

FINGERPRINTS

Scotland Yard

Ruxton Trial Revelations

By

GEORGE WILTON WILTON

B.L., EDIN., Q.C. SCOTS BAR :

of The Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law;

Sheriff-Substitute of Lanarkshire: Glasgow and Lanark, 1927-1939.

WITH A RENEWED APPEAL TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
FOR THE DAUGHTERS OF FAULDS

Ex umbra in solem

1957

NORTH BERWICK, SCOTLAND

THE TANTALLON PRESS

PUBLISHERS AND PRINTERS

PRICE

7/6

N.

PRIOR FINGERPRINT PUBLICATIONS :

- 1938 Fingerprints: History, Law and Romance.
- 1951 Fingerprints: Henry Faulds and Scotland Yard.
- 1953 Fingerprint Facts.
- 1955 Fingerprints: Fifty Years of Injustice.



© 1957. G. W. WILTON.

To

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
ISRAEL GONSALEZ CASTELLANOS
Sir SYDNEY (ALFRED) SMITH
Sir PERCY SILLITOE
CYRIL JOHN POLSON
CHARLES, SANNIE¹
JAMES COUPER BRASH
and
JOHN GLAISTER

Blocks by Hislop & Day Ltd., Edinburgh.

¹ Sannie died 29th March 1957

ORDWAY HILTON, M.A.

OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

Ordway Hilton is Police Science Editor of *The Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science*. In respect of the excellence of its varied contributions, it is of world-wide repute.

Throughout the United States, Hilton is well known as an expert on the authenticity or otherwise of questioned documents, coming, as they often do, before civil or criminal Courts, such as will suits, forgery prosecutions, etc. His office, with laboratory, is in New York.

Hilton was appointed in 1938 Document Examiner for Chicago Police Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory. During the Second World War, he acted as a Handwriting Identification Specialist of the Naval Intelligence Service. Secretary of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners and also a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Hilton is a Member of the Academy's Executive Committee.

G. W. W.



ORDWAY HILTON, M.A.
NEW YORK

T. DICKERSON COOKE

T. D. Cooke is Editor of *The Finger Print and Identification Magazine*, circulating from Chicago among all the principal police identification bureaux of the world. From time to time monthly issues have made the position, presented by me, of Faulds as the leading pioneer with the achievements of Hammond in the science of fingerprint identification, widely known in the United States.

Cooke is also Director of the Institute of Applied Science in Chicago. A graduate in Business Administration of Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, he has held various offices in the International Association for Identification.

In pleasant recognition of such great publicity as his magazine affords, it is pleasant to have his portrait among those in my collection. Before 1938 I had enjoyable correspondence with his father, founder of the Institute and the Magazine.

G. W. W.



T. DICKERSON COOKE
CHICAGO



ISRAEL GONSALEZ CASTELLANOS
HAVANA, CUBA

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>Dedication</i>	iii
<i>Frontispiece Notes</i>	iv
<i>Illustrations</i>	
Preface	1
RUXTON TRIAL REVELATIONS :	
Chapter	
I. Hammond's Achievements	9
II. Hammond Meets Battley	10
III. Crown Statements In Trial	11
IV. Faulds-Hammond Technique	12
V. Transparent Camouflage	14
VI. Tributes to Hammond	17
VII. Conclusion	17
ANNEXE :	
Wide Vision of Faulds	21
Hope of His Daughters	21
Renewed Appeal to the British Government for the Daughters of Faulds	22

ILLUSTRATIONS

PORTRAITS

Plate

- I. Hilton, Ordway, and Cooke, T. Dickerson, *Frontispiece*.
- II. John Edgar Hoover.
- III. John Glaister.
- IV. Cyril John Polson.
- V. Sir Percy Sillitoe.
- VI. Sir Sydney (Alfred) Smith.
- VII. Charles Sannié.
- VIII. James Couper Brash.
- IX. August Vollmer.
- X. Juan Vucetich.
- XIII. Ernst Seelig.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Scotsman Article of 5th May 1950, page 1.

Plate

- XI. Right Cadaver Forearm and Hand of Ruxton's Maid.
- XII. Cadaver Prints with Chance Impression of Nommé "P."
- XIV. Mural Tablet: Faulds and Herschel.



Photograph of G.W.W. taken by his eldest son, G.S.W., B.Sc.,
at Whitesands, East Lothian. 15th August 1953. Aet. 90.

FINGERPRINTS

Importance of the Ruxton Case

By SHERIFF WILTON, K.C.

(Author of "Fingerprints: History, Law and Romance")

My 1938 book, arising from my introduction in 1933 to the science, through Scotland Yard experts appearing as prosecution witnesses before me in a Glasgow case, had for its aim the vindication of Dr Henry Faulds, medical missionary in Japan, as the foremost of fingerprint pioneers. Sir William J. Herschel, Bart., had made that clear by disclaiming in 1917 in "Nature" all credit for the suggestion that criminals might be discovered by tracing their fingermarks on crime loci. That was the major conception of Faulds. His minor conception of fingerprint registration for recidivist identification was shared equally with Herschel. Both had independently thought of it and told of their discoveries in "Nature" in 1880. Herschel's disclaimer was missed by students. His "Remarks," containing it, was unindexed. It caught my eye.

Recently I learned that Sir Norman Kendal, Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, and until 1945, chief of the Yard's C.I.D., had published in 1934 an "Adaptation" of a work on "Criminal Investigation," first printed in 1893 by the late Hans Gross of Prague. Kendal's "Adaptation" is a revised edition of prior "Adaptations" by English barristers in Madras. Sir Norman was unaware of Herschel's disclaimer. Otherwise he would never have asserted in his "Adaptation" that Herschel, Galton, and Henry were entitled "above all others" to the credit of originating fingerprint registration and of its developments since 1901 when, under Henry, supported by Galton, the Yard's Fingerprint Bureau was started.

FAULDS IGNORED

Sir John Guest Cumming was also ignorant; otherwise he would have very differently compiled in 1935 the Yard's "Bibliography of Crime Literature" so far as its fingerprint section is concerned. Contributions of Faulds between 1880 and 1923 were excluded from his list. The place of honour was given to Herschel, with his 1880 letter to "Nature" by way of friendly reply to the famous letter by Faulds to that journal the previous month! American bibliographers "starred" Faulds.

Becoming aware of the Yard's sponsorship under the editorship of Kendal's successor, Mr R. M. Howe, of a "Fourth Edition" of the "Gross Adaptation," the disclaimer of Herschel was brought by me to his notice. His publishers replied that he did not agree with my estimation of Faulds and that his "Adaptation" would show no alteration upon Kendal's statements. Now published, it is altogether silent. Readers are not even referred to his predecessor's "Adaptation."

I did not tell Mr Howe's publishers that Herschel's son, the Rev. Sir John C. W. Herschel, Bart., does not approve of the Yard's deliberately ignoring Faulds. Wholeheartedly and, indeed, magnanimously, he approves of the estimate made in my 1938 book of the relative positions in the science of Faulds and Herschel. Dr Heindl, Dr Hoover, Sir Sydney Smith, and many others have noted the distinction of Faulds.

Mr Howe and the Yard differ from me over the paramount importance of the Ruxton case. Through information I have from Dr Hoover and Mr Vollmer, and from consulting American and other books, magazines, and police documents, I have realised that the procedure followed by the Glasgow City Police fingerprint expert in going to Ruxton's Lancaster house in search of "chance" prints of the maid whom Ruxton murdered at the same time as he killed his wife, was an absolutely new approach in fingerprint identification.

RIGHT HAND PROOFS REJECTED

Without relating all details in that new approach, it is sufficient to record that for the purposes of Ruxton's trial and on the advice of the Yard, the Director of Public Prosecutions accepted the fingerprint expert's epidermal "proofs" obtained of the left hand of the maid and rejected his dermal "proofs" of her right hand, treating these as invalid. Sir Percy (then Captain) Sillitoe, as Chief-Constable of Glasgow's City Police, submitted these rejected "proofs" to Dr Hoover. Three of his experts independently examined and certified their identification sufficiently. In good time for Ruxton's trial in March 1936 their findings were made known to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

In the course of Ruxton's trial, judge and jury were told that prints of the maid's left hand were alone available for fingerprint evidence, and that her right hand had been cut away. After Ruxton had been found guilty, Professors Glaister of Glasgow and Brash of Edinburgh, leading medical witnesses for the Crown, made public that they were told it had been found unnecessary to use the right hand "proofs" of the maid as evidence! I know of no British precedent for the procedure adopted by the prosecution.

*"For 'mongst men I see
That justice brings, in time,
All things to light."*

—EURIPIDES.¹

I believe the Glasgow fingerprint expert's search for a victim's "chance" prints was due to a happy inspiration. Mr Howe maintains the technique was not "revolutionary." Dr Hoover tells me that in his experience it was "unique." Before 1935 the only way, as recognised by criminologists in America, by which cadavers could be identified, where their bodies yielded fingerprints, was by finding their counterparts on C.I.D. or other files. Sixty thousand "unknowns"—not all criminals—represent the yearly average of people so interred hitherto in the United States. Since 1943 the Yard and other C.I.D. centres in England have made some striking identifications by cadaver "chance" prints. Faulds, like American and other criminologists, never thought of it.

UNIVERSAL REGISTRATION

Lastly, the Yard is not in accord with the majority of medical jurists, crime experts and others, in regard to the great benefits that would result in so many directions from universal registration—civil and criminal. So far as opinion for the Yard has been officially expressed, annual reports made by Commissioners to the Home Secretary in recent years indicate that the Yard is apathetic—too much of a burden. I do not know the personal views of Sir Harold Scott. Dr Hoover is not deterred in his advocacy of this reform by the vastness of the population of the United States in comparison with that of this country.

THE SCOTSMAN, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1950.

All my monographs of 1951, -53 and -55 derive from this Article. It was written in Broadclyst, a few miles from Exeter, where we were resting in 1950 on our way back to Scotland after nearly ten years absence in South Devon. It appeared in *The Scotsman* as soon as received. Copies of the paper were then posted, among others, to Dr Hoover, Herschel's son (the Rev. Sir John), Sir Percy Sillitoe and Chief Constable A. C. West, Portsmouth. No notice or answer of any kind has been made to it by The Yard in *The Police Journal*, its official organ, or elsewhere. I am indebted to the publishers of *The Scotsman* for their permission to reproduce it.

Looking at it now, its moderation in covering all, or nearly all, the topics in my controversy with The Yard since 1949 amazes me. So many facts coming to my knowledge more than confirm all that is there so briefly mentioned.

This article erred, however, in stating that "Faulds, like American and other criminologists, never thought of it" [i.e. identification by cadaver "chance" prints].

His letter to *Nature* in 1880, which was overlooked, directly bears on the method adopted by Hammond for the identification of the mutilated remains of Mary Jane Rogerson, Ruxton's domestic. After mentioning in that letter that bloody finger-marks might lead to the

scientific identification of criminals (his major conception) and telling of his experience in discovering a delinquent through greasy finger-marks and clearing another person of suspicion in respect his finger-marks did not tally with sooty ones, Faulds observed:—

"Other cases might occur in medico-legal investigations, as when the hands only of some mutilated victim were found."

From the context it is clear that Faulds must have been thinking of the identification of such a victim through resort to the chance finger-marks or impressions of the victim. Search for such impressions can only be made where there is ground for suspecting that the corpse may be of someone with a fixed residence and known to have disappeared. Tramps and gypsies, as Faulds noted in his magazine, when found dead cannot usually be identified, unless, as in some countries abroad where their finger-prints are registered by the police.

The error in the article was due to Faulds making observations in 1923 in one of the three monthly and only issues of his short-lived *Fingerprint Magazine* over the unidentified remains of women found mutilated in Californian canyons.²

Dr Hoover sent me in 1949 an article by Dr Israel Castellanos with a composite anonymous one by members of his staff upon the identification of the dead contributed to the *Federal Investigation Bulletin* in 1935 and 1949 respectively. Both articles pleaded for compulsory universal registration of fingerprints as the only escape, in cases of accident, disease or misadventure, from burial or other disposal of unidentified cadavers as unknown. In his 1935 paper, Dr Castellanos estimated 60,000 cadavers were yearly disposed of in the U.S.A. as unknown.

These two articles proved conclusively up to 1949 that nothing was known in Cuba or the United States of the innovation effected by Hammond in the science of fingerprints for the identification of cadavers except in cases where their fingerprints had been registered as offenders and preserved in police or other special files. It was thus right that interest in Hammond's innovation should be thoroughly awakened. I am deeply indebted to Dr Hoover for enabling me to vindicate Hammond.³

The main text of this monograph is the exposé of facts relating to the way in which the Fingerprint Branch of the C.I.D. of The Yard dealt with the precognition or précis of Hammond's evidence. It was submitted to The Yard for the guidance of the Director of Public Prosecutions in preparation for Ruxton's trial. Resulting unprecedented procedure is traceable to Battley, then in charge of the Fingerprint Bureau. Cherrill, it is suggested, might have kept him right. He was, as his assistant, aware of his ill-advised attitude to Hammond.

The vindication of Faulds as pre-eminent for the part he played in the development of personal identification by means of fingerprints is beyond cavil.⁴ Cherrill's contention that Herschel anticipated his advanced conception it is thought cannot honestly be held by anyone unless, like Cherrill, he disregards the disclaimer of Herschel. That Hammond was a pioneer in giving effect to the intuition of Faulds cannot, it is thought, be gainsaid. On this point, Cherrill has offered his Superiors, I believe, no "considered opinion".

Dr Hoover requested Sir Percy Sillitoe in January 1936 to send to him full particulars of the circumstances attending the crimes of Ruxton and of Hammond's fingerprint investigation work. That request was immediately complied with. But, perhaps, owing to world tension at the time, the attention of Dr Hoover's staff and of police agencies throughout the United States was not directed to their significance until some time after April 1949.

By letter dated 4th October 1949, Sweet & Maxwell Ltd., London, informed me that the Editors (Howe and the four collaborators) of his "Fourth Edition" [*sic*] of "Gross: Criminal Investigation" stated:—

"We think as far as fingerprints are concerned there was nothing revolutionary in the Ruxton Case. After the finding of the remains, the examination of his house for prints of the victims was just ordinary police work and the investigating officers would have been lacking in their duty if they had failed to do this."⁵

It was not just routine police business, as The Yard, on Howe's authority, asserted. It was a revolutionary development and the only one since 1900 in the use of fingerprints at The Yard. The other conception of Faulds over the marks of criminals on crime scenes had gone into practical operation in the nineties.

Cherrill, who had been under Battley in 1935, was the first, I believe, to follow in the trail of Hammond. No acknowledgment has ever been made by Cherrill to Faulds for his conception of such a search or to Hammond for his being the first detective to demonstrate its practicability. See chapter iv. p. 12 *infra*.

Fingerprint experts in other parts of England were not slow in appreciating from such works as "The Trial of Buck Ruxton", "Medico-Legal Aspects of the Ruxton Case" and, may be, "1938" that Hammond provided them with a further method applicable to the identification of cadavers, whether victims of crime or not.

Of the portraits reproduced in this monograph as part of its illustrations, Faulds with Herschel and Vucetich had all passed away before 1933, when fingerprints first attracted my interest. But as my writings disclose I did gain the friendship of Herschel's son and that of the daughters of Faulds. The letters of the Rev. Sir John Herschel record the unreserved satisfaction with which he regarded the complete reconciliation of views between the two families upon the respective positions of their parents in the science of fingerprint identification. See my 1951 and 1953 monographs.

Subject to these observations no one whose portrait appears in my collection can be assumed as pro-Faulds unless my writings clearly show this as fact by the citation of his published statements or in other specified ways. Accordingly, Director Hoover, Dr Castellanos and the late Dr Sannie must be regarded as neutral. Heads of police organisations do not discuss matters in which other administrations, such as The Yard, may involve themselves. Dr Hoover corresponded with Sillitoe in 1936 over the Ruxton Case and with Dr Sannie and Dr Castellanos, provided me later with factual information bearing on Hammond's position in the science.

The indiscretions of Battley, primarily responsible for keeping out

of the Trial of Ruxton, all the evidence of Hammond over the right hand dermal proof of the maid, neither helped nor hurt the defence of Ruxton. Circumstantial evidence was so strong that even fingerprint evidence with its *per se* conclusive value was not essential to his conviction. Justice did not miscarry. No inquiry now would serve any useful purpose.

It is, of course, significant that Cherrill, through his friends Browne and Brock, should in 1954 represent that Hammond's *whole available* evidence was given at the Trial. See chapter v: Transparent Camouflage.

No matter of law is noted in this monograph. Any one interested in law may find the dissertations of Sir Malcolm Hilberry instructive and, specially so, when read along with L.C. Birkenhead's deliverance—as distinct from the judgment—in the Scottish Appeal Case, reported 1921 S.C. (H.L.) 73. That deliverance is not found in the English report L.R. 2, A.C. 68, except by reference in its narrative to W.N. 85 for 1921. It is not cited in English text books on Evidence.

In the course of last year efforts were made to secure some benefit for the daughters of Faulds from the Government by way of increasing in these times of stress their very small income. Their claim is based on their having suffered from "inconsiderate actions" of members of The Yard by unjust reflections upon their father and his work. In December 1956, the Home Secretary then in office, held their claim could not be entertained. The Yard had acted on the "expert" advice of Cherrill. In his "*considered opinion*", Faulds had played *no* decisive part in the development of identification by use of fingerprints. In the appraisal of Cherrill's opinion, no knowledge of fingerprint technique is required. Any intelligent person can deal with the import of letters in clear language, such as are the letters of Faulds and Herschel. But can there be more conclusive confirmation of all disinterested scientific opinion in favour of Faulds than the admission of Herschel himself!

Cherrill has done more harm than any other member of The Yard to the reputation of Faulds. Through the publication in 1954 of three fingerprint books, with which he is closely identified, Herschel is represented as having foreseen all the logical developments to which Faulds adverted in his 1880 *Nature* letter. In none of those three books, of which one is The Yard's, is it disclosed that Herschel in 1917 disclaimed all credit for the conception of such developments. Credit for them was due, Herschel said, to Faulds alone.

It is unusual for anyone described as Cherrill has been, as "scrupulously fair", to withhold vital facts, of which he is well aware, *per se* are decisive of all disputes.

Can the Commissioner of The Yard honourably maintain that, nevertheless, the opinion of Cherrill must still prevail in precluding the Home Office from entertaining all appeals for the so grievously injured daughters of Faulds? The Home Secretary in office in 1956 does not seem to have had his attention drawn to Cherrill's disregard of Herschel's disclaimer.

In these circumstances, steps have been taken for the revision of the December decision by the Home Secretary now in office. The

Annexe sets out all the facts in support of this Appeal. The story is sad.

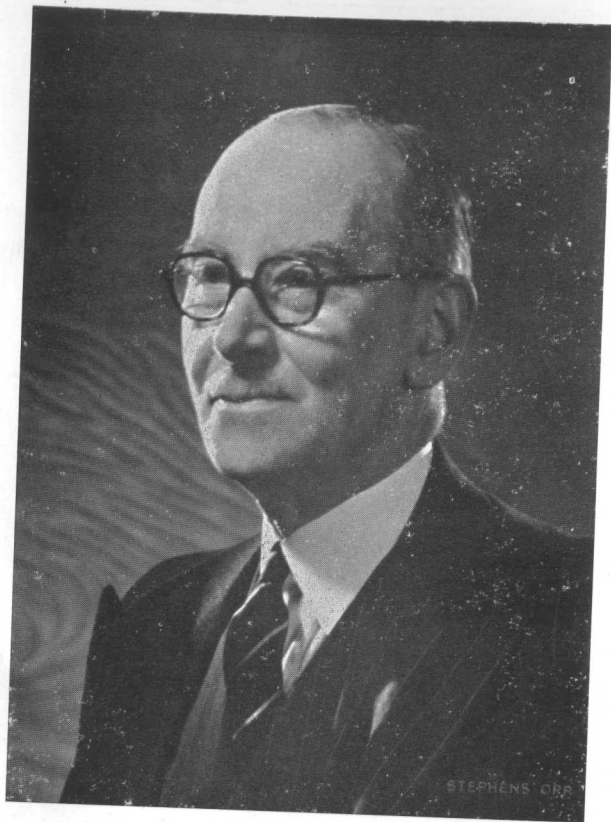
Letters to me from Dr Hoover and Dr Sannie with those from the Reverend Sir John Herschel and some other documents deposited with our National Library may be found of interest to future researchers in their references to the decisive parts in fingerprint science played not only by Faulds but also by Hammond.

G. W. WILTON.

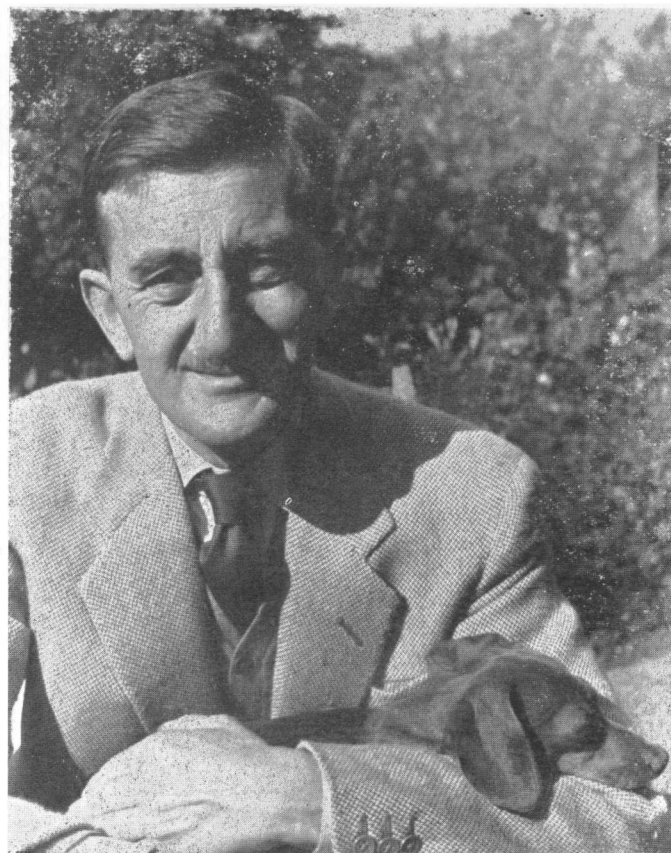
The Royal Bank of Scotland,
(Drummond's Branch),
49 Charing Cross,
London, S.W.1. *July 1957.*



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER



JOHN GLAISTER
*Professor of Medical Jurisprudence,
University of Glasgow*



CYRIL JOHN POLSON
*Professor of Forensic Medicine,
University of Leeds*



SIR PERCY SILLITOE

NOTES

- ¹ The late Gilbert Murray, O.M., in writing to me, said he could not find this quotation, attributed by Harbottle in 1897 to Euripides. It was a common thought, Murray wrote, with Grecian writers. Nevertheless, the Reverend Sir John and I liked it as apt in the circumstances under which my '51 monograph was published. The thought was common to Biblical chroniclers. See Mural Tablet at foot. It seems still apt to facts since 1951.
- ² Faulds stated in that magazine that there was no way short of universal registration of identifying bodies of "unknowns" with no records of their finger-marks filed by the police. He had been dealing, as Editor, with a case of suicide on a railway line in the South of England. Fingerprints, by reference to *The Yard*, revealed that in his youth, he had been convicted of a petty offence. He was known to have been living respectably in Kent, about a hundred miles from where his body was found. No one thought of making a search at his home for his chance fingerprints. Prior to the Ruxton Case in 1935, the reference by Faulds to the identification of mutilated victims escaped the notice of police and others interested in crime investigation. See Udey Chand's Case, '51, p. 16 n.
- ³ Dr Hoover graduated in law before he became in 1924 Director of The Federal Bureau of Investigation. See '51, p. 22. He is an honorary law graduate of many universities and colleges in the United States. Although I refer to him generally as "Dr" Hoover, it is the practice in America to call him either "Mr" or "Director" Hoover.
- ⁴ Faulds is described by other writers as an Englishman. He died as such in law by reason of his not returning to Scotland, his domicile of origin. He settled in England after he left Japan in 1885. He always regarded himself as a Scot.
- ⁵ It is thought that a great opportunity was lost by Howe for putting *The Yard* right in regard to both Faulds and Hammond.

Ruxton Trial Revelations

I

HAMMOND'S ACHIEVEMENTS

How in 1949 I realised that Hammond, an Englishman, in 1935 had initiated the way suggested by Faulds for the identification of dead bodies was first briefly indicated in my 1953 *Fingerprint Facts*, one of three monographs supplementing my 1938 *Fingerprints: History, Law and Romance*. In 1935 Hammond was Superintendent of the Fingerprint Branch of the Criminal Investigation Department of Glasgow's City Police Force.

Further facts, not disclosed in previous writings, are here revealed. Without unnecessary repetition of what is found narrated in these writings, it is essential to set out some previously well-known facts in order that astounding procedure over fingerprint evidence in the Trial of Ruxton may be better appreciated.

Hammond got prints of the ridge characteristics from all fingers of the left hand and palm of Mary Jane Rogerson, Ruxton's maid. Then, as never before by any detective anywhere, he searched for and found on bottles, dishes and other articles in the Ruxton dwelling her corresponding impressions in complete identity with these cadaver left hand prints.

Of a right thumb he found two impressions: one complete on a medicine bottle and the other, partial, on a wash-hand basin. He could not then say these impressions had been made by the maid's right thumb. Her right hand was missing. Her parents' Morecambe dwelling was not searched. She went often there. Impressions of her right hand would no doubt have been found. Vann, Chief Constable of Lancaster, so far as I know, did not suggest that course to Hammond.¹ Hammond says he was sceptical about any success from such a search. It was believed that the right hand would never turn up. That explains why only two chance impressions, in case it did, were taken. After all, one *single* print of a *palm* or of *any finger* is enough for identity purposes when matched in police files, by some other registered mark or with chance impressions of a person, living or dead.

Wife and maid were murdered on 15th September 1935. The maid's right forearm and hand was found on 4th November, 1935, some five weeks after discovery on 29th September, 1935, of so much of her body and of that of Mrs. Ruxton as had been pitched by Ruxton over Moffat Road on to the banks of Gardenholme Linn, Dumfriesshire, by him sometime between 15th and 19th September.

The right forearm and hand was so far advanced in decomposition from weather and action of maggots that the epidermis or surface skin had wholly disappeared with much also of the dermis or under skin. The illustration on Plate xi, due to the courtesy of Sir William Morren,

“You told a lie; an odious, damned lie;
Upon my soul, a lie, a wicked lie.”

Shakespeare's *Othello*, Act V, S.2, L. 180.

late Chief Constable of the City Police of Edinburgh, shows it as photographed on 4th November, 1935, by that Force. Hammond had also photographed it on the same date.²

From the only available part of the under skin of the right hand Hammond, with great skill, obtained a thumb print. This is the dermal print to which reference is made in my 1953 monograph and about which this monograph is so much concerned. The two chance impressions, already mentioned, matched this dermal print: medicine bottle one, completely; wash-hand basin one, only partially.

II

HAMMOND MEETS BATTLEY

In preparation for Committal Proceedings and Trial of Ruxton for the murder of his wife, the Director of Public Prosecutions, through X., one of his staff, was furnished by Hammond with a *précis* or statement (called in England, a "proof"; in Scotland, a "precognition") of his proposed fingerprint evidence on both hands of the maid with explanatory photographic charts. In due course X. submitted all to the Yard. It fell to Battley to consider the same and advise X.³

Hammond was called to London to an interview with Battley on 21st November, 1935. Cherrill was present. Battley, turning down the dermal print, sent Hammond to X. As pre-arranged with Battley, X. requested Hammond to furnish him with a fresh precognition and charts corresponding, *all confined to the left hand*. In my view, this was an improper demand. Hammond was not bound to comply and should not, as he did, have complied. Hammond differs from me on this point. Compliance, however, cannot condone or justify the subsequent conduct of Battley.

On 21st March, 1950, Hammond returned a questionnaire submitted to him in reference to this interview with Battley. His answers and observations, as signed by him on 14th March, 1950, were appended. To the truth he affirmed in statutory form on 18th February, 1952. This document is preserved in the Register of the Books of Council and Session at Edinburgh.⁴

From Hammond's answers to that questionnaire, it appears that Battley said at the interview Hammond could not prove that dermal prints of the right hand would or could be the same as epidermis prints. Hammond retorted, as he states:—

"in no uncertain manner, that it would be a bad job for the fingerprint system if, on removal of the outer skin, the under skin showed a different pattern of ridges. . . . Superintendent Battley asked me what I would do if he sent an Officer to rebut evidence. I told him not to send anyone but to come himself. I should have an answer to his rebutting evidence. Superintendent Battley was very annoyed that an Officer from Scotland should be in 'on the case,' as he expressed it, 'of the century.'"

Owing to his attitude, Hammond states in the document in question:—

"I did not enlighten Mr. Battley as to how they [dermal prints] were done."

Hammond gives his formula in the article he contributed to the American journal. He alludes there to this interview.⁵

Hammond was able to detect the presence of a typist behind a screen in the right hand corner of the room. What an indignity to put upon Hammond! He desired Battley to bring her into his presence. Upon that Battley became alarmingly lurid! Hammond was never offered any civilities—not even a chair—upon his arrival after a midnight journey from Glasgow. He was not a Scot but, unfortunately, a Scots police officer—team spirit!

At the Magisterial Inquiry, at which Hammond was a witness, the Magistrates were told by X., on the information, as I believe, of Battley, that all skin and tissue was, when found, completely removed from the maid's right forearm and hand. Hammond was asked no questions about the right hand.⁶

Hammond's dermal print with medicine bottle chance impression was confirmed by three experts on the staff of Dr. Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington (D.C.). Dr. Hoover's report, as narrated in my 1938 book, was received on 14th February, 1936. Informed next day of this [not mentioned in "1938": not then known], X. telephoned Hammond to send back to him at once the charts he had shown in London, those he had sent to Washington, copy correspondence with Dr. Hoover, and, when received, American experts' charts. Hammond did as desired.

Of this development, Ruxton's solicitor was informed. All the medical experts were also informed.

III

CROWN STATEMENTS IN TRIAL

On 2nd March, 1936, Ruxton's Trial began. Before witnesses were examined and, as I assume, on information supplied through X by Battley, it was asserted by counsel on behalf of the Crown that:—

1. the flesh on the *right* forearm of Mary Jane Rogerson *had been cut away*;
2. she had an operation on her thumb?;
3. it had left a scar going into her flesh;
4. *the hand with that thumb had been cut away*; and
5. from the left hand it had been possible to get fingerprints.

According to the usage of English Courts, Hammond was sworn as a witness on 2nd March to answer truly all such questions as he might be asked. On that date he testified to plans of Ruxton's dwelling and surgery. His evidence on fingerprints was not taken till the ninth day. He was the last witness for the Crown and most important of all *scientific* witnesses in the *conclusive nature* of his fingerprint testimony. His evidence, so far as taken, concerned the left hand only of the maid. The Crown's case was closed with the statement that prints had *only* been got from that hand.

The right forearm and hand was a Court exhibit preserved, by

direction of Professor Brash, in formalin and spirits of wine. Its condition, as found, was the subject in the Trial of much medical examination on both sides.

Hammond, an officer, under discipline, was unable to give or volunteer evidence (unless asked by counsel, jury or judge) upon the right hand of the maid. Hammond had no suspicion of Battley's intentions. This is clear from his actings subsequent to the interview. Battley had no thoughts of Hammond appealing to Director Hoover with a request that the Federal Investigation Bureau experts should examine and report upon his dermal "proofs."⁸

By advice of the Yard, as he himself indiscreetly told me, Battley remains tongue-tied. The present Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Theobald Mathew, was invited by me to obtain explanations from X. for the statements in question made at the Trial. Sir Theobald in reply was courteously non-committal: no admissions and no denials.

It is understood Hammond remonstrated with X. over the request, or, rather command, to withdraw his original statement. Battley was sufficiently skilled and informed to advise X. that, for the purposes of the Crown Prosecution, Hammond had placed it in the position of being able to prove the identity of the remains of the maid in any one of *seven* distinctive and conclusive ways:—

(1) palmar, and (2) to (6) each of the five fingers: all of her left hand, and (7) her dermal right thumb. All are different: non-identical. The only virtue in putting all or more than one print (and of so many chance impressions of each that might have been found in different places) before the Jury lay in the cumulatively dramatic effect upon their minds.

IV.

FAULDS-HAMMOND TECHNIQUE: CIVILIAN IDENTIFICATION.

Hammond's innovation is not confined to the sphere of crime. Cherrill's most notable success by adopting his technique happened in what Cherrill describes as the "Peckham Case." A man, found almost collapsed, was taken to Dorking Hospital in Surrey. Dying there, he was buried as unknown. His clothes were, however, preserved by the police. His cadaver fingerprints were taken. Mrs. "G." in Peckham had expected her husband after months away back at Christmas. Not returning, she apprised local police that he was missing. Surrey police, learning of this, invited her to inspect the clothes. She could not identify them. Cherrill was called in. He searched her dwelling. Her husband's finger marks were found on his T-square! So she, his widow could obtain immediate payment of insurance policy monies.

Cherrill did not acknowledge his indebtedness to Hammond.⁹ I am under the impression that Cherrill is the first detective who benefited from Hammond's innovation in obtaining this success. I have seen nothing in print from the pen of Cherrill that he has made this claim. There appears to me, however, to be no excuse for Cherrill omitting either in the historical part of the Introduction or in the technical text of the Yard's official book of 1954 all recognition of Hammond and of this advancement of the science through Hammond. For all that appears

in that book, nothing is specifically described as new by way of development of the science.

Cherrill was not generally interested in fingerprint investigation in parts of England or Scotland where he was not called in to assist. At Portsmouth, for instance, of which A. C. West is Chief Constable, a naval rating drowned himself in the harbour there. He could not be identified through police files. West consulted Colin Campbell of Preston. His services are frequently requested all over the country outside the Yard's area. He searched the rating's Lancashire home and found in a back yard his finger impressions on a tool there. It was identical with his cadaver fingerprints.

The Peckham Case was followed by a very remarkable identification in 1947, effected by Campbell, with the aid of George A. Maclean of Glasgow, successor there of Hammond. The torso of a body, bereft of head, legs and arms, except one arm with two fingers left, was found washed up on the Lancashire coast. Rumour claimed it as the body of a young Glasgow R.A.F. pilot. Campbell, going to Glasgow on other business, requested Maclean to make a search in his place at the house of the pilot's parents. Maclean found in his bedroom two casual prints on the negative of one of his photographic films identical with the prints obtained from the two fingers of the cadaver. It is understood his plane was broken up with all trace gone. So it could not be examined for fingerprint marks. The evidence of Maclean satisfied the Coroner about the identity of the pilot. The "remains" were then buried as his. The pilot's parents could thus claim whatever was due in respect of his death and vouch their title to any property left by him. Both Campbell and Maclean share the credit for this civilian identification.

Cherrill and Campbell in the forties both procured identification of crime victims through discovery of their chance impressions in agreement with their cadaver prints. In 1943 Cherrill found a finger mark in the house of Mrs. Manton upon a pickle bottle. She was murdered by her husband and her body put into a sack. He threw the sack into the River Lea at Luton. The chance impression was identical with her cadaver print. Manton confessed. He was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to death but reprieved. In 1945 a woman's body was discovered partly buried near Red Wharfe Bay, Anglesey. Believed to have lived in a bungalow near that spot, Campbell searched there and found her chance impression on a Veronita bottle. Nettleton, her husband, was charged with her murder and found guilty of manslaughter.

Since his retirement Cherrill has publicly mentioned that the Fingerprint Branch of the Yard's C.I.D. has been receiving diminishing requests from other than metropolitan districts for its services. There are forensic laboratories in various parts of England other than the North-Western at Hutton, near Preston.

V.

TRANSPARENT CAMOUFLAGE.

Before passing to the way in which Browne and Brock, under Cherrill's supervision, handled the results of Hammond's identification of the body of Ruxton's maid as alleged by them to have been given at the trial, it is interesting to examine briefly what two writers tell us, or, rather, do not tell us. One wrote immediately after Battley's *All About Fingerprints* had appeared.¹⁰ The publication of the other did not appear until 1948.

Up to the publication of the present monograph, no notice of any irregularity in the Trial of Ruxton is discoverable in any publication made under the authority or patronage of the Yard or, indeed, in any text book on medical jurisprudence, police science or otherwise dealing with crime, except in my 1953 monograph.

The first suggestion of interest in Hammond's work came from Vann. It is found in his Article on *Rex v. Ruxton* in *The Police Journal* for October, 1936, where "knowing the case so intimately," he observes that Hammond and his assistant:—

"powdered every single article from the lamp shades in the top bedroom to the medical bottles in the basement. . . . Their diligence [not Hammond's skill!] won universal admiration."¹¹ (My interpolation and italics.)

No mention is made of Hammond's achievement over the maid's right thumb. Nor does Vann own that he had never heard of such a search as Hammond made. He did, however, allow that the left fingerprint part of the evidence as alone given by Hammond at the Trial was "the most damning of all."

No reference would have been made in this monograph to the 1948 publication by Firmin, entitled *Scotland Yard: The Inside Story*, but for these facts:—

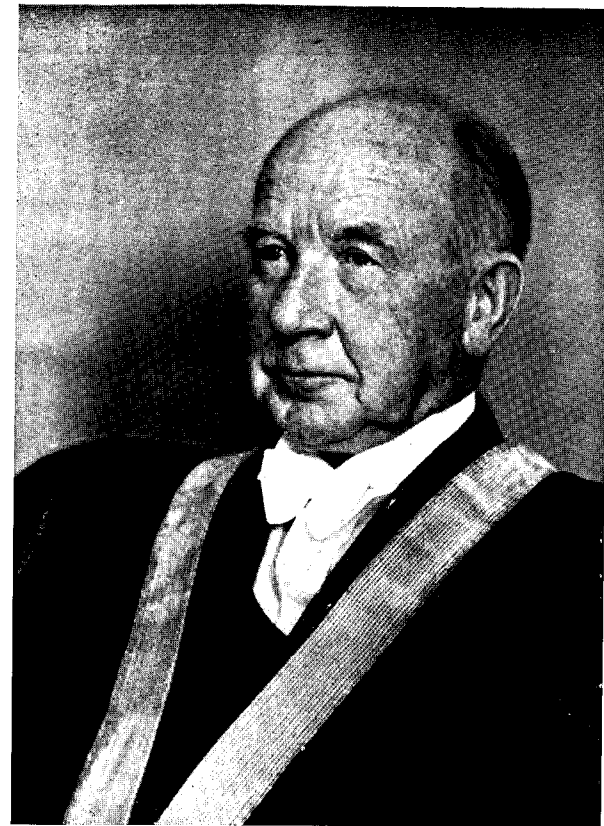
- (1) that—as he states categorically—the Yard was not called in at all to deal with the Ruxton Case; and
- (2) that inaccurate statement, coming in 1949 to my knowledge, moved me anew to research.

Firmin, describing himself as "Correspondent to *The Daily Telegraph*: accredited to Scotland Yard," professes to be highly trained and fully experienced in the getting of facts and the writing of crime stories. He writes of the Ruxton case as "classic" in the annals of British crime.

Two points, on which he dwells in his account of what he calls the Ruxton "murder mystery," need only be noticed.

The Police, he says, had absolutely not the slightest clue as to who the murdered women were. He could not "glean" that "fact" in the *Trial of Buck Ruxton*. Besides clothing and other clues, he omits to mention what is so well known that the police, before Ruxton was formally charged, were in possession in October, 1935, of Hammond's "proofs" of the cadaver prints and chance impressions of the maid's left hand.

In these circumstances—no clues—the identification of Mrs. Ruxton and the maid was, according to this writer, secured in this previously



SIR SYDNEY SMITH



CHARLES SANNIE



JAMES COUPER BRASH
*Emeritus Professor of Anatomy,
University of Edinburgh*



AUGUST VOLLMER

Plate IX

unheard of way. Scientists (meaning medical men), drawn from Glasgow and Edinburgh, he declares, pieced fragments of flesh and bone together and produced "photographic reconstructions" of how they thought these two dismembered women must have looked in life! Relatives of each victim were shown the pictures, he says, recognised them and were able to give the necessary evidence of identification for Ruxton being charged. No facts support what he calls "this wizardry" of scientists.¹²

It is no surprise to find that this author confesses, p. 8, that he is no writer of fiction! He was asked for but declined to give the source of the information on which his account of the Case is based.

So soon as Firmin's account of the case was considered, Dr. Hoover was consulted with the result that, as monograph 1953 discloses, the position of Hammond as a pioneer was immediately recognised. My contribution of 5th May, 1950, to *The Scotsman* followed.

Professor Polson of Leeds University in his *Fingerprints and Finger Printing: An Historical Study*, contributed in 1950 to the *American Journal of Criminal Law*, etc., *supra*, noted Hammond as the first detective to search for chance impressions of a victim of murder, basing this information on communications from Professor Glaister and myself. Later, it will be seen how Polson's statement has been accepted as a scientific fact by Hilton, Police Science Editor of that Journal.

Cherrill, becoming a freelance in February, 1953, does not come into association with the Ruxton Case in public print until 1954. Browne and Brock published their book in February, 1954. One of its main designs through Cherrill's association with the authors was clearly to exalt Herschel and to degrade and even, if they could do so, obliterate Faulds.¹³

Cherrill is cognisant of the writings of Battley and Firmin and knows a good deal of the treatment to which Hammond was subjected by Battley. He is also familiar, from what the *Trial of Buck Ruxton* narrates, with the statements made by Crown Counsel in opening and closing the case against Ruxton.

Associating himself with Browne and Brock in bringing out their book, both he and they found themselves in a dilemma. Could such a case as the Ruxton Affair be left out of their *History*. It was a case out of the common in regard to the method of identification of the bodies of the victims. But then, was there not something unusual about the manner in which Hammond's available evidence was only partially disclosed in the Trial? Would that side of the story have to be told? The dilemma was resolved by allowing readers to understand that there was never any difficulty with regard to what use should have been made of Hammond's "proofs." Their book discloses that the whole of his evidence on both hands had been placed before the Judge and the Jury!

This presentation was thus accomplished. Dealing with the evidence of Hammond, it is observed from their book, p. 125, that all prints from the left hand of Body No. 1 [the maid's] :—

"showed more than the eight points of agreement. Lieutenant Hammond, in his evidence at the Trial gave this as the minimum he usually required."

Then, p. 126, it is stated :—

(1) Hammond also found in the house numerous [not correct — only

- two] impressions from a right hand which he could not at first identify;
- (2) the right forearm and hand was discovered on 4th November;
 - (3) through decomposition, the epidermis or cuticle, the outer skin of the fingers, was destroyed;
 - (4) nevertheless he was able to take a direct photograph of the dermis of that thumb;
 - (5) its exposed surface showed characteristic ridges identical with those of ordinary fingerprints but less sharply defined; and
 - (6) sixteen ridge characteristics agreed with imprints of the thumb, previously unidentified, on a bottle and [inaccurately — only nine] on a wash-hand basin in the maid's bedroom.

It is submitted up to this point that Cherrill and the Authors clearly meant readers to understand that all these six points (numbered by me) were part of Hammond's evidence *as given at the Trial*.

The next paragraph begins thus:—

"It was, therefore, beyond doubt that Body No. 1 was that of Mary Jane Rogerson."¹⁴

At the bottom of page 126 Browne and Brock say:—

"But this is a book about fingerprints and though Lieutenant Hammond's *testimony at the trial* takes up [in *Trial of Buck Ruxton*] only five pages out of 292 devoted to a transcript of that evidence as a whole it will be enough here to indicate very briefly [the rest of other evidence; (*The Trial of Buck Ruxton* being cited) my italics and interpolations].

Browne, Brock and Cherrill all know that no such evidence as stated was given and that pp. 196 to 201 (both inclusive) of the transcript as recorded in the *Trial* are confined to the left hand.

They also know that *The Medico-Legal Aspects of the Ruxton Case* and my "1938" *History* state definitely that the dermal right hand prints had *not* been used.

Further, all three know that the *Trial of Buck Ruxton* discloses why. On pp. 15 and 294 they could read both the opening and the closing speeches of Counsel for the Prosecution. Cherrill is clearly a party to this misrepresentation of Hammond's testimony as alleged to have been given *at the Trial*.

What was their motive? Was not the right course for Cherrill and his friends to see that the *Trial* evidence at least was correctly stated?

The Yard, according to the Home Secretary in office in December, 1956, has been guided by Cherrill in regard to "the decisive parts" played in the science by Faulds and Herschel; and apparently that Home Secretary had no alternative but to do the same! So far as appears, members of the High Command have taken no steps by way of dissociating the Yard from the actions of Cherrill as its official scribe in his concealing from its 1954 book all knowledge of Herschel's disclaimer and of the proposition of Faulds over the identification of crime victims as well as of making no mention of Hammond's achievements. The Commissioner (if he did not already know from the 1955 monograph) knows now from the Annexé all that has been there disclosed as to Cherrill's participation in the publication of Browne and Brock: all of whose tales he vouches as true.¹⁵

Is there no way in which the Yard can put itself right in regard to Hammond?

It seems somewhat apt to Battley's activities to recall the thought of Scott:—

*"Oh what a tangled web we weave,
When first we practise to deceive."*

Scott's *Marmion*, Cxvi, l.178.

VI.

TRIBUTES TO HAMMOND.

In the *Essentials of Forensic Jurisprudence*, published in 1955, Polson observes, p. 100, that for the first identification of a cadaver credit goes to Hammond.¹⁶ The Professor refers to Hammond's obtaining chance impressions matching a "dermal" print. This was, however, an achievement within his main achievement in the general search for such impressions. Before 1935 cadavers not known on police files were, as explained in the text, buried as unknown.

My review of Howe's *Gross*, along with the article by Hammond on *The Ruxton Murders*, and Polson's *Historical Study*, all contributed to that American *Journal*, enabled Hilton, as its Police Science Editor, to affirm that:—

"The technique employed in this case of identifying the dismembered fragments of a body by means of fingerprints are unique and represent a new mode of procedure which had not been undertaken in any criminal investigation prior to this time." Vol. p.805, 1952.

Hilton's pronouncement is the first authoritative statement made in the United States in confirmation of the fact, deduced in 1949, from the information then vouchsafed to me by Dr. Hoover. Inevitably, such recognition of Hammond reflects on the relative intuition of Faulds.

VII.

CONCLUSION.

The Commissioner, Nott-Bower, in his Foreword to Cherrill's Introduction to the 1954 book of the Yard, refers to Cherrill as competent to write about all the developments in the science during the jubilee period covered by that book. Hammond's development, the only one of any importance, although imperfectly described in the technical part, is not acknowledged as due to him. The Yard has always been professedly receptive to team work. The Ruxton Case, however, discloses an instance, where in this respect it lamentably failed.

Renewing correspondence towards the end of 1949 with Professor Charles Sannicé, Director of the *Service de l'Identité Judiciaire* in Paris and its Prefect of Police, he directed a search in his archives for any records of fingerprint identifications obtained according to the

Faulds-Hammond technique of the Ruxton Case. It so happened that the only instance that was known to him in a two months' research was, as Sannié stated in his letter to me, of 7th December, 1949, one "*tout récent*." Of this case he sent *un exposé détaillé*.

"P," a resident guest in a Paris hotel and a known roué, suddenly disappeared. After some three days' absence, the hotel proprietor informed the *Préfecture*. The *Service* intervened and inspected "P's" bedroom. A wine glass reposed on his table. The Police found thereon an impression of his left index finger. Suspicion for his supposed death attached to a woman who had lived in the hotel as his mistress. She had deserted him for an Algerian. That man was also suspected. Both were able to account for all their movements to the complete satisfaction of the Identity Bureau.

Some three weeks after his disappearance, "P's" body was recovered from a canal not far distant from the hotel. All ten fingers were obtainable. The wine glass impression tallied with the left cadaver index finger. It was clear that he had fallen accidentally into the canal.¹⁷

The Yard has been very apathetic over the desire of many in Britain to see established compulsory fingerprint registration for all its inhabitants. My 1938 book shows that distinguished men have for long advocated this reform. Galton wanted young children to be registered. So has Sir Sydney Smith. The Reverend Sir John Herschel thought, indeed, he was the first person in Britain to advocate universal registration. He saw at once, however, on my letting him know how matters actually stood, that the use of fingerprints was just another illustration of more than one man leaping to some new idea, as *e.g.* Newton and Leibnitz, Darwin and Wallace, etc., each independently of the other. Universal registration has not yet been accomplished for all the States of the Union in Northern America. It is extensively in operation in most South American countries. Canada, like Britain, is slow in its movement towards such a step. The Faulds-Hammond technique can only cover very few civilian identification cases.

Vollmer told me how Berkeley, the capital State of California, had voluntarily started fingerprint registration, I think, in 1937 for all its citizens. In some States, any one may enter a police station and desire that his or her fingerprints or their children's may be taken. They receive a set to keep, the State receives a duplicate; another is transmitted to Washington, D.C., for filing with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. So, some "unknowns," to the relief of their relatives at least, may escape disposal without identification.

Perhaps the apathetic attitude of the Yard is explained by what Sir Philip Game, when Commissioner in 1936 stated in his Annual Report to his Chief, the Home Secretary, and laid before Parliament.¹⁸ This is it:—

"That in America, where there is less confusion of thought on this point, a movement is on foot which has already received much public support for extending the fingerprint system to any body who will come forward, the idea being that a collection which included records of a large proportion of the population would be of great use in identifying missing persons, dead bodies, and so on.

"There is, so far as I know, no intention of starting such a

collection in this country, and those who are responsible for the central collection in London *do their utmost* to keep it as small as possible." (My italics.)

NOTES.

- 1 See Chapter V.
- 2 See '38 p. 194; Hammond's block has been lost.
- 3 The Director, then Sir Tindal Atkinson, was not personally connected with the conduct of the Case.
- 4 Hammond tells me he made a slip in answering the questionnaire by stating that other detectives were present at the interview.
- 5 It seems unnecessary now to reproduce Hammond's article and my Review of Howe's book. See *Fingerprint Facts*, '53, p. 20.
- 6 In the article contributed by Hammond to the American journal, Hammond refers to Battley's attitude over dermal prints. His ignorance of the physiological structure of skin tissue is clear.
- 7 This operation may refer to a whitlow that had been at the base of the thumb: *not at the tip*. See *Trial of Buck Ruxton*, pp. 144 et 174.
- 8 No such interference by Battley with Hammond's original statement was in my mind. Consequently, no questions were put to Hammond in my questionnaire arranged before I knew of or realised the import of Battley's actions.
- 9 See *Cherrill of the Yard*, p. 115 et seq.
- 10 See *Fingerprint Facts*, '53, p. 16, with nothing about Faulds or the Ruxton Case from Battley!
- 11 See Vol. X., p. 325 and Vol. XI., p. 413. See the reference to the Lancaster Chief Constable promoted to Maidstone and now in Cheshire. Chap. I., p. 9 *supra*.
- 12 A photograph of Cherrill is one of the illustrations in Firmin's book. "According to him, Cherrill is a remarkable man and 'scrupulously fair.'"
- 13 See '55 monograph, *passim*. No doubt all three counted by so doing upon increasing the Yard's prestige.
- 14 On this matter, scientifically, they are correct, as doubtless Cherrill told them. Fingerprints *per se* are conclusive. No other corroboration is needed for conviction. All medical text book writers do not appreciate this.
- 15 See also '55 monograph, p. 10 et seq.
- 16 This should be qualified. Identification was effected in Egypt in the twenties by Sir Sydney Smith matching a dermal print with a registered print. See '38 n. 22, p. 200 I believe, however, that Polson is the only medical jurist who has called attention to this particular feat of Hammond. He mentioned the general search in his *Historical Study of Fingerprints and Fingerprinting* in the American Journal of 1950.
Here is the opportunity to correct information in my 1938 book concerning *L'Affaire Scheffer*. Locard of Lyons claimed for that city that in 1910 a conviction for serious crime upon the evidence of fingerprints alone had been obtained. Dr. Sannié has proved by an article contributed to *Revue** that Bertillon must be credited with this distinction not only for Paris and France but also for the world. It is ironical that this credit should fall of all men to Bertillon. He told Faulds that fingerprints were taboo to him. There is, however, no doubt about it. In 1902 Bertillon was using *Dactylotechnie* as an adjunct to his cumbersome system of measurements, etc. Scheffer was convicted of some minor offence in March of that year. His fingerprints were recorded. Reibel, a dentist's servant, in October, 1902, was found murdered in his employer's house. On the glass door of a cabinet in the dentist's drawing-room fingerprints were found. No suspicion attached to Scheffer. Checking these with those registered in March, 1902, Scheffer's identity, however, was revealed. Arrested in Marseilles and faced with his fingerprints, he admitted his guilt. sentence hard labour; his victim, being a man equally dissolute, the French compassionate verdict is explained. A reprint of Sannié's article, partly in English, will be deposited in our National Library. Here is also the opportunity to answer criticism by Glasgow Police of the day upon my observations on the Slater Case in "1938," p. 164, to the effect that Scottish Judges did not accept fingerprint evidence. That criticism is not well-founded in fact, but, even on such assumption, the Police in their own interest were ill-advised in neglecting to take chance impressions of the criminal. Such, if taken, would have conclusively proved Slater's innocence or guilt. The statement in *Fingerprint Facts*, p. 10, that Herschel's *Hooghly Letter* gave rise to Fingerprint Registration Bureaux all over the world should be qualified. That letter was not published until 1894. It seems proper to attribute the rise of Bureaux to the publication of the Letters of both pioneers to *Nature* in October and November, 1880.
- 17 The Inquest Police document will be deposited with the National Library. See Plate xii.
- 18 See his Report for 1936, p. 11.

* *Internationale De Police Criminelle*, 1950, tom. 41, p. 255.

WIDE VISION OF FAULDS

"ON THE SKIN FURROWS OF THE HAND"

In looking over some specimens of 'pre-historic' pottery found in Japan. I was led, about a year ago, to give some attention to the character of certain finger-marks which had been made on them while the clay was still soft . . . a comparison of such finger-tip impressions made in recent pottery led me to observe the character of the skin-furrows in human fingers generally.

A large number of nature-prints have been taken by me from the fingers of people in Japan and I am present collecting others from different nationalities, which I hope may aid students of ethnology in classification.

I can imagine that the careful study of these patterns may be useful in several ways.

3. If so, those which are found in ancient pottery may become of immense historical importance.

4. The fingers of mummies, by special preparation, may yield results for comparison . . .

5. When bloody finger-marks or impressions on clay, glass, etc., exist, they may lead to the scientific identification of criminals. Already I have had experience in two such cases. In one case greasy finger-marks revealed who had been drinking some rectified spirit . . . In another case sooty finger-marks of a person climbing a white wall were of great use as negative evidence. Other cases might occur in medico-legal investigations, as when the hands only of some mutilated victim were found.

I have heard, since coming to these general conclusions by original and patient experiment that the Chinese criminals from early times have been made to give the impression of their fingers, just as we make ours yield their photographs.

There can be no doubt as to the advantage of having, besides photographs, a nature-copy of the forever-unchangeable finger-furrows of important criminals."

HOPE OF HIS DAUGHTERS

We look forward hopefully to the insertion on one of the walls of the entrance hall to New Scotland Yard of a plaque in bronze with medallion in memory of our Father as soon as, with the approval of the Home Secretary, permission therefor is given by the Commissioner—Who will he be? Grace thus meeting with grace, nothing but what appears within the asterisks will there appear: All other matter now shown disappearing with our forgiveness.²

A. C. F.

I. J. F.

WOLSTANTON. May 1956.

ANNEXE

RENEWED APPEAL TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
FOR
THE DAUGHTERS OF FAULDS.

RENEWED APPEAL TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
FOR
THE DAUGHTERS OF FAULDS

*But hard be hard'nd, blind be blinded more,
That they may stumble on, and deeper fall.*

MILTON'S *Paradise Lost*. III. L. 200

The Mural Tablet or Memorial Tombstone to the memory of Faulds, as reproduced in this Annexe, was a prominent, and perhaps, an unusual feature in the printed Appeal to the Government lodged in July 1956, with the Premier's Private Secretary ("P.P.S." hereafter) for aid to his daughters. Their position is altogether different from normal supplicants for Crown grants from funds set apart for prescribed awards. They have suffered from "inconsiderate actions of Government servants" over their father's claim to recognition for his scientific services. All members of The Metropolitan Police Force (as with the Postal Service) are Crown servants.

The Tablet summarises the ill-considered attitude to Faulds of High Command Officials of The Yard for more than fifty years; enshrines the kindly thought and feeling of the Herschels for his daughters; acknowledges the tributes paid to his work by impartial writers; and records that two Government grants were made to them in 1933 and 1952 respectively in express recognition of his work. Prematurely, if not deservedly, it immortalises Cherrill. His recent actions, much more than merely inconsiderate, are the climax in that long period of injustice.¹

The Appeal came in November 1956 before The Home Secretary, then Mr G. Lloyd George (now Lord Tenby). On 18th December 1956, it was officially intimated that he had been unable to entertain it. To two Members of Parliament, interesting themselves in the Appeal, the Home Secretary sent a letter in terms as follows:—

“ Whitehall,
London, S.W.1.
20th December 1956.

Dear Swingler,

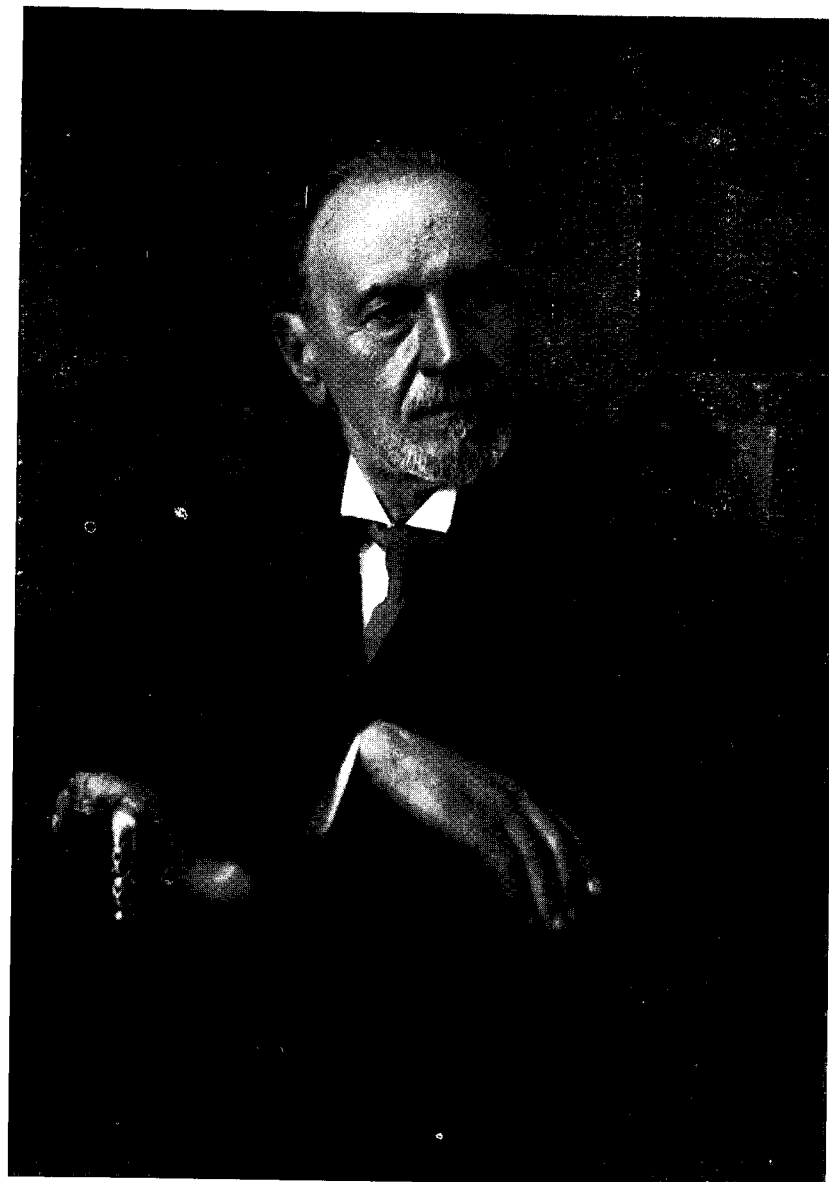
You sent to me on the 26th November the enclosed documents from Mr G. W. Wilton, Q.C., about the late Dr Faulds. The claim that Dr Faulds played a decisive part in the development of identification by use of fingerprints was made by Faulds himself for many years before his death, and has since been put forward on numerous occasions.² I can only say that the considered opinion of successive generations of experts in this field at Scotland Yard has been in consistent disagreement with this claim and my predecessors have been unable to take any action in relation to it.

I am sorry that I have been unable to find any grounds which would justify my taking any other views.

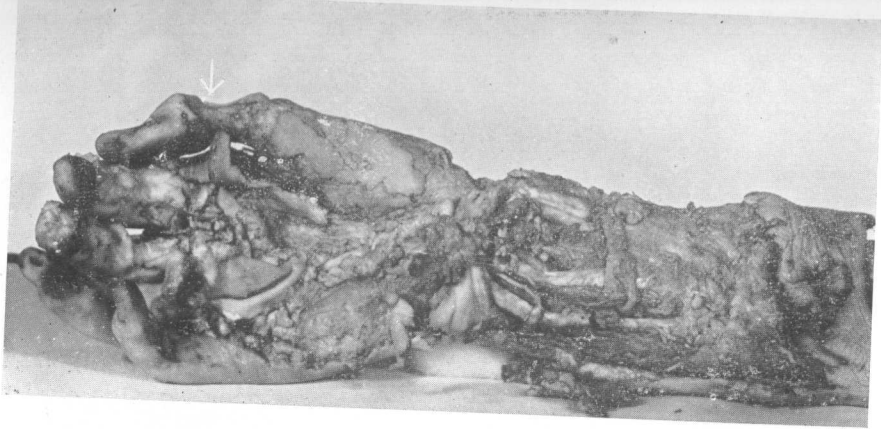
Yours sincerely,

Stephen Swingler, Esq., M.P.”³

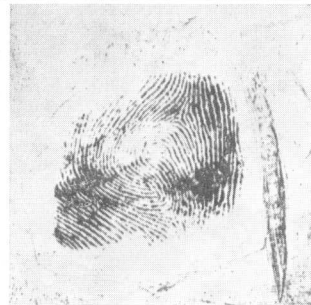
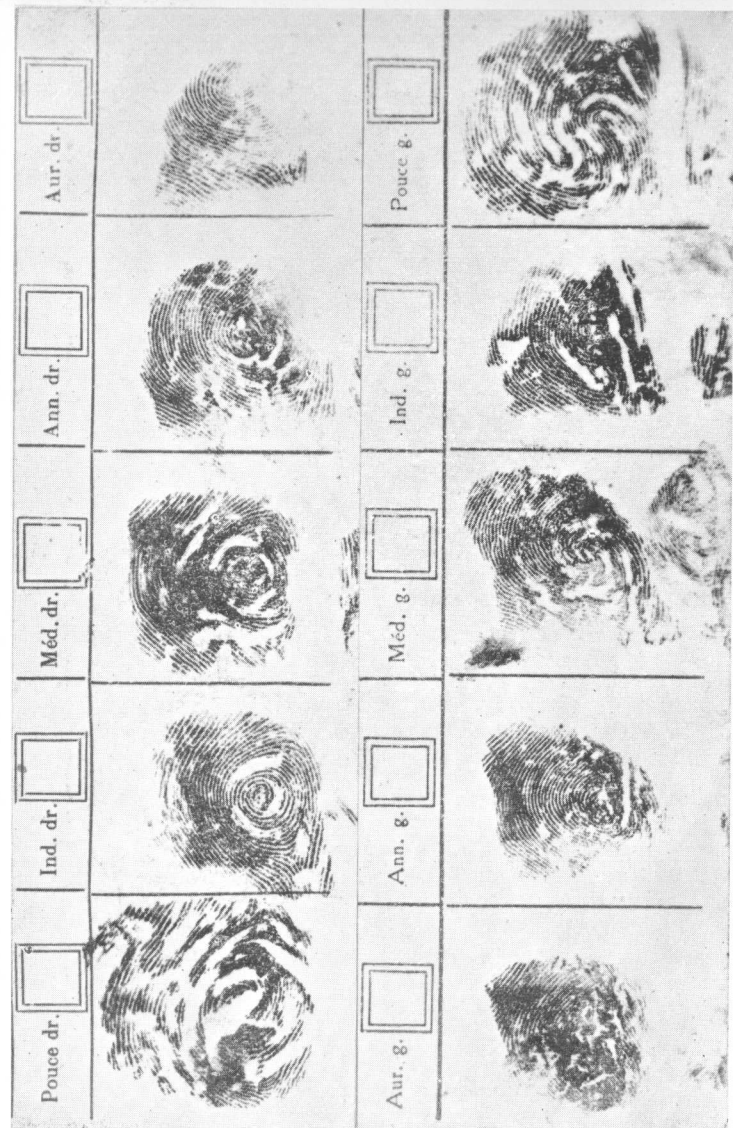
G. LLOYD GEORGE.



JUAN VUCETICH



The right forearm and hand of Mary Jane Rogerson
 White arrow indicates where flesh came off in attempt to take inked impression
 See Hammond's Article in *American Journal*.



CADAVER PRINTS WITH CHANCE IMPRESSION OF NOMME "P."

Plate XII.



ERNST SEELIG

Plate XIII,

On 4th March 1957 the Home Office advised that the last of these "successive generations of experts" is Cherrill and that his "considered opinion" reposes in the historical "Introduction" to "The Finger Print System at Scotland Yard" (called Book I hereafter), written by him on special commission for The Yard. Book I was published on 13th April 1954.

Mr Swingler put the following Question in writing to The Secretary of State for The Home Department, now Mr R. A. Butler :—

"What inquiries have been made in his Department into the claim made by, and on behalf of, the late Mr Henry Faulds to have played a decisive part in the development of identification by fingerprints and with what results?"

In name of Mr R. A. Butler, this written Answer was returned on 4th April 1957 :—

"The claims made on behalf of Dr Faulds have been examined on numerous occasions since 1910 in the light of the records of Sir William Herschel who began his work in 1859 and the records of New Scotland Yard since 1901, when a system of fingerprint classification was introduced. The inquiries have disclosed no further information in support of the claims of Dr Faulds."⁴

It is significant that The Home Office found nothing after 1910. The declaration by Herschel in 1917 was obviously not drawn to its attention. There was no need to go to the records of The Yard or of Herschel. Pointed reference is made to it more than once in the printed Appeal with its full quotation on the left panel of the Tablet. It does support, and in fact, by implication, admits the claim made by Faulds.

Book I has to be considered in the light of another book, entitled "Fingerprints: Fifty Years of Scientific Crime Detection (called hereafter Book II) by Browne and Brock. Cherrill writes the Foreword. It was published on 8th February 1954, a few weeks before Book I.

From both these Books, with Cherrill's approval, Herschel's declaration in favour of Faulds is omitted. That omission, for which there is no excuse, leads to other transgressions on his part.

Herschel never thought of that conception of Faulds set out in the same clause, No. 5, of his 1880 Letter to *Nature*. See "Wide Vision of Faulds," p. 21. Little attention has been paid to it by police scientists and other savants :—

"Other cases might occur in medico-legal investigations, as when the *hands only of some mutilated victim* were found" (my italics)."

This seems prophetic of and has a direct bearing on the Ruxton case. Hammond sought for chance impressions of one of Ruxton's two *victims*. Her *hands* were found.

No mention of this conception of Faulds is made either in Book I or Book II, with both of which Cherrill is so closely identified. All three individuals are caught napping. It follows from what Browne and Brock assert in Book II, with the approval of Cherrill (see p. 26 *infra*), that this conception over chance impressions of dead persons.

like the other affecting living criminals, would have been just one of the logical developments in natural sequence, arising out of the suggested registration use of fingerprints of which Herschel had full appreciation but unfortunately did not disclose in public print.

It might have been so in fact. But no writers of repute would honestly record such as even probable with the knowledge in their possession of Herschel's disclaimer of all credit for such logical developments: for one, in express words and for the other, by clear implication.

After the publication of "Fingerprints: Fifty Years of Injustice," disclosing the part played by Cherrill and his friends in Books I and II it was expected that The Yard would withdraw Book I from further sale, or at least express, through *The Police Journal*, its regret that Herschel's declaration had been omitted from the "Introduction".⁵

In January 1957 the daughters of Faulds lodged an application with the P.P.S. for Civil List Annuities: based on the same grounds as were contained in their 1952 Application. There they were set forth as follows:—

"It is now indisputable, *pace* Sir Francis Galton [Cherrill not erupting until after 1952] that Faulds is the leading pioneer in this science of fingerprint identification and alone entitled to the honour of being the first to conceive of and publish the means by which criminals might be brought to justice through finger impressions on scenes of their crimes, and being also the first to foresee that innocence might be proved through the use of fingerprints in the case of persons wrongly accused.

The late Sir William James Herschel, Bart., in his disclaimer in *Nature* of 1917 freely conceded all this.

This proposition is stated in terms that were specifically approved of by the late Reverend Sir John C. W. Herschel, Bart., son of Sir William, as witness "Fingerprints: Scotland Yard and Henry Faulds", W. Green & Son Ltd., Edinburgh, 1951.

The major conception, so stated, of Faulds has been acknowledged by New Scotland Yard from 1901 onwards as furnishing its C.I.D. with its most powerful instrument in aid of the administration of justice. All its "spectacular successes" have been acclaimed by The Yard as due to that conception.⁶

No honour has been paid by The Yard to Faulds. His name has not only been omitted from all C.I.D. literature but it has been repudiated by officials of The Yard in Reports to The Home Secretary and otherwise.

In further support of the claim of Faulds to pre-eminence, the Applicants cite:—

- (1) Authorities mentioned in "Fingerprints: History, Law and Romance", published in 1938 by William Hodge & Co. Ltd., Glasgow, viz. Otto Schlagenhaufen, Switzerland, Tighe Hopkins Charles Ainsworth Mitchell and Sir Sydney Smith, England and Bent Wentworth, Harris Hawthorne Wilder, and John Edgar Hoover, all of the United States of America.

- (2) By Authorities, all American, cited in "Fingerprints: Scotland Yard and Henry Faulds", viz. C. E. Chapel, Harold Cummins and Charles Midlo; and
- (3) Cyril John Polson, M.D., F.R.C.P., Barrister-at-Law and Professor of Forensic Medicine at the University of Leeds, by his "Historical Study" in the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* of North Western University, Chicago, U.S.A., in November to February, 1950-51 issues.

Grounds are set forth at length in Application dated 11th January 1952, and for brevity's sake are herein held as repeated. Further authorities in publications since that date are cited in Appeal to the Government, dated July 1956, particularly noted pp. 2, 3, 6 and 7 per print herewith.⁷

The Home Secretary (now Lord Tenby), Executive Head of New Scotland Yard, has informed me that he is unable to entertain that Appeal based on the "inconsiderate actions" of Government officials. The Yard adheres to its attitude as stated in the Application of 11th January 1952."

Both applications with unusual candour informed the P.M.'s Department that The Yard repudiated Faulds.

That Application was also not entertained; for reasons unconnected with Faulds. Inquiring by letter of 7th March 1957, whether any grant from the Royal Bounty Fund was to be offered, as was (though not applied for) made in 1952, the reply, dated 11th March 1957, of the P.P.S. (for the first time marked "Confidential") stated, among other matters, that a secrecy rule, under which grants are made from that fund, had not been respected in letters to Members of Parliament.⁸

Before the P.P.S. made this decision for the P.M.'s approval, no opportunity was offered for explanation, justifying disclosure. The Applicants were also not allowed to explain how they were to be considered as rightly in need of aid, despite their not having spent the 1952 grants: saving against age contingencies. So far as Faulds is concerned the Applicants are amply justified in disclosing the 1952 grant. It is well that in the interests of justice, the archives of the P.M.'s Department furnish evidence so strong in proof of the Government's recognition of Faulds. The declaration of Herschel was treated by that Department as one of the main grounds in assessing his position.

Cherrill proves to be one of The Government's servants, by whose "actions" the daughters of Faulds have suffered grievously. Cherrill's distaste of Faulds, whom he never knew, is incomprehensible. Apart from Galton in 1905 and prior to the publication in 1951 of Books I and II, no writer has criticised Faulds to his hurt; many to his credit. One of these writers (Chapel, U.S.A.) is cited in Book II for some purpose, wholly unconnected with Faulds. Cherrill and his scribes seem unaware that the Author so cited—writing in 1942—describes Faulds as most distinguished in fingerprint history.

In "Cherrill of The Yard", published in June 1954. Cherrill's animus against Faulds, whose name is never mentioned, could not be more clearly shown than in this paragraph, found on p. 29, where he says:—

"Summed up the position is this. Until Herschel by means of prolonged tests, proved that the papillary-ridge characteristic data on the fingers remained constant over the years, fingerprints were, for all practical purposes of little use to anyone—even to *those* who, years after Herschel started his experiments, clamoured for a share in the 'discovery' of fingerprints" (*my italics*).⁹

Cherrill includes Faulds among "those." Of others, no one is known with any right to claim a share in the "discovery" of fingerprints. How contemptuous is Cherrill of Faulds! How contemptible of Cherrill to treat him so!

The Yard and The Home Office are now well aware that Cherrill, through his scribes, p. 42 of Book II, asserts, contrary to fact, as he and they know and in spite of his and their knowledge of Herschel's disclaimer of what is so asserted, that:—

- (1) Herschel in 1880 "was alive to the possibilities of fingerprint identification in the wider sphere of criminal detection";
- (2) Herschel foreshadowed that "logical development" (i.e., major conception of Faulds); and
- (3) Faulds "was a pioneer only in the sense that he was apparently the first to formulate the proposition in a public print".

How can these allegations be justified? These three inventions of Cherrill are the basis of the "considered opinion" that, as it seems, Lord Tenby in December 1956, thought justified him coming to the conclusion that Faulds *had played no decisive part* in the development of identification by the use of fingerprints. Cherrill in his Foreward to Book II suggests that Herschel must have been "alive" to his invented facts as far back as 1859, "when Faulds was but a mere lad." Therefore, infers Cherrill, Herschel is the leading pioneer. This conclusion as regards leadership is a *non sequitur*. How dishonouring is all this denigration to both pioneers!

The Yard and The Home Office should also now be well aware that Cherrill with his scribes, in Book II, p. 56-57, goes further, traducing Faulds by recording that:—

"Dr G. asserted [in the Stratton Brothers Trial, 1905] that *he* could bring the fingerprint system (i.e. at The Yard) into dispute" (which he never did—and about this baseless statement, they observe, p. 58):—"There is at least a *presumption* [*mark their presumption*] that he and Faulds were working together to bring the fingerprint system into disrepute". (*My italics and interpolations*).

How unwarranted are such libels upon the memories of Dr G. and Faulds! Painful to the daughters of Faulds. No redress from the law!

The vindication of Faulds as the leading pioneer, more distinguished than Herschel, has been recently supported by two British medical jurists, a German criminologist and a Dutch police savant.

Their opinions amplify the opinion expressed by Professor Polson in 1950 as contained in his "Historical Study: Finger Prints and Finger Printing":—

"The science of finger prints and finger printing has been told by many but none so well as Wilton (1938), whose vindication of Faulds has special value in its documentation and research. Subsequent authors continue to err by omission or inaccuracy". *Journal of Criminal Law*, etc., Vol. 41, p. 446.

His reference to subsequent authors erring by omission or inaccuracy applies to the period from 1938 to 1950. It is singularly apt, however, in covering all the errors of commission and omission found in Books I and II.

Professor-Doctor Ernst Seelig, Editor of the Eighth Edition of Gross's "Handbook Der Kriminalistik", published in 1954, as translated for me, states:—

"*Nature* 23.76.1880. Concerning the struggle for priority which arose later between Faulds and Herschel, see . . . above Heindl and especially Wilton. . . Doubtless Herschel recognised the value of identification earlier and collected examples in his district; on the other hand Faulds, who wrote on the subject first, investigated the problem more deeply on the theoretical side, and was the first to recognise the criminal importance of fingerprint identification at the scene of the crime; and

"Galton. . . ignored Fauld's work and later sought to declare it unimportant. Concerning this more fully (*see above*) Wilton who points out that Herschel himself later (1917) recognised Fauld's efforts."

In "The Essentials of Forensic Medicine", published in 1955, Professor Polson arrives, p. 76, at this conclusion:—

"Salient Dates in the History of Fingerprint Identification, 1880. The first publication on the practical use of fingerprints and the original suggestion by Henry Faulds that they were of value in the identification of criminals was in *Nature* of October 28, 1880. The credit is unfortunately still given to Galton or Henry, although reference to this article [*sic* for 1880 Letter of Faulds] should leave no room for doubt about the priority of Faulds"

This is another way of saying that Faulds is the leading pioneer. Herschel in his way expressed the same opinion.

Sir Sidney Smith, as General Editor of the Eleventh Edition of Taylor's standard "Principles and Practice of Medical Jurisprudence" in which he is assisted, among others, by Keith Simpson, M.D., of The Home Office, *per* Volume I, p. 90, published 1956, affirms: "but it appears that priority should be given to Faulds."

May these tributes end with this discerning Dutch note, expanding, but as readers now know, not comprehending all that is in the 1880 Letter of Faulds. Louis J. Van der Meulen, its author, is Commander of the Leyden District of the Netherlands National Police. In his

article upon "False Fingerprints: A New Aspect", contributed to the American Journal *supra*, he records:—

"Faulds showed much broader and deeper insight [than Herschel]. As a scientist he foresaw practically all possibilities of application known at the present time—those of heredity, evolution, ethnology and history. His most important conception—one might say 'discovery'—remaining completely hidden from Herschel, was the identification value of fingerprints left by the criminal on the crime scene or on some object used in committing the crime. It was not until 1938 that Wilton made this distinction between Herschel and Faulds clear and at last credited Faulds with the full criminalistic honour that he is due". Vol. 46, p. 122.

In the face of all these disclosures over the deeds of Cherrill, it cannot now be the wish of The Yard to stumble further badly and blindly, only "the deeper to fall". The Home Office cannot approve, it is thought, of his actions. There must be some explanation, consistent with good faith, for the otherwise inexplicable conclusion to which Lord Tenby came. His attention cannot have been directed to the declaration of Herschel and its confirmation by his Son. Perhaps, the tributes to Faulds, as noted above and in the printed Appeal, were not brought to his notice, disproving the value of any "considered opinion" by Cherrill in whatever form submitted to him.

It is submitted that the Home Secretary, now in office, cannot and should not act upon any opinion of Cherrill. His actions cannot be condoned by any Government. Reconsideration of the decision of December 1956, is respectfully and earnestly desired.

Happily, the Appeal of the daughters of Faulds does not depend on whether their circumstances border on indigence or affluence. They had to practice great self-denial for more than twenty years without having the benefits of some yearly allowance from the Government, to which it now seems in retrospect they had so good and well founded a right to expect.

The Government in 1933 cannot have had any "considered opinion" from Battley, Cherrill's predecessor, in any way adverse to Faulds or to the claim for his daughters as presented by their then Wolstanton vicar on their behalf.

For and on behalf of Miss Agnes C. Faulds and Miss Isabella J. Faulds.

G. W. WILTON.

15th June 1957.

NOTES

- 1 The Tablet also discloses Churchill as Home Secretary in 1910 announcing to the House of Commons that Faulds was unworthy of any recognition, and as Prime Minister in 1952 authorising the 1952 grants. £300 already received by each daughter is not much if spread over twenty years with £100 for both spent in 1933 on house repairs. Each daughter in 1952 received a letter from the P.P.S. stating that the grant to her had been made in express recognition of her father's scientific services. A print of the original Appeal is to be deposited with the National Library.
- 2 Faulds claimed originally that he was the first discoverer. Later he recognised that both he and Herschel had independently thought of the use of fingerprints for identification of criminals for subsequent offences through their prints being filed. The printed Appeal was based solely on his major conception arising out of the original idea common to both. For that conception Herschel never made any claim and in fact disclaimed credit therefor as due to Faulds.
- 3 Both letters were sent to me. The other letter of later date, was addressed to Sir William Anstruther-Gray, Bart., M.P. for Berwickshire and East Lothian. The daughters of Faulds are indebted to both Members for their good offices in approaching Mr Lloyd George.
- 4 Hansard, vol 568, No. 87, p. 69.
- 5 The first three paragraphs, somewhat muddled, represent Henry as the inventor not only of the system of classification in use at The Yard in 1901 but also of the combined systems then in use of fingerprints and of measurements. Henry was not an inventor of any system. He made improvements on the classification systems of Faulds and Galton. The muddle is due to Cherrill omitting prior matter to which the opening paragraph must refer.
- 6 There is another conception of Faulds relating to the identification of dead bodies noticed *supra*. His claim to recognition, therefore, rests in this Renewed Appeal on that ground in addition to the major conception alone mentioned in the 1952 Application.
- 7 It is proper that the Supporters of the 1957 Application should be here remembered; in alphabetical order:—James Couper Brash, Emeritus Professor of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh; Rev. W. Dodd, Vicar, Weston, Wolstanton; Miss Mary Heath, Wolstanton; Dr G. O'Donnell, Wolstanton; Neville F. Paddock, Solicitor, Hanley; Sir Percy Sillitoe; Rev. S. Snell, Vicar, Wolstanton; and S. T. Swingler, M.P. for Newcastle-under-Lyme, heading the list.
- 8 No one is hurt. The daughters of Faulds have always preferred publicity for their father's sake.
- 9 It is unnecessary to traverse Cherrill's "summed up". Neither this passage nor his quotation from Tennyson on the next page is consistent with Herschel's 1880 Letter and his 1917 admission. Cherrill forgets Faulds was a skilled anatomist. See '38 p. 137, 139 et 140. If Purkinje had been asked, he would have been of the same opinion as Faulds that finger ridge characteristics are (barring injuries or disease) "for ever unchangeable." Purkinje never realised their identification value.

Sir, when, as you pass, pray pause, ponder and pray for all sufferers from injustice.

In Memory of

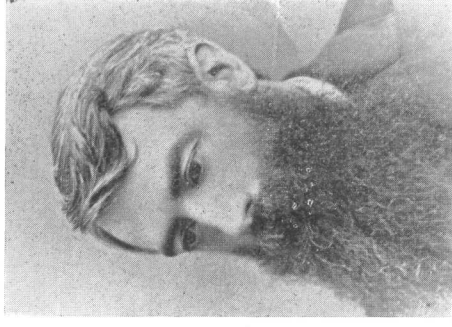
HENRY FAULDS

1843 - 1930

SCOTTISH MEDICAL MISSIONARY TO JAPAN
SURGEON-SUPERINTENDENT OF TSUKIJI HOSPITAL, TOKIO
LEADING PIONEER FROM 1880 IN SCIENCE OF PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION
BY FINGERPRINTS



SIR WILLIAM J. HERSCHEL
Hooghly, India
Circa 1865



DR HENRY FAULDS
Tokio, Japan
Circa 1877

* *History records that he was greatly esteemed by all people of Japan, but that after settling in England, with the offer in 1886, of his Fingerprint System freely made to and unwisely declined by New Scotland Yard, he was most UNJUSTLY*

DEBASED, as a pioneer, from May, 1888, by knight Galton, friend of knight-baronet Henry, Commissioner of The Yard, imbuing him with his opinion of "nothing new that is of value" in his major conception.

DISOWNED and DISDAINED accordingly from 1901 by Henry.

DENOUNCHED and DAMNED in Parliament on 19th April, 1910 by Sir Winston Churchill, (then as Mr Churchill and as Home Secretary, Executive Head of the Yard, on Henry's Report) as unworthy of any Government recognition.

DEGRADED in 1934 by Assistant Commissioner, knight Kendal.

DISGRACEFULLY misrepresented in 1935 as a writer unknown in Fingerprint Literature before 1923, as appears from the Third Edition of "Contribution to Bibliography dealing with Crime and Cognate Subjects," compiled by knight Cumming, founder and first Editor of *The Police Journal*. This catalogue, "after a rigorous revision," purported to be reasonably comprehensive and international, covering in the main a period of fifty years, was published at the expense of the Government.

DESPISED and DISCOUNTED in 1949 by Assistant Commissioner Howe; and after being

DEFAMED in 1953 by Douglas G. Browne and Allan Brock in their book on "Finger Prints," etc., as "presumed" by them to have desired to bring The Yard's System into disrepute, based on information from their friend, ex-Chief Superintendent Frederick E. Cherrill, as well as, DEEMED in their book (which suppresses Herschel's acknowledgment; See Left Panel) to have been anticipated by Herschel in his major conception; and DERIDED finally in 1954 by Cherrill as *Scribe of the Yard with his major conception admitted for the first time but mocked and minimised as of no great importance: all with the approval, tacit of Deputy Commissioner Howe and express of Commissioner Nott-Bower, both knights;*

HIS DAUGHTERS

AGNES CAMERON FAULDS and ISABELLA JANE FAULDS

with heartfelt thankfulness

ACKNOWLEDGE. ALL THE TRIBUTES TO THEIR FATHER'S WORK

(beginning in 1905 with those of Otto Schlaginhausen, Zurich and Tighe Hopkins, London)

NOTING SPECIALLY

I.—SIR WILLIAM JAMES HERSCHEL, BART—1917;

II.—THE REVEREND SIR JOHN C. W. HERSCHEL, BART—1950; and

III.—THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT—1933-52.

By Grants to them in Express—Recognition of their Father's Services to Britain (as, of course, to all the world) from the Bounty Fund at the disposal yearly of the Prime Minister.—

(1) In 1933—Under the Premiership of Mr Ramsay MacDonald of one thousand shillings for each to "roof" the dwelling house of their Father and their home since his death: due to the application on their behalf of the Vicar of Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent;

and

(2) In 1952—Mr Churchill (not then accoladed) being Prime Minister, but whether for each of five thousand shillings or more or less, they are barred from telling here: due to the application on their behalf of their Father's recorder and their nine Supporters, headed by the Executors of the Reverend Sir John C. W. Herschel, Bart.

"I examined directly many thousands of living fingers, then passed on to consider impressions on putty, bees-wax, sealing-wax, clay and other substances, taken from my own fingers, those of students under my care, and medical men, native and foreign, and out-patients, who might visit the hospital. These were at first very roughly classified and analysed. I am quite sure that at this point the conception [including his major conception] of a wide and general method of identification flashed upon me with suddenness." Dr Henry Faulds in *Knowledge*, April, 1911, quoted "1938," p. 18.

"I may add that I have not the slightest wish to diminish the credit that may be due to Sir W Herschel." Dr Henry Faulds in *Nature* of November, 22, 1894.