

2008.1.1.1.1.259

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

162 Hutchison St.
July 14th, 4 p.m.

My own darling,

I felt positive this morning that I had overlooked one of your dear letters when acknowledging them, so I looked them over & found that of the 7th a long & interesting one unanswered, so once more I come to have a little chat with you. Mother has gone to accompany Frank, his dearie & her mother to the mountain for an hour or two. I would not go, preferring

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

to devote leisure to correspondence. Flora was charmed to get your nice letter which she responded to some days ago. There are a number of fairs being held just now - is it not too early for vegetables, etc? too bad the mistake occurred re invitations to judges, however I hope they forgave and understood it was not intentional. Are all Deane's sons dead? Very likely you hear from Minnie & and I am sure she expects to live with us. Bob and Jessie seem to be under the impression that she will remarry.

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

You say "as she will have nothing" - do you mean by that in the way of furniture & money; in the latter case that would lead me to believe you have very little hope of the "Empire" turning out all right- Jack J. drinks too much and perhaps a talk from you will do him good - again, you may get no thanks from him. So you met Mrs. Paddy - is she pretty or must be very fascinating in some way. I remember Ross when he used to come to Macleod, but we did not see him often, as he was so friendly with Mrs. Kennedy. Of course, I think Bagnall & Annie would want to be with us - he seems to take the same interest in everything as of you & likes the country. Have you met Hon. Jack in Johnnie Hall? We knew him well in the old days & he was always

nice - you must know him, his wife being a sister of Brigham, late Strathcona's - is the latter not also in Calgary? Flora has gone to church with one of her old schoolmates who resides on Park Avenue. She renewed acquaintance with

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

all her old friends & they seemed pleased to see her. We are having a perfect day it is so pleasant, not too warm, you see. God bless you, my darling - having no stamp to mail this, I shall have to keep it over until tomorrow but one is already in the post, quite sufficient for one day, it being a long one, I must say.

Monday, p.m. This morning brought me two nice letters &

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

the furniture catalogue from you, my dearie. I have not had time to study the latter very attentively as yet, but will do so. We went downtown to get the trunk I wanted from [Blacklock] Bros and it comes this afternoon. We also saw Gus for a few moments who was delighted to hear from you & found you wrote in such good spirits.

We met Bob & had

[/pg 5]

[pg 6]

a little chat with him. He is at Ste. Agathe with the family but returns about Aug 5th - looks well & says Jessie is doing nicely. His house was entered in on Saturday last between midday & two p.m. evidently by boys. They took away Regie's coon coat worth \$90, his Persian lamb cap, a suit of Bob's, other clothes belonging to the boys, a little money & rifled a

[/pg 6]

[pg 7]

lot of trunks, going through & leaving quantities of old family papers strewn all over. There was silver of different kinds about, but he does not miss any so far. He asked me to remember him to you & hopes to have you come down for me & to see you then. That is a very nice letter from "Faith Fenton" - she was fortunate in making a good match & he seems to be getting on all right.

[/pg 7]

[pg 8]

I now have your third letter of July 9th open before me & far from thinking you mad, I am as delighted as a young bride would be at the kind attention. I recollect you often speaking of Miss [Shurtliff]

& am pleased to know she is such a credit to the old corps. What does old Sergt. Roby do now? If you go to Toronto you must accept the invitation. I hope you will get a few days in order to be able to take a run up to Orillia, etc, - they would receive you so warmly. Is Mr. Stewart still Supt. of Banff Park? I met him also when we married I think it was. I hope you will be able to accept his invitation - it would be charming. I am glad you found all military clothes & have all in hand to suit you. You will be a great swell if you go to the Belcher wedding in all your scarlet & gold - you will do the family honour!!!....

[/pg 8]

[pg 9]

how I wish I was near to see you, dear. I suppose [Vilbert] will marry again - what did his wife do that caused a divorce? She is here with her sister Enid who sings, I believe. I am deeply grieved to hear of Mr. Sharples' illness & feel very sorry for all concerned - is there no hope for a recovery? We shall manage all right about the house. We did before & will again. Frank is happy as can be.

[/pg 9]

[pg 10]

will not marry for some time of course. I do not know if she has money or not, but she is very nice & lady like. I have just had a letter from Mrs. Minnie & you will have seen her ere this reaches you - she writes in fine spirits & seems bright and jolly. The people of Lethbridge are very nice to her & have made her forget her troubles to a great extent, I see.

[/pg 10]

[pg 11]

I called on the Carson's last evening - she was the youngest of the Kavanaughs - they are so anxious to make your acquaintance & the boys keep hoping to have that pleasure. I was questioned in every subject about S.A. & begged to come again, so proved entertaining. They left for [Shawbridge] today, to remain three weeks or so. They have surrounded you with a great big halo of romance; one of their questions was "does Col. Steele always go about armed?" evidently thinking if they met some person looking like a brigand, armed to the teeth, with carbine, pistol, & sword, they would surely have seen their hero! Well, my darling if I go on, you will be weary of me, so I will say au revoir - you might send me the size of some of the rooms so that if I can get rugs during the cheap sales, I will do so. God bless my darling - love & kisses from all.

Your own true wifie, Maye.
[/page 11]