

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY HOUSE

CALCUTTA.

22nd Octbr. 1908

4695

My dear Pippa,

Oliver is probably writing to you this week to tell you about the horrible thing that has happened. He got a letter from Ruby last week to tell him that she was in Lahore with a man called Hunter and asking him to divorce her. Oliver wrote to me and I went up to Asanool when he told me everything, I mean about Rupert. He has taken it very bravely and will get through it all right. I think it is a relief to him in a way to feel that there is now an end to a state of affairs which must have kept him continually on the rack when she was living with him - My dear, she

has behaved like a beast. After Oliver's wonderful generosity the other time, she refused to stay at home with Julia but came out to him dead against his wishes, and when she got to Scherbynys she would hardly speak to him and went about wearing the other man's ring and a locket with his picture on one side and the baby's on the other. Then she went to hurovoin and must have started this new intrigue immediately - a baby is expected in February. But in spite of everything, what distress Oliver most in the whole business is the thought of her future. He kept saying, 'what will become of her?' The only thing that is of any comfort to him is that the man is "a decent chap" and will marry her - I believe he will also take over Rupert - Oliver would take her

back even now ~~but~~ if it were possible but he sees it is not and will cut the strings - He came here on Tuesday to see the solicitors Morgan & Co who act for the E.I.R. I thought they were the best people he could go to as they are a good firm and are more likely than others to really try to get the thing done with the minimum of publicity both on account of their connection with the E.I.R. and because I am on friendly terms with the partners of the firm. They say the suit should be carried out in Calcutta where they can arrange for it not to be published - Of course it will be impossible to prevent people from knowing about it but Morgans say they can keep it out of the papers &c. There is however a difficulty which may arise - Oliver may have to reside in Calcutta for a few weeks to give the courts here power to take up the case. I am not quite certain yet whether this is necessary but if it is I don't quite know how it is going to be managed. The difficulty is in finding

yesterday and is due here on the 7th inst. Go and see the babies sometimes -
there is a room for you at Home. Goodbye dearest creature. I never
write to you except about horrors. Ever your loving Ralph

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Someone to do Oliver's work at Asansol. Luckily George Huddleston has returned - We have told him about it and he is sure to arrange it somehow but unfortunately he had just arranged all transfers &c and told people they could have leave and so on. However I have no doubt he will find a way and I shall nag at him till he does. We think (O & I) that the best thing he can do when this business is done with^{is} for him to go home for as long as he can which is 6 months - He will get away from the horrors of it all and the curiosity of the mob will have had time to cool down before he returns - But most important he will be able to decide with you and mamma about Julia. I am quite certain Oliver won't do anything rash or foolish and I don't think he will break down. Of course I will keep my eye on him and if he comes to Calcutta he will stay with us. I will let you know how things go on.

As for me, I am fat and prosperous. Maggie ought to have left herseilles

Ralph - 4c
Ruled

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22-10-08

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