

4457

Sahibganj  
10<sup>th</sup> Feb. 92

My dear Pippa

Pardon's asked for  
harsh behaviour in not writing  
last week. You didn't miss  
much as the only event was the  
Bishop. However I will proceed  
à la journal having first remark  
ed that I am improving my  
mind by travelling around with  
the inspection train. (See date ~~10<sup>th</sup>~~)  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>. His holiness the  
B. of Calcutta and suite came  
to Madhupur to sanctify the

ceremony. This was effectually accomplished by our all walking round the walls led by the Bishop singing psalms. It was a very edifying sight to behold him being trolled down to the spot 'in full canonicals' though the grandeur of the scene was slightly marred when he had to leap off so as to avoid a sacrilegious goods train which tried to prevent the sanctification by sending him to a better land. After the ceremony we returned to my bungalow where I gave the party dinner after which they departed peacefully and you will be glad to

hear that no ungodly contrabands occurred. Nothing happened after this till Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> when Drysdale Palmer and Collet came and we all went to Simultala to look for diamonds. Devon was there to show us where to find them. Palmer and Collet are E.I.R. engineers. After a long and weary day we returned to the carriage as poor as when we started and the only satisfaction we got was the severe beating we gave Devon for deceiving us - in the words of the Swan  
First we mopped the floor with him &c. We went back by

night to Atansol and went to  
Drysdale's. There we met Wagstaff  
who is secretary to the Agent. This  
reminds me that the A. has come  
back with his beautiful beard  
shaved off by which his beauty is  
destroyed for ever. It also reminds  
me of the exciting news I heard  
that Herbert Rendel is coming out  
to the Agents Office in Calcutta.  
I cant understand this at all  
so please explain the mystery.

The next thing that happened  
was the inspection. I met them  
on Monday and they did my  
division on Monday and Tuesday  
It passed off very happily in  
fact rather more so than I ex.

pected. I had a conversation  
with Robertson about leave, which  
I will tell you next week as  
there is not time to explain it prop-  
erly now. ~~Really~~. After they  
had done my division ~~the~~ I went  
on with them round the loop  
line on the spree otherwise improving  
my mind. We have now got to  
Sahibganj which ~~used to~~ was on  
the Ganges when Papa was out  
here but is now several miles  
inland, the G. having moved on  
elsewhere. I must now stop or  
I shall have Robertson howling  
at me for being late for dinner

Goodbye my love

Yrs

Ralph