

4650

Calcutta

no. 3

17th May 1900

My dear Pippa

I have spent the last 2 hours in writing

2 shocking epistles - One

to Non Paul & one to

Courin Minnie - I am

now quite exhausted so

will not write lengthily -

The week's news consists of

the usual cypher. I dined

with the Drings and in

trying to drink a cup of

coffee while someone was

making a funny joke,

breathed the cupful
instead with the result
that I was horribly
ill with convulsions
for quite $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour.
Luckily Mr D had left
the room and I was
able eventually to mount
to the drawing room as
if no accident had oc-
curred.

Croquet I find is
largely played here nowa-
days - I had a game
yesterday ~~with~~ at the
Pearce's (Ry). Mr & Mrs P

had a violent squabble
on a point of law and
nearly came to blows -
I am dining there tonight.
Pearce is rather a boomer
but Mrs seems alright.
I am competing for a prize
of £3. The game is to
make a telegram of six
words beginning L.O.N.D.O.N

The best yet got are
Lucy Off. No dinner on ninth.
Love Oliver how Darling or heaven
and Lamsden's Orders
notified. Destination
Ostensibly natal
none very good - Also

Leave Off hoting Down
Outrageous nonsense

I think it would amuse
Mamma to try this game

Yr loving brother

Ralph