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Calcutta

7th June 1900

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My dear Pippa

I have been
behaving most disgracefully
in the letter writing line
and this is going to be no
better than usual. There is
nothing really to write about
and also time is fleeting
especially lately as my
assistant P.A. is in the
hospital and the slack
moments of office hours when
I generally write do not

present themselves -

Another thing which has taken up most of my spare time lately is the great boat race between the E. I. R. and the B. N. R. which is to be rowed to-morrow. The E. I. R. boat consists of

Findlay	stroke
Dring	3
Dalton	2
Sears	bow
Strachey	cox

Wynne (Agent & C. E.) is one of the B. N. R. boat - I think it will be rather a good race for though our style

is vastly superior to theirs they are considered to have more strength.

The young lady who was staying here has departed and another has come - Miss Severs from Bedford. She is rather nice.

I wish I had been in London on making day - Calcutta was feeble in the extreme in the way of rejoicings. The first news I had of it was on Saturday morning (19th May) driving to office when a flag was seen to be flying over the museum. As we got into

the town more flags were seen and we guessed what had happened and when we got to the office we saw the telegram. The only work I did that day was to play football with my hat and put up a beautiful flagstaff on the roof of the E.I.R. house with Union Jack complete, which is now flying on account of Pretoria. A Government holiday is proclaimed for Monday and it is hoped that the flabby old Calcuttaites will rise to the occasion.

I must now rush off
and steer my boat.

Please address reply
to this

Passgⁿ by P&O
S.S. Arabia, ^{from Bombay}
ADEN

TRA LA

yr loving brother
Ralph

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