

The Bilge Pump

Vol. 06, No. 07 - July, 2018
*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the
Barque Lone Star*



PLEASE NOTE:

August 5th

Meeting NOTICE

The next meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 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 Three Garridebs.**" The quiz will cover this tale.

Karen Olson will also do a reading of a cleverly-written pastiche.

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

July 01st Meeting Summary

There were 18 people in attendance today, including three visitors.

Brenda Hutchison conducted the Opening Toast, celebrating Lady Beatrice Holder," written by Judith Freeman and published in the Winter, 2001 **Serpentine Muse** (see page 3).

We then proceeded to have a quiz on today's story, "Shoscombe Old Place." The winner of the quiz was Brenda Hutchison, with Karen Olson finishing second.

Dr. Jim Webb, gave a very informative and entertaining presentation on Baritsu (correct spelling is Bartitsu), a form of martial art used by Holmes to avoid falling into the Reichenbach Falls with Professor Moriarty.

Diane Tran provided us with slides from a fashion show in Dallas, which included costumes worn by Robert Downey, Jr. and Jude Law in their movies.

Anyone planning to write a story to include in A Grimmer Holmes, the follow-up book to A Grimm Holmes, needs to submit the name of the Brothers Grimm tale, Mother Goose story, or other written inspiration in order to avoid duplication. The deadline for submitting a completed story is the last day of September. This provides time for proofing, editing, and publishing prior to the Christmas holiday.

Plans are moving forward on the symposium at The Dallas Preston-Royal Library for Tuesday, November 13th. This will entail a children's mystery and two or three presentations.

Saturday, November 17 is confirmed as our symposium at the Allen Library and will focus on Sherlock Holmes in TV, Movies, and the Stage. Anyone wanting to participate in either of the two symposiums is welcome to do so.

We will holding our "annual" picnic at the Olson's house on September 1 (see page 5).

The Closing Reading was given by Steve and was taken from the Baker Street Journal in 2003 (see page 4). Herb Linder took home the door prize drawing for this month. Thanks to Pam Mason, who took minutes for this meeting.



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
Pam Mason
Rusty Mason

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

TOAST TO LADY BEATRICE FALDER

Judith Freeman, *The Serpentine Muse*, Volume 18, Number 1 - Winter, 2001

The Lady Beatrice Falder was a spirited old dear
Whose brother's behavior had turned most queer,
And though they were both of a certain social rank,
Quite frankly Sir Robert's conduct stank

As he filled others with trepidation and fear.
Despite her dropsy and weakness of heart,
Lady Beatrice had long ago mastered the art
Of inspiring love and devotion in others,

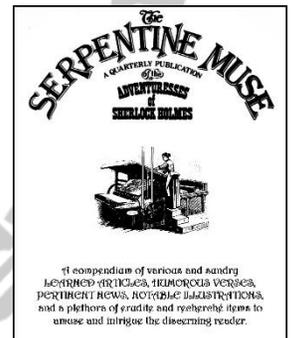
Indulging the actions of her only brother,
Making his change towards her most stark.
Sir Robert was a scoundrel most of the time,
But was he capable of a heinous crime?

Considering that his straits were most dire,
Had his sister died or had she been retired?
Either way, her spaniel continued to pine.
Unless Shoscombe Prince ran first in the Derby,

There was no doubt what Sir Robert's future would be.
Only the master detective Sherlock Holmes
Could sort through the facts and the bones
To solve the dark and tangled story of Lady Bea.

The Serpentine Muse is a compendium of various and sundry learned articles, humorous verses, pertinent news, notable illustrations, and a plethora of erudite and recherché items to amuse and intrigue the discerning reader.

You can subscribe to this wonderful journal at: www.ASH-NYC.com



"THE EDITOR'S GAS-LAMP - They Say It's Your Birthday - We're Gonna Have a Good Time" (excerpt)

BAKER STREET JOURNAL, STEVEN ROTHMAN, EDITOR - Winter, 2003

One hundred and sixty-five years ago last January, our scholars assert, Sherlock Holmes was born.

Birthdays are more than cake and candles. They are a time of retrospection.

Memory is much of what birthdays, as well as being a Sherlockian, are about.

We memorize the facts of the stories to win quizzes. We memorize the characters, the situations, and the plots.

But more than that we use our interest in Holmes to memorialize his whole world.

We use our time spent reading as a way of comprehending a past that is, as the past must always be, quickly receding.

We hold tight to a time that none of us ever knew. It is not a false nostalgia for a better time and place.

Most of us are quite cognizant of the pains and problems of England in the nineteenth century.

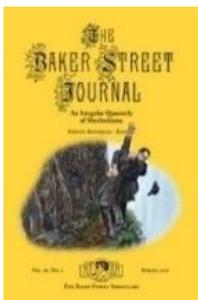
We hold fast to these memories we never possessed first-hand to better understand ourselves.

For if we have the power of memory and imagination to comprehend a time before we were born, we have made the first and greatest step towards truly being able to understand the world in which we live today.

Are we troubled by national alliances? So were the people of Holmes's day, as we know from "The Naval Treaty" and "The Second Stain."

Is our domestic security troubled by problems in faraway lands? Without the Afghan Wars, Watson would have never met Holmes.

Are our bank balances troubled by low interest rates? So, too, were those of the folks who invested in safe "Consol" bonds.



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.

**You Are Cordially Invited to Attend
THE CREW OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR
Labor Day Picnic – 2018
Saturday, September 1 :: 4:00 – 8:00 pm**



**Karen and Charles Olson have
graciously agreed to host the Picnic at
their residence.**

**We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs,
fixings, sides, and soft drinks**

**You are welcome to BYOB, or bring a
unique dessert**



Please RSVP to Karen Olson so we have an accurate headcount --

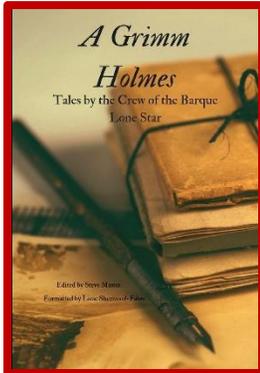
Karen can provide you with address and directions

Karen Olson karen.olson2500@gmail.com

(940) 337-4984

(940) 337-4159

THE SEQUEL



As you may be aware, we will be celebrating our 50th year of existence in a couple of years. Last year, several members participated in writing a pastiche where Holmes and Watson solve a Grimm's fairy tale (or

nursery rhyme).

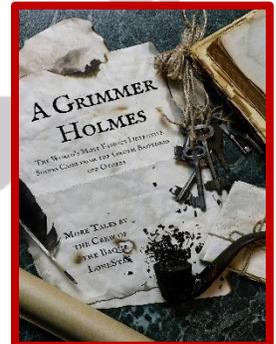
After discussions with several members, we have decided to repeat the process this year. The working title of the Anthology would be "Grimmer Holmes" or "A Grimmer Holmes."

Once again, members can write a pastiche (short story) involving Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, using a Grimm's Fairy Tale as the backdrop.

Some simple rules...

1. You can use any of the Grimm's Fairy Tales you want (most of us probably have a favorite). You may also use any nursery rhyme or other children's tale that you find appropriate. However, we would like to have each pastiche based on a single story, so please submit your tale's idea to Steve Mason, so we can ensure no one else uses the same tale.
2. Your story should be 3,000-5,000 words, which is average length for a short story. Obviously, a shorter story is fine.

3. 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.
4. As our society and website is family-oriented, please keep your pastiche PG... I think all of our members can easily meet this criteria.
5. This project is not limited to just those members in the DFW area. Any member (if you're getting this email) 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 September 30.



As we mentioned in the introduction to the first anthology, which was a big hit, much credit goes to Ms. Gayle Puhl, for the inspiration for this anthology... you can find her stories in "Sherlock Holmes and The Folk Tale Mysteries - Volume 1" and Volume 2...

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 (as a Christmas present) for those who submit a pastiche in the anthology.

SEVENTEEN STEPS TO "THREE GARRIDEBS"

Brad Keefauver, Sherlock Peoria

Seventeen thoughts for further ponderance of "Shoscombe Old Place" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

LET'S DIAGRAM THIS PLAY...

Watson writes that Holmes "had just settled me into the well-worn low armchair on one side of the fire, while he had curled down with his pipe in his mouth upon the opposite chair, when our visitor arrived." Steve Dixie then bursts in, looks the two men over, identifies Holmes, then starts "coming with an unpleasant, stealthy step round the angle of the table."



Has this table been between visitors and the fireplace chairs in any previous adventures? With all the entrances Watson has recorded at the 221B sitting room, why haven't more people had to walk around that table?

THE ETYMOLOGY OF AN OFFENSIVE PORTRAYAL

One of the hot buttons surrounding Steve Dixie's offensive caricature is his constant use of the title "Masser" in referring to Holmes. The reader's immediate reaction seems to be that it's a sloppy version of "Master," and that Dixie is an ex-slave from America whose life has been spent referring to white people with that title. Is there any hope for a different interpretation of "Masser Holmes"? Wouldn't an

immigrant bruiser like Dixie choose to threaten people with a less subservient title, having given up that life? Or was Dixie actually referring to Holmes with a title that couldn't

be printed in Strand Magazine, and Watson was cleaning up Dixie's language with his own prejudicial version? (Try reading Dixie's lines substituting "m***** f*****" for "masser," if you're

indelicate enough to try it, and you'll find him much more the "terrific" Dixie, as Watson describes him.) Why could Dixie say "Mr. Holmes" perfectly well when quoting Barney Stockdale? *****

SEVEN DEGREES TO STEVE DIXIE

If this tale didn't have enough hot buttons in it already, certain lines have been interpreted in ways that may not have been aligned with the original intention. Watson writes that Dixie "swung a huge knotted lump of a fist under my friend's nose" and that "Holmes examined it closely with an air of great interest."

When Holmes then coolly asks, "Were you born so? Or did it come by degrees?" many modern readers take this to be a



racial slur. Sure, Holmes says it while looking at the fist under his nose. But while Watson writes that the fist is "huge" and the fist is "knotted," but never that the fist is "black." The fact the fist is under Holmes's nose also implies one more condition not directly mentioned: Dixie is a violent jerk.

So what was it that Holmes thinks Steve Dixie came to by degrees? Size? Knottiness? Or being a rude, door-busting jerk? *****

JUST ANOTHER MURDER IN THE BACKLOG

"I've wanted to meet you for some time," Holmes tells Dixie, and after an exchange of threats and insults, continues with, "But it was the killing of young Perkins outside the Holborn Bar--"

Later, Holmes states, "He is one of the Spencer John gang and has taken part in some dirty work of late which I may clear up when I have time."

Couldn't Holmes put Lestrade or someone on the trails he couldn't get

to immediately, especially the ones involving murder? Where was Holmes hearing of these non-client crimes and did he only bother with them, regardless of their severity, when he didn't have a paying client? *****

MAKING A CAREER OF BEING FABULOUS

How much do we know about Douglas Maberly?

All London knew him, including Sherlock Holmes. He was a "magnificent creature," "vitally alive," and "lived intensely--every fibre of him!" In fact, Holmes speaks about him with such out-of-character passion that we start to wonder about the detective's heterosexuality. We know Maberly was a junior member of the embassy staff in Rome, as well as a writer, when he died, but what was he in London that he impressed Sherlock Holmes so much with his vitality?

CALLING DR. HENRY HIGGINS! CALLING DR. HENRY HIGGINS!

Here's a pretty little puzzle - listen to Susan's accent for a moment:

"Leave me alone! What are you a-doin' of?"

"I was comin' in to ask if the visitors was stayin' for lunch..."

"Who be you, anyhow, and what right have you a-pullin' me about like this?"

Where does this wheezy woman hail from, based upon this goofy accent of hers? Ireland? America? Australia? Or somewhere else entirely?

VICTORIAN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE: DOWN, SERIOUSLY DOWN

"Now, Mrs. Maberley, has any object just arrived?" Holmes asks his client.



"No, I have bought nothing new this year," Mrs. Maberly replies.

In today's consumer culture, the thought that Mrs. Maberly has bought nothing in a year is a feat that belongs in the record books, especially as she has not been in her house all that long. Is Mrs. Maberly referring to a certain level of purchase, or has she not even had a new dress in this year?

THAT AMAZING VICTORIAN POSTAL SERVICE ONCE MORE

"Your letter to me had the 10 P. M. postmark," Holmes tells Mrs. Maberly, and the modern reader gapes in wonder. Just how much information did the Victorian postmark carry? Was said info rubber stamped or marked by hand? Did post-marking go on around the clock?

THE EVER-BUSY HOLMES FAILS TO ACT, AGAIN

First we learn of Holmes failing to look into the young Perkins murder, then he makes the pronouncement,

"But you said--why, surely this might be the missing link," as he sees Douglas Maberly's trunks.

He then tells his client to examine them, and he will call tomorrow to find out if she's found anything.

Has Holmes gone the route of self-serve gas stations, letting clients do his observation for him? How could Holmes "not" be curious enough to help Mrs.

Maberly look through her son's things in pursuit of hidden treasure?

HOLMES VEERS OFF TOWARD THE PIKE

"Now, Watson, this is a case for Langdale Pike," Holmes announces.

Watson explains to us that "Langdale Pike was his human book of reference upon all matters of social scandal. This strange, languid creature spent his waking hours in the bow window of a St. James's Street club and was the receiving-station as well as the transmitter for all the gossip of the metropolis."

What made Holmes so quick to turn to Langdale Pike in this matter? The detective knows that he's looking for an object that makes the Maberly house more valuable than it really is. Why would he think that object had something to do with social scandal?

AND THE TIMES "DIDN'T" GET THROWN OUT?

Of Langdale Pike, Watson says, "He made, it was said, a four-figure income by the paragraphs which he contributed every week to the garbage papers which cater to an inquisitive public."

What were the "garbage" papers of Victorian London and what garbage filled their pages? Might Watson have had his own celebrity mishap with such scandal sheets, explaining why he seems down on them?



MARY MABERLY VERSUS THE BURLGARS

"Before he could get away I sprang up and seized him," the elderly Mary Maberly explains. "I clung to him, but he shook me off, and the other may have struck me, for I can remember no more."

Not that this fiesty old lady needs it, but would a Victorian woman living alone with two maids have a weapon in her house for just such occasions as this?

THE END OF A QUEER NOVEL

". . . face bled considerably from the cuts and blows, but it was nothing to the bleeding of his heart as he saw that lovely face, the face for which he had been prepared to sacrifice his very life, looking out at his agony and humiliation. She smiled -- yes, by Heaven! she smiled, like the heartless fiend she was, as he looked up at her. It was at that moment that love died and hate was born. Man must live for something. If it is not for your embrace, my lady, then it shall surely be for your undoing and my complete revenge."

This passage, we are told, looks like the end of a 245 page novel. From what we are later told, we know this is Douglas Maberly's fictionalized account of his romance with Isadora Klein. What must those first 244 pages have been, considering that Maberly expected to get it

published? What kind of plot might it have had, ending as it did? Was it a simple tragic romance, or something smuttier, to be published under the name "Anonymous"? Couldn't he have come up with a better ending, or was it unfinished?

THE CHANCES OF ISADORA'S MARRIAGE HAPPENING

"I hear that she is about to marry the young Duke of Lomond, who might almost be her son. His Grace's ma might overlook the age, but a big scandal would be a different matter..."

A big scandal, eh? What about "Then there was an interval of adventure when she pleased her own tastes. She had several lovers..."

Would the Duke of Lomond hear about Isadora's many lovers, or were their circles different enough that such rumors didn't reach her? Wouldn't Klein's "adventuress" reputation alone kill the wedding?

SEND THE CHILDREN OUT OF THE ROOM FOR A MOMENT

Isadora Klein explains, "He wanted marriage--marriage, Mr. Holmes-- with a penniless commoner. Nothing less would serve him. Then he became pertinacious. Because I had given he seemed to think that I still must give, and to him only."

Wow, could Ms. Klein actually be talking about sex here? If so, is this the only real reference to that biological act in the Canon? (No puns, double entendres, or other Shavian humor allowed in the answering of this question.)

NOT A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD AFTER ALL

Isadora Klein lived in "one of the finest corner-houses of the West End," a prominent house in a prominent neighborhood. And Ms. Klein hired a gang of thugs to beat the most popular man in London in front of this same house.

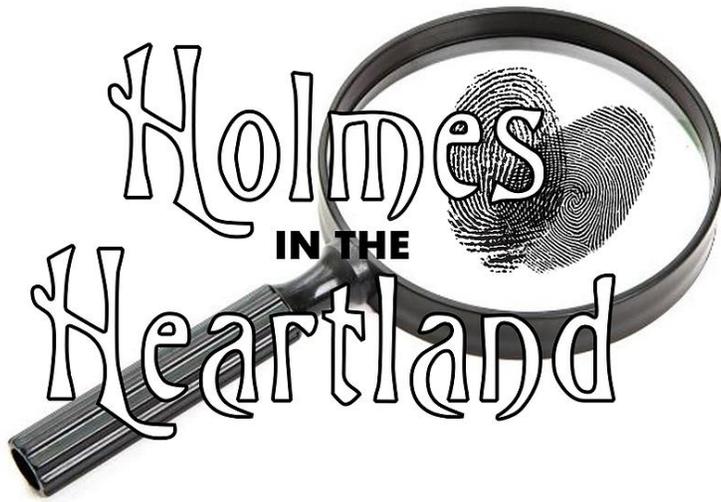
How is it that Maberly's beating wasn't the talk of all London? Couldn't the police pull in hired louts like Stockdale and Dixie? Why would it take a novel to bring this to the fore?

THE FUTURE OF THE WIDOW IN QUESTION

"What else could I do with my whole future at stake?" Isadora protests.

If Isadora is the richest, best-looking widow on Earth, how could her whole future be ruined by a book that may or may not have been about her, as far as readers were concerned? What would marriage to the Duke of Lomond have gained her that her life would be ruined without?

Holmes IN THE Heartland



August 10-12, 2018 - St. Louis MO

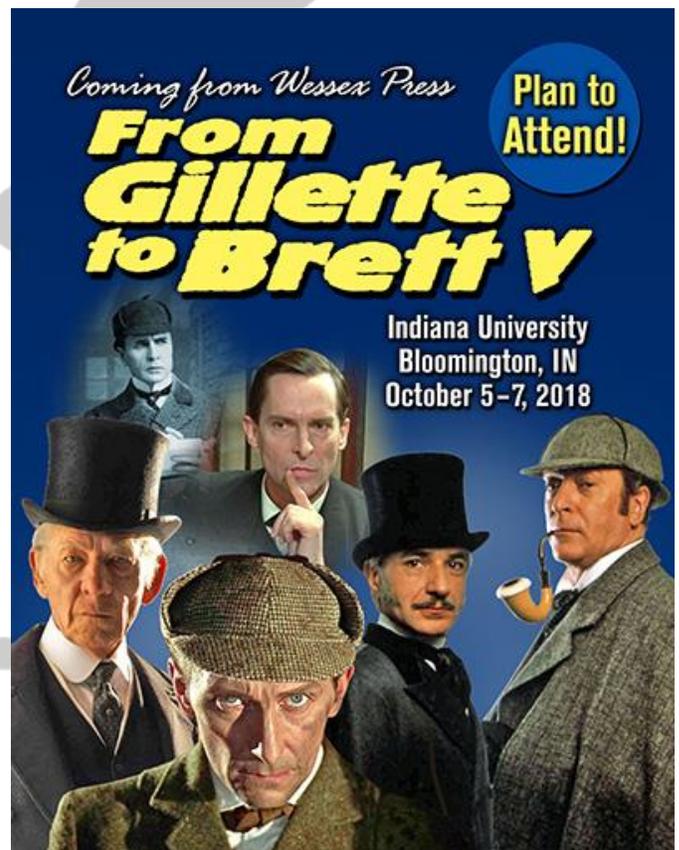
<https://parallelcasestl.wixsite.com/home/holmes-in-the-heartland>

October 5-7, 2018

Indiana University

Bloomington, Indiana

<http://www.wessexpress.com/html/g2b5main.html>



TWO YEARS AT COLLEGE

Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD

In “The Musgrave Ritual,” Sherlock Holmes notes that he met Reginald Musgrave while “at university.”

Although by the 1870s, several universities had formed to provide higher education to those not members of the Church of England, “going to university” referred only to Oxford or Cambridge--the only two universities in England providing the classical education directed at the upper classes. (1)

Both universities were founded as religious training institutions, seeking to prepare priests and school teachers.

As time progressed, the training in logic and debate was also recognized as a needed skill for lawyers and administrators needed by the state. (2)

Given its major role as training those destined for the priesthood, church membership was required for those entering the university, shifting from the Catholic church to the Anglican church under Henry VIII.

When Sherlock mentions he and Reginald were in the same college, he is referring to the universities’ composition.

The university is actually a federation of “colleges” (currently 31 at Cambridge and 38 in Oxford), all of which offer similar courses of study with their own lecture halls, housing, and dining facilities.

They are distinguished from one another by each having a unique “flavor,” that caters to different populations. For example, Jesus College at Oxford was founded for Welshmen. (3)

Oxford was known for classical studies (Latin and Greek language and literature), while Cambridge for mathematics. (4)

One of the most well-known colleges at Oxford is Christ Church was a monastery before becoming a seat of learning under Henry VIII. Its residents have included Albert Einstein, 13 British prime ministers and Lewis Carroll. (5)

Similarly, Isaac Newton, Charles Darwin, Charles Babbage, and Lord Byron studied at Cambridge. (6)

The colleges maintained a great deal of autonomy until the mid-1800s when the university structure developed an examination system.

Under the older system, prospects had to apply to each college separately and, once admitted, complete that college’s final examinations.

This change was introduced to ensure a minimum standard of knowledge and a more coherent study program. (7)

While “at university,” young men’s daily schedule involved daily chapel attendance, meeting a few times a week with a tutor (a fellow, or teacher, at the college) to discuss an essay or other work prepared by the student, attending the occasional lecture, and a great deal of social time with other students, including sports.

While many equate the two schools, referred to in the combined term of “Oxbridge,” a deep rivalry exists between them.



Perhaps the most public friction between the two is the annual Oxford-Cambridge boat race on the Thames occurring in each spring since 1826 (with some exceptions, such as the two World Wars.)

Oxford won the most recent, in April, 2017, bringing them within two races of Cambridge (80-82). (8)

Sherlock mentions he spent only two years at university in "The Adventure of the Gloria Scott," suggesting he didn't completed his studies. (9)

While some students left because they failed examinations, it was not uncommon for those from elite society to leave after two or three years—once they reached age 21. A degree was not needed to study for the bar or enter politics. (10)

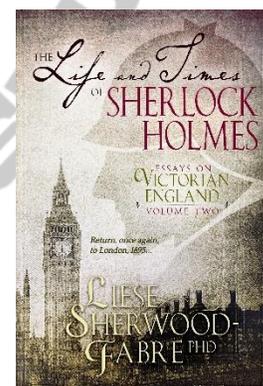
Given Holmes's rather private nature and decision to pursue a completely independent career field of consulting detective, his decision to leave would certainly not have been out of the ordinary. And having left, was able to hone the skills he needed to become the most famous of such detectives.

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- 1) Sally Mitchell, *Daily Life in Victorian England*. Westwood, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996, page 183.
 - 2) Robert Anderson, *British Universities: Past and Present*. London: Hambledon Continuum. 2006, page 4
 - 3) Op cit. page 6.
 - 4) Mitchell, *Daily Life in Victorian England*, page 186.
 - 5) <http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/house/about-christ-church>
 - 6) https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=brZfWpHmHuKH_QaAuYGgCA&q=cambridge+university+alumi+famous&og=cambridge+university+alumi
 - 7) Sally Mitchell (editor) *Victorian Britain: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Garland Publishing, 1988, page 565.
 - 8) <https://www.standard.co.uk/sport/oxford-beat-cambridge-to-win-the-2017-varsity-boat-race-a3505181.html>
 - 9) Steven Doyle and David Crowder, *Sherlock Holmes for Dummies*, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2010, page 89.
 - 10) Mitchell, *Daily Life in Victorian England*, page 187.

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

This and other articles on Sherlock Holmes and Victorian England are now available in Volume Two of Dr. Sherwood-Fabre's essay collection regarding "The Life and Times of Sherlock Holmes." Currently, the book is offered on Amazon and everywhere September 15.

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>



An Inquiry Into "The Three Garridebs"

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

- "The Adventure of the Three Garridebs" was first published in Collier's Weekly Magazine on October 25, 1924. It was published in The Strand Magazine, on January 1925. It is part of The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes.

- All our Chronologists agree that this case took place in 1902: Canon: Thursday, Late June 1902; Baring-Gould: Thursday, June 26, 1902; Bell: Thursday, June 26, 1902; Blakeney: June 1902; Brend: June 1902; Christ: Thursday, June 26, 1902; Folsom: Thursday, June 26, 1902; Hall: June 26, 1902; Keefauver: Thursday, June 19, 1902; Klinger: 1902; Zeisler: Thursday, June 26, 1902. This being the case, then at the time Holmes is 48 years old and Watson 50.



By the Lord, it is as well for you. If you had killed Watson, you would not have got out of this room alive."

== The Declined Knighthood ==

I always wonder whether the fact that Sherlock Holmes

accepted France's Legion d'Honneur but declined a British knighthood didn't have something to do with his family background, on the Vernet side; his Grandmother having been French. As he put it, "Art in the blood is liable to take

the strangest forms." The reason behind the refusal may have been a slight by English nobility (possibly even royalty) to some past member or even the entire family. Such a thing would be bitterly remembered in the family chronicles. We should recall that back in our sleuth's time, families used to have longer generational memories than they do today when we must pay a database to discover who our great-great-grandparents were.

Then again, perhaps Holmes simply disapproved of Edward VII as monarch. Lest we forget, he was perfectly willing to accept a token of appreciation (albeit a very personal and private one) from "a certain gracious lady."

== Holmes' Pictures ==

It has always been a matter of heated discussion among Canon students what exactly did John

Garrideb's greeting meant: "Your pictures are not unlike you, sir..."

What did he mean by "pictures"? Was he referring to *The Strand's* illustrations by Paget and others? Or was he speaking about actual photographs? The paradoxical fact exists that although Sherlock Holmes was the premier detective—crime fighter—of his age, Scotland Yard's last court of appeal, no photograph of him seems to exist.

Why would this be? Even if the Great Detective had had an aversion to having someone photograph him, it seems difficult to believe that some photographer—whether from a

publication or a freelancer—would not have been able to snap at least one photo of him. Garrideb's comment seems to indicate to me that he probably had run across Holmes' picture in a newspaper or magazine.



Even if this baffling lack of graphics had been due to the efforts of the government (doubtlessly headed by Mycroft), it seems unlikely that they could have been so thorough, to the extent of purging newspaper and magazines' morgues as well as library files.

Come to think about, why is it that we don't have photos of Watson as well? One imagines that somewhere there must be left at least be a few sets of his different wedding pictures.

Notable Quotes:

"You're not hurt, Watson? For God's sake, say that you are not hurt!"

It was worth a wound—it was worth many wounds—to know the depth of loyalty and love which lay behind that cold mask. The clear, hard eyes were dimmed for a moment, and the firm lips were shaking. For the one and only time I caught a glimpse of a great heart as well as of a great brain. All my years of humble but single-minded service culminated in that moment of revelation.

== John Garrideb's Accent ==

Holmes says of John Garrideb that he thinks "that the fellow is really an American, but he has worn his accent smooth with years of London." It has been my observation that an adult living in a country not his own will not lose the accent with which he speaks the language. This seems to only take place with children. So the question remains, what was the Great Detective observing here?

Based on my own experience, after living for sometime in a foreign country it is not so much your accent that is modified as is the fact that you pick up certain turns of phrase and idiomatic expressions that may not exist (in this case in American English), but are common in the language of the country in which you now reside. I once spent a few weeks in the Deep South and got into the habit of saying "Y'all," which some residents found shocking because of my Yankee accent!

== The Loot and an Observation about Currency ==

According to John Garrideb (now "Killer" Evans) the counterfeit loot beneath the floor of Alexander Garrideb came to £200,000, a truly enormous fortune by the standards of the time. In today's currency, it would amount to approximately \$80,000,000. Regarding the value of the fictitious property—\$5,000,000 per inheritor—at the rate of exchange then, \$5 (gold) = £1 (also gold) with which he tempted the poor old collector, that would have come to exactly £1,000,000, or about



\$400,000,000 today. Certainly nothing to sneeze at.

I am puzzled, however, by the counterfeiters' choice of denomination: £100. Considering the value of the currency back then, £100 would be about \$40,000 today. Victorian banknotes were issued for values of £5, £10, £50, and £100. Travel guides of the time suggested that "for ordinary use gold is preferable," and advised tourists to "take down in a pocket-book the number of each note, as there is a bare possibility of its being in this way traced and recovered if lost or stolen." The latter would seem to indicate that there wasn't very much paper in circulation back then; at least in the higher denominations.

Since 1969, in the U.S., the \$100 note has maintained its spot as the largest paper denomination. Previously, the mint produced bills ranging from \$500 to \$10,000, but these were discontinued. The point is, regardless of how good the counterfeited notes were, why risk

the additional attention that would naturally be given to a high-denomination note?

During the Second World

War, in an attempt to destabilize the British currency, Germany produced hundreds of thousands £5 notes. These were absolutely perfect; so much so, that England had to issue new, very different-looking £5 after the war. Why £5? The thinking was that a £5 would not be too closely

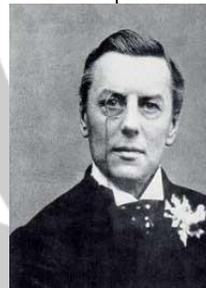
examined as would be one of higher value.

== Watson's Injury ==

There is no question in my mind that Holmes was not exaggerating. Had Watson's wound been serious or fatal, John Garrideb would have found himself learning how to play the accordion in Hades.

What else happened in 1902: EMPIRE

- First celebration of Empire Day (renamed "Commonwealth Day" in 1959).
- First meeting of the Committee of Imperial Defence in London.
- Joseph Chamberlain advocates return to Protection and Imperial Preference.
- Anglo-German fleet seizes Venezuelan fleet to recover debts and reparations.
- Peace of Vereeniging, ends Boer War.



BRITAIN

- Salisbury resigns, succeeded as PM by Arthur Balfour.
- Anglo-Japanese Treaty, for mutual defense and to maintain status quo in Far East, recognizes the independence of China and Korea.
- Sir Giles Gilbert Scott designs Liverpool Cathedral.
- Institution of the Order of Merit by King Edward for distinguished service to the state; limited to 24 holders at one time.



- Education Act abolishes School Board system. Local control goes to town and county councils.
- Secondary Education authorized out of rates.
- British Academy granted Royal Charter.
- Esperanto introduced to England.
- Establishment of Metropolitan Water Board, supplying London.
- Boer War casualties: 5,774 British and 4,000 Boers killed.
- Arthur Conan Doyle is knighted.

WORLD

- Franco-Italian secret treaty; Italy to remain neutral if France were attacked by a third power.
- Failure of second Belgian General Strike.
- Italian designs on Tripoli conditionally approved by France and Austria.
- Russo-Japanese Convention, Russia agrees to evacuate Manchuria in 18 months.
- Leon Trotsky escapes from Siberia, settles in London.
- F.A. Krupp takes over Germania shipbuilding yard at



- Kiel; great armaments firm develops.
- Coal strike in U.S.A.
 - Martinique volcanic eruption destroys town of St. Pierre.
 - Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, Italy) renewed to 1914.
 - National bankruptcy declared in Portugal.
 - French work day reduced to 9 1/2 hours.
 - U.S.A. acquires perpetual control over Panama Canal. Control is held until 1977, when President Jimmy Carter turned the canal over to Panama, which assumed final control in 1999.
 - Public Health Act in France improves artisan living conditions.
 - White settlement of Kenya begins.
 - Aswan Dam opened.
 - St. Pierre, Martinique, destroyed by earthquake.
 - Abdul Hamid gives Germany concessions to build railway to Baghdad; rail system to stretch from Hamburg to the Persian Gulf.
 - Tientsin Sanitary Police established; first Chinese public health measure.



ART

- Conan Doyle publishes The Hound of the Baskervilles.
- Enrico Caruso makes his first gramophone record--154 recordings in all.
 - Elgar composes the first of his Pomp and Circumstance marches.
 - Kipling publishes Just So Stories.
- Arthur Edward Woodley Mason publishes The Four Feathers.
- Beatrix Potter publishes Peter Rabbit.
- Monet, Waterloo Bridge.
- Gauguin, Riders by the sea.
- Gauguin paints The Call.
- Debussy composes Pelléas et Mélisandé.
- Picasso paints Nude, Back View.
- Elgar composes Coronation Ode.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Wireless telegraphy applied to ships.
- Oliver Heaviside, English physicist, reveals the existence of an atmospheric layer which aids the conduction of radio waves.
- Trans-Pacific Cable laid.
- Completion of Aswan Dam in Egypt.

Sherlock Holmes - Born May 4, 1854 -- "The Reichenbach Plan"

by Edward S. Smith, Jr.

There are sufficient clues in the canon to support this radical change in the currently perceived theory Holmes was born on Jan. 6th, which is based upon references to Shakespeare's Twelfth Night play.

First we will examine the "gemstone theory". Twice Holmes is presented with gifts of Emerald Jewelry by Heads of State, who certainly could find out his birth date. The Emerald is the birthstone for the month of May.

Queen Victoria who gave Sherlock Holmes an Emerald Tie Pin at the conclusion of the Bruce-Partington case, was herself born in May, the 24th, 1819. Why an emerald, why not a diamond? It was quite intentional she selected an Emerald tie pin for his gift as Holmes was also born in May. Mycroft undoubtedly advised the Queen of his brothers birth date.

"Some weeks afterwards I learned incidentally that my friend spent a day at Windsor, whence he returned with a remarkably fine emerald tie pin. When I asked him if he had bought it, he answered it was a present from a certain gracious Lady..."

At the conclusion of A Scandal in Bohemia Holmes is again presented with a gift reflecting his birthstone. The King of Bohemia offered Holmes an Emerald Snake Ring as a reward. After having completed his mission, Holmes wired the King, stating that he could retrieve his missing photo the following morning. At which time, the King planned to present Holmes with a personal gift for his services.

"He slipped an emerald snake ring from his finger and held it out upon the palm of his hand."

Holmes refused the reward asking instead for the photo of Irene Adler. No doubt the King's agents had advised him of the appropriateness of an emerald as it was Holmes birthstone.

Our second area of proof of a May birthday is a unusual action on the part of Holmes as recorded in Shoscombe Old Place, which took place during the month of May. Holmes actually fishing!

In SHOS Holmes took advantage of circumstances to "thank" Watson for his recent birthday gift of fishing equipment by actually using his present. No doubt disguising himself and Watson as fishermen on holiday served his purpose to observe Sir Robert Norberton and his estate. Holmes could have picked a different disguise, but, he immediately took the opportunity to combine the required case work with a way of showing gratitude to his friend Watson for his present. What better way to say thank you than to use a gift. Holmes seized the moment when he unexpectedly asked John Mason,

"Is there good fishing in that part of Berkshire?" Then exclaimed: "Watson and I are famous fishermen-are we not, Watson?"

This was Holmes plan. He makes time to "leave the case" and actually fish.

"My companion seemed to have no further plans for the day, and we did actually use our

fishing tackle in the mill-stream, with the result we had a dish of trout for our supper."

Such an unusual action by Holmes! There was no necessity to actually fish to keep up the ruse of their disguises. Holmes took this opportunity to make his friend feel good, by using the fishing gear Watson had given him for his birthday earlier in the month.

We have now concluded that Holmes was born in May. It is a notable coincidence that Watson's literary agent Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was also born in May, the 22nd, 1859.

The final proof of Sherlock Holmes birth date being the 4th of May, 1854 is found in *The Final Problem*. It is the contention of the writer Holmes carefully planned the demise of Moriarty to occur on his birthday, May 4th in 1891.

Happy Birthday to me.
As a present I shall lock up Moriarty
And throw away the key!

Could the great detective secretly have thought this way? Indeed! "And throw away the key!" certainly expresses the finality of what Holmes intended.

Holmes was a planner - everything he did had purpose. He knew exactly what day his efforts would result in Moriarty's escape from apprehension. Sherlock Holmes purposefully led Prof. Moriarty on a trail that ended when and where he wished. Holmes specifically planned to defeat Moriarty at Reichenbach Falls and then take a sabbatical from work!

There are many exact days, dates and locations stated in Watson's narrative. The reports of the incident in the newspapers occurred on May 6, 1891 in *Journal de Geneve* and on May 7, 1891 in *Reuter's Dispatch* (the English papers). We know the conflict at the Falls occurred on May 4th.

"It was the third of May that we reached the little village of Meiringen..."

"...on the afternoon of the fourth we set off together..."

Let us examine the proof from this almost too detailed narrative. Watson tells us, we begin the story on April 24, 1891, which was a Thursday. Holmes visits Watson in the evening and immediately says to him,

"Then it makes it the easier for me to propose you should come away with me for a week to the Continent." Watson notes: "There was something very strange in all this. It was not Holmes nature to take an aimless holiday."

We agree. Holmes had already planned his itinerary for the next 10 days!

Holmes proceeds to tell Watson of his activities earlier in the day including his visit from Professor Moriarty. Then some very strange wording is used by Holmes.

"In three days - that is to say, on Monday next..."

Not next Monday, but Monday next. Implying a week from Monday which would correspond to his original request a few moments before that Watson come with him for a week. Holmes is referring to two events here. The first to occur, after actually three more days, (it is Thursday evening when they are talking) on Monday April 28th. The second date is "Monday next", a week later May 5th.

Holmes scheduled the final confrontation with Moriarty for Sunday May 4th (Holmes birthday). By "Monday next" May 5th all would be concluded. Obviously a Freudian slip as Holmes only intended to divulge parts of his plan to Watson.

We learn when Moriarty visited the home of Holmes on the morning of the 24th, Holmes was already calculating Moriarty's demise.

"I was sitting in my room thinking the matter over when the door opened and Professor Moriarty stood before me."

During the interview Moriarty confirmed Holmes initial Monday timetable for the apprehension of his gang when he said, "You can do nothing before Monday."

With Moriarty's comment Holmes realized the Professor himself would not be captured with his confederates on April 28th. During that afternoon Holmes continued to think the matter over and undoubtedly then developed "The Reichenbach Plan"; a detailed plan which would end with a final confrontation with Professor Moriarty, ironically on Holmes 37th birthday.

Sherlock Holmes realized he had a formidable adversary and it would require Watson's and Mycroft's assistance to lure Moriarty into his trap. He was confident of the outcome but knew he would have to deceive his old friend to fool Moriarty. Holmes devised an elaborate route throughout the Continent as he tricks Prof. Moriarty into following him.

April 24	Thursday	Holmes meets Moriarty in AM, Watson in PM
April 25	Friday	Travels to Brussels via Canterbury, New Haven and Dieppe. Routes luggage to Paris.
April 26	Saturday	Stays in Brussels
April 27	Sunday	Brussels
April 28	Monday	Travels to Strasbourg. Holmes learns Moriarty has escaped.
April 29	Tuesday	On to Geneva. "For a charming week we wandered up the valley of the Rhone, and then, branching off at Leuk,
April 30	Wednesday	we made our way over Gemmi Pass, still deep in snow and so, by way of Interlaken, to Meiringen."
May 1	Thursday	Reached Village of Meiringen
May 2	Friday	Confrontation at Reichenbach Falls
May 3	Saturday	"Monday next" all is concluded
May 4	Sunday	
May 5	Monday	

He obviously could not be a stationary target in a station waiting for a train with Moriarty at his heel. The travel schedules must have been arranged in advance.

After the next mornings deceptions, when the disguised Holmes reveals himself to Watson on the train, he says to him,

"I have reason to think that they are hot upon our trail. Ah, there is Moriarty himself."

Not unexpected as we conjectured. Holmes wanted and expected Moriarty to now be coming after him. Holmes knew on Friday April 25 Moriarty would not be in England to be captured on Monday April 28th. He forces himself to be disappointed when he gets the news on Monday evening of his escape from the London police.

"I might have known it!" He groaned. "He has escaped."

Of course he knew it, even as he asked Watson to go to the Continent for a week which he knew would be 10 days! If Holmes truly believed Moriarty to be captured on that Monday, he and Watson would only have had to "disappear" for a long weekend.

Holmes planned it all on the afternoon of April 24, 1891. He also decided at that time to take a sabbatical from his work at the conclusion of this matter. Look at the extensive itinerary below. Certainly this required detailed travel and lodging coordination.

During this week of travel Holmes again made a Freudian slip indicating he had orchestrated the entire matter. He speaks of Moriarty's

"extinction" and implies his own disappearance, when he speaks to Watson.

"Your memoirs will draw to an end, Watson, upon the day that I crown my career by the capture or extinction of the most dangerous and capable criminal in Europe."

The note Sherlock Holmes left for Watson at Reichenbach Falls was, as Watson says;

"...it consisted of three pages torn from his notebook and addressed to me. It was characteristic of the man the direction was precise, and the writing as firm and clear, as though it had been written in his study."

Because it was written in his study more than a week before the event!

We seriously must question the frame of mind of Professor Moriarty at the time of the confrontation with Holmes. His entire gang had been apprehended and he had spent the last week and more in following Holmes. It is doubtful, when he finally caught up with Holmes, that he would give him time to write a three page note to his friend. Rather, immediately upon his arrival, they fought to the death.

The letter was previously written, when Holmes developed his master plan to "throw away the key" on Moriarty. Further contents of the letter reveal prior planning of this trap and subsequent sabbatical or hiatus as it is now called. The letter states:

"...the papers which he needs to convict the gang are in pigeon hole M...."

"I made every disposition of my property before leaving England and handed it to my brother Mycroft."

We subsequently learn in *The Empty House*:

"Mycroft had preserved my rooms and my papers exactly as they had always been."

In that story Holmes gives Watson an explanation of how he fought Moriarty and escaped the chasm of Reichenbach Falls. He takes license in his tale to hide from his friend that the whole affair was his plan. But, even in this narrative he alludes to prior planning in describing how he watched Watson's return to the Falls searching for him.

"At last, when you had all formed your inevitable and totally erroneous conclusions..."

Further on Holmes actually admits to deceiving Watson.

"I owe you many apologies, my dear Watson, but it was all-important that it should be thought I was dead, and it is quite certain that you would not have written so convincing an account of my unhappy end had you not yourself thought it was true."

Holmes carefully planned his trip to the Continent to allow Moriarty to follow him until his birthday on May 4, 1891. On that day he planned to give himself and the world a birthday gift of the end of Moriarty!

We now have proof in the form of Emerald gifts (the gemstone for May), use of Watson's birthday gift of fishing equipment and the specific planning and detailed narration of the final solution on May 4, 1891.

There is no doubt Sherlock Holmes was born on May 4, 1854.

CANON QUEERIES - The Three Garridebs

RALPH EDWARDS, BSI 2s

Ralph Edwards was secretary of The Six Napoleons of Baltimore, responsible for sending meeting notices. In 1972, he began attaching a set of questions to serve as stimulus for discussion at the meetings. This practice was continued by the other Baltimore scion society, The Carlton Club, which Ralph formed in 1976.

Thanks to Les Moskowitz Les221b@comcast.net, for making these inquiries available to us.

1. Would a knighthood have hampered Holmes in his work?
2. Does Watson suggest that the offer of a knighthood was attempted royal bribery?
3. Did the chairs at 221B make bed preferable, or was it a new mattress?
4. Does Garrideb as a name suggest any nationality?
5. Were directories, other than telephone, available?
6. Why are initials rather than first names common in British (and Canadian) phone books?
7. Did Holmes deduce any personality from the responsive eyes?
8. Would a recently arrived person normally encounter pictures of Holmes?
9. What other business could have kept John Garrideb from finding Nathan promptly?
10. Was being clean-shaven reflective of circumstances or only of national style?
11. Should Watson have thought a 44 year-old to be quite a young man?
12. When does twilight occur in London in the latter part of June?
13. Why did Nathan tell John of the 6 p.m. visit when asked not to?
14. Why would cataloging take so long with items so well labeled and classified?
15. Why didn't Holmes expect Nathan to tell John of his plans?
16. Were house-agents apt to have evening hours?
17. Did Evans find building political influence impossible in England?
18. Should Watson have fired his revolver?
19. Why weren't the owner, house-agents or Mrs. Saunders curious about a sealed-off basement room?
20. Did Evans find entering through the basement impractical during his six or more months of freedom?
21. If he was so well supplied with funds, why did Prescott take a card game so seriously?
22. If they were so perfect, how did the Yard learn about the counterfeit notes?
23. What is a bolt-hole?
24. Why did Holmes have Watson make his telephone calls?

EARTH-SHERLOCK: "MANY-WORLDS" AND A QUART SHORT

Stu Shiffman, *Holmes and Watson Report*, January, 2001

"I was thinking this globe enough, till there sprang out So noiseless around me myriads of other globes." - Walt Whitman, "Night on the Prairies" (Leaves of Grass)

In the November 2000 issue of *The Holmes & Watson Report*, Brad Keefauver has defined a new paradigm¹ for Sherlockian study. His essay, "The Third Paradigm of Sherlockian Endeavor," is an elegant blend of the "many-worlds" theory of modern physics² with the comic book model of the Multiverse.³ How does this affect the Sherlockian adage of "eliminate the impossible"?

What constitutes the "merely improbable," when all choices and all possibilities exist somewhere in the continua, according to these concepts? Surely every permutation of Sherlock Holmes is out there to be found by the intrepid paratime tourist, from the quintessential Earth-ACD of the Canon to the Rathbone and Bruce doppelgangers of 1940s London.

In another reality, Holmes and Watson confront the Wellsian War of the Worlds with Professor Challenger⁴ or the master cricketer W. G. Grace.⁵ Somewhere, Mycroft Holmes and the Diogenes Club conspire against a triumphant Count Dracula in an alternative world where Stoker's novel went quite wrong.⁶ Somewhere, a surviving Moriarty gloats over the presumed death of the Great Detective at Reichenbach, as in the manifestly brilliant alternative history graphic novel by Alan Moore, *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*.

Hey, somewhere the mastermind Kaiser Soze of *The Usual Suspects* is being matched against a very old Sherlock Holmes.

Brad Keefauver also presents an interesting mechanism for Conan Doyle's access to the archive of Dr. Watson's mind, one suspiciously similar to that comic book rationalization as to how the

creative minds of writers like Gardner F. Fox and John Broome perceived the Earth-Two adventures of the Golden Age Flash and the other heroes of the Justice Society of America.

Do all the worlds of myth and fiction really exist in some other realities, and can one reach them? It is precisely these questions that are posed by psychologists Dr. Reed Chalmers and Harold Shea in the entertaining novel *The Incomplete Enchanter* (1940) by L. Sprague De Camp and Fletcher Pratt.

Harold Shea is a brash, self-conceited young psychologist who coins the term "syllogismobile" for Chalmers' method of accessing fictional worlds through the use of symbolic logic to "open the windows of perception," in more modern terms. Shea projects himself into the world of Scandinavian myth (with Ragnorak just around the corner) and that of Edmund Spenser's Faerie Queene. Later, the series takes Shea and associates into the land of Ariosto's Orlando Furioso, the Finnish Kalevala, and then the world of Irish myth and legend. Symbolic logic seems a vehicle worthy for Sherlock Holmes.

Something similar is done in Marvin Kaye's tales of *The Incredible Umbrella* (Dell, 1980), by use of the title artifact made by the sorcerer John Wellington Wells of an "Earth-G&S." This plunges academician J. Adrian Fillmore (aka James Phillimore) into that Gilbert and Sullivan reality, plumbing the parameters of Gilbertian logic, as well as a world based on Victorian fiction first-draft and uncompleted manuscripts, including Frankenstein's creature.

There Fillmore seeks the help of Sherrinford Holmes and Dr. Ormond Sacker. Later alarms and excursions take him to the true Sherlockian universe and that of Flatland. In the latter topological wonderland, Sherlock Holmes saves Fillmore from Moriarty's schemes.

The Eyre Affair by Jasper Fforde is a humorous new novel that uses the concept of entering a fictional work. Special operative and literary detective Thursday Next investigates a disappearance in a world where the Crimean War is still being fought in 1985. Jane Eyre is kidnapped, from the pages of Charlotte Bronte's masterpiece of Victorian fiction, only to return three weeks later, apparently unharmed. Mycroft seems to be a frequent Next family name. Can an incursion into the Canon be far behind in future volumes?

The concept of the alternative world goes back to dreams of triumph in some altered Napoleonic history in the 1836 *Napoleon et la conquete du monde, 1812-1823: histoire de la monarchie universe lie* by Louis-Napoleon Geoffroy-Chateau.

Even Conan Doyle himself indulged in a tale of what-if in his "The Death Voyage," published in *The*

Strand in October 1929 and included in *Uncollected Stories: The Unknown Conan Doyle*, edited by John Michael Gibson and Richard Lancelyn Green (Secker & Warburg 1982).

In that story, the Kaiser does not abdicate. He travels to Kiel and convinces the sailors to give up their revolt and sail into one last grand battle against the British.

It's not too difficult to imagine a scenario where Professor Challenger devises a mechanism to reach alternative Victorian and Edwardian worlds, like the fantastic universes of role-playing games *Space: 1889* and *Castle Falkenstein*, the dystopian alternative England of *The Difference Engine*¹ by William Gibson and Bruce Sterling (Bantam/Spectra, 1991) or television's *Wild Wild West*.

- (1) The paradigm of our lives, undoubtedly.
- (2) "Quantum Shmantum" by Tim Folger in *Discover* magazine, September 2001: Vol. 22, No. 9.
- (3) See "The FLASH of 1\vo Worlds" (Flash #123, September 1961), "Crisis on Earth-One" and "Crisis on Earth-Two" (Justice League of America #21 & 22, August & September 1963), "Crisis on Infinite Earths," etc., all published by National Periodicals-DC.
- (4) *Sherlock Holmes' War of the Worlds* (1975) by Manly Wade Wellman & Wade Wellman.
- (5) *W. G. Grace's Last Case, or; The War of the Worlds, Part 1* (1984) by William Rushton.
- (6) *Anno Dracula* by Kim Newman
- (7) Some call it a cyberpunk/steampunk rewrite of Benjamin Disraeli's 1845 novel *Sybil, or The Two Nations*. See the exegesis in the superb "The Difference Dictionary" by Eileen Gunn, *Science Fiction Eye*, Winter 1991.

56 STORIES IN 56 DAYS - "THE THREE GARRIDEBS"

Posted on November 8, 2011 by barefootonbakerstreet (Charlotte Anne Walters)

Ah yes, it's the one where Watson gets shot, writes Charlotte Anne Walters.

The story begins with Watson telling us that Holmes has refused a knighthood for services which he could not describe at that particular time.

This fits in well with Holmes' lack of ambition beyond solving problems which others cannot.

He is so much more likable and complex as a result.

The complexity comes from being both unpretentious but also adoring praise all at the same time.

A spontaneous round of applause from Watson and a group of constables means more to him than a knighthood.

Watson goes on to describe his position as that of 'partner and confidant' which is quite a statement really.

As I have remarked before, the use of the word 'partner' infers an equal footing to Holmes and a dependency upon each other which acknowledges the contributions of both to the success of the, shall we say, detective agency.

This story has similarities to The Red-Headed League, in that it's all about someone finding an ingenious method of getting a person out of the way.

An elaborate ruse is concocted with the sole purpose of getting an eccentric old collector to leave his house so that someone can break in and plunder the forger's den set up in his cellar by the previous occupant.

The collector is called Nathan Garrideb and is so absorbed by his collection of curios that he rarely ever leaves the house.

The American villain (yes it's another foreign baddie) who wants access to the house has to invent a tale to shift him, and uses his unusual name as a starting point.

Pretending to be a Mr John Garrideb, the America claims that he has been left a fortune by an eccentric millionaire whose name was also Garrideb.

He can only claim the money if he can find two other men with the same surname, then they will receive a third each.

He claims to have come recently to London (a lie which Holmes dismisses due to his English outfit being clearly well-

worn) upon hearing that a Garrideb resided there.

He then tells Nathan Garrideb that the third man has been found and that he must go and meet with him in order to seal the deal.

Eager to inherit the money and add rare artefacts to his collection, Mr Nathan agrees to leave his house and go.

Fortunately, Holmes has deduced the real reason for his departure and lies in wait with Watson to catch the American.

This is where things take on a dramatic turn and Watson pays the price for following Holmes into danger.

Upon realising that he has been caught out, the American turns his weapon on poor Watson and shoots him in the thigh.

And here we see the strongest evidence of Holmes' genuine depth of emotion for his friend.

Holmes smashes his pistol down on the man's head then rushes to put his arms around his friend, helping him to a chair and asking most earnestly – "You are not hurt Watson? For God's sake, say that you are not hurt!"

These two sentences are full of concern, a touch of panic and perhaps even a little guilt knowing that he put his friend in harm's way.

But it is what Watson tells us which is the most poignant of all – 'It was worth a wound-it was worth many wounds-to know the depth of loyalty and love which lay behind that cold mask.

The clear, hard eyes were dimmed for a moment, and the firm lips were shaking. For the one and only time I caught a glimpse of a great heart as well as of a great brain.

All my years of humble but single-minded service culminated in that moment of revelation.'

What a fantastic and profound statement to make. This shows as much about Watson's love for Holmes as vice-versa.

So there we have it, Holmes was without doubt capable of great emotion and did truly love his friend despite often being cold and difficult.

And Watson clearly longed for that love – or for the confirmation of it at least.

After tearing Watson's trousers with his pocket-knife and discovering to much relief that the wound is superficial, Holmes turns on the American and says – "By the Lord, it is as well for you. If you had killed Watson, you would not have got out of this room alive."

And I really think he meant it.

I really enjoyed this story on two levels.

Firstly, for the narrative itself – this is very clever, albeit far-fetched, and certainly makes you want to turn the page to see how it all ends up.

And secondly, for the insight it gives into the relationship between these two men and their enduring friendship.

Here we see an emotional Holmes, the emotion we always knew him capable of but had never seen to this extent before.

I have to give this a 9 out of 10.

STORY INFO PAGES FOR "The Three Garridebs"

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

- **First published in:** Collier's Weekly, October 25, 1924; The Strand Magazine, January 1925
- **Time frame of story (known/surmised):** Stated by Watson, the latter end of June, 1902, shortly after the conclusion of the South African War.
- **Holmes and Watson living arrangements:** Sharing bachelor quarters at 221B.
- **Opening scene:** Homes had a letter from a potential client, Nathan Garrideb, who had been contacted by a John Garrideb, an American, who said there was big money if they could find a third adult male Garrideb, thanks to an unusual will filed by a wealthy deceased American Garrideb who took pride in the queerness of his unusual name. John Garrideb was a short, powerful man with the round, fresh, clean-shaven face characteristic of American men of affairs. The general effect was chubby and rather childlike. His eyes, however, were arresting.
- **Client:** Nathan Garrideb, who consulted Holmes. He was a native Londoner. He was a very tall, loose-jointed, round-backed person, gaunt and bald, some sixty-odd years of age. He had a cadaverous face, with the dull dead skin of a man to whom exercise was unknown. Large round spectacles and a small projecting goat's beard combined with his stooping attitude gave him an expression of peering curiosity. He was an amiable but eccentric collector. His rooms were like a small museum, with cupboards and cabinets all round, crowded with specimens.
- **Crime or concern:** Holmes' concern was the telling of such an obvious rigmarole of lies by the man who called himself John Garrideb. Actual crime involved luring the introverted Nathan Garrideb out of his lodgings on a wild-goose chase so the crooks could recover counterfeiting plates and bills left there before they were jailed, which was prior to Nathan Garrideb taking up residence. The whole of the Garrideb invention was for no other end.
- **Villain:** The poseur, John Garrideb, whose actual name was James Winter, alias Morecroft, alias Killer Evans, of sinister and murderous reputation.
- **Motive:** Recover the counterfeiting apparatus and material left in Nathan Garrideb's basement (unknown to Nathan).
- **Logic used to solve:** Holmes tested the man who presented himself as John Garrideb, from Topeka, Kansas, USA. "Good old Dr. Starr" (doctor Lysander Starr, former mayor of Topeka and a correspondent of Holmes). Holmes made it all up to check his suspicion that John Garrideb was lying, and Holmes was correct. What motive lay behind this preposterous search for Garridebs? It was worthy of attention, granting that the man was a rascal, but certainly a complex and ingenious one.

Misspelling of the word "plough" (as "plow") in the advertisement of Howard Garrideb of Birmingham indicated an American.

A visit to the house-agent revealed that Prescott, the counterfeiter, had lived in the house prior to Nathan Garrideb. Prescott was shot and killed by John Garrideb, aka Winter/Morecroft/Evans.
- **Policemen:** After agreeing to have Nathan Garrideb go up to Birmingham to check out the recently-discovered third

Garrideb, Howard, Holmes went down to see friend Lestrade at the Yard and examined the rogues' portrait gallery.

- **Holmes' fees:** No mention, but probably not a lucrative case for Holmes, because his client's castle in the air fell down and he lost his reason.
- **Transport:** Holmes and Watson went to Little Ryder Street by unspecified means.

Nathan Garrideb was sent to Birmingham to see the third Garrideb, leaving at noon and arriving soon after two. He was able to return the same night.

- **Food and Drink:** No mention
- **Vices:** Holmes had lit his pipe, and he sat for some time with a curious smile upon his face after testing the veracity of John Garrideb.
- **Other cases mentioned:** Winters' earlier crimes. Shot three men in the States. Escaped from penitentiary through political influence. Came to London in 1893. Shot a man over cards in a night-club in the Waterloo Road in January, 1895. Man

died, and was identified as Rodger Prescott, famous as a forger and coiner in Chicago.

- **Notable Quotables:** Holmes : "You're not hurt, Watson? For God's sake, say that you are not hurt!" And to Evans: "By the Lord, it is as well for you. If you had killed Watson, you would not have got out of this room alive." Watson's reaction: "For the one and only time I caught a glimpse of a great heart as well as of a great brain. All my years of humble but single-minded service culminated in that moment of revelation."

- **Other interesting:** The setting sun: greatly accelerated when Holmes and Watson went to visit Nathan Garrideb, who lived near the Edgware Road, within a stone-cast of old Tyburn Tree, which in previous centuries had been the site of hangings of criminals and other miscreants.

This story shares a plot element with REDH and STOC, which is tricking someone to go elsewhere whilst the criminal takes advantage of the absence to commit the crime.

In the modern world there is a famous Sherlockian publication named Prescott's Press, which is "printed for private circulation and is said by experts to be the last word upon the subject". It gets its name from this story and from the description in NAVA of Holmes' writing of the Polyphonic Motets of Lassus, which had been printed for private circulation, and was said by experts to be the last word upon the subject.

There was a character named "Lysander Stark" in ENGR.

- **When all was said and done:** Nathan, the real Garrideb, never got over the shock of his dissipated dreams. When his castle in the air fell down, it buried him beneath the ruins. He was last heard of at a nursing-home in Brixton.

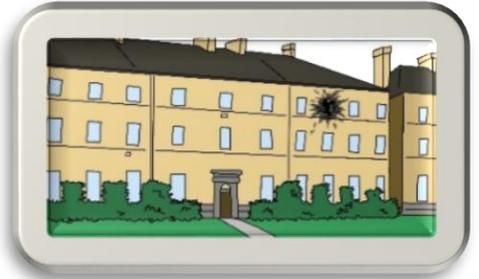
In capturing Winters, Watson was shot in the leg, but superficially.

Winters, aka Evans, was captured by Holmes and Watson and turned over to the next stage, and the Killer returned to those shades from which he had just emerged.

HOLMES, THE SCHOOL PAPER HAS PUBLISHED A BRILLIANT WRITE-UP ON YOUR SOLUTION TO THE MISSING GYMNASIUM SOCKS MYSTERY.

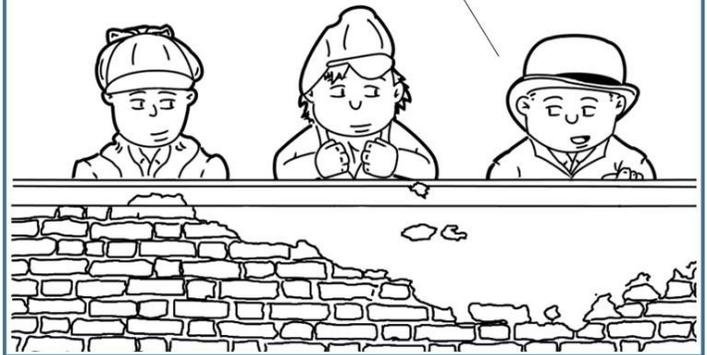


Baker Street Elementary



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

I FELT 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE BOGUS LAUNDRY AFFAIR' WAS AN INSPIRED TITLE ON MY PART. I AM ALSO PROUD OF THE NARRATIVE I PUT TOGETHER.

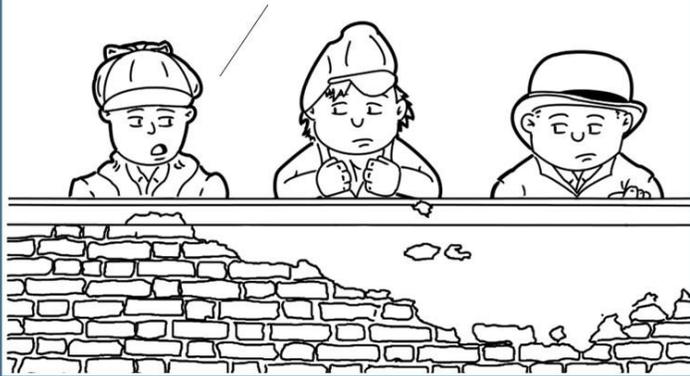


YET I FEEL THAT MYSTERY IS NOT COMPLETELY RESOLVED.

WHAT IS LEFT...? MASTER MORAN HAS ADMITTED TO THE CRIME, HE HAS RECEIVED HIS PUNISHMENT, AND THE SOCKS HAVE BEEN RETURNED.



I DO NOT BELIEVE HE ACTED ALONE. THERE IS A CENTRAL POWER BEHIND THE AGENT, NOT SUSPECTED BY THE SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATION.



THIS DEEP ORGANIZING POWER STANDS IN THE WAY OF THE LAW, AND THROWS ITS SHIELD OVER ALL OF THE WRONGDOERS WITHIN THIS SCHOOL.

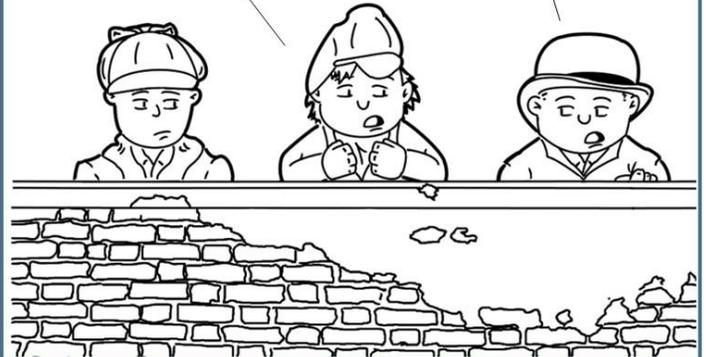


AGAIN AND AGAIN I HAVE FELT THE PRESENCE OF THIS FORCE.



THIS IS CREEPY.

OR JUST AN OVER-ACTIVE IMAGINATION.



I WILL SEIZE UPON A THREAD, AND FOLLOW IT, EVEN IF IT LEADS ME THROUGH A THOUSAND CUNNING WIDINGS, UNTIL I DISCOVER THE TRUTH.



AND THIS MY FRIENDS, IS NOT-SO-SUBTLE FORESHADOWING.

CAN YOU FORESHADOW THE COMPLETE CRACK-UP OF A FRIEND ?

