

Chapter VIII

THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF AMIR KHAN

It is apparently impossible to determine when this man was born. The name given is that under which he was generally known, but probably he was originally Thuair Khan, son of Said Beg Khan, of Nisatta, Thanah Charsadda, in the Peshawar District.

He began in a small way, at the age of fourteen, by stealing about 20 seers of "Jawar" from the granary of Fattah Khan, uncle of Gulam Hussain, at Nisatta. This he sold successfully.

Thus encouraged, a week later he joined his cousin, Amirullah Khan, in stealing a maund of barley from a granary next door, which he also sold. This, however, had the proverbial weakness of being too near his own doorstep: his father found out about the thefts, beat him, and threatened him sufficiently to keep him quiet for a whole year; but he was evidently an incurable thief, and did not belong to a family of high principles, for, when he stole some more grain, he was abetted by his eldest sister, who kept it in her house and paid him only two rupees for it.

Whether he showed active resentment of this parsimony is not revealed, but she betrayed him to her father, who gave him another thrashing and turned him out of the house. He took revenge by robbing him of jewellery, and was only saved from imprisonment through his mother's pleading with the Inspector.

His brother, Inzar Gul, now joined him and cousin Amirullah in another piece of housebreaking. This was not successful, but at various times the two brothers managed to rob their father's store of large quantities of grain.

The theft of a "hasli" from a girl's neck was discovered when Amir Khan tried to sell it, and at the same time a murder investigation in the neighbourhood alarmed him, and drove him to hide in a neighbouring village, where for a time he became a herdsman.

By now, however, he was growing bolder and more resourceful, learning to climb on to house-tops and rob children of pieces of jewellery. He also learnt that village policemen were sometimes corruptible and ready to go shares as a price of silence.

His thefts steadily increased, as he graduated in breaking locks, making holes in roofs, and rifling houses of gold and silver ornaments, as well as money and weapons.

Hard experience taught him, too, that there was not always honour among thieves, and once, after a particularly successful robbery, he was in turn robbed - and so badly knocked about that he was laid up for a fortnight.

On the other hand, he developed all the "budmash's" taste for gambling and loose living, and there was an occasion in Peshawar when he lost all his ill-gotten gains in this way.

He was also ready to resort to treachery when it served his purpose, and only escaped imprisonment at Nowshera by turning Queen's Evidence and getting two of his associates sentenced instead.

His criminal career often received quite extraordinary assistance from the readiness of his victims to bargain with him, and there was good reason for this: many of them had reputations which would not stand up to official investigation. Yet what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander, for he himself came near to being implicated in other men's villainies, and plot and counterplot produced a maze of complications, from which he only emerged unconvicted by sheer luck and quick wits.

He frequently returned home, and there seems to be little doubt that his father, who had once beaten and driven him out, was at times agreeable to sharing in the proceeds of his robberies.

Another rogue from the same village of Nisatta was Murli, with whom he began, late in 1884, to plan the kidnapping of children and carrying them away to Afridi country. The venture does not seem to have been profitable, even when successfully prosecuted. People seemed unwilling to pay high prices for the return of their offspring. Burglary produced far higher rewards.

What seems so surprising is that this practised criminal, even when arrested, so often escaped a long term of imprisonment and was "placed on security". Just after a kidnapping case, he was arrested by a police patrol and brought to Peshawar. He blandly explained that he had been on his way to abduct another man's mistress. All that happened was that the Deputy Commissioner fined him 5 rupees for trying to get through the Pass when it was

closed, and, being sent to Charsadda in charge of the police, he was "placed on security": 150 rupees for one year.

After a successful piece of housebreaking, and the division and the disposal of the booty, in which his father had a share, Amir Khan and his brother were arrested. His explanations, however, were so ingenious that he was released; he then got his brother out on bail, and used 500 rupees (out of 1000 that had been stolen) in "paying his fine and compromising with the complainant".

Burglariious adventure had now become something like the breath of life to Amir Khan. Making a hole through a wall was evidently a simple form of entry. To take a "hasli" off a woman's neck as she lay asleep was evidently no more than an elementary piece of legerdemain. Relations of the thieves were by no means immune from their operations. Murli's aunt was robbed of 200 rupees, which they shared.

Sometimes the householder was awake and defended himself, but they generally managed to get away after an exchange of blows. They were even fired on without suffering any injuries.

Jewellery figured largely in the loot, which would often be hidden in the jungle until the time came to find a market for it, and such was the freemasonry of crime, that there appears to have been little or no difficulty in the trade.

In the course of his adventures, and apparently after an unsuccessful attempt at housebreaking, Amir Khan married a Meerut woman Waziran Pathani, and set off for Peshawar.

Whether or not this union proved a distraction and was responsible for a loss of concentration and cunning, it was about six months later that he and Amirullah were tracked by some villagers, who succeeded in finding a store of stolen property in the jungle. The two were then sent to prison for six months, during which Amirullah died in Jail.

Amir Khan had not married into more respectable circles, for his wife proved to be no better than he was, and later became so involved in a case that he had to go to the expense of engaging a pleader to have her acquitted, and, in the course of the legal arguments that ensued, it transpired that she had been married before, of which he was unaware.

The scale of operations now increased, and the robberies planned became more ambitious. There was also more violence, accompanied by stabbings - and one case of murder. Amir Khan was detained for 14 months, and was again lucky not to be facing a very serious charge.

Finally, with five others, including Murli, he helped to plan the Bahardurgarh Dacoity, which resulted in murder, and brought his long career of crime to an end.

The objective of the thieves was the shop of Banniah named Salig. Briefly, they broke in, were seen by his wife, whom they grabbed by the throat and threatened to strangle, and by the nephew, Tirkha, who was murdered by Murli. The gang got away with rather less than 1400 rupees in cash, ornaments, and other articles. Various factors led to their discovery. Mussammatt Waziran, wife of Amir Khan, gave evidence, but chiefly against Murli.

The most powerful agent in the rounding up of these rogues, but also in exposing the whole criminal career of Amir Khan, was again J. P. Warburton. He told the Sessions Judge of the Delhi Division such a tale of villainy as he had seldom heard.

Amir Khan had admitted to robberies, burglaries, and murders beyond number. In the Peshawar District alone, he had been concerned in 52 cases, but these were not the worst, which proved to have been committed in the Meerut region. With a band of marauders and assassins, he had positively terrorized the district.

Being a man of great skill, cunning, and resource, he contrived on various occasions to be acquitted. Finally, discovering that some of his previous associates were going to give him away, he decided to make a full confession, the object of which was simply to save his neck. He only just contrived to do so, but the Judge said:

"I have had my doubts whether I ought not to sentence him to death as well as Murli, but, considering there is no actual proof that he killed Tirkha, I have decided to pass upon him a sentence of transportation for life".

He then remarked on the revelation that gangs of Pathans were wandering about the country, committing crimes of the most atrocious description in concert with the most notoriously bad characters of every town or city they visited, and even with Sowars and Sepoys in the Native Regiments.

"I think", he added significantly, "that it is fortunate that the case was placed in the hands of Mr. Warburton, and it was entirely owing to his exertions that some of the accused have been brought to justice".

He named six witnesses, including Mussammat Waziran, who had been brought forward entirely through the efforts of "Button Sahib" .

He had done more than that, however: he had shown that the state of affairs was a national rather than a provincial matter. This led to the clearing up of terrorism in a large section of the country.

Chapter IX

AMRITSAR AND SIALKOT

Amir Khan and his associates being dealt with, and the public evils laid bare for lesser men to attend to the "mopping up", John Warburton returned from Special Duty on May 5th, 1885. Back once more in Ludhiana, he found his police still in the efficient state which he had done so much to achieve. By comparison with the districts he had been visiting, it had almost relapsed into a condition of virtue.

Possibly for this reason, he was moved north, to Amritsar, at the end of November.

He remained there till August, 1890, but it is not such a far cry from Ludhiana to Amritsar (though motor transport was as yet unknown), and, almost before he had moved, the devil-controlling touch was at work. The arrest and prosecution of twelve Harnis disclosed 183 crimes committed in different districts - more than a third of them in Amritsar. The gang was prosecuted there, and, except for two informers (won over in the usual way), they were convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from 10 to 18 years. The consequence was almost immediately visible, and remains eloquent to-day. Within a year, crime on all sides was reported to have decreased. Gangs of robbers were broken up and brought to justice, and it was noted that "Button Sahib's" tours through the district were "no mere formal visits but attended with visible results". Something will be said of these "visible results" elsewhere.

Swindlers were now being detected and rounded up as never before, and it would be interesting to know what was the "well-conceived and successfully carried-out stratagem" by which the murderer Suchet Singh, having escaped from custody, was re-arrested.

More significantly, it was recorded that, by 1888, village communities were enjoying a sense of security for which they were really grateful. They had not only cause to be grateful for the suppression of crime but for the elimination of false cases, involving innocent people.

It was in Amritsar, one year, that he displayed the full

power of his tremendous personality. Hindu and Mohammedan processions clashed, passions ran high, and riot and slaughter were imminent. "Button Sahib" leapt from his carriage, armed with his coachman's long whip, and roaring like a lion. "Scoundrels"! What would ye do?" is a rough translation of his words; but, at the very sight of him, the whole mob fled, falling over one another in the struggle to escape from that figure of wrath, and in a few minutes the street was empty of all but one or two policemen. There were no more riotous gatherings that year.

The Deputy Commissioner, Colonel Lang, waxed so lyrical as to say that the people of the District would have "good reason to bless the memory of Mr. Warburton, District Superintendent, for many years to come".

The work had been done, and, by the middle of August, 1890, he was called further north, to Sialkot, not far from the Kashmir border. More will be said later about the Warburton connection with Amritsar, but, if it is correct that his wife died in 1889, he may have been moved to apply for the transfer. Certainly he threw himself into the work as though he wished to think of nothing else, though he was now fifty.

Before the year's end, he was dealing with a whole gang of dacoits, all Sikhs, particularly the instigator, Raja Ram Singh, who paid 1000 rupees in cash for the murder of Mian Sanwal Singh. This took two years to clear up, during which he was engaged in rounding up other offenders - men guilty of bribery and torture - and also in enlisting a better class of men in the police force, urging higher pay for constables in the early months of their service, and pointing out the high price of food in the same connection. None knew better than he where temptations lay in the path of poorly-paid policemen.

Besides all this, Colonel Montgomery, Deputy Commissioner of Sialkot, had before him a long list of cases in which John Warburton, having been placed on Special Duty, had rendered special service to the Government. He was now, as we have noted, in his fifties, and overdue for some higher position than District Superintendent.

Thus, in 1894, we find him appointed Assistant Inspector-General of Government Railway Police. This, we may guess, was supposed to be an almost purely administrative post, in which

an ordinary man had little to do beyond office routine. He could sit back and relax at last. At least that, one cannot help suspecting, was the idea.

We are not dealing, however, with an ordinary man.

In the next chapter, we shall see what the Assistant Inspector-General of Railway Police found to do with his time.

Chapter X

AN ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL INSPECTS

For the first two years, the records do not show that anything worthy of his genius occupied the attention of the new Assistant Inspector-General of Police. During that time, he evidently made his home at Lahore - not a place in which dacoits flourished.

It would be a mistake, however, to suppose that he was idle.

Idleness was not in his nature. Almost certainly there were various minor matters which he cleared up without their coming to light. Moreover, there was something more serious in the wind, which he had been quietly considering, and, at the beginning of November, 1896, it came to a head.

This was no less than several charges of bribery against a Sessions and Divisional Judge.

Sardar Gurdial Singh had been appointed to the Statutory Civil Service of the Punjab in 1880, and, after filling the posts of Deputy Commissioner and Divisional Judge respectively in several districts, became Divisional Judge of Ferozepore, which lies south of Lahore.

Now, one of the most important persons to be committed for trial before Sardar Gurdial Singh was Sardar Khan, who appeared on a charge of dacoity. He was acquitted.

Then came a very serious accusation.

Sardar Khan was a brother-in-law of the Nawab of Bahawalpur, and it was alleged that the acquittal had been obtained in consideration of a bribe of 45,000 rupees, offered by the Nawab.

This called for the strictest investigation, and there was only one man who could do it as it should be done.

"Button Sahib" it was who found a great deal of evidence in support of the charge, and also dug out facts regarding other charges of much the same kind.

He duly sent up his report to the Government of the Punjab, upon which, after consultation with the Judges, the Sardar was given fair warning of their intentions.

One G. Casson Walker was placed on special duty, with John Warburton acting under his orders. It was no doubt like a school-boy instructing his headmaster, but they visited several districts, where numerous witnesses were examined by Walker and the local officers of the Punjab Commission, upon which yet another report was submitted to the Government, and Sardar Gurdial Singh was suspended, while a Commission was appointed by the Government of India, under the appropriate Act, to inquire into the charge of bribery. The mills of God ground at high speed by comparison.

Finally, a District and Sessions Judge of the North West Provinces and a Divisional Judge in the Punjab composed the Commission, which gave ten days' notice of its constitution to the Sardar before the first sitting at Lahore.

After he had pleaded not guilty to all the charges, the Commissioners adjourned the case for another fortnight, when it resumed its daily sittings - this time at Multan, under the blazing heat of May and June.

That took another 18 days, during which H. A. B. Rattigan, of the Lahore Bar, and several native pleaders did their best for the accused. Everybody wrote reports. There had been 80 charges in all, which the Government Advocate reduced to seven - one of them being a double charge, making really nine in all.

Seven charges, in fact, were proved, and the final judgment said:

"We have no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the Sardar has carried out a career of corruption between 1892 and 1896".

Before setting forth the findings, the report said:

"We wish to place on record our appreciation of the skill and thoroughness with which Mr. Warburton has worked out these cases which have been submitted to our judgement".

Other members of the Native Bar also found themselves prosecuted on charges of abetment of Perjury.

The date of the Commission's findings is June 27th, 1898; and this perhaps should be treated as the virtual termination of over 35 years' service with the Punjab Police; for in May, 1900, he applied for permission to retire.

The Memorandum of the Officiating Inspector-General, after paying tribute in more or less conventional terms, goes further:

"It is not too much to say that Mr. Warburton for many years held the proud position of the premier detective amongst the Gazetted Officers of the force".

The concluding paragraph indicated, however, that his work was not at an end:

"Mr. Warburton leaves the Punjab Police in order to take up elsewhere duties of an arduous and important nature, and the Officiating Inspector-General feels sure that he carries with him the good wishes for his future success of his brother officers in the Department and of all ranks who have worked under his order".

What these duties "of an arduous and important nature" were to be is disclosed in the course of the flamboyant but genuinely heartfelt addresses which the news of his retirement brought forth from different quarters, especially in Ludhiana.

They are given in full in the following chapter.

Those who served "Button Sahib" learnt to undergo a stern discipline. The Afghan in him might be alternately generous and harsh to the point of cruelty. A boy caught stealing peaches was soundly whipped in front of the other servants.

He was almost literally a fire-eater, consuming curries which others could not touch, while a servant applied ice to his forehead. He would also sit eating chillies, and one day noticed his four-year-old grand-daughter eyeing him greedily. Presently he allowed her to try one: the resulting howls no doubt satisfied him that the lesson had been learnt.

Chapter XI

JUST ENCOMIUM

Indians, when they wish to express their sentiments concerning anybody, are generally considered by English critics to go to extremes.

Either they paint a man blacker than the devil himself, or they endow him with virtues which make him brighter than all the angels combined.

There is some truth in this, and the three tributes quoted in this chapter are not wanting in words which tend to place the subject in the latter category.

Yet, if one looks beyond the verbal garlands, as it were, it is possible to realise that nothing in all the flowery extravagance of language (Urdu in the original, be it noted) does not proceed from the heart of the writers. They also touch, in passing, on more than one fact in "Button Sahib's" career of which the records do not tell us anything.

The Addresses should be read with these considerations in mind.

TRANSLATION OF AN ADDRESS IN URDU BY THE
HINDU AND MUHAMMADAN COMMUNITIES OF
LAHORE, TO JOHN PAUL WARBURTON, ESQUIRE,
LATE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL, GOVERNMENT
RAILWAY POLICE, PUNJAB, LAHORE.

"Sir,

We, the Hindu and Muhammadan inhabitants of Lahore, the seat of the Punjab Government, now come before you with feelings of deep attachment and affection, and express our gratitude for the valuable services which you have rendered to us, during the last quarter of a century in the preservation of the public peace and order, in which, by your natural talents and abilities, you have attained such distinction and renown as no other Police Officer in the Province of the five rivers has yet attained. By your unparalleled detective skill, you have traced out so many crimes throughout Hindustan, and by effecting the arrest of criminals have rendered such assistance to Government in the suppression of the most heinous crimes, that it needs an office to record all your great achievements.

Even the best officers of the Thuggi and Dacoity Department could not have taken so great a part as you have taken in the extirpation of professional criminals. In view of these facts, it is no exaggeration to call you the prince of detective officers of your time.

Your career as a Police Officer has been so successful that the fact of your undertaking the investigation of any case was sufficient to convince anyone of its truth.

The bad characters and professional criminals of every district to which you were posted immediately sought safety in flight. At the same time, whilst your name has been a terror to bad characters and evil doers, your courtesy and kindness have won the hearts of the respectable members of society.

We think that no officer has ever before won such well-deserved renown and popularity among all classes and all grades of society, so that among the children, not only in every city and town of the Punjab, but in every village and hamlet, the beloved name 'Warburton' has become a household word, and long may it remain such.

Now, that after a lifelong meritorious service, the Punjab Government has granted you an honourable retirement from its service, and His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala has obtained your services for the Patiala State, we, with mingled feelings of joy and regret, congratulate you in your high appointment in Patiala as Head of the Police Department and Councillor to His Highness the Maharaja. Patiala may justly be proud of having secured the services of so valuable an Officer. We are glad to know that you are willing to go there and that Patiala has so highly appreciated you.

We believe that the day is not distant when the Government also will fully appreciate your services by the bestowal of a high title upon you. We sincerely pray for your health, wealth, and prosperity.

We beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

(Sd) Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD BARKAT ALI KHAN,
Lala MILKHI RAM, Secretaries on behalf of the Hindus
and Muhammadans of Lahore.

Dated the 15th May 1900."

So much for Lahore; but Ludhiana had a great deal more to say.

TRANSLATION OF AN ADDRESS IN URDU BY THE
HINDUS AND MUHAMMADANS OF THE LUDHIANA
CITY AND DISTRICT, TO JOHN PAUL Warburton,
ESQUIRE, LATE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR- GENERAL,
GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICE, PUNJAB.

"Sir,

We, the Hindu and Muhammadan inhabitants of the City and District of Ludhiana, have assembled here to-day, under the auspices of Shahzada Muhammad Hamdum, son of the late Shahzada Muhammad Nadir, C.I.E., to give expression to our mingled feelings of pleasure and regret; regret, because a large part of the Punjab, which is under the direct control of the British Government, is now being deprived of those great benefits and blessings which it has been enjoying ever since you entered the Government service; and pleasure, at the thought that you are leaving us, on promotion to a higher rank, to advance the welfare of our neighbours.

The Blessings which you, Sir, have conferred on this Province are so many that we cannot adequately express the gratitude we owe you. It is quite impossible to express our acknowledgement for the blessings of peace and order which through the favour of Government, the Ludhiana District has received from you during the long period of 13 years, from 1872 to 1885.

Every single one of the brilliant feats you have performed for our security and welfare during this period, constitutes a record of conspicuous services, which there is no time now to detail.

When we contrast the state of the Ludhiana District before 1872 with its subsequent state, when we think of the depredations formerly committed by the Harni tribe, by their robberies and dacoities on the inhabitants of Ludhiana District and adjacent districts, and remember how on your arrival their malpractices were stopped by your admirable management, and the ringleaders brought to justice, our prayers for you issue spontaneously from our hearts.

Though there are several proposals under consideration for the perpetuation of your memory, yet each of your achievements is really a standing memorial in itself. The famous Rupalon Murder case which you unearthed after an investigation of two years, is still a household word and is a theme for the ballads of the Jats of this district.

Your brilliant achievements in tracing out many other such cases exercise an enduring effect in the maintenance of peace and order, and your permanent memorial has really been impressed on the minds of the people.

In like manner you have been the means of bestowing numerous similar blessings on the whole of the Punjab generally, and more particularly on the districts of Sialkot, Amritsar and Lahore. Nor has the good which you have done been confined to the Punjab, for the North West Provinces also are under obligations to you. Your achievement in clearly establishing, after a most skilful investigation, the iniquities of the Habora criminal tribe, in connection with the series of dacoities committed in 1882 on the Grand Trunk Road from Lahore to Calcutta, and in delivering the people of God from their oppression, and obtaining the release of innocent persons who had been arrested and imprisoned for these crimes, is still remembered in the Punjab and the North-West Provinces.

Not only are the inhabitants of the Punjab, and especially of the Ludhiana District, indebted to you for these services and achievements. Your high personal character also has endeared you to persons of every caste and of every religion and sect. By such good actions, officers in fact render the highest service to the British crown, for by kind treatment of the people they strengthen their attachment and loyalty.

How generously you took promising young men of good birth, without distinction of creed, trained them for Police work, raised them to high positions in the Police, and made them useful public servants, is well known. The excellent training which every man under you has received, has made him a model of efficiency. The success with which Government has attained its ends through your instrumentality indeed demands that all the people should unite in rendering hearty thanks to Government for having generously given to the country an officer with talents so unparalleled.

There is no doubt that you have followed strictly the rules of law in the performance of your official duties. At the same time in justice, affection, kindness, sincerity, appreciation of worth, generosity, and sympathy you stand out unique among the examples of noble men of every race and creed.

It has now pleased God that, as the subjects of the British Government have been hitherto the recipients of your bounty, so you should carry your good works among the inhabitants of the Patiala State. Having now retired from the service of Government,

you have turned your thoughts to the furtherance of the happiness and welfare of our neighbours, the inhabitants of the Patiala State. We will not grudge our neighbours their good fortune, but we pray that you will not take from the people of this district the sympathy and the favours which you have always shown them, and that you will not forget your old well-wishers.

Your kindness will ever dwell in our hearts, and our prayers will ever be with you.

Know that wherever you go, your greatness abides within us.
From the reflection of your goodness, the heart has become
like an eye.

We, the residents of Ludhiana, sing your praises.

(Sd) Shahzada HAMDUM

Khwaja AHSAN SHAH, Honorary Magistrate, Ludhiana.

Captain HASSAN ALI KHAN, Sirdar Bahadur.

MUHAMMAD MUKHTAR SHAH, son of Khwaja Ahsan Shah,
Sahib.

Haji KARIM BAKSH, Choudhri.

Lala MANSA RAM, Kothidar, Ludhiana.

SALIG RAM and DEVI DAS, Sahukars.

ABDUL AZIZ

Saiyad NIZAM-UD-DIN.

Pirji GHULAM MOHI-UD-DIN, Member of the Munpl. Comm.

AHMAD SHAH.

Khwaja KHALIL SHAH.

SHAMS-UD-DIN

MUHAMMAD HASSAN, Municipal Commissioner, Ludhiana.
RAM RATTAN.

16th May 1900"

TRANSLATION OF AN ADDRESS BY SHAHZADA
(PRINCE) MUHAMMAD HAMDUM AND OTHER
SHAHZADAS OF THE SADDIOZAI DURANI FAMILY,
RESIDING IN LUDHIANA, TO JOHN PAUL
WARBURTON, ESQUIRE, LATE ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-
GENERAL, GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICE, PUNJAB.

"Sir,

There is no one, humble or great, who can have failed to hear of your justice and your kindness to men of noble birth. We can certainly affirm as regards the whole of the Punjab, and probably also in regard to other parts that there is no man, poor

or rich, who can say that he does not know you. Though some have not seen you with their outward eyes, your justice, your generosity, and your admirable administration have shown your photograph to the eyes of their hearts. The love and affection which the people of Ludhiana feel for you cannot be described with pen or tongue. How can we express our gratitude for the kindness you have shown to the citizens, and for the attachment you have formed for them through your long stay at Ludhiana; and for the benefits of honour and wealth which they have derived therefrom, in addition to the general advantages arising out of the performance of your official duties, otherwise than by praying for the increase of your fortune and rank?

'Tis right to pray for you, before we praise you with the pen.

It is owing to the morning prayers and midnight supplications of these your humble servants that, by the favour of God, the star of your prosperity is from day to day in the ascendant. What return can we poor people make for your merciful beneficence?

Man cannot recompense you for your goodness. 'Tis only God who can.

And why should it not be so?

Of how splendid a necklace you are the pearl, and of what an illustrious family you are a member, a family whose dominion and rule have been on people's lips since the time of Ahmad Shah Durani.

Especially are you, Sir, deserving of honour, who are the pride of your ancestry, and whose insight into the intricacies of cases, and skill in their investigation and detection, are famous among high and low. Though time may efface from the archives the record of your justice, it is impossible to obliterate them from the memories of the people.

The aptitude for administration and command with which nature has endowed you, has won for you a great reputation with the Government. It was your promptitude in doing justice that urged the people to apply to the Government for the extension of your services. It was on account of your wonderful acumen that His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala was led to appoint a man like yourself, sound in judgment, and well versed in the secrets of good Government, as a member of the Administrative Committee of the State, so as to win the approbation of the Government, the good-will of the people, and reward from God.

We have heard that His Highness the Maharaja has been commended by the Government for his excellent selection. Doubtless the Maharaja with the generosity and nobility of his nature, would not allow himself to forget the relations which existed between his ancestors and yours in the time of Ahmad Shah Durani. It is hoped that His Highness will derive from your prudent counsel such benefits as will in every way entitle him to the approbation and commendation of Government.

There is none so miserable in all the world as he who turns a deaf ear to thy advice.

We, the people of Ludhiana of all classes, and especially the Princes residing here, who have much claim to a close and intimate connection with you, heartily thank you for the kindness you have shown us, for despite the high position you have held, you have treated us, fallen ones, with the same honour and respect with which your ancestors treated us. It is on account of those old connections, those relationships of long ago, that, notwithstanding the little time at your disposal, you have taken this trouble, merely to show respect to those of us who remain, and have honoured us by receiving this address from us who are so unworthy of the distinction.

All of us present sincerely and earnestly pray that God, by his favour and grace, may bestow on you honour and wealth, wherever you may be. May our good wishes attend you, may your kindness to us continue, and may your glory be increased day by day.

As long as the sun continues to set and the morning to dawn, may every morning and evening bring you happiness. O God, in thy goodness be gracious to him who day and night seeks only to do thy will.

Amen!

Amen!!

Amen!!!

(Sd) Shahzada MUHAMMAD HAMDUM

" " ABDURRAZAQ, son of Hazrat SHAH ZAMAN.

" " MUHAMMAD TAHIR.

" " SULTAN DIL.

" GHULAM HAIDER.

" Shahzada MUHAMMAD FARIDUN.

16th May 1900".

It is possible that Ahmad Shah Durani was the first monarch of Afghanistan to induce the tribes to choose him as sovereign. If so, his date is about 1724 to 1773.



COLONEL SIR ROBERT WARBURTON, K. C. I. E., C. S. I.

Chapter XII

PLAGUE AND RIOT

The new service which "Button Sahib" took up on retirement from the Punjab Police was, as we learnt in the last chapter, at Patiala. Under the Maharajah, Rajinder Singh, he became Member of the Administrative Committee as well as Inspector-General of the Patiala Police.

This he did with Government approval, and, as soon as he arrived, it became clear that something drastic would have to be done about the force under his command. The police were literally in a poor way, for their pay was in arrears, their uniforms were dilapidated, their barracks in bad condition, and their discipline no better.

The new Inspector-General took charge with a firm hand, had them properly paid, housed, and turned out, and attended to the drill and discipline of recruits. This could not be done all at once, but, while they had been in such bad shape, it was not surprising that crime had begun to spread, and dacoity was rife. Very soon, the "budmashes" of the neighbourhood learnt that a more formidable detective was on their tracks, and on October 25th, 1900, the Maharajah was able to write of successes achieved in connection with the capture of notorious dacoits and the collection of complete proofs of their guilt. He referred to the operations under the District Superintendent on special duty, L. L. Tomkins, and said that these "with the measures taken for the prevention of serious crimes in future, both in the State and the neighbouring Ilaqas" had given him great pleasure. He added that, as Mr. Warburton had discharged his duties with great ability, and the results obtained had been mostly due to his foresight and the measures proposed by him, in recognition of these services, and by way of encouragement, he was pleased to grant him a khilat of 1500 rupees. He went on to order that Mr. Warburton, in his capacity as Member of the Administrative Committee, on his behalf, should distribute rewards to all deserving persons and grant parwanas to them in acknowledgement of their services. This letter (for which Sir Mackworth Young, Chief Secretary to the Punjab Government, returned thanks) must have been one of the last written by the Maharajah, for in less than a month he died suddenly.

His youthful successor, a lad of sporting tendencies, who eventually took a cricket-team to England, wished nothing better than that "Button Sahib" should stay and help him rule the country. The boy, however, was barely ten, and a new Council of Regency was set up.

An item of unrecorded history may belong to this period or to a later one. The details are not precise, but the broad outline is clear enough: among the reports which "Button Sahib" investigated was one relating to the abduction of women from British territory. How far his inquiries led him in this matter there is no record to show, but any such traffic that existed must have ceased abruptly.

The subject is obscured by other and violent events in Patiala, which were the consequence of an outbreak of bubonic plague in the city.

Early in February, 1902, the deadly pestilence appeared - a small number of cases at first, but they called for more drastic measures than were taken in time. Committees and sub-committees were formed, and a plague-camp was established, but religious prejudices proved an obstacle, which first produced an impasse and then led to violent rioting.

By February 17th, several cases of plague were reported, and two of them led to a dangerous resolution on the part of both Hindus and Mohammedans to support one another in resisting all plague measures which touched the invasion of "purdah" and domestic privacy, or involved the removal of patients to plague and segregation camps.

The man round whom the uproar chiefly arose was Major Hendley of the I.M.S., a brave and conscientious officer, but evidently out of touch with the temper of the people. Accompanied by an Assistant Surgeon and a Doctor, both Indians, he visited houses, some of whose occupants were suffering from ordinary fevers and some from plague. His diagnoses were not always absolutely correct.

He did what he could to advise the removal of infected persons, but "Button Sahib" and his police had already learnt that

the turbulent section of the crowd, incited by agitators, had decided to put up a forcible resistance to any removals recommended by the doctor. Major Hendley therefore did his best to assure everybody concerned that he was not attempting coercion.

The trouble-makers, however, were busy disseminating false rumours. A crisis arose at the house of a man named Rahim Baksh, whose wife had died, while another relative, Mussammatt Ledo, undoubtedly had the plague. Rahim Baksh and others had agreed to have her removed, but the police and coolies who arrived to act as carriers were opposed by a crowd in a dangerous mood. John Warburton now set about pacifying the people, several hundred strong, but, while he was doing so, a Hindu rushed in to say that the doctors were then removing a female member of his family to the plague-camp.

It was utterly untrue, and the announcement had obviously been made with the deliberate intention of stirring up mob-hysteria.

That "Button Sahib" was on the spot can only be described as providential. Speaking clearly and fluently, he told the people that all valid objections to the plague-camp (such as that it was placed too near a Mohammedan cemetery, and that the food and domestic arrangements were faulty) would be remedied at once, and that there was no compulsion whatever.

This pacified the leaders for the time being. He then had a word with Major Hendley, and warned him of the dangers when so many wild rumours were being circulated, and believed, by the mob. They were ready to seize on any pretext for demonstrations.

On that same evening - that of February 18th - a Mohammedan servant-girl was drawing water from seven wells to supply a purifying bath, probably on superstitious grounds, when she was seized and accused of being an agent employed by the doctors to put plague-poison in the wells and spread the disease!

It was only with the greatest difficulty that she was rescued and the report exposed for the mischievous nonsense it was.

On the 19th, the trouble grew, and Hindus and Mohammedans joined in sending telegrams to the authorities, reporting illegal measures by the doctors and laying particular blame on Major Hendley.

There was only one true statement in these messages, and that was that all the shops were closed. They remained closed for three days.

It was on that morning that Major Hendley, with an Indian doctor and hospital assistant, had again visited Rahim Baksh's house, to see the patient, recommend removal, and disinfect the place.

The crowd would allow nothing to be done, and the visitors were pelted when they left. One or two local police, called upon to help, merely made themselves scarce.

That same evening, the intrepid Major was in the town again, this time with a thin escort of half a dozen cavalry. It was nothing like strong enough to deal with the crowd, who knocked him out of his dog-cart, bludgeoned him with a lathi, and sent him bleeding and bruised down a narrow lane towards the dispensary.

Here the hospital assistant, Karim-ud-din, took the two doctors to his own quarters above the dispensary, where he and his wife were living. The rioters broke in, began to throw the furniture and other property out of the house, and set the place on fire.

Now the situation was really desperate, and only the prompt action of the one man whom the crowd feared could save it. He was already more than uneasy about Major Hendley, whom he considered courageous but unaware of the forces roused against him, and he set out for the city at what may be called the psychological moment.

Arriving in his carriage at a critical time, he could make only slow progress at first. The horses were excited, and the coachman was hit by a brickbat before he was recognized. He ordered the carriage to pull up, and walked into the middle of the crowd. In much the same way, Sir Robert Warburton, dead three years earlier after a wearing life on the frontier, had walked about among the Afghan tribes, armed with nothing more lethal than a walking-stick.

At once, the mood changed. More orderly elements in the crowd began to assert themselves. As he strode towards the dispensary, fifty yards away, rounding a bend to come in sight of it, he saw what looked like a huge bonfire in the street, surrounded by an excited and yelling mob. Someone then told him that the

doctors had escaped over the wall of the serai, which led him to retrace his steps, until he learnt from a sergeant that they were actually still inside.

He at once walked back to the dispensary, whose upper storey was now in flames, with one or two men still throwing things into the fire. He passed into the gateway of the Serai, unmolested by the large crowd, went upstairs to the roof, and found the hospital assistant's quarters, near the gateway, in flames. Going up and down the stairs, he organized a chain of water-carriers to subdue the fire, nobody hindering him, for most people believed that the doctors had gone.

The hospital assistant was brought out of his hiding-place, and revealed that Major Hendley and the Indian doctor were concealed in the innermost zenana room upstairs. Redoubling his efforts, "Button Sahib" obtained more water, and, with the help of an Inspector and one or two others, put out the fire at one door, got the two doctors out, and pushed them into a latrine close at hand, on the roof. He was then joined by some police officers, who, helped by the more orderly citizens, cleared the square. Troops, rather belatedly, now arrived in force - it was after sunset - and the threatened men were at last brought to safety, with Major Hendley badly knocked about.

He was in bed for some months afterwards.

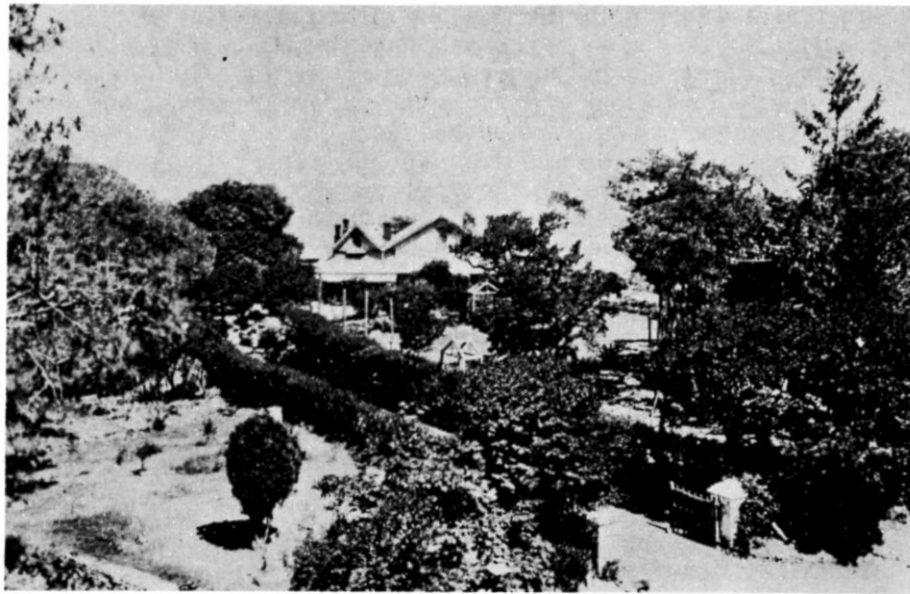
There remained the clearing up, the enforcement of measures against the plague, and the prosecution of Abdul Hakim, Allu, and others, under the "Riot, Murder, and Mischief" sections.

Nobody, after all, had been murdered, but, save for the presence of one man, there would undoubtedly have been several. It may be noted that, when the troops arrived, he restrained them from any aggressive action, lest the innocent might suffer with the guilty. That was typical.

These were the services for which he was eventually awarded the C.I. E. "Eventually" indeed! He did not receive it till nine years later. Seldom has that honourable award been more honourably earned.

While he was out and earning it, his family accepted the invitation to go to the Maharajah's Palace for greater safety. When the danger was considered to be past, they returned, with full military escort, and the hero of the day, returning shortly afterwards, inquired acidly the reasons for the evacuation. On hearing that it was a protective measure, in case the rioters should attack his house, he snorted with indignation:

"Attack my house! I never heard such nonsense! "



GILBERT HOUSE, KASAU LI.

Chapter XIII

VARIOUS CASES OF GENERAL RESULTS

The Patiala Riots crowned the career of John Warburton, which virtually ended soon afterwards.

The Council of Regency did not please him, and, finding himself unable to approve of their approach to the work, he resigned. The young Maharajah was evidently sorry to see him go, and it was possibly with the aid of a bonus obtained through that youthful source that he was able to buy Gilbert House, on Gilbert Hill, Kasauli, which became the family home until practically the end of the British Raj.

In describing the many cases which made him famous, we have inevitably left out others of no little consequence, and some of these should be mentioned.

For instance, in 1871, a box containing records belonging to the Foreign Office was stolen from a country cart (!) near the Amballa Cantonment. The local police failed to solve the mystery, whereupon John Warburton was deputed from Karnal to go into the matter. Within a fortnight, he had tracked down the thieves and recovered the box of records, for which he received the thanks of the Government of India. No other details of this case appear, but it is not difficult to imagine that somebody received a sharp rap on the knuckles.

In the same year, there was the Hursowla Dacoity, in which a gang of six men were detected, though two of them got away temporarily.

Soon after his arrival in Ludhiana, an attack on the Hindu Temple at Maler Kotla, made in 1873 by thirteen men, was followed by prompt police action, and this broke up a band of dacoits who had been the scourge of the neighbourhood for some time.

In 1877, the Khanna dacoity case led him to bring about the effective co-operation of the Patiala and Nabha authorities, which had been lacking. This resulted in the apprehension of eleven dacoits.

During 1882, a large illicit trade in arms and ammunition was detected in Ludhiana, and, in the same period we hear of his "watch and ward of the Kuka sect, a criminal tribe of Sikhs, with its headquarters at Bhaini". No other officer understood this sect as did 'Button Sahib', who arrested Narain Singh, a Kuka, carrying letters full of treasonable and hostile matter, addressed by Ram Singh to his followers in the province. In consequence, the report runs, the Government moved Ram Singh "to a place where he might find it impossible to send such communications to his disciples".

Munna Lall, of Delhi, and a gang of burglars operating in the districts of Amritsar, Ludhiana, Jullundur, Umballa, and Patiala, were captured and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment each. Ahmed Jan, of Ludhiana, a man of notorious intriguing character, and for years suspected of various crimes, was caught selling ammunition to frontier Pathans and sent to prison for three years. The Lieutenant-Governor sent a letter of special approbation on this capture.

Rala Ram and his accomplices in the Meerut swindling case all felt the weight of the same strong arm.

During his duties in the Sialkot District, the Badiana murder case is mentioned without particulars, save that two men were sentenced to death and five to transportation for life. "What a sigh of relief must have gone up from the whole countryside round Badiana", wrote Colonel Montgomery, the Deputy Commissioner, in August, 1892, "when they heard the verdicts. The whole family have been a perfect curse to the country and the amount of misery they have inflicted is incalculable".

Only rarely, it should be noted, are the cases concerned with politics. Practically all of them deal with the persecution of innocent people by criminal gangs. He thus became the acknowledged protector of peaceful citizens against thieves and murderers.

His fame was carried not only through India but far beyond the frontiers by those who had to flee the country to escape his all-seeing eyes.

"The best tribute to Warburton's genius that I have heard", wrote Edmund Candler, "came from outside the bounds of Hindustan. Three Indian civilians - two of them afterwards became Lieutenant-Governors - were travelling in Central Asia, and had come by rail from Moscow to Samarcand by the Trans-

* Sir Louis Dane and Sir Michael O'Dwyer.

Caspian line. The Cossack who was showing them round pointed out among other sights the Hindu serai. This, of course, with its inference of a considerable established trade from India through Afghanistan, interested the party more than anything else. Inside the serai they noticed that they were being followed closely by a very dejected-looking Hindu, a trader in carpets. The merchant was fat and well clad in clean and costly raiment, but there was something in the sad expression and the uneasy, melancholy gait of the man suggestive of long-deferred hope, even of despair. One of the Englishmen turned and spoke to him, asking him how he liked Samarcand. 'Sahib', the merchant said, 'it is a country inhabited by devils'.

'Then why do you live among them?'

To this the merchant made no answer, and the Englishman now believes that he saw in his eyes as he turned away a new apprehension. As they were leaving the gate of the serai the fat trader again approached them.

'Do me this favour, Sahib', he asked. 'Tell me if Wa-ar-button Sahib is dead or alive'.

'Wa-ar-button Sahib is alive, in a way even more alive than formerly; he is more than ever a terror to malefactors'.

The pitiable resignation with which the exile heard his sentence of continued banishment is likely to dwell in the Englishman's memory.

'Button Sahib' was very pleased when he heard the story. Of all the testimony he received to his unique power I think the unspoken tribute of the Hindu merchant of Samarcand pleased him most".

Yet surely there was a tribute of another kind which pleased him more, though in a very different way. Once, when he was out for a ride, he came upon a young girl, walking unattended and adorned with a profusion of jewels. He pulled up at once, and asked in shocked tones if she were not afraid to go out so far, and quite alone, in all this finery. "Oh no!" she assured him at once with a smile. "Do you not know that Button Sahib is captain of the police in this District? It is quite safe".

These incidents give peculiar emphasis to his achievements in two directions. Not only did he capture, or drive from the country, thousands of evil-doers, in upholding law and order, but those whom he saved from danger and terror ran into millions, until this one man was regarded as a magician of justice. As it was quaintly expressed, people could "sleep with their fingers in their ears".

Chapter XIV

METHODS

During the 1880's, Rudyard Kipling, but lately returned to the land of his birth from his schooling in England, was beginning his literary career.

While writing his earliest short stories, he soon heard of the legend of the terror of evil-doers, and paid several visits to the Warburton family. They entertained him and his family, and he went to some trouble to discuss police methods with the man whom Edmund Candler afterwards described as "The Super-Detective of the Punjab".

There was another brilliant police officer, whose precise identity does not concern us here, but he has been mistakenly confused with John Warburton. Kipling called him Strickland. He took care not to make him identical with Warburton, but wrote that he was "foolish enough to take for his model" a character generally acknowledged to be "Button Sahib" and no other.

This was how he described Strickland's model:

"Now, in the whole of Upper India, there is only one man who can pass for Hindu or Mahomedan, hide-dresser or priest, as he pleases. He is feared and respected by the natives from Ghor Kathri to the Jamna Musjid; and he is supposed to have the gift of invisibility and executive control over many Devils. But this has done him no good in the eyes of the Indian Government".

The last sentence might well have been a reflection on the absence of reward for his unique detective services at that date.

Now as to the facts: it was true that "Button Sahib" acquired the reputation of being able to disguise himself, become invisible, or change his shape into anything, even that of a tiger. How this last would have enabled him to penetrate the secrets of criminals and bring them to justice, it is difficult to see. The superstition merely serves to indicate that it is not only the English who are illogical. There is no doubt that he had enough knowledge of the people of the country, their speech, and habits of dress and living to disguise himself effectively if he chose; but there is no proof that he ever resorted to such means

of obtaining information, although it was believed so widely that certain rogues actually tried on occasion to impersonate him in one of his alleged disguises.

There is an amusing story of how he found, in a village in Ludhiana, a man in the garb of a fakir being treated as an honoured guest in the belief that he was really "Button Sahib" in disguise. He was in the chief zemindar's house, garlanded and receiving lavish courtesies, when the original arrived, not disguised at all, and just managed to save the impersonator from "the biggest hammering he ever had in his life".

Again, Kipling's Strickland was deeply engaged in what we now call Secret Service Work. It is not impossible that "Button Sahib" did so at times, and the fact that the police record makes no mention of such missions would not make it improbable, but there is no tradition in the family of his having served in this capacity, and the immense volume of his activities on behalf of ordinary justice would hardly allow for his engaging in exchanges with R. 21 or C. 25 or any other Government agents of counter-espionage. On this score the idea must be ruled out, except on some very rare occasion.

When John Warburton died, Edmund Candler's publisher sent him a cable, asking him if he would undertake to write a biography, but the commission, though attractive, was refused; for, although Candler had known the family well, the secret of the great detective's methods was a closed book to him. His article in "The Times" shows that he did not know whether to believe the stories about wonderful disguises or not.

His eldest daughter, *Durani Warburton, known to a large and loving circle as "Dani", acted as a sort of secretary to her father at one time, and she stated emphatically that he never dressed himself up at all, leaving that part of the work to Indian police officers whom he trained specially.

In a sense, his ordinary garb served as a disguise of the most effective kind, for it was that of a conventional English gentleman of the middle class. He never saw England, but anyone glancing at him or meeting him casually at a party would have taken him for an Englishman wearing an immaculate suit, of fashionable cut, and often a topi. With his short, upright,

* Many of John Warburton's descendants bear this name, which belongs to the Afghan Royal House.

rather portly figure (I refer to his later days), and well-trimmed grey moustache, he was the Anglo-Indian colonel to the life.

Experienced criminals, who knew the man they had most reason to fear, were doubtless undeceived; but to a great many, seeing him go about the place, he must have appeared as just another of the topi-wallahs (as the English were sometimes described in not very respectful songs and stories), and it must have come as a horrifying shock to discover that this Sahib was so far one of them as to know exactly how their minds worked and what were their habits.

He was always intensely interested in the people, and as deeply sympathetic as his profession would allow.

The head of one gang whom he laid by the heels is said to have declared: "You have caught me, but you will never hang me" - and contrived to poison himself. It is not unlikely that "Button Sahib" admired his pride.

When he had run a rogue to earth, he would often try to persuade him to explain how he carried out his crimes, and sheer vanity was liable to induce the man to oblige. He displayed an odd sense of humour, and once, having some of the prisoners he had apprehended working in his grounds, pointed to a passing servant and asked an accomplished thief to give an illustration of how he would rob the man. Nothing loth, the thief crept up behind the servant, who was an old carpenter, and, in a trice, had him down on the ground and had taken everything off him, while the unfortunate victim yelled in terror, and flung himself at his master's feet, protesting that he had been attacked and robbed right under the "Captain Sahib's" eyes.

"Button Sahib" soothed the outraged carpenter, explained what had happened, and restored his goods, adding a rupee or two by way of compensation, upon which the man's agonized protestations turned to gratitude and pleasure. Old Mrs. Whayman, however, was not amused, and rated her son-in-law in no uncertain terms for allowing such treatment of an old and valued servant - who happened to be her particular favourite. This happened in Ludhiana.

In the later, Amritsar days, it will be remembered, his wife was in the habit of distributing food to beggars on a Sunday. "Button Sahib", casting a watchful if whimsical glance over the concourse, would find on occasion that a criminal was standing

among them, and, always eager to learn, he would seize the opportunity of compelling the man to relate the details of his career.

He had, in fact, an eye for a felon which was positively psychological. It might be in a crowd at a fair, or in a packed city bazaar, where a man of very ordinary aspect to the untrained observer, and indeed often previously unknown to "Button Sahib", would attract his attention. There would be something about his gait or expression - an almost imperceptible movement of the pupil, he explained in one case - which betrayed him. Edmund Candler once described an arrest made in this way, though it was a friend of his who told it to him.

"I was riding with him one day", said the narrator, "at a big Hindu fair, when I heard him call a policeman near by, and, pointing to an ordinary-looking individual some distance away, order him to bring the man before him. I asked him what he wanted with the fellow, and he told me that he was sure the man was a criminal. He was brought up, and on being searched, much to the mystification of the crowd and my own amazement, a set of burglar's tools were found on him, strung by fine cords over his bare shoulders under his clothes. The little incident caused a profound sensation, especially as Warburton had never seen the man before, and there was nothing in his appearance or countenance that was in any way peculiar".

There was therefore some justification for the belief that this was a man endowed with magic perception, a controller of many devils, and, as a terror to evil-doers, gifted with more than mortal powers.

He was not unwilling to foster the superstition himself, no doubt with a secret smile as the occasion arose to do so. There is a story (though this was merely current in family circles) that, one day, someone contrived to get into his room and put poison in his medicine. The man who had tracked down Sharf-ud-din detected it in a moment, and it was his peculiar humour to pour away the prescribed dose at regular times, thereby spreading the belief that he was invulnerable to poison.

It may be remarked that no finger-print system can have been available to the police in India, at any rate for the greater part of his service; nor does there seem to have been a telephone, until he got to Patiala, when it was evidently in the hands of those desiring to defeat the powers of law and order.

The telegraphic service was in operation, and was the quickest means of communication. Railways were spreading, but, though reasonably efficient for the period of our story, the lines were limited, and, for transport, he had to rely very largely on the patient horse. * It would take someone with the patience of a cricket-statistician to compute how many hours he spent in the saddle.

As to his methods when in charge of a case, they appear to have been not unlike those which experienced detectives adopt to-day - always remembering the absence of practically the whole paraphernalia of scientific equipment which is now considered indispensable: find the weak link in the criminal organization - somebody less resolute than the rest, or possibly one with a grievance against the instigators; corner him, induce him to talk about himself, entangle him, and surprise him with evidence not yet known to him; above all, gain his confidence, show that he has been duped by his associates, and lead him to regard the interrogator as a better friend than the rest of the gang. Here was "Button Sahib's" great advantage: he knew the whole diversity of human souls with whom he was dealing, and above all he knew the criminal mind so intimately that, time after time, he would hit upon the man ready to give the game away. The informer soon learnt that he had less to fear from his associates than from the devil-controlling genius who was on their track.

It is true that many rogues went unpunished through turning Queen's Evidence; but the gangs would be broken up, their leaders eliminated, and those who had betrayed them would now be known to the police, their descriptions recorded, and their future activities so circumscribed that law and order were correspondingly ensured.

Certain monetary rewards were granted for the distribution to the police for notable captures, for example 300 rupees for the Rupalon Murder Case; and, as 1000 rupees had been offered for the arrest of Sharf-ud-din, and 400 for that of his associates, they must have received a welcome addition to their pay when it was shared out.

The highest cash reward that I can find which came personally to John Warburton was the khilat of 1500 rupees from the old Maharajah of Patiala just before he died. Mostly he

* I have discounted the absence of the motor-car, since it is now doubtful whether that weapon, in England at all events, is not a greater help to the law-breaker than to the police.

recommended that sums should be paid individually to the most deserving police for their work. Thus, for the Hursowla case of 1871, he suggested the following rewards to the Inspector-General:

Deputy Inspector Deendyall	Rs 100
" " Guffoorulla Shah	" 100
Constable Omadutt	" 50
" Hurnam	" 50
Constables Munguth, Guneshi Singh, Khuzan Shah and Thoongla each Rs 10	" 40
Ramjus, Hoshnak, Hurgobind & Sodda, witnesses, who accompanied the Police to Hissar, and aided them in every way each Rs 15	" 60
	Rs 400

Thus, not only the police but others who assisted them had a claim to compensation, which he estimated accordingly.

Sometimes the public purse would be relieved by the payment of a reward from the party that had suffered. This happened in the case of the Maler Kotla dacoity, in which the Maler Kotla State paid 200 rupees to Ram Singh, the informer. Apart from this, the bill presented to the Inspector - General for private individuals who aided the police ran as follows:

	Rs.
1. Sauth Narayan, Lambardar of Siar	50
2. Dayal Singh, Lambardar of Siar	50
3. Birbal, Patwari of Siar	50
4. Bir Singh, Zamindar of Dehlon	15
5. Mehtab Singh, Zamindar of Dehlon	15
6. Lal Singh, sowar in the Patiala service	25
7. Wariam Singh " " " " " "	25
	Rs.230

This was after the rewards recommended for eleven of the police concerned, which came to 404 rupees.