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Allahabad

25th June 1890

My dear Pippa

At last the rains have come and all is joy once more, or would be if it were not for white ants which have a very untidy habit of flying into the house and there dropping their wings (in 4 thousands) & themselves (in thousands) all over the floor, tables, chairs

soap & down your neck.

Then they begin to eat and by the time they have finished the house is one howling wilderness (so I am told). The first rainy day was Friday when it poured Rhinoceroses and Hippopotamuses all day and night. The next day instead of arid plains with three brown wisps of straw to an acre, there were to be seen in all directions beautiful green meadows

with cows feeding ankle deep (almost) in them. It now generally rains in the morning and stops kindly in the afternoon to let people take their daily exercise.

I don't know if I told you that I have got a Moonshie. This article is not a large diamond, but a tutor in the language. I don't think he's bad but he has no idea of grammar &c &

if you ask him what part
of speech a word is that 5
minutes before he said was a
verb, he will probably say
preposition & when you point
out the apparent discrepancy
he explains it by saying 'Oh
yes' before, it was a verb, but
here it is used as a preposition'
After that you have only just
got strength to ask what the
word means & he says
'elephant'.

P.S. I am love to all
still shrieking at your
'The Maniacs'

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loving 705(c)
Ralph