

# The Bilge Pump

Vol. 06, No. 09 - September, 2018  
*The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the  
Barque Lone Star*



## PLEASE NOTE:

### October 7 Meeting NOTICE

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, October 7th, 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 Illustrious Client." The quiz will cover this tale.

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

## September 1<sup>st</sup> Summary

WE HAD A LABOR DAY PICNIC.

Karen and Charles Olson hosted a wonderful event for 14 society members. Hamburgers and hot dogs were deliciously prepared by Allen Osborne.



Karen's family helped decorate the house with Sherlockian details.

Thanks so much to the Olson's for hosting our picnic.



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

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Our Website: [www.dfw-sherlock.org](http://www.dfw-sherlock.org)

Our Facebook Page:

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

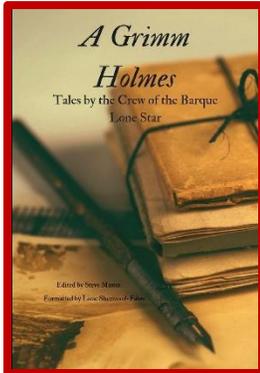
The image is a collage of Sherlock Holmes-themed content. On the left, there is a vertical strip of parchment with several quotes: "That will await him when he enters port," said he, chuckling. "It may give him a sleepless night. He will find it as sure a precursor of his fate as Openshaw did before him." "And who is this Captain Calhoun?" "The leader of the gang. I shall have the other..." "How did you trace it, then?" "He took a large sheet of paper from his pocket..." "I have spent the whole day," said he, "over in January and February in '83. There were attracted my attention, since, although it was..." "Texas, I think." "I was not and am not..." "What then?"

The top center features a screenshot of a website titled "THE CREW OF THE BARQUE LONE STAR". It includes a logo with a star and a silhouette of a man, a search bar, and a navigation menu with items like "Home Page", "About", "Crew Investitures and Awards", "Newsletters, Crew Meeting Logs, & Society Pastiches", "Papers", "Many Faces of Sherlock Holmes", and "Ephemera -- General". A central image shows a building labeled "Baker Street Elementary" with a spiderweb graphic. Below it is the text "THE MAY MEETING".

The bottom center shows a Facebook page for "The Crew of the Barque Lone Star @BarqueLoneStar". The page includes a profile picture, a cover photo with the text "A SHERLOCK HOLMES LITERARY SOCIETY Monthly meetings every 1st Sunday @ 1pm La Madeleine Country French Café", and a "Write something..." text box. Below the text box are four buttons: "Share a photo or video", "Advertise your business", "Get messages", and "Create an event".

On the right side, there is a poster for a vessel which touched at Pondichery, with the text "Of these, one, the Lone Star, instantly of the states of the Union." The poster features a silhouette of a man's profile.

# 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).

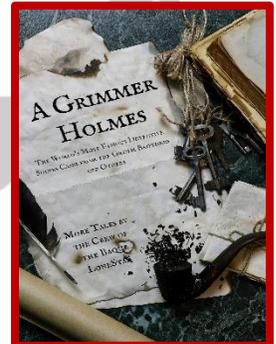
After discussions with several members, we have decided to repeat the process this year. The working title of the Anthology would be "Grimmer Holmes" or "A Grimmer Holmes."

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 "ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT"

Brad Keefauver, Sherlock Peoria

Seventeen thoughts for further ponderance of "Illustrious Client" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

## THE EVER-PERSISTENT WATSON

"It can't hurt now,' was Mr. Sherlock Holmes's comment when, for the tenth time in as many years."

What was it about this case had Watson asking to publish it on an annual basis? Did he find Gruner so loathsome he wanted to punish him further in print? Did he want to remind Violet de Merville of her foolishness? Was he so fond of his chance to play the role as Dr. Hill Barton? Or was he trying to gain

sympathy for poor Miss Kitty Winter? Or some other reason?



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## THE CLUB SECRETARY OR THE CLUB AS SECRETARY?

The Carlton Club writes Holmes a letter saying, Sir James "trusts, therefore, Mr. Holmes will make every effort to grant this interview, and he will confirm it over the telephone to the Carlton Club."

Did a man's club serve as his social secretary, making appointments and accepting RSVPs for him? Or was this a special situation, demonstrating some special position Damery held in the club?

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## WAS THIS AN UNTOLD CASE OR NOT?

"You may remember his negotiations with Sir George Lewis over the Hammerford Will case," Holmes says to Watson, only moments after asking him, "Do you know anything of this man Damery?"

If the Hammerford Will case was indeed one of Holmes's cases Watson should remember, the good doctor

would certainly know something of him, wouldn't he? Or was the Hammerford Will case just a prominent matter in the papers, in which case we have to wonder how great a job Sir James did of keeping it out of the papers?

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## THE CASE OF THE IRISH ARISTOCRAT

"Frankness shone from his gray Irish eyes, and good humour played round his mobile, smiling lips. His lucent top-hat, his dark frock-coat, indeed, every detail, from the pearl pin in the black satin cravat to the lavender spats over the varnished shoes, spoke of the meticulous care in dress for was

The big, aristocrat the little

Not to the Irish, good part myself, but my impression was always Ireland's native sons and daughters were the common folk of the Empire.

Were there many Irish aristocrats moving among the swells of London in those days?

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## SHAKING HANDS WITH DANGER

"If your man is more dangerous than the late Professor Moriarty, or than the living Colonel Sebastian Moran, then he is indeed worth meeting," Holmes says. (Though if you think about it, most of us are more dangerous than a dead Moriarty and a jailed Moran.) Did Holmes mean he actually enjoyed meeting dangerous criminals, outside of matching wits with them?

Would he have enjoyed sitting outside Hannibal Lechter's cell,



which he famous. masterful dominated room."

be slurring being a the same

conversing with the fictional serial killer? Or having Lizzie Borden for tea? (There was that winning woman who poisoned her kids he spoke so highly of.)

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## RETIRING TO ENGLAND TO ESCAPE PUBLICITY

"Who could possibly have read what happened at Prague and have any doubts as to the man's guilt!" Holmes says of Gruner. "I knew, also, that he had come to England and had a presentiment that sooner or later he would find me some work to do."

Could a man tried for murder in Prague come to England and mingle

with high society free of any stigma?

While Holmes tracked European crime, how many other Londoners might have even been aware of Gruner's trial?

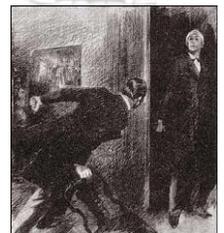
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## THE MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN

"It is important that I should be able to assure him that his honoured name has been in no way dragged into the matter. His motives are, to the last degree, honourable and chivalrous, but he prefers to remain unknown."

What consequences might this tale's mystery client have seen if he were to have hired Holmes himself to stop the Gruner-De Merville wedding? Or was he afraid of Gruner himself?

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**HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE MANY**

Sir James explains, "He has a daughter, Violet de Merville, young, rich, beautiful, accomplished, a wonder-woman in every way."

What might Violet have done to make herself an "accomplished" woman of the age? Education? Social reform? Business success? Would her wealth have been all her own, or is Sir James speaking of her father's wealth?

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**THE UPPER CRUST CRUISE LINE**

"It was on a Mediterranean yachting voyage. The company, though select, paid their own passages. No doubt the promoters hardly realized the Baron's true character until it was too late."



Were the promoters of this trip members of high society themselves? Did the best travel agencies

arrange exclusive "invitation only" cruises? Or did one put in one's name for a cruise only to be rejected if one's credentials weren't up to snuff?

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**WELL, MAYBE SHE'S NOT A WONDER WOMAN ...**

Of dear Violet we hear: "To say that she loves him hardly expresses it. She dotes upon him; she is obsessed by him. Outside of him there is nothing on earth. She will not hear one word against him."

The amazing Miss Violet has a couple major flaws, it seems: obsessing over her man and being "indescribably annoying," as Holmes tells us later.

Would a woman truly as accomplished and strong as Damery portrays become that wildly obsessed with any man? Wouldn't she be used to good-looking dandies who were not all they seemed? Were there aspects of her character Sir James had missed completely, as demonstrated

by the ease with which Gruner captivated her? (Especially if he was portraying himself as the innocent in numerous public scandals that just happened to arise around him.)

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**THE BEATEN MEMBER OF THE FAMILY**

"I could deceive you by saying so, Mr. Holmes, but it would not be true. De Merville is a broken man. The strong soldier has been utterly demoralized by this incident. He has lost the nerve which never failed him on the battlefield and has become a weak, doddering old man, utterly incapable of contending with a brilliant, forceful rascal like this Austrian."



Did De Merville's daughter's poor choice in men really ruin the general all by itself? Or did Gruner do something to General De Merville, unbeknownst to Violet, to keep the old man out of it? Could Gruner have applied some threat or humiliation to tame his future father-in-law ahead of time? Wouldn't a general have his own backstage resources for dealing with an unwanted blackguard?

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**ONE MORE NUMBER IN HIS PERSONAL DIRECTORY**

Damery tells Holmes, "The Carlton Club will find me. But in case of emergency, there is a private telephone call, 'XX.31.'"

Holmes then notes it in his memorandum-book, continuing to smile after deciding to take the case with a mystery client. Does the collection of a private phone number to such a man as Sir James Damery please Holmes? Might he be thinking of some future favor he can call in from this man who usually screens his calls through the Carlton Club?

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**THE FRIENDS OF ONE'S YOUTH**

"My old friend Charlie Peace was a violin virtuoso," Holmes quips.

Sure, he's probably speaking figuratively, but what are the chances that Sherlock Holmes actually met Charlie Peace before Peace's death in 1879?

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**THE PHASES OF THE CONSULTING DETECTIVE**

Watson writes: "I have not had occasion to mention Shinwell Johnson in these memoirs because I have seldom drawn my cases from the latter phases of my friend's career."

What's Watson talking about when he says "latter phases"?

If one looks at the dates of Watson's chronicles, they seem pretty evenly spread across Holmes's active years of practice, even during the later years.

Was there a phase of Holmes's business that we know nothing of? Did Watson stick to Holmes-Watson partnership cases when the detective agency had grown far beyond two employees just because he'd established the formula early on? Were the 1890s more of a time for teamwork at the Holmes agency?

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**THE CAREER OF SHINWELL JOHNSON**

"Had Johnson been a "nark" of the police he would soon have been exposed, but as he dealt with cases which never came directly into the courts, his activities were never realized by his companions."

Was Johnson the reason Holmes held Watson back from publishing this case for so many years? Did the underworld agent remain active in the decade when Holmes retired to Sussex, perhaps even rejoining Holmes for the set-up to "His Last Bow"?

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**LET'S CALL A MOUSTACHE A MOUSTACHE**

"The Baron has little waxed tips of hair under his nose, like the short antennae of an insect," Holmes says. But I have to ask: was there any

fashion in male facial hair other than a moustache which fits Holmes's description?

Is Holmes impugning Gruner's manliness by refusing to call his moustache by that name? (Especially compared to Watson's macho sub-nasal brush.)

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### **SHE SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S FROM "FALMOUTH"**

"Hell, London, gets me every time," Kitty Winter says, "Same address for Porky Shinwell."

Where exactly is the "Hell" section of London? Would Watson's Victorian readers have been shocked by Miss Winter's statement?

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### **REGULAR CUSTOMERS AT SIMPSON'S**

"I did not see Holmes again until the following evening when we dined once more at our Strand restaurant."



Two nights in a row at Simpson's. What is a handy point between Queen

Anne Street and Baker Street? Was Mrs. Hudson refusing to cook for Watson now that he had moved out? Or had the landlady's cook continued her reading of the Family Herald when she should have been improving her skills, to the detriment of Baker Street diners?

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### **SHE'S SO HIGH ABOVE THEM, SHE'S A PROBLEM**

"Miss Winter's advent rather amazed her, I think, but she waved us into our respective chairs like a reverend abess receiving two rather leprous mendicants. If your head is inclined to swell, my dear Watson, take a course of Miss Violet de Merville."

Wouldn't an abess be nicer to leprous mendicants? Is Holmes's "leprous" line a subconscious reference to some disease Kitty Winter might have been afflicted with of the social sort?

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### **NEWSPRINT OF THE VICTORIAN AGE**

"There, black upon yellow, was the terrible news-sheet ..."

Did Victorian newspapers start out yellow, and just get yellower with time? Or was this news-sheet a specially colored paper?

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### **ESCAPING HOLMES OR VIOLET?**

The evening papers say that "among the passengers on the Cunard boat Ruritania, starting from Liverpool on Friday, was the Baron Adelbert Gruner, who had some important financial business to settle in the States before his impending wedding to Miss Violet de Merville, only daughter of, etc., etc."



Why was Gruner, a man so self-assured and so dangerous, running off to America? Was he a believer in "absence makes the heart grow fonder"? Did he need to put some distance between him and his fiancee to make a few sexual conquests before his wedding day? (Here's a guy whose bachelor party I want to see -- from a safe distance, of course.)

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### **FIRST THURSTON, NOW LOMAX**

"Finally, I drove to the London Library in St. James's Square, put the matter to my friend



Lomax, the sublibrarian, and

departed to

my rooms with a goodly volume under my arm."

Where might Watson have met a sublibrarian? Would a fellow in that line of work be a club man?

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### **IS THIS A GREAT STORY OR WHAT?**

Sure, it's not a whodunnit, but does any other tale in the Canon feature such a wealth of colorful characters and details as "Illustrious Client"?

It's not often that the "17 Steps" run into overtime and I have to actually shut them down, but this case certainly brought it out.

Anyone wanting to jump in on dynasties of pottery or any other parts of the story I didn't get to, feel free.

# NOT YOUR TYPE

Liese Sherwood-Fabre, PhD

The Canon holds two references to typewriters. In The Hound of the Baskervilles, Laura Lyons makes her living on a Remington typewriter. A typewriter's specific characteristics reveal who was sending letters to Mary Sutherland. As these two stories illustrate, this particular invention created a whole new career and a new branch of forensics toward the end of the 1800s.

While machines to print letters had been developed throughout the 19th century, Christopher Latham Sholes was the first to construct a practical machine. In 1873, he signed a contract with the Remington gunsmiths, and the first machines were sold in 1874. These first machines typed only capital letters. The model 2, introduced in 1878, included a shift key that allowed for both capital and small letters. (1)

In addition to creating a new machine, a whole new profession was born: the female typist. E. Remington and Sons specifically marketed their product to the daughters of middle-class businessmen, with keys designed for dainty fingers and promoted as requiring "no more skill than playing the piano." In short order, the typewriter was exported to England along with the female typist and office worker. By 1911, more than 125,000 women had gone to work in offices. (2)

In addition to creating the profession of "typewriter," the invention sparked other developments, such as the "touch system," creating a more efficient method over the two-fingered "hunt and peck" approach to typing and courses offering to teach the method along with other office skills like stenography. (3) While status

(middle-class or higher) was a requirement at the beginning for women to enter office work, qualifications of the "twin" skills of stenography and typewriting opened the door for more women into this field. Five times as many men were counted at office workers in 1911, compared to 1896. Female office workers, on the other hand, increased 500 times. (4)

Some of this increase was purely economic. Females earned less than a third what young men were paid as clerks. They were also dismissed once they married and had little opportunity for promotion if they remained single, keeping their wages lower than men. (5)



The typewriter also corresponded to a rise in business documents at the turn of the century. (6) Not only did the typewriter create more uniformity and readability in documents, it also created the illusion of anonymity not available with handwriting, illustrated by the typewritten notes Miss Sutherland received in "A Case of Identity."

Interestingly, this story provides the earliest known reference to the peculiarities of an individual typewriter leading to the machine's identity. The story, written in 1891, predates the first known comment by a document examiner that appeared in 1894 and first legal case (Levy v. Rust) in 1893. William Hagan noted that the more typewriters are used, the more distinct the alignment and specific idiosyncrasies of specific letters. A typewriter mechanic pointed out the differences between receipts presented by the plaintiff and those prepared on the defendant's typewriter were too dissimilar to have been written on the same

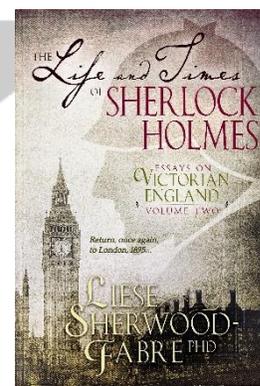
machine. The judge found for the defendant without citing any previous cases. Following this case, additional decisions recognized the use of typewriting identification as acceptable evidence. (7)

While the typewriter has given over to the computer and printers, documents produced on these modern devices can still be traced back to the make and model, and even a unique machine. (8) As Holmes noted more than one hundred years ago, typewriters have left their mark—not only on the paper, but on business society as a whole.

- 1) <https://www.britannica.com/technology/typewriter>
- 2) <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-23432653>
- 3) Robert Waller, "Women and the Typewriter During the First Fifty Years, 1873-1923." *Studies in Popular Culture*, 9:1 (1986), page 42.
- 4) Gregory Anderson, *The White-Blouse Revolution: Female Office Workers Since 1870*, Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1988, page 82.
- 5) <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-23432653>
- 6) Sally Mitchell (editor), *Victorian Britain: An Encyclopedia*, New York: Garland Publishing, 1988, page 826.
- 7) David A. Crown, "Landmarks in Typewriting Identification," *58 Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology & Police Science* 105 (1967), page 106.
- 8) <http://www.forensicsciencesimplified.org/docs/how.html>

You can check out more of Liese Sherwood-Fabre's writings at [www.liesesherwoodfabre.com](http://www.liesesherwoodfabre.com).

*Dr. Sherwood-Fabre's book "The Life and Times of Sherlock Holmes" includes this and other essays on Victorian England and is now available on Amazon. It will be available everywhere September 15. She will have a booth at "From Gillette to Brett V" in Bloomington, Indiana in October where copies will also be available for purchase.*



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>

# An Inquiry Into "Illustrious Client"

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

- "The Adventure of the Illustrious Client" was first published in Collier's Weekly Magazine on November 8, 1924, and in The Strand Magazine in February-March 1925. It is part of The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes.

- As can be seen, all of our chronologists are in agreement regarding the year in which this case took place: Canon: Wednesday, September 3, 1902; Baring-Gould: Wednesday, September 3, 1902; Bell: Saturday, September 13, 1902; Blakeney: Wednesday, September 3, 1902; Brend: September 1902; Christ: Wednesday, September 3, 1902; Dakin: Wednesday, September 3, 1902; Folsom: Friday, October 3, 1902; Hall: October 3, 1902; Keefauver: Wednesday September 3rd 1902; Klingler: 1902; Zeisler: Saturday, September 13, 1902.

- If that is the case, then at the time Holmes was 48 years old and Watson 50.

- **Notable Quotes:**

"Woman's heart and mind are insoluble puzzles to the male. Murder might be condoned or explained, and yet some smaller offence might rankle."

**== The Supreme Moment ==**

Watson begins this story by telling us that this "was, in some ways, the supreme moment" of Holmes' career. It would be interesting to learn in what way. If one considers the great importance of some of his other cases—some of possible international repercussions that might have even led to war—such as BRUC, NAVA, SECO and others, this (albeit successful) effort

on our sleuth's part to prevent a foolish headstrong girl's marriage to a highly undesirable man does not appear to quite reach the same level of those others.

Then again, perhaps the Good Doctor not telling us everything about this case; for example, it seems to be quite obvious that the Illustrious Client is not simply a nobleman, but very likely a Royal—perhaps even King Edward VII himself.

From the exchange between him and Sir James, it is obvious that Holmes deduced the identity of this personage:

"I have no doubt, Mr. Holmes, with your great powers you could easily trace my client back through me, but I must ask you, as a point of honour, to refrain from doing so, and not to break in upon his incognito."

Holmes gave a whimsical smile. "I think I may safely promise that."

This would clarify some of Sir James' remarks: the client who is the possessor of an "honoured name has been in no way dragged into the matter. His motives are, to the last degree, honourable and chivalrous, but he prefers to remain unknown." Then he adds that this mysterious client "is an old friend, one who has known the General intimately for many years and taken a paternal interest in this young girl since she wore short frocks. He cannot see this tragedy consummated without some attempt to stop it."

Perhaps the main clue here is the word "paternal." It is a well-established fact that first as Prince of Wales and afterwards as King-Emperor, Victoria's son had an exceedingly roving eye. One of the results of this proclivity might have been the birth of one Miss Violet de Merville. Had that been the case, Holmes would then have been

involved in the rescue of someone who, under somewhat different social circumstances would have been a Princess Royal.

After all, Royal bastards have never been unusual; otherwise, the baton sinister would be unknown to heraldry.

**== The Unnecessary Meeting ==**

One must question Holmes' good judgment (or was it hubris?) in seeking a meeting with Baron Gruner before hearing from Shinwell Johnson. What if this agent had been able to come up with a valuable piece of information that our detective could have used against the baron? Why this superfluous and, (as it turned out to be later), dangerous shot across the bows?

**== "Look into My Eyes..." ==**

Gruner sneeringly tells Holmes that one of the reasons—if not the principal one—behind Violet de Merville's strong attachment to him is the result of a post-hypnotic suggestion. It is surprising that Holmes would not have looked into this more deeply. Although certainly not his specialty, Watson could have told him that in such a case what is done can be undone. While Watson was not an alienist, he surely would have had at least a passing acquaintance with some of Sigmund Freud's writings on hypnosis.

Therefore, knowing about Gruner's hypnotic qualities, and faced by Miss de Merville's refusal to face facts, back then—regardless of her coming of age—it would have been a relatively simple matter for her father, with the help of a doctor recommended by perhaps the Illustrious Client, to place her out danger. All that would have been required would have been to

discreetly commit her to some private hospital as a patient suffering from one of the many “hysterical” disorders that proper young ladies of the time often had to endure.

Beyond Gruner’s routine influence, at least part of her feelings for him would have faded. Regardless of what is depicted in *The Manchurian Candidate*, post-hypnotic suggestions tend to fade over time; they must be periodically reestablished.

#### == Levels of Hatred ==

While Watson’s interesting comment, when he writes about Kitty Winter, that “There was an intensity of hatred in her white, set face and her blazing eyes such as a woman seldom and man never can attain,” might appear to be a reflection of the “deadlier than the male” Victorian concept, he may not have been too far from the mark.

Although I believe that both sexes are equally as capable of deep hatred, the kind of deceit and outrage that sometimes can be inflicted upon a woman is like nothing that a male could ever experience. Certainly, then, in her sad case Kitty truly was capable of a hatred that no man could have matched.

#### == A Slap on the Holmesian Face ==

It is obvious that Miss de Merville had absolutely no idea of who Sherlock Holmes was, when she referred to him as “a paid agent who would have been equally willing to act for the Baron as against him.” This had to rankle a gentleman of his elevated honor and ethics, someone whose whole life was stimulated by a quest for justice.

#### == Simplifying the Problem ==

It is surprising, in view of how discreetly some matters could be arranged back in those times, that the Illustrious Client would not have had Sir James differently dispose of the situation. Although the matter ended satisfactorily, it was not because of

Holmes collateral intervention in the case—it was Kitty who brought the situation to an acceptable ending.

Consider that Miss de Merville was still under Gruner’s romantic (and hypnotic) sway. Because of this it might be argued that her reading his “Lust Book,” would not have had the desired influence. Uncertain as her moral compass was under his influence, a simple protestation on Gruner’s part that it had been manufactured imitating his handwriting would have seemed perfectly plausible to her; after all, she had “forgiven” him for a great many things that took place in his past—including a possible murder. A faceful of vitriol greatly reduced that possibility.

Before even hiring Holmes, knowing about Gruner’s reputation and career—and especially after the attack on Holmes—it would have been logical for the Illustrious Client to have set matters into action and have someone discreetly cause the baron to suffer a deadly “accident.” This would have considerably uncomplicated matters. Perhaps that was already in the works and he caught a whiff of it; hence his suddenly booking passage to the United States aboard the *SS Ruritania*.

#### == Kitty’s Revenge ==

I am probably doing the Great Detective a disservice. However, whenever I read Watson’s account of this case, I cannot see why Holmes would have brought Kitty with him to the Baron’s house. She had already told him where she had seen Gruner keep the book he was after. Had he changed the place where he had kept it during Kitty’s time, she would have known nothing about it and would have been of no use.

Even if she might have suggested where else it could have been secreted, the lady was clearly a ticking time bomb—someone whose unpredictable behavior could have seriously endanger the mission that Holmes and Watson were upon.

Again, I may be doing Holmes a disservice, but deep inside, I’ve always harbored the possibly baseless suspicion that our sleuth had deduced that she would to attack Gruner in some way, perhaps not with vitriol, but possibly with a revolver or a dagger bringing the situation to its single certain solution.

After all, he did observe that little package that she was carrying, and made no inquiry about it.

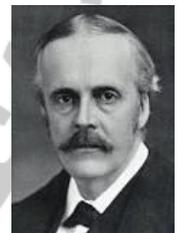
- What else happened in 1902:

#### 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.
- Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, Italy) renewed to 1914.
- 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.
- Martinique volcanic eruption destroys town of St. Pierre.
- Coal strike in U.S.A.
- 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.
- F.A. Krupp takes over Germania shipbuilding yard at Kiel; great armaments firm develops.



#### ART

- Conan Doyle publishes The Hound of the Baskervilles.
- Kipling publishes Just So Stories.
- Arthur Edward Woodley Mason publishes The Four Feathers.
- Beatrix Potter publishes Peter Rabbit.
- Enrico Caruso makes his first gramophone record—154 recordings in all.
- Elgar composes the first of his Pomp and Circumstance marches.
- Monet, Waterloo Bridge.
- Gauguin, Riders by the Sea, 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.

# Failing the Test of Time

Thanks to Karen Murdock, May Blunder

**An excerpt of a piece by Barbara Roden in "The Ashcroft Cache Creek Journal" (Ashcroft, B.C., Canada) 04 September under the headline "The Editor's Desk: Failing the test of time"**

When I was younger it seemed that wherever I happened to live, the same handful of shows were repeated in a permanent loop in the after-school hours. The Brady Bunch, Gilligan's Island, and Get Smart! were all staples, and while I enjoyed all three, Get Smart! was by far my favourite [ . . . ]

I haven't watched the show in many years, in part because I fear that the Suck Fairy might have visited it. I first heard about the Suck Fairy from a friend, when we were discussing beloved things from our childhoods.

My friend admitted that he had recently re-read a favourite book from his younger days; an experience that was, apparently, less than wonderful. "I found that the Suck Fairy had visited it," was his conclusion.

I asked what he meant, and he explained that the Suck Fairy is the entity which saps all the joy out of something fondly remembered from childhood. It could be a book, a movie, a TV series, or anything else that you adored at the age of 10 or 12, and thought — at that time — was absolutely brilliant. You loved it unquestioningly, with the white-hot passion of 1,000 suns, and that would never, ever, change.

Until, that is, you revisited it — perhaps because you now had children of your own — 10 or 20 or 30 years later, and wondered what on Earth had happened.

The thing you remembered as being so incomparably wonderful was, instead, flat, dreary, and boring, and whatever charms it had possessed and enjoyment it had provided had been sucked out of it. That's right:

unbeknownst to you, the Suck Fairy had visited it, and cast her magic spell.  
[ . . . ]

When I was 12 I fell in love with the Sherlock Holmes stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and snatched up paperback editions of all the Holmes stories.

Thus, it was that I came across an edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* with a foreword and afterword by acclaimed novelist John Fowles.

I read both with great interest, but was horrified when Fowles suggested, in the afterword, that there were faults to the novel.

He pointed out Conan Doyle's sketchy knowledge of Dartmoor, where the novel is set, as well as the thin characterisation of the novel's two main female characters, the lack of viable suspects, Watson's obtuseness, the absence of Holmes himself for much of the novel, and more.

I was shocked and appalled, and also a bit angry. How dare he criticize this thing I loved so much? It was as if someone had taken a sledgehammer to a butterfly.

As I grew older, however, I realized that Fowles was quite right to point these things out as faults. It didn't affect my enjoyment of the novel on subsequent re-readings — the Suck Fairy has not visited *The Hound of the Baskervilles* since I first read it in 1976 — but it did help me to understand valid criticism and start working on my own critical skills.

So perhaps I'll go back and give *Get Smart!* another viewing. With luck, the Suck Fairy will have stayed far away from it.

~May Blunder

# 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](mailto:Les221b@comcast.net), for making these available to us.

1. Why a 22-year wait to publish this case?
2. In what way was this the supreme moment of Holmes's career?
3. Are drying room couches customary?
4. Was the Hammerford Will a Holmes/Watson case?
5. Was Damery a fop or a fashion plate?
6. In what cases was Watson linked to violence?
7. Is there an explanation for Damery wearing his gloves indoors?
8. Why both Carlton Club and XX.31?
9. Was "your fashionable consultants" a dig at Watson?
10. Was the marriage really a danger to Gruner?
11. What are color cards?
12. Are iron wills subject to hypnosis?
13. What were the visible signs of sin and sorrow?
14. How many "terrible years" were there?
15. Are hatred and blazing eyes limited to females?
16. How did Kitty know that Holmes's only started that morning? Was she correct?
17. Do Holmes's references to church, abbess and bishops suggest a current interest in religious matters?
18. Did Holmes usually carry a stick?
19. Could Porky not have located the assailants?
20. Why didn't Watson learn about Chinese pottery by reading Gruner's book?
21. Would it be first growing dark at 8:30 P.M. in mid-September?
22. Would a "precise tidy cat of a man" have to "rummage furiously" in order to find a weapon in a drawer?
23. Did Holmes need Kitty (who hadn't been in Gruner's house in over a year) to advise him where the diary was kept?
24. Compare "Woman's heart and mind are insoluble puzzles to the male" and Women of the De Merville type do not act like that."
25. Why didn't Gruner "hypnotize" Violet to regard the diary (if discovered) as a forgery?
26. What extenuating circumstances were there?
27. Why wasn't Holmes prosecuted?
28. If Damery was trying to conceal the identity of the Client, why did he use the Client's carriage showing the coat of arms on the door?

# SHIPS AHOY! - VESSELS WITHIN THE CANON

John Brousch, Holmes and Watson Report, January, 2001

Vessels in the Canon are probably not thought of as a large group, as they are spread widely throughout. I have studied them, researched them, sketched pictures, and built models of all twenty. So I pondered writing about them. Well, as someone once said to me, "Whatever floats your boat," so I decided to cast away.

Collectively they make up quite a fascinating fleet adorning the shelves of my ships room, which contains additionally fifty other ship models, pictures, and miscellaneous nautical collectibles. Since the Canonical vessels lack detailed descriptions - some being referred to only by type, others merely mentioned by their purpose - my models are obviously conjecture. For example, perceiving *Matilda Briggs* to be a mysterious or sinister ship, I made her dark and gloomy with a giant rat on deck. The color picture on the cover of *Colliers*, February 27, 1904, by Steele, gave me a starting point on that one.

Of the types given in the Canon there are three barques, a type of three-masted ship; a brig, a two-masted ship; a cutter, which is a small single-masted ship; a liner, a ship belonging to a regular

transportation line as the packet which also carries mail and cargo; the troop-ship for carrying military to and from assignments; and various steam vessels, which vary in size and appearance with one or more funnels (smokestacks), paddle wheels, propellers, and sails also. A reference is made to the clipper, but not a specific one by name - it is used as a metaphor for a fast vessel (SIGN). When it was introduced, the clipper put most of the other ships of the time out of use due to its speed.

Additionally, the Canon contains scattered nautical and maritime tidbits throughout. There are some boats (for anyone who might not be certain of the difference: a boat can be put on a ship, but a ship can not be put on a boat). They include steam launches, which are small river boats; bathing cot, a small boat used by ocean bathers; lighter, a barge used in the loading and unloading of ships; punt, a flat-bottomed, square-ended, mastless boat used in fishing, ferrying, etc.; skiff, any oar-driven boat; wherry, a light shallow rowboat with passenger seats used in rivers and harbors; yawl, a small single-masted sailing boat...

Beyond boats, there is the waterman, a boatman or ferryman who plies his boat for hire, such as Mordecai Smith (SIGN); wharfinger, the owner or manager of a wharf; a sea creature that has very dangerous tentacles; and even tobacco bearing the name "Ships." There are at least two characters in the Canon whose coats-of-arms for their family names have ships in them.

For a touch of humor: I was told that if the cartoon character Tweety were to join the Navy, he could be called "The Naval Tweety"! Also, I so very much enjoyed the humorous Canonical marine theme comments in "The Editor's Gas-Lamp" in *The Baker Street Journal* of September 1989.

I believe the best way to introduce, or reflect upon, the ships is to list them in alphabetical order by name: **Alicia**. A cutter which sailed one morning into a patch of mist from which she never emerged; her crew was never again heard from again (THOR). It has been surmised that she was named after the second Mrs. Watson, the former Alicia Cutter. Additionally, I read that I am not the only one reminded here of one of the greatest mysteries of the sea, *the Mary Celeste*. The biographer and the

literary agent both decided not to add Holmes to the large and growing number of would-be solvers of this mystery. Doyle did, however, have just about everything to do with its popularity, and one of the Sherlockian pastiche authors wrote a most curious and surprising account of Holmes's connection.

**Bass Rock.** A steamer commanded by Captain Jack Crocker (ABBE).

**Conqueror.** A steam packet of the Liverpool, Dublin, and London Steam Packet Co. (CARD).

**Esmerelda.** A ship on which Jonathan Small planned to escape to Brazil (SIGN).

**Friesland.** Watson wrote that the shocking affair of the Dutch Steamship Friesland nearly cost Holmes and himself their lives (NORW). Actually, the ship was Belgian rather than Dutch. I also read that Christopher Morley had personally sailed aboard her, pacing the same deck where Holmes and Watson had their dangerous adventure. This ship was included in the 1945 Rathbone film *Pursuit to Algiers*.

**Gloria Scott.** A barque upon which Trevor Senior was transported to Australia, it was destroyed in an explosion following a mutiny by the convicts on board (GLOR). The 1954 Sheldon Reynolds television episode titled "Blind Man's Bluff," with Ronald Howard as Holmes, was based

on GLOR with the ship being called the "Gloria North."

**Hotspur.** A brig that picked up the survivors of the Gloria Scott disaster (GLOR).

**Lone Star.** An American barque commanded by Captain James

Calhoun. It was apparently lost in an Atlantic gale (FIVE).

**Matilda Briggs.** A ship associated with the giant rat of Sumatra, a story for which the world is not yet prepared (SUSS). I have some trifles on my creating a model of this one; however, in the interest of time and space ...

**May Day.** A steam packet upon which James Browner was steward. She was with the Liverpool, Dublin, and London Steam Packet Company (CARD).

**Norah Creina.** A steamer (not the singer Carina, whom Holmes went to hear at Albert Hall), lost at sea upon the Portuguese Coast with all hands and the surviving members of the Worthingdon Bank gang (RESI).

**Orontes.** A British troopship (o-*RON*-teez). Watson returned to England from India aboard her (STUD). Lucky for Watson, and lucky for me, as I was delighted to find an account of a Sherlockian who chanced upon a picture and description of this important ship. It was the best reference in my building the Canonical ships in my collection. The *Orontes* took her name after a river in the Middle East which

rises in Lebanon, follows a northward course through Syria and into Turkey, then turns westward to flow out into the Mediterranean Sea.

**Palmyra.** The ship aboard which John and Ivy Douglas set out for South Africa, and from which Mr. Douglas was lost overboard (VALL).

**Rock of Gibraltar.** The ship in which Mary Fraser travelled to England, and of which Jack Crocker was first officer (ABBE).

**Ruritania.** A liner of the Cunard Line upon which Baron Gruner planned to leave England (ILLU).

**Sea Unicorn.** The steam sealer that Peter Cary captained in 1883-84 (BLAC). There is a scion society, The Harpooners of the Sea Unicorn, with things seemingly kept nautical as their president is known as their Blue Whale, vice-president their Right Whale, etc., and they say things like "The Game's Afloat."

**Sophy Anderson.** A British barque whose loss Holmes investigated in 1887 (FIVE).

Then there is the eighteenth Canonical ship:

**Bruce-Partington.** The British submarine, a portion of whose plans Holmes was called upon to recover after they were stolen from Woolwich Arsenal. This vessel was said to be one of the most jealously guarded of all government secrets (BRUC). (I pondered including this one for a long time because it is not in the category of tall sailing ships;

however, several sailors have told me that a submarine can be referred to as either ship or boat.) Submarines were rare vessels back then, unheard of by most people. By 1900, after observing with mixed skepticism and disdain, the efforts of the Americans and the French with successful trials of the improved Holland submarines, the British got involved. (The USS Holland was honored on a U.S. commemorative postage stamp unveiled on March 27, 2000.)

The submarine became a major factor in naval warfare during World War I when Imperial Germany demonstrated its full potential. How Sir Arthur came up with the Bruce-Partington submarine is controversial and uncertain. However, the Secretary of the German Navy, Admiral Capelle, told the

Reichstag in 1916 that the real prophet of submarine warfare was Conan Doyle.

Thus, I went on to create a model of what I thought the Bruce-Partington submarine might have looked like. I based it on my model of the 1863-64 Civil War submarine *CSS H.L. Hunley*. Newspaper coverage of this rendering stated that it may be the only model around, according to officials at the Charleston Museum in South Carolina, where the Hunley was raised on August 8, 2000, after 136 years underwater. I would suspect also that I have the only model of the Bruce-Partington submarine.

Due to the length of this voyage I should conclude, but not without mentioning two important boats (I hope to write a sequel on Doylean ships): Aurora, the river steam launch that Jonathan Small

used in his attempt to escape with the Agra treasure and the police steam launch, a boat upon which Holmes and Watson chased Jonathan Small (SIGN).

I am truly indebted to those who have previously written in the "writings about the writings" on these subject. Except for annual trips to Chicago's Navy Pier to board some tall ships and converse with their crew members, I did my research at my desk in my study on dry land. It is my hope that after reading this account that the next time you encounter these ships and boats while sailing in future voyages through the 60 stories, you too might visualize them more clearly, with special feelings for the vessels within the Canon..... "

# 56 STORIES IN 56 DAYS - "ILLUSTRIOUS CLIENT"

Posted on November 03, 2011 by barefootonbakerstreet (Charlotte Anne Walters)

The best part of this story has to be the fiery and fabulous Miss Kitty Winter, writes Charlotte Anne Walters.

At last, a feisty, strong and determined woman who we can really believe in.

Kitty Winter is my favourite minor character in all the stories and she even played her part in inspiring the protagonist in my own novel.

She is a raw and honest woman of ill-repute who storms into the lives of Holmes and Watson, brought along by Holmes' underworld agent Shinwell, to help persuade a highly-duped society woman against marrying the evil Baron Gruner.

Kitty herself was duped into loving him once and came to know his evil secrets before being tossed aside. She is hungry for revenge and full of spirit – a revenge she ultimately gets in a very dramatic fashion.

Holmes has been commissioned by an illustrious client who is not named (via an agent) to prevent Miss Violet de Merville from marrying the evil Baron who murdered his first wife and is a prolific philanderer, even keeping a little book with pictures and details of all his conquests.

The silly young girl has fallen for all his lies and will not listen to reason.

Holmes takes Kitty around to see her in the hope that her testimony will make her see reason but despite the passionate words Kitty delivers, Miss Merville remains steadfast.

Here again we see Holmes resort to burglary to achieve results, as he breaks into the Baron's house to snatch the book while Watson keeps the Baron occupied by pretending to be an expert in Chinese pottery.

The Baron spots Holmes and rushes to stop him but Kitty jumps out and throws acid in his face, her perfect act of revenge.

The baron's beautiful features which he has used to ensnare many vulnerable women melt before their eyes.

Holmes has got the book and it is passed on to Miss Merville, prompting her to swiftly call off the engagement.

I do love this story; it's silly, fantastical, a bit over-the-top but great fun and a real page turner.

It does leave me with unanswered questions though such as – who was the illustrious client?

Do we really care anymore when we have become used to Holmes working for royalty and the Prime Minister? Why was the Baron so intent on marrying this woman?

It can't have been simply for money as he had plenty of his own. Was it for respectability or was it simply because he could?

And why has Watson moved out of 221B to take rooms at Queen Anne Street? Has he re-married?

As this is the first story in The Case Book, we are treated to a preface written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

This is a rather strange piece in which he makes it clear that he has had enough of Sherlock Holmes, only brought him back from the dead due to public pressure, and sees the work as somewhat inferior to his other more lofty endeavours such as historical writings, poetry and psychic research.

Don't get me wrong, he doesn't exactly come out and state all this but the inferences are clear. For me, this makes for a rather negative start to The Case Book which is a shame as the first story is such an enjoyable one.

For Kitty and wronged women everywhere – The Illustrious Client gets 9 out of 10.

# STORY INFO PAGES FOR "Lady Frances Carfax"

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

- **First published in:** Collier's Weekly, November 8, 1924; The Strand Magazine in two parts, February and March 1925
- **Time frame of story (known/surmised):** definitely stated – began on September 3, 1902. This was a case from the latter phases of Holmes' career.
- **Holmes and Watson living arrangements:** SH at 221B, Watson was living in his own rooms in Queen Anne Street at the time.
- **Opening scene:** Holmes and Watson in drying room of the Turkish bath, SH invited Watson to 221B to help with a case.
- **Client:** Sir James Damery, whose name was a household word in society, a man of the world with a natural turn for diplomacy. He was a big, masterful aristocrat. Sir James, in turn was representing an unidentified friend of General de Merville who was concerned about the general's daughter marrying a scoundrel.
- **Crime or concern:** Worry that the love-smitten Violet de Merville would marry the dastardly Baron Gruner.
- **Villain:** Baron Adelbert Gruner, an excellent antagonist, cool as ice, silky voiced and soothing as a fashionable consultant, and poisonous as a cobra. He had breeding in him — a real aristocrat of crime. He had a poisonous, lying tongue that explained and soothed.
- **Motive:** Gruner had a history of using women for his own purposes, murdering or destroying them. Holmes was hired by a friend of the family to break up the romance.
- **Holmes' method:** With the help of a snitch, he identified Kitty Winters, a ruined soul and a victim, who was motivated to help bring down the Baron. She was a slim, flame-like young woman with a pale, intense face, youthful, and yet worn with sin and sorrow. The terrible years had left their leprous mark upon her. Holmes intended to use her information to burgle the Baron's house and steal a tell-all diary. But Kitty was there too, and threw vitriol in the Baron's face, painfully injuring him and ruining his good looks. Holmes succeeded in stealing the book on behalf of his client.
- **Policemen:** There was nothing in which Scotland Yard could act regarding the romance. Later, an inspector of police arrived following the vitriol-throwing incident.
- **Holmes' fees:** Not mentioned, but most likely a lucrative case for Holmes, unless he was still serious about the statement he made a year or two earlier, in THOR, regarding his fees, "I do not vary them, save when I remit them altogether."
- **Transport:** Holmes dragged Kitty into a cab to avoid a public scene. Upon hearing of Holmes beating, Watson sprang into a hansom and went to Baker Street.
- **Food:** Holmes and Watson met by appointment at Simpson's, where they sat at a small table in the front window. No mention of what they actually ate. The following evening, they dined once more there.
- **Drink:** no mention
- **Vices:** Holmes and Watson smoked in the pleasant lassitude of the drying-room of the Turkish bath.
- **Other cases mentioned:** The Hammerford Will case. Not known if it was Holmes' case or not. So-called "accident" in the Splugen Pass that resulted in the death of Gruner's wife.

- **Notable Quotables:** “A complex mind,” said Holmes. “All great criminals have that.”

Woman’s heart and mind are insoluble puzzles to the male.” – SH

The wages of sin, Watson — the wages of sin!” said he. “Sooner or later it will always come. God knows, there was sin enough.”

Watson on Holmes: “There was a curious secretive streak in the man which led to many dramatic effects, but left even his closest friend guessing as to what his exact plans might be.”

“I’m a bit of a single-stick expert” – SH

- **Other interesting:** Holmes deals with his snitch, Shinwell (Porky) Johnson, a

huge, coarse, red-faced, scorbatic man.

Holmes was beaten up by Gruner’s thugs, but publicly exaggerated his injuries to trick Gruner into letting down his guard.

Sir James’ cell phone number was XX.31

Holmes speaks of Violet as his hypothetical daughter.

- **When all is said and done:**

At the end, Holmes and Watson learn the identity of the Illustrious Client, but Watson leaves it out of the story. Some believe it was King Edward VII. Could have been; we’ll never know.

The incriminating diary was given to Sir James, who used it effectively. Three days later there appeared a paragraph in

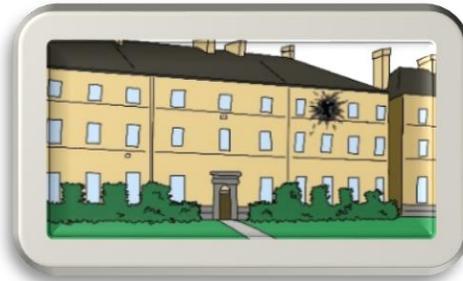
the Morning Post to say that the marriage between Baron Adelbert Gruner and Miss Violet de Merville would not take place.

The same paper had the first police-court hearing of the proceedings against Miss Kitty Winter on the grave charge of vitriol-throwing. Such extenuating circumstances came out in the trial that the sentence, as will be remembered was the lowest that was possible for such an offence. Sherlock Holmes was threatened with a prosecution for burglary, but when an object is good and a client is sufficiently illustrious, even the rigid British law becomes human and elastic. (Holmes was not charged.)

# Baker Street Elementary

Created by: Joe Fay, Rusty & Steve Mason

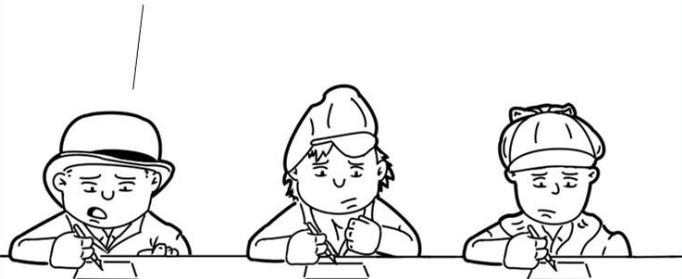
The First Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson



Baker Street Elementary  
Number 179 - 09/09/2018

Fay, Mason, & Mason

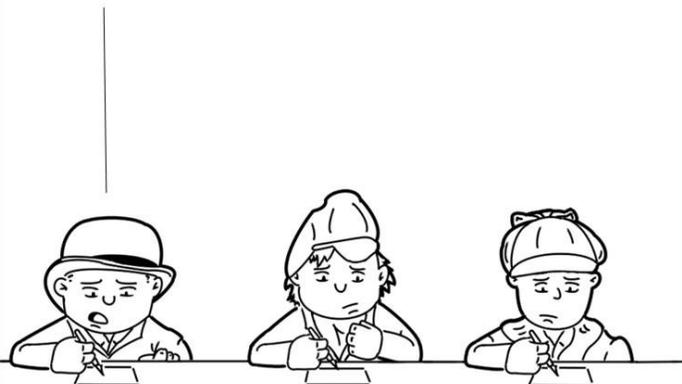
STUDYING POETRY RUINS THE POEMS...



WHY DO WE FEEL THE NEED TO EXPLAIN WHAT  
A POEM ACTUALLY "MEANS"? IT'S COMPARABLE  
TO TRYING TO EXPLAIN "ART"



TRY TO EXPLAIN AWAY A BEAUTIFUL SUNSET  
ON THE EDGE OF THE SEA, SNOW ON A  
HILLSIDE, OR A SOFT SUMMER BREEZE...



OR HOW SOMEONE SOLVES A MYSTERY ??

