

DEHRI BRIDGE,  
SHAHABAD DISTRICT,  
4636 BENGAL.

15<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>./99

no 61

My dear Pippa

Stone duly arrived  
last week. He said that  
even if the Govt gave any  
money for S.F. this year  
it would be too late to  
do anything with it so I  
had better fire in a formal  
application for leave, which  
I have done for 6 months  
furlough from 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Stone said he hadnt made any enquiries about the possibility of the 3 years rule being overcome but seemed to think it would be all right - What does General S. say?

Only ten wells left now to be finished off - Masonry in piers is going on rapidly at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pier a day, and several girders have been taken down into

the river bed and put together ready for hoisting up as soon as the piers are ready.

Mr & Mrs Boursdillon Commissioner & commissionaire were here the other day on tour - Both very polite she was a Miss Lewis a cousin of the Chapmans and one of the old Anglo Indian gang.

Punkals have been demolished

821 (b)

and all is gay.

We have been expecting  
the end of the world the  
last two nights and have  
put on a chowkidar  
to rouse us on the first  
appearance of the skies  
opening so as to be in  
time to catch the last tv  
kump but up to date only  
2 shooting stars have been  
viewed & I am beginning  
to think I catch the meaning  
of the word dee onid

Ho! ho! it is pitch dark  
& ma chandille est morte

So farewell  
yours  
Ralph