

2008.1.1.1.1.239

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

[pg 1]

26 Ste Famille St  
July 3rd

My own dear boy,

Now that I have penned a letter to Strathcona & written Mrs. Hilliam as well, I turn to you my dear reserving the [tidbit] for the last of course. Your two letters of May 30th & 31st came on July 1st exactly a month en route, so it is quick travelling as you see - if we are as fortunate we will be in Pretoria by the middle of Nov. if not before. Just think of that, my dear boy!

[/pg 1]

[pg 2]

I fear you were much disappointed when you heard we could not leave until Oct. but you fully understand why I know. It is evident as you say that the Govt. thinks you are going to remain where you are & one cannot be surprised. They appreciate you where you now have your home & when we are all reunited, we shall be so happy you will not wish to return for some years, until you have made enough money to retire comfortably off. I went down to the Allan line offices

[/pg 2]

[pg 3]

to see my friend Mr. Clancy - he said he would do all he could to help me re furniture - it is not weight but bulk which they consider & he thinks freight may be pretty high; still if we get fair rates from Eng. to Cape town, it will make a big difference - that is what I have written Lord Strathcona about & I will anxiously await his reply. Mrs. Hilliam has almost completed her preparations for the long journey & will I fear be disappointed at having to wait, still I cannot help it. I have not yet a sewing girl, but one comes on Monday. I have done all I could to get one, but it is simply impossible. As they are so eager to see us in Ont. ere we leave, I must give them a week & to my own relatives as well. You would feel it, were I to leave without seeing them all, I am sure. Gertrude went up to Vaudreuil yesterday for

[/pg 3]

[pg 4]

a few days. Torla is having a beautiful time & she was crazy to join her, so I let her go for for some time, but Dubbie misses her somewhat, although he amuses himself pretty well alone.

There is not much news. I spent a quiet evening at the Anderson's yesterday, but was too tired to enjoy talking only. I see the Coronation contingent sailed for home much disappointed at the

[/pg 4]

[pg 5]

fêtes being all postponed.

Tonights "Star" also says four of the N.W.M.P. cabled & are to remain in S.A. I suppose they will join your division. I wrote the Millers long letters on Sunday, but Grace wrote me a nice note on the same date offering to come & do all she could to help me - saying you had written & that "our going to S.A. was not too [true] judging from your letters".

We have had more rain so

[/pg 5]

[pg 6]

I believe our weather is getting more & more like what you have.

Frank came back from his short trip to Terrebonne & desires to be remembered. Antoine is studying & working hard so as to come up for exams early in the Autumn as you know.

Have had no letter yet acknowledging the \$60.00 from Uncle John - if he does not write more quick that he did last time, I will not hear in a hurry. Well my dear Sam, it is almost midnight & being very tired I must leave you, The children would join me in much love were they near or awake - very many kisses. God bless & keep you safe until we meet again. With a big warm hug hoping you will not fail to let me know if books sent by Col. Gordon reached you safely, believe me,

Your own true , loving, lonely busy little wifie,

Maye.

[/pg 6]