

Baker Street Elementary
& The Victorian Web

Presents
"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



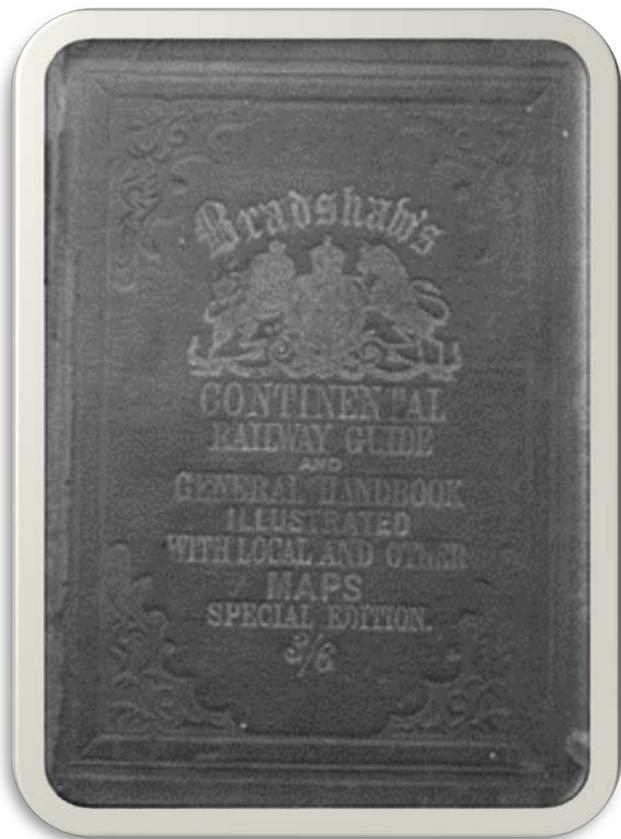
Baker Street Elementary
& *The Victorian Web*

The Life and Times in Victorian London
099 - The Traveler's Guide to Victorian England -- 07/30/2018



Welcome to topic number 38... Two of the cases in the canon make a reference to Bradshaw's -- "The Valley of Fear" and "The Adventure of the Copper Breeches."

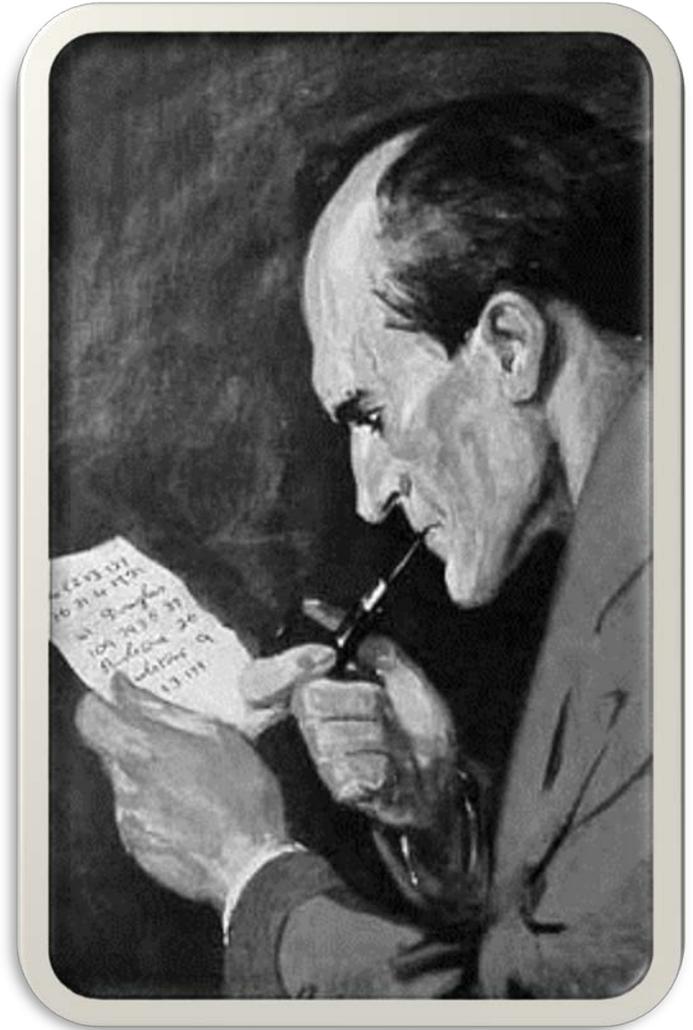




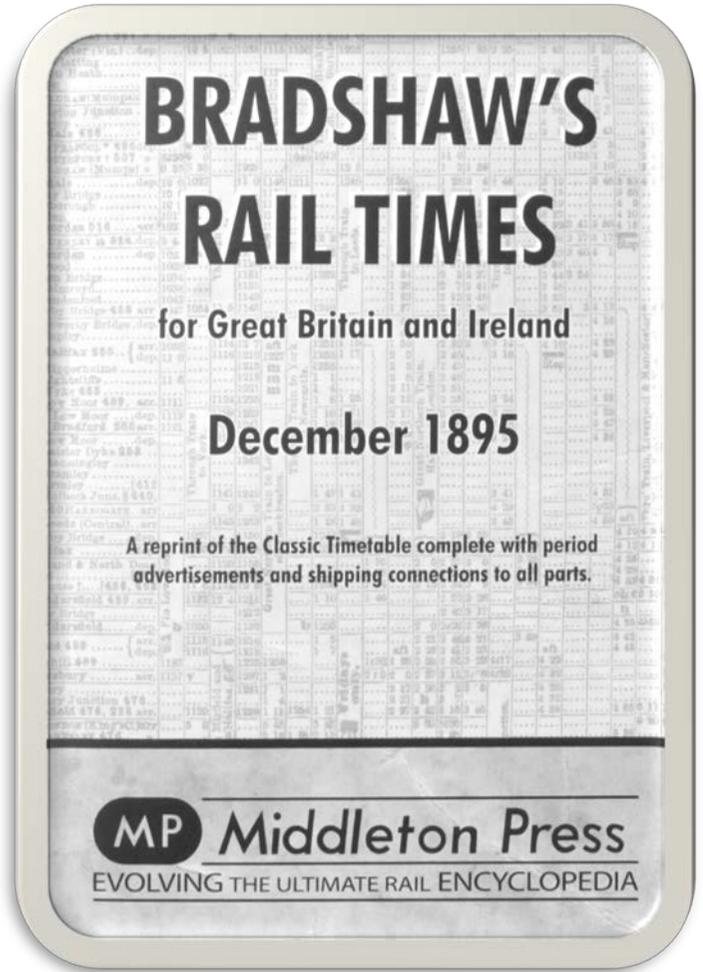
While Victorians would have been intimately familiar with this railway timetable and guidebook, its usefulness and full complement of features will be lost on most modern readers.



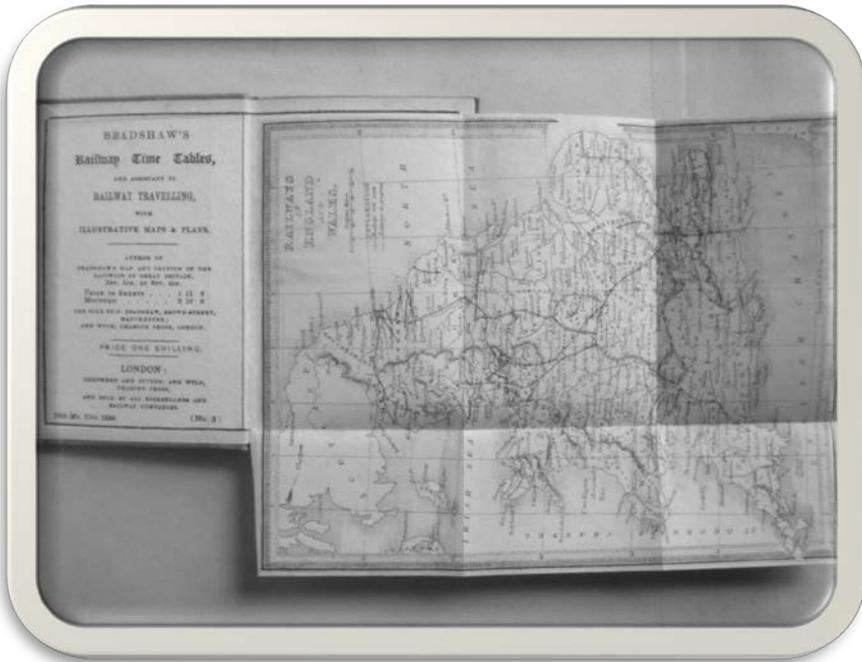
The first hint of the book's ubiquitous nature was Holmes's observation in "The Valley of Fear" a clue to a ciphered message would be within a set of "standardized books which anyone may be supposed to possess."



Far from a dry listing of departure and arrival times, the book includes a myriad of information on each destination listed...



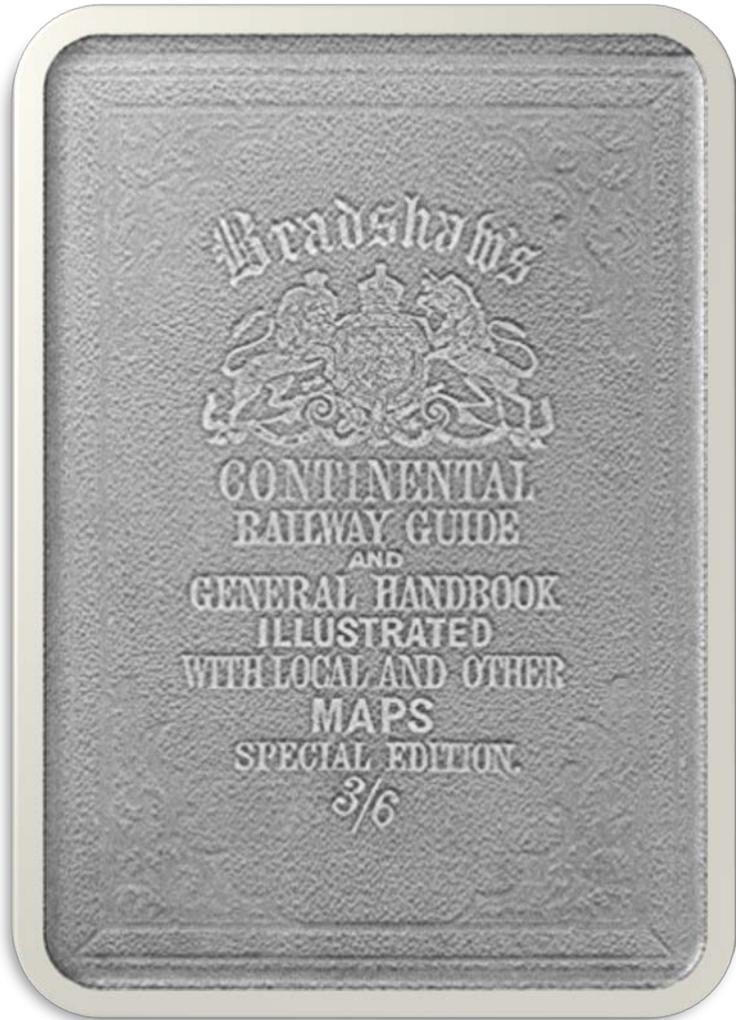
As described by Michael Portillo (more about him later), the system was "higgledy-piggledy; free-enterprise rampant, lines everywhere, no planning or coordination."





Originally titled Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables, the second edition, Bradshaw's Railway Companion, in 1840 was renamed and repriced...

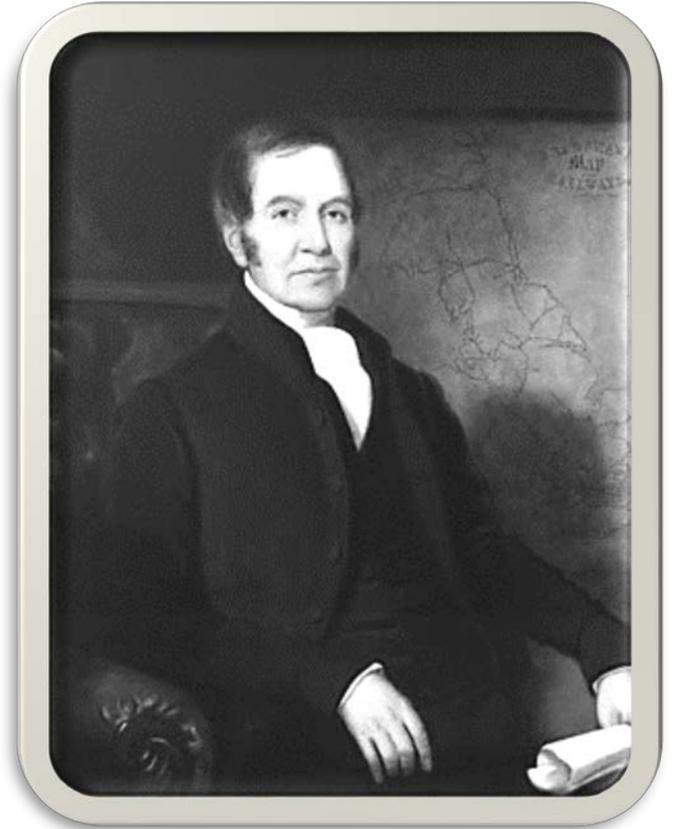




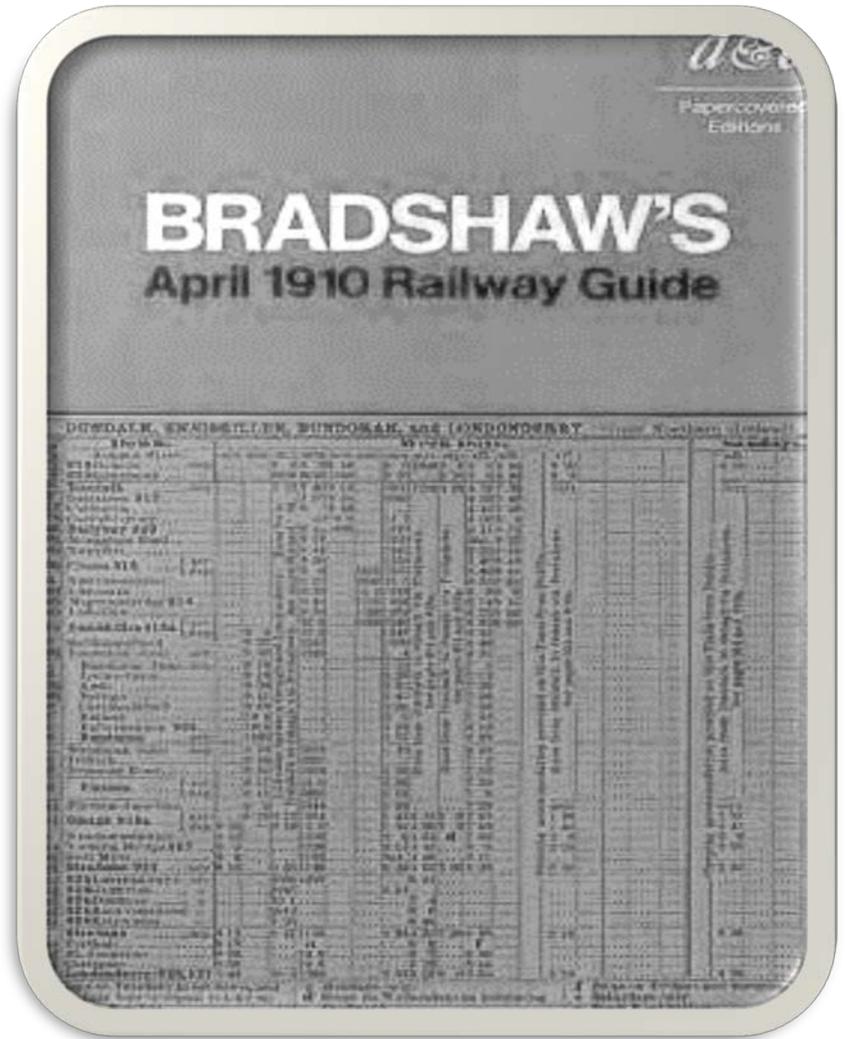
...but was changed back to the original title and price in 1841.



The guide's creator, George Bradshaw (1801-1853) was an engraver and publisher in Manchester and had already established his reputation with his publication Bradshaw's Maps of Inland Navigation.



Although he contracted cholera while on a trip to Norway and died before leaving the county, his guides will continue to be published until 1961...



...when the nationalization of the railways, the rise in automobiles, and the creation of a modern highway system all will lead to a decline in rail travel.



In 2010, a BBC series by Michael Portillo will re-ignite interest in Bradshaw's guides.



LOOK FOR INDEX, PAGES 1 to 13.

No. 355.]

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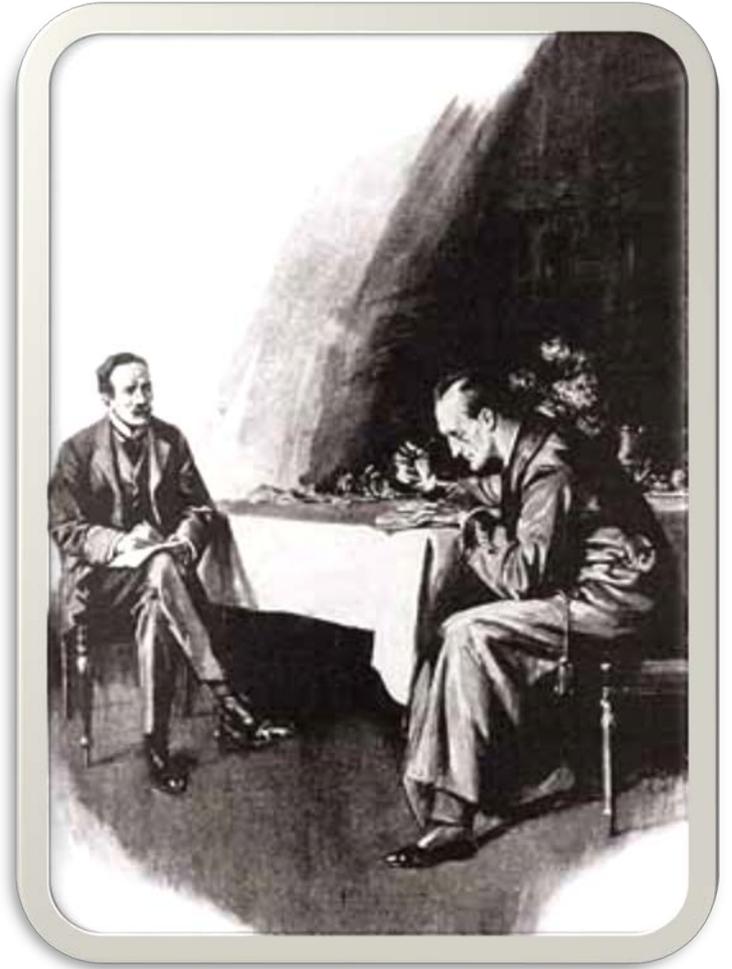
IRELAND, AND THE CONTINENT.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.

Using the 1863 guide, Portillo will travel across Britain, visiting points of interest and hotels mentioned in that edition, making the book an unexpected bestseller in 2012.

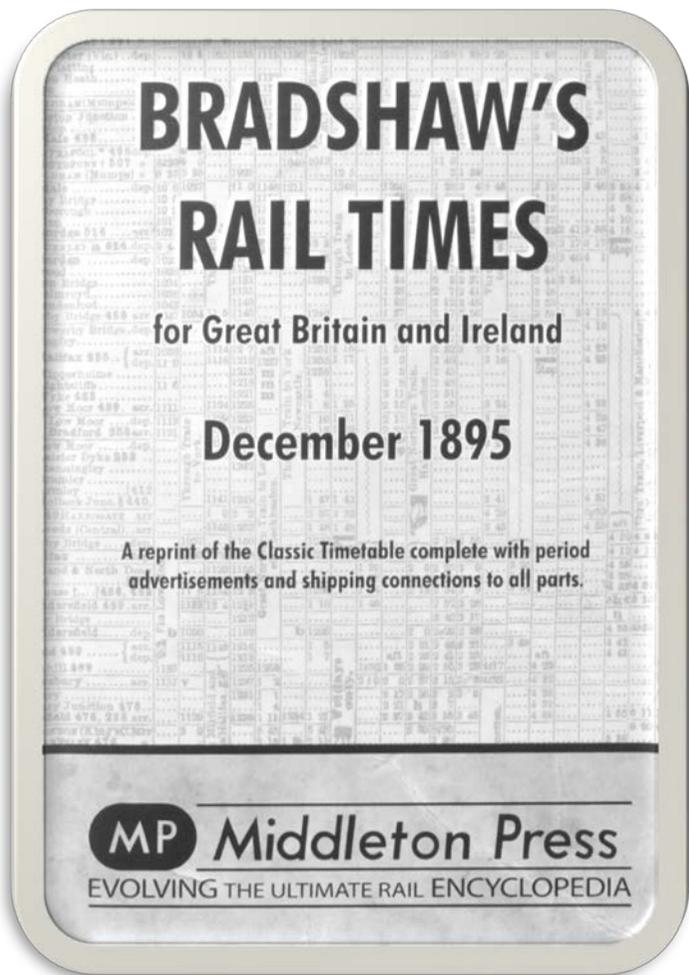


Portillo would most likely disagree with Holmes' assessment of the guide's vocabulary being "nervous and terse."



He will note "some of the descriptions of industrial towns have imagery that almost recalls Dante's Inferno, with the red glow of all the furnaces in the ironworks."





Given the details the book provided, few Victorians were not likely "to leave home without it."



*So we have completed
topic 99 in our series...*

*Yes, but we'll be back
with another topic
soon...*



Original Source Material for this topic:

- 1) Doyle, Arthur Conan. The Complete Sherlock Holmes: with an introduction from Robert Ryan (Kindle Locations 7273-7274). Simon & Schuster UK. Kindle Edition.
- 2) <https://bradshawsguide.org/about>
- 3) <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/rail-journeys/Great-Continental-Railway-Journeys-Michael-Portillo-gets-back-on-track/>
- 4) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bradshaw%27s_Guide
- 5) <https://bradshawsguide.org/about>
- 6) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bradshaw
- 7) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bradshaw%27s_Guide
- 8) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Bradshaw
- 9) Doyle, Arthur Conan. The Complete Sherlock Holmes: with an introduction from Robert Ryan (Kindle Location 7275). Simon & Schuster UK. Kindle Edition.
- 10) <https://www.americanexpress.com/icc/trademarks.html>



Baker Street Elementary

"The Life and Times in Victorian London"

IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

JOE FAY

LIESE SHERWOOD-FABRE

GEORGE P. LANDOW

RUSTY MASON &

STEVE MASON

*WE ARE EXTREMELY
THANKFUL TO LIESE AND
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OF THIS PROJECT...*

