

2008.1.1.1.1.317

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

1513, 1st St. W.
Calgary, Nov. 26th

My own darling boy,

Yours of the 23rd reached me this a.m. just at breakfast time & you may be sure I was delighted to get it, having had none yesterday. Bagnall is in harness again & I think contented. The baby is very good & the children find him a great pastime, I assure you. I hardly fancy the Draper's will come to me for a reference - the long distance phone rang at one today asking for him, but I do not know his present place of abode, so could not tell them: they may have wished to answer an ad of his, if he put one in the papers. I meant to say the Marguerite de B. Macd. knew Mrs. Mac. wife of the "Klondyke King" well in Dawson & was very intimate with her - she told Minnie that B. did not succeed in his designs & that he was drunk at the time - she (Mrs. M.) feared to call for help, not wishing the affair to be known - it does look so bad for the man, you know & people are apt to think the worst of one at best of times. In what way was Minnie's letter a mystery? what she said of Mrs. Walker is true - she stings if she can - not me, of course, but others - will tell you de viva voce!

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

Jack Greenfield has had an unhappy life, due to his fondness for drink - his wife has been separated from him for years on that account.

The quarters would be a consideration, I am sure & the house seems a good one, larger than this one & I suppose Winnipeg has many advantages.

I likely made a mistake in thinking McGillicuddy had a large sum to pay. I sent some more papers, and with the judge's charge, so you can read for yourself. I was surprised at the number of people who came on the reception day, but some one said the other day that "Mrs. Steele was getting to be an immense favorite" - slow, but sure, eh! dear? some have taken a long time to find out that I was not going to thrust myself before the public & usurp the place filled by

others for years! They feared the airs I was going to put on! What silly people there are.

Mrs. W. Pierce was among those who came - her first call; she returned from Europe in Aug, but has been busy cleaning & fixing up the house since - had her first reception today, but I did not go, not owing her a visit. Mr. Pearce never went across at all, was in the north & in Ont.

Am so pleased your evening at the Donnelly's was so nice - hope you enjoyed the Mitchell's & that you have fine weather for the inspection you proposed having.

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

Tuesday evening is spent at the McLeod Hawkins - we walked to Dr. Macdonald's & went with them - had cards & music & enjoyed it. Dr. & Mrs. Smith, the Misses [Peirson] & the brother was in Strathcona's Horse, Mr. & Mrs. Basil Hamilton, Mr. & Mrs. Mapson, the Macd's & ourselves. The Mapson's took us home. Yesterday afternoon was paid calls. This p.m. Mrs. Macdonald came for me in the trap & drove me to Mrs. Tuckers, away at the end of 17th Ave. & to Mrs. Dennis - they are leaving for Europe about Xmas, to be away a year, the daughter having already gone: she is to spend a month in Ottawa en route. I fancy they hope all the scandal will be forgotten ere she returns.

Flora does not want to remain down east & so anxious to make arrangements for her trip - she wants to know if she is to get a pass - if you think it would be given, you ought test the ground & try for it, there being little time - she requires a vise or trunk to bring up bedding & extra's left behind last summer, money for meals, etc. I think she should leave about the 16th or so, as the 19th would be running it too closely for fear of delay, in which case, she would not be home for Xmas. I leave these arrangements to you, so that I shall not interfere with them & as you may have written her on the subject already.

There is a great deal of small pox here at present & the medical men find trouble in stamping it out, due to gross carelessness on the part of those who have it.

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

We shall have to be vaccinated I fear, although I have four marks on my arms now. W.C. College is quarantined just now.

Minnie has just come down to write & shakes the table so much that I shall have to give up. God bless you, my own darling. We are having lovely weather, no snow & very little frost, one or two degrees, at most.

All are well & join in fondest love to dear old Papa. Hope you are in good health & will write soon again - the weeks fly & I get very little sewing done. God bless you, my own dear one. How I long to see & hug you once more.

With sweetest kisses, believe me, as ever,
Your own devoted, loving little wifie,
Maye.

My darling,

Yours of the 24th, has just come - will answer it later - if the photos are not good, do not take them, as you will not care to give them to friends & they are such expensive things - it is dreadfully provoking, is it not? all are well. God bless you, my own dear husband, beautiful day, the sun shines brightly & it is not cold.

Your own devoted wifie.
Maye

Friday, 9:30 a.m.
[/pg 4]