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A.M. Jarvis to Marie Steele

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Pelly P.O.
Yukon Territory
Jany 30/02

My Dear Mrs Steele

Your letter of Nov. 26th only just reached me here a few days ago being missent to Dawson which explains to you of not receiving an answer [ere] now. Very many thanks for your long letter of food [sic] wishes for a

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Happy New Year. I will be so pleased to [receive] the photograph of the children. They are only [allowing] first class mail to come through during the winter & we are lucky even to get that, however it will come along in the spring.

I know you & the children must miss the Colonel dreadfully. You must [bear] up as when things are straightened up out there you will no doubt go out there to live. The Colonel is doing good work

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& is making history for Canada & his family as well. It has always seemed a great pity to me that he did not go into the army when a boy in place of throwing his life away for an ungrateful people. He would long before this been a retired General living a good easy life. In place of that he has had to start in just at the time when he should be retired, but he is getting there just the same & has got more friends in this country among every class than some people have got hay "which is a saying in this country." Every poor old prospector in the country has a good word for him for his kind & courteous way he had of dealing with them. And I only hope that he will be [spared] to come back to you & the children. I did not think it was possible for anyone to miss him more than I did myself on coming back here friends of his stamp are not picked up every day. I know I have [never] had one who has done as much for me as he has & I can tell you that I appreciate it. I left White-Horse on December 30 on my tour of

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inspection & only finished up three days ago. I practically have command now of all the police detachment ~~below~~ from W. Horse to near Dawson. This in former year was divided up between two other inspectors. So you see I have not much time on my hands. However, it is mostly outside work which I much prefer to barrack life.

We have had a beautiful winter up here so far the

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coldest day yet being only 60° below, zero, it being mostly nice clear weather. "The soldiers" [Thm]" [the] (Colonels claim) was the most promising looking one in the [Ramig Hollow] district when we stopped work last fall & we hope to do something with it this year. I [coulded] of bonded it to a California firm. They wanted to get a bond on it for eighteen months or two years, but did not want to put up any money & I did not think it good enough. I am not sure [wether] I sent the Colonel a Skagway paper re: a party of engineers

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landing at [Hanies] Mission, however I will send it to you & ask you to forward it to him. Their mission there appears to be a secret it looks to me as though we were going to get a railway of some kind & if we do we will never see a poor day. I had some very promising assays from Pellur-Harvy of Vancouver. Assays in which we got \$199⁵⁴ to the ton it was very rich in fray copper carrying 148 oz of silver. This assay was given copper at 10 cents per pound. But I am not loosing [*sic*] any sleep over it. I can assure you I will do the best I can this year when the season opens up. I have D^r Madon here with me a french canadian doctor of Point Clare. who [*sic*] says he knows your family. he [*sic*] was mayor of that town for many years. Remember me kindly to your sister Alice or I should say Mrs. Farish when you write to her. Have you heard whether the "Strathconas" are going to be represented at the coronation in June? I wish the Colonel were going as I would like to go myself I hear through the [Bruneaus] that your brother Reggie is doing well & was talking of starting a [drug]

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business at the Creek. Major Woods brother came out from Dawson night before last & says that Mrs. Jac is in Halifax having a big time teas, [parties], dinners, etc. [Jac] I believe is to go out [over] the [ice] in March & I believe is to meet her in Vancouver He will return on the [ice] & she will come in on one of the boats in the summer. Mrs [Stavies] is the [illegible words] of society I believe in Dawson [Juny] you know is back in the force having been out for six months & is commanding "B" Division Dawson Mr. Wroughton is acting quartermaster

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at Dawson & I hear his Mrs'. is with him. I am kept out of both White-Horse & Dawson in the winter & as soon as the boats start to run I expect I will be [deletion] exiled into the interior. I hear Mr Primrose is at last married to Lily Deane just fancy! I see by the papers that he did not go to Africa Mrs (D-) [Foasy] has been with her father Dr Pasè all winter at W. Horse with the family. The old gent has got a very comfortable place at W. Horse & has his daughter Blanche as housekeeper.

The Doctor came over to spend Christmas & he was

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the most [illegible] depicted looking man I ever saw. I think he expected to have got command of the Dalton-trail when I left. But Mr. White I think [order] Inspector [Walke] [illegible] appointe [sic] to take command there. And I was very glad of it and I am quite sure that he did all he could to get me removed for which I am very thankful. Now I think I have given you all the gossip I can think of & will now wind up if

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up (if its [sic] not too late) in wishing you all the compliments of the season with love & kisses to the dear old "fly" dear little Gertie & Dubbie. Believe me

Yours very Sincerely

A.M. Jarvis

P.S. As not [letter] complete without a postscript My headquarters are now at Ft. Selkirk. Pelly P.O. Yukon Terr. am living in Col. Evans old quarters.

AMJ