

The Bilge Pump

Vol. 08, No. 04 - April, 2020

*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the
Barque Lone Star - founded April, 1970*



PLEASE NOTE:

May 03 Meeting NOTICE

It is unlikely we will be holding a face to face meeting in May, but let's plan on doing another virtual meeting through Zoom on May 3rd at 1:00 pm. Will send out particulars in a week.

April 12 Summary

There were 19 in attendance at the virtual meeting. A wonderful opening toast was given by Cindy Brown on a testimonial to our Society during these times (see page 3).

Steve Mason then gave an update on upcoming events the Society will be involved with, including:

- November 11 at the Allen Library on "The Science of Sherlock Holmes," (see page 5)
- SMU / Barque Lone Star Symposium on October 22-24, 2021 (see page 6)
- 2020 Barque Lone Star Compilation (see page 7)

We are proud to announce two of our own members, Thomas and Eleanor Hebert were prize winners in the Joel Senter Essay Contest. Congratulations to the two of them (you can see more on the Beacon Society website at www.beaconsociety.com)

We then held a virtual quiz on the disguises used by Holmes in the Canon.

The final reading was from the Baker Street Journal (see page 4).

Thanks to Cindy Brown for keeping the minutes, which you can find on our website.



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

You can follow us on Twitter at: @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

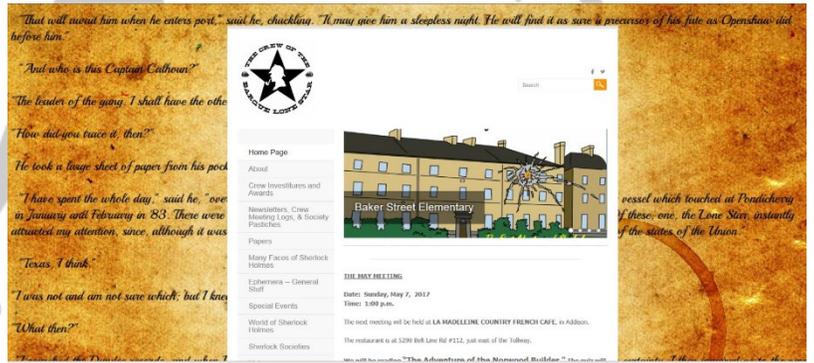
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Our Website:

www.dfw-sherlock.org



Our Facebook Page:

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

"ONE FIXED POINT IN A CHANGING AGE"

Cindy Brown

Today we are all facing some seriously **interesting** times. **Interesting** like, am I going to have enough toilet paper to make it through this week. Better be mindful of what I eat. **Interesting** like, will I have enough money to buy dogfood by the end of the month, or will **he** be sharing mine, or even worse, will I be sharing his! **Interesting**, like when am I going to see my best friend, my children, my parents, and even those pesky co-workers that I really don't even care for, when am I ever going to see them again?

Once in a while, I think, well this isn't so bad. I can catch up on all my reading, I can do the Fortescue Exam, I can listen to all the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" Podcast, as well as the "Triffles" Podcasts.

I can finally learn to be a better cook, or maybe **as a very last resort**, I can clean my house. I can sit and watch TV all day long because now I can sleep as late as I want, since I have no reason to get up and go anywhere. I can play with my new puppy, I can exercise and use all those work out videos that I have invested a small fortune in over the last few years.

Oh, **must I!!!**

But loneliness is becoming common to many of us.

When I think of loneliness in the Canon, I think of a few of my favorite stories. In the **Devil's Foot** there was the Great Lion Hunter and Explorer, Dr. Leon Sterndale who returned to England only to find his one true love dead and two of her three brothers delirious. Poor Sterndale who for so many years suffered loneliness in the jungles of Africa because his unloving wife refused to grant him a divorce. He spent so many years of loneliness, hoping to one day return and claim Brenda Tregennis as his love, just to find her murdered by her own brother.

And then there was the **Ship's Captain** in the **Abby Grange** who fell in love with Mary Frasier when he was a lowly ship's First Officer. Only to find out later that her husband was an abusive drunk. I'm sure they both had many lonely nights thinking of what could have been, (and hopefully eventually was.)

And let's not forget the **Lady Carfax** who was denied her fortune and possibly her love because of her gender and status. She was considered a beautiful woman, still in fresh middle-age, and yet one of the most dangerous classes in the world.

She was the drifting and friendless woman.

Some of these stories have happy ending, others, well maybe not. In the Canon we can find many lonely and isolated individuals. However, we would be hard put to find anyone so lonely and truly alone as our beloved Sherlock Holmes. His social skills were beyond compare, but **social, he was not.**

During this difficult time, let's remember to reach out to others on a regular basis. And don't forget about that old fashion appliance referred to as a telephone. Remember to play, read, eat well, and do something good for yourself and others every day. Remember, when you open the canon, you are exposing yourself to stories of Sherlock Holmes, our one fixed point in a changing age. And remember to get some sunshine every day if possible. And never listen to the news right before you go to bed.

I hope soon we can sit together and share funny stories and stories of courage about how we made it though this crazy time. Remember, by not coming together, we are coming together; and we will beat this thing. Because we will make it through. Be strong, be safe, and raise your glasses and join me in a toast, to our companions, THE TO THE CREW, OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR.

"THE DAYS WE ENVY" (EXTRACT)

Edgar W. Smith, Editor, BSJ, July, 1954, Vol 4, No. 3

One of the things we envy Mr. Sherlock Holmes is the fact that he lived in the days he did.

We envy him for it, and we take him to our hearts as we do because he is a symbol of those days - and because the days themselves are days we envy.

It was not in Britain alone, but everywhere, that the late Victorian and early Edwardian days saw this assumption of utter perfection and righteousness attain to its full flower.

Now things are different. There is no longer assurance of happiness and peace and no basis for the entertainment of any illusions whatsoever.

Our troubles are both deeper than they have ever been before and more plainly visible from the surface, and such words as contentment and

security and righteousness and perfection strike a jarring note against the sounding-board of our times.

We have it would appear, come a long way without getting anywhere in particular.

The days of Sherlock Holmes were not, perhaps, the halcyon days of pure Utopia that they seem. But at least they had, and still have, the ineffable capacity of seeming.

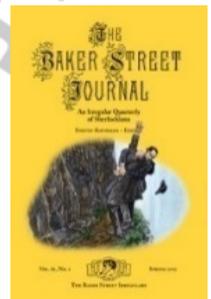
It is no wonder that we envy those days, and that we hold fast to both the realities and the illusions they entail.

It is no wonder, when our burdens lie too heavy upon us, that we seek the magic door leading back into those days that is opened up to us in the pages of a certain book. them.



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.

Learn more about Sherlock Holmes and Science in a free program presented by The Crew of the Barque Lone Star. This group is a Sherlock Holmes literary society for the greater Dallas/Ft. Worth area, and a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars.

Join us at **12:00 pm to 4:30 pm** on **Saturday, November 11** at the **Allen Public Library**, 300 N. Allen Drive, Allen Texas. The symposium will include: presentations on the science of Sherlock Holmes, interactive forensic activities, and a mystery for attendees to solve.



The Crew of the Barque Lone Star

For more information concerning our society, visit:

<http://www.dfw-Sherlock.org>

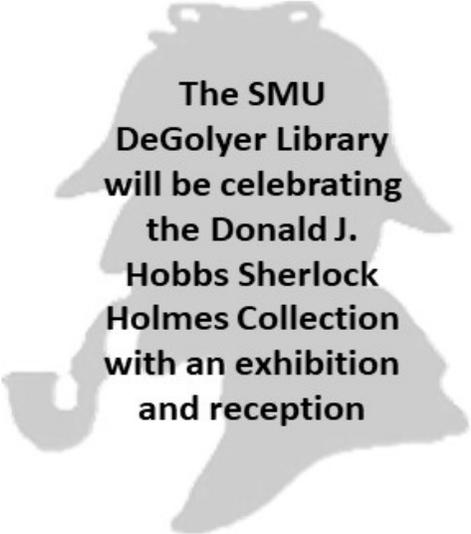
Please Join us at "The Collecting Mania"

A Symposium on all Things Sherlockian

What it takes to keep the Memory green and the Great Game alive

Tentative Speakers include:

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Howard Ostrom
Barbara Rusch, BSI



The SMU
DeGolyer Library
will be celebrating
the Donald J.
Hobbs Sherlock
Holmes Collection
with an exhibition
and reception

The Beeman Hotel, Dallas, Texas October 22-24, 2021

For more information, see our website
at: www.dfw-sherlock.org

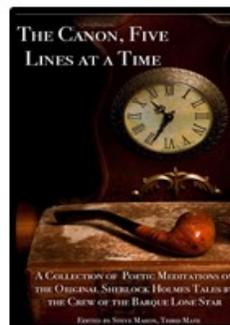
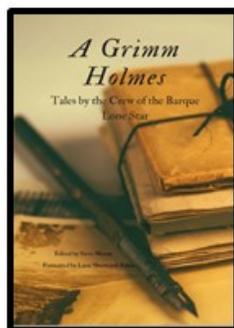
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Crew of the Barque Lone
Star Society



SMU



**We are producing
our 4th book for our
50th Anniversary.**



For this year, members may submit an adventure involving Holmes and Watson solving a personal ad from one of the Victorian papers' Agony Columns.

1. You can use any personal ad available to you from a paper from the time of Holmes/Watson's career.
2. We have attached a list of personal ads researched and decoded by Liese and myself from various sources. You are welcome to use any of those in the enclosed list.
3. Your story should be 3,000 – 5,000 words, which is the average length for a short story. Obviously, a shorter story is fine.
4. Your story will be edited by one or two member volunteer editors, but only for grammar, typos... we will not edit the content of your story.
5. This project is not limited to just those members in the DFW area. Any member is welcome to submit a pastiche.
6. We plan to finalize the anthology by the end of the calendar year, so we ask for members to submit their entry by August 31.

The final product will be put together in book form and posted on our website and shared with all society members as a .pdf file. We plan on publishing copies of the book for those who submit a pastiche in the anthology.



A CASE OF SUGAR SICKNESS

Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD

In the “Bascombe Valley Mystery,” John Turner shared with Sherlock Holmes that he had diabetes for “years” and had probably a month to live.

While diabetes has been recognized for more than 3000 years, it has only been in the last century that effective treatments have been developed.

Prior to the 1920s, “sugar sickness” was a fatal disease, as in John Turners’ prognosis.

Descriptions of the disease appear as early as 1552 BCE when an Egyptian physician described frequent urination as a symptom of some types of emaciation.

In the sixth century BCE, an Indian healer coined the term “Madhumeha”—combining the words for “honey” and “urine”—and used ants to determine if they were attracted to the person’s urine.

The term “diabete” first appeared in a medical text written in 1425 and in 1675, the term “mellitus” (“honey”) was added to describe the urine’s sweet taste. (1)

Other symptoms described at the time included increased thirst, frequent urination, extreme hunger, unexplained weight loss, and fatigue. (2)

The cause is now known to be related to either the inability to produce insulin or to use it properly, affecting the amount of glucose in the bloodstream.

While the role of the pancreas in the disease was identified in 1889, it was not until 1910 that the

cause of the illness was determined to be a lack of insulin. (3)

Dr. Frederick Banting in 1921 used this knowledge to create insulin using ground-up beef pancreas that had been mixed with acidic alcohol and filtered until sterile.

After experimenting on dogs, he and his student injected the “thick, brown muck” into a fourteen-year-old boy who was dying from diabetes. (4)

The boy’s glucose level dropped, and he lived another 13 years until he died of pneumonia. (5)

Prior to the discovery and creation of insulin, treatments were not always helpful (one, Pierre Piorry, suggested ingesting large quantities of sugar to replace what was being lost and another cure was the “Beer-Swill”).

Hippocrates, however, noted a low-starch diet and exercise seemed to extend a diabetic’s life, but it was lost to time.

Diet was reintroduced in 1919 when a French physician noted that starvation diets occurring from meager wartime rations produced little glucose in soldiers’ urine and successfully applied it to his diabetic patients. (6)

Not all diabetics, however, excrete excess glucose in their urine.

In 1794, Johann Peter Frank noted this phenomenon and coined the term “diabetes insipidus.”



Blood glucose levels are normal, but the kidneys cannot balance the body's fluid levels. (7)

In addition to these two distinct forms of diabetes, Sir Harold Percival Himsworth published a paper in 1936 identifying two additional varieties of diabetes: Type 1 (also called "juvenile diabetes," which involves no insulin production) and Type 2 (insulin resistant). (8)

Most recently, a group of researchers have identified five types of Type 2: Severe Autoimmune Diabetes (overlaps with Type 1 where no insulin is produced); Severe Insulin-Deficient Diabetes, which is similar to the first, but lacks antibodies present in the first; Severe Insulin-Resistant Diabetes, where the body does not respond to the

insulin as needed; Mild Obesity-Related Diabetes, which involves obesity but not insulin resistance; and Mild Age-Related Diabetes, which is similar to the fourth, but found in older patients. (9)

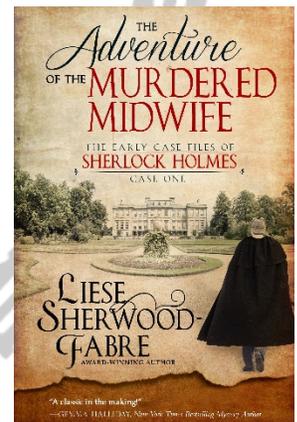
The goal of this more detailed classification is to provide additional information related to possible complications as well as the underlying mechanisms creating or affecting the disease. (10)

While the medical community was familiar with John Turner's diagnosis, it would be another thirty years before an effective treatment would be developed. These advances, however, began more than 3000 years ago with a notice of some ants' peculiar attraction.

- (1) <https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Diabetes.aspx>
- (2) <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/diabetes/symptoms-causes/syc-20371444>
- (3) <https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Diabetes.aspx>
- (4) <https://spectrum.diabetesjournals.org/content/27/2/82>
- (5) <https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Diabetes.aspx>
- (6) <https://beyondtype1.org/historical-diabetes-remedies/>
- (7) <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/kidney-disease/diabetes-insipidus>
- (8) <https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Diabetes.aspx>
- (9) <https://qz.com/1220918/there-may-be-five-types-of-diabetes-according-to-a-new-lancet-study/>
- (10) https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323563499_Novel_subgroups_of_adult-onset_diabetes_and_their_association_with_outcomes_A_data-driven_cluster_analysis_of_six_variables

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.

Liese Sherwood-Fabre is pleased to announce the launch the origin series: The Early Case Files of Sherlock Holmes. The first, *The Adventure of the Murdered Midwife*, is available at all major online bookstores for pre-order beginning April, 2020. See her Website Liesesherwoodfabre.com for more details.



A non-Sherlockian adventure can be downloaded at: <http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com/extras.html>

SOME LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS: ANTITHESIS IN THE CANON

By Karen Murdock

Originally published in *The Serpentine Muse*, Volume 24, number 4, Fall 2008

See some light in the darkness, but it may possibly flicker out. Meanwhile, please send by messenger, to await return at Baker Street, a complete list of all foreign spies or international agents known to be in England, with full address.

SHERLOCK ("The Bruce-Partington Plans")

Figures of classical rhetoric abound in the Sherlock Holmes stories. One such figure is antithesis, the juxtaposition of contrasting ideas.

Antithesis is not quite the same thing as antonyms, words with opposite meanings. Both come from the same root — the Greek "anti" meaning "against" or "opposite." Antonym comes from the Greek *onoma* ("name"), antithesis from *tithenai* ("to set"). Some dictionaries give broad enough definitions of these two terms so that they could be considered synonyms.

If antithesis is defined as the exact opposite of something ("His political convictions are the antithesis of mine") — as it is in some dictionaries — it is hard to see how this differs from antonym. Many sources, however, adopt a more exacting definition and say that, in order to be antithesis, words or ideas must be juxtaposed in a sentence so as to give a feeling of balance. It is the sense of balance that gives the antithesis, not merely the words.

In this more demanding definition, the antithesis may consist of ideas rather words. "She provided her son with the finest possible education, but he has taken to making his living as a mime in Washington Square Park" is a sentence that contrasts two ideas without employing antonyms.

Antithesis often employs parallel structure. Parallel structure (parallelism) is one of the basic building blocks of good writing. The human mind grasps contrasting ideas easily when they are expressed in parallel form.

Parallelism is the arrangement of similarly constructed clauses, sentences — or, in poetry, lines of verse — in such a way as to suggest a correspondence between them. In parallel structure, nouns are paralleled with nouns, prepositional phrases with prepositional phrases, subordinate clauses with subordinate clauses and so forth.

To err is human, to forgive divine.

(Alexander Pope, "An Essay on Criticism," 1711)

In this famous line, Pope uses the infinitive form of both verbs ("to err" and "to forgive") at the beginning of successive clauses to create a feeling that the two clauses go together.

Shakespeare often employs parallel structure, as in this passage from "Richard II":

I'll give my jewels for a set of beads,
My gorgeous palace for a hermitage,
My gay apparel for an almsman's gown,
My figured goblets for a dish of wood

John D. Rockefeller Jr. uses parallelism in stating that

I believe that every right implies a responsibility;
every opportunity, an obligation; every
possession, a duty.

Parallelism does not imply antithesis. In Rockefeller's sentence, "right" is not the antonym of "responsibility," "opportunity" not the antonym of "obligation," and "possession" not the antonym of "duty." However, the nouns are linked because they are presented in parallel structure.

Arthur Conan Doyle, who was — speaking technically — a highly competent writer, uses parallel construction commonly in the Canon:

- His lucent top-hat, his dark frock-coat (ILLU, 985)
- the poise of the head, the squareness of the shoulders, the sharpness of the features (EMPT, 489)
- the mail-boat which brought the letter and the sailing vessel which brought the writer (FIVE, 226)
- He examined the lock of the safe, the door of the room, and finally the iron shutters of the window. (BRUC, 924)

- Holmes clapped a pistol to his head, and Martin slipped the handcuffs over his wrists. (DANC, 524)
- The coyote skulks among the shrub, the buzzard flaps heavily through the air, and the clumsy grizzly bear lumbers through the dark ravines. (STUD, 52)

These examples of parallelism are not antithesis, however. Antithesis results when two of the structural elements arranged in parallel are opposed to one another in meaning.

- Wear the old coat and buy the new book. (Austin Phelps, *Theory of Preaching*, 1882)

In this sentence, two clauses are in balance around the conjunction “and.” Both clauses consist of

verb (imperative form) + definite article + adjective + noun

The two adjectives (“old” and “new”) are antonyms. However, it is the insertion of these antonyms into a balanced structure that makes this sentence antithesis.

Antitheses are often strikingly memorable; books of famous quotations are full of them:

- The play was a great success. But the audience was a failure. (Oscar Wilde, remark on the reception of one of his least successful plays)
- South Carolina is too small for a republic and too large for a lunatic asylum. (Attributed to James Louis Petigru, on being asked if he would support the secession of South Carolina from the Union, 1860)
- They sicken of the calm, who knew the storm. (Dorothy Parker, “Fair Weather,” in *Sunset Gun*, 1928)

It is a matter of opinion — and the opinions of professional rhetoricians do differ — when two antonyms placed in proximity to one another become antithesis. Antonyms used in the same sentence are common in the Sherlockian Canon and include

- old—new
- right—left
- day—night
- to—fro
- here—there
- backward—forward
- up—down
- sooner—later
- in—out

- before—after
- coming—going

Such lines or phrases as

- while her body oscillated backward and forward, and her fingers fidgeted with her glove buttons (IDEN, 192)
- he had seen flickering lights here and there in the windows of the great dark house (LADY, 953)
- I must have fainted for the first and the last time in my life (EMPT, 485)

do not really rise to the level of antithesis, in the opinion of many rhetoricians. It is only when these words are arranged in a sentence (or adjacent sentences) in balance with one another that they become antithesis.

Conan Doyle uses contrasts often in his works and in the Sherlock Holmes stories examples of antithesis abound:

- “Why so large a coffin for so small a body?” (LADY, 954)
- WATSON: “I came to find a friend.”
HOLMES: “And I to find an enemy.” (TWIS, 232)
- there was a strange contrast between the sweet promise of the spring and this sinister quest upon which we were engaged (SPEC, 265)
- There is no bird in the steel-blue heaven, no movement upon the dull grey earth (STUD, 52)

Antithesis becomes even more striking when two examples of this figure are used in one sentence or in adjacent sentences:

- We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last, best hope of earth. (Abraham Lincoln, in his second annual message to Congress, December 1, 1862)
- I must be gone and live, or stay and die. (William Shakespeare, “Romeo and Juliet,” Act III, scene 5, l.11)
- Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. And [...] moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue. (Barry Goldwater, acceptance speech, Republican presidential nomination, July 16, 1964)
- For in my opinion, there never was a good war or a bad peace. (Benjamin Franklin, in a letter to Josiah Quincy, September 11, 1783)

Doyle occasionally makes use of such double antithesis in the Sherlockian Canon:

- A rainy night had been followed by a glorious morning (SOLI, 533)
- “It has done harm to many and good to none” (GOLD, 619)
- “Whoever saw a frisky dog in a gloomy family, or a sad dog in a happy one?” (CREE, 1071)
- love died and hate was born (3GAB, 1030)
- “These public charities are a screen to cover his private iniquities.” (THOR, 1057)
- “I know now the poor spirit that was hidden in that splendid body.” (VEIL, 1100)

The most common example of antithesis in the Canon is the contrast of light and dark. In one case the contrast is literal; in The Valley of Fear as James Douglas emerges from his hiding place in Birlstone Manor he wears

- the dazed look of one who comes from the dark into the light (VALL, 811)

In all other cases of the light-dark antithesis, however, the terms are used metaphorically to suggest mystery and puzzlement (dark) and the eventually solving of the mystery, the clearing up of the puzzle (light).

Clients use the light-dark metaphor when they appeal to Sherlock Holmes to take up their cases:

- HELEN STONER: “Oh, sir, do you not think that you could help me, too, and at least throw a little light through the dense darkness which surrounds me?” (SPEC, 259)

- 1 See my article “Lost in Tobacco and Zeugma: Some Devices of Classical Rhetoric in the Sherlockian Canon,” Canadian Holmes, Volume 27, Number 4 (Summer 2004). I am in the process of compiling lists of all the figures of speech in the Sherlock Holmes stories.
- 2 I enthusiastically recommend one of my favorite websites, Onelook Dictionaries (www.onelook.com). Here you will find over 900 dictionaries all in one website and all searchable at one click. Onelook is the answer to a maiden’s prayer, provided that the maiden is easily enraptured by words.
- 3 Some very meticulous rhetoricians maintain that if conjoining contrasting ideas are presented in parallel clauses, the figure is one of *synchrisis* and not antithesis. This is a fine distinction and one I do not wish to draw in an introductory essay.

- HALL PYCROFT: “It was altogether too much for me, and I could make no sense of it. And then suddenly it struck me that what was dark to me might be very light to Mr. Sherlock Holmes.” (STOC, 368)
- PROFESSOR CORAM: “I shall indeed be indebted to you if you can throw a light where all is so dark to us” (GOLD, 615)
- MRS. WARREN: “But he [Fairdale Hobbs] would never cease talking of it —your kindness, sir, and the way in which you brought light into the darkness. I remembered his words when I was in doubt and darkness myself. I know you could if you only would.” (REDC, 901)

Holmes himself picks up the metaphor (and antithesis) of light and dark in describing what he is doing while solving his cases:

- “It is possible that we may be able to make you some small return by throwing some light upon that which is still dark to you” (SIGN, 105)
- “Well, I think, Doctor, that we may let some light into this dark place” (FIVE, 227)
- See some light in the darkness, but it may possibly flicker out. (BRUC, 920)
- “Here is a book [. . .] which first brought light into what might have been forever dark” (LION, 1093)

Prometheus, in Greek myth, brought the gift of fire to humankind. In the Sherlockian Saga, Sherlock Holmes plays the role of Prometheus, the bringer of light into dark places, a hero for humanity.

GEMS FROM "THE BERYL CORONET"

by Paul Singleton, *The Holmes and Watson Report*, January, 2004

On the printed page and between the lines of the Sherlock Holmes story "The Beryl Coronet," secrecy is a leitmotif throughout - secrets within a family, within exalted circles, and eventually within a government.

Exposed Scandals in The Strand

When Alexander Holder comes to Sherlock Holmes with his problem of the damaged and partly missing coronet, he goes to great lengths not to reveal the name of his borrowing client, instead finally saying that" ... it was a name which is a household word all over the earth - one of the highest, noblest, most exalted names in England."

Mr. Holder also did not want the secret that a national property had been misused and damaged to see the light of day:

"There could be no doubt that, as it was a national possession, a horrible scandal would ensue if any misfortune should occur to it." (This makes one wonder why Holder then did something so public as to call in the police to arrest his son Arthur, and then to offer a very public £1,000 reward for the missing beryls.)

When Dr. Watson published the case in the May 1892 issue of *The Strand Magazine*, however, the scandal eventually did come out in a very big way.

Imagine Holder's reaction to being described in print not only as a

financier who told his family about a secret transaction with a member of the nobility, causing the collateral to be stolen and damaged, but also as "running hard, with occasional little springs" and as someone who "as he ran... jerked his hands up and down, waggled his head, and writhed his face into the most extraordinary contortions."

And what about being described as springing up and beating his head against the wall?

Not at all the image of the solid, respectable banker.

Imagine his clients' reactions; surely the banking firm of Holder & Stevenson, of Threadneedle Street, felt their business drop off after the published story hit the streets.

Not only that, those closest and dearest to the exalted client (and possibly to Holder) would surely have deduced the identity of the borrower.

Both the Sherlockian scholars Edgar W. Smith and A. Carson Simpson agreed that it was no less than HRH Albert Edward, Prince of Wales.

If so, this "illustrious client" (sound familiar?) must have received quite a talking-to from his mum.

And why did this highest, noblest, most exalted client require £50,000 "at once" and in such secretive circumstances, choosing

to borrow not from his friends but from a private banker whom he had never met before, and displaying "the air of a man who wishes to hurry quickly through a disagreeable task."

And using a possession of the Empire as collateral?

These are deep waters indeed.

Other stories in the Canon have brought supposedly private and guarded scandals to light, probably causing much shame in some families, affecting innocent and guilty alike.

Surely the publication of 'The Noble Bachelor,' although containing no actual crime, brought unwanted publicity and notoriety to Lord Robert St. Simon.

As if the private shame of having to sell his paintings for income and losing a rich wife weren't enough, now the whole nation knows!

One also thinks of similar private shame made public in "The Man with the Twisted Lip" and "The Creeping Man."

Among other stories, the most notable examples of family members or reputable public figures coming to grief as a result of actual crimes being made public are 'The Priory School,' "The Boscombe Valley Mystery," "Silver Blaze," "The Naval Treaty," "Sir Charles Augustus Milverton," and "The Second Stain."

True, later clients of Holmes must have known that their case stood a good chance of one day seeing print (though it didn't seem to deter many of them), but it is never revealed whether they took any legal action against Watson afterwards.

This is obviously a depiction of an age before the existence of the confidentiality agreement.

Holmes's Son

Referring to Mr. Holder's son's conduct in the affair, Holmes makes a very curious comment, saying, "... who has carried himself in this matter as I should be proud to see my own son do, should I ever chance to have one."

This statement recalls Holmes's statement in "The Copper Beeches" that "I confess that it is not the situation which I should like to see a sister of mine apply for."

These comments have caused much discussion among Holmesian scholars as to whether Holmes had a family secret.

But while many have endeavored to speculate as to whom this statement pertained, few have paused to consider why Holmes made this curious statement.

Was Holmes contemplating marriage and a family?

Or did he say the first half of this statement out of his feelings of admiration of the son's behavior, adding "... should lever chance to have one" with a quick glance at Watson to dispel any speculation on the part of the doctor?

No doubt the first part of Holmes's statement prompted a surprised stare from Watson, ever ready with notepad and pencil.

Parts and Service

Much attention has also been paid to what happened to the pieces of the coronet once they were returned to Holder.

In his book, *A Sherlock Holmes Commentary*, D. Martin Dakin mused:

"Of course Holder might have had it repaired; but there was not much time for that between the Saturday when Holmes returned the lost stones, and the Monday morning when the pledge was to be reclaimed, nor does it seem likely that it could be done without being noticeable; moreover if the goldsmith were to recognize the piece, the secret would be out."

And A. Carson Simpson comments in his 1957 essay "Whose Was It? Conjectures on a Coronet":

"The injuries to the coronet pose a problem for which there seems to

be no solution. We are told that '... any injury to it would be almost as serious as its complete loss...' How did Alexander Holder expect to get it made as good as new between Saturday morning, when he got back the missing piece, and the following Monday, when the borrower would return to reclaim it?"

Why should these scholars worry so when the right man for the job was already on the scene?

Mr. Holder's association with Mr. Holmes was only half over, for Holmes was surely one of the few who were clever enough to see to it that the coronet was repaired by Monday morning, only two days away (and two weekend days, at that), and also see to it that a scandal was averted.

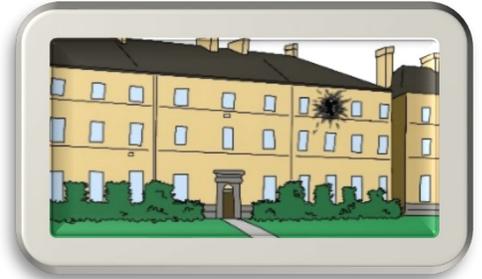
To take D. Martin Dakin's statement a bit further, most likely *any* goldsmith would have recognized the piece for-what it was.

Since this was a matter of national import, Holmes could have solicited the aid of his brother Mycroft, who had the power, the treasury, and the required secrecy of the British government behind him.

Only in these circumstances could the Beryl Coronet have been repaired so completely, so quickly, and so secretly.

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

THE LATEST DISPATCH FROM SCOTT AND BURT IS AN INTERESTING SUMMARY OF HOME-SCHOOLING THEY ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING...



SCOTT TOLD HIS "TEACHER" HE TALKS TO EVERYONE... MOVING HIM TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DINING TABLE WILL NOT HELP...

BURT INDICATES HIS "TEACHER" IS HOLDING 5 FIRE DRILLS OUTDOORS EACH DAY...



SCOTT HAS BEEN SENT TO THE "HEADMASTERS" STUDY FOUR TIMES FOR SAYING "THAT'S NOT HOW OUR REAL TEACHER DOES IT..."



FOR SCIENCE ON THE 5TH DAY, THEY STUDIED THE EFFECTS OF GODFREY'S CORDIAL* ON STUDENTS...

BURT'S 'TEACHER' MAY BE SUSPENDED FOR DRINKING ON THE JOB...



A VERY STRONG SEDATIVE USED TO CALM AND SEDATE CHILDREN...

SCOTT'S PARENTS HAVE SUDDENLY REALIZED, "MAYBE THE REAL TEACHERS AREN'T THE PROBLEM..."



BURT'S PARENTS ARE RECOMMENDING RAISES AND COUNSELING FOR THE "REAL TEACHERS"

