



4676

DINAPORE R.S.

E. I. R.

25th Aug. / 04
04

My dear Pippa,

Maggie went back to Kussorie a fortnight ago, alarming news having been received of the nurse ill-treating Dicky. It was discovered that she was terrorizing the poor little thing, beating him, locking him up in dark bathrooms &c &c - I expect Maggie has told you all about it - So she has been sacked and Maggie will stay up till October when I hope to get a fortnight's leave to Kussorie and then we shall



Allahabad

all come back together. There is some doubt as to what is going to become of me. Peyton is returning on the 20th November and Highet asked me if I should like to go to Allahabad.

I have almost settled to say yes but nothing is decided yet.

Dinapore

Pro.

Good house and garden - Cheap living

Anti.

hardest living being 4 miles away and when you have got to them they are nearly all subalterns. Even they may shortly be expected to disappear if Lord K's scheme of removing all troops to the frontier is carried out which it probably will be.

Pro

Good garden.
Good club and some intelligent inhabitants.

Anti

Bad house

More expensive than DNR.
→ Wg. Top story uninhabitable to all but salamanders in the hot weather - Too close to station yard ∴ noisy & dirty - Inconvenient arrangement of rooms.

There isn't much to choose between the two districts from a professional view as far as I can see. At present perhaps Dinapore is more important but I don't know that it will be when the Grand Chord line is opened. Allahabad is certainly a much pleasanter place to spend one's life in and I think I shall go for it eventually - I had 3 days in Calcutta last week and spoke to Highet about it & he said there was no hurry about deciding for a month or so and in the meantime "something might turn up."

This may mean Deputy C.E. though
I don't think it is at all likely.
This post has been offered to
the two Wrights and Cockshott,
all of whom have declined it
without thanks. It is believed
that Highet doesn't want to
offer it to Leslie so the only
choice that remains is between
me and an outsider and if
Leslie isn't to have it I don't
see why I shouldn't, as in
Highet's last confidential report
of which he sent me a copy,
he said that my qualifications
for my present or higher appoint-
ment were good. Of course
if it is offered to me I shall
take it though it isn't any
catch from a monetary point
of view. Living in Calcutta

is so frightfully expensive now. a days (much more so than it used to be in ancient days, and getting worse every year) that 1500f. a month in Calcutta is not nearly as good as 1200f. up country. Also no doubt the work will be heavy and life less free than in an up country district. I believe these are the reasons why the others have refused it, if it were offered to me I should take it as a stepping stone to higher things. Anyhow I hope they wont put in an outsider, which is a custom of which people are getting rather sick. The loc.

Dept. people are fearfully excited about the advertisement which is now appearing in the papers at home and out here for a Deputy, loco Superintendent. They have forwarded an appeal to the Board and as they are very much afraid that it may be delayed until the appointment has been made and it is too late, I promised some of them that I would endeavour to let the Board know unofficially ~~that~~ of the existence of the appeal. They don't trust Tompkins, and are in a state of ferment about the affair. It will be a d-d

shame if they put in an outsider when several of our own men are entirely fit for the post.

Great disaffection was caused by the appointment of Gordon over the heads of Nadley, Hash, and others who are now occupied in the congenial task of teaching Gordon his work, and the appointment of a Deputy from outside would be the last straw. I hope the above remarks won't enrage Pape but the state of affairs is really rather serious.

There is not much news of interest here. The Jewells have gone and degge come as D.T.S. The Holmer's have still got 19 horses, but only about 5 dogs

am left, all the others having
died of distemper. Revill is
here as Asst. Dist. Secy. and
is a sore trial, being the biggest
bore in Asia. I saw George
in Calcutta. He was just re-
covering from an attack of
lumbago but was very much
pleased with himself as regards
wagon loads. I also saw Douglas
and invited him to spend a
week end ~~at~~ Dinapur which
he accepted eagerly. He looked
quite well and is getting very
fat. My new ^{railway} carriage is
quite a decent one. I applied
to have an electric fan in it,
and I hear that I am actually
going to get it if I pay for

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the cost of filling the battery!
 Wonders will hardly ever cease!
 There has been a tremendous
 wt of rain this year and
 the country along the line is
 under water for miles. Nothing
 serious has happened so far
 on this district - A wing wall
 of a small bridge collapsed
 but we patched it up before
 any damage was done. My
 A.E, I mean J.E, at Hooshal.
 Sarai is a strange bird - He
 is continually appealing to me
 for leave to go to Hussoorie
 to see his lads which I ~~can~~
 time to refuse. Do you
 remember John otherwim head

Scott? He was on the Sme
Bridges. I met him in Cal.
cutta and thought it would
be polite to ask after his
wife which I did - To my
horror he replied "Oh that
has not been a success, I am
now taking proceedings against
her for divorce"!! He then
narrated the whole circumstances
of the case with much gusto,
but as far as I could make
out the only crime the poor
lady has committed is that
she insisted on going home last
wet weather. He told a friend
of his that he had "nominated
him as co-respondent" because he

had presented his photograph to
his wife - However, after inter-
viewing his lawyers he returned
to the man and told him he
had changed his mind as the
lawyers had told him that no
jury having seen the photograph
would give a verdict.

I also saw Palmer and his
American wife, and Sevenoaks
who looks the same as ever.

I have had excellent health
this year and everybody in Cal-
cutta remarked on my blooming
appearance. Tell Jimbean that
I got a specimen N.C.P. from
Lumiere and Sanger Shephard. They
were both rather good but Sanger's
was the best and I should be
inclined to try the Sanger method

but it costs too much. A decent outfit for taking the smallest parties would cost about £10/- which with families now in the hills and shortly viz March or April, going home would prevent my ends from meeting so what can do?

Abdul, the villain, still rules the roost; and Dossling, who used to be Nero when you knew him, sends his love. Hoosainy and Sunket have disappeared into space.

Please tell Oliver that I have cut him out of my will and have given orders to my chupattie that I am darwaza band if he calls; to all others fondest love and remembrance

Give me a paw
your loving brother
Ralph

Please forward.

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Miss Philippe Strachey

~~by Lancaster Gate~~

~~London~~

~~England~~



Knockanger Park
Sandy
Beds

258:04

Porte Restante
Genardmer
France



Faversham Library
27 Watling Street
London, E.C. 4

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