

The Bilge Pump

Vol. 06, No. 04 - April, 2018
*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the
Barque Lone Star*



PLEASE NOTE:

May 6th Meeting NOTICE

The next meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 6th**, at 1:00 pm. at LA MADELEINE COUNTRY FRENCH CAFE, in Addison.

The restaurant is at 5290 Belt Line Rd #112, just east of the Tollway.

We will be reading "The Problem of Thor Bridge. The quiz will cover this tale.

Each monthly meeting will also include toasts as well as general business, introductions, and general fellowship.

April 1st Meeting Summary

There were 21 people in attendance today with a number of visitors and guests.

Cindy Brown did the Opening Toast with a raise of the glass to scion societies across the country and around the world (see page 3).

We then proceeded to have a quiz on today's story, "The Adventure of the Six Napoleons". The winners of the quiz were Diane Tran and Cindy Brown.

Katrina Olson gave an update on her parent's health conditions. Our thoughts continue to go out in their direction.

Rusty Mason, gave a wonderful presentation called "Video Game Crossover" which included a power point presentation on the history of Sherlockian video games.

The Closing Reading was given by Steve and was taken from the Baker Street Journal in 2001, soon after the 911 attach on the World Trade Center. (see page 5)

One of our visitors (Barbara a friend of the Olson's) won an original print of Moriarty as the door prize drawing.

Thanks to Cindy Brown, who took minutes for this meeting, which we can read in full on our website.



For more information concerning our society, visit: <http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/>

You can follow us on Twitter at: [@barquelonestar](https://twitter.com/barquelonestar)

You can friend us on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/BarqueLoneStar>

Who dunnit:



Third Mate
Helmsman
Spiritual Advisors

Secretaries
Historian
Webmaster

Steve Mason
Walter Pieper
Don Hobbs, BSI
Jim Webb
Cindy Brown, Brenda Hutchison
Pam Mason
Rusty Mason

mason.steve@epa.gov
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221b@verizon.net
jimrwebb@ix.netcom.com
myrkrid08@yahoo.com

Our Website: www.dfw-sherlock.org

Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BarqueLoneStar/>

"That will await him when he enters port," said he, chuckling. "It may give him a sleepless night. He will find it as sure a precursor of his fate as Openshaw did before him."

"And who is this Captain Calhoun?"

"The leader of the gang. I shall have the other"

"How did you trace it, then?"

He took a large sheet of paper from his pocket

"I have spent the whole day," said he, "over in January and February in '83. There were attracted my attention, since, although it was"

"Texas, I think."

"I was not and am not"

"What then?"

vessel which touched at Pondichery of these, one, the Lone Star, instantly of the states of the Union.

THE CREW OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR

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THE MAY MEETING

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A SHERLOCK HOLMES LITERARY SOCIETY

Monthly meetings every 1st Sunday @ 1pm

La Madeleine Country French Café

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THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS AND THE SCION SOCIETIES

Cindy Brown

The Baker Street Irregulars and the Scion Societies

There are:

- The Hounds of the Baskerville (Chicago)
- The Norwegian Explorers (Minnesota)
- The Afghanistan Perceivers (Tulsa, Oklahoma)
- Criterion Bar Association, Chicago
- Illustrious Clients of Indianapolis
- Nashville Scholars
- The Giant Rats of Sumatra (Memphis, Tennessee)
- The Younger Stamfords (Iowa City)
- The Crew of the Barque Lone Star (Dallas, Fort Worth)
- Maiwand Jezails (Omaha)
- The Original Tree Worshippers of Rock County (Wisconsin)
- The Agra Treasurers (Dayton, Ohio)
- Parallel Case of St. Louis
- Occupants of the Empty House (Southern Illinois)
- The Bimetallic Question of Montréal
- The Singular Society of the Baker Street Dozen (Calgary)
- The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia
- The Wisteria Lodgers, Edmonton
- Sherlock Holmes Society of London
- The Irregular Special Railway Company (England)
- The Scandalous Bohemians (England)
- The Retired Beekeepers of Sussex
- Sherlock Holmes Society of Scotland

- Crew of the SS May Day (Northern Ireland)
- The Deerstalkers of Welshpool (Wales)
- Sherlock Holmes Society of India
- Japan Sherlock Holmes Club
- The Sydney Passengers (Australia)
- Sherlock Holmes Society of Western Australia
- Sherlock Holmes Society of South Australia
- The Blue Scarves Society (Uruguay)

This is a list of just a VERY few of the Sherlockian societies (scion societies) from around the world.

And my question to you is just how important are these some big and some small groups of Sherlock Holmes fans that cover every corner of the map. Well, I decided to take a pole of some people whom I believe would know the answer to this question.

Jim Webb, for example gave the explanation of "we have a saying at the US Olympic Committee that a sport must have a strong base if we are to produce an Olympic Gold Medal.

You will not produce a decent athlete if they do not have a strong base against which to compete combined with the coaching expertise that often accompanies a growing sport.

It is all about grass roots development. If you have a million athletes all with dreams of going to the Olympics, an infrastructure will rise up to support that effort and your chances, as a country, significantly increase."

Same with Sherlockian activities. Where do Sherlockian authors and members of the BSI come from?

Typically, from strong local chapters that have a strong base and infrastructure. Without the local chapters to encourage Sherlockian activities, national and international efforts would be significantly diminished.

Don Hobbs described it as this." If there are 500 Sherlockian societies worldwide and each had 1 member trying to become a member of the BSI; and usually there are 6 to 8 new members added each year, well you do the math.

Local societies are the perfect vetting place. Besides it gives the local membership exposure to presenting Sherlockian content to their peers. Local societies are the lifeblood to the BSI.

Dean explained that he was a Sherlock Holmes fan for 18 years before he even knew there were SH clubs called scions.

He feels that it's really important to stay in contact with other likeminded people, mainly Sherlockians, whom you would otherwise

have not known. Dean had a friend in the military at Fr. Sill in Oklahoma, who he had nothing in common with, however, they found that they both liked SH. So, they bonded.

A few years later this friend and Dean were both living in Tulsa, OK, and the friend called up and said he was starting a SH club. This is how Dean became a member and a co-founder of the great unifying force of a SH scion, known in Tulsa as, the Afghanistan Perceivers of Oklahoma.

A lot of scion societies are vehicles for writings being published. Dean has had pastiches published in 4 different publications including one in a foreign language.

One of Tulsa's scion's main goal is to bring in outside speakers to broaden their spectrum and knowledge of all things Sherlockian.

Peter Blau, one of the premier Sherlockians in the US, says that a heavy percentage of Sherlockians are very interesting people.

Dean also mentioned, and I totally agree, that the people you meet at a SH meetings will be some of the most interesting people you will ever have the opportunity to be associated with.

So, here's to the Sherlock Holmes scions across the Country and across the World.

Please raise your glass and join me in a toast to scions worldwide.

"THE EDITOR'S GAS-LAMP"

BAKER STREET JOURNAL, STEVEN ROTHMAN, EDITOR - AUTUMN, 2001

Remember this essay had been written just after the events of 09/11

"There's an east wind coming all the same, such a wind as never blew on England yet. It will be cold and bitter, Watson, and a good many of us may wither before its blast."

Those were the words that came to our mind when we heard about the events on 11 September.

Like Holmes we knew that our world would never be the same.

Like earlier generations of Sherlockians, we also suddenly became aware that what had been a pleasant diversion might become our lifeline to sanity in this new world.

Our new twenty-first century world was beginning to look not quite as warm and safe as it had previously appeared.

The world is going to need both the diversion and the education that a thorough examination of the London at the height of Empire might bring.

Sherlock Holmes has proven his worth as an escape for over a century.

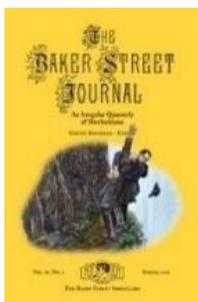
Not only is there the comfort of familiarity, there is also the world of an Empire being threatened by elements from without and within.

It will be difficult to make sense of our new world. One of the best ways of understanding the present, and of predicting the future, is to know and understand what has gone before.

As such, our researches into Holmes should prove invaluable.

So if asked in the months or years ahead how you can waste your time with trivia such as Sherlock Holmes when your security is threatened, tell them that it is Holmes that teaches you the lessons on how to survive.

It is Holmes that makes you strong.



The Baker Street Journal continues to be the leading Sherlockian publication since its founding in 1946 by Edgar W. Smith. With both serious scholarship and articles that "play the game," the Journal is essential reading for anyone interested in Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and a world where it is always 1895.

Got to: <http://www.bakerstreetjournal.com/itemsforsale/subscriptions.html> for subscription information.

An Inquiry Into "The Problem of Thor Bridge"

Murray, the Courageous Orderly (a.k.a. Alexander Braun), Hounds of the Internet

- "The Problem of Thor Bridge" was first published in "The Strand Magazine," on February/March 1922.
- According to Baring-Gould's chronology, in *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, 2nd Edition, 1974, the case takes place from October 4, to Friday, October 5, 1900. At the time Holmes is 46 years old and Watson 48.

Notable Quotes:

- "The faculty of deduction is certainly contagious."
- "I am getting into your involved habit, Watson, of telling a story backwards."
- "My professional charges are upon a fixed scale. I do not vary them, save when I remit them altogether."

== The Dispatch-Box ==

- Again we're reminded by Watson of the indescribable loss for all students of the Sacred Writings his now-legendary tin dispatch-box signifies, full of Sherlock Holmes' lost cases. Alas, alas...

== The Sinister Joy ==

- As this week's story opens, the Doctor tells us as he arrived for breakfast, he found Holmes full of "somewhat sinister cheerfulness which was characteristic of his lighter moments."
- English (particularly the Queen's English) hasn't mutated too much during the intervening years between the time this case takes place and today. In Edward's time, the word "sinister" did not have a different, less ominous

meaning. This comment by Watson may mean nothing, or it may be the portal to a formerly unexplored facet of our sleuth's character and personality.

== Picturesque Pile Changes? ==

- Watson tells us he "descended" for breakfast. Later, Holmes tells him he'll discuss the case with him when he has "consumed the two hard-boiled eggs with which out new cook has favoured us."
- This does not sound like Mrs. Hudson's (who we're told had a Scotchwoman's concept of what a good breakfast was supposed to be). Are our friends residing away from Baker Street?

== Gibson's Move ==

- During the time of the story, Americans -- especially those in the western states -- had very strong feelings for their country. In view of this, one cannot but wonder why someone as successful as Gibson was would have chosen to live in England. Consider he was a multimillionaire who had been a senator, and who would naturally have better political connections and more freedom to act and engage in whatever business he wanted, in his own a country. In England, regardless of his wealth he would have always been regarded as a stranger.

== The Murder Weapon ==

- Holmes tells Watson that a revolver of the same caliber as the one that killed Gibson's wife, with a discharged chamber, was found in Grace Dunbar's closet.

Wasn't there at least a primitive form of ballistics by the 1900? At least sufficiently sophisticated to determine although identical in every respect this was not the murder weapon?

== Passionate Creatures ==

- Bates, Gibson, and Dunbar describe Gibson's wife as having been, "Tropical by birth and tropical by nature. A child of the sun and of passion," and as such, unable to control her passions and "understand the mental, and even spiritual tie" which fastened Dunbar to her husband. I often wonder whether Englishwomen truly had such a stiff upper lip.
- The Sacred Writings seem to indicate passionate aggressive women must be of "excitable races," such as Welsh or Latin. But what about Kitty Winter in ILLU and Miss Burnett in WIST?

== "After Seeing You" ==

- By this time, none of us is surprised by the enthusiastic way in which Dr. Watson writes about some of the ladies in Holmes' cases--whether he is describing their physical or spiritual attractions of Miss Dunbar. But Holmes? "After seeing you I am prepared to accept Mr. Gibson's statement both as to the influence which you had over him and as to the innocence of your relations with him." That must have been some woman to have turned our hardheaded logician and theoretician upside down! Whatever happened to "Women are never to be entirely trusted -- not the best of them"?

GENTEEL WOMAN SEEKS EMPLOYMENT

Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD

Six governesses appeared in the canon: Mary Morstan in “The Sign of the Four,” Violet Hunter in “The Adventure of the Copper Breeches,” Violet Smith in “The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist,” Miss Burnet in “The Adventure of Wisteria Lodge,” Miss Dobney in “The Disappearance of Lady Carfax” and Grace Dunbar in “The Adventure of Thor Bridge.”

Their fictional circumstances reflected common problems true-life Victorian governesses faced in their job.

For the well-educated, unmarried middle-class woman, the post of governess was one of few occupations open to someone of her status.

These women often selected the profession following the loss or bankruptcy of their father or brother or when faced with a lack of marital prospects. During the 1800s, women outnumbered the men in Britain, and by enough that many sought employment as the only means of sustaining themselves.

In 1850, it was estimated 20,000 served as governesses, with more seeking work than there were opportunities. Such a surplus depressed salaries to about 35 pounds a year, not including clothing, laundry, medical or other expenses. When Violet Hunter and Violet Smith were offered 100-120 pounds per year (noted

as double or more the usual fee), it was not surprising they found it too much to resist—despite the rather suspicious circumstances under which it was offered.

Women could advertise their interest in a position or use an agency such as Violet Hunter did to find a job. Later, the



Governesses’ Benevolent Institution, created in 1843, provided a registry of governesses and even offered special services to those out of work.

In part, the organization was created to recognize the social class of these women, marking them as different from working class servants placed by other agencies.

At the same time, while her education marked her as above the other household servants, the governess’s paid status separated her from the family she served. Hers was often a very lonely existence outside of work.

Depending on the household, she might eat her meals with the children or possibly dine with the family, as Miss Burnet did, when no company was present.

But the other servants wouldn’t have welcomed her in their common sitting room. Thus, Mary Morstan’s relationship with her employer—described by Watson as a “friendship”—was out of the ordinary and hinted at her special character.

Middle- and upper-class families hired governesses to provide instruction to both sexes until the boys were sent to prep or public schools. Instruction continued for girls in subjects as varied as English, history, geography and conversational French.

Governesses were also expected to provide lessons in art, piano, and singing as well as the social graces required of young Victorian women.

Violet Hunter has a six-year-old boy to teach and lists her “accomplishments” as including French, German, music, and drawing. Miss Burnet teaches two girls, aged 11 and 13, and Grace Dunbar has two children under her care. Violet Smith has a ten-year-old girl for her pupil.

Depending on the number and ages of the children, a governess might spend years in the same household (often until the

youngest child left home) and develop a deep attachment to her pupils. Lady Carfax, for example, kept in contact with Miss Dobney even after her governess retired.

Not all governesses, however, were as well-prepared as those in the Canon. If they lacked the all background needed to cover what was expected, they might rely on teachers' manuals, such as Richmal Mangnall's Historical and Miscellaneous Questions for the Use of Young People.

The desperate governess might have her students memorize one or two pages each day of the book's questions and answers that covered everything from History to Mythology to Heraldry and Astronomy. For example, from the first page under "Scriptural

History," a student's response to the question "How came this world into being?" was given as "In the beginning the great God made heaven and earth and all things that are in them."

If fortunate, the governess might be supported by a special governess or tutor brought in to cover certain subjects.

Violet Smith, for example, was hired to teach music to Woodley's daughter. She mentioned no responsibilities for other lessons.

It was also not unheard of for the governess to find herself at the mercy of the male family members.

Not all were as lucky as Jane Eyre to marry their employer. Grace

Dunbar and Violet Smith both were forced to reject their employer's advances to their own detriment.

More than one young employee would have agreed to Holmes's accusation of Mr. Gibson's actions toward Miss Dunbar: "you have tried to ruin a defenceless girl who was under your roof."

Given some of the difficulties these genteel and educated women faced, it was not surprising that their predicaments would have struck a chord within Holmes.

And the detective, always a gentleman in such circumstances, would have felt honor-bound to assist them.

- 1) Daniel Pool, *What Jane Austen Ate and Charles Dickens Knew*, New York: Simon and Schuster, Inc., 1993, page 224.
- 2) Sally Mitchell, editor, *Victorian Britain: An Encyclopedia*, New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1988, page 337.
- 3) Martha Vicinus, editor, *Suffer and Be Still: Women in the Victorian Age*, New York: Indiana University Press, 1972, page 17.
- 4) Pool, page 224.
- 5) Mitchell, page 179.
- 6) Mitchell, page 179.
- 7) Richmal Mangnall, *Historical and Miscellaneous Questions*, New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1853, page 9.
- 8) Pool, page 226

You can check out more of Liese Sherwood-Fabre's writings at www.liesesherwoodfabre.com.

The first 24 of Liese Sherwood-Fabre's essays are now available in *The Life and Times of Sherlock Holmes*, both paperback and ebook. Retailers are listed on her Webpage (www.liesesherwoodfabre.com).

By Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD. You can read more about this award-winning author's writing (as well as her previous articles in the *Bilge Pump*) and sign up for her newsletter at www.liesesherwoodfabre.com. A non-Sherlockian adventure can be downloaded at: <http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com/extras.html>

ON THE DATING OF MANUSCRIPTS

David McCallister, *Holmes and Watson Report*, September, 1999

Over the years, *The New Yorker* magazine has been a reliable source of Sherlockian tidbits.

There have been movie and play reviews and the occasional cartoon or drawing.

A review in the June 10, 1991, issue had an excerpt from an odd free-verse Holmesian poem by Robert Goldbarth.

A "Letter from London" in the September 30, 1991, issue began with a description of the startling effect the Sherlock Holmes Society members made when assembled in costume at Heathrow on their trip to Reichenbach.

But sometimes there is some article of interest not so obviously Sherlockian.

Herewith is a bit of higher criticism drawn from such an article.

The May 29, 1989, issue of *The New Yorker* contains a profile by Israel Shenker of Christopher de Hamel, the archivist.

De Hamel is described as "supremely expert on the written word and the illuminated page during the thousand years from the fall of Rome to the introduction of printing."

In 1986, de Hamel published a major work on the subject, *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts*.

The article does not say, but it would be interesting to know if de Hamel is a student of the Master on this subject.

If anyone has stumbled on a surviving copy of Holmes's monograph upon the subject of dating documents, de Hamel is a likely candidate.

In the interview for the profile, de Hamel does make one statement that is reminiscent of Holmes.

De Hamel is quoted, "It's usually possible to date a book within about thirty years, but certainly within a hundred."

Curiously enough, he then relates an incident where he is off by at least a century.

To Sherlockians, this is a real life parallel to the vignette in *The Hound of the Baskervilles* wherein Holmes states, "It would be a poor expert who could not give the date of a document within a decade or so."

This statement is followed by his being off by some twelve years, himself.

Of course, Holmes had only an inch or two of the Baskerville paper to look at, and that for only a short while, and from a distance.

Rather than divulge the secrets of "the alternating long 's' and the short," as Holmes does to Watson, de Hamel discourses on abbreviations and initials that are often his clues to dating.

To be fair to de Hamel; he is dealing with works far older than the eighteenth century.

And on the other hand, Holmes may merely be referring to manuscripts of that particular century when he said that a decade was the standard for an expert.

The curious detail is that each should have almost the same pattern of boast and failure repeated, almost in the same proportions as to time, in each instance.

This was a century out of a millennium for de Hamel, and a decade out of a century for Holmes.

The conclusion to be drawn out of this observation is that yet again, Holmes and Watson are vindicated.

This is another example of Holmes's applications of observations, as related by Dr. Watson, replicating

themselves in our own era, if one has but the eyes to see and the ears to hear.

I wonder if that ancestor of Hugo's, Br. William of Baskerville of Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*, who combined Holmes's reasoning abilities with de Hamel's knowledge of medieval texts, could date to within a decade, or was he, too, content with a thirty-year span?



56 STORIES IN 56 DAYS - "THE SIX NAPOLEONS"

Posted on November 9, 2011 by barefootonbakerstreet

The contents of that despatch-box at Cox and Co sound like something out of the X-Files, writes Charlotte Anne Walters.

Watson begins this story by telling us about his despatch-box hidden in the vaults of Cox and Co bank crammed full of records of curious cases. They seem to be of a mysterious nature, almost supernatural – perhaps linking in with Doyle's growing interest in spiritualism.

We hear of Mr James Phillimore who goes back into his house for an umbrella and disappears, the ship which sails into a patch of mist from which it never emerges, and poor Mr Persano who was found 'Stark-staring mad with a matchbox in front of him which contained a remarkable worm, said to be unknown to science'. Enough there to keep Moulder and Scully busy for some time.

This particular story is of a more worldly nature and involves the usual formula of a passionate and fiery foreign woman, a Brazilian in fact, and a ruthless rich American.

According to Doyle, most of our country estates seemed to have been owned by people, English or otherwise, who had made their fortunes abroad and though, "Oh, do you know what would be nice?

Retiring to the British countryside and buying up a big old country pile. Then we will do some wrong-doing to keep ourselves occupied."

In this case, the American bullies his wife and staff. The poor wife has lost the love of her husband, as well as

her looks, and now has to watch him fawning all over the pretty young governess who has captured his heart.

She contrives to kill herself and ensure that her rival is blamed for the crime. She ties a heavy stone to a revolver and dangles this over the bridge so that it will be pulled into the water the instant she pulls the trigger.

An identical gun with a cartridge missing has already been hidden in the young woman's wardrobe. A note in the governess's handwriting arranging to meet on the bridge further compounds the case against her and all is set for the vengeful wife to get exactly the result she wanted.

But as with the Boscombe Valley Mystery, which I always confuse with this story for some reason, Holmes is able to save an innocent person despite all the evidence against them.

I really enjoyed re-visiting this story and I do think that the outcome is one of the best twists to any of the short stories.

Things are very well-set up to make you think that the husband is guilty or perhaps the governess in some form of self defence so the actual truth is quite a revelation.

Holmes is on great form noticing the mark in the stone work of the bridge which turns out to be the key to the whole mystery. Observation at its best, the science of deduction clearly at work.

A well-deserved 9 out of 10.



STORY INFO PAGES FOR "THOR BRIDGE"

McMurdo's Camp, <https://mcmurdoscamp.wordpress.com/>

First published in: Published in two parts, The Strand Magazine and Hearst's International Magazine, February and March 1922.

Time frame of story (known/surmised): October 4, 1900 (pretty certain)

Holmes & Watson living arrangements: Together at 221B. They had a new cook, and Billy the page-boy.

Opening scene: It was a wild morning, and the last remaining leaves were being whirled from the solitary plane tree which graced the yard behind the house. Holmes was in a good mood, with that somewhat sinister cheerfulness characteristic of his lighter moments. After a month of trivialities and stagnation, he had a case.

Client: J. Neil Gibson, the Gold King, an American. He was once a Senator for some Western state, but was better known as a great gold-mining magnate. Extremely wealthy, he was the greatest financial power in the world. He was the successful man of affairs, iron of nerve and leathery of conscience. His tall, gaunt, craggy figure had a suggestion of hunger and rapacity. An

Abraham Lincoln keyed to base uses instead of high ones would give some idea of the man. His face might have been chiselled in granite, hard-set, craggy, remorseless, with deep lines upon it, the scars of many a crisis. His eyes were cold and gray, and looked shrewdly out from under bristling brows. Not only that, but he had bony knees.

Crime or concern: The client's wife Maria was found in the grounds nearly half a mile from their house, late at night, clad in her dinner dress, with a shawl over her shoulders and a revolver bullet through her brain, dead. No weapon was found near her and there was no local clue as to the murder. A pistol of the type used to kill Maria was found in the bottom of the wardrobe of Grace Dunbar, the beautiful governess. The pistol was one of a matched pair.

Villain: The dead wife. She faked her suicide to look like murder.

Motive: Jealousy. to implicate the governess, Grace Dunbar. Neil Gibson was in love with Grace. Grace spurned Gibson's physical advances and maintained their relationship as platonic. Gibson's wife Maria

was jealous, and she truly hated Grace.

Logic used to solve: When Holmes considered the passionate, unconventional, unbusinesslike tone of the client's letter and contrasted it with his self-contained manner and appearance, it was pretty clear that there was some deep emotion which centred upon the accused woman rather than upon the victim.

Holmes' analogy as he explained it: "Well now, Watson, suppose for a moment that we visualize you in the character of a woman who, in a cold, premeditated fashion, is about to get rid of a rival. You have planned it. A note has been written. The victim has come. You have your weapon. The crime is done. It has been workmanlike and complete. Do you tell me that after carrying out so crafty a crime you would now ruin your reputation as a criminal by forgetting to fling your weapon into those adjacent reed-beds which would forever cover it, but you must needs carry it carefully home and put it in your own wardrobe, the very first place that would be searched? Your best friends would hardly call you a schemer, Watson, and yet I could not picture you

doing anything so crude as that.” Conclusion was that the gun was placed in her wardrobe. Who placed it there? Someone who wished to incriminate her, logically, the actual criminal.

Policemen: Sergeant Coventry, whose humble cottage also served as the local police-station. It was a walk of half a mile or so away from the Thor Bridge, where Mrs. Gibson’s body was found.

Holmes’ fees: Possibly lucrative, but we can’t tell. Client told Holmes: “Money is nothing to me in this case. You can burn it if it’s any use in lighting you to the truth. This woman is innocent and this woman has to be cleared, and it’s up to you to do it. Name your figure! Strangely, Holmes replied, “My professional charges are upon a fixed scale, (and) I do not vary them, save when I remit them altogether.”

In some other cases, especially PRIO, Holmes was perfectly willing to extract a high fee from a rich man of whom he did not approve. In THOR, Holmes exhibited a high degree of disdain for a rich man who exhibited poor behavior, but Watson did not record any fee negotiations, other than

Holmes’ dismissal of the subject.

Transport: Holmes & Watson had a first-class carriage to themselves when they travelled from Thor Place to Winchester and back.

Food: Holmes & Watson had two improperly-cooked hard-boiled eggs for breakfast before the client’s visit. The new cook had not distinguished herself.

Drink: no mention

Vices: While discussing the case with Watson, Holmes knocked out the ashes of his after-breakfast pipe and slowly refilled it. Then, after initially dismissing the client, Holmes smiled languidly and reached his hand out for his pipe.

After solving the case, Holmes & Watson late that evening, sat together smoking their pipes in the village inn. Holmes gave Watson a brief review of what had passed.

Other cases mentioned: That of Mr. James Phillimore, who, stepping back into his own house to get his umbrella, was never more seen in this world.

That of the cutter Alicia, which sailed one spring morning into

a small patch of mist from where she never again emerged, nor was anything further ever heard of herself and her crew.

A third instance is that of Isadora Persano, the well-known journalist and duellist, who was found stark staring mad with a match box in front of him which contained a remarkable worm said to be unknown to science.

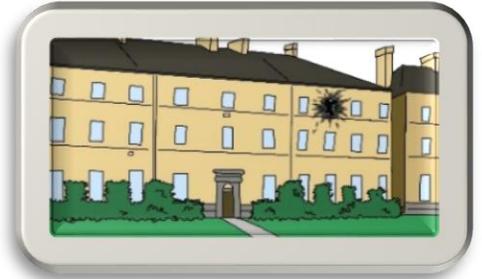
Notable Quotables: “I can discover facts, Watson, but I cannot change them.” – SH

Other interestings: A plane tree is usually called a Sycamore in North America. There is a hybrid variety known as a London Plane that is tolerant of urban and/or dry environments. The London Plane was developed in the 1700’s in Spain.

When all was said and done: Holmes wrap-up: “Well, Watson, we have helped a remarkable woman, and also a formidable man. Should they in the future join their forces, as seems not unlikely, the financial world may find that Mr. Neil Gibson has learned something in that schoolroom of sorrow where our earthly lessons are taught.”

Baker Street Elementary

Created by: Joe Fay, Rusty & Steve Mason
The First Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson



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Fay, Mason, & Mason

MATH POP QUIZ
QUESTION 1: FIND THE SQUARE ROOT OF 25.

*IF IT IS MISSING,
SHERLOCK CAN FIND IT...*



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MATH POP QUIZ
QUESTION 2: HOW WOULD YOU DIVIDE 17 INTO 328?

I WOULDN'T...



MATH POP QUIZ
QUESTION 3: $4 + X = 12$; $X = 12 - 4$; $X = ?$

*YOU TAUGHT US IN ROMAN NUMERALS
 $X = 10$... IS THIS A TRICK QUESTION?*



*I AM STARTING TO GRASP
THE MYSTERIES OF MATH...*

*THE ONLY MYSTERY
IS HOW YOU ARE
STILL IN OUR GRADE.*

