

**12. Letter from Vincent Smith in Gorakhpur to W. C. Peppé in Birdpore, dated 28 March 1898**

*Smith return's Peppé's maps and drawings of the vase. Has sent inscription to Hoernle in Calcutta and hopes to have his translation soon. His note (to accompany Peppé's article for the JRAS) is almost complete. Lists instructions for further excavation at Piprahwa. States he will 'take over charge on 23 April' (a reference to his new appointment as acting Secretary to the Govt. of NWP&O).*

[NB. Top right corner of the first page has been torn off]

28.3.98

Gorakhpur

Dear Peppé

I hope the child is all right again.

I return you your maps, which I have utilized, and your drawings of the vases. The later are not required as the photos and the [*corner of page cut here*]-nts suffice. I have sent a copy of the inscription to Hoernle at Calcutta and hope to have a translation from him in a day or two. My Note on your report is complete except for the inscription. I hope you will continue your excavations and

1. clear the small temple to the north and look for an inscription there.
2. clear the circumference of the stupa and ascertain its shape, and find the procession path, which ought to be at the level of the stone chest – look for traces of a rail. At the level of the upper deposit there was probably another ledge or terrace.
3. Clear out the monastery. Then if your zeal carries you further you have plenty more stupas and temples handy.

I shall take some joining time and probably take over charge on April 23. Griffin from Aurangabad comes here.

It is much pleasanter going to Naini Tal than to Lucknow.

With kind regards to Mrs Peppé.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

VC Smith