

4584

Delhi Bridge

Important → Bengal

2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 98

no 6

My dear Pippa,

On Sunday the day after the eclipse the camp broke up - Palmer and I drove along the line to Karmnasa about 16 miles from Mughalserai up to which the rails have been laid. Thence we went on an engine to Mughalserai, a most perilous journey owing to the line having only been roughly laid up to date and far less like a railway than a disarranged switch back. The object of my going

to MGS was to view the line, Palmer went to meet Birkenshaw who was coming from there to Delhi, but when we got there there was no Birkenshaw, only a telegram to say he was sorry he couldn't come, so we returned with curses on our lips and fear in our hearts to Ksa, and again experienced the long-suffering of the Almighty, arriving at Garland's house ~~safe~~ scared but safe.

On Monday morning we drove back to Mehania ~~place~~ and then bicycled off to a place

about 10 miles off to see the magistrate on biz. The representative of the British Government was a most unclean specimen of the Bengali Baboo, who after keeping us waiting in the verandah as long as he dared, to show his importance, appeared in bedroom slippers without his coat and in a most filthy shirt with no collar. Having shaken most of his dust off our clothes we prepared to depart when, of course you will guess what happened, Palmer's hideous Dunlop tyre was discovered to have punctured

in an utterly irreparable fashion, so he had to return to Mohania in an ekeka, the bicycle being walked home in disgrace by a coolie. In the afternoon we drove on to Sbd. and next day returned to Delhi.

Birkenshaw arrived after all on Wednesday and returned to Gya next day.

On Saturday a large influx of visitors arrived viz Wm<sup>n</sup> and Miss Murray from Arrah and Scott's little brother.

Wm<sup>n</sup> Murray is the wife of Dr. Murray the civil surgeon of

Arrah; she is a hag. Miss  
Murray is her step daughter  
and is an angel. They are  
staying with Palmer and  
will be here a few more  
days, so dinner parties are  
in vogue. Scott's little  
brother is a ship's doctor  
on his first voyage - his  
ship being in Calcutta he  
has got a few days leave.  
Nicholl is vastly delighted to  
have somebody to talk shop  
to and they discuss blood  
and bones all day.

Tee Kanbee and a letter  
from Penel arrived last mail

for which please forward  
kind thanks - It was  
addressed to Dehra India  
so of course went first  
to Delhi.

I think I have now  
emptied my budget - I  
hope the Eltons have now  
recovered - the account of  
the Squire sounds appalling.

Love to all

Yr loving brother

Ralph Treacher

---