

# The Bilge Pump

Vol. 05, No. 10 - October, 2017  
*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the  
Barque Lone Star*



## November 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting NOTICE

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, November 5th, 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 Adventure of the Devil's Foot."

The quiz will cover this tale.

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

## October 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

- CREW ON DECK: There were 15 attendees on hand.
  - INTRODUCTION ROUNDS AT TABLE: Welcome to Donald King and Pam Kerr.
  - OPENING TOAST: Delivered by: Steve Mason, Honoring: Arthur Conan Doyle, Literary Agent, Written by: John Ellis, The Noble and Most Singular Order of the Blue Carbuncle
  - THE QUIZ  
"The Adventure of the Abbey Grange"  
Winner: Karen Olson, Sandra Little – 2<sup>nd</sup> place
  - DISCUSSION (General Description)  
As introduction, the Crew identified the canonical stories that present Sherlock Holmes as personally dispensing justice, following his conscience, and those that have him breaking the law during the conduct of an investigation. The topic of discussion focused on modern-day private detectives and their business conduct in light of the latitude afforded them by policing forces, the legal hierarchy, and law.
  - ANNOUNCEMENTS: The deadline for the short story submissions was the previous evening. Since there are still some stories in progress, the deadline is extended two weeks.
  - DECK CREW MEMBER INVESTITURE: The newest official member of the Deck Crew is Allen Osborne, having dutifully accomplished the essential requirements.
  - ANNOUNCEMENTS: 221B Con will be April 13-15, 2018, Atlanta, GA. They are currently seeking panelists. This convention draws a more youthful audience. Sherlock Holmes plays: (1) "The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays" is being performed by the Way Off Broadway Community Players in Leander, TX. Dates: October 6-7 and 13-14, 2017. (2) "The Westend Horror" is being put on at Rover Dramawerks in Plano on October 26-November 18. Vampire Stories is a book containing nine ACD works.
  - DRAWING FOR THE GANGWAY PRIZE  
Donald King held the winning ticket.
  - CLOSING READING/TOAST  
Sherlock Holmes in Three Centuries, Spring 2000 Baker Street Journal
- Thanks to Brenda S. Hutchison or keeping the minutes.

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  
Cindy Brown, Brenda Hutchison  
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# Our Website: [www.dfw-sherlock.org](http://www.dfw-sherlock.org)

*"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 sure which; but I knew..."*

*"What then?"*

*"I remember the Doctor's records, and when I..."*

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

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# TOAST TO SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

*By John Ellis of the NMSOBC (The Most Noble and Most Singular Order of the Blue Carbuncle)*

For Doctor Watson writing was his passion and chronicling the work and wisdom of Mr. Sherlock Holmes, consulting detective, his calling; however he had a problem, his manuscripts of the Holmes' cases were piling up on his desk unread, destined to be nothing more than a collection of personal scribblings, unless he could get them published and circulated to a much wider audience than one.

It became imperative to find some way to reach the populace, lest Sherlock Holmes's wisdom and knowledge be lost to the ages. He needed the help of someone who understood the business of periodical and book publishing and distribution.

He really wanted and needed a manager of his finances, business and literary affairs so

he could focus on his life mission of writing and chronicling the brilliance of Sherlock Holmes.

We are here tonight because Doctor Watson found such a man in a literary agent, who by his contacts and hard work found a way to get the narratives of Sherlock Holmes published and disseminated not only throughout the Empire but also in multiple linguistic translations to a worldwide audiences.

So please stand and lift your glasses high in honor of the literary agent without whose efforts the wisdom and genius of the Master would never have been entrusted to us and surely would have been lost forever; Please join me in honoring MR. Arthur Conan Doyle- literary Agent!

# "THE EDITOR'S GAS-LAMP"

BAKER STREET JOURNAL – SPRING, 2000

In 2000, the magazine The Nineteenth Century refused to change its name when the century did.

Now I understand.

It is hard to say farewell to the only century one had ever known.

Sherlock Holmes began his third century (on some children's television show his fourth).

This is an event worthy of note. For that which some call the Game is no longer that...

What is it?

We are not quite an industry, for I don't know of any Sherlockian getting rich from it.

We are not yet a scholarship, judging from the only slightly disguised looks of amused contempt from my academic friends.

We are not a religion, for only the most pixilated of us seeks salvation on the road to Baker Street.

We are something different from the nineteenth-century sodalities that joined together to celebrate Dickens or Browning.

We are not just the descendants of those Londoners who wore mourning when "The Final Problem" was published.

We are not even that brave brotherhood, that "whiskey-and-sodality" to use Morley's delicious phrase, that first became the BSI.

We are, my friends, something both new and old—a fraternity of readers, a brotherhood of print in a day of electronic screens.

We are a select group who not only wants to know what

happens next in our favorite book; we have decided to find out why it happened, and if it could have happened.

We have exposed a genre fiction, written by a man paid by the word over a century ago, to all the skills and tricks of modern scholarship.

And much to our surprise, the text has withstood the tests.

That is why Sherlock Holmes is fascinating.

Perhaps, more than that, there really is an inner truth hidden in the words of Conan Doyle that we are coming closer to revealing.

Perhaps not.

The challenge is how to blaze new trails while staying in the same wilderness as the trails explored earlier.

# NINE STORIES TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO

Liese Sherwood-Fabre

In “The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire,” “The Adventure of the Illustrious Client,” and “The Adventure of the Three Gables,” Sherlock Holmes investigates three different vampire-like creatures.

These three stories, all first published between 1924 and 1926, include references to beings who survive off the essence of others and appeared in print about twenty-five years after Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*.

The concept of the vampire—an individual who achieves immortality by living off of others’ blood or energy—can be traced back to ancient civilizations and appears in some form in most cultures.



The basic characteristics include an eternal life sustained through “feasting” on others, which have included babies, young girls or virgins, humans in general, or sometimes animals.

Theories suggest these legends were used to explain epidemics that wiped out whole families or villages (such as the plague or tuberculosis), disfiguration of corpses as part of decomposition, and fear of particularly evil or hated figures after death (“sightings” of the individual occurring in dreams or on the street).

Such creatures were dealt with by exhuming the body, disarming it with a stake through the heart or stone in the mouth, or at times, burning the corpse. (1)

A renewal of “vampire craze” developed in the early 1700s with the publication of several tales of

dead or spurned lovers returning to drink the blood of their former object of affection, and often served as morality tales describing the tensions between heathens and Christians. (2)

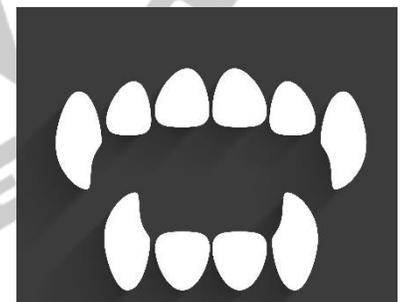
The standard for contemporary vampire lore, however, was set with the publication of *Dracula*. This story followed the elements of gothic fiction popular at the time, combining a remote location with an ominous setting (such as a decaying house), and a supernatural creature. (3)

Of the many themes in the book (the globalization of Britain, perils of “modern” women and sexual activity, and new technology), the incursion of foreign elements—in particular monsters—into Britain was shared with other authors of the time, including Rudyard Kipling and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. (4)

That Stoker and Conan Doyle shared similar ideas is not surprising in that they traveled in the same literary circles, which also involved authors such as Oscar Wilde and William Butler Yeats. (5)

This group even collaborated in a serial novel *The Fate of Fenella*, published in 1892. (6)

Their friendship was also shared through mutual admiration of each other’s works as seen in the letter Doyle wrote to Stoker in 1897 praising *Dracula* and Stoker’s interview of Conan Doyle published in 1907.



Some critics have gone so far to suggest the three stories in the canon pay tribute to Stoker in various ways.

“The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire” references Transylvania and aspects of vampire lore as presented by Stoker. (7)

The “Adventure of the Illustrious Client” contains numerous names, places and events that hint back to Stoker’s work. (8)

“The Adventure of the Three Gables” describes the villainess, Isadora Klein, as a woman who retains youth, beauty, and finances at the expense of her lovers who sicken and die—a fate similar to Dracula’s female victims. (9)

In six vampire-like stories Sir Arthur Conan Doyle penned before Dracula, a variety of villains feed off others’ essence, including a giant Venus flytrap

(“The American’s Tale), a specter that lures a ship captain onto an ice floe to feast on his energy (“The Captain of the Pole-Star”), three villains with powers to control others and extract their spirit (“John Barrington Cowles,” “The Winning Shot,” and “The Parasite”), and an Egyptian who achieved immortality, only to spend his days seeking a way to end it (“The Ring of Toth”).

These nine stories serve as further indication of Conan Doyle’s interest in spiritualism and the supernatural and his departure from the attitude and beliefs expressed by his own creation.

For Holmes, tales of beings who drain others for their own survival are “rubbish.”

Despite his creator’s own preferences, in the mind and world of Sherlock Holmes, “no ghosts need apply.” (10)

- (1) [https://voices.nationalgeographic.org/2010/02/22/where\\_do\\_vampires\\_come\\_from/](https://voices.nationalgeographic.org/2010/02/22/where_do_vampires_come_from/)
- (2) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vampire\\_literature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vampire_literature)
- (3) Alexandra Boeden, editor. The Sherlock Holmes Book. DK Publishing, 2016, page 99.
- (4) Shmoop Editorial Team. "Dracula." Shmoop. Shmoop University, Inc., 11 Nov. 2008. Web. 11 Sep. 2017.
- (5) <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/books/authors/10-facts-about-Bram-Stoker/>
- (6) [https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/index.php?title=Bram\\_Stoker](https://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/index.php?title=Bram_Stoker)
- (7) Eighteen-Bisang, Robert and Martin Greenberg, editors. Vampire Stories. Skyhorse Publishing, 2009, page 218.
- (8) Ibid, pages 198-199
- (9) Ibid, page 239.
- (10) Doyle, Arthur Conan; Ryan, Robert. The Complete Sherlock Holmes (Kindle Location 29399).

You can check out more of Liese Sherwood-Fabre’s writings at [www.liesesherwoodfabre.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com). A non-Sherlockian adventure can be downloaded at: <http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com/extras.html>

# 56 Stories in 56 days - Adventure of the Devil's Foot

Posted on November 1, 2011 by barefootonbakerstreet

It's 1897, Holmes is exhausted again and goes off to Cornwall for a rest, but, coincidentally, a double murder ends up occurring in the vicinity, writes Charlotte Anne Walters.

People of Victorian England beware – if Sherlock Holmes comes to stay in your area, trouble won't be far behind him.

Holmes must be the unluckiest person in history when it comes to holidays as yet again a break is interrupted by tragedy. But this is certainly a queer one.

With the help of an early start I was able to read the story and make some notes before starting work and intended to type things up on the train traveling home, as I had other commitments this evening. Well, the train was absolutely packed, people jammed into every corner and no chance of even a seat, let alone a table. I ended up having to sit on the dirty floor with people standing all around me and type with the laptop balanced precariously on my knee. Someone trod on my foot and another thrust their bag in my face – suffice to say I was pretty grumpy but did manage to type this up and load it onto my site at the usual time. Holmes and Watson didn't have to contend with all this on the steam trains of Victorian London did they? And I bet the trains were never late either...

Anyway, back to the story. A local man is apparently devastated and mystified when his sister dies and his two brothers are driven insane by a sudden, unknown horror. Then we have a distant relative from overseas (Yes, I know, yet another culprit from distant shores) who turns up acting very suspiciously. The local man is also murdered mid-investigation prompting Holmes to test out his theory on both himself and poor, loyal Watson.

Holmes suspects that an air-borne poison is responsible for what has happened after finding traces of it around a lamp which had been used as a combustion device. Things then take on an unexpected turn when he sits with Watson in a room, lights the lamp and lays the powder upon it. Watson is given the option to back out of this risky experiment but stands fast and Holmes affectionately sates – 'I thought I knew my Watson'. Dangerous mental terror grips them both as poison fills the room and it is Watson, sitting furthest from the lamp, who grabs Holmes, drags him free and out into the fresh air before it is too late.

Whilst lying on the grass, Holmes makes a very heartfelt apology to Watson for what he has just put him through causing Watson to remark that he had never seen so much of Holmes' heart before. What a lovely line, and a reminder that a great heart really does beat within the reasoned and clinical exterior. In response to this apology, Watson replies – 'It is my greatest joy and privilege to help you.' Gosh, not sure if I could be quite that forgiving myself.

The story contains one of my favourite exchanges:

"I followed you,"

"I saw no one,"

"That is what you may expect to see when I follow you."

There is also a less-famous but very significant line in this tale which I think explains so much about Holmes mental processes – 'To let the brain work without sufficient material is like racing an engine. It racks itself to pieces'.

This is it; this is the truth about Sherlock Holmes to me. He uses work not to stimulate his great brain, but to channel it, control it. Without work his mind races away full of compulsions and overwhelming ideas, a torrent of mental processes. He uses drugs and music not to stimulate but to subdue. And when he has nothing professional to focus on, he has to have something to distract and control this flood of mental activity so conducts intense studies into things like music of the middle-ages or chemical experiments. It's not that he wants to keep his brain active, more that it overwhelms him without an outlet, a pressure-valve.

Holmes admits he has never loved in this story. I have always found this somewhat unrealistic – a man of that age who has never experienced love. But I suppose we have to take it as true considering that he tells us so himself. Or does he have secrets which he wants to keep hidden?

Yet again, Holmes lets the culprit escape justice even though a murder has been committed. He listens to the man's story and decides that his actions were justified.

I'm not terribly taken with the story itself but it certainly is a revealing one, packed full of insight into the character of Sherlock Holmes – therefore I have to give it 8 out of 10.

## *Sherlock Holmes and the West End Horror*

by Anthony Dodge & Marcia Milgrom Dodge, directed by Paul McKenzie

October 26 - November 18

A theatre critic has been murdered! Holmes and Watson are soon visited by aspiring Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw, who entices Holmes to take the case.

Featuring some of the most famous literary luminaries of the day, this is a rollicking whodunit!

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# An Inquiry Into The Devil's Foot

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

- "The Adventure of the Devil's Foot," was first published in "The Strand Magazine" in December 1910.
- According to Baring-Gould's chronology, as set down in "The Annotated Sherlock Holmes," Second Edition, 1974, the case takes place on Tuesday, March 16, to Saturday, March 20, 1897. At the time Holmes is 43 years old and Watson 45.

## Notable Quotes:

- "I thought I knew my Watson."
- "How do you know that?"  
"I followed you."  
"I saw no one."  
"That is what you may expect to see when I follow you."

## The Retiring Detective

- Once more, Doctor John H. Watson begins his relation of a case by reminding us that we would be enjoying more cases than those available in the Canon, had it not been for Mr. Sherlock Holmes' peculiar (for him) reticence in being the center of attention to the extreme of barring him from publishing any further dramatizations of his cases without his specific approval. There can be no question that Watson was

under this ban, shown by the telegram he received, suggesting he publish the "Cornish horror." I must confess that this is a facet of the Great Detective's personality that I have difficulties in coming to terms with. I have always found it strange that someone who was as proud about his powers, and unquestionably did not mind a dollop of adulation (let us remember his reaction when Lestrade expressed his sincere admiration at Holmes' sleuthing in SIXN) would bar his friend and colleague from revealing to the world more of his triumphs--lest we forget, also, that Watson's writings made him world-renowned, which very likely did much to pad the Great Detective's pocketbook. Then there is the puzzle of why he would--apparently with no reason whatsoever--decide to "telegraph" (showing some degree of urgency) Watson suggesting that he publish the facts of this case.

## Holmes' Indiscretions

- I always find Watson's phrasing "that Holmes' iron constitution showed some symptoms of giving way in the face of constant hard

work of a most exacting kind, aggravated, perhaps, by occasional indiscretions of his own" extremely interesting. We, of course, are acquainted with the fact that our sleuth would occasionally indulge in a shot of cocaine, and perhaps heroin. But, if we go by what Watson tells us in MISS, this particular fiend was in remission--perhaps lightly--but nonetheless in remission. What, then are the indiscretions to which Watson alludes? And, following up on my first comment above, since he was so seemingly punctilious about what he allowed and did not allow Watson to publish, why would Holmes allow the Good Doctor to mention his little peculiarities?

## Mixed Feelings

- I am always fascinated by the vicar's tale of how when Mortimer Tregennis arrived at his brothers' house, he found them all "laughing, shouting, and singing," while they "retained upon their faces an expression of the utmost horror--a convulsion of terror which was dreadful to look upon." Hard as I have tried before the mirror (after locking the door, lest someone takes

pity on me and I end up in a comfortably padded room) to simultaneously hold such conflicting expressions, I must confess to a lack of success.

### **The Deplorable Laws**

- According to Sterndale, he and Brenda Tregennis could do nothing about their love, because the "deplorable laws of England" did not permit him to divorce a wife who had abandoned him years before. Deplorable laws aside (if, indeed, in case of abandonment there still was nothing that could be done) why wouldn't Sterndale divorce his wife in France (where the laws were far laxer) and then marry Brenda there? The consequences--an outraged British society--would not have mattered since they would have left for Africa. Hounds?

### What else happened in 1897:

#### **EMPIRE**

- Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.
- Destruction of Benin City.
- Uprising on India's Northwest Frontier.

- First Women's Institute in the world; established at Stoney Creek, Canada.

#### **BRITAIN**

- Sir Henry Tate presents the Tate Gallery to the nation.
- Northern Polytechnic, Holloway Road, opens.
- Blackwall Tunnel opens.
- Report of Royal Commission (Eversley) on agricultural depression.
- Employers' Liability Act: responsibility for injuries to and compensation of employees injured at work.
- Royal Automobile Club, London.
- Trunk telephone lines transferred to control of the GPO.
- Trained nurses only to be employed in hospitals.

#### **WORLD**

- Dreyfus affair.
- Visit of French President Faure to St. Petersburg cements Franco-Russian Alliance.
- Two German missionaries murdered in Shantung; German interest in China.
- Universal suffrage introduced in Austria.
- Austro-Russian treaty on Balkans relaxes tensions created by 30-day war

between Greece and Turkey in Macedonia.

#### **ART**

- Conrad publishes *Nigger of the Narcissus*.
- Henry Havelock Ellis publishes *Studies in Psychology of Sex*.
- H.G. Wells publishes *The Invisible Man*.
- Roistand publishes *Cyrano de Bergerac*.
- Paul Dukas debuts *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*.
- Gauguin paints *Girls Bathing in Tahiti*.
- Toulouse-Lautrec paints *Marcelle*.

#### **SCIENCE**

- Sir J.J. Thomson discovers the electron.
- Aspirin marketed.
- J. McCreary patents an air-washer intended to purify air in a building; beginning of air-conditioning.
- Diesel engine invented.
- Sir Ronald Ross, bacteriologist, identifies the causes of malaria and studies the disease.
- Barthelot publishes *Thermochemie*, extending his *Mécanique chimique* (1878).
- Beginning of Monotype system of typesetting.

# SHERLOCKIAN SCHOLARSHIP - WERE THE BEATLES HOLMESIANS?

Holmes / Watson Report – Sherlock Peoria, November, 1998 BY DON HOBBS

As a child of the sixties, I grew up listening to the music of the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and even Herman's Hermits.

This was the same time I first was introduced to Sherlock Holmes.

Although I can honestly say I do not listen to Herman's Hermits anymore, I still listen to the Beatles, and although I do not read Tiger Beat magazine anymore, I still enjoy reading the Canon.

But it took more than thirty years before I was able to make the connection - the Beatles, especially John Lennon and Paul McCartney, were Holmesians.

The songs of Lennon and McCartney have long been analyzed for their hidden meanings.

This, however, may be the first time that the TRUE meanings behind the album names and the song lyrics have been revealed. Sometimes it takes a sleuth as good as Holmes to see through the ruses; other times there is no subtlety required at all.

Take the Beatles' first American album release, "Meet the Beatles" (Capitol Records/January 20, 1964).

What does the title suggest?

An initial meeting, but not only with the Beatles, but of Holmes and Watson as well! The song titles bear out this fact.

Holmes and Watson met in Bart's and shook hands - the first track on this album (CD for those younger Sherlockians/ Holmesians) is "I Want to Hold Your Hand." Coincidence?

In fact, the entire first side of the album is a synopsis of Holmes and Watson's first meeting.

The gender sometimes changes, but this part of the Beatles' sense of humor shines through in such instances, as in the second track- "I Saw Her Standing There."

"This Boy" is evidently Holmes and Watson's thoughts when they saw each other.

"It Won't Be Long" is the summation of the decision on sharing rooms.

"All I've Got to Do" (is be on my best behavior and this roommate will work out).

The album's second side jumps ahead in describing life at 221B Baker Street.

"Don't Bother Me" is a song reflecting on Holmes's mood swings.

"Little Child" is a direct reference to the Baker Street Irregulars.

"I Wanna Be Your Man" is a response to Irene Adler always being 'The Woman.'

The Beatles' next release, "The Beatles' Second Album" (Capitol Records/April 10, 1964), shows the continuation of the group's humor.

This humor is especially shown in the song "Devil in Her Heart," where once again not only is the gender changed, but the anatomy as well.

The song is really about "The Adventure of the Devil's Foot."

"You Really Got a Hold on Me" is surely a reference to "The Final Problem."

"Please Mr. Postman" has direct bearing on the seven daily deliveries in London of the Royal Mail during Holmes's time.

The song "Money," which is subtitled "That's What I Want," was originally subtitled "My Rate Is on a Fixed Scale." (This, according to an unnamed source at Northern Songs, the publisher of the Beatles' songs.)

The Fab Four's next album was titled "A Hard Day's Night" (Capitol Records/June 26, 1964).

This album was originally dedicated to John Clay, but this was overridden by Brian Epstein.

Besides the title track, there are Sherlockian references within most of the songs.

"Tell Me Why" can certainly apply to several cases in the Canon.

"I'll Cry Instead" is from The Hound of the Baskervilles.

"I'm Happy Just to Dance with You" was a ballad about Abe Slaney.

"If I Fell" (I Wouldn't Be Alive Now) is from "The Empty House."

Throughout the mid-1960s, the Beatles continued releasing albums, all with songs full of Sherlockian meanings.

But skipping ahead to the release of "HELP!" (Capitol Records/August 13, 1965), we find significant Holmesian representation.

The title track is the ultimate reason clients visited Holmes - for help!

"The Night Before" is more than likely when a case would begin.

Look at John Straker or John Douglas; they were murdered the night before.

"You've Got to Hide Your Love Away" is about "The Yellow Face"; "I Need You" - Holmes to Watson, "Come Watson, I need you, the game's afoot"; "Ticket to Ride" - "Silver Blaze"; and "You're Going to Lose That Girl" is definitely a song relating to Charles Augustus Milverton.

In "Rubber Soul" (Capitol Records/December 6, 1965) we once again see John Lennon's sense of humor pouring out.

The term "rubber soul" is a thin disguise for Holmes's return in "The Empty House," his soul literally bounced back from the dead like a rubber ball.

We know from the Master himself that he traveled under the name Sigerson as a Norwegian explorer, thus we see the song "Norwegian Wood (This Bird Has Flown)."

The opening track is about "The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier," a song titled "I've Just Seen a Face."

The number three track is about Sherlock Holmes's ability to trail a person unnoticed.

When Dr. Watson mentions this to Holmes, his reply must have been, "You Won't See Me."

How many times in the Canon has Holmes told Watson, in one form or another, "To Think for Yourself" which is the album's fourth track.

The last track is probably in reference to "The Five Orange Pips" - "Run for Your Life."

The album "Revolver" (Capitol Records/ August 8, 1966) was supposed to be titled "Eley's No. 2."

"The White Album" relates to Holmes's cocaine use; "Sgt. Pepper" was a Scotland Yarder and Lestrade's assistant in the disappearance of James Phillimore, one of the unrecorded cases; "Abbey Road" was the street where the Brackenstalls lived; and "Yellow Submarine" was about "The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans."

Each of these recordings is full of songs which in turn are full of Holmesian references.

If anyone would just sit down and listen to words of the Beatles, they too could find these secret messages.

Has anyone ever thought about the lyrics of "Martha My Dear"?

Martha, my dear  
Hold your head up you silly girl, look what  
you've done  
When you find yourself in the thick of it...

Mrs. Hudson, the long-suffering landlady, was surely a dear for putting up with the constant parade of visitors calling at all hours of the day and night.

She was very much involved in the capture of Sebastian Moran, the second most dangerous man in London.

Although she may have felt silly crawling across the floor to move the bust of Holmes without being seen, her action did help fool Moran.

Mrs. Hudson could hold her head up because she was in the thick of it.

There are many, many more examples which I could delve deeper into, but I believe I have proven beyond a shadow of a doubt the real meanings behind the Beatles and their lyrics.

The next time you are driving in your car and hear "Piggies," will you not think about "The Adventure of Black Peter," or when you hear "When I'm Sixty-Four," will "His Last Bow" not come to mind?

Finally, the Beatles paid tribute to the Literary Agent in their hit song "Paperback Writer."

There can be no denying the Beatles' music has that universal staying power that transcends the decades, and so do the Sacred Writings.

Just as the Sacred Writings are known and translated throughout the world, so is the music of the Beatles.

For the first time, the Beatles' success has been revealed – they were Holmesians.

# STORY INFO PAGES FOR "THE DEVIL'S FOOT"

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

First published in: *The Strand Magazine*, December 1910; then in its American edition in January and February 1911, in two episodes.

Time frame of story (known/surmised): Began on March 16, 1897, stated by Watson.

H&W living arrangements: London arrangements not stated. Probably not together at 221B. (Holmes telegraphed Watson)

Opening scene: Watson received a telegram from Holmes "last Tuesday" stating "Why not tell them of the Cornish horror — strangest case I have handled."

Watson then related the tale, 13 years after the events. Holmes had been overworked and on the verge of a breakdown, and was advised by his physician, Dr. Moore Agar, to surrender himself to complete rest and accept a change of scene and air. As a result, H&W found themselves together in a little whitewashed house near the hamlet of Tredannick Wollas, high upon a grassy headland near Poldhu Bay at the further extremity of the Cornish peninsula.

Client(s): The garrulous and palpitating vicar of the local parish, Mr. Roundhay, and the agitated Mortimer Tregennis, a strangely reticent, a sad-faced, and introspective man, who brooded upon his own affairs. Mortimer was a resident lodger in the Vicar's household.

Crime or concern: H&W were at their vacation site, but were then faced with a problem at their very doors which was more intense, more engrossing, and infinitely more mysterious than any of those which had driven them from London. A most unheard-of business. Mortimer Tregennis's Sister Brenda was dead, and two of her brothers had the senses stricken clean out of them. All three of them, the dead woman and the two demented men, retained upon their faces an expression of the utmost horror. The dead woman, Brenda, just lay across the arm of her chair with that look on her face. The two brothers, George and Owen, were laughing, shouting, and singing snatches of songs and gibbering

like two great apes. The four siblings had dined together and played whist the evening before. The two brothers were taken the next day to the lunatic asylum at Helston. Then the following day, Mortimer was found dead too, with exactly the same symptoms, twisted into the same distortion of terror which had marked the features of his dead sister. His limbs were convulsed and his fingers contorted as though he had died in a very paroxysm of fear.

Villain: There were two separate acts of villainy. Mortimer Tregennis killed his sister Brenda and caused his brothers to go insane. Dr. Leon Sterndale, the great lion-hunter and explorer, then killed Mortimer.

Motives: Mortimer killed his siblings for money, a share of the family estate. Sterndale killed Mortimer for revenge, for killing Brenda, his lover.

Logic used to solve: A single common point of resemblance in the varying crime scene reports, concerning the effect of the atmosphere of the room in each case upon those who had first entered it. The first people to enter fainted or became weak. Also, there was combustion going on in the room — in the one case a fire, in the other a lamp. The fire was needed, but the lamp was lit — as a comparison of the oil consumed showed — long after it was broad daylight. Why? Surely there was some connection — the burning, the stuffy atmosphere, and, finally, the madness or death of the unfortunate victims. These facts, therefore, seemed to bear out the theory of a vapourous poison which worked by combustion.

H&W tested the theory by burning the lamp scrapings and almost did themselves in. Watson got them both into fresh air in the nick of time, as the chemical was more potent than they expected. They never imagined that the effect could be so sudden and so severe.

Holmes used his practical geological knowledge to identify the non-resident gravel upon Mortimer's window-sill, which implicated Sterndale.

Policemen: Not named. They were slow to consult SH after Mortimer died, and they did not have the wit to find the poison remaining upon the talc.

Holmes' fees: No mention, but probably none. The only person left that could have paid was Sterndale, and such a proposition would have been unthinkable.

Transport: The two Tregennis brothers were driven to Helston in a closed black carriage.

The vicar arrived in a dog-cart, having come at a gallop down the road, to inform H&W of Mortimer's death, and the three of them returned right off to the vicarage, crowded into the same cart.

Food: H&W postponed their breakfast upon learning of the death of Mortimer Tregennis. Drink: No mention.

Vices: Upon first hearing of the mystery, Holmes took his pipe from his lips and sat up in his chair like an old hound who hears the view-halloa. Later, after viewing the crime scene, Holmes told Watson, "I think that I shall resume that course of tobacco-poisoning which you have so often and so justly condemned."

Dr. Sterndale smoked a cigar while looking through the window, watching Mortimer Tregennis die.

At the end, after Sterndale departed, Holmes lit his pipe and handed Watson his pouch. "Some fumes which are not poisonous would be a welcome change," said he.

Notable Quotables: "I fear," said Holmes, "that if the matter is beyond humanity it is certainly beyond me. Yet we must exhaust all natural explanations before we fall back upon such a theory as this."

"Let us walk along the cliffs together and search for flint arrows. We are more likely to find them than clues to

this problem. To let the brain work without sufficient material is like racing an engine. It racks itself to pieces. The sea air, sunshine, and patience, Watson — all else will come." — SH

Exchange between Holmes and Dr. Leon Sterndale: "You are very inquisitive, Mr. Holmes." "It is my business."

Another classic exchange between Holmes and the suspect: "How do you know that?" "I followed you." "I saw no one." "That is what you may expect to see when I follow you."

Other interestings: Dr. Moore Agar, the famous Harley St. physician, sent Holmes on vacation. Sounds like a microbiologist requesting additional medium.

Holmes' hypothetical lover: "I have never loved, Watson, but if I did and if the woman I loved had met such an end, I might act even as our lawless lion-hunter has done. Who knows?"

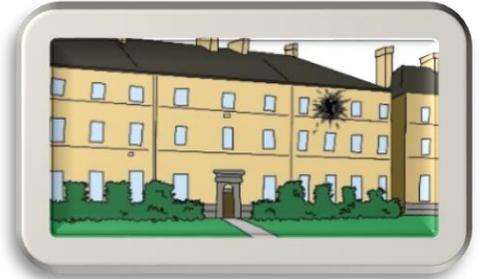
The rolling moors of Cornwall were dun-coloured, like Bart's doors.

When all was said and done: The weapon was vapors from burning *Radix pedis diaboli*, or Devil's foot root, which was brought to England by Dr. Sterndale and shown to Mortimer in a conversation about African curiosities. It was known to medicine-men in certain districts of West Africa and kept as a secret among them. Dr. Sterndale obtained it under very extraordinary circumstances in the Ubangi country, and Mortimer Tregennis stole it from Sterndale and put it to use, before Sterndale turned it upon him. Holmes figured it all out, confronted Sterndale, and let him go back to Africa.

# Baker Street Elementary

Created by: Joe Fay, Rusty & Steve Mason

The First Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson



Baker Street Elementary  
Number 130 - 10/08/2017

Joe, Rusty, & Steve

THIS DISPATCH OF 'I HEAR OF SHAKESPEARE EVERYWHERE' IS INTERESTING...

THE TYPES OF GAME KIDS PLAY DURING WARTIME, QUITE ENLIGHTENING...

SEEMS LIKE THE KIDS IN THE U.S. PLAY MORE WAR THAN PEACE-THEMED GAMES. I WONDER WHY?

AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED BEFORE, PAGET, IT PROBABLY IS DUE TO NOT ENOUGH ROLE MODELS FOR KIDS TO EMULATE.

I DO NOT SEE THE ISSUE... WE PARTICIPATE IN MANY PEACE GAMES...

WHAT... ???

WE TRIED PLAYING MERCHANT SHIPS ALONG THE MARITIME ROUTE OF THE SILK ROAD. YOU HAD A FLEET OF PIRATE SHIPS RAID US AND PLUNDER OUR GOODS AND SUPPLIES...

IT'S CALLED BEING AN ENTREPRENEUR.

YOU TOOK OUR WOMEN AND MADE ME WALK THE PLANK...

IT'S KNOWN AS A HOSTILE TAKEOVER, WATSON...

CRYSTAL AND HEATHER HAVE NOT RECOVERED FROM THE ORDEAL YET...

THEN THERE IS THE TIME WE PLAYED 'SENATORS OF ROME...'

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM THERE... I LOST THAT TIME...

YOU WANTED MORE POWER... YOU DESIRED TO BECOME A CAESAR...

...SO, YOU KILLED OFF EVERY OPPONENT, AND BECAME A CAESAR...

...SO, ULTIMATELY WE KILLED YOU AS A CAESAR SHOULD DIE...

HOW ABOUT A QUICK GAME OF 'ATTILA THE HUN' VERSUS THE ROMANS... THAT'S A CHARACTER I COULD GROW IN TO... I'LL SPOT YOU THREE YOUNGINS' AS SOLDIERS... JUST BE WARY OF MY SINGLE-STICK PROWESS...