. M^r. Molson who has just come from the east says she is very, very ill. All her friends are inquiring from me, but I have heard nothing lately. The impression seems to prevail that if Miss Alice Myers recovers she will be of unsound mind. Received M^{rs}. Fall's letter O.K. She pines for Canada - will send it to you for perusal later on. What have I to do in connection with the car? who [*sic*] tells the C.P.R. that we are to get one placed at our disposal? when [*sic*] I was in Montreal, Col. Macdonell did it, you see. M^{rs}. Atkinson gives a card party for us tomorrow evening. Miss Lee is heartbroken at our near departure - she is very fond of all & nice to the children. Well, my darling, I must not worry you longer. Harwood makes his 1st communion on Friday, the 18th - got his suit here, a nicer one than I expected for \$6.50, a bargain I thought. Heaven bless you & give you courage. Kisses & hugs from all. Your devoted, sympathetic
wifie

Maye.

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My darling,

I mailed you a letter a few moments ago & since then have looked at the transport requisition & find therein the order necessary to cover meal tickets & fare, besides berths. They also say "cartage in Calgary & Winnipeg" which I suppose means that they will refund the money I disburse in the matter. You cannot accuse me of women's curiosity for it has lain in my trunk since you

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handed it to me over five weeks ago & I never examined it. Jarvis just
phoned he got in last night & is coming up this evening for a short while.
Am busy, so good bye, my dearest.
God bless you.

Your own lonely, loving
little wifie,
Maye.

Sunday 3 p. m.
June 12th.

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