

2. Letter from Vincent Smith, ICS, in Gorakhpur to W. C. Peppé in Birdpore, dated 23 November 1897, 3 pages.

Smith explains that he has written about the Asokan pillar on a separate sheet. He congratulates Peppé on the birth of his son and about his wife who is sailing out to join him.

Dear Peppé

I have written on a separate sheet about the pillar, so that you can forward a copy to Gibbon. I hope his eyes are better.

I had already noted Crooke's [?] book is out to order and I shall order it. Also Martin's [?] book if it is not in the Library.

I congratulate you on the son who is announced today, and hope that Mrs Peppé and the child are doing well. My wife's name appears on the list of passengers by S. S. Caledonia but I doubt if she really started. She has been waiting for the boy to get his posting to a regiment. Her sister's husband also died the other day with appalling suddenness while playing a game of billiards.

We are oppressed today with heavy clouds.

Yours sincerely

V.C. Smith