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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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11513 1st St. W.  
Calgary, Sept. 21st

My own darling boy,

Your two short letters of the 18th & 19th reached me this morning & I was delighted to hear from you & to see that you were going off on a little [visit] to Stoney Mt. & trust you had a pleasant time. Is Capt. Gardiner late S.A.C. a brother of late Major Gardiner? What did you do at the party? play cards or was it only conversation & music? I shall take your advice re the daughters & hope I shall have no trouble with ours, dear. It is too bad that Miss G. does not take her mother's advice, for after all who loves you more or wishes to see you happier than you own mother, but silly girls do not realize that. I am sure Mrs. Mackie enjoyed your jokes. I trust Mrs. Waugh received my letter. I wrote quite a while ago thanking her for her kindness to Torla & yourself: just as nice a letter as I could pen.

You evidently have put old timers on the gymkana [sic] list that were not considered in society! They will be pleased, no doubt. I have not heard from Capt. Mackie today so do not know whether Mrs. M. comes tomorrow or not.

It is too bad I am not near to coax you to eat.

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I am, they say looking well & I feel so, as a rule. You must not diet yourself too much, my darling: it is not good to get too thin.

We were favoured by a call from Dr. Costello last evening as well as Mrs. Vibert & Miss Lee - they had a pleasant time, I think. The Dr. mentioned seeing our intended removal, although not officially confirmed in the Free Press & it was repeated in our papers today. This afternoon we went & had a cup of tea with Mrs. Macdonald - she was charming as usual & told me some things which you told me before [viz] "that some told her Mrs. Sifton & Mrs. Lougheed were jealous of me & of the nice way people speak of me, in fact, of my popularity." I said I could scarcely credit such a thing, as I had never given cause for that. she said "Mrs. Sifton had attained her position

by accident - Mrs. Steele was born in it." I cannot say ~~how~~ who spoke to her, for of course she would not say, but said ever so much more & I was so surprised, never dreaming that people thought anything of me except as your wife my darling. She also said this lady said (& the latter is a warm personal friend of the two ladies mentioned above) "Mrs. Steele is so dignified" - no wonder my ears were burning, eh! dear. It is laughable, is it not that they should be jealous of such a quiet, unpretentious little body as I am. Dr. Macdonald feels sore over the prospect of your going & says "the men here will do anything for the Col. but there is no use sending any of the other fellows up here - the men are here & everything is going so beautifully since he came.

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I do not know what we shall do without him - if he goes the 15th L.H. may as well go with him." Judge Winter asked if you were leaving & added "If. Col. Steele wants the position he is sure to get it." If it is promotion I hope you will, but if not, I suppose it is as well to remain where we are. I see Lord Milner is coming west - you will, of course see him as he passes through Winnipeg, at least, I hope so. There is not much news of interest to tell you. Harwood is holding forth & talking like a book to Edith & Draper. Gertrude is near me, studying. Min is reading the beautiful "Star". Mr. John S. Mrs. & Miss Hall leave for Montreal tomorrow - he is well enough to travel - wonderful, is it not?

Well, dearie, Draper is going to mail this in the P.O. so as time flies, I shall have to say good-night.

God bless you, my own darling - write when you can - you know how I love those letters! all join in much love & very many sweet kisses in which I join our dear little "chicks".

As ever

Your own devoted, affectionately little wifie,

Maye.

[/pg 3]