

NEW The [^]Medical Bulletin

An Irregular Publication of Doctor Watson's Neglected Patients
A Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

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Lab Technician - Stan Moskal

Spring, 1992
Editor - Larry Feldman

THE MEDICAL BULLETIN BOARD



The big event coming up soon is May 28th's Neglected Patient's Tea at the House of Windsor at Wadsworth and Mississippi. The charge for this year's annual event will be \$10 a head, which includes tips and gratuities. This year will feature a 15 minute audio tape of Jeremy Brett discussing his characterization of the Master Detective. John Stephenson has purposely kept the presentation short this year, as the highlight of this event has always proven to be the great conversations created when this many Sherlockians gather together over a traditional English Tea. For reservations, call Steve Robinson, ASAP, at 794-9709.

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FORTRESS 221B

by D. Butler

"The only conceivable escape for him lay in silencing my tongue."-- Sherlock Holmes, "The Final Problem".

About two blocks from my home, on a residential suburban Denver street, is a house. Every evening after work, I walk my two dogs past this house, and every evening when we stroll past, a sensor detects us and several high-powered flood lights automatically come on, illuminating the entire front yard. I have, on several occasions, tried to locate the movement sensors that trip the lights, but have been unable to do so. It is a very good deterrent against unwanted nighttime visitors.

We live in a world today where people hide behind sophisticated high tech home security systems, electrified fences, and kennels full of attack-trained dogs. But the human species has not always been so distrustful. A century ago, in Holmes's London, the average home wasn't double and triple-barred against invasion, unless there were something or someone important inside. Except, that is, for the Master Detective's home.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE BAG

by John Stephenson

Let's take the bag down from the shelf and, since there are no patients in need of our services, reach into the deeper portions and see what we can pull out. Down deep we extend our hand until all but our shoulder is swallowed by our enormous satchel. Finally, our hand makes a decision, based on tactile instinct and luck, and grasps a book. What is it? Is it an ordinary item, destined to disappoint? Or is it something lost and wonderful; forgotten, but ripe for rediscovery? Breathing heavily with anticipation we bring the volume into the light and take a look.

We hold a small publication titled "A Lauriston Garden of Verses" by Helene Yuhasova, published by The Pamphlet House, 1946, in a limited edition of 250 copies. The copy in our hand is number 46. It is signed by the author. It begins with a verse that is addressed to the book's original owner, well known Sherlockian Edgar Smith. The verse ends with a line that touches all of us who, at one time or another, have dreamed of being an invested BSI;

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The plans for our official DOCTOR WATSON'S NEGLECTED PATIENTS COMMEMORATIVE WINE are proceeding nicely. Word is that the wine will be out sometime before year's end and that the label will sport, among other things, a newly drawn version of our traditional "doctor's bag logo". If this is successful, you can look for another wine issue in 1994, which will be our club's twenty year anniversary.

Time is running out for those of you who plan to participate in "The Black Forest Volksmarch" otherwise known as THE LADY FRANCES CARFAX MEMORIAL WALK. For those of you who didn't get our last issue, the event will take place on July 25th at 7:30 AM in Black Forest, Colorado. It will be a 10K walk sponsored by THE AMERICAN VOLKSMARCH ASSOCIATION in cooperation with THE FALCON WANDERERS and features a special Sherlockian commemorative medal which will be awarded to all who finish. Those interested should immediately contact Ed Rochette, P.O. Box 8261, Colorado.Springs, CO 80933-8261.

Our annual DOCTOR WATSON'S PICNIC will be held on September 26th this year in Congress Park. Intern Marty Ernsteen promises us something a bit different this year, though the specifics have so far been "hush hush". All members will receive info soon, so watch your mail!

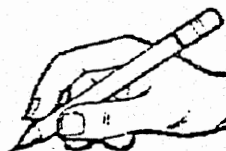
The re-opening of the Arapahoe Park Race Track has inspired Bill Dorn to pursue the possibility of a Silver Blaze Event! Watch this space for more information.

The next board meeting is set for June 13th. Those with issues or ideas relating to our scion that they would like to have discussed at the meeting should contact Steve Robinson or any board member before that date.

That's it for this time. See you around the campus!

EDITOR'S NOTES

by Larry Feldman



Behold! You hold before you the second issue of the latest incarnation of our local Sherlockian newsletter. The purpose of our publication is to foster participation in all things Sherlockian, particularly in the Colorado area. As such, we try to keep you informed on all local events of Sherlockian interest, as well as display the creative and scholarly talents of our local membership and others. How are we doing?

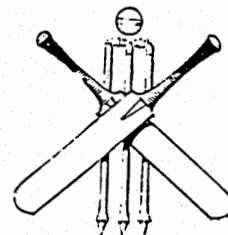
This issue features some truly interesting articles. I'm glad to have a contribution from Debbie Butler, perhaps the best Sherlockian writer in our area. If you wish to get in on Debbie and Jim's ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHEM LAB meetings (the next of which will probably be taking place at my new house!) I would suggest you contact them ASAP. I try never to miss them!

We also have the return of John Stephenson's column. I only hope I can convince John to keep writing, since his role as the Premier Holmes collector in our area give him a rich and unique perspective that never fails to fascinate.

My own contribution to scholarship is rather unusual. Putting the subject matter aside for the moment, I have striven to make what might otherwise be a rather dry piece of esoterica, into something somewhat more readable and, perhaps even interesting. In order to do this, I have created a rather unconventional format. It is only the first part, so let me know how you like it so that I will know whether to publish the rest.



Please address all submissions, questions, or comments to:
The Medical Bulletin
c/o Larry Feldman
533 Jackson Street
Denver, CO 80206



"Danger is part of my trade," Sherlock Holmes remarked in The Final Problem. Indeed - Holmes was foremost on the Ten Most Wanted List of nearly every criminal of importance in the greater London area. A perusal of the Canon's pages will turn up probably two dozen men and women whose path Holmes crossed and who would stop at little short of suicide to see the detective gracing a table in Scotland Yard's morgue. Holmes' confrontation with Professor Moriarty in The Final Problem finds him unable to stay with Watson for more than a few hours, lest he should bring violent retribution upon the Doctor's household. To someone about whom an "atmosphere of violence and danger" hung so heavily, personal safety during the nocturnal hours when the human animal is at his most vulnerable would be of higher importance than clean sheets and a hot meal.

Let us begin with a short description of the house at 221 Baker Street. Short, because every Sherlockian carries a mental picture of the style of Georgian residence prevalent in Baker Street during the latter part of the last century. The building was long and narrow with four stories; two windows and a door provided street entry and a pair of windows and another door emptied onto a small back yard and a mews. More likely as not, the kitchen, pantry and Mrs. Hudson's quarters took up the entire ground floor. Holmes and Watson's sitting room and the detective's bedroom occupied the first floor, Watson's bedroom and another room made up the second floor and the lumberroom and the room of the servant or servants who float through the stories would round out the third floor. Since there is no evidence of patio, awnings or other external additions to provide someone access to the upper floors, and the only tree mentioned in the stories, the "lone plane tree", grows several feet from the structure, the only entries to initially secure would be the ground floor windows and doors.

The Victorians, ever striving to improve their surroundings, placed pride on endeavoring to develop a "pick proof" lock. As early as the 1780s, Charles Chubb, the famous English locksmith, advertised a lock impervious to tampering. Holmes knew, from personal experience, that any lock could be overcome with the right amount of time, patience and proper tools. He stood by the maxim, as true today as then, that a lock will not stop a burgler,

but a good lock will slow a burgler down enough to make his labor impractical and dangerous. It seems logical that Holmes would have had the door locks changed, possibly to a Chubb lock, since he evinced more than a passing interest in them and those who used such a device. The doors themselves would be completely of wood, with no decorative windows in them or alongside the jamb. Standing orders would be given to all residents of the house to keep the doors locked day and night. In addition, should the doorbell ring late at night, it would almost invariably be Watson who would trip downstairs to answer the door, never Holmes, never any of the house staff. Any lock on the windows of the day could be easily slipped and the window raised; iron bars would need to be placed either on the inside or set into the window's masonry. A set of hinged bars with a lock system on the inner wall to allow access from the inside in case of emergency could be custom made by an ironmonger. Another device would be a peg or nail driven into the window track above the window, to prohibit it from being jemmied open more than a few inches. All these costs would, naturally, be absorbed by Mrs. Hudson's lodger.

Moving past the first line of defense, the perpetrator would ascend the stairs to find another lock upon the sitting room door. Speculation has arisen whether a door led from the hallway to Holmes' bedroom. Since this entry is mentioned only once (and in a poor, possibly apochryphal story at that), we assume that it was rarely used and would be securely barred.

The final barrier would, of course, be the door to the detective's bedchamber. Another lock to frustrate.

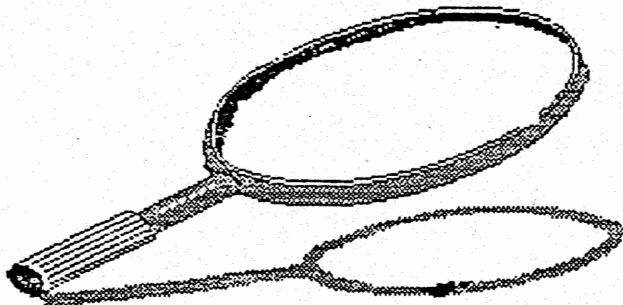
Now, assuming that the detective could not put all his trust in this triple set of locks, Holmes might have devised an inexpensive, portable and foolproof "DEW line": a string of sleigh bells on a strap of leather jammed between the closed door and the top of the frame. This would hang on the inside so that the opening of the door even a few inches would send them to the floor, alert the sleeping occupant and put the intruder to his heels. The strip would be convenient to install and, during the day, tossed in a drawer or under the bed.

Continued on the following page.

Finally, to complete the security Holmes required, he might have slept with a loaded pistol within reach. Another subject of the Crown to whom danger was a daily affair, Ian Fleming's James Bond, acquired the habit of sleeping on his right side, right hand tucked under his pillow and cradling a handgun. Perhaps it wasn't "007" who first developed this unorthodox method of slumbering.

Throughout the Writings, the Good Doctor makes mention of Sherlock Holmes' sleeping habits. The detective was invariably a late riser; by this we infer he would not see daylight until 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.. Holmes might also, on occasion, spend the night awake, mentally trotting through the clues of the case at hand and sleep once daylight broke. It is not too difficult to believe that Holmes would sleep his soundest from 5:00 a.m., when Mrs. Hudson and staff would be up and stirring, to the later hours of the morning, when he knew that someone else's eyes and ears would be on guard. He may have retired at 11:00 p.m., but night after night of lying in a dark, silent house with nothing between morning and Eternity but a handful of locks forced Holmes to catnap most of the night and lapse into deep sleep once he heard pots banging in the kitchen. On occasion, on those all night think sessions when he wrestled with a complex case, he would not waste his energies on personal safety, but curl up on the sofa during the day with the Doctor, unwittingly or not, standing guard in a chair nearby.

Because of the daily nearness of danger that the detective's line of work put him in, we may assume that either some or all of the above security devices would have been activated at 221B Baker Street. No matter how simple or high tech the locks, bars and jemmy-proof windows were, it appears that they worked to keep the criminal elements of London at bay, since, at last notice, the Great Detective was contentedly pursuing beekeeping in southern Sussex.



*"Despite my prayers to great Zeus and
Jehovah,
I'm not, alas, a Baker Street Irregular..."*

The collection of sonnets and one ballad found inside are titled as follows:

John H. Watson To Sherlock Holmes
Sherlock Holmes To John H. Watson
Sherlock Holmes To James Moriarty, Sc.D.
Sherlock Holmes To Irene Adler
Mary Morstan To Dr Watson
Sherlock Holmes To Mycroft Holmes
Ballade Of The Bright Stair-Rods

Since we are a society dependant on Dr. Watson, I think Hellene would not object to our reprinting the following:

Sonnet:

Sherlock Holmes To John H. Watson

*You said of me what pluto said of him
Who took the hemlock at his soul's behest:
That I was paragon and paradigm...
Of all you've known, the wisest and the best.
Discernment such as that shows goodness,*

100,

*And certifies a wisdom long concealed...
My wisdom lay, perhaps, in choosing you
To stand beside me as my foil and shield.*

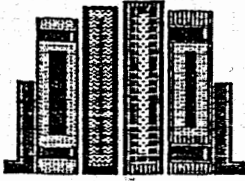
*For you are Britain's apotheosis;
The summon bonum of the bulldog breed;
A benison epitomized in this:
That strength and and valor flourish in your
deed...*

*Come. Watson. come! The game's afoot and
free:
The world has need of men like you...and me.*

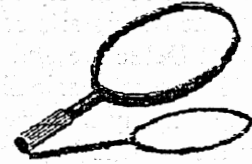
With thoughts like this directed to the one who neglects us, we can rest assured that, while Watson may not be attending out ills, he is a strong part of correcting the ills of society. Well, let us place the bag back upon the shelf until such time as we will again delve into it.



THE THREE CANONS



by Larry Feldman



Chapter 1- Introduction

In August, 1985, I attended my first Sherlockian "workshop." It was held at a small local college in New Jersey. It included some of the most celebrated Sherlockians of our day, including Julian Wolfe, Michael Harrison, and Michael Hardwick. And, of course, John Bennet Shaw. Shaw, along with his good friend Herb Tinning, was at the center of things as he always seems to be, introducing guests and presentations with his usual dry wit and easy-going manner. Looking back, there are several tales of that magic weekend I could spin for you. However, there is only one event that took place that is of any real significance to the subject at hand.

The Quiz.

Most Sherlockians are familiar with John Shaw's famous Sherlockian quizzes which are, to say the least, challenging. Knowing your Canon may come in handy during these exercises in logic and whimsy, but it is no guarantee that you will actually be able to answer any of the questions. But, I was young, hopeful, and a bit naive. I believed that if I studied for the quiz with all my heart I might win and come to this great man's attention in a blaze of glory. And so, I spent several nights up with my old Doubleday edition of *The Sacred Writings*, poring over the text of the target story, **THE GLORIA SCOTT**.

Of course, I didn't even come close. However it was a particular wrong answer that first brought to my attention the fact that every published Canon was not necessarily the same as another. I reprint the very question for you below, exactly how it was printed on that fateful day.

4. A nomenclatural section:
- a. One person named herein bore a name that would cause one to think of a Houston (Texas, U.S.A.) airport.

Try as I might, although I fancied I knew the name of every character in the story, I could not fathom the answer. When the answers sheet was handed out in the end I was quite surprised at the solution.

4. a. Sir Edward Hoby The Hobby Airport

This surprised me because I knew that Sir Edward's family name was the same as my sister's first name - "Holly." Rushing to my Doubleday, I was somewhat reassured but still puzzled to find:

"The laugh faded from his lips, and he stared at me in great surprise.
"Well, that's true enough," said he. "You know, Victor," turning to his son, "when we broke up that poaching gang they swore to knife us, and Sir Edward Holly has actually been attacked. I've always been on my guard since then, though I have no idea how you know it."

"You have a very handsome stick," I answered. "By the inscription I observed that you had not had it more than a year. But you have taken some pains to bore the head of it and pour melted lead into the hole so as to make it a formidable weapon. I argued that you would not take such precautions unless you had some danger to fear."

Was I actually correct? Had the great Shaw made an error?

The answer, of course, was that neither Shaw nor I was incorrect. Further research revealed that there are actually more than one version of The Sacred Writings. The differences between these versions are relatively minor, though of interest to those of us who make it a hobby to study and discuss the the details of Watson's writings to, among other reasons, gain biographical insight into the Great Detective and his times.

There are basically three widely read versions of the Canon. I will list them here in the order that I personally became familiar with them, which happens to be the reverse of the order in which they were originally published.

The one most Americans are familiar with is THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES as it is published by Doubleday & Company, INC. with its fine preface by Christopher Morely. I hereby dub this the "American Version" due to the fact that most Sherlock Holmes stories published in the U.S. match this edition of the Canon.

The second Canon we will be comparing is the two volume set published by John Murray in Great Britain. They are titled THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES SHORT STORIES and THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES LONG STORIES, respectively. It has been my experience that most American Sherlock Holmes fans are more familiar with this version than they realize, as it was this Canon that William S. Baring-Gould used as the basis for his famous THE ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES. Since this is the Canon that most English speaking Europeans are brought up on, I will refer to this as the "English Version" of the Sacred Writings.

The third and most truly original Canon was the one originally published in STRAND MAGAZINE. There was a time that only the most relentless and wealthy collector would be familiar with this Canon, but for some time now these original pages have been reprinted by various publishers in cheap hardcover and softcover newsprint editions. The titles of these books usually have the word "Illustrated" in them due to the fact that they, of course, include the original illustrations by Paget and others. This Canon will always have the attraction of being the one that the very first readers of The Saga read, and its appeal is increased due to the fact that it is usually published in a format that is very close to the original. For obvious reasons, I will refer to this Canon as the "Strand Version."

Now, those casual readers of the Sherlock Holmes Saga need not fear. If you have read one version in exclusion of the others, you have still experienced the Great Detective as he was meant to be experienced in the stories brought to us by Watson with some help from a chap named Doyle. The differences are, as far as story quality goes, virtually inconsequential. However, this does not mean that such a study doesn't have its uses. Through comparing the three Canons we will gain insight into the publishing history of the Saga, broaden our appreciation of Holmes trivia, note small but artistic touches that that may have been left out of one version or another, and gain a greater insight into both The Sacred Writings and the man who was Sherlock Holmes.

Now, as to the matter of Sir Edward's right and true family name, observe the following and draw your own conclusion.

THE "GLORIA SCOTT"

"The laugh faded from his lips, and he stared at me in great surprise.

"Well, that's true enough," said he. "You know, Victor," turning to his son, "when we broke up that poaching gang, they swore to knife us; and Sir Edward Hoby has actually been attacked. I've always been on my guard since then, though I have no idea how you know it."

"You have a very handsome stick," I answered. "By the inscription, I observed that you had not had it more than a year. But you have taken some pains to bore the head of it and pour melted lead into the hole, so as to make it a formidable weapon. I argued that you would

"I fear there is not very much," I answered. "I might suggest that you have gone about in fear of some personal attack within the last twelve months."

"The laugh faded from his lips and he stared at me in great surprise.

"Well, that's true enough," said he. "You know, Victor," turning to his son, "when we broke up that poaching gang, they swore to knife us; and Sir Edward Hoby has actually been attacked. I've always been on my guard since then, though I have no idea how you know it."

"You have a very handsome stick," I answered. "By the inscription, I observed

The English Version - Murray, Sherlock Holmes: The Complete Short Stories, 1966. Page 377.

The Strand Version - Avenal Books The Illustrated Sherlock Holmes Treasury, 1984. Page 224.

Chapter 2 - Of Sherlockian Interest

Here are some other Sherlockian trivia questions that you might get wrong if you're unfamiliar with all of your Canons.

What is the name of Silver Blaze's ancestral line?

"Silver Blaze," said he, "is from the Isonomy stock, and holds as brilliant a record as his famous ancestor. He is now in his fifth year, and has brought in turn each of the prizes of the turf to Colonel Ross, his fortunate

The English Version - Murray, Page 307.

"Silver Blaze," said he, "is from the Somomy stock and holds as brilliant a record as his famous ancestor. He is now in his fifth year and has brought in turn each of the prizes of the turf to Colonel Ross, his fortunate owner. Up to the

The American Version - Doubleday, The Complete Sherlock Holmes, 1930. Page 336.

The correct answer was definitely "Isonomy" as this is an actual horse and an actual line that was quite noteworthy. Was the change to "Sonomy" in the American Version a misprint or an attempt to fictionalize Silver Blaze?

How much did Moriarty's famous painting "La Jeune Fille a L'Agneau" fetch in 1865?

THE VALLEY OF FEAR

"All knowledge comes useful to the detective," remarked Holmes. "Even the trivial fact that in the year 1865 a picture by Greuze entitled La Jeune Fille à l'Agneau fetched one million two hundred thousand francs—more than forty thousand pounds—at the Portalis sale may start a train of reflection in your mind."

It was clear that it did. The inspector looked honestly interested.

"I may remind you," Holmes continued, "that the professor's salary can be ascertained in several trustworthy books of reference. It is seven hundred a year."

The American Version - Doubleday. Page 776.

"All knowledge comes useful to the detective," remarked Holmes. "Even the trivial fact that in the year 1865 a picture by Greuze, entitled 'La Jeune Fille à l'agneau', fetched not less than four thousand pounds—at the Portalis sale, may start a train of reflection in your mind."

The English Version - Murray, Sherlock Holmes: The Complete Long Stories, 1966. Page 472.

How may we discover the "official" Sherlockian answer? I'll discuss the answer to this in a later chapter. And now, let's look at some other differences in the Sacred Writings that have come into play in Sherlockian scholarship.

"Well, well, you did your best," said Holmes as we walked into our room. "It's very annoying, though, Watson. I was badly in need of a case, and this looks, from the man's impatience, as if it were of importance. Hullo! that's not your pipe on the table. He must have left his behind him. A nice old briar with a good long stem of what the tobacconists call amber. I wonder how many real amber mouthpieces there are in London? Some people think that a fly in it is a sign. Well, he must have been disturbed in his mind to leave a pipe behind him which he evidently values highly.

"How do you know that he values it highly?" I asked.

"Well, I should put the original cost of the pipe at seven and sixpence. Now it has, you see, been twice mended, once in the wooden stem and once in the amber.

The American Version - Doubleday. Page 351.

One of the most unusual crimes that Holmes mentions is "the putting of sham flies into sham amber" to increase the value of pipes. If you only read the American Version you would never know of it!

The story is "The Yellow Face."

The English Version - Murray.
Page 335.

"Well, well, you did your best," said Holmes, as we walked into our room. "It's very annoying though, Watson. I was badly in need of a case, and this looks, from the man's impatience, as if it were of importance. Halloa! that's not your pipe on the table! He must have left his behind him. A nice old briar, with a good long stem of what the tobacconists call amber. I wonder how many real amber mouthpieces there are in London. Some people think a fly in it is a sign. Why, it is quite a branch of trade, the putting of sham flies into the sham amber. Well, he must have been disturbed in his mind to leave a pipe behind him which he evidently values highly."

The Strand Version - Avenal.
Page 201.

"Well, well, you did your best," said Holmes, as we walked into our room. "It's very annoying though, Watson. I was badly in need of a case, and this looks, from the man's impatience, as if it were of importance. Halloa! that's not your pipe on the table! He must have left his behind him. A nice old briar, with a good long stem of what the tobacconists call amber. I wonder how many real amber mouthpieces there are in London. Some people think a fly in it is a sign. Why, it is quite a branch of trade, the putting of sham flies into the sham amber. Well, he must have been disturbed in his mind to leave a pipe behind him which he evidently values highly."

"How do you know that he values it highly?" I asked.

"Well, I should put the original cost of the pipe at seven-and-sixpence. Now it has, you see, been twice mended: once in the wooden stem and once in the amber. Each

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

XV.—THE ADVENTURE OF THE YELLOW FACE.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE



IN publishing these short sketches, based upon the numerous cases which my companion's singular gifts have made me the listener to, and eventually the actor in some strange drama, it is only natural that I should dwell rather upon his successes than upon his failures. And this not so much for the sake of his reputation, for indeed it was when he was at his wits' end that his energy and his versatility were most admirable, but because where he failed it happened too often that no one else succeeded, and that the tale was left for ever without a conclusion. Now and again, however, it chanced that even when he erred the truth was still discovered. I have notes of some half-dozen cases of the kind of which "The Adventure of the Musgrave Ritual" and that which I am now about to recount are the two which present the strongest features of interest.

Sherlock Holmes was a man who seldom took exercise for exercise's sake. Few men

The Strand Version - Avenal. Page 334.

In trying to give an example of a case in which Holmes had erred, why is "The Musgrave Ritual" used in The Strand Version and "The Second Stain" used in both the American and English Versions? Scholars believe that this was due to the fact that Holmes made no great errors in "The Musgrave Ritual". In fact, it is considered one of his most successful cases. However, Holmes is equally successful in "The Second Stain", which was not yet published. It is for this reason that many scholars believe that there is another tale that Watson refers to as "The Affair of the Second Stain" that can be counted among Watson's untold stories.

THE YELLOW FACE

[In publishing these short sketches based upon the numerous cases in which my companion's singular gifts have made us the listeners to, and eventually the actors in, some strange drama, it is only natural that I should dwell rather upon his successes than upon his failures. And this not so much for the sake of his reputation—for, indeed, it was when he was at his wit's end that his energy and his versatility were most admirable—but because

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The American Version - Doubleday.
Page 351 - 352.

The English Version - Murray. Page 333-334.

14. *The Yellow Face*

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to recount are the two which present the strongest features of interest.

Why is it that in the Strand and American Versions, Mrs. Watson visits her mother.....

ADVENTURE V.—THE FIVE ORANGE PIPS.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

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THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES

It was in the latter days of September, and the equinoctial gales had set in with exceptional violence. All day the wind had screamed and the rain had beaten against the windows, so that even here in the heart of great, hand-made London we were forced to raise our minds for the instant from the routine of life, and to recognize the presence of those great elemental forces which shriek at mankind through the bars of his civilization, like untamed beasts in a cage. As evening drew in, the storm grew higher and louder, and the wind cried and sobbed like a child in the chimney. Sherlock Holmes sat moodily at one side of the fireplace cross-indexing his records of crime, while I at the other was deep in one of Clark Russell's fine sea-stories until the howl of the gale from without seemed to blend with the text, and the splash of the rain to lengthen out into the long swash of the sea waves. My wife was on a visit to her mother's, and for a few days I was a dweller once more in my old quarters at Baker Street.

The American Version -
Doubleday. Page 218.

cumstances which I have now taken up my pen to describe.

It was in the latter days of September, and the equinoctial gales had set in with exceptional violence. All day the wind had screamed and the rain had beaten against the windows, so that even here in the heart of great, hand-made London we were forced to raise our minds for the instant from the routine of life, and to recognise the presence of those great elemental forces which shriek at mankind through the bars of his civilization, like untamed beasts in a cage. As evening drew in the storm grew higher and louder, and the wind cried and sobbed like a child in the chimney. Sherlock Holmes sat moodily at one side of the fireplace cross-indexing his records of crime, whilst I at the other was deep in one of Clark Russell's fine sea-stories, until the howl of the gale from without seemed to blend with the text, and the splash of the rain to lengthen out into the long swash of the sea waves. My wife was on a visit to her mother's, and for a few days I was a dweller once more in my old quarters at Baker-street.

The Strand
Version - Avenal.
Page 59.

...while in the English Version she visits her aunt?

The English Version -
Murray. Page 104.

THE ADVENTURES

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In "The Sign Of The Four" it is made clear that Mary Morstan's mother is long deceased. When the time came to collect the stories in Murray, an attempt was made to correct this mistake. Some scholars feel that this was an attempt by Watson to disguise the fact that he was not at this time married to Mary Morstan. Was this a second wife, or did his engagement to Miss. Morstan fall through at some point? In this case, the English Version is considered the more correct text.

Do you know your Musgrave Ritual? Actually, this depends on whether you studied the version in the American or English Canon.

English Version -
Murray. Page 407.

Why was the third question and answer of the Musgrave Ritual left out of the American Version?

Some scholars feel that Holmes may have decided to suppress it so as not to give a clue to his birthday.

THE MUSGRAVE RITUAL

"He handed me the very paper which I have here, Watson, and this is the strange catechism to which each Musgrave had to submit when he came to man's estate. I will read you the questions and answers as they stand :

" "Whose was it ?

" "His who is gone.

" "Who shall have it ?

" "He who will come.

" "What was the month ?

" "The sixth from the first.

" "Where was the sun ?

" "Over the oak.

" "Where was the shadow ?

" "Under the elm.

" "How was it stepped ?

" "North by ten and by ten, east by five and by five, south by two and by two, west by one and by one, and so under.

January 6th =
"The sixth from
the first."
Or does it?

"He handed me the very paper which strange catechism to which each Musgrave estate. I will read you the questions and an

" "Whose was it?"

" "His who is gone."

" "Who shall have it?"

" "He who will come."

" "Where was the sun?"

" "Over the oak."

" "Where was the shadow?"

" "Under the elm."

" "How was it stepped?"

" "North by ten and by ten, east by five west by one and by one, and so under."

American
Version -
Doubleday.
Page 392.

Continued next issue.

In chapter 3, we'll take a look at changes in the Canon that occurred due to history, culture, or changing societal norms. Also, we'll see a case in which the Canon was changed to solve a story continuity problem that was dramatized by one of Paget's illustrations.