

2008.1.1.1.1.325

Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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1513, 1st St.W.  
Calgary, Dec. 16th

My own darling boy,

Yours of the 12th & 13th both arrived on the 14th, & as usual were warmly welcomed - the day seems incomplete when I do not hear from you & I am not satisfied with myself or anyone else. The reason the plain clothes photo's are so good is because you did not worry over the prospect of having them taken, consequently had not a strained or worried look.

Flora will be all right & is on the eve of her departure I suppose. I had one from her today written on the 10th so if there is any delay en route, she might not get here in time for Xmas or you either, my dear.

This business which is so disagreeable must have given you endless trouble & will I trust soon be settled - his wife must have had a hard time - both are much to blame - his [wages], cheques, etc the Dept. will not look leniently on I am sure.

I cannot tell you how very sorry I am to hear of poor old Dr. Sam's death - his daughter will miss him & realize the loneliness of life now. Give me an idea of whom you sent the private

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Xmas cards to. I have 1/2 dozen here & do not wish to send to the same people.

I would like the military photos taken by the same man, Campbell, if he makes as much a success of them as he did the others.

Gertrude wrote you & hopes the letter reached you safely - she felt quite badly at not having done so before, never thinking you would care to hear from her.

Mrs. Mackie is here & just told me that Capt. Mackie leaves on the 4th of Jan for Edmonton, to be away two months. What on earth are we all to do during his absence? I hardly think she will remain here - it is too bad, when they have just rented & fixed up their little

home: hard lives a soldier's life is! - always on the go!!...

Tonight is the "Old Timer's Ball". I am going & hope to enjoy it, but will miss you awfully I feel sure, & will not have Capt. Mackie to turn to, as he was not invited. Gents tickets are \$4.00, ladies \$1.00 - being so high, I did not care him to go, for he could easily get a bid, I feel sure.

If you cannot come, be sure & telegraph me so

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that some one can meet Flora & that I may know when to expect her. Trains are very irregular I find, so one must be on the look out, as she may come in the middle of the night.

God bless you - Mrs. M. wants to mail this so I must close.

With fondest kisses & love,

Your own devoted, little wifie

Maye

[/pg 3]