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The Pleasant Places of Florida

Vol. 11 No.5

From the Papers on the Sundial:

Okay, so here we are back again. Donna Vaurio sent in copies of what went on at the Spring Gathering, we have more reviews from Phil Jones and part 2 of the Chemical Holmes. Ready for vacation? Check out Gillette Castle on page 4. Or you can just mosey over to Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Tampa to pay your respects (page 7). Whatever—enjoy your summer!

Presentations from the PPoF 32nd Annual Spring Gathering on May 5, 2007 in Land 'O' Lakes, Florida

THE FATHER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

By Donna Vaurio

I believe it obvious that Sherlock Holmes was the Father of Forensic Science. Noteworthy journals have written of his discoveries. In *The American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology*, you will find an article titled *Suicide Disguised as a Homicide* which references Sherlock Holmes's case of *The Problem of Thor Bridge*. In *Pub Med, A Service of the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health*, you will find an entry referring to Sherlock Holmes, the father of forensic pathology. Author E.J. Wagner at a Forensic Science Seminar at the University of Rhode Island, presented a paper entitled *The Development of Forensic Science during the Gaslight Era; The Science of Sherlock Holmes and How Scientific Investigation of Crime Evolved*. Susan Cannon Harris at Notre Dame wrote an article in the Cambridge Journal titled *Pathological Possibilities: Contagion and Empire in Doyle's Sherlock Holmes Stories*. Edmond Locard, a French forensic science expert of the 20th century, quoted here says, "Sherlock Holmes was the first to realize the importance of dust. I merely copied his methods." Edmond Locard also required his students to read *A Study in Scarlet* and *A Sign of Four* "in order that they further understand forensic methods."

Sherlock Holmes had a proficiency in botany, belladonna, opium, and poisons generally. He had a limited knowledge of geology but could tell at a glance different soils from each other. He had an accurate understanding of anatomy and a profound knowledge of chemistry and sensational literature. He wrote monographs on tobacco ashes, the polyphonic motets of Lassus, secret writings, analyzing 160 separate ciphers, dating documents, and one on tracing footsteps and the influence of the trade upon the form of the hand. He also wrote two short articles on ears in the *Antropological Journal*.

There are other references to his use of forensics within the Canon. In *Study in Scarlet*, he discovered a re-agent which is precipitated by hemoglobin and nothing else. In *The Adventure of Black Peter*, Sherlock experimented with stabbing a dead pig and determined that with no amount of exertion could he transfix the pig with a single blow. Remind you of CSI? In *A Case of Identity*, Sherlock Holmes remarked, "that a typewriter has really quite as much individuality as a man's handwriting. In *The Reigate Squires*, Sherlock deduced that a handwritten note had been written by two different men, each writing one word at a time. In *The Empty House*, he worked with the trajectory of bullets and determined that the weapon was an air gun. Sherlock solved the mystery of *The Priory School* based on his deductions about the bicycle and cow tracks. In *The Three Students* he solved the case by analyzing the dirt on the desk.

Is it any wonder that Sherlock Holmes received an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal Society of Chemistry? He was cited for using forensic science to solve crimes and for pioneering the use of fingerprint analysis and serology in criminal investigations.

THANKS TO SUSAN RICE, DOROTHY STIX, AND DAVID VAURIO FOR HELPING WITH MY RESEARCH FOR THIS PAPER.

WATSON LEVEL QUIZ :THE CARDBOARD BOX

PPoF FALL 1992- Dunedin & Spring '07 -Land O'Lakes

1. This story begins on a blazing hot day in... ?
2. Where did Watson yearn to be? (two places)
3. Why was Watson unable to take a vacation?
4. How did Watson express incredulity?
5. Whose unframed portrait stood on Watson's books?
6. What was the headline of the newspaper article Watson read?
7. Who received the cardboard box?
8. The box was posted from _____.
9. Whom did the recipient of the box suspect?
10. When visiting Croydon, Lestrade was described as _____, _____, _____, as ever.
11. How much did Holmes pay for his Stradivarius?
12. What was distinctive about the string of the parcel?
13. When Holmes and Watson visited the second Miss Cushing, what was her malady?
14. What journal had Holmes written for in the past year?
15. What places did Algar have to check for Holmes?
16. How many copies of the Browner confession were made?

(cont. on page 6)



The Chemical Adventures of Sherlock Holmes: The Case of Three (PART 2)

Thomas R. Rybolt and Thomas G. Waddell

Chemistry for Everyone 448 Journal of Chemical Education Vol. 79 No. 4 April 2002 JChemEd.chem.wisc.edu

(After a night of gambling, Watson is awakened by Holmes to assist with a case concerning a clock maker who was attacked)

It was only a few minutes before Sherlock Holmes, peering out the window, observed Mrs. Wickersham's approach along Baker Street. He hurried down to the curb and led her up the stairs to our flat.

Mrs. Wickersham walked slowly into the room. Strands of gray hair seemed to want to fly loose from her head, and she had a fragile birdlike quality about her. She clutched a large cloth bag in her hands, close to her chest. Her eyes were red and she shifted her gaze constantly about the room.

"Mrs. Wickersham, this is my friend and colleague Doctor Watson," said Holmes. "You may speak freely before him, and he has agreed to go round and check on your husband later today."

"Thank you, sir," she said. "If there is anything else that can be done for him, I'd owe you a debt forever."

"Think nothing of it," I replied.

"When I leave you two gentlemen, I'm going straight there," she said.

"I shall talk to you after I've had a chance to consider his current care," I said.

"That's fine," interrupted Holmes, "but we must turn to other matters so Mrs. Wickersham can be on her way." Turning to face the delicate and distraught lady, Holmes asked, "Did you bring the sack I sealed last night and the other items?"

"Yes," she said, nodding, "here they are." She reached into her bag, removed a sealed brown paper sack and three scraps of paper, and handed them all over to Holmes.

Holmes produced an official looking receipt and said, "Would you be so good as to sign this paper indicating that I have received the indicated items?" Holmes held out a pen, which she took hold of in her right hand, quickly scrawling her signature. She barely glanced down at the sheet of paper.

Holmes opened the sealed sack, glanced inside, and then closed it again. He then examined the pieces of paper that she had brought with her. "Now, Mrs. Wick-

ersham, would you be so good as to tell Dr. Watson and me what you know about the events leading up to the vicious attack on your husband."

"Well, sir," she said, as her eyes nervously scanned the flat, "my husband designs and makes wooden clocks. He has been doing so for many years. He is quite a skilled artisan and master craftsman. Each clock is made by hand and takes a considerable time. He usually works on several at a time and then starts a new batch. They are miniature grandfather clocks and his work is highly prized in certain circles."

"And most recently," said Holmes, hoping to hurry her along.

"Most recently - two days ago, actually - he completed three clocks and he was paid for each. But then the next day, night before last, he began raving like a madman about how he had been cheated. 'I've been robbed of my time,' he said, 'but they'll not get away with it.' Then the next day, yesterday, he was gone all afternoon from his shop. When he came home after supper, he told me he would be working later that night, and he immediately went to bed. He often slept in the early evening and then worked in the middle of the night in his shop, so that alone was not unusual."

"And then," said Holmes.

"And then, later that night I went to bed just as he was getting up to work. We spoke briefly and I fell asleep. During the night, I was sleeping poorly, heard a thud, and a few seconds later heard one of the doors of our shop slam shut. Then I went downstairs to his shop. He was slumped over his workbench and bleeding from where he'd been hit on the back side of the head. It was just after three o'clock. I fetched a bobby and then Sergeant Phelps and some other officers showed up. Then you presented yourself and you know the rest."

"You will confirm for Dr. Watson that your husband was struck but once on the back, left side of his head with a thick wooden stick picked up inside the shop."

"That's true enough," she said.

"And I observed that night when the police were searching about the shop that the wooden floor has many rather bad creaks in it."

"That's true (cont. on page 3)



(cont. from page 2) enough, it sounds some squeaks when my husband walks upon it, but rarely bothers when I tread about. However, I don't see I should be worrying about my floors with all my other problems."

"Indeed, I should say not," I said, trying to comfort the poor lady. "Shouldn't she go on to St. Bartholomew's Hospital now to check on Mr. Wickersham?" I asked Holmes.

"Yes, but there is one last question. Was your husband often in the habit of taking payment other than paper money for his work?" asked Holmes.

"My husband is a great one for trading. He'll take anything he thinks he can use - a load of coal, a supply of meat, bottles of wine. He loves to strike a deal."

"Thank you, Mrs. Wickersham for coming by this morning so early, and Dr. Watson will call on you this afternoon," said Holmes as he led her to the door of our flat and down the stairs to Baker Street.

At the next moment, I heard him running back up the stairs and he burst into our flat. "We must begin, right away, Watson," said Holmes.

"Begin what?" I asked.

"Why, our physical and chemical analysis to solve the case, of course," he said.

"Shouldn't we have a bit of breakfast before we get started on whatever this analysis is that we are about to begin?"

"I fear we have no time," said Holmes, as he leaned toward me and spoke quietly. "The criminal who did this deed did not complete the task. We must anticipate that he will strike again. It was not the intent of the blow to merely injure Mr. Wickersham, but to kill him. We must act quickly and efficiently. I need your help, Watson."

TO BE CONTINUED

The Exorcist

by Philip Jones

Although Holmes denied any interest in matters of the supernatural, there were several occasions when such events intruded on our existence in Baker Street. I do not propose to

explain everyday events as deriving from supernatural causes, but there are times when adequate, mundane explanations escape me. One such event occurred just before my marriage, shortly after the St. Simon affair. An older man appeared on our doorstep one morning demanding that Mrs. Hudson "Take me at once to Mr. Sherlock Holmes! I'm being haunted!"

Since the man's comments were easily heard by neighbors all along Baker Street, Holmes had no hesitation in asking our landlady to show the gentleman up. Once settled, our visitor identified himself as Josiah Scrimshaw, a retired 'lending agent,' which Holmes and I both interpreted as a pawnbroker. Mr. Scrimshaw said that he had recently purchased a detached villa in Pimlico and began settling into his new home. This required a larger staff than he was accustomed to employ, so he had advertised for a housekeeper/cook to supplement his valet, who would assume the duties of a butler.

After interviewing several candidates, he had employed a widow with a grown son and daughter who could assume the duties of a stable hand and a maid; "quite a bargain," as he commented. This staff seemed adequate to his needs and the household began to settle into a comfortable routine when his troubles began. Noises and misplaced articles escalated quickly into a variety of creaks, groans and moans and damaged and lost furnishings. His own bed-chamber had been upset, with bedding strewn about, clothing thrown into the fireplace (fortunately unlit) and toilet articles smashed and scattered.

Neighbors had hinted at some sort of dark past for the villa, citing tales of everything from alchemy to the white slavery trade, but all that local records showed was that the previous owner had defaulted on the mortgage and the lender had taken the property for sale to cover the unpaid loan. The servants became increasingly agitated and demanded something be done, so Mr. Scrimshaw had made contact with the local rector. After some discussion, the priest had recommended the services of a colleague who specialized in exorcisms, feeling



that the problems might lie in the property itself rather than the persons inhabiting the house.

After a number of ceremonies were conducted, the divine had pronounced the property to be "Cleansed" and had declared that the problems should cease. Mr. Scrimshaw agreed that things seemed to be quieter, but he had received a bill for ten Guineas from the exorcist, which he refused to pay as being "much too high." Af-

HE'S EVERYWHERE ... One student at Benjamin Rush Middle school in Rushville, IN took his history assignment to a Canonical level. Eighth grader Mitch Columbe decided to be his own walking billboard when his teacher told the class they had 9 weeks in which to read a book and then create something that took 5 hours to make. They also had to incorporate the theme "Triumph and Tragedy in History" in their work. Mitch hand-sewed a Sherlock



Holmes-style cape, developed his own unique Sherlock hat and also hand-crafted a papier-mâché pipe. (sic) "I'm using the story *The Adventure of Copper Beeches* to share," Mitch said. "I'll be serving as my own billboard." At rushvillerepublican.com, they quote Mitch as saying he used Holmes' "Great Cases" series of murder mysteries as his reading material. They also said his story was "Copper Beaches." Seems like Mitch will have his hands full trying to educate the locals ... The discovery of Charles Doyle's medical records have proven beyond a doubt that Arthur had no hand in committing his alcoholic, epileptic father to a mental asylum. The records state that Charles' "repeated drinking had resulted in brain damage and loss of memory." ... From the Dr. Who website, we found a quote: "The last episode of the classic series was "Survival." The villain of that story was the Master, an evil rival of the Doctor cast in the mold of Sherlock Holmes's rival, Moriarty."



Gillette Castle is a Unique, Historic Attraction Kim K. Beckius about.com

One of Connecticut's most popular and intriguing attractions reopened to the public in 2002 following a four-year, \$11.5 million restoration project. The former castle home of actor William Gillette once again enchants visitors to Gillette Castle State Park.

Gillette was born in Hartford in 1853 and was descended from the city's founder, Thomas Hooker. His family didn't support his pursuit of acting as a profes-

sion, but he went on to make his own fortune writing, producing and starring in plays.

The rather eccentric Gillette, best known for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes, first spotted the location where he would build his castle on a boat trip up the Connecticut River in 1912. Gillette Castle, built at a cost of about \$1 million and completed in 1919, features a number of peculiarities including hidden mirrors, a lock-protected bar and intricate, hand-carved door latches on each of the castle's 47 doors--no two are alike.

When Gillette died in 1937, his will insisted that the medieval castle he'd built not fall to "some blithering saphead who has no conception of where he is or with what surrounded." The state of Connecticut acquired the nearly 200-acre estate in 1943, and it has been a public park ever since. While the castle is the main attraction, the grounds are equally spectacular, providing scenic river views and opportunities for hiking and picnicking.

DON'T BE SURPRISED TO RUN INTO GILLETTE'S ALTER EGO AT THE CASTLE.



CALENDAR SHERLOCKIANA

July 6-8 - *Victorian Secrets & Edwardian Enigmas: A Sherlock Holmes Conference* held by The Norwegian Explorers of Minneapolis, The Friends of Sherlock Holmes Collection & The UofMinnesota's Special Collections & Rare Books. Conference, presentations, luncheon and banquet. Contact \$95 registration

September 27-30 - *Bouchercon38* Anchorage, AK. Visit www.bouchercon2007.com

October 26-28—*Magna cum Murder Writing Festival* at the Horizon Convention Center, Muncie, IN. Contact Kathryn Kennison, E.B. Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306.

2008

March 7-9—*Sherlock Holmes/Arthur Conan Doyle Symposium*, Holiday Inn, Miamisburg, OH.

July 6-8—*Victorian Secrets and Edwardian Enigmas: A Sherlock Holmes Conference* begins early Friday Afternoon with presentations throughout the weekend, luncheon & banquet Saturday. Registration is \$95 for all presentations, the Norwegian Explorer Omnibus & keepsakes. Luncheon & banquet prices separate. Get on the mailing list by contacting (Sponsored by The Norwegian Explorers of MN, Friends of Sherlock Holmes Collections & the U of MN's Special Collections & Rare Books.

October 9-12 - *Bouchercon 39 Charmed to Death* in Baltimore, MD at the Wyndham (410-385-6605). Guests of Honor Laura Lippman & John Harvey with Toastmaster Mark Billingham. See bouchercon2008.blog.spot.com



The Great Detective at the Crucible of Life, Or, the Adventure of the Rose of Fire Hardcover book Publisher: Wildside Press Year: 2005 Author: Thomas Kent Miller

Review: This is the second in a series of three books involving heroes of H. Rider Haggard adventure tales. The first was *Sherlock Holmes* (retitled as *The Great Detective...*) *on the Roof of the World Or, the Adventure of the Wayfaring God* which featured Leo Vincey from Haggard's *She* and *Ayesha*. This book features Allan Quatermain of *King Solomon's Mines* and other tales. The final adventure in the series will be titled *The Great Detective at the Dawn of Time, Or, the Adventure of the Star of Wonder*. Who will be the hero of the final book is not yet clear. All three books include Holmes in the narratives, generally as a secondary, but important character.

Both books published so far have been short novels. This second book is narrated by Dr. James (*sic*) H. Watson as told to him by Allan Quatermain. It seems to have been written before Watson made the acquaintance of Sherlock Holmes and includes Holmes acting under an alias and still unknown to Watson. The circumstances surrounding the tale are detailed at the beginning at some length and copious notes by the editor are included at the end to make many of the oblique references in the text a bit clearer.

One problem that some readers will have with this book is the numerous shifts of scene and viewpoint. A number of related but widely-separated events are presented and there are a number of shifts in viewpoint in both time and space. Personally, I found this method of presenting the materials to be interesting and efficient, given the author's and editor's knack for lively prose and characterizations, but it requires attention and care by the reader. On the other hand, the reader is left with the feeling of having watched a rapid-fire sequence of loosely related but widely scattered incidents that leave some bewilderment about the relative importance of the component scenes.

After completing the 200 or so pages of introductions, explanations and narrative, as well as the dozen or so pages of notes, the reader faces a lot of challenging ideas and upsets to their previous understanding of events and persons. The result is disturbing and unsettling. A standard African adventure featuring the Great White Hunter, Allan Quatermain, has left questions about what just happened. The adventure was there, although a bit subdued, but what was the outcome? The Great Revelations presented require the traditional "willing suspension of disbelief," and, in this case, that is a large requirement.

In summary, this is an H. Rider Haggard look-alike that includes a healthy dose of Sherlock Holmes. It moves along a bit more quickly than the original Haggard tales, but also displays a great deal of jumping around in time and space. It is fun, but basically unsat-

isfying if the reader does not fully agree with the author/editor's priorities and viewpoints.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones; May, 2007.

UPDATE: AFTER PUBLISHING HIS REVIEW, PHIL RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING:

Dear Phil:

Thank you very much for the astute and very gratifying review of my novel, *THE GREAT DETECTIVE AT THE CRUCIBLE OF LIFE, Or, The Adventure of the Rose of Fire*. Frankly, I was much pleased to read your estimation: "Personally, I found this method of presenting the materials to be interesting and efficient, given the author's and editor's knack for lively prose and characterizations, but it requires attention and care by the reader.... After completing the 200 or so pages of introductions, explanations and narrative, as well as the dozen or so pages of notes, the reader faces a lot of challenging ideas and upsets to their previous understanding of events and persons. The result is disturbing and unsettling."

The beating heart of my book is my inability to conceive of Sherlock Holmes as anything but a real part of the world (albeit an alternative version of the world). Therefore, any presentation of a new Holmes work must be formal and accompanied by appropriate supporting documents. Personally, I have zero patience for those pastiches that eschew any framing devices at all, or include a token few paragraphs. I LOVE the material that explains how and why a new Holmes book has come to light. The problem is there is NEVER enough of these academic trappings for my taste.

When I set about writing my second Holmes pastiche, I wrote it to please myself. You speak of its "challenging ideas and upsets." In this regard, its model was Umberto Eco's *THE NAME OF THE ROSE*, though, of course, that book is amazing on far more levels than mine could ever dream to be.

Also, it is largely an Allan Quatermain novel because the Quatermain adventures are some of the most satisfying reading that I have ever enjoyed, and I longed for more, but of course the last one was published 80 some years ago. Again, my intent was to write something to please myself. While I was at it, I tried to make it thought-provoking and serious as well as nostalgic and rich in homage.

It is truly satisfying that you were clear on my intent and approached the book with the correct frame of mind. Believe it or not, there are a few folk who don't "get" what I was doing and review or even lambast the book without any understanding at all of what I was doing. Among other things, somewhere along the line, I learned that serious fiction should be full of allegory, symbols, cross-references, and other literary ploys to keep the serious reader's mind active. As just one small example, the end and resolution of the entire story is actually on the first page of text (that is page 15), making the novel form a perfect circle. Also, as you have noted, there is irony that Allan Quatermain records all the many events of the novel without ever knowing their true significance!

In any case, I just wanted to thank you for your kind and realistic words!

Thomas Kent Miller millerslighthouse@earthlink.net
P.S. Quatermain is again the hero of *THE GREAT DETECTIVE AT THE DAWN OF TIME, Or, The Adventure of the Star of Wonder*. Also, FYI, the Second Edition of the first book (ROOF) is in the pipeline at Wildside Press and should be out before long at 106 pages.

The Execution of Sherlock Holmes and Other New Adventures of the Great Detective

Author: Donald Thomas **Publisher:** Pegasus Books LLC
Year: May 2007 **Editions:** Hard Cover, \$25.00

Review: This is the third collection of Sherlock Holmes tales by this author and it is by far the most entertaining of the three. *The Secret Cases of* (cont. on page 6)



(cont. from page 5) *Sherlock Holmes* and *Sherlock Holmes and the Voice from the Crypt* (UK: *Sherlock Holmes and the Running Noose*) contained tales that involved Holmes in historical mysteries of the 19th and 20th Centuries. This present collection contains tales specifically oriented towards Holmes, that involve familiar characters from The Canon. Each of the novellas included here is a Sherlockian tale from start to finish.

The Execution of Sherlock Holmes details the events surrounding the arrest, trial and imprisonment of Holmes for the murder of Charles Augustus Milverton. The arresting authorities seem to be a consortium of old enemies of Holmes, including some most unpleasant surprises. The story given here is drawn from documents involving real events and persons and it is quite an impressive narrative. Holmes displays his genius for observation and for deduction as well as his control of his mind and body.

The Case of the Greek Key provides a compelling alternative to *His Last Bow*. Although it lacks the drama of the Canonical version, it seems to be much more in line with the realities of espionage during the days that led up to the Great War. It is well-known that the British Espionage Service, which had achieved real renown under Dick Whittington and others in the 17th and 18th Centuries, had been allowed almost to disappear by late Victorian times. It hadn't even begun a comeback during the Reign of Edward VII. In the few short years of The Great War, it rose from practically nothing to become the Service that perpetrated the Zimmerman Telegram Hoax and successfully matched wits with all the undercover groups in the world. Perhaps Holmes provided the jump-start it needed, as shown here.

In *The Case of the Peasenhall Murder*, Holmes undertakes an investigation to clear the murder charges that have resulted twice in hung juries for a man convicted in the Press by public gossip of a gruesome murder. This tale seems much more realistic and vivid than the usual Canonical tale, even though it does not discover the murderer or clear up the details of the crime. The characters include the usual village cast: the unworldly vicar, the innocent maiden, the loutish lotharios and the opinionated pot swillers. Into this classic mix, Holmes brings the light of reason and logic, to clear away conjecture and to silence

speculation. It is The Great Detective at the height of his powers.

The Case of the Phantom Chambermaid is classic Holmes. A girl has been dismissed from her position as chambermaid in a hotel for entering a guest's room when she was actually at home, asleep. Her parents and her Minister bring the case to Holmes and these facts lead him to uncover a murder plan based on a peculiar habit of the guest and the diaries of a French Officer from the beginning of the Century.

In *The Queen of the Night*, Holmes uncovers a plot to steal jewelry during the Coronation ceremonies of His Majesty, Edward VII. Colonel James Moriarty is making an effort to settle an old, old score and to embarrass the Crown and the entire British Nation, as well as Holmes and Watson.

Donald Thomas has studied and written about the world of British Crime to the point where his understanding of the subject is encyclopedic. His characters and situations are drawn from life and he uses Holmes as no other writer could to track down and foil the very real sorts of criminals he depicts.

For historical buffs, Mr. Thomas is also the author of *Prince Charlie's Bluff, a Novel of the Kingdom of Virginia*, a long-time favorite of mine.

Reviewed by: Philip K. Jones; May, 2007

(cont. from page 1)

17. When Browner broke his blue ribbon, what did he do?

18. Where did Mary Browner and Alec Fairbairn rent a boat?

19. What did Mary say after Jim Browner killed Alec Fairbairn?

20. At the end of the story, what does Holmes declare is unthinkable?

MYCROFT LEVEL QUIZ THE CARDBOARD BOX

1. Besides the temperature, what else had risen at the start of this adventure?

2. Instead of a Study In Scarlet, what sort of study did Watson fall into?

3. What other adventures, published or unpublished are cited in this adventure?

4. What vignettes did Holmes cite from the Poe sketch? (Cite 2)

5. In what paper did the first report about the Cardboard box appear?

6. Describe the box and its wrappings. Need 4 items for full credit. (Cont. on page 7)



(Cont. from page 6)

7. Why did the perpetrator choose to send ears?
 8. What was the same rather than different about the two ears?
 9. If her medical advisor had had his way, how long would Holmes have had to wait to interview Miss Sarah Cushing?
 10. What published authors are mentioned in the course of this story?
 11. Although Lestrade arrested Browner, who took his statement and where?
 12. Assuming she is currently so occupied, in what towns did Miss Sarah Cushing keep lodging houses?
 13. How much was Holmes's Stradivarius worth?
 14. How long was Browner to have been away on the May Day?
 15. How long was it from the time Holmes named the criminal until he was arrested?
 16. What day was the parcel mailed? When was it received?
 17. To whom did Holmes telegraph? To whom did he write a note on a visiting card?
 18. Is it likely that the knife found in Browner's chest was involved in the crime? Why?
 19. How did Browner dispose of the bodies?
 20. Describe what part or parts of the ears of the Cushing sisters corresponded, and how they did so.
- QUIZZES PROVIDED BY MASTER OF THE HOUSE, DAVID MCCALLISTER. FOR ANSWERS - READ THE CASE!

A Toast To The Woman By Madlyn Sanford

To the unique and lovely lady, that defeated and enthralled
Let us raise our glasses upwards, for our hero so involved
To the victor of the conflict, in the duel of wits to win
To refuse to do so now, would surely be a sin.
Let us praise this winsome vixen, so subtle and so fair
Who subdued our vaunted hero in her own lair
She showed us he was human, and endeared him to our hearts,
With a damping of his spirit, his intellect still so sharp.
This paragon of gentility, a schemer with intellect so rare
Who matched our talented hunter with reason left to spare.
To this sorceress, this soaring mind, this minx that was the quarry
Who became the ultimate astounder, the nemesis unwary.
The person of interest, this conspirator of note
For it was she that got the pursuer so remote
To him she was the table turner, the one that got away
So different and mysterious, that was Adler's sway.
To the female, to the femme
To the Special One to "Him".

PPoF. We all realize that John Watson was a fine writer, but without Adrian Conan Doyle acting as his literary agent, I am fearful that our good doctor would have been ignored by the press. But with Doyle fronting, these stories became legends. So, to the man who made Sherlock Holmes a household name, I propose a toast—to the Literary Agent.



Hello fellow Sherlockians,

While surfing the internet genealogy sites one day my daughter, Carol, came across the final resting place of Dennis Hoey at Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Tampa. Below is a brief biography of this actor.

Lantern-jawed British actor Dennis Hoey was born Samuel Hyams in England in

1893. At age 25 he launched his theatrical career. A character player almost from the outset, Hoey was a valuable supporting presence in British films from 1927 through 1936. He came to America in 1941, where he worked steadily in films and in Hollywood-based radio programs until his retirement a decade later.

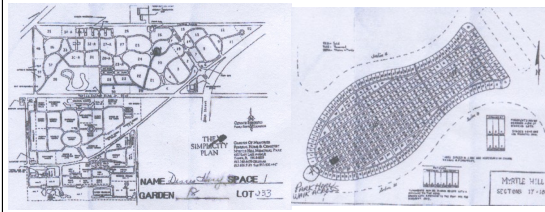
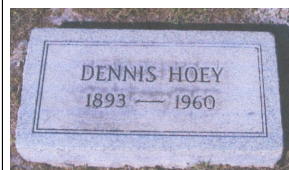
Dennis Hoey is most fondly remembered for his portrayal of the thick-eared Inspector Lestrade in Universal's Sherlock Holmes films of the 1940s, a role that he carried over into the Holmes radio series.

When the final curtain fell on Hoey's life in 1960, he was laid to rest in the Jewish section of Myrtle Hill Cemetery in Tampa, Florida

I called the office at Myrtle Hill and asked them for the

location of his burial site. Connie Esposito, a representative, generously supplied me with a map of the gravesite. My daughter and I recently visited the grave and took pictures for my collection and I'm sending them to you to add to your collection.

Art Walker



ADRIAN CONAN DOYLE (A Toast by George Edwards) - Sherlockians, friends, mistresses (Son, Conan Doyle had one) and sycophants, were it not for Conan Doyle there would be no

For the Record:

THE LAST COURT OF APPEALS

David McCallister, Master of the House,

(Master of

Ceremonies at most gatherings, host of the annual Wessex Cup)

Wanda & Jeff Dow, The Papers on the Sundial,

(Communications and Bookkeeping)

Please make note of the date after your name on the mailing label. This is the expiration date of your club membership. You will not receive further Communications after this date unless you renew. Renewals should be sent, with any updates, to Wanda Dow. Make all checks payable to Wanda Dow. US\$12.00 (US/CAN) or US\$13.00 (INTL)

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