

CONFIDENTIAL.

[11.]
200-7-9-96.

Judicial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY

Mis

G.O., No. 702

Confidential No 44

DATED 32 45 95

[Despatch Abstract.]

Mr. R. M. Powell

Passing orders on the explanation submitted
by —, Asst. Supt. of Police, on charges brought
against him of neglect of duty.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	43	Con	1894.		R 106		1892
	135	—	—		R 310	Jud	1891
	174 ⁰	—	1893		822	—	—
	47	—	—		1176	—	—
	151	—	1890		1210	—	—
	78	—	—				
	127	—	1894				
	R 149	Jud.	1893				
	R 368						

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Weekly report of Al. Proell for week ending 15.9.94. 189
Part 1, Departmental.

Part 1. Departmental.

Monday.

Monday. September 10th } As I was feeling too ill
Jagdalpur. Binsu Kallak } to go on I left Jagdalpur
this morning via packi
for Binsu Kallak & onward
to Tarapur.

Tuesday September 11th } Very ill all day. Left in
Bontuckallak Kumpara } this afternoon for Raya.
Mada hut was stopped
by the river at Kotay
Jolia which was in flood
so had to camp out all
night on the river
bank in a packi.

Wednesday, September 12 } Crossed the river this
Jagupara. Rayaghadia } morning & pushed on
Rayaghadia. Parvathipur } through Rayaghadia.
On arriving at the Koti
Waji & some 7 miles from
Parvathipur found it difficult
to cross & was only able to cross
with great difficulty - arrived

Explanation

23 FEB 95

Enclosure 2 to Letter
No 1194 of 6-3-95

In his respectful Lucial
letter to Government it is
stated that I neglected my
duties in not presenting myself
before H.E. the Governor
on the occasion of his recent
visit to Bobbili. I would first
of all beg to point out in
justification of my failure
to do so ^{last few weeks} that I was
prevented by His Excellency's
arrival in the District. I was
carried down from Borsam
Ratuak in a packi horse
dead man alive, the result
of constant attacks of
malarial fever & dysentery.
On reaching Parvatipur I
submitted an application for
leave and intimation to
the Dist. Supt. of Police my
inability to perform my
duties on the occasion of
His Excellency's visit request
him to send an officer to see
me.

CONFIDENTIAL

DISTRICT,

SUB-DIVISION.

Weekly report ending

15-9-94 189

Despatched.

17-9-94

17/9/94

17/9/94

17/9/94

17/9/94

17/9/94

27 SEP 94

17/9/94

28 SEP 94

17/9/94

29 SEP 94

139

Dept.

Enclos. No.

2

To

1129

Mr. Goring wrote & informed
me that Mr. Thomas would
come up to Parvathipur for
the purpose. About the end
of September I received a
letter from the S^r. Insp. Genl.
of Police R. R. directing me
to appear before the District
Medical Officer for a certificate.
As owing to paucity of officers
no leave could be granted
with anyone. I accordingly
left Parvathipur for Waltair
on the 2nd October. His Excellency
visited Bonthli on the 4th & 5th
of the same month. Under
the circumstances I cannot
see how I am to blame.
Mr. Thomas was present
& performed the necessary duties
in my stead. —

I will now take the District
Superintendent's report para-
graph para: —

1. With reference to this I have
only to say that I joined the
Sutabwⁿ in the preceding April
practically knew nothing

of the men. At the time when
the Dist. Supt. letter relating
to the promotion of deserving
men was sent me I was
busy completing the inspection
of the Agency Districts for
the year. I only managed to
get this done by the last day
of December 93. I cannot of
course say for certain whether
reference whether many return
to Parvathipur. I sent orders
to all Division Inspectors to
submit lists of all men in
their Divisions fit for promotion.
But I presume that I must
have done so. The great
difficulty of getting any
information out of the ordinary
tongue from Divisional Inspectors
of Police in the Agency Tracts
would account for this delay
& before I did obtain this information
the Dist. Supt. promoted men
on his own notion. —

2. The certificate in question
had been forwarded to me
at my own request to satisfy
myself on a certain point.

It was by an oversight
placed with the other papers in
connection with the matter
in hand. The first remittance
must have escaped my notice
It was the Dist. Supt. Stale,
returned to him on receipt of
the 2nd —

3. I have no very clear recollection
of this matter, but I believe
the papers had to be
returned more than once to
D. W. D. S. for further infor-
mation. The question being
why he showed some to R. S.
as being present in his D. S.
One year and only about half
that number at the next. His
replies were very unimpeachable.

4. I admit delay in this instance.

5. Up to the beginning of
June I remained at Coatsair
with the Inspector for Super-
vision as I was much
pulled down by repeated
attacks of fever. Though

After my return to Parawapur
my elephant went sick & it
was not until the 13th of
August that I started for

Singapur. Having to live at the
office loads & the almost
insuperable difficulties of
travelling in the Agavee track
at that time of the year I
did not reach Singapur
until the end of December.
Remained there several days
making inquiries & returned
to Bin Lukatak on the 5th.
During my health which
had been very indifferent
ever since I left Parawapur
entirely broke down & I was
put into a paluki by the District
Officer at Bin Lukatak &
sent down to Parawapur. I
am attaching hereto an old
N. R. of mine & by that the
Dist. Magistrate's remarkable great
kindness may be considered.
When I got better I wrote the
report refraining from
avail myself of the
leave which had been granted
me until I had done so. —
6. Received the judgment
in the case on the 9th August
1880. I have stated in the previous

para: left Pawanpurulie
13: office same about made
a Enquiry into the Jaigapur
the case arrived at Jagdaapur
the 8th September. As I have
explained above owing to
dysenteric symptoms hitting
me I had to leave the next day.

3. The village where the offence
is said to have occurred is
10 miles further north of
Jagdaapur to which station
it belongs. I cannot under-
stand what Enquiry the
Dist. Supt. expected me to
make at Bissunkatiak
which is more than 30 miles
away. Moreover it was the
S.H.O. of Jagdaapur ^{who was} ~~the~~
4. ~~Bissunkatiak who was~~
5. ~~the~~ ^{implicated} ~~not~~ the S.H.O. of
Bissunkatiak who had
nothing to do with the case.
The Div. Insp. of Police was
mixed up in the matter so
by merely questioning him
learned nothing. Whatever
delay occurred in the previous
Case (para: 5) & I admit that
such was the case. I am wholly

hampered in the present
instance. When I left Jagdaapur
I certainly expected to be
invalided home. I was then
in this connection near the
the year 91 I was for 3 months
in the General Hospital Madras
with acute dysentery & only
just managed to pull through.
S. Rikhe the then Head of
the Hospital then at that
time informed me that
if I again got a similar
attack the chances would
be against my getting
through it. Knowing this &
being unable to shake off
the dysenteric symptoms
I felt that there was nothing
to do but to go back. That
I am not exaggerating matters
the Dist. Magistrate's remarks
will show. —

7 & 8. My explanation of this
is that I was in bed the
greater part of the time. When
the Dist. Supt. was reached
me I had not even read
through the Div. Inspector's
diaries reporting the case

h. n. s. h. n. R.

As I was on leave when these
papers were sent me I had
to wait until I joined at
Russell Road & have access
to papers I had left behind
me at Parwanpur.

11295 M. Powell
Off. Asst. Secy.
Gauhati Dist.

Encls. No.	1
To	1129
C. No.	

1129

Office of Insp. Genl. of Police
6th March 1895.

No 1194

Enclosure 2.

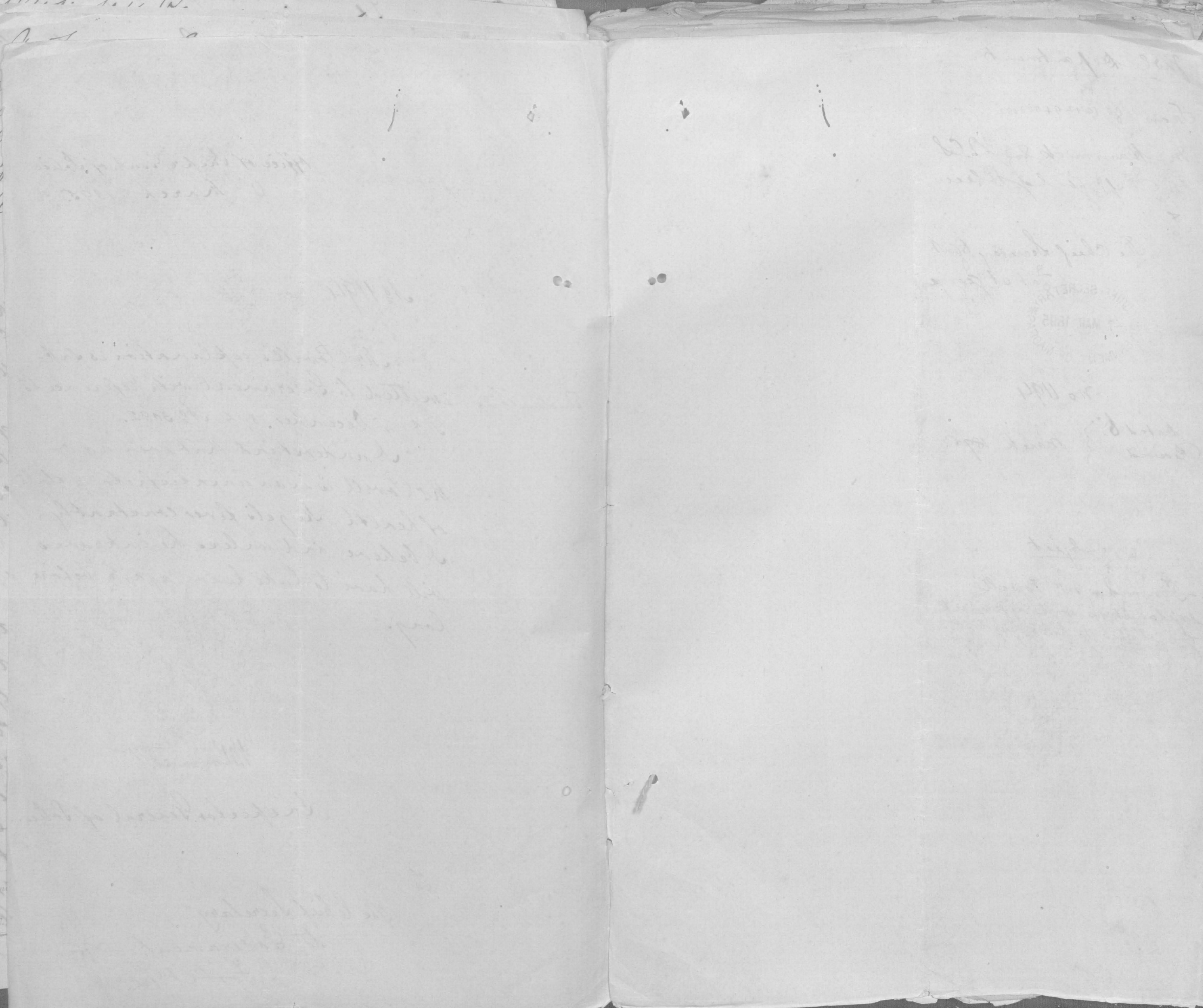
Mr. Powell's explanation is sub-
mitted to Government with reference to
G.O. 14th December 1894, No 3082.

I understand that even now
Mr. Powell is in an unsatisfactory state
of health. He gets fever constantly,
I believe, and unless he improves
will have to take leave again before
long.

Mammitt
Inspector General of Police.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government.
Fort St. George.

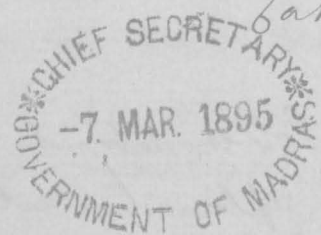


Indol Department

From 80 14.12 94, No. 3082.

In Hamrick by B.C.S
In presence of Blew

The Chief Secretary to the
Lat St George



no 1194

Dated 6.
Received 7
1895

Subjekt

Forwards Mr Powell's
explanation with reference to
J.C. dated 14 Dec 1894 No 3082.

$\left[\frac{G.}{25.} \right]$
100-21-12-94

DEPARTMENT.

No. 1129 frogs

From

The J. G. of Police

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

The L.P. of Police submits ~~Booklet~~^{Booklet}
W. Powell's explanation called for
in P.O. of 14. Decr. 1894 No 2002. Misc.
The charges against him are summarized
below, as also his explanation.

2. I on the 8th Dec^r 1893 the District Supt^t invited Mr. Powell to submit recommendations for filling up the numerous ^{military} vacancies in the grade of first class constables; receiving no reply, he sent a reminder on 16th January 1894; to this also no reply was received & the Supt^t accordingly filled up the vacancies himself.

Explanation: "I joined the subdivision in the preceding April & practically knew nothing of the man. At the time when the Sept 10th letter was received I was busy completing the inspection of the Agency divisions and only managed to finish it by the 20th December. I cannot without reference to records say if on my return to Parsonville I called on Division inspectors to obtain lists of ~~men fit~~ ^{men fit} for promotion but presume must have done so. The difficulty in getting their replies accounts for my delay." Remarks. Mr. Powell might have heard of

Summer
only

thing of his ^{men} ~~pass~~ in nine months; if he did not, he should have called for reports from his inspectors at once instead of waiting till his return to headquarters. His inspections would themselves have been an excellent opportunity for enquiring as to the fitness for promotion of constables at the stations inspected. He does not appear to have written to the Supt. explaining the delay ~~on the 2nd March~~ when he received the reminder.

3. II The permanent advance certificate of his office was sent to W. Powell for information and return on the 23rd Dec. 1893 but not received again by the Supt. until the 2nd April 1894 - after two reminders on the 2nd February & 27th March.

Explanation "The certificate was by oversight placed with other papers... the first reminder must have escaped my notice. It was returned on receipt of the second"

4. III Two lists of known depredators were forwarded to W. Powell for check & return on the 16th February 1894 but not received back until the 8th May.

Explanation "I have no very clear recollection of this matter but believe the papers had to be returned more than once to the Divisional Inspector who sent unintelligible replies to the questions why the number of 2^o varied so much in two successive

2 years crime report returned from him for certain information to W. Powell for report on

[G.]
35.
100-21-12-94.

DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

26th March 1894. Reminders were sent on the 9th, 21st & 30th May & a telegram on the 3rd June, to which Mr. Powell replied on the 6th June, without offering any explanation for the delay. Explanation (written) "I admit delay in this instance"

6. V Mr. Powell was directed to register, enquire into & report fully upon a complaint against the Station House officer - on 1st May 1894. Reminders went on 4th June, 13 July & 6th August but it was not until the 6th October when handing over charge to his successor that Mr. Powell reported the result of his enquiry held ^{on the} previously. No explanation for the delay was offered & the complaint was never registered. Moreover examination of the complaint book showed that Mr. Powell had only made one entry in it during the 18 months he was in charge of the Division.

Explanation "Up to the beginning of June I remained at Wallasey with the I.P.'s. Permission granted on account of my health shortly after my return to Parrotia my elephant fell sick"

FOR ORDERS.

and Mr. Powell was at Bissamkatak. -
the headquarters of the Division in which
Jasdalpur lies, from the 22nd to 29th
August, but made no enquiries.

Explanation. I arrived at Jasdalpur
on the 8th Sept. but could make no
enquiries because owing to dysentery
symptoms setting in I had to leave the
next day. Bissamkatak is 30 miles
away & I could make no enquiries
there. In 1891 I was for 3 months in
the General Hospital down with dysentery
& was then warned that a similar
attack would probably kill me.

Remarks. The diary shows that Mr.
Powell left Jasdalpur in a palkee on the
10th (not 9th), but his explanation ap-
pears satisfactory.

2. VII (a) On the 12th August 1894 (an appeal
petition was sent to Mr. Powell for
report; it was followed by reminders on
the 6th & 7th Sept. & 8th Oct., but reply
was received only on the 13th Dec. in a
letter dated 6th).

(b) a District Crime report which
reached Parvatipur on the 8th Sept.

It was not until 13th August that I
started for Suncapur, which I could not
reach until the end of the month, owing
to the state of the roads & difficulty of
travelling at that time of year. After making
my enquiries I returned to Bissamkatak
on the 6th Sept. & fell ill on the 9th
so seriously that I had to be taken by
palanquin to Parvatipur; the state of
my health may be seen from the weekly
report which I attach. When I got better
I wrote to report on my enquiry, refraining
from taking the leave granted to me until
this was done.

Remarks. Suncapur is only some 50 miles
from Parvatipur - Mr. Arling who knows
the Division tells me the road is bad, &
the rains heavy in August. - The diary
attached contains the remark in Mr.
Wolfe Murray's letter writing "I hear
from private sources Mr. P. is a perfect wreck
He ought to have gone on leave months
ago." - Col. Postleous endorses on it:-

"It is perfectly clear that Mr. Powell
must go on leave at once. Let him come
out to Walter & get a medical certificate
& I will let him go in anticipation of his
leave being sanctioned. The diary thus
noted on is for the week ending Sept.
16th.

VI On the 9th August 1894 Mr. Powell
was directed to make a personal enquiry
to the conduct of the Jasdalpur police
which had been unfavourably commented
in an Agency judgment. Reminders
sent to him on the 5th & 8th September.

was not mentioned in Mr. Powell's diary until the 29th after a telegram directing him to report full particulars by return of post.

Explanation "I was ill in bed the greater part of the time I had not even read the Inspector's diaries reporting the case when the Supt's telegram reached me."

Remarks Mr. Powell's diary shows that illness brought him back by palke to Kewatpur about the 10th Sept^r, the was undoubtedly very ill at the time.

g. VIII An Inspector having been called on to submit an explanation in respect of certain charges formulated against him in a petition dated 18th Dec^r 1893, the orders were ^{apparently} passed by Mr. Powell on the explanation though it was given over 9 months before he left the Division & his attention was subsequently drawn to the same point in a letter from the Senior Assistant Agent, whose subordinate - the D^r Sahib - believed the charges against the Inspector to be true.

Explanation "I talked over the matter with Mr. Thornton the Senior Asst. Agent & we came to the conclusion that these charges & counter charges on the part of the D^r Sahib & the Inspector were the outcome of ~~some~~ ^{personal} animosity. At my suggestion the parties were informed that if these were not hick-rings, did not cease, both would be transferred. I then ceased."

Second "I did nothing."

Remarks A formal order should have been recorded in the petition, explanation & letters.

[G.]
25.
100-21-12-94.

DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

In absence of such an order led Mr. Powell's successor to infer that nothing had been done.

g. IX (a) Mr. Powell's Confidential Register of Head Constables omits the names of several men, & contains no particulars regarding any one of these men promoted to be head constables after he took charge of the Division.

(b) The Complaint book contains only one entry, as noticed ^{above} infra in charge though many others must in the ordinary course of events have been preferred to him.

Explanation "I am aware that what I am going to say is no excuse but I believe that in the majority of cases if these registers were examined they would be found to be in the same state that mine were."

Remarks The explanation is of course no excuse. These two registers must be kept personally by an Asst. Supt. vide Police orders 12 (i) with 13 (g) and 301 note 2.

11. The Supt's letter ended with the remark that he could quote other instances from Mr. Powell's register.

inattention, but considered those records
sufficient to prove persistent neglect.
On this the D.I.G. Mr. W. J. A. Sullivan
remarked

"Mr. Powell has been giving
trouble ever since he joined the Paravulgar
Sub-Division. He has little or no idea of discipline.
He utterly disregards distinct orders given to him
in writing by his Super^r & I have had occasion to
reprimand him for his faults both in person
& in writing. I have endeavored in ^{every official} writing
correspondence direct with him to awaken
him to a sense of duty but all to no purpose.
He is by no means wanting in ability but
he is lazy to a degree. Procrastination &
extreme apathy are his leading character-
istics. It is the opinion of his Super^r
Mr. Young which I also share that
Mr. Powell's plackiness has increased
since his confirmation as Asst. Super^r
on 24-2-94."

Mr. Powell directly challenges the last
statement & declares that his confirmation
had no effect on his work. He maintains
that his inspection work was "in the whole"
"throughout" that the subdivision was
in a more satisfactory state when
he left it than when he joined.

12. Col. Porteous in reporting the
matter confirms the opinion of the
Super^r & D.I.G. & adds:—

"Mr. Powell is careless & apathetic
to a degree & in no way realizes the
responsibilities of his office;— time
after time he has been checked but
without effect. When Mr. the Governor

G.
25.
100-21-12-94.

DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

"visited Bobbili Mr. Powell should
have presented himself there but
he failed to do so pleading ill-
health which however was not so
bad as to prevent his doing his
duty on this occasion."

As regards this Mr. Powell ^{Super^r} ~~Super^r~~
now states that he left Bobbili on
the 2nd October in consequence of a
telegram from the D.I.G. directing him
to appear before the Civil Surgeon. Mr.
the Gov^r only visited Bobbili on the
4th or 5th & Mr. Thomas was present
to perform Mr. Powell's duties there.
This explanation if accurate appears
satisfactory but the Super^r speaks of
Mr. Powell's having given over charge
to Mr. Thomas on the 4th October, possibly
this was done by telegram, Mr. Thomas
being in informal charge of the Division
a few days before.

13. Col. Porteous recommended that
Mr. Powell who was acting on the
2nd grade—on No 450—should be
deprived of all acting promotion unless
he works better. He would then

Matthews only Rs 350 as a grade

Asst. Supdt.

On 14. Mr. Powell refers to his previous records as not altogether satisfactory. The half yearly reports on police probationers bear him out to some extent. The following extracts are made from the half yearly reports on Police probationers submitted by Colonel Porteous:-

80.8.19.6.90, No. 1044: "Very new up to Police work. Cannot say how he will turn out"

80.8.30.10.90, No. 1673: "I do not think promising at present". In this order Mr. Powell was warned that his progress was not satisfactory.

80.8.22.5.91, No. 975: "Only recently promoted to act as Asst. Supdt. He just managed to scrape through his departmental papers. His answers were very poor. He has just come in dangerously ill to the general hospital Madras."

80.8.20.2.92, No. 324 "Mr. Powell has improved, but ill health and frequent change of districts have been against him. Decidedly trying to do better."

80.8.31.3.92, No. 625: "Both these officers (Messrs. Lonsdale and Powell) are trying to do better - but I doubt if either has much natural ability for Police work."

80.8.7.10.92, No. 1875 "Has improved very much indeed. Zealous and

energetic.

energetic - takes pains with his case and writes good reports on them.

Promises decidedly well"

80.8.6.4.93, No. 714: "Intelligent, well educated, with lots of judgment and common sense. Knows his work and does it fairly but is inclined to be careless and dilatory. Has the making of a good officer in him"

80.8.4.10.93, No. 2049: "Able and well educated. Knows his work and does it - in fact generally does it well but has a tendency at times to be superficial and to show temper. Will get over this - is being advised and instructed. I consider will make a good officer."

To a considerable extent, at all events
RS

Mr. Powell has decided by his own showing been guilty of neglect and carelessness, but it seems highly probable that this was the result of continued ill health. No one can do much when suffering constantly from malarial fever with a bout of dysentery thrown in. He probably ought as the Asst. Magistrate to have some leave months before that time - he ought never having once suffered by coming from dysentery.

receive to have been sent to the materials
 at all.
 14. It is submitted that he may find
 record from and the chance and thereby
 + the journal that if he is again badly
 probated reported on he will be sent down
 extent to £350 a month
 made on 23/3/95
 on 23/3/95
 Colonel
 80.9. I would not be so definite
 to Poli as this, but would merely say
 turn that serious notice will be
 80.9. taken
 from order
 his p 25/3/95 26/3
 80.9. W
 prior 29 Mar
 just
 dep.
 we C. J.
 class Order of 3 April 1895, No. 702
 in Mr Powell has on his own
 80.9. showing been guilty of neglect and
 in negligence but it is highly probable
 pres that this was to a considerable extent
 due to result of his continued ill health.
 try He has therefore on this occasion
 80.9. off intent itself with warning Mr
 Powell that serious notice will be
 given of similar shortcomings on his
 part in the future
 80.9. very
 (from order) 3/4/95
 1.4.95

Mr. Powell's Explanation

Hamderr

First copy sent to Press.
 returned for Signature.
 Despatched.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189,
 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

P. NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
 A = Print in full.
 B = Not to be printed.
 P = Print abstract only.
 Q = Print heading only.

NUMBER OF COPIES
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 Letter only.
 Order complete with Letter

Spare Copies.

Struck
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 In hand ..

C 23/3