

come out to them for
with cold weather
will she come to us unless
we should love to have
her, & will try to look
it as bright a visit
as possible. With
fondest love to you
& Papa & all the
rest of the
family & remain
4667



400 opposite
Langley
Margaret
W.
Singapore R.S.
E. J. R.
19-11-03.

Strachey

dearest Mama,
Here we are safe & sound, when
I hope we shall be left in peace, until
Baby is old enough to be taken home
for good! We are enchanted with
everything; to begin with we have
a charming house, & as for the
garden, words fail to express its
loveliness, the Hewits have taken
great pains over it & improved it
tremendously, & we feel ourselves in
clover stepping into everything
so well kept up. Then too all
the people here just now are
very nice & friendly, & just at
present so nearly every one has
guests staying with them the



Station is very full indeed. In
waiting for the nurse to arrive
which she should do in a week's
time now, as I dare not leave baby
to go into the Courtwards. The
only British regiment is leaving, &
we hear no other is coming in its
place, which causeth us to feel sad
as they are all so jolly & will be very
much missed, however the Dasher
remains & as they are a most sport
lot we are in hopes that all the fun
~~will~~ will depart with the departing
regiment. Ruby came up for a few
days shopping in Allahabad before
we left, but she could not bring Julia
as she had a bad cough & cold & had
had croup! We loved having Ruby
with us again, & she was looking

so smart & pretty, & wonderfully well
considering she had been down all the
hot weather. We were most anxious
the two babies should meet but fear
that they never will in India now.

We are staying at present with
young Colvin, & hope to move into
our own house the day after to-
morrow, the Hewitts have to night

Every body comes out generally
at the shocking weather they had
while at home this last summer

S. Swinton seems to have excelled
himself, & no mistake. I had an
awfully interesting letter from
my second eldest brother Francis
today. He was sent out to S. Africa
by Lord Cromer as an expert on
Cotton growing there, (he has lived
for many years out in Texas & seen
a great deal of the cultivation
of Cotton while there & thoroughly
understands it,) & he is now

tack in England, & the other day
was at a Dinner given at the
Hotel Cecil, by Mr Chamberlain
who was in Office, & had a private
interview with him afterwards &
also "the privilege of hearing one
of the best speeches he has ever made.

He is now trying to get a home
appointment in the Colonial Office
as the Climate of Gambia is so
bad, & says if he does not get it he
is going to throw the whole thing
up. Which seems a great pity, but
of course it would be a great risk
to go & live in a place which has
Yellow Fever raging in it always.

At present he has a very good ^{government} appointment
as colonial expert to the Cotton Growing
Association. One of my Aunt's nieces
by marriage married Mr Chamberlain's
partner the other day, she was a Miss
Arnott, I wonder if you have met her
at all. ⁹³³ Ruby flourishes & gets more
fascinating every day? Ruby tells me
it was all arranged that Perret was to