

4530

Calcutta

17th April 95

My dear Pippa

While poring over a calendar today I made the following remarkable discovery:—

In the year 1892 I took privilege leave from June 26th to Sept. 19th. From Sept. 19th to Nov. 4th I was on special duty (inspecting the girders of the Barakar Bridge at Meopham). As this time was spent on duty, any one with any sense could tell that it was not leave so that I ought to be able to collect privilege leave from 19th Sept 92 i.e. that I ~~am~~ to get it

this year from 19th June to 19th Sept. However, as I dare say you know, the Gov. of India has got no leave and are in doubts as to whether special duty is duty or leave. So I have asked them to consider the point and they will probably tell me tomorrow. But anyhow, I can begin to count up leave from Nov 4th 92 so that on June 27th this year I have got 2 months and 26 days due - This takes me up to Sept. 21st which is Saturday, and the Poojah holidays begin on Monday so that I can tack them on to the end of my leave and so get an

extra fortnight. This being so I asked Stone if I could have the leave and he says I can if the Deputy Chief Engineer or mechanical draughtsman has arrived mean-while. You must now exercise your influence with the Board of Directors and Consulting Engineer to expedite the delivery of a mechanical draughtsman who has already been sanctioned and in-
dented for.

So with any luck you may expect me on July 22nd and possibly on the 15th so you had better begin to make preparations at once for decorating the streets

from Victoria Station to Lancaster Gate. Herbert is going home about the same time & we may go together and shall probably come back together wh. will be pleasing.

There is no news. I went up to Church last week to see Myke and there was a hailstorm with hailstones the size of this:-

or rather bigger
and made of
solid ice.

An reservoir
y^r. loving
Ralph.

P.S. It all depends on the
mechanical Draughtsman. Talking of the
M.D reminds me of the new Chromatic

top or mechanical spectrum
which I enclose. If you put it
on a top and spin it round from
left to right the black lines become
coloured circles - the smallest green,
the next yellow - the next violet and
the biggest purple, and if you spin
it the other way the colours are
just the opposite. This may
amuse Papa if he hasn't seen
it before.

N.B. It should M
not be spun too fast.

P. 2. 9
It all depends on the
mechanical arrangement.
The new Chromatic
P. D. reminds me of the
which is
and made of
or other things