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Asansol

23rd June/91

My dear Pippa

I missed last
mail on account of getting
mixed in the day of the week
as will be explained further
on. On ^{Fri} Saturday the 12th I
got a few days leave and
went to Calcutta with H.
Wright. At this time of year
Calcutta is simply awful for
heat as the rains have not
yet 'broken'; it is just like

sitting in a kettle of boiling
water. ^{Saturday} We went to the Head
Office and I saw Robertson
who told me I was to be
left at Arawal for some
time. The idea of going to
Calcutta was to do shopping
but the only thing we suc-
ceeded in doing was to go
to Teller's an Indian Curiosity
Shop, and wander about paying
at the lovely objects till all
the other shops were shut,
by which time Wright had
completely ruined himself in
buying things to take home.

I thought it was a good opportu-
nity to get you a birthday present
which I hope they have sent it
to you. After dinner we quitted
Calcutta and took our seats
in the train for Allahabad
which we reached after rather a
painful journey on Sunday af-
ternoon. Unluckily the Abbatts
were away on leave so I
missed seeing them. Monday
and Tuesday were spent in
collecting my baggage and in
sending Oldfield's things to be
auctioned which he had written
to me to do from Cashmere

Although he said that he had packed all the things he wanted, of course he hadn't & I expect I have sent all his cherished heirlooms to the hammer. On Tuesday night I took a tearful farewell of Wright and arrived back at Asansol on Wednesday afternoon. The way I got mixed about days of the week was that at A-d Wednesday is mail day and so I got an idea that I had another day to write in which when I got to A-b it was too late.

Give my love to everybody
Yr loving

Ralph. 722(c)

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27 Wilfred Street
London, E.W.1.