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Marie Steele to Sam Steele

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162 Hutchison St.
Aug 18th, 10 a.m.

My own darling Boy,

I come this morning to have my usual chat with you, but I have none of your dear letters to answer, or none came to me yesterday, due I know, to your being on the train to Edmonton. The many duties you had to attend to I feel sure were almost sufficient to keep you from thinking of me, let alone write.

We all went to church at 9:30 & when coming out saw Mr. Parent - walked with him as far as his house to St. Famille, with all the

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children whom he was delighted to see once more. He thanked me for sending the flowers to his dear wife & could not speak, breaking down entirely - he told the little ones what pleasure it gave them to send the [jokes] to Pretoria & that Mrs. Parent always went with him when they got the papers - she so looked forward to our return & was charmed when Flora wrote to her. He is very lonely, poor man in his big house all by himself & invited us to make his house our home at any time - he did not know we were living here, you see - invited the children to go and see him often. His only son died several years ago.

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There seems to be very little to write about today, as I have seen no one since I wrote last - we walk along & know no one, I find. The dress maker I went so far to get sometime ago has disappointed me & not come yet. I wrote a post card yesterday & trust she will let me hear from her. They are an aggravation! so difficult to get at this season of the year & time goes so quickly. I want to get Torla ready & everything seems to handicap me somehow. They are all off on their holidays you see, & will not work during the warm weather. Capt.

McDonnell called during my absence yesterday morning for his letter, so I have not seen him yet. His wife's brother who lives in the U.S. is with him at present, returning from a trip home to Ireland, I believe. The children are well & send much love to dear old Papa. I gave Gus Patterson's letter & Mrs. Theobald's delapidation [sic] a/c with the request that he deduct

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the 19 [paid] Barker for repairing the chair & told of other things paid for by you. He attended to the matter I think; as I have not seen him since have been unable to inquire.

The day is cool but pleasant sun shining brightly - have not yet had leisure to answer Minnie's last letter - am so very busy all the time that it is impossible for me to do so.

Like yourself I am amused when I think of [Elmes] Henderson wanting you to write Lord Kitchener about his son - when I think of the little tact he

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displayed in the old days; it makes me boil at times, but do you know he is so wrapped up in himself that he has no idea of how foolish he appears - it is everything for himself & his & both Jim & Elmes think they are away above any one else.

Well, my darling, as I must write a few others I shall say au revoir for today. God bless my own love & would you were near enough to have some sweet warm kisses [imprinted] on your dear lips by, your own true, devoted little wifie,

Maye.

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