

Bibliography and Acknowledgements

“Before entering upon Mr. Rodman’s own relation, it will not be improper to glance at what has been done by others, in the way of discovery...”

—EDGAR ALLAN POE, *BURTON’S GENTLEMAN’S MAGAZINE, AND MONTHLY AMERICAN REVIEW* (PHILADELPHIA: WILLIAM E. BURTON) 1840.

I am grateful to the persons and authors whose work I have utilized in the making of this one.

The debts to M. Verne and Mr. Melville are too extensive to repay, or even adequately to acknowledge. Reading their works has made me the writer - and the person - I am today. My theft here of their creations is not something I will here try to justify. Yet it is true: the worlds that they created have become our worlds.

Chapter One contains language and concepts from “Concepts of Stroke Before and after Virchow” by Francis Schiller.¹

Descriptions of the Soliton, starting in Chapter Two and continuing throughout, paraphrase Russell’s work on Solitary Waves.² I’ve also drawn on the Wikipedia entry on Waves of Translation³ as well as the Heriot Watt University Department of Mathematics site.⁴

Chapter Two also contains specific vocabularies used by the British to render their colonial subjects as Other, as intrinsically murderous: the words Lascar, Dacoit, Dacoity, Thug, and Thuggee were appropriated from Sax Rohmer.⁵

Chapter Three draws from, and contains sentences from, the 1910 *Encyclopedia Britannica* article on the Indian Mutiny⁶, and from contemporaneous

¹ Francis Schiller, “Concepts of Stroke Before and after Virchow” in *Med. Hist.* (1970).

² John Scott Russell, “Report on Waves,” *Report of the fourteenth meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science* (York: BAAS) September 1844, pp 311-390; John Scott Russell Esq., M.A., F.R.S., “Experimental Researches into the Laws of Certain Hydrodynamical Phenomena that Accompany the Motion of Floating Bodies, and have not previously been reduced into conformity of the known Laws of the Resistance of Fluids” read April 3rd, 1837, published in *Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh XIV*, 1840.

³ <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soliton>>

⁴ <http://www.ma.hw.ac.uk/~chris/scott_russell.html>

⁵ Sax Rohmer, *The Mystery of Dr. Fu-Manchu* (London: Methuen) 1913.

⁶ “The Indian Mutiny,” *Encyclopedia Britannica*, eleventh edition, Volume 14, 1910.

narratives.⁷ The phrase “fresco of bloody handprints” is from Richard Collier⁸, as are some of the descriptions that follow.

Chapter Eleven’s description of the tunnel frames, and method of construction, contains lines from the *Illustrated London News*, 25 March 1843. The description of the explosion on board the *Great Eastern* quotes from that of *The New York Times*.⁹

Chapters Nine through Thirteen contain lines from the diaries of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, as archived at Brunel Archive at the University of Bristol.¹⁰ They also contain lines written by Brunel collected in Adrian Vaughan’s *The Intemperate Engineer*.¹¹ There is a description of the tunnel-making machinery from *Stories of inventors and discoverers in science and the useful art*.¹² Chapter Nine also contains a line from the song “Auto Salvage.”¹³

⁷ Mainodin (Muīn Al-Dīn Hasan Khan) and Munshi Jeewan Lāl (Jīvanalāla), *Two Native Narratives of the Mutiny in Delhi* tr. Charles Theophilus Metcalfe (Edinburgh: A. Constable & Co.) 1898.

⁸ Richard Collier, *The Sound of Fury: An Account of the Indian Mutiny* (London and Glasgow: Collins) 1963.

⁹ “THE GREAT EASTERN. THE EXPLOSION AND ITS CAUSES. THE SHIP AT PORTLAND. DETAILS BY THE VANDERBILT,” *The New York Times*, September 27, 1859.

¹⁰<http://www.bris.ac.uk/library/resources/specialcollections/archives/brunel/ikbrunel.html>.

¹¹ Adrian Vaughan, *The Intemperate Engineer: Isambard Kingdom Brunel In His Own Words* (Persham, Surrey: Ian Allen) 2010.

¹² John Timbs, *Stories of inventors and discoverers in science and the useful art* (Franklin Square, New York: Harper & Brothers) 1860.

¹³ Autosalvage, *Autosalvage*, RCA Victor, 1968.

Chapter Nineteen relies upon, and uses two paragraphs from, the contemporaneous account of John C. Deane¹⁴, and includes lines from *The New York Times*, 1861-61.¹⁵ It also contains, embedded in the text, a mondegreen of a lyric by Iggy Pop from “Kill City”; a line from Iggy & the Stooges’ “Gimme Danger”; a line from John Cale’s “Barracuda”; a line from Television’s “See No Evil”; a phrase from the Doors’ “The End.”

Cyrus Field’s musings on the necessity for pursuing the cable are taken from the contemporaneous account of Captain James Anderson.¹⁶ The interpolated poem about Sir Humphrey Davy is by Edmund Clerihew Bentley.

Chapters Twelve, Fourteen, and Fifty all purport to be articles from *The New York Times*. Chapter Fourteen is verbatim. Chapter Twelve is verbatim save the addition of some final sentences; Chapter Fifty originated in *The Times* but has been somewhat altered to suit.

Chapter Thirty-One contains a phrase taken from the title episode of the television series *Naked City*, which title and episode were written by my father, Howard Rodman Sr., to whom the phrase is used as in homage. The image of

¹⁴ “Narrative of the Atlantic Telegraph expedition, 1865,” John C. Deane, *Macmillan’s Magazine*, v. 12, September 1865.

¹⁵ “The Great Eastern,” *The New York Times*, June 29, 1860; “The Disaster to the Great Eastern,” *The New York Times*, October 2, 1861.

¹⁶ *The London Times*, August 19, 1865.

death-by-bell-and-clapper in Chapter Thirty-Six is from a 1914 episode of the French silent *Fantômas* serial.¹⁷

Many of the specific incidents in the life of the *Great Eastern* are deeply indebted to James Dugan's *The Great Iron Ship* (cited below).

The notion that Sir James Anderson, captain of the *Great Eastern* during her cable-laying days, was also the captain of the ship *Scotia*, mentioned in the first chapter of *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers*, was reinforced by the article in *Appletons' Journal*.¹⁸

Nemo's musings at the end of Chapter Forty contain words from E. M. Cioran.¹⁹ The phrase "a man who is sure what is true," used in Chapter Thirty-Six, is borrowed from Leonard Cohen's "Master Song."

The description of the Indian postal and telegraphic codes in Chapter Forty-Eight comes from HOE & CO'S PREMIER DIARY.²⁰

¹⁷ *Le faux magistrat*, written and directed by Louis Feuillade, based on the novel by Marcel Allain and Pierre Souvestre.

¹⁸ "The Cunard Service. By the son of a late officer," *Appletons' Journal: A Monthly Miscellany of Popular Literature*, vol. 1 (New York: D. Appleton & Company) July-December 1876.

¹⁹ E. M. Cioran, *A Short History of Decay*, tr. Richard Howard, (New York: The Viking Press) 1975. The complete, unemended quote is this: "Show me one thing here on earth which has begun well and not ended badly. The proudest palpitations are engulfed in a sewer, where they cease throbbing, as though having reached their natural term: this downfall constitutes the heart's drama and the negative meaning of history."

²⁰ HOE & CO'S PREMIER DIARY, (Madras: Hoe & Co.) 1961. Reference is made to this book's telegraphic codes in a scene set in the mid-1840s, ten years before telegraphy was widespread in India, and sixty years before *Hoe & Co's Diary* was first published.

The discourse on the 1867 tsunami is indebted to the USC Tsunami Research Group.²¹ The description of the flash flood in Uttarakhand in Chapter Thirty-Nine draws from news accounts in the *Global Post* by Drs. Manpreet Bajwa and Harman Boparai.²²

In Chapter Forty-One, the phrase “iron will of Mr Field, whose final triumph was that of mental energy in the application of science” is from Marden’s 1901 booklet “An Iron Will.”²³

In Chapter Forty-Four, the lines *The sea so deep and blind.../ The club the wheel the mind* are from “The Faith” by Leonard Cohen. The lyrics to “John the Revelator” are taken and modified from versions of the song by Blind Willie Johnson (from Harry Smith’s *Anthology of American Folk Music*), but also versions by Nick Cave and Depeche Mode. And the repetition of the phrase “down there” in that chapter is an homage to Abe Polonsky’s *Force of Evil*, the importance of which to my writing cannot be overestimated.

The phrase in Chapter Forty-Five, “failure in the simplest duties of love,” is from a remark by William F. Buckley, Jr. about Natalie Robins and Stephen Aronson’s book *Savage Grace*: “Seldom has there been so devastating an exposure

²¹ <<http://www.usc.edu/dept/tsunamis/caribbean/webpages/1867viindex.html>>

²² <<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/regions/asia-pacific/india/130705/junes-flash-floods-uttarakand-india-leave-devastatio>>

²³ Orison Swett Marden, *An Iron Will*, (New York: Sun) 1996.

of consequences, for the most sophisticated people, of failure in the simplest duties of love.”

Chapter Forty-Seven draws on the text and map of *la semaine sanglante*, from the section written by the Lettrist and sound poet Jean-Louis Brau.²⁴ The quote about the old world and the new is taken from Gramsci.²⁵

Further details on the commune are taken from Lissagaray’s 1876 tome *History of the Paris Commune of 1871*²⁶, and from Ernest Vizetelly.²⁷ Use was made of the maps in *Paris par Arrondissement*²⁸ and of the maps at the University of Chicago Library.²⁹

Chapter Forty-Seven also makes use of a line from Elvis Costello’s “Beyond Belief.” The decision to in this chapter ascribe to one of our protagonists the appellation “number six” is a homage both to the 1967-1968 ITV television series *The Prisoner*, and to John Simmons’ novel *Monsieur le 6*,³⁰ itself an homage to the number assigned the Marquis de Sade when he was imprisoned in Vincennes.

²⁴ Claude Tchou, ed., *Guide de Paris Mystérieux* (Paris: Editions Tchou) 1966.

²⁵ Antonio Gramsci, *Selections from the Prison Notebooks* (New York: International Publishers) 1971.

²⁶ Prosper-Olivier Hippolyte Lissagaray, *History of the Paris Commune of 1871*, tr. Eleanor Marx (London: New Park Publications) 1976.

²⁷ Ernest Alfred Vizetelly, *My adventures in the Commune, Paris, 1871* (New York: Duffield & Company) 1914.

²⁸ Raymond Denaës, *Paris par Arrondissement* (Paris: Editions l’Indispensable), n.d.

²⁹ <<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/collections/maps/paris/>>

³⁰ John Simmons, *Monsieur Le 6* (New York: Apple River) 2016.

I relied upon the Wikipedia articles on the Hungerford Market and Hungerford Bridge for details about the bridge chains that ended up in Bristol. John McIlwane's book on the Clifton bridge was invaluable, as were the pieces at the Bristol visitors' website.³¹

The staffs of the Brunel Museum in Rotherhithe and the Musée Jules Verne in Nantes were extraordinarily helpful and patient when I paid visits to their respective institutions, opening their doors to an American stranger; and on Cape Cod, the staffs of the French Cable Station Museum in Orleans and the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center in North Chatham were no less generous. I owe all of them large thanks. I am greatly indebted to the late Michel Roethel, in whose Paris bookshop dedicated to the work of Jules Verne I spent many fine lost hours, and whose hospitality and conversation were far more inspirational than he would have any way of knowing.

Many provided practical advice; research assistance; editorial suggestions. Others provided crucial encouragement along the journey. I am particularly grateful to Peter Agree, Betsy Amster, Mary Bailey, Antonin Baudry, Rick Berg, Sonja Bolle, Lou Boxer, Leo Braudy, Theodore Braun, Ken Brecher, Jay Cantor, Jenne Casarotto, Michael Chabon, Julie Cline, Anthony Tirado Chase, Michael Donaldson, Allison Engel, Janet Fitch, Terry Curtis Fox, Peter Gethers, Michael

³¹ <<http://visitbristol.co.uk>>

Goldenberg, Brent Green, Maggie Hanbury, Dante Harper, Doug Headline, Peter Herman, Melanie Jackson, Ricky Jay, Erik Jendresen, Henry Jenkins, Tom Kalin, Steve Katz, Nick Kazan, David King, Dione King, David Kipen, Tim Kittleson, Ken Kwapis, Dan Lansner, Jonathan Lethem, Gloria Loomis, Tom Lutz, Scott McGehee, Maureen McHugh, Walter Mosley, Mimi Munson, Geoff Nicholson, Nicholas Meyer, Dennis Palumbo, Robert Polito, Jon Raymond, Eddie Redmayne, Rebecca Rickman, Adam Rodman, James Schamus, Joan Schenkar, David Siegel, Marisa Silver, John Galbraith Simmons, Dan Simon, Zach Sklar, Tiahna Skye, Steven Soderbergh, Louise Steinman, Robin Swicord, Frank Wuliger, Barry Yourgrau, Wendy Zomparelli. The support of Steve Erickson has meant everything: Steve was the first person to read any of this manuscript, and he excerpted a chapter for publication in *Black Clock*, in Issue No. 10, and again in Issue No. 13. He gave me faith to continue this project when I thought that I just can't go on.

The support, encouragement, and kind guidance of Sandy Dijkstra and Elise Capron of the Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency was as generous as it was invaluable.

A critical set of revisions was made possible only via the extraordinary hospitality of the Swicord/Kazans, who let me escape to their house on Vashon for two weeks when I needed to be away from the world's other concerns.

The app ‘Freedom,’ which suspends one’s access to the internet for a specified period of time, was a godsend. The website <http://750words.com> was deeply useful as goad and incentive. I also when in need would consult “Oblique Strategies, or Over One Hundred Worthwhile Dilemmas,” the deck created by Brian Eno and Peter Schmidt, 1975 edition. It is one of the treasured objects of our house.

Without Anne Friedberg, Tristan Rodman, Mary Beth Heffernan: quite simply, no book. Their love, generosity of spirit, and faith as I wrote this manuscript knew no bounds. Their support throughout was in wild excess of what can be acknowledged or repaid. And anyone who knows me knows that the revisions of the last years would simply not have been possible without Mary Beth’s dogged and literate optimism, which every day continues to inspire.

—

Research sources consulted:

“The Great Eastern.” *The New York Times*, June 18, 1860.

“The Visit of the President to the Great Eastern.” *The New York Times*, 11 Aug. 1860.

Allen, Charles and Sharada Dwivedi. *Lives of the Indian Princes*. London: Arrow Books Ltd., 1984.

Badoureau, Albert. *Le Titan moderne: notes et observations remises à Jules Verne pour la redaction de son roman San dessus dessous*. Nantes: Actes Sud/Ville de Nantes, 2005.

Bradbury, Ray. "The Ardent Blasphemers," in *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea*, translated by Anthony Bonner. 1962. Reprint. Toronto, New York, London, Sydney: Bantam, 1981. Pp. 1-12.

Brunel, Isambard. *The Life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel: Civil Engineer*. 1870. Reprint. Gloucestershire: Nonsuch, 2006.

Buchanan, Angus. *Brunel: The Life and Times of Isambard Kingdom Brunel*. London and New York: Hambledon & London, 2002.

Bullen, Frank T. *The Cruise of the "Cachalot": Round the World after Sperm Whales*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1899.

Bullen, Frank T. *The Log of a Sea Waif: Being Recollections of the First Four Years of my Sea Life*. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1899.

Caradec, François, and Jean-Robert Masson, eds. *Guide de Paris Mystérieux*. Paris: Tchou, éditeur/Cercle du Livre Précieux, 1966.

Choudhury, Deep Kanta Lahiri. *Telegraphic Imperialism: Crisis and Panic in the Indian Empire, c. 1830*. Houndsmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

- Christopher, John. *Isambard Kingdom Brunel Through Time*. Gloucestershire: Amberly Publishing, 2010.
- Christopher, John. *The Lost Works of Isambard Kingdom Brunel*. Gloucestershire: Amberly Publishing, 2010, reprinted 2014.
- Clarke, Arthur C. *Voice Across the Sea*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1958.
- Dana, R. H., Jr. *Two Years Before the Mast and Twenty-Four Years After*. New York: P. F. Collier & Son, 1909.
- Description and History of the "Great Eastern" 1861*. Bremen, Maritime Press, 2013.
- Duberly, Mrs. Henry. *Campaigning Experiences in Rajpootana and Central India during the Suppression of 1857-1858*. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1859.
- Dugan, James. *The Great Iron Ship*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1953.
- Durham, Victor G. *The Submarine Boys on Duty*. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company, 1909.
- Durham, Victor G. *The Submarine Boys for the Flag*. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company, 1910.
- Eggers, Dave. *The Story of Captain Nemo*. London: Pushkins Childrens Books, 2013.

Elder, J. D. *Song-Games of Trinidad and Tobago*. Trinidad: Community Education Centre, 1961.

Fox, Stephen. *Transatlantic: Samuel Cunard, Isambard Brunel, and the Great Atlantic Steamships*. New York: HarperCollins, 2003.

Friedberg, Anne. *The Virtual Window: From Alberti to Microsoft*. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2006.

Granville, Wilfrid. *Sea Slang of the Twentieth Century: Royal Navy, Merchant Navy, Yachtsmen, Fishermen, Bargemen, Canalmen, Miscellaneous*. London: Winchester Publications, 1949.

Griffiths, Charles John. *A Narrative of The Siege of Delhi, with an Account of the Mutiny at Ferozepore in 1857*. London: John Murray, 1910.

Hugill, Peter. "D. K. Lahiri-Choudhury: Telegraphic Imperialism." H/SOZ/KULT. <<http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/rezensionen/id=15780>>.

Jones, Robin. *Isambard Kingdom Brunel: Engineer Extraordinaire*. Somerset: PiXZ Books, 2010.

Kinsley, D. A. *They Fight Like Devils: Stories from Lucknow during the Great Indian Mutiny, 1857-58*. Rockville Centre: Sarpedon, 2001.

Leyda, Jay. *The Melville Log: A Documentary Life of Herman Melville 1819-1891*. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1951.

Loti, Pierre, tr. George A. F. Inman. *India*. New York: Duffield & Company, 1913.

Malleson, Colonel G. B., C.S.I. *The Indian Mutiny of 1857*. London: Seeley and Co., Limited, 1896.

Manby, Charles, M. Inst., C.E., F.R.S., editor. *Minutes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers; with Abstracts of the Discussions, Vol. XVI, Session 1856-57*. London: Institution of Civil Engineers, 1857.

Maggs, Colin. *Isambard Kingdom Brunel: The Life of an Engineering Genius*. Gloucestershire: Amberley Publishing, 2016, 2017.

Manguel, Alberto and Gianni Guadalupi. *The Dictionary of Imaginary Places*. New York: Macmillan, 1980.

Matsell, George W. *Vocabulum; or, The Rogue's Lexicon*. New York: George W. Matsell & Co, 1859.

McIlwain, John. *Clifton Suspension Bridge*. Brimscombe Port: Pitkin Guides, 1996.

Melville, Herman. *Moby-Dick*. New York: Random House, 1930.

Mitchison, Amanda. *Who Was Isambard Kingdom Brunel?* London: Short Books, 2006.

Olson, Charles. *Call Me Ishmael: A Study of Melville*. San Francisco: City Light Books, 1947.

Poe, Edgar Allan. "The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym," "A Descent into the Maelström," "The Journal of Julius Rodman." *Edgar Allan Poe: Poetry and Tales*. New York: The Library of America, 1984.

Rolt, L. T. C. *Isambard Kingdom Brunel*. London: Longmans Green, 1957.

Russell, W. H. *The Atlantic Telegraph*. 1866. Reprint. Stroud, Gloucestershire: Nonsuch, 2005.

Singh, Prahlad. *5 'Stone Observatories' Jantar-Mantars of India: Jaipur, Delhi, Ujjain, Varanasi, Mathura*. Jaipur: Holiday Printers, 1986.

Smith, Harry. *Anthology of American Folk Music*. Folkways Records, 1952.

Srinivasan, S. and S. Ranganathan, "Metallurgical Heritage of India," in *Golden Jubilee Souvenir*. Bangalore: Indian Institute of Science, 1997.

Standage, Tom. *The Victorian Internet*. New York: Walker & Company, 1998.

Tames, Richard. *Isambard Kingdom Brunel*. Oxford: Shire Publications, 1972.

Thornton, Edward. *Illustrations of the History and Practice of the Thugs: And Notices of Some of the Proceedings of the Government of India, for the Suppression of the Crime of Thuggee*. London: Wm. H. Allen & Co., 1837.

Traven, B. *The Death Ship*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1934.

Verne, Jules, tr. Frederick Paul Walter. *The Sphinx of the Ice Realm*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2012.

Verne, Jules, tr. I. O. Evans. *Tigers and Traitors*. London: Arco Publications/Bernard Hanison, 1959.

Verne, Jules, tr. Sidney Kravitz. *The Mysterious Island*. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 2002.

Verne, Jules, tr. Walter James Miller. *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. New York: Washington Square Press, 1966.

Verne, Jules. *L'Île mystérieuse*. Paris: Hetzel et Cie., 1874.

Verne, Jules. *La maison à vapeur*. Paris: Hetzel et Cie., 1880.

Verne, Jules. *Le Sphinx des glaces*. Paris: Hetzel et Cie., 1897.

Verne, Jules. *The Demon of Cawnpore*, tr. I. O. Evans. New York: Arco Publications/Ace Books, 1959.

Verne, Jules. *Vingt mille lieues sous les mers*. Paris: Hetzel et Cie., 1870.

Watson, Bruce. *The Great Indian Mutiny: Colin Campbell and the Campaign at Lucknow*. New York: Praeger Publishers, 1991.

Yule, Col. Henry, and A. C. Burnell. *Hobson-Jobson: A Glossary of Colloquial Anglo-Indian Words and Phrases, and of Kindred Terms, Etymological, Historical, Geographical and Discursive*. 1886. Reprint. London: John Murray, 1903.