

Confidential No. 472
1891

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O., DATED 6. x. 91.

No. 2053/4

Series. Mis

Confidential.

First copy sent to Press

Returned for signature

Despatched

[Despatch Abstract.]

Passing order on Memorial
from H.D. Prendergast, Esq.
Supt. of Police, Victoria, re
his promotion and break in
his service & addressing the
Sd. on the latter point.

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 , No.

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF 18

ENCLOSURES

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER, &C., OF GOVERNMENT-A.

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(not paged).

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Mr. PRENDERGAST'S
MEMORIAL
FROM ORDERS

circulate.

With D.O. from Hon'ble
Mr. Stokes

Note.

Submitted that there is no
necessity to keep the order
confidential. Col P's D O
is the only confidential part
of the papers & it will be kept
so

W
3/10/91

W
2/2/91

W
25/9/91

her.
back

certainly

Heated, as the
on his supersession by Mr. Storer, having been
to understand that the Special Agent Mr. F. W. ...
had been his prospective

would suitably deal with them
 Skt as Drafts
 Day

The J. D. D. whereas Mr. Travers
stained his step as permanent
Int. Supdt. on 14 April 1882. Mr.
Pendergast was promised to that
rade on the 21st June 1882.

The recent promotion
against which Mr. P. protests
will be found in G. O. R. No 614
729. 5. 91.

Mr. P. Explains that
he protested against
Mr. Travers Confirmation
before him as Asst. Supt.
but was informed that
it would not affect his
promotion as Supt.

$\frac{1}{2.6}$ Amp.

27 Augth -

get sick which will doubtless occur
on his immediate return in May or
to that officer, whose case is a slight
one, than arrangements Mr. Peckham
has made in which it is his purpose
to take part.

Enc

Enclosed is a paper against consideration for the
request, for the consideration of the
in service into leave without
til he retires. But if his other
not granted, I think special
made on this point, and
to make the concession

30 Aug.

30 Aug.

I am free with my Hon. colleagues
to state that Mr. Undergarden
is a doctor

not to know the
avoid prison -
the suggestion made by ^{you} the Hon. Esq.
+ gazetted Secy. P. as Secy. of Min.
with effect from March 18th / 91
put him above Mr. Thorne,
which - & he also made
application to the Secy. as a special
investigation of the
Halliburton & Co. in Cal.

(3)

Hum.
Scarc.

R. 14/9

47 to condemn the break in his
service ^{now} - This would enable him
to retire on a pension a good deal
earlier ~~by giving~~ him 7 years
service to count toward his pension,
but I don't see how it wd enable
us to place him higher on the list
of Reps than we now place above

W. Travers -
 From the Dig; establishing the
T. P. 2, 'abolished that he has
 said and that W. Travers's position
 as the holder of the property is well preserved
 his own position, I fancy it is correct
 W. Travers's position under me in
 V. G. - as an excellent officer -
 his knowledge of the local dialects
 & his knowledge of the local dialects - &
 I am sure is quite essential - &
 I am sure he has been very kind
 in his letter - I am sure to a dis-
 tinct ship in 1803 - 1804 some of
 his knowledge: since then a word
 for them -

16/9/91

I think the hon. Mr. Stokes' proposals would meet the case. I think too that if possible we should ask India as a special case, in consideration of Mr. S's excellent services in Kalahandi, to allow the break in his service to be condoned. He certainly does not appear to have been fairly treated, as the answer to him, when he remonstrated on his supersession by Mr. Trevelyan, clearly gave him to understand that the special ability of Mr. S. was not to prejudice his prospects.

C No. 3733.

From J. G. of the

Dated 13th August 1891.

FOR ORDERS.

Of the enclosure to the J. G.

under cover of which he submits

Prondergast's Memorial:-

Cover A contains a copy of G.O. dated 8th December 1881 in which certain charges in regard to transactions and laxity of action on the part of Mr. Prondergast dealt with;

Cover B contains a reprimand Mr. P. in 1889 for losing papers;

Cover C contains papers

the purchase of some extraordinary low price when Assistant Supdt. of G. in 1885.

The point of Mr. Prondergast's

Complaint is that he has been seduced by Mr. Frasers. The service these two officers will be found

pp. 198, 199 of the "History"

[9]

CURRENT No. 3733

From

The J. G. of the

No.

Dated 13.

Received 15 } August 1891
In Reg. 17 }
Enclosures Forty-Nine (49)

SUBJECT.

Submits with remarks Memorial from Mr. H. G. Prondergast Acting Supdt. of Police, Krishna District, regarding his promotion

Recd. in Office 17/8

Reference to papers 18/8

Papers received 21/8.
In Madras

Papers incomplete & again

Can be - 27/8

Mr. Prondergast I think has a valid grievance of the matter brought up against him. Both are not such as would justify his suspension. It is more serious but may be held to be wiped out by the really splendid service he rendered in the Kulabandi Khond rising in 1882, for which he has received two Karams whatever, though his claim to it was fully recognized & has been approved by the Govt. of India that he would get it from the Govt. of Madras in the appropriate form viz. Considerate promotion.

Recent police reports and Mr. Holland's testimony show that he has been doing first rate work as Dy. Supt. Krishna.

He says that when he remonstrated against his suspension by Mr. Frasers on a previous occasion he was told that it would affect his promotion.

Mr. Frasers, the J. G. does not justify the point. He is not a J. G.

Prondergast's statement is substantiated by his confirmation on both should be made as to the nature of his suspension by Mr. Frasers. It will make no difference to the officer's pay but it is his on the whole to the matter. The matter is not a J. G. Frasers could have been

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE
SIR BEILBY LAWLEY, BARON WENLOCK G. C. I. E.
GOVERNOR OF THE PRESIDENCY OF
FORT SAINT GEORGE IN COUNCIL.

The humble memorial of Mr. Henry Gordon Prendergast,
Assistant and Acting Superintendent of Police, Kistna
District.

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

1. Your Memorialist entered the Police as a 2nd Class Inspector in the Godavari District on the 6th June 1869 and passed the necessary tests in law and language at the first opportunity, one of the examinations being one that had been open to superior officers of Police for several years but had not been passed by any officer until then and was thereafter made easier. On the 3rd February 1871 Your Memorialist was promoted to 1st Class Inspector. On the 26th October 1872, in G. O. No. 1416 of that date Your Memorialist received the thanks of Government "for the exemplary manner in which he behaved on the trying occasion" "of the disastrous flood that caused so much loss of property at Ellore" on the 5th October 1872 and following days. In the Annual Administration Report of the Department for 1872 Your Memorialist is mentioned as one of the officers whose services (not those mentioned above) were specially noticeable during the year. On the 23rd October 1873 Your Memorialist was appointed ~~to~~ as Assistant Superintendent of Police in Ganjam District. On the 1st June 1874 Your Memorialist resigned the service for family reasons. On that occasion the following was placed on record:—"In accepting the resignation of Mr. H. G. Prendergast, 1st Class Inspector of Police in the Godavari District, the Inspector General wishes to bear testimony to the high character that gentleman ^{has} maintained ever since he joined the force and to the ability with which he has performed his duties both as an Inspector and as an officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police."

2. On the 10th July 1876 Your Memorialist was re-admitted to the Police as 2nd Class Inspector in the Godavari District and acting Assistant Superintendent in Vizagapatam District. On the 2nd July 1877 Your Memorialist passed the Departmental examination in Oriya and received a reward of Rs. 250. Your Memorialist was employed in 1879 and 1880 in the suppression of the disturbances in the Hill Tracts of the Godavari and Vizagapatam Districts. In the Administration Reports of the Department these services were commended. On the 18th July 1881 Your Memorialist passed the highest examination in Telugu for appearance at which Your Memorialist was eligible and received a reward of Rs. 500. Your Memorialist had at the time of entrance into the service a much better knowledge of Telugu, Tamil and Hindustani than is ordinarily possessed by Europeans after many years service in the country. He subsequently passed in Oriya as stated above, and also acquired a knowledge of Khond and Saura sufficient for all practical purposes. Your Memorialist's general educational qualifications can, he submits, compare favourably with those of any of his seniors or juniors, he having passed in the 1st Class in the First Examination in Arts of the Madras University. It was well known to his superior officers that Your Memorialist lost no opportunity of making himself thoroughly acquainted with the manners and customs of the people and with all the details of

Eastwick
Graham Road.
Great Malvern.
20th Aug. 1891.

My foot is almost well again - enough was left off
the broken of the ruptured tendon Achilles to grow & strengthen
& I can now climb hills
& do any amount
of exercise.

My dear Stokes,
My six months have
nearly slipped away, and
my wife & I leave London
for Bombay in the Peshawar
on the 10th Sept. I see
from the telegrams that
you have had rain in the
distressed districts and of

the north east monsoon will only conduct itself with decency the fear of famine ought to pass away.

Prendergast, the ^{Asst} Supt of Police in Kistna, has sent me a copy of a memorial he has addressed to Govt. and I enclose it for you to read. I think he has been hardly treated. For a share in the same services in the Central Provinces one man was made a C.I.E. & another was made a District Supt of Police. Mr Govt. of India said Prendergast also was

to be rewarded, and as he has got was to act once for a couple of months as D. Supt. before some seniors! I have known Prendergast now for four years, he is an excellent Police officer with a remarkable knowledge of the language & the people. I think he ought to have been confirmed as Supt. long ago in compliance with the decision of the Govt. of India promising reward for his good services. I am under the impression that Porters doesn't like him personally the reason - if any - I don't know. Anyhow Prendergast is a good officer who has given hostages

to go 'home' in a large family,
& I know of nothing on his part
to forfeit what is due for his special
services.

I see the Govt. of India have approved
the railway extension from Berypada to
Masulipatam & have ordered an estimate
for combined broad & narrow gauge.
The latter is needless except in time
of famine, and even then with a
base on the canals, grain could be
loaded easily for Kurnool, &c.
At all ordinary times the drift of
traffic will be towards Hyderabad.
I hope the direct line from Madras
to Berypada will soon be begun. It's
no comfort to think it may be done
by the next generation!

I'm sorry to hear Sim has collapsed
from overwork; I don't wonder at it,
and don't see how any one can
keep up that strain long without
breaking down. Believe me
Yours sincerely
A. J. Arundell

his work. As stated above Your Memorialist's services had been frequently commended. Your Memorialist, therefore believed that, even if he had not established a claim to special consideration, he had no reason to fear supersession by any of his juniors. Yet on the 1st April 1882 Mr. C. H. Travers, an officer who was first appointed to act as an Assistant Superintendent of Police on the 29th April 1879, nearly 3 years after Your Memorialist's re-appointment to that grade, was appointed permanent Assistant Superintendent of Police, Jeypore, thereby superseding Your Memorialist and others. Your Memorialist applied to his immediate superior, the Superintendent of Police, for reasons for his being thus superseded. The Superintendent replied that he knew of no reasons and referred him to the Deputy Inspector General of Police. That officer replied that Your Memorialist was not superseded, as the Assistant Superintendency of Jeypore was a temporary and special appointment and that Mr. Travers' name appearing above Your Memorialist in the gradation list would not be a bar to Your Memorialist being promoted in his proper turn to be Superintendent.

3. In the earlier part of 1882 Your Memorialist was employed in suppressing the Khond outbreak in Kulabandi, Central Provinces. His services on that occasion were noticed with approval by the Central Provinces Administration (Madras G. O. 2nd February 1883 No. 296 Judicial) Your Excellency's Government (G. O. 14th August 1882 No. 952 Judicial) and the Government of India (Madras G. O. 11th December 1883 No. 3269 Miscellaneous); and in Madras G. O. 15th June 1883 No. 1607, Judicial, was communicated to Your Memorialist the decision of the Government of India that his reward for these services should take the form of promotion and consideration in the future. On the 5th August 1884 Your Memorialist was appointed to act as Superintendent of Police in the Godavari District, of which he was then Assistant Superintendent, for 2 months and 19 days, after which he reverted to his former appointment on the return of the permanent incumbent from privilege leave. From the 11th August 1886 Your Memorialist acted as Superintendent of Police, Kistna, for 3 months, and since the 6th April 1887 he has been acting as Superintendent of that District. On the 1st October 1887 Your Memorialist wrote to the Inspector General of Police setting forth the above and praying that these circumstances might be brought to the recollection of Government, as at the end of 5 years after the Kulabandi outbreak Your Memorialist was the only Officer employed in the suppression of it who remained unrewarded. In his letter No. 189 dated 27th July 1882 para 77, recorded in Madras G. O. 11th December 1883 No. 3269 Mis., Mr. Berry stated it was Your Memorialist's action that gave the first check and being prompt and unexpected it disconcerted the Khonds and made the subsequent suppression of the rising comparatively easy. For the suppression of that outbreak, Mr. Berry was made a C. I. E., Mr. Sandilands was promoted to District Superintendent of Police, the Tahsildar, Gopinath Gurn, was made a Rai Bahadur and Extra Assistant Commissioner and Sub-Inspector Siddesar Patnaik was promoted to Inspector and presented with a sword. The acting Inspector General of Police replied, "The acting Inspector General has the honor to acknowledge receipt of letter No. 681 dated 1st Instant from Mr. H. G. Prendergast, acting Superintendent of Police, Kistna District, bringing to notice his meritorious services in 1872 and in 1883.

- ii. "These services having already been brought to the notice of Government, it appears quite unnecessary that they should be brought forward a second time.
- iii. "It has to be borne in mind that on account of his Bustar services, Mr. Prendergast received acting promotion before some of his seniors, by being appointed to act as Superintendent of Police, Godavari District, during the absence on privilege leave of Colonel Hoskins in 1884.

- iv. "Mr. Prendergast has acted in charge of the Kistna District for several months and it is probable that he will be there for some time longer."

4. Your Memorialist respectfully begs to submit that when he was appointed to act as Superintendent in 1884 there were only two Officers in the gradation list above him, not on leave, who were not already acting as Superintendents. These were Mr. C. H. Travers who, as shown above, was really junior to Your Memorialist, and Mr. H. E. Sweet. If the Inspector General of Police was not influenced by the spirit of Article 119 of the Civil Service Regulations in recommending for appointment as acting incumbent an Officer in the same District, Your Memorialist submits that there was a special reason for Mr. Sweet not being appointed. Mr. Sweet had just been transferred from the District owing to his strained relations with its Superintendent, and it would have been inadvisable to appoint him immediately after to act for that Officer. Even if Your Memorialist is mistaken as to that, he is loath to believe that Your Excellency's Government will consider acting promotion out of turn for 2 months and 19 days an adequate fulfilment of the hopes held out to him by the Government of India. As to Your Memorialist having acted continuously in his present appointment, he submits that that was merely in the ordinary course and because of his having satisfactorily discharged his duties therein as will be seen from the subjoined extracts from the Deputy Inspector General's Inspection Report and the Inspector General's remarks thereon.

5. "Has the Office in very good order, every thing is done punctually, systematically and regularly. On the whole the District is in fair working order; the Superintendent's range better than the Assistant's range. The state of both the Narasarowpeta and Vinukonda Divisions requires attention and working up.

"Masulipatam Town is in excellent order. Bezwada Town requires looking up; Gun-
tar Town is in good order."

"The Reserve is also in very good order."

"The Superintendent personally has done very excellent work in the dispersion of gangs; this has already had its effect on the crime of the District; he deserves every credit for this work."

6. "The Report generally is satisfactory. Several points touched on by the Deputy Inspector General require particular attention of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. I am glad not to be obliged to turn out Mr. Prendergast for a senior Superintendent as at one time, I was afraid might have to be done."

7. The District has steadily advanced since Your Memorialist has been in charge of it and on the last Administration Report the District Magistrate remarked, "Read and returned." The improvement in administration is very satisfactory." Since then the improvement has been maintained in a District which was very backward.

8. Thus have Your Memorialist's hopes of special promotion remained unfulfilled. And now he has been informed that he must in future look upon Mr. Travers as his senior. For in the Gazette of 2nd June 1891 Mr. Travers was promoted to Superintendent 4th Grade. On receipt of the Gazette Your Memorialist wrote to the Inspector General of Police and asked why it was that notwithstanding the assurance given to Your Memorialist that Mr. Travers' name appearing above his in the gradation list would not interfere with his promotion to Superintendent, Mr. Travers had after all superseded him. The Inspector General's reply is as follows:—

"Travers has for many years past been shown on the Gradation list as your senior and in 1888 he was promoted to 1st grade Assistant before you, so he can scarcely be said to supersede you now."

9. It will be observed that the supersession of Your Memorialist is admitted, but it is stated not to have occurred now. No reasons have been assigned for Your Memorialist being superseded at any time.

If it was the object of the Government when Your Memorialist was given acting promotion in 1884 that he should thence forward be promoted before Mr. Sweet and the other officers on the list between him and Your Memorialist, that object has been defeated and those officers, with one exception for special reasons, have all been promoted before Your Memorialist. The reasons of Your Memorialist not objecting to Mr. Travers' promotion to 1st grade Assistant under the new organisation were that the appointment was only a paper one, carrying with it no advantage as both were at the time drawing 1st grade pay, and the assurance given Your Memorialist that Mr. Travers' position on the list would not affect Your Memorialist's promotion to the grade of Superintendent. The consequence of Mr. Travers' promotion at this particular time is that Mr. Meredith also supersedes Your Memorialist. Your Memorialist thus loses two steps of ordinary promotion, which may delay his promotion to act in each of the higher grades for two or three years and probably prevent his ever acting in the 1st grade and thus considerably reduce his possible pension. Through all the discouragement due to reduction of pay and slow promotion, Your Memorialist has never, as he is sure his superiors will testify, shown any diminution of zeal.

10. With confidence in the justice of Your Excellency's Government, Your Memorialist's prayer is, that Your Excellency will be pleased, if on consideration of the case Your Excellency deems it just and proper, to order that Your Memorialist should be confirmed as Superintendent of Police, 4th grade, in place of Mr. C. H. Travers, and that, in fulfilment of the gracious promise of the Government of India, Your Memorialist be granted leave without allowances with retrospective effect from the 1st June 1874 to the 9th July 1876 and placed in that position in the gradation list which he would then be entitled to hold, or that he may be granted such other favour as seems proper.

And Your Memorialist will ever pray.

MASULIPATAM,
The 18th July 1891.

P. R. Rindergast
Asst. Sup. Police

Through the Deputy Inspector General of Police,
Northern Range
and
The Inspector General of Police,
Madras.

*I am not sure if it lies within my province
as a channel of communication as
Deputy Inspector General of Police in the*

*Range in which the Memorialist is
serving, to state my opinion of him.*

*I consider him to be an able and good
officer, who has done & is still doing
good service.*

*I have no hesitation in saying that he
has done more in suppressing crime
in the Krishna district, than
any of his predecessors.*

*He has a most thorough knowledge of
the Native Language & of Native*

*character, habits, & manners, without
which a Police officer is not of much use.*

M. R. Rindergast
Narasipatnam
14. 8. 91.

D. I. S.

*Submitted with a demi-official letter - and demi-
official records of my office -*

Ching Lepat
August 18th 1891

[M. R. Rindergast]
Asst. Gen. Police

Confidential

Office of Insp. Genl. of Police,
Chingleput, 13th August 1891.

CURRENT NO. 3732



My dear Price

In submitting the accompanying memorial addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council by Mr. H. G. Prendergast, Acting Superintendent of Police, Kistna District, I think it as well to forward, for information, some Confidential records regarding this officer which there are in my office - all mention of which records is omitted (naturally) by Mr. Prendergast in his memorial - I will not comment on these papers they speak for themselves.

* which please return
when done with

2. For his Kalahandi Expedition Mr. Prendergast received the approval of Government. G. O. No. 952, Judicial, dated 14th August 1882 - but there was nothing in this Order about his promotion, far less that he should be promoted out of his turn. As a fact, he did receive promotion as Superintendent, in a short acting vacancy out of his turn soon after this business. -

Mr. Travers has done quite as good work as, if not better than, Mr. Prendergast - and while the former has been employed, nearly entirely throughout his Police Service, in the malarious tracts

To

His Excellency the Right
Honorable Sir Beilby Lawley,
Baron Wenlock G. C. I. E. Go-
vernor of the Presidency of Fort
Saint George in Council.

Jud. 3732/91.

The humble memorial of Mr. Henry Gordon
Prendergast, Assistant and Acting Super-
intendent of Police Kistna District.

tracts of Jeypore, the latter has for some years past had good coast stations.

3. Mr. Travers has, since 1882, stood on the Gradation List as Senior to Mr. Prendergast, and the latter has up till now made no protest - even in 1884, when the re-grading of Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents took place and Mr. Travers' name was placed in the List above Mr. Prendergast, the latter raised no objection: it is therefore difficult to understand the validity of his present claim.

4. The appointment of Superintendent of Police, Jeypore becoming vacant and Travers being then Acting there and being Senior in the Gradation List to Prendergast was recommended for and received the promotion - so that Mr. Prendergast has not been superseded now and has not been for last nine (9) years -

Mr. Prendergast although much given to captious argument is a fairly able man - but I regret to have to say that he is an officer in whom I cannot place implicit reliance.

He was born and brought up in this country so that the vernaculars come to him with natural facility.

Yr. Sm. S.
[Chas. A. Torrens]

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

*Send by 5 copy of the
Memorial at copies
of the 5 to be printed
in the letter*

*Seal
10/10*

N.B.—

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