

2008.1.1.1.1.310

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

Please sign (sign) cheque.
am sending papers re libel case

1513, 1st St. W.
Calgary, Nov. 12th

My own darling boy,

Fancy my surprise yesterday morning when in opening a letter in Mr. Wilkins writing I found the enclosed & your's of the 6th, desiring me to look for the power of Att'y for Federal Life which you have since found. His explains all & his astonishment must have been wonderful to see at being called "my darling" by such a cold, distant man as yourself.

The letter in question I will now answer & think his prices will be better than in our local markets. Owing to the exorbitant [sic] rates, very few turkeys or fowls were sold on Thanksgiving, as 35 cts. for the former & 25 cts. for the latter was more than people could afford, with the usual results, the shops were filled with them & they are still on their hands.

The paper you found, so I shall say nothing on that subject. I do not suppose [two] replied to the militia tract, as one was not in evidence, I believe.

Frank teases Flora, but you know it was reported at one time that your marrying one of my church did you harm. I told them such was not the case, so he evidently got hold of that old tale.

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[pg 2]

He should not be so childish, particularly when he must know it hurts & annoys her, for she is so devoted to us both. I do not know where he heard them, but he told me the same stories & was annoyed at people reporting them. He has not made them up I know but, there is no use bringing them up to the child - she is not old enough to fully understand & think they harm you dear.

I now take up yours of the 9th, telling me of the doings of the Militia on that day. You must have been tired when you dismounted. I did not know Brig. Gen'l Macdonald got the C.M.G. our local papers

say so little about these things & the eastern ones are not yet in. I am pleased & his wife must be delighted at his new honors. You must have enjoyed Sunday supper with nice people.

You are right - too little sleep tells on one after all & you require rest, having so much to do & taking so much exercise.

My letter re Draper must have surprised you - things have run more smoothly since - of course, I have not alluded to it in any way & have gone on as usual, but they will go, I am sure. Having done as he liked in his own home, he cannot comprehend that he cannot treat me as if I were a child or an equal - they may mean well, but really cannot understand the difference.

[/pg 2]

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All our friends are kind. It is really too bad husbands treat their wives in the manner that some of our acquaintances do & one cannot be surprised if sometimes the poor, weak women go wrong. Drink & neglect are the cause of much vice & unhappiness.

Your next of the 10th contained the cheque which has to go to you again - you forgot to Sign it dear, & they will not accept it on that account - open it & you will at once see what is wrong. They tell me the chimney sweep is the only licensed one & can charge what he likes - needless to tell you, he is an american & has their awful manner.

Am glad the speech was so well received & feel sure you acquitted yourself well. I told you all about the Ball, so you know how our day was spent. I cannot say whether the lad's nose will improve in looks, but suppose it will - anyway, he will be more comfortable & run less risk of catarrh. We too have had a spell of cold & it continues so. Am I to keep the frozen potatoes? We may be able to find a few fit to use, but Capt. Mackie said there were very few in the lot. They will have to be picked over I suppose. We have some calls to make this p.m. & the Mackies come this evening - tomorrow evening, Mrs. J.J. Young has asked us to a bridge party given for Mrs. Douglas of Banff. Mrs. Y. has been very polite to us; more so than others who were supposed to be old friends.

[/pg 3]

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G. Hope J. is altered, thinner & aged very much lately - he told me at the Ball that he had been ill - seems despondent, "that a man can only die once!" & such things. I fear he is not very happy, but was attentive to his affinity, as usual. his brother had no eyes for me, at all

- not even to bow. The same with Fred Lowes - of course, I do not mind. I tell you for something to say & to keep you au fait of things. I do hope they will soon appoint some one - a good way of economizing would be to get rid of the useless ornaments who are in the militia & keep only those who are fit & able to do the work allotted [sic] to them.

Well, my darling, it is near noon & I shall have to end this budget & endeavour to do a little sewing - hark! There goes the church bell & our children are coming in the gate, so good bye dear. Gertrude says it is cold & has run into the kitchen to warm up.

God bless you, my one & only love - take good care of yourself my darling, & come back as soon as you can, for I do miss you so much. All join in love & kisses - Minnie particularly wishes to be remembered.

As ever

Your own devoted, affectionate, longing little
wifie,

Maye.

[/pg 4]