

2008.1.1.1.1.237.2

Elmes Steele to Marie Steele

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Donald, BC 14th June 02

My dear Maye,

Yours of the 2nd [just] reached me here today. Surely you received my letter to you explaining about the \$100. It was written in quite sufficient time for you to have known the reason I [drew] on you. Letters to me out here have been most irregular, but I wrote long before I left Vancouver. I am at a loss to know how it is you have not received it as I remember distinctly riding down to the P.O. and posting it with others, probably it will yet turn up. I told you that my balance sheet from Cape Town had arrived, and on it they charge me with £10. which Sam drew up country also £19. remittances omitted to be charged by them and an item of £1.12. odd for some expenses which I detailed in my letter, (I have not got my papers here or would give you the exact data as before.

This made £30.12. (\$146.86) I only drew for £100. as I was only pressed for this amount at

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the time, and stated so. I will let you have the exact data etc again when I get back to town. I am not sure how soon, and they would not understand where to look for it at home.

The [Imperial] Paymaster rendered me another Statement making me out in debt to [them] which I will not allow for, they claim I am short £124. [now] I am not out this much but should have at least £100 to my credit, besides £66. Mackie £8 Ketchen £80. Moir etc, etc. Is this not a nice state of affairs after all the work I did, and besides I have not the time to [illegible] them unless they pay expenses etc. One would think that I had nothing else to do but to work for nothing, I can tell you it would not last long. Positions are not easy to be had, and I was on the rocks until I got this temporary work. You know I have done nothing to earn a dollar until now

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and the little money I had left me has gone in dribblets. [Clarry] is not, and had not been working since last July (1. Year)

I am dreadfully sorry about the matter all around. But I will not pay another cent. I did more, much more, than another would do, and have been "turned down" for it by those at Ottawa etc. Now I am going to press for every dollar owing me of which there is quite a lot, of course you or Sam are different, I mean money actually owing by others. You or Sam knew nothing about these accounts. I am sure Sam never thought of it.

I hope all will [illegible] out right. I am so busy I have not time for writing, but hope to get another chance soon.

Best love and wishes.

Yours aff^{ly}

Elmes

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