

2008.1.1.1.1.293

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

1513, 1st. St. W.  
Calgary Aug. 29th

My own darling,

Yours of the 26th telling me of Torla's arrival reached me yesterday afternoon, just before we went out to small tea given by Mrs. Macdonald (Dr.) & I enjoyed it very much. My Torla also wrote a nice long one, telling us about her trip etc.

It is so kind of Mrs. Waugh & Mrs. Mackie to be so polite to Torla & I appreciate it exceedingly & it gave her such an opportunity of seeing you dear, before her long separation. I shall be so pleased to hear of her safe arrival in Montreal & suppose you put her under the conductor's care or some other responsible person.

I am so sorry I did not send all the khaki at first, but as you had worn that twice & it went with the cap I thought it would be all right. This afternoon I mailed the other tunic & riding breeches to match & hope everything will be satisfactory this time - they went parcel Post & cost me ".64 cts" quite enough for a small thing.

No doubt, Winnipeg is nice & I fancy cleaner than Montreal.

I shall write Mrs. Macdonell tomorrow.

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

Flora is quite right. I would not think of going to Field without you, my dear. I am asked because they want you - while I appreciate their thoughtfulness, I would not go alone. Besides my dear, our expenses are such that I wish to economize, so we shall say no more about it. Tilsey is here too, you know. I am needed here; they could not get on without me.

Torla met Miss Gardiner at the Costigan's I think. The latter called this p.m. & invited us for tea tomorrow p.m. She was bright & cheery as usual.

Every person I meet expresses the hope that we will not have to leave Calgary. I always reply that I do not know, but that I hope not

- may be if we go they will find out how charming we are after our departure.

The Mackies are anxious to know how events will turn out as they are about to begin housekeeping & do not want to sign a lease, if they have to move. He wrote all about it, for he said so.

The tunic I sent first you got new in London when we were there, did you not? if it is out of fashion, why, you are as bad as the ladies & your fashions change as quickly as ours do.

Yesterday morning I took Harwood to Dr. [Blow] - he found his nose better, but still some inflammation remained - he gave him an ointment to use &

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

I must bring him back in three weeks or so - a slight operation will be necessary, still he is doing nicely he finds. In the afternoon he went to Mrs. Macdonald's as I mentioned previously - Mrs. Harris, her daughter Mrs. Knight, wife of Supt. Knight, R.N.W.M.P. Miss Harris, Mrs. Anderson, W.C. College & Mrs. Costigan were there as well as Tilsey, Min, & myself. It was very nice indeed, small & select I suppose. This a.m. I took Gertrude to Pollard's to try & have a better photo than the last - she looked rather well, through the camera, so it may be a success.

I miss you so much, my darling & find time long without you. Torla's absence makes a difference too, for she is chatty & bright & seems to love her little mother. Capt. Mackie spend last evening with us. We entertained him to the best of our ability, Harwood doing his utmost & giving us some slight [sic] of hand tricks with cards, very well done. He learns them all out of the book he got from Capt. & Mrs. M at Xmas, so their kind thoughtfulness afforded him unlimited amusement very many times since.

Charlie [Gogot] is now in the drawing room with Minnie - he wrote that he wanted to have a long talk with her so he shall have it. Tilsey is writing & of course, so am I. They can talk to beat the band, if they please & not even the children will disturb them.

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

Marcella lunched with us today - she is well. Mrs. Howe left a fortnight ago for Vancouver & Minnie saw her off, being the only person there.

The R.C. picnic was not a success, it being far too cold & windy for any sports & I am indeed! most thankful that even my Harwood did not care to go.

The children have been very good - they do not care to begin school on Monday, but will get into line in a short time, I am sure. I can scarcely believe that the summer is over - it has seemed so short! I will have to see about, butter, eggs, etc. soon - jams have to be made & all these little things that need a house keeper's attention at this season of the year. Some one was offering a hundred hens, pullets just beginning to lay, ducks, vegetables of all sorts at 1ct. a pound, if the person or buyer would take them up. Whoever he is, he has opened the [canatarium] up on the hill, so evidently was a rancher.

All sorts of showers are being given in honour of Miss March who is to be married in Sept. - she will not tell the date of the event, neither will Mrs. March. There is to be no wedding, with the ladies being too nervous to have an affair of the sort. One of her friends asked her "if she would telephone them when the ceremony was over" I am told: I cannot say what her reply was. Of course, I have been asked to none of the affairs, not being a friend of the brides.

Mrs. Hodder invited us to tea last Monday

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

but as Torla had only gone & a storm can on about four, we did not go.

Albert Rouleau, the eldest son, leaves for St. Laurent College tomorrow p.m. He will be missed, especially in church, where he is master of ceremonies & finds the altar boys needed. I think I have given you all the news, so if I do not want to tire you too much I shall have to say, "good night". All are well & send much love & very many kisses to dear old Papa whom we shall be so happy to see again.

Tilsey writes her Tony every day & seems to be enjoying her visit - at least I am doing my best for her.

God bless you, my darling. I am going to give Charlie this so that it may to early tomorrow. I sent your Diary, having given it to Capt. Mackie on Thursday so hope it will reach you safely.

With very many sweet kisses & pleasant dreams. Ever

Maye

[/pg 5]