

The Medical Bulletin

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FROM THE CHIEF SURGEON

by David Poole

The annual dinner was a smashing success and was enjoyed by all. See Chuck Hansen's article in this issue for further details.

One of the events of the dinner that I especially want to mention was the presentation of a Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients Pillbox to David Pearson. The Patients award pillboxes, suitably inscribed, to members of our Society or to other Sherlockians who have made significant contributions to the Patients, or to Sherlockiana in general. David Pearson has contributed articles to the Medical Bulletin in 1976, '77, '78 and '79 as well as to Canon Fodder published by The Arkansas Valley Investigators. He also wrote an article "Did Sherlock Holmes Believe in God?" for the book Beyond Baker Street edited by Michael Harrison. David was born in England in 1941, and in 1949 came to the U.S. to live with his grandparents in Hope, Arkansas. He has a BA in Religion and Theater Arts, and a MSE and PhD in English.

We have two events for the Patients scheduled for this spring and summer. We plan to attend a performance of "Find Sherlock Holmes" in April (you will find details in this issue), and also to have dinner with the noted Sherlockian, Peter Blau (Black Peter), B.S.I. on June 11. We don't often have an opportunity to meet and talk with Sherlockians from other scion societies and this will not only give us a chance to meet Peter, but also to meet other Sherlockians who will be in Denver at that time. Please mark these two dates on your calendar.

HIGH REVELRY AT THE ANNUAL DINNER

by Chuck Hansen

Once again, on Saturday evening, the 5th of January, the members and friends of Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients gathered at the huge, Victorian Phipps Mansion to dine regally - to elect new officers and internes - and above all, to celebrate the birthday of the master detective, Sherlock Holmes.

The dinner, which was vastly enjoyed by all, was catered by the same people who last year gave us that so delightful Victorian repast. This year the dinner - named in honor of that Henry Baker who, in the "Blue Cargunle", lost his hat and his fine Christmas goose to toughs - consisted of roast goose with dressing, apple rings, peas with mint, colcannon, rolls & butter, tea or coffee and wines for the traditional toasts. Dessert was flaming plum pudding with hard sauce. A very delightful and delectable feast it was indeed.

During the course of the meal the following toasts were offered, and glasses raised on high and enthusiastically drained: the toast to the Master by your reporter, to Dr. Watson by Steve Dixon, to Henry Baker by Ron Lies, to the Literary Agent by Bob Peterson, to Irene Adler, the woman, by Kathy Mordeaux, and to the goose by Stanley Moskal.

When everyone had eaten their fill, the Patients began drifting into the big front room where Nancy Wynne was at the piano playing a selection of Victorian songs. When all were assembled David Poole, our Chief Surgeon, called the

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"It's about time you noticed it," some of you will be saying. "After all, the book was published in MCMLXXVI!" I'm referring to The Sherlock Holmes Cookbook (subtitles fill the page) by John Farrell and Sean M. Wright. Why is it being reviewed here rather than with the book reviews? Aside from the obvious association of English cooking and trifles, this book was the basis of our menu for the 1980 annual dinner.

The book is divided into two parts: Holmes Cooking by John Farrell, which is divided by meals and countries and Baker Street Meals and Menus, which connects the canonical tales to culinary concoctions mentioned therein. Who could resist "Shall the World be Overrun by Oysters Pie," "Hellish Hound Punch," "Creeping Man Crêpes," "Susan's Purgoric Braids," "Grimesby's Gripe," "Radix Pedis Diaboli Eggs" or "Giant Rat Peppered Rare Roast Beef."

Forget any system of organization you may have experienced in previous cookbooks. The index is arranged alphabetically by food categories, however, because of the two books in one and the menu format, much page flipping is necessary to compare vegetable recipes, for example, because they are scattered throughout the book rather than being printed on successive pages. Certainly a structure suited to skillet sleuths.

The recipes are basic English fare, only the names have been spiced, in many cases. The mystery item on our menu, chosen from this book, was

COLCANNON

Farsnips	Butter
Potatoes	Salt
Milk	Pepper
Cabbage	

Boil the potatoes, cabbage, and parsnips. Mash the potatoes and parsnips together, chop the cabbage, and mix all together. Add butter and salt and pepper to taste, and heat over a moderate fire with a little milk to smooth the mixture. (Also try this with carrots and boiled small onions added.)

All in all, a useful book containing solid, uncomplicated recipes.

Charlene Schnelker

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meeting to order and the essential business was taken care of with dispatch. Ballots were passed to all members and the annual election of officers and internes took place. The election produced no real surprises, the present Staff Surgeon - your reporter - and the Transcriber, Charlene Schnelker, were re-elected for a term of 2 years. Jill Stone, an interne, was also re-elected for a similar term. To fill the position of former interne Dan Daugherty, who had chosen not to run this year, Bob Peterson was elected. With the business concluded the evening's entertainment was resumed.

The program consisted of a selection of Victorian songs and ditties, Sherlockian songs and a farcial playlet. Such heart-rending oldies as "She Is More To Be Pitied Than Censured", "She Is Only A Bird In A Gilded Cage", or "While Walking In The Park One Day" were rendered with vast enthusiasm but dubious expertise by the Buskers, with the entire audience adding their own voices to the chorus. The Buskers, who were recruited and rehearsed through the endless enthusiasm of our Transcriber, include: Charlene Schnelker - our leader - Nancy Wynne, Mary Ake, Dan Daugherty, David & Lucia Poole, Guy and Kathy Mordeaux, Martha Liehe and your humble reporter.

In addition to the old Victorian ditties, a number of very well known songs - to which Sherlockian lyrics had been grafted - were sung and also a brand new Sherlockian song - to the tune of "I Am The Captain Of The Pinafore", written especially for the great occasion by Dan Daugherty. The more lyrical part of the program was interrupted about midway for the world premier performance of a playlet - a hilarious farce - written by the Patients' own Dorothy Ellis, the Editor of the Medical Bulletin.

The play featured Guy Mordeaux as Sherlock Holmes, Charlene Schnelker as his house-

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DR. DOYLE'S COZIES

by Nancy B. Wynne

While writing an article about Patricia Wentworth for THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE a short time ago, I was attempting to list all the detective story writers who have been classified, variously and colorfully, as the "Cozies", the "Port-and-Antimacassar School", and the "Teacake Ladies". You know well the kind of story I mean: Those that conjure up for us a dense London fog, a village High Street, the Blue Boar and the Blue Willow, hedgerows and heaths, vicars and chief constables, bodies in libraries, and tea at 4:30 o'clock.

The aforementioned Miss Wentworth heads the list, in my opinion. Others are Agatha Christie (particularly her Jane Marple stories, most people would say, but, I would cite also such books as POIROT LOSES A CLIENT, SAD CYPRESS, EASY TO KILL, THE MURDER OF ROGER ACKROYD, and MRS. MCGINTY'S DEAD), Elizabeth Lemarchand, Margaret Yorke, Ellis Peters (Edith Pargeter), Catherine Aird, Josephine Bell, and Anne Morice. Josephine Tey (Elizabeth MacKintosh) and Dorothy Leigh Sayers qualify in some critics' judgements for a special category of very superior literary "Cozies".

Not all the writers in my list are British, nor are they all women. Zenith Brown in her David Frome persona (the Mr. Pinkerton stories) is an example of an American author who gave us excellent and authentic British Coziness. Phoebe Atwood Taylor and Elisabeth Daly, on the other hand, are thoroughly Yankee ladies who created their brands of Coziness from home-spun materials - Cape Cod, Henry Gamadge's New York City brownstone, and afternoon teatime in New England.

Then, as I began considering the gentlemen who belong among the teacakes, (Michael Innes, Edmund Crispin, Michael Gilbert and Henry Wade, for instance) it dawned on me that foremost among them is Arthur Conan Doyle! The entire aura surrounding 221B Baker Street is the very essence of Coziness. After all, don't most of us treasure

our first introduction to the world of Holmes and Watson as a memory absolutely replete with atmospheric and nostalgic associations? And the ability to create memorable atmosphere is just what all the writers of this school share.

Why do we always write about and talk about and re-read the Sherlock Holmes saga? Because in those sixty stories we can enter, at will, a world quite different from our own... Victorian/Edwardian England, lovingly evoked by a master spinner of tales. London's yellow swirling fogs; hansom cabs con- ending with rains and muddy streets and inadequate gaslights; rushing off in the early morning hours to catch trains from Charing Cross or Paddington stations; terror and superstition lurking on lonely Dartmoor; enigmatic lady lady visitors - we could go on and on. And then there are the digs in Baker Street themselves, what Christopher Morley called the "little, introductory interiors": Holmes and Watson sitting on either side of the fireplace, each engrossed in his own pursuits; the homey comforts of pipe, dressing gown (of changeable hues!), violin, books, chemicals, tobacco in Persian slipper, cigars handy in the coal scuttle, and, underlying all this, the comfort and security of a Mrs. Hudson who was always close at hand to nourish the inner man. Was ever such a backdrop invented to counterbalance tales of evil, mystery, and terror?

Among my many mystery reading acquaintances, there are many who regard themselves as extreme purists as to their tastes in detection - some who read only Sherlock Holmes, some who read only Dorothy Sayers, G. K. Chesterton, Simenon, Ross MacDonald, Dashiell Hammet, etc. (Actually, there are quite a few writers who make this elitist Hall of Fame.) To these people, the temerity of even remotely considering their own special favorite as akin to any "lesser" writer is not to be contemplated. I can sympathize with this view. I certainly do not like to see my beloved Josephine Tey linked in any way with, say, Mickey Spillane. But we are wrong to hold this view.

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SHERLOCK HOLMES AND DR. WATSON

By Maurice Campbell

Continued from Medical Bulletin Volume 5
Number 3.

(Based on a clinical lecture at Guy's Hospital, and a paper read to the Abernethian Society, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.)

WATSON'S SERVICE IN SOUTH AFRICA

We are nowhere told that Watson took part in the South African War, but the importance of deduction was the main scientific thesis of Holmes, so is it likely that Watson would have left us without problems to employ our own faculties of deduction? Only too often he omits all record of his own life except in so far as it is pertinent to the cases of Sherlock Holmes, and we are lucky in having so many details of his early career to explain how they come to share rooms in Baker Street.

As an old army doctor without any real ties Watson could hardly have done less than offer his services to the War Office, as he did in the Great War when he was much older (His Last Bow). His love of adventure was so keen that he was never happier than when he was setting off on some exciting chase with his old army revolver in his hip pocket, and it would make him anxious to be out in South Africa and would easily overcome any difficulties there might have been about his re-engagement, possibly as a civil surgeon. He was only 47 and not too old for medical service, even if he could not be a combatant.

Another argument pointing the same way is that, though he had given up the Kensington practice in 1894, he started again towards the end of 1902 (see later). It would have been difficult to do this after such a long interval as eight years if he had been entirely without medical experience during this time, but very natural if he had just returned from South Africa and found that medicine still made a strong

appeal to him. And as we shall see later, it was to surgery that he returned, and only his work in South Africa would have made this possible.

From internal evidence it was very much in Watson's mind, as The Three Garridebs of June 1902 is dated "shortly after the conclusion of the South African war" (peace was signed in May) and The Blanched Soldier of January 1903, "after the conclusion of the Boer War." From the similarity of style I can imagine Watson really wrote "The History of the South African War", though it is published under the nom de plume "Conan Doyle."

But the decisive appeal is to dates and these prove it in a way that has not been realized. Except for 1891-94, when Holmes was away and supposed to be dead, there are some records for nearly every year, making any other gap very significant, and the only other gap is for the three years between the summer of 1899 and June, 1902. War was declared in South Africa in October 1899, and peace was signed in May 1902, and the coincidence of these two periods first made me realize that Watson had served in the war.

I am aware that Mr. Roberts (loc. cit.) places The Adventure of the Priory School in May 1901, but in my view the events took place in May 1899; The Duke of Holderness was married in 1888; as he was not young and already had an illegitimate son, he would be very anxious for an heir as soon as possible, so that Lord Saltire was probably born in 1889; he was ten years old when he went to school, and had only been there a few weeks, ie., 1899. Mr. Roberts relies on the statements that the Duke of Holderness had been Lord Lieutenant of Hallamshire since 1900, and that May 13th was on a Monday in 1901. But the former was an extract from a book of reference, and Watson would use the current year-book when he edited the story, for the Valley of Fear tells us that he was very particular about his reference books being up to date. Was Watson such a careful editor that we can rely on his being accurate about the latter when he spoke of Monday, May 13th? I fear not, for in +

Sign of Four a letter is dated July and a few pages later Watson says it was a September evening; and the Red-Headed League contains the same confusion between June and October.

The following considerations seem to me conclusive about Watson having been absent during this period. Watson makes one categorical statement, viz, "Holmes was in active practice for twenty three years and during seventeen of these I was allowed to co-operate with him and keep notes of his doings" (The Veiled Lodger); the figures are too precise to be rough measures-1903 marks the end of this period, for The Creeping Man in September of that year is described as one of the very last cases handled by Holmes before his retirement, and Watson was with him then. In 1907 he had been living quietly in Sussex for some time (The Lion's Mane), and Watson had passed almost beyond his ken.

Holmes was thought to have been killed in his struggle with Moriarty by the Reichenbach Falls on May 3rd, 1891. He reappeared in London in April 1894, explaining that he had climbed up the side of the precipice after Moriarty's death and had thought it wise to remain in hiding for a time; he had therefore been travelling in Tibet and Persia and had been away three years. Adding these three to the twenty-three years of his practice gives us 1878-1903. The Musgrave Ritual, when Holmes was living by himself in Montague Street, was his third case, and other evidence fits in with this being in 1878; Holmes had left Cambridge* at least two and certainly not more than four years before.

* I acknowledge with regret that Holmes was at Cambridge. He was bitten by Trevor's bull dog "on the way to the chapel"; the bull dog would not have been allowed inside college, therefore Holmes was living in lodgings; it was some time during his first two years, therefore he was at Cambridge; for during those years Oxford (with her greater wisdom) would have insisted on his living in College.

Watson did not join Holmes till 1881 (The Study in Scarlet), so that if he had been with him till 1903, except for the three years of Holmes' absence, they would have worked together for twenty years; but we are told it was only for seventeen. No direct statement is made as to when these three years were, but as no cases are recorded from 1899 to June 1902, this clearly was the period, and there seems no more likely explanation than that he was out in South Africa.

WATSON'S SECOND MARRIAGE AND THIRD PRACTICE

The problem of Watson's second marriage is baffling from lack of facts; as Holmes would have said, it is a mistake to theorise in advance of your data, but here, unfortunately, we are not likely to get more data and must do the best we can. Watson seems to have been a man who was quite satisfied with his adventurous life with Holmes, and only turned to the humdrum round of practice when marriage made a regular income necessary. The following are the pertinent facts:-

1. In June 1902 Watson was shot at and wounded in the thigh (The Three Garridebs).
2. In September 1902, Holmes managed to break off the engagement of Miss Violet de Merville to Baron Gruner - one of the most unpleasant characters in the whole series of stories (The Adventure of the Illustrious Client).
3. In January 1903, Holmes was forced to write his own account of the adventure, because, as he said, the good Watson had recently deserted him for a wife (The Blanched Soldier).

Mr. Roberts (loc.cit.) suggests that Violet de Merville was Watson's second wife, arguing that in making subsequent inquiries about her health Watson, with his chivalrous interest in those who were in trouble, would have been led much further; and that his experience in Afghanistan would have given him a point in common with her father, Colonel de Merville "of Khyber Fame", and would make the engagement less unlikely than it might seem from the exalted circles in which the de Mervilles moved.

Mr. Blakeney in his appendix (loc. cit.) attacks this view without suggesting any alternative, mainly on the following grounds: -

- (a) She was young, and Watson was fifty - a rather inadequate reason.
- (b) the social gulf would have made such a marriage very unlikely in 1902.
- (c) Watson makes no mention of it in writing the story, and there is no reason why he should not have given the facts as he did when he became engaged to Miss Morstan.
- (d) Had Watson married Violet de Merville he would not have roused unhappy memories by recording such an unsavory incident in her life.

The last two reasons seem conclusive and there are two others. Watson must have married in or before December 1902, and considering what happened in September, it seems quite impossible that Miss de Merville should have married anyone as soon as this. The second reason is less important in itself, but gives the only clue to the baffling problem of who his second wife was.

In September the story opened with Watson and Holmes in a Turkish bath, and Watson had already moved to his own rooms in Queen Anne Street; it must have been recently, for in June he had been sharing the old rooms with Holmes. No one with Watson's limited means would have made this move except with a view to practice, and it is unlikely that he would have lived there instead of having a consulting room unless he had already made up his mind to get married. It would take some time to take this decision, to get a house and to move in so that by August at the latest Watson had settled to return to practice, and probably was engaged to be married - indeed, this was the most likely stimulus to the resumption of his medical life.

In June when "Killer" Evans was disturbed in his secret hiding place with a large supply of forged bank notes, he shot Watson in the thigh. Watson felt a sudden hot sear as of a red-hot iron, and the next moment Holmes crashed his pistol down on Evans' head and sent him sprawling on the

floor. Watson was helped to a chair by Holmes, who ripped up his trousers with a pocket knife, and Watson felt it was worth a wound to know the depth of loyalty and love which lay behind the cold mask, for there were tears in Holmes' eyes. Naturally after this emotional scene he tried to look at the light of the wound and called it superficial, but he must have been laid up for some weeks and must have needed a good deal of attention.

Except Mrs. Hudson, who must have been quite elderly by this time, there was no one to look after Watson at Baker Street while he was confined to bed, and he must have had a nurse or entered a nursing home. He was fifty and, like most rugger players who have given up exercise, was probably rather stout, so it is quite likely that the wound was troublesome and kept him in bed for several weeks, through most of July. Knowing his sentimental nature, what was more likely than an engagement to his nurse and a resolve to resume practice and to take a house in Queen Anne Street, after talking it over with her during his convalescence? As these decisions were reached by August, there hardly seems time to have met anyone else, though of course he might have become engaged to a friend who visited him while on his sickbed.

Grace Dunbar must have been among these visitors, and I would like to think she was the second Mrs. Watson. A few months before in the problem of Thor Bridge, Holmes and Watson had visited her in prison when she was accused of killing the wife of the Gold King, Neil Gibson, whose secretary and governess she was. To quote Watson's own words: "I had expected to see a beautiful woman, but I can never forget the effect which Miss Dunbar produced on me. It was no wonder that even the masterful millionaire had found in her something more powerful than himself - something which could control and guide him. One felt too, as one looked at that strong and yet sensitive face that even should she be capable of some impetuous deed, there was an innate nobility of character. She was a brunette, with a noble figure and commanding presence, but her dark eyes had in them the appealing, helpless expression of the hunted creature who feels the net around it, but can see no way from the toils."

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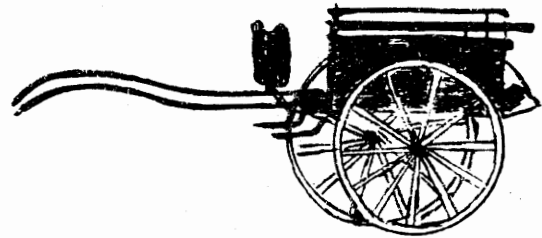
THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG - CART IN THE NIGHT

by Steve Dixon

Nathan L. Bengis and Dr. Richard Asher, both astute Snerlockians have expressed doubts about different facets of the peculiar dog-cart ride Holmes and Watson made on that fateful night in June 1889 while engaged on the problem associated with the disappearance of Neville St. Clair. Mr. Bengis, with the proper sense of humility when approaching the figure of Holmes, states his implied question when he says: "(If Holmes) had been adept in seeing through the disguises of others as he was in fooling others with his own, (he certainly) would have solved this case practically from the start . . . (Holmes details) the beggar's appearance in such vivid detail as to leave no doubt he had at least several times scrutinized the mendicant at close range. Yet apparently at no time during the close contact did it occur to him that the 'shock of orange hair' and 'pale face disfigured by a horrible scar' were -- or even might be -- a disguise."¹ The question then, why didn't Holmes, himself a master of such techniques, see through this disguise?

The question raised by Dr. Asher is found in his clever article, "Holmes and the Fair Sex"; "(Mrs. St. Clair) insisted on Holmes staying at her house in Kent, a seven mile drive away, far from the scene of his investigation."²

Because I can find no reference to Mrs. St. Clair "insisting" on Holmes staying with her, we will reject this premise and form the question, Why did Holmes stay with Mrs. St. Clair in Lees when Baker Street was, indeed, closer to the heart of the investigation? Can these questions be resolved? Both the above commentators try to explain such facts by ad hoc assumptions, but the more fruitful endeavor is to use an internal explanation, i.e. try to find answers



within the tale and according to the obvious psychological traits of Holmes and Watson. When such a program has been carried out, we can come to no other conclusion than the inevitable fact that the course of events given to Watson by Holmes is a misleading one and, in fact, unlike Watson had been led to believe, a serious crime had been committed.

The astute reader of the Canon has probably pondered many an hour over the question which arises at the end of the "tale" titled by Watson "The Man With the Twisted Lip." Why didn't Holmes, himself a master of disguise, see through St. Clair's outfit? Holmes tells Watson, during that peculiar dog-cart ride, that he has observed the sinister cripple Hugh Boone "more than once" and from the ensuing conversation, which I commit to the close study of students of the higher criticism, it is readily apparent that he has observed the fellow very closely indeed. Any such close study of Hugh Boone undoubtedly had to yield some clue which would tell the astute senses of Holmes that something here was amiss. But Holmes doesn't mention even the slightest question or doubt about Hugh Boone, or his appearance. Knowing from Watson's accounts that Holmes' knowledge of the techniques and materials of make up and cover are of the highest order, can we come to any other conclusion than the inevitable? Holmes does not mention a disguise, because there was none. Hugh Boone was a real person! The conversation bet-

¹ Bengis, Nathan L. "Sherlock Stays After School", in Illustrious Client's Second Case-Book. J. N. Williamson, editor. Indiana, 1949.

² Asher, Dr. Richard. "Holmes and the Fair Sex", The Sherlock Holmes Journal, Vol. II, No. 3, Summer, 1955.

ween Holmes and Watson cannot but substantiate this claim. But, if this is the correct interpretation of Holmes' silence, why did St. Clair disguise himself as Hugh Boone? Eliminating the alternatives we can but arrive at one conclusion - Hugh Boone was killed on the day that St. Clair was arrested.

After Boone was killed, he was stripped, weighed down by his coinage and thrown from the window of the room St. Clair was arrested in. The body of Boone was sucked by the currents of the Thames river out of the dead weight coat and drifted out to sea.

Using Holmes' remarks on Neville St. Clair, we can further construct the part he (St. Clair) played in this nefarious drama. Holmes says of St. Clair, "some years ago there came to Lee a gentleman, Neville St. Clair by name, who had plenty of money . . . He had no occupation . . . (He) went into town as a rule in the morning and returned by the 5:14 from Cannon Street every night," Holmes tells Watson in a matter-of-fact manner, but it is a forgone conclusion that such vague facts and obviously concealed points could not but excite Holmes' imagination. The vagueness points to the fact that St. Clair had had a past which he intended to conceal and one which he did not wish others, including his wife, to know of. And as for St. Clair's work, we are told he had no occupation, (and certainly not that of Beggar Hugh Boone, for Hugh Boone held that place), but again, his bank account held 220. It could not be far from the mark to assume that both St. Clair's job and his past involved criminal activity. However, if St. Clair was a criminal and if he had something to do with the killing of Hugh Boone, why did Holmes create the elaborate tale for St. Clair so he could evade the law? (And Holmes did know a crime was committed, if not where was Hugh Boone?) It is apparent that the skills which St. Clair had were phenomenal, and only matched by Holmes. If Holmes let St. Clair go, it was only because he knew that St. Clair was not engaging in his criminal activities, involving his abilities with disguise, of his own free will. The past, which St. Clair was so diligently hiding from his companions, was being systematically

used to extort from him his use as a master of disguise.*

The use to which St. Clair was put was probably varied over the years, but we can construct the manner in which he was to be used for the Boone murder. St. Clair was to arrive at Boone's lodgings, at an appointed time directly following the disposal of the body. He would then don the clothes of Boone** and disguise himself as Boone. He would then be seen at different haunts of Boone giving the killer(s) Lascar the opportunity to form an alibi for Hugh Boone's soon-to-be disappearance. However, St. Clair arrived at Boone's flat early and witnessed the disposal of Boone's body. Not having the stomach for true criminal activities, he ran to the window out of reflex, and started to call for the police. The rest, then followed as layed out to Watson.

We now come to our other question: Why stay, inconveniently with Mrs. St. Clair? It can only be that Holmes noted the workings of some malign power in this crime and, not sure towards whom it was directed, felt he should be close to Mrs. St. Clair for her own protection. It was during this time, and on this historical case most probably, that Holmes first encountered that evil which was to end two years later in the boiling cauldron of Reichenbach Falls. Only with such a genius would the idea for St. Clair's use become apparent.***

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* St. Clair was only used during the day because a person of inferior talents could pass off a disguise at night, but only a true master could pull off disguises during the day and close-up.

** Explaining why Boone was stripped.

***Holmes said in 1881, "I have been aware for many years past" of Moriarty. Can we doubt the first time Holmes saw clearly into the organization of Moriarty was on this fateful June in 1889?

Certainly when he could write like this Watson was in the mood to fall in love, and the dark eyes recall the first remark of Mr. Darcy about Elizabeth Bennett and what it led to. Miss Dunbar must have been most grateful for her rescue from such a dreadful accusation, and most distressed to hear so soon after of Watson's wound. But I find it hard to think of Watson as a successful rival to the widowed Gold King, who would certainly have been popular with women.

And even had this difficulty been overcome it would not account for the end of the partnership with Holmes that was to follow so soon; for Miss Dunbar would have been a second Miss Morstan, only too anxious to encourage Watson in this collaboration, and we might have expected 1903 to be another period as prolific of adventures as 1889 after the first marriage. Recalling the dictum of Holmes that whatever is emotional is opposed to that true cold reason which is to be placed above all things, reason must conclude that Watson did not marry Miss Dunbar, however much emotion would like us to believe that he did.

We know little of the second Mrs. Watson, but reading between the lines she does not seem to have been such a charming character as Miss Morstan. After his first marriage Watson was encouraged to take a share in Holmes' investigations and was frequently away from home for this purpose—indeed it is surprising that his practice was as successful as it was; but after his second marriage there are very few more adventures recorded, so presumably his second wife was not as complacent. Perhaps we must blame her even for Holmes retiring soon after September 1903. Watson was married in December 1902, and perhaps when a son and heir was born the following September, Mrs. Watson put her foot down and said that he must stick to his own work; we can well imagine what a blow this would have been to Holmes, and it probably decided him to go into the retirement about which he had often been thinking.

There is one other allusion which has made me take this rather unfavorable view of Mrs.

Watson. In the Adventure of the Veiled Lodger, Holmes was in a smoke-laden atmosphere with an elderly lady of the buxom landlady type when Watson entered, and Holmes is reported to have said that Mrs. Merrilow did not object to tobacco, if Watson wished to indulge his filthy habits. It is impossible that Holmes should have made this remark or that Watson should have added it as editor, considering their own habits as regards smoking, and for this and other reasons it seems that "The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes" must have been edited by a third hand. Who more likely than Mrs. Watson? And I fear she introduced this remark because she was trying to make her husband give up smoking as well as sharing Holmes' work.

Watson's third practice was in Queen Anne Street, and this raises the question of whether he was a consultant or one of the few general practitioners in this neighborhood. His third attempt seems to have been at surgery, and at first sight it seems unlikely that he could have had sufficient experience for we only hear of him with a general practice in Paddington and, later, in Kensington. But he must have started with some surgical experience in Afghanistan, and must have extended it with accident cases from his railway clientele from Paddington (The Engineer's Thumb). Even after he had given up his second practice he sat in silence all evening, deep in a recent treatise on surgery (The Golden Pince-Nez). And perhaps even more important, the South African War would have given him plenty of recent surgical experience, and would have encouraged him to embark as a surgical specialist.

It is good to read that this last venture flourished, for in 1903 Holmes remarked that Watson bore all the signs of a busy medical man with calls on his every hour (The Mazarin Stone), so Surgery gained what admirers of Holmes lost.

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Part I appeared in THE MEDICAL BULLETIN, Volume 3, No. 4 (1977) and Volume 4, No. 1 (1978); Part II appeared in Volume 5, Nos. 1 and 2 (1979); Part III appeared in Volume 5, No. 3 (1979), and Volume 6, No. 1 (1980).

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When Edgar Allan Poe penned the first account of Dupin solving a problem, and readers found this intriguing, the seed was planted that would grow into into a huge family tree. All the branches and leaves of this tree, however far apart, are part of the same plant.

FIND SHERLOCK HOLMES

April 12, 1980 at the Arvada Center Playhouse. A theater party of Neglected Patients will be in attendance. Save the date and watch for further details.

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keeper, Mrs. Hudson and your reporter as the good Doctor Watson. The scene was presumably at Holmes retirement residence on the Downs, the time is the present. As all the characters are in a state of very advanced age there is a vast number of exclamations of eh? what? speak up! and such. In spite of badly muffed lines and very questionable dramatics, it seemed - judging from the amount of laughter and applause - to be a great success.

The evening's entertainment was brought to a resounding climax by the Buskers and the entire audience singing - with more gusto than skill - "For He Is An Englishman" from the comic opera HMS Pinafore by Gilbert & Sullivan. To judge from the truly tremendous applause, the laughter and the parting remarks overheard, the evening probably represents our most successful to date. If you missed it, you missed a lot of fun and had better make a resolve here and now to be present next year.

THE MEDICAL BULLETIN is issued for Doctor Watson's Neglected Patients, a scion of the Baker Street Irregulars
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Holmes, knowing that he could not with an open conscience, make Watson privy to his letting free a criminal, but also knowing the mitigating circumstances of St. Clair's employ, could not do other, then, to keep the true facts from Watson.

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"Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, A Medical Digression" by Maurice Campbell is concluded in this issue.

We again express our thanks to Mr. Michael Bourne, Editor of Guy's Hospital Gazette, for his permission to reprint the Campbell papers.

DUES

1980 dues can be mailed to the Bursar:

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Make checks (\$10.00) payable to Doctor Watson's Neglected Patients.

WHAT MAKES A SHERLOCKIAN?

Chuck Hansen

It is a reasonably safe assumption that a number of the members of Doctor Watson's Neglected Patients were exposed to a rather odd questionnaire entitled "Profile of a Sherlockian" several months ago. How many actually filled them out and returned them to the young lady who had originated them I would not then attempt to estimate.

Some months ago these questionnaires were distributed to approximately 850 known Sherlockians as a research project by a young lady in Minneapolis, herself a gung ho Sherlock Holmes enthusiast as part of her high school (if memory serves) work in order to write a paper for credit on the results of the survey. To those who indicated their interest she promised to send a copy of the finished paper.

Jill Stone of D.W.N.P. as titular head of the Out-Patients received a copy, as did your reporter as head of the Council of Four. At one meeting of the Out-Patients devoted some time to compiling the answers of the group and submitting them with a request for the finished results. The paper has arrived and rewards a bit of study. Miss Virginia Lou Seay seems to have produced a very workmanlike sort of result which I am reasonably sure the Master himself would approve of and would find interesting. Of course the young lady herself admits that probably the pattern which emerges would not precisely fit any one of the Sherlockians who sent in answers, but in general I believe that it comes remarkably close. From the 625 completed surveys returned emerges this somewhat remarkable 'formula' for what goes into making a person a Sherlockian.

The average Sherlockian became interested in the Master about age 12. The favorite story, the Hound of the Baskervilles. His/her least favorite the Mazarin Stone. He most admires Holmes' logical mind and great intelligence. He is 31 years old and a teacher, his father also is a teacher, his mother a housewife. He/she was a

good student with English & History as his best subjects, favorite study English. His hobbies are sports, music, and writing. He enjoys reading, especially British literature, mysteries, and History. Favorite authors include Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers, Charles Dickens, and J. R. R. Tolkien. He enjoys writing but has never attempted either a parody or a pastiche. Musical tastes run mostly to Classical but will occasionally listen to some rock & roll. Enjoys playing the piano & guitar.

The average Sherlockian is an introvert who is generally optimistic about the state of the world. As a young child he was frequently read aloud to. His favorite Holmes illustrator is Sidney Paget, his favorite Holmes actor is Basil Rathbone.

Although on the surface most Sherlockians seem to have nothing in common except their love of the Holmes tales, they do actually have many similar characteristics. Over 70% became interested between the ages of 8 and 18, either from stumbling on the stories or as a result of seeing a Sherlock Holmes movie or play. Apparently it was a combination of Holmes' logic and intelligence and his powers of observation and deduction with Dr. Watson's magnificent story-telling ability which kept them coming back. Favorite tales other than the Hound are the Speckled Band and A Study in Scarlet.

Sherlockians participating in the study ranged in age from 11 to 92, tho most were between 20 and 50. Occupations were diversified, but other than students most were professionals of some sort, teachers, lawyers, physicians, and writers predominate.

To this aged Sherlockian reporter it seems that Miss Virginia Lou Seay has done a splendid job and produced an interesting and worthwhile bit of work. Hats off to the little lady, fellow Sherlockians! As a final note, "Yes, Virginia, there is indeed a Sherlock Holmes", just as there are many Sherlockians. I agree with you whole-heartedly Virginia, it is indeed delightful to be one of them!

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