

4773



Allahabad

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 1866

Dearest Pippa

It appears I am the popular officer! My native staff - ~~the staff~~ engineered a farewell *tauashia* for me which took place yesterday, now to be described - First of all I sat in state surrounded by Rudolph (my assistant at present) my office staff, all my European station masters

I go to Sahalgunge probably on Monday or Tuesday next - Ralph expected tomorrow - Advise ye being *John Church*

Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>



and representatives of the native  
staff, and a photo was  
taken of the group to be  
presented to me - Then we  
all adjourned inside the  
institute, where I again sat  
in state, while the enclosed  
address was read out to  
me with great pomp - The  
enclosed is of course only a  
copy; the original is printed  
on most elegant silk and  
~~is~~ bears the signatures of  
the presenters - nearly all

the upper native staff, <sup>the</sup> besides  
some Europeans - It was presented  
to me (after being read) on a  
large silver salver which is  
suitably inscribed - (useful and  
ornamental) - I then gracefully  
rose and spoke a few well  
chosen words - Great enthusiasm  
prevailed - My *bura bura*  
then advanced and garlanded  
me with most malodorous  
flowers - All then adjourned  
for light refreshments -  
It was really very nice of  
the creatures, and I am  
sure it is really genuine - I

mean the feeling - Quite pleasing -  
Unfortunately the Pioneer reporter got  
in and I scarcely dare show my  
head at the club -

The railway conference is  
just breaking up, and streams  
of visitors pour in on their way  
down - Yesterday Douglas with  
his whole family, rather nice  
I think, and today ~~the~~  
H.B and May - He is as  
fat and charming as ever;  
unfortunately he will just miss  
Ralph - May however is staying  
on a bit with the Radleys  
(the D.L.O - Mr R was <sup>also</sup> a Miss Fraser)