

2008.1.1.1.1.191

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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26 Ste Famille St  
Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 1902

My own darling boy,

I have waited & watched in vain for letters from you my darling Sam & have sighed & moaned over their non-appearance until I feel quite heartsick my darling, so to cheer up my weary heart, I come to have a little talk with you. There is not much news to give you, my pet. Things are quiet just now. I have been out shopping for two days with Mamma buying things for

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Mabel who as you know, is to make John a very happy man in April. It is extremely difficult to shop for others especially when one has to make money go as far as possible & get best value for the money: the consequence is that I am very tired indeed tonight, so fear my letter will be short & uninteresting. Aunt Louise McDonald went to Vaudreuil to see Auntie Angelique, so we had to put off our visit. Dubbie is looking forward to going with the keenest pleasure & told

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me today he would bring up his new top & teach "Mrs Angelique how to spin it – she might like to know how" - I have not been there since we were there together before you left to go west when recruiting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> contingent had to be done. I wrote Grady a nice letter on Sunday thanking him for the calendar telling him I sent one to you as requested – also mailed one of your smallest Notman photos, one of the "King's Colors" & inscription. He will I fancy be pleased at receiving them, as I gave him to understand it was a favor, the number being so limited. He will crow over some of the folks up there, will he not?

This is the twelfth anniversary of our marriage. I wonder if you have given it a thought, as I have recalled it pretty often I assure you, my darling. Gertrude heard me allude to its approach the other day & when speaking of it said "poor Mamma!

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on Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> she will be pretty old; a hundred year, eh! Mamma since you married Papa"! Time flies, does it not, & so many changes have taken place since then.

Cameron went off this morn, the papers say & I saw nothing of him – he has been courted & fêted on all sides, so no doubt leaves quite satisfied with his popularity – he is a prominent curler, you know. We have had a heavy fall of snow lately & walking is bad.

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Auguste is busy with societies & elections, so we have not seen him since Sunday night when they took tea. We had music & cards as he is anxious to learn whist. The properties were not up for sale after all. Jack & Jarvis objected & I believe there were no bidders anyway. I fear Alec & Mrs Mac will not be pleased – this is a bad year, although the best month to sell, I am told.

I do not see White Fraser's name among those who are going to S. A. so presume he is not a volunteer – his wife may have put her veto on his returning. Who is Capt. Woodside on march home, I think Winnipeg papers say – he is supposed to have been in the M. P. in Dawson – he is among those now on the way. It is now late & before I weary you I shall close. The little ones are in good health & send many fond kisses to dear Papa. They try to write you, so if the letters are not a very great success it is not their fault.

Oliver Smith's Aunt Hannah died on Sunday.

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They are all gone now – poor old soul, seventy three. Have not heard from Elmes, in fact have not as yet answered his last letter. I will now say au-revoir. Be sure & write often, please. Mamma sends love & all desire to be remembered. With ever so much love, believe me, as ever,

Your own true loving devoted little wifie,

Maye.

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