

2008.1.1.1.1.335

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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1513, 1<sup>st</sup> St W.  
Calgary Feb 8<sup>th</sup>

My own darling boy.

Although I was unable to write you a line yesterday, feeling so ill that I had to keep to my bed, I think that I must pen you a page or two, in order to let you see that I am better, ~~alth~~ but not by any means well. I believe I took cold at M<sup>rs</sup> [Luss'] on Friday afternoon when playing 500, as the room was very chilly & every one present complained of the cold. I awakened on Sunday with the most awful chill & it kept on until late in the afternoon. I took some [A.K.C] tablets, which evidently are efficacious, as I rose at noon Friday, well enough to receive the musical club, which met here. They came, & although M<sup>rs</sup> Dudley Smith, who plays the violin beautifully & Miss Pearson who sings did not favour me by coming, we had a very pleasant meeting. Beethoven was the composer chosen & my paper I have been congratulated on by all present. (the hostess writes about the compose of the day, you see) I had two encyclop<sup>ae</sup>dias to refer to, so it cannot be wondered at, can it dear?

M<sup>rs</sup> Foulkes who plays the piano beautifully was here. M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>L. Hawkins sang & played the violin. M<sup>rs</sup> Basil Hamilton

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played. I invited M<sup>rs</sup> Taylor our neighbour, M<sup>rs</sup> Talbot, M<sup>rs</sup> (D<sup>r</sup>) Smith, M<sup>rs</sup> English, M<sup>rs</sup> Harris & M<sup>rs</sup> Macdonall in & they did enjoy it. we [*sic*] had nice refreshments, so all went well.

Your's of the 3<sup>rd</sup> came on Saturday p. m. - if it was not cold when you wrote, it being 10 above zero, it has been very cold with us - thirty below yesterday & today, very likely more tonight. I hope M<sup>rs</sup> [Morris] is getting on nicely & that her arm will soon be well. Yes, Biddell's a/c came today & I shall attend to it. I suppose you had your way about the dress to be worn at the opening of the House. Ketchen must know you are always right & well versed on these matters. I am so glad you are feeling better & trust you will keep on improving.

There is nae doubt, plenty of Scotch bluid & Scotch [fued] in M<sup>r</sup> Cameron's veins.

Do tell me what kind of a fellow is young Percy Shaw? can [sic] he marry now? I want to know these things for a purpose. he [sic] is engaged to some one here, but you must not say anything about it just yet.

Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> came this morning to cheer me up a bit. I was sure you would be pleased about [Burroughs]. My throat will be all right after a time. The dancers I fear need Papa's encouragement to keep it up. Flora is busy with her lessons & retires early, as a rule.

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I am so glad the Lt. [Gov.] is nice to you. it [sic] is no wonder you like Winnipeg, for they appreciate you there. Father Beliveau (Beliveau) (that is the way to spell it, my dear) has evidently been singing your praises. I do hope Hugh [J.] will keep from drink. it [sic] is such a curse!! The Sheriff shared the usual verdict of Canadians where you are concerned & is proud of you!. so [sic] are they all, when petty jealousies do not blind them. Thanks dear I got the cards, [all] right]. three [sic] packets tied with white ribbon. 1 box & half a box. you [sic] have the plate I suppose. If one packet contains 25 then I got seventy five. if [sic] there are 100 in a box then 150 came.

I paid the photographer on Saturday. They did make a mistake & should have put the price of the tickets on them, as people ~~will~~ would not come prepared to pay \$4<sup>00</sup> at the door.

This is an ~~awff~~ awfully stupid letter, but the children have talked so much that I cannot write. Min is now reading the paper. you [sic] know what that means.

We have all had "la grippe" but I trust will soon be feeling better. I fear electricity will not have the effect you dread so much on me. good [sic] thing, for you. I do hope [B. P.] will succeed in having the war office make you an hon. Col. Of the [S. A. C.] M<sup>r</sup> Foulkes brother was in Middleburg under you. Poor Gus & Marie have had their share of worry

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& it is not over yet.

Minnie was well enough to go to M<sup>rs</sup> Pearce [/oss] I had to get a [trap], so we called at the [Hogbin's] on our [/oss] back & paid other calls up town. the [sic] guest of honour [/oss] myself. M<sup>rs</sup> Macleod, M<sup>rs</sup> Short, M<sup>rs</sup> Lafferty, M<sup>rs</sup> March [/oss] Minnie were the others. it [sic] was so nice in every way.

M[loss] Macleod is inclined to be more affable, I assure you.

M<sup>rs</sup> Sharp, her daughter, at whose wedding you were present is, I am told looking for a situation. she [sic] has a baby some months old too. nice state of affairs, is it not? Gus merely is trying to look after Louise's interests. Willie sold the jewellery [sic] & curio (they went for nothing<sup>0</sup>, giving Louise onle an old watch which found no purchaser. clothes [sic], etc. he gave the woman he is living with.

Well, my dearie I must not write too long a letter, as I must not tire myself. God bless you, my own darling. All send much love,

Your own devoted affectionate little wife,

Maye

You write such long, interesting letters which I much appreciate, I assure you. will [sic] do better next time, I hope.

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