

I am
writing a
progress
report
much longer
so must

CCCCCCCC

if loving
brother

Ralph

4647

Gya

~~DEPT BRIDGE~~

BENGAL.

ko(x+1)

76

5th April 1900

My dear Strachey

Owing to unfore-
seen circumstances I shall
have to ask you to act as
my Personal Assistant in
June and part of July so
you will jolly well have
to put off your leave
again for the 518th time

Yr. hoggishly

E. H. Stone

Yah; The 14th of July is

DEHRI BRIDGE,
BENGAL.

the date of sailing as
now fixed - The next
thing will be that the
£ 100 will be given as
much money as it asks
for - S.F. will be started
next October and I shall
be done out of my fur-
lough - Let us pray for
bankruptcy to set in.

The George Huddlestons
have asked me to chum
with them when I go to
Calcutta which I am
going to accept. There

was a fearful story being
told all over the country
last week of George having
been devoured by a tiger
all except his boots by which
he was recognised - A pure
invention but rather alarming
at first as it was known
that he had been trekking
about in the jungle in the
direction of the Subb. line
where tigers are as common
as Union Jacks in the London
streets - (As far as I can make
out everybody carries about
 $\frac{1}{2}$ a dozen in his pockets, which

but for some reason was not presented and is the only article available except the 2nd prize which was also unawarded and I don't know what to do with it a rather hideous brooch in the shape of a key - I am writing this in office and shall be able to secure decision into thinking that he waves frantically whenever the Queen a C.I.V or anything of a khaki hue appears in sight.)

I am going to Calcutta tomorrow to attend a farewell dinner that is going to be given on Saturday to Wagstaffe Secretary to the Agent on his retirement after 35 years service. Shall return here before going to Calcutta for good.

Many happy returns of the day - The bison sent, I may tell you, was originally meant for a prize for the best Tennessee at Xmas