CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

VINDICTIVENESS.—ANONYMOUS LETTERS.—THE WOULD-BE PARRICIDE.

Vindictiveness the chief cause of crime in India.—Anonymous letters main instrument.—The difficulty in dealing with them.—Two examples of conspiracies originating in such letters, and discovery of original conspiracy by means of the second.—The would-be parricide.—Madhurao Khote.—His family troubles.—Description of Narrayeum.—His son Vinayek Deo's disappearance.—Anonymous letter accusing his father of his murder.—Confessions of two accomplices.—Madhurao arrested.—Disbelief of all officials in the confessions.—Chief Constable takes leave.—Constant remands.—Indignation of the Sudder Court.—Peremptory orders to commit for trial to sessions.—Chief Constable returns in nick of time with missing man.—His identification.—Grand climax.—Madhurao discharged.—Vinayek Deo and two approvers committed for trial and sentenced .... 1

CHAPTER II.

THE GREAT MILITARY PENSION FRAUDS.

PART I.

Anonymous letter containing true information followed up for two years.—Discovery of an organized system of fraud of long standing.—South Konkan the recruiting ground of Bombay army.—Consequent location of Military Pension Paymasters' establishment in Dapoolie.—Colt becomes assistant collector.—He receives anonymous letter.—Is supposed to have followed usual course about pension matters.—He takes up his residence at Dapoolie next to Pension Paymaster's office.—Colt's coup.—Report to Government.—Military Court of Enquiry ordered .... 16
CHAPTER III.
THE GREAT MILITARY PENSION FRAUDS.—continued.

PART II.

Details of Colt's grand coup.—His remarkable secrecy and apparent neglect of the first anonymous letter.—The wisdom of it.—Colt's means of information.—Mr. Daniel Monk.—Fulloo Parsi.—Description of the system of paying pensioners.—The certificate of honour.—Ignoring it.—The result.—The Sowkars take advantage.—The office clerks fall in.—The Sowkars distrust pensioners.—Dummy system grows up.—Tannak the chief dummy.—All caught in the act.—The Court assembles.—Sealed orders found tampered with at first meeting.—Government order the suspension of the whole office, and the Court itself to pay pensions . . . . . . . . . . . . . 25

CHAPTER IV.
THE GREAT MILITARY PENSION FRAUDS.—continued.

PART III.
The Court adjourns sine die to take over the paymaster's duties.—Colt meanwhile takes up the original anonymous letter.—Deceased pensioners' pension found to have been drawn for seven years after his death by village officers.—Colt commits them to sessions and returns to Dapoolie.—Court reassembles.—Colt leads off by putting in copies of proceedings in above case.—Rammâk Bhûgnâk Subedar-major and Sirdar Bahadur.—Effect of his evidence.—Hundreds more witnesses.—Court proceeds to Chiplooen.—Court makes its first report.—Copy sent to office establishment.—Absurd discomfiture of Major.—The Paymaster on being confronted with Tannak.—Delay of clerks in submitting their defence.—It is delivered at last, and Court closes to prepare report.—Colt obliged to go elsewhere on duty.—Accidentally meets a Soukar in bazaar evening before departure.—Secretly puts it off.—Fulloo Parsi gives important news of clerks intended action next morning.—Colt takes farewell of all.—Pretends to ride away, but returns by a circuitous route and conceals himself.—Clerks come to present petition.—Colt suddenly reappears.—Mysterious Soukar and the Cassee forgery incident.—Grand climax . . . . . . . . . . . . . 41
CONTENTS.

CHAPTER V.
Bussapa's Revenge.

Yellapa the cotton-farmer.—His son Bussapa.—The cotton mania and its extravagances.—Silver galore.—Trotting matches.—Red silk umbrellas.—Drink.—Yellapa dies.—Cotton down to nothing.—Bussapa in difficulties.—His little son Bhow.—Bussapa's chief creditor Dewchund's great attachment for Bhow.—Dewchund puts on the screw.—Violence of Bussapa.—He drinks excessively.—Dewchund threatens foreclosure in three days.—Diabolical idea of Bussapa.—Is put into force.—Bhow's murder.—Bussapa takes the body to Dewchund's shop.—His idea of payment in full.—Further devilish scheme of Bussapa.—Is carried out.—Dewchund accused of Bhow's murder.—Narrowly escapes.—Bussapa's end 52

CHAPTER VI.
Undiscovered Murder, Unpunished Murder, and Kidnapping.

Undiscovered murder.—Hard nuts to crack.—Comparison of English and Indian undiscovered crime.—Not unfavourable to India on the whole.—Kidnapping of concubines.—Balloo's wife sold by Patel.—Balloo becomes uneasy at her absence.—Makes personal enquiries.—Patel knocks him on the head.—Conviction of Balloo frustrated by Native State.—Vigorous steps taken by Government and numerous concubines found.—The mysterious murder of an old Marwarri money-lender.—Not the faintest clue.—The house again entered.—Police completely baffled.—Murder, suicide or accident.—Woman found dead.—Europeans falsely accused.—Probable solution.—Causes of failure.—Lack of detective element in police 62

CHAPTER VII.

The Missing Tiger; or, Cain and Abel.

Three quarters of the murders in India not reported.—Otherwise India compares favourably.—Want of detective agency.—Native dislike of delays in procedure.—They used to combine to conceal crime.—Much improvement nowadays.—Justice much better administered on the whole in Bombay Presidency than in England.—Labouchere's magisterial pillory would lack material.
Cain and Abel; or, the missing tiger.—Meeting the "Ixpresh."
—Tiger killed one brother.—Carried off another.—Arrival at
village.—Plausible appearance of corpse of dead man.—All
hands to beat.—Caution in approaching spot where body was
found.— Accident to lawyer friend.—Tiger still missing.—Sus-
picion aroused.—Return to village and inquest by torchlight.
—Murder will out.—The mystery cleared up.—Cain caught.—
Missing tiger accounted for.—Cain shams mad.—Time goes on.
—Cain hanged.—Village plot . . . . . . . 73

CHAPTER VIII.

THUGGEE.—THE MASSACRE.

Erroneous idea that Thuggee has not been stamped out, and that
poisoning has taken its place.—The coming famine.—Cattle
driven into the Nizam's territory for sale by six Mahrattas.—
Returning with cash they encounter an urbane Mahomedan
gentleman with servant who professes to be a police patrol.—
They accept his protection for two days.—The last supper.—
Discovery of one survivor.—Then of five other corpses.—All
poisoned by arsenic.—Courteous Mahomedans never found . . 83

CHAPTER IX.

CHILD-MURDER FOR ORNAMENTS.

Child murder for ornaments still common.—Indian "Mrs. Browns."
—Murderers usually Marwarrees and other lower trading castes.
—One Mahomedan case recalled to mind.—Poor little Saloo.—
His father's great friend murders him for the sake of a few
trinkets.—The accusing hand.—Suliman's remorse.—Hideous
case of kleptomania.—Reconciliation between Saloo's father and
Suliman.—Suliman's fate . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 89

CHAPTER X.

MURDER FROM JEALOUSLY.—MURDER FROM INFIDELITY.

Murders from jealousy quite as common in England as in India.—
Rural morality better in India.—Common jealousy murder easily
detected.—Quip.—His brutality to Bhagi.—Crowning brutality.
—Threat to cut off her nose next day.—Bhagi arranges with
her paramour.—Next evening Quip is done to death and his
body is thrust into a lime kiln . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 94
CHAPTER XI.

FORGERY AND PERJURY.

Forgery and its helpmeet perjury.—Ordinary perjury.—"Tutoring" common in India.—Comparative perjury in England and India.—Why not give the Indian a fair chance?—India is the land of forgers.—Some reasons for this being so.—Notable gang.—The eighteen.—Their detection.—The victims retaliate.—Discovery of a noted forger's stock-in-trade . . . . . 99

CHAPTER XII.

DACOITY.

Dacoity in old days.—The Dussehra meeting.—Programme arranged.—Gradual suppression till mutiny broke out.—Recrudescence of Dacoity but under changed organisation.—Special officers.—The Bheel outbreak.—Bhagoji Naik.—Yesoo Bheel.—He attempts to restrain Bhagoji but in vain.—Becomes a Government informer.—The Amnesty.—Hannant Bheel.—His virulence against Yesoo.—The plot of revenge.—Dreadful massacre . . . . 109

CHAPTER XIII.

WRECKING.

Piracy and wrecking, old style.—Sea Dacoity in England.—In India.—Plundering the wrecked.—Wrecking for insurance.—The Talekeri wreck.—First concealed.—Then disclosed by native Press.—Police first baffled.—A clue.—A novel procedure.—Prosecution of whole village.—Witnesses found.—Conviction.—Full restitution from village . . . . . . 121

CHAPTER XIV.

HOUSEBREAKING.

Housebreaking.—Heredity.—Remarkable case of Jânoo Naik.—The premises.—Patience of Jânoo.—The watchman Sewram does not believe in him.—Sewram hears a noise under the house one night.—Wakes his master at right moment.—Goes round to Jânoo's hut.—Finds the mined gallery and catches Jânoo just emerging from the hole.—His sons just inside.—There's many a slip between cup and lip . . . . . . . 135
CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XV.

RIOTS.

Contrast between foreign travellers and the average British globetrotter and their objects and opinions.—The ordinary Mahommedan and Hindu riot.—Causes of them.—Story of the riot at Dajipur.—Blank cartridge.—The absurdity of using it.—The uselessness of it at Dajipur.—I fires into the "brown of them" andorders ball cartridge.—Instant end of the riot.—The wounded man.—The trial.—The death of Mr. Prescott.—Danger of allowing any great assemblages.—Great need for constant watchfulness 145

CHAPTER XVI.

FOREST ROBBERS.

Dawn of forest conservancy.—Things went very well in those days.—The mutiny dislocates everything.—Enormous mischief since the fall of the Peishwa.—Unchecked up to 1863.—Ghattis.—Their system.—False ideas prevalent among the people.—Remarkable detection of extensive forest frauds by Inspector Bucket.—The contract selling system.—Easily utilised for fraud.—Inspector Bucket reveals the plot.—Timber and firewood of great value found secreted in the forests.—Ballaji and Co. secrete their real books.—The session's trial.—The Judge acquits.—Government appeal against acquittal.—Successful result.—Inspector Bucket subsequently finds the missing real books, and prosecutes successfully . . . . . . . . . . . . 159

CHAPTER XVII.

THE PREDAKY TRIBES.

The Government find time in the early "fifties" to attend to crime.—General Hervey.—His labours.—His success.—His books.—Petty marauders break up.—Migratory and non-migratory.—System pursued by the former.—Specimen of their habits.—Villagers at last show fight.—A goodly list of loot.—Non-migratory.—Attempts to reclaim them by Native Governments.—Bamptias.—Oochlias and the like.—Tricks upon travellers.—I am myself victimised.—The feint by night surprise.—"Tim" bones the intruder.—But accomplices meantime clear out my tent.—Humbled exceedingly.—New field daily extending for the ability of these rogues . . . . . . . . . . . . 172
CHAPTER XVIII.

CRIME DURING THE FAMINE.

Retrospect of the Deccan famine.—Revival of Dacoity at the outset with signs of organisation as of old.—Safety of the bullion consignments by mail carts.—Tribute to the courage of the Parsi contractors, and to their generosity.—When relief operations were in full working order, Dacoity rapidly declined, except near Great Indian Peninsular Railway Lines.—Beginning of looting grain trains on heavy inclines.—Gradual demoralisation of subordinate railway staff.—False consignments.—Heavy losses to Great Indian Peninsular Railway Company.—Government Railway Commission.—Its report.—Company can now never be similarly exploited . . . . . . . . . . 185

CHAPTER XIX.

DISARMING.

The disarming of the people.—Why no disarmament had ever before been attempted.—Motives of policy.—Gradual discontinuance of the practice of arms.—Nevertheless arms highly prized.—Agriculturists very leath to register heirlooms.—Preferring to have them broken up and returned in prizes.—Pathetic scenes.—Great difficulty in disarming towns known to be full of arms where little registration had taken place.—Sangamnair notorious.—A Madras military pensioner gives good information.—Great finds.—Findings in the streets next morning . . . . . . 195

CHAPTER XX.

AGRArian CRIME.

Agrarian crime in the Irish sense little known.—Boycotting for Agrarian reasons also unknown.—No knowing, however, what National Congress may effect.—Courts of Justice the present arena.—But occasional outrages occur.—Women and children, however, never molested in India.—Startling discovery in a condemned cell.—The condemned’s last will and testament.—The history of Vithal Prahbu Desai . . . . . . . . 205
CHAPTER XXI.

JAILS.

Indian jails much improved of late.—Old system of sending long term convicts to Bombay from the Straits Settlements.—A model jailor.—His peculiar mode of discipline so successful.—Two convicts, a Chinaman and a Malay have a deadly feud.—The Malay lies in wait.—Runs “Amok.”—Is ingenuously caught alive.—The convict Joker.—Singular virtues of the “Cat”... 214

CHAPTER XXII.

LOAFERS.

Part I.

Crows with guinea-fowl eggs.—Police and village head men with loafers.—Arrival of harmless loafer in village.—Conversation.—Profuse hospitality of Patel.—Loafer sleeps the sleep of the just.—Policeman arrives on the scene.—Does not get much change out of loafer.—Will report to the Burra Sahib.—Loafer laughs him to scorn.—Toothsome supper again supplied by village.—Loafer flits and continues his objectless journey to nowhere in particular.—Short career of violent loafer.—Death of one of them.—His last words.—The mysterious loafer.—Eludes our vigilance.—Appeal to Blank Johnson, Esqre. ... 227

CHAPTER XXIII.

LOAFERS.

Part II.

Loafers in recent years.—The share mania.—How it attracted loafers to the city of Bombay.—They become a public nuisance.—Are legislated for.—Amusing case.—A loafer accuses himself falsely of robbing a Government treasury during the mutiny.—Collins.—Remarkable illustration of the generosity of natives to poor whites during the Prince of Wales’ visit.—Proof that they are also grateful ... 242
CHAPTER XXIV.

RECEIVERS OF STOLEN GOODS AND COINERS.

The Fagin class of receivers not existing in India but ordinary “fences” innumerable.—The nearest approach to Fagin in Military Cantonments.—His connection with Tommy Atkins.—Personal experience of this connection.—The “puir laddie’s” holiday spoiled.—Coiners.—General Hervey on coining.—Great improvement in appearance of false coin and false notes since the General wrote.—Probability of forging currency notes increasing.—My own experience. . . . . . . . 252

CHAPTER XXV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The fighting qualities of the police.—Gallantry when led by European officers.—The multitudinous duties of the police.—Collecting Spanish fly.—Curing snake bites and killing them.—The Poorsa.—The Cohen.—The chain viper.—Police services in the famine notorious.—The locust plague.—The rat plague.—Only some of the extra duties which are cheerfully performed . . . . . 260

CHAPTER XXVI.

CONCLUSION.

Résumé of necessary reforms.—Young gentlemen from England not wanted.—Why should these things be?—Reply.—The cogwheel system.—Very good for India.—Lord Lansdowne’s portentous farewell words.—It is understood that Police Reform is now engrossing the attention of several Governments, including that of Bombay.—The cloud before the storm and how to disperse it. 276
# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

## FULL-PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustration</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Fort of Vizianagore</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narayen-Gaum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Identification in the Fort</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dapoolie: Paying the Pensioners</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Nouveaux Riches</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russapa's Revenge</td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fatal Dell</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severndroog, Also Known as Burnee, From the Tomb</td>
<td></td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of Tulajji Angria</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Inquest: &quot;Murder Will Out&quot;</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Last Supper</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Denouncing Hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bheel's Revenge</td>
<td></td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angria's Colará</td>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wreck at Talekeri</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caught at Work</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Riot</td>
<td></td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secret Forest Hoards</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Night's Surprise: &quot;Tim's Got Him!&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery of Overladen Grain Trains During the Famine</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disarming</td>
<td></td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catching Him Alive</td>
<td></td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loaver Makes Himself at Home</td>
<td></td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mysterious Stranger</td>
<td></td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jinjira (Hansán)</td>
<td></td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.**

**ILLUSTRATIONS IN TEXT.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustration</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tannak</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhow at Dewchund's Shop</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting the &quot;Ixpresh&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suleman's Fate.</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Forger's Stock-in-Trade</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yesoo Bheel</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewram Hears Something</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspector &quot;Bucket&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Tim&quot; on Duty</td>
<td>E. M. Cautley</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nocturnal Deposits</td>
<td></td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Model Jailor</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puzzled Crows</td>
<td></td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;They wos very good to me, they wos&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collins</td>
<td></td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cobra on Strike</td>
<td>H. Van Ruith</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakota Elegans, or Chain Viper</td>
<td></td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Locust</td>
<td></td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerbille Indica, or Jerboa Rat</td>
<td></td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Saher! Burra dibbil atá&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>