

2008.1.1.1.1.114

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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Macleod, June 189th 98.

My own darling Sam,

Your letters of ~~May~~ June 1st came a week ago yesterday, that of June 2nd on Tuesday last, the 14th & that of May 31st yesterday, the 18th. The latter came by Lake Teslin & Stikine River route & took a long time as you see. Your telegram of the 4th reached me on the 17th & since then I have been wondering what your words "Do not leave Macleod am writing" can mean?! Is it that we are not to go up for some reason or other unknown to me, or what can it be? If so, I think my heart will break, for you know not my darling how I long to be near you once more. The trip is long I know, but as I told you in a letter written weeks ago Const. Skirving comes with me & will lessen the burden considerably as he seems a nice, obliging young fellow. Then if you meet us at Skagway, why the pass & the rest of the journey will seem as nothing with you to help us through. Every one has encouraged me in my resolution to follow you where ever you may go & I

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really would feel heartbroken if I must give it up now, my own darling husband. Yours of the 31st contained a pleasing account of your nice outing in the little steel steamer which I feel sure you thoroughly enjoyed. If we can enjoy one together soon, I shall be quite happy. It must have been a grand sight to see so many boats in a large mass, with mountains towering above you on all sides.

Monday, June 20th. I got this far yesterday when I was interrupted & could not take my pen up until now, when I have got all my little ones to bed. Major Arnold of Winnipeg spent last evening here & called this afternoon. He is an old friend of Elmes & sings beautifully – how we enjoyed his lovely music & he sings with so much expression!! I only wish he had been able to remain until Friday when he would have been a whole concert himself. I told you before that I got all the back rations; Uncle Henry did what he could too & answered my first letter although it never reached me. Alice has to write her note every time she wants a horse, a bothersome thing any

way. I suppose Mrs. Godson has reached her destination long ere this & will have frightened you by telling you of my doleful letter to her when she was on the eve of her departure. I have sent your order to Hicks & Sons, ordering every thing you wanted & asked them to forward them as soon as possible. If the steamers are going down the lakes, surely it will not be hard to get our furniture through.

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I hope your arrangements with Mr. Willison will be crowned with success, for I can assure you I want to see you a rich man in the near future. Mrs. Zach will tell her husband an astounding piece of news – her father, Mr. Daly is re-married, in fact has been for some time. I saw in today's "Star" "that a Mrs. Dennis Daly in Napanee had a son," but I do not know if that is her father's name. They cannot be pleased at his remarrying anyway. I am sure that poor man who died of a broken heart must have excited a great deal of pity. I feel sorry for his poor wife & as you say, why did he ever leave home? This is a very poor letter but Alec came up this morning, & when he came in a few moments ago, I went up stairs to fix up the room with Alice. We suddenly heard loud talking & Elmes & Alec were having high words. I had to come down & talk to Elmes who went out to sleep at the station – he was terribly excited, pale as death & ordered Alec out of the house. I spoke to him quietly & he went off seemingly pacified. He then (Alec) had it hot & tight with Alice over the letter, but they are quiet at present: they just made me sick between them all & I am still shaking from the effects of it. The letter referred to, is the one Mrs. Mac wrote Alice. He is on the warpath evidently, as he had a big row with Cara this morning too. He has taken something still is not intoxicated – he dined with the Wroughton's, that may have something to do with it. Our concert will I hope be a success – people seem to be

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encouraging us in every possible way. I got no letter from you this morning & have answered all the others – if this is very uninteresting, you know what to attribute it to & I hope you will forgive me, as I promise the next will be a nicer one. The little ones are fairly well. Flora seems to have a cold, but she will be all right in a day or so. Dubbie is looking fine & Gertrude is a picture. God bless you, my own darling boy – write soon to

Your own true loving wifie

Maye.

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