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Chaucho

15th Nov. 93

My dear Pippa

I have now come back to Chaucho and am just beginning seriously on the bridge. Thank goodness I have passed on the platelaying to Peddie. I was getting pretty sick of it by the time I had finished. Between Drysdale urging me on with daily telegrams, and linemen declaring that they were all dead through having worked like rats

and their pay being one day late
I was fast developing a temper
that would soon have surpassed
Annet Polly's. However a course
of dissipation in Asansol has restored
me to my usual peace of mind
namely a shooting match of the Asansol
Volunteers against the Bengal Rappers
do. followed by a dance (supper 12
to 2). The two Wrights Peddie and I
all came in for this tomasha which
will be memorable as the only oc-
casion on record when Drisdale
has not spent the whole day in
the shop. (I speak metaphorically
not meaning the gin shop.) Poor old

Battie has been very seedy with
fever &c and is still rather sorry
for himself but I think he is getting
better again. Rowe also (Cecil) is
very seedy and as he wont do
what Battie tells him is likely
to be in a bad way. I am rather
mixed about the Rowe family,
but if someone wrote and told
him to take care of himself it
might be a good thing. The last
two months have been rather bad
for fever, a lot of people have
had goes of it though I have
been perfectly well. But I havent
come to the end of the sick list
yet; on Monday Drisdale was

thrown off his horse and had
a bad shaking though I dont
think any bones were broken.

The ballast train has just
come with well curbs and I
must cease so farewell

yr loving brother

Ralph Treacher

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