

Dehri Bridge
25th July 195

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My dear Pippa

On Wednesday 12th

I started for Allahabad
via Arrah down the canal
by special steamer - The party
consisted of 5 people viz
Geake & Ross returning to Arrah,
Palmer & Nicholl going to Gya
& I. We started at 7 AM
and the idea was that I
would catch the 18.30 train
at Arrah and reach Allah^d.

comfortably in the middle
of the night in H.B.H's
carriage - Unfortunately,
the programme failed on
account of the rudder
of the steamer getting con-
tinually mixed with the
bowsprit - The result
was that we followed
the curved line of beauty
and every hundred yards
we ran aground, first
on the right bank and
then on the left - Each
time we were wrecked it

took at least 10 minutes to
get afloat again - It was
only when we had got half
way and all hope of catching
the train had gone that we
discovered a method of keeping
the rudder at its own end of
the ship - Before this happened
we ran into the pier of one
of the bridges across the canal
and a table, most of our
tiffin, and my beaver were
precipitated into the briny
wave by the shock, but
were rescued without loss of
life - We played 'Bridge'

steadily from 7 AM to 7 PM
and I gained vast sums,
a headache, & a waiting
for the game. ~~After~~ Having
missed the train we all
went to Geakes house &
I had to get up at $\frac{1}{2}$ past
four the next morning to
catch the Bombay mail,
which of course was $\frac{3}{4}$ of
an hour late. In the
train were the delievers
on their way home for
3 months - I was in
their carriage for an hour
and a half during the

whole of which time his d.
 flowed on the subject (as
 far as I could make out)
 of the exciting adventures
 she had lately experienced
 in Cashmere, but as the
 train was very noisy &
 she talked in an ordinary
 drawing room tone of voice
 I didnt hear more than
 3 words the whole time. By
 carefully watching her ex-
 pression however I was
 able to smile and say
 "tut tut" or "law row yer
 dont say so" at the right
 moments, but the strain

was too great, and at
muzhabsarai I fled into
another carriage. Here
I found an old native
gentleman sitting cross-
legged on the seat who
insisted with extraordinary
politeness on my sitting
on his bedding which
was spread out on it. He
also conversed with me
in high flown Persian which
was another trial - I had
a copy of the Idler and
he began to look at it
but was completely con-

justicated by the illustrations.
"What is this?" "That is a man"
"What?" "A man" "Oh - And what
is that?" "The man's legs" "What?"
"His legs" "How strange. - These
are pictures are they not?"
"Yes, pictures" "What are they
for?" "To make you laugh"
"What?" "To make you laugh"
"How should they make me
laugh?" "They are drawn by
madmen" "What?" So I wished
I was back with Mr. d.

At Allahabad I was met
with Bather with whom I
stayed - He is chumming with

Carr locomotive dept who
has lately recovered from
typhoid. I didnt have
much time at All. as I
had to return by the mid-
night train on Friday,
but saw lots of old pals
and rather enjoyed myself.
The John Huddlestons I did
not see as they only
stayed a day, on hearing
of the measles, refused to
go over to H.B., put up in
the hotel for the night &
fled to Cawnpore next
morning - Rather idiotic

as the house had been fumigated twice and certified by Bathe to be free from germs. On Friday degge

Prattic Asst. same like Oliver dined with us.

Natter a nice youth.

Carv lent me his carriage to my habserai whence I

travelled to Dehri by material train and arrived here safely on Saturday afternoon. Nothing has

happened since then but rain. Farewell

Yr loving brother

Ralph 