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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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1513 1st St. W.
Calgary, Aug. 19th

My own darling,

Your two letters of the 17th came to me as an appetizer this a.m. for I found them awaiting me when I came down to breakfast & needless to say enjoyed them very much, giving the news to the rest of the family. You must have felt rather queer when at the theatre, not having seen anything in that line lately. How did the troop compare with the London ones?

I trust your trip to Grenfell was pleasant & that you found things satisfactory.

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Col. Glynn is no connection of the one who was in Pretoria I suppose. Your day was filled up, with inspection, sports etc & with fine weather - a nice outing.

The gentlemen in Winnipeg are more prompt in social duties than those here & must make you feel that you are appreciated & welcome in their midst.

The Club will also be a nice change for you my dear. You will find us hum-drum when you come home again, but perhaps these sleepy heads will waken up some time or other.

Flora & Mrs. Mackie will travel together & will leave by the

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midday train on Monday, the 25th unless of course, this strike prevents their doing so. The papers are quiet about it but Bagnall who was here last evening, at present cooking for the men at the station, told me the strikers had burnt cars at Macleod, put sleepers on the tracks as well at some other places - also that Mr. Niblock went out in his private car on Monday p.m. having heard that the rails had been torn up somewhere - he returned however without, I believe, finding anything wrong.

Naturally, I am somewhat anxious at the prospect of her long trip under such circumstances.

Homer Dixon is Mrs. Jim Henderson's nephew, is he not? nice for you to meet Lt. Bell again. So you are off church parades during the hot weather - if they do not look out, they will need Mr. Johnston's extinguisher when they depart for another [world].

By the by, Captain Smart has not sent the one Mr. Johnston gave us yet. I think I shall have to pen him a sweet note to freshen up his memory.

You will talk the very head off yourself when you speak next Sunday with Col. Irvine, not having met for such a long time. There will be so much to say.

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We had rain on Saturday & early Sunday, but it cleared up before church & has been fine since. It was very hot today & I felt it as much as at anytime this summer.

You will have all the gossip at your finger ends when you return & can entertain us. I thought Mrs. P. knew too much for that!

Too bad Capt. Deane has lost his brother. "Who's Who" says he was born in 1854, so he not an old man. Civilization has made them quieter in Winnipeg & not as frisky as they were in the old days.

You saw Mr. Daly last year after your coming up did you not?

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I had not heard from mother until your enclosed & did not know of the changes to her plans. Poor Torla! why she would be an old maid before finishing her education, if she had to go three years longer to the convent then Donalda. She will be seventeen in Dec. you see, so we cannot expect her to be twenty three or four, ere her education is completed. She would soon take the law in her own hands, I fancy. I thought the diplomas are only for P.Q.

Miss Gardiner from here is now at home - at least, she was going on her holidays Saturday last, so you may see her.

There is not much news.

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I am busy from morning until night preparing Flora. So many little things seem to require attention. We have seen no one lately, excepting Mrs. Elton who called yesterday p.m. She is very kind to Flora, who has taken a great fancy to her.

The flowers are lovely & in such quantities. Draper has watered them, but I miss you so much in the evening & always see you in my mind's eye with the hose in your hand, going from one spot to another.

Mrs. Crispin Smith gives a garden party tomorrow from 5 to 7 - will try & take it in, as I have missed so many functions lately, they will think something ails me. She wants Torla to help wait, but my lady has not yet made up her mind to favor them in that way. Well, Annie & Bagnall brought their wonderful baby here last night & isn't Bagnall the proud father? It is a healthy looking infant & such a curiosity to the two children. All are well & send fond love & kisses to dear Papa. I never intend inflicting you with a long letter, but somehow or other there seems so much to say, that I cannot help it. God bless you, my darling - write as often as possible. With many kisses & much love from

Your devoted & affectionate wifie,

Maye.

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