

4655

Calcutta

26th July/00

My dear Pappa

I am just off to take up residence at Dillooah having handed over the care of the Chief Engineer's Office to Astlett who arrived by the last mail.

To begin with I shall live in the house Senyus was in - the top floor of one of the new subordinate blocks - 4 rooms with

Picombe who is there temporarily as assistant. I don't think I mentioned that Sevenoaks who is the A.E. for the new works was taken with cholera and has had to go for a month's leave to recoup. There is also there temporarily Ferrar A.E. - He and Picombe will both probably leave when Sevenoaks returns.

When the house which

is being built for the Asst. Carriage & Wagon Superintendent is finished and dry (3 months I should think) I shall live in that - A very nice little house of 5 rooms -

I have been going about the last 3 days buying all the shops in Calcutta. I haven't got a single stick of my own and the expense is vast - I haven't nearly finished yet as large quantities of furniture have still to

be got. I have also
committed the most
fearful extravagance of
what do you think?

buying a phonograph!

It is the most amusing
toy you ever heard and
talks sings and plays
~~with~~ in a most diaboli-
cal fashion - The best
fun is to get people
to sing into it and then
see their faces when
their songs are repeated!

I shall send you a
phonographic letter some