



The Pleasant Places of Florida

(Suggested in The Five Orange Pips)

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

+++++

12th Night Reflections

.... The 8th Annual Spring Gathering of the PPoff at HOLMES Beach was a corking good affair. 29 of the faithful attended and we were treated to an excellent slide/commentary by Wanda Butts on her S'ian adventures in England, along with some tales by George Edwards on his London soiree. Marsha Pollak, in phoenix-like fashion, arose from the ASHes to inform us of the doings of The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes. A souvenir program of the Gathering may be requested from the Recorder (20¢ stamp, Please).....By the time you receive this Communication this Recorder will be enjoying a fortnight's stay in London (June7-21) which will include a special tour of Scotland Yard, including the infamous "Black Museum", arranged by my friend & golf buddy, Detective Chief Inspector Ken MacNamara....Many thanks for the kind words & kudos for the PPoff which appeared in Tom Dunn's Pipe Smoker's Ephemeris and in the Afghanistan Perceiver's (Staff Davis) "Dispatch"... We were "pleased as punch" to get word of Non-Resident PPoff Noreen Pazderski's prize-winning Holmesian Collection at Cornell Univ.... Rec'd latest issue of "Calabash", a nifty publication handsomely illustrated by the incomparable Jeff Huddleston.... "A Weekend with S.H.", with J.B. Shaw will be held at Berry College, Aug.5-7, Georgia., also a Mystery Steamboatin' cruise on the Miss.River in August. I have brochures for both of these events and will send on request.... "Sherlock Holmes & the French Connection" is available from Al Silverstein - only \$7)...Another new book -

"The Quest for S.H.", by Owen Dudley Edwards, Barnes & Noble, \$26.50 -ouch!)...As always, my thanks to all who corresponded and/or sent in items since the last Communication. The most fascinating of the lot was from Kyle Anita Richeson, of Calhoun, GA, who sent in this exercise in ratiocination. Read, mark & inwardly digest this poser - solve it if you can. Send me your answer. Prize for correct solution. Here it is: Four spies in trench coats sat in four

facing seats, As they travelled the Orient Express, With two by the window and two by the aisle; The arrangement was odd, as you've guessed.

The English spy sat on Mr. B's left, Mr. A had a coat colored tan; The spy dressed in olive was on the German spy's right, Mr. C was the only pipe-smoking man. Mr. D was across from the American spy, The Russian, in khaki, had a scarf 'round his throat; The English spy stared out the window on his left, So who was the spy in the rust coloured coat? Happy sleuthing!.....

Ron DeWaal's recent List of Scions has brought a batch of inquiries from hither & yon - Japan, West Germany, and Rio just

to mention a few...Alla Ford, Rare Books(114 S.Palmway, Lake Worth, FL33460) has some interesting S'ian material....Al Rosenblatt's article, "Elegant, Elucidating & Anything But Elementary"(Hartford Courant, 5/6/83) mentions HOLMES Beach!

Famous Criminal Typewriters. In America, the most notorious was the Woodstock No. N230099, which was used as evidence in the Alger Hiss trials, although no one seems to have been able to prove whether or not the Woodstock No. N230099 was in fact involved, and if so, or not, what it did, or did not do. In "A Case of Identity," Sherlock Holmes exposed the culprit by examining the faulty letters on typewritten notes. Holmes explained: "A typewriter has really quite as much individuality as a man's handwriting." The word processor's criminal potential is probably infinite.

TIME, MAY 16, 1983





Holmes
Beach



COMMUNICATION #65

JUNE 6, 1983*

Published Irregularly by the
Pleasant Places of Florida

A Corresponding Scion Society of

THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS

Please direct correspondence to:

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(* - On this day in 1934, the Sherlock Holmes Society of London met for the first time at Canuto's Restaurant in London.)

Philatelic Philandering

... or "Stamping Around
with Sherlock Holmes"

Perhaps the most exceptional detective in all fiction — certainly the best known — is Sherlock Holmes. He was the first of the celluloid sleuths (*Sherlock Holmes Baffled*, Biograph 1900) but a fledgling among literary private eyes. Detectives started prowling the pages of world literature in April 1841. Edgar Allan Poe introduced C. Auguste Dupin then in *Graham's Magazine*, in his chilling "Murders in the Rue Morgue." Poe published only two other Dupin stories: "The Mystery of Marie Roget" and "The Purloined Letter," considered by critics to be his best.

By way of contrast, Holmes and his sidekick, Dr. Watson, collaborated on some 60 cases. What's more, he's the most written about operative in the annals of crime detection. Since 1887, when a "A Study in Scarlet" first appeared in *Beeton's Christmas Annual*, there have been over 10,000 novels, short stories, parodies, studies, burlesques, essays, reviews, appreciations, and scholarly investigations of Conan Doyle's super hero. That comes



by Edward R. Walsh

STAMP WORLD, APRIL 1983

From Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen



SIMPSON'S BUBBLE & SQUEAK

(Joe Curley, Master Cook at Simpson's-in-the-Strand, passed on this Holmesian favourite. Its name comes from the bubbling and squeaking that takes place while it is cooking. It is an elegant way to use leftover vegetables. Serve with "Wow-Wow Sauce" (recipe in next Communication)

4 cups cooked mashed potatoes
4 cups cooked cabbage, chopped into small pieces
Salt
Freshly ground pepper
4 tablespoons olive oil

Mix the potatoes & cabbage and season well with salt and pepper.
Heat the oil in a large frying pan and add vegetables. Sauté over medium heat, pressing down the vegetables so that they form the shape of a flat cake. When one side is well browned, turn and cook on the other side. Transfer to a hot serving plate and serve immediately. Serves 6.

Holmes a winner
Watson ready 'Sure lock'
Holmes has
Holmes No. 1 again a bad day

(CONTINUED
PAGE 4.)

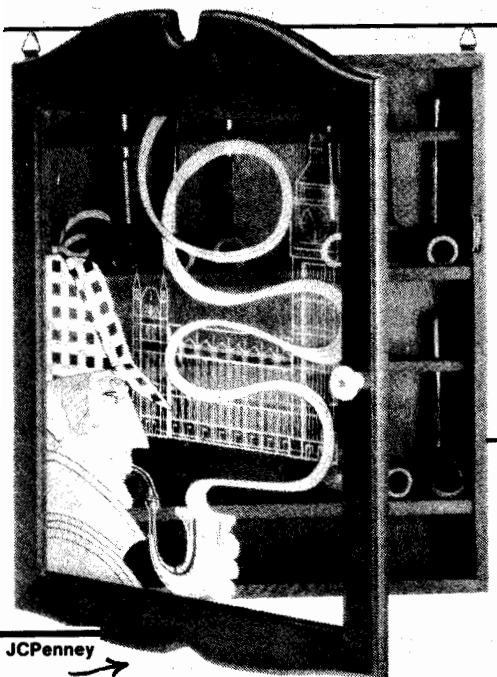


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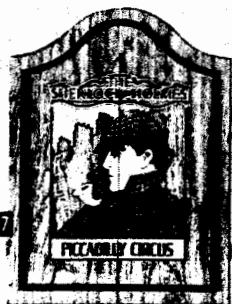


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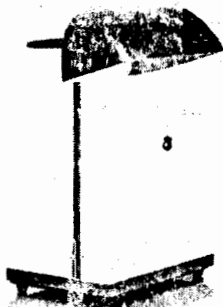
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ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR SHERLOCK!

Sherlock Holmes, born in (1) _____, England, in 1854, was apparently not the most sagacious member of his family; his older brother, (2) _____, was said to be smarter. Sherlock and Dr. (3) _____ Watson rented a flat at (4) _____ Baker Street from Mrs. (5) _____, who la-beled Holmes "the worst tenant in London." From there, Holmes sallied forth in his (6) _____ cape and (7) _____ cap. A good athlete, he especially favored (8) _____ and (9) _____, but also enjoyed a quiet evening playing his (10) _____. Upon his retirement, he took up a new profession as a (11) _____. The most famous screen Sherlocks were John (12) _____ and Basil (13) _____; the best-known Watson was Nigel (14) _____.

-Sarasota Herald-Tribune Thurs., April 14, 1983

CRYPTOQUIP 4-14

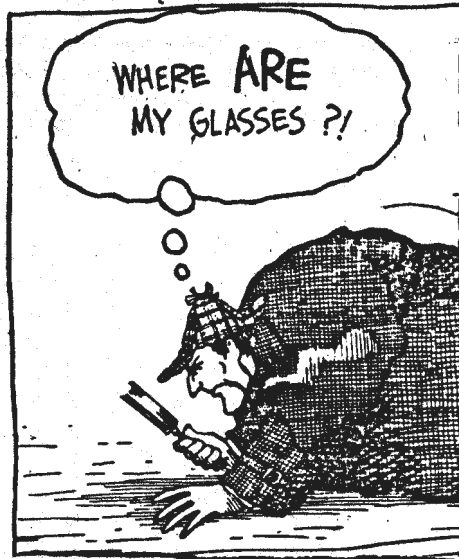
NENAUWZ QCNQ LWNJQ CBPWUL NQ-
QUIAUA - UPUWUIQNJZ LECBBP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip - UNGAINLY KAYAK TRIP ON GREAT LAKE IS SUPERIOR.

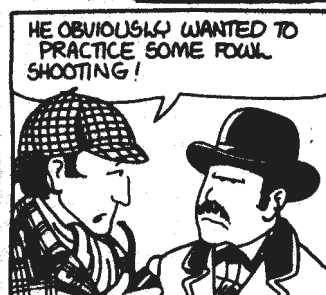
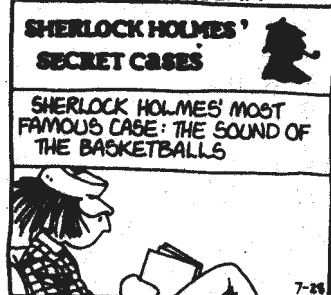
Today's Cryptoquip clue: U equals E.

The Cryptoquip is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words, and words using an apostrophe can give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

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FUNKY WINKERBEAN



GAMES MAY 1983 25

✓ You won't find the New York Mets listed in the New York City telephone book. They're listed under Doubleday Sports Inc. . . . And the mystery of the spring remains — where Colorado Springs high school phenom **Sherlock Holmes** will attend school on a basketball scholarship.

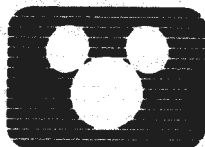
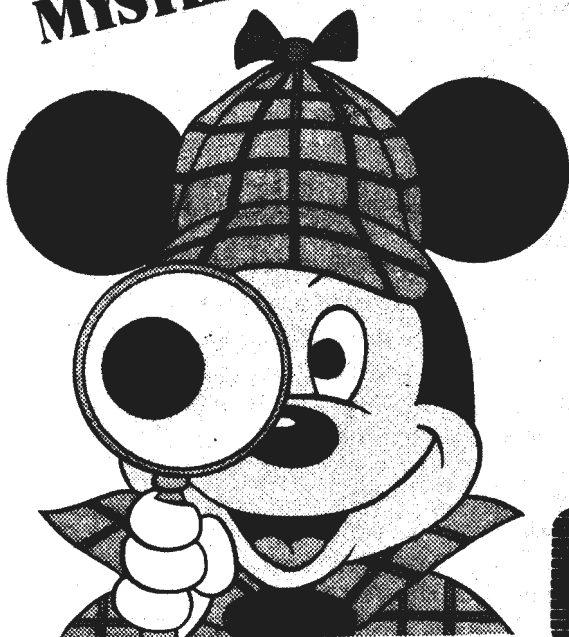
FLORIDA

Robert Holmes took three firsts and set state records in the triple jump (45-1/2) and the 330-yard intermediate hurdles (38.0) to lead **Clewiston** to its first state Class AA high school boys track and field championship.

Sherlockians will certainly welcome the latest volume in the Sherlock Holmes Reference Series, Paul D. Herbert's **The Sincerest Form of Flattery: An Historical Survey of Parodies, Pastiches and Other Imitative Writings of Sherlock Holmes, 1891-1980** (Gaslight Publications, 112 East Second, Bloomington, IN 47401; 1983, \$14.95). The coverage is admirably thorough, classifying the ersatz Holmes adventures in twenty-three different categories and followed by a sixteen-page bibliography and name indexes. I have only one mild complaint. Some of the novels and stories described—such as Michael Hardwick's *Prisoner of the Devil*, Robert Lee Hall's *Exit Sherlock Holmes*, Robert L. Fish's *Schlock Holmes* parodies, and the best of August Derleth's *Solar Pons* tales—are undoubtedly excellent reading, but most of the items discussed are unworthy of the nonfanatic's attention. The author might have given more indication of which are which.

THE MANATEE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP will meet 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Guest speaker will be Herbert Frith, professor of psychology and philosophy at Manatee Junior College. He will discuss "Love: The Link to Others and the Pathway to God." Sunday school and nursery will begin at the same time. Today at 7 p.m., a "Film Art Series" will be featuring Sherlock Holmes' best, with Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce, W.C. Fields, Pete and Charles Seeger.

MYSTERY



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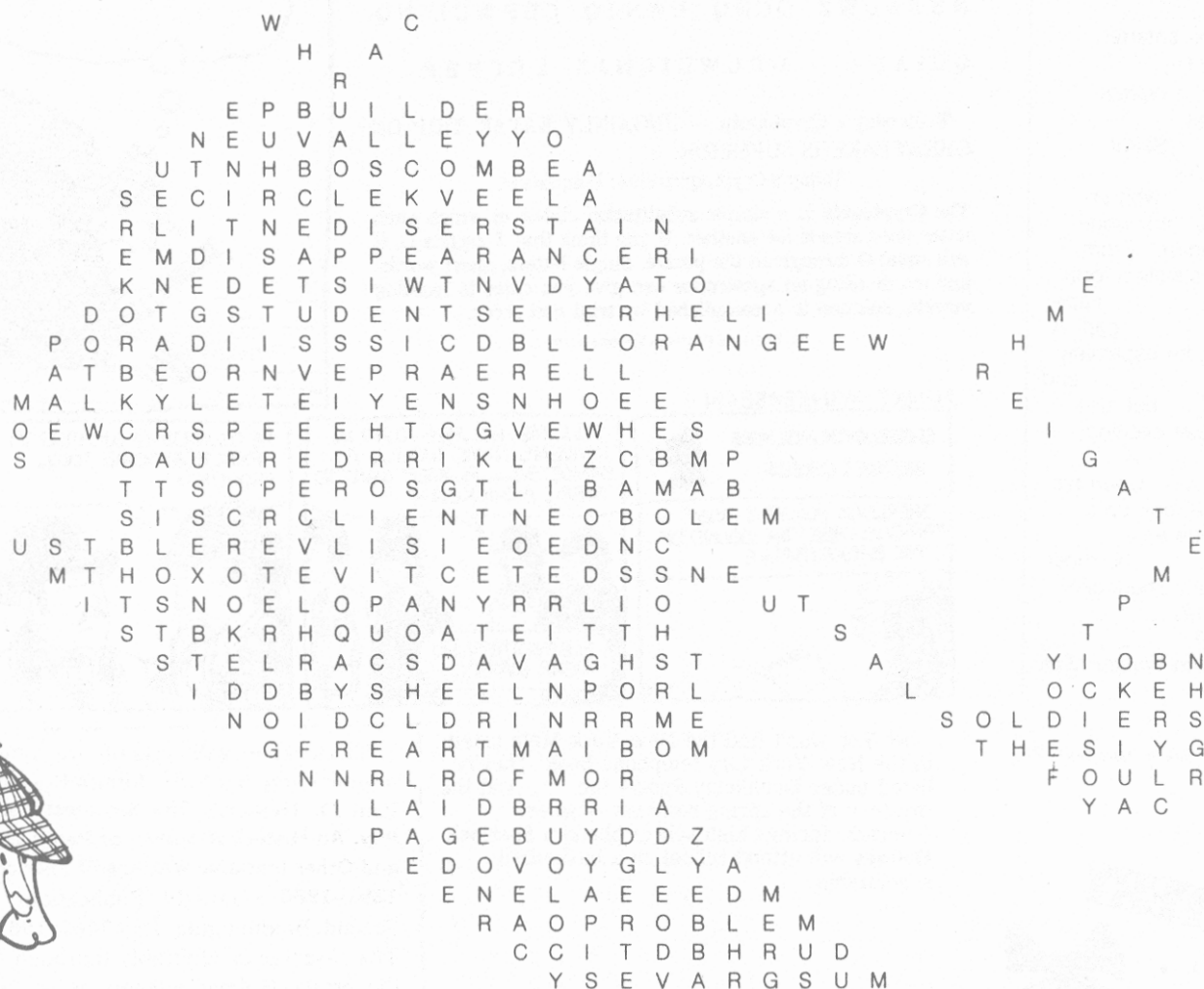
by Edith Rudy

A Sherlock Holmes Word Search

Welcome to 221-B Baker Street. From each of the abridged titles of the 60 cases solved by Sherlock Holmes, which are listed at the bottom of the page, we've hidden a single word (indicated by the capital letters) in the letter grid. All the

words read horizontally, vertically, or diagonally in straight lines. Can you find them? Don't forget to grab your cape and magnifying glass.

Answer Drawer, page 72



| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| The ABBEY Grange | The DEVIL'S Foot | The MISSING Three Quarters | The SIGN of Four |
| The Noble BACHELOR | The Dying DETECTIVE | The MUSGRAVE Ritual | SILVER Blaze |
| The Hound of the BASKERVILLES | The DISAPPEARANCE of Lady Colfax | The Six NAPOLEONS | The Blanched SOLDIER |
| The BERYL Coronet | The EMPTY House | The Five ORANGE Pips | The SOLITARY Cyclist |
| The BOSCOMBE Valley Mystery | The ENGINEER'S Thumb | The Bruce PARTINGTON Plans | The SPECKLED Band |
| The Norwood BUILDER | The Three GABLES | Black PETER | The Second STAIN |
| The Blue CARBUNCLE | The Three GARRIDEBS | The Golden PINCE-NEZ | The STOCKBROKER'S Clerk |
| The CARDBOARD Box | The GLORIA Scott | The PRIORY School | The Three STUDENTS |
| The Red CIRCLE | A Case of IDENTITY | The Final PROBLEM | The SUSSEX Vampire |
| The Illustrious CLIENT | The Greek INTERPRETER | The RED-HEADED League | The Problem of THORBRIDGE |
| The Retired COLOURMAN | His LAST Bow | The REIGATE Squire | The Naval TREATY |
| The COPPER Beeches | The LION'S Mane | The RESIDENT Patient | The Man with the TWISTED Lip |
| The CREEPING Man | The Wisteria LODGE | A SCANDAL in Bohemia | The VALLEY of Fear |
| The CROOKED Man | The MAZARIN Stone | A Study in SCARLET | The VEILED Lodger |
| The DANCING Men | Charles Augustus MILVERTON | SHOSCOMBE Old Place | The YELLOW Face |

to a few million words. No other gumshoe comes close to such a prodigious scenario. Holmes also dominates the entertainment media, having appeared on screen, radio, television and phonograph recordings.

Who is this mysterious man who so dominates the mystery story genre? "His very person and appearance were such as to strike the attention of the most casual observer," writes Arthur Conan Doyle in "A Study in Scarlet." "In height he was rather over six feet, and so excessively lean that he seemed to be considerably taller. His eyes were sharp and piercing...and his thin, hawk-like nose gave his whole expression an air of alertness and decision. His chin, too, had the prominence and squareness which mark the man of determination. His hands were invariably blotted with ink and stained with chemicals, yet he was possessed of extraordinary delicacy of touch."

His profile has been given the preeminent position on the Nicaraguan Interpol issue; he's last but not least on the \$2 issue. The postal shows him wearing his deerstalker cap and Inverness cape, while the ever-present pipe protrudes from his lips, the very model of a model master sleuth. Born on January 6, 1854 in the North Riding of Yorkshire, England, his ancestors were country squires. He had a brother, Mycroft, seven years his senior, but his early years remain shrouded in mystery. His deductive powers go unnoticed until he meets Dr. John Watson, an M.D. at Bart's Hospital; the pair share lodgings at 221B Baker Street and become fast friends. Holmes' chemical apparatus dominated

Sherlock Holmes



a corner of the flat. He kept his cigars in a coal scuttle and his tobacco in a Persian slipper. His filing system was unsystematic, with material piled higher and higher in total disarray. Still, Holmes refused to discard a single scrap.

To cope with boredom, Sherlock took cocaine. By the mid-1880s, he was injecting a 7% solution of cocaine into his veins as often as three times a day. "My mind is like a racing engine, tearing it-

self to pieces because it is not connected up with the work for which it was built," he once observed.

Holmes, probably named after American author Oliver Wendall Holmes, is a talented tactician. An expert boxer, swordsman, excellent actor and master of disguise, he has a working knowledge of law, having committed most case-histories to memory. To enhance his concentration he will retire with his pipe and violin. He occasionally smokes opium. His clients are varied and other detectives often consult him when they're baffled. His methods are simplicity itself. By observing the everyday details of a person or situation, he deduces the case-history of a crime, working backwards from effect to cause. Contrary to popular belief, Sherlock never once in all his capers said, "Elementary, my dear Watson." And though addicted to cocaine, his uttering "Quick, Watson, the needle!" is pure fabrication.

Cold and analytical, Holmes has always been immune to women's wiles. But Irene Adler, an ex-opera singer, is "the woman" in his life. This prima donna of the Imperial Opera of Warsaw once outwitted Holmes ("A Scandal in Bohemia"). She challenged him on his own ground and won. To Sherlock, she surpasses all of her sex.

The adventures of Sherlock Holmes are among the wonders of the literary world, read everywhere books are to be found. They've been translated into more languages than Shakespeare, or the work of any other writer. Only the Bible has outsold them.

Computer Literacy? It's Elementary, Says Henry Ledgard

A murder has been committed at the fashionable Metropolitan Club in Victorian London. Puzzled police call Sherlock Holmes in on the investigation. Tantalizing clues, including a ruby ring, a gold watch, brown hair and room numbers, all seem to weave a pattern pointing to the killer, but the pattern is unclear. By Jove! How is Holmes to discover the murderer's identity?

Elementary, Watson.

He uses a computer.

At least, that's the scenario posed by Henry Ledgard, E64. Ledgard, a computer programming expert, human factors consultant and author, and Andrew Singer, a developer of products for education in electronics and computing, have co-authored two primers using Sir Arthur Conan Doyle-inspired mysteries to teach computer languages and programming.

In *Elementary Basic* and *Elementary Pascal*, both published by Random House, each chapter begins with Holmes and Watson solving some theft or murder mystery by writing the appropriate computer program needed to analyze that case's clues. Ledgard and Singer then discuss the particular programming issues resulting from that chapter's case.

His newest book, *From Baker Street to Binary*, which will be published this spring, is an introduction to computer programming for the lay person, also using the Sherlock Holmes device.

If it sounds a little odd to link 19th century Sherlock Holmes investigations to the ultra-modern, new-fangled world of Atari and IBM, consider Ledgard's explanation of how this involvement began.

According to the prefaces in the *Basic* and *Pascal* primers, Ledgard's wife, Edwina, received a trunk willed to her by an obscure great aunt in England. In the trunk were some dusty manuscripts written by a certain Dr. John Watson. The manuscripts are about Holmes' use of a successor to an analytical engine developed by mathematician Charles Bab-

bage in the 1850s — a machine which is a direct ancestor of today's modern computer. The manuscripts were never published, a purported letter from Watson claims, to save them for a future generation which would understand and appreciate them.

So, Ledgard naturally translated the peculiar computer language employed in the operation of the analytical engine to *Basic* and *Pascal*, and *viola!* We have Sherlock Holmes' lessons on how to solve crimes through the use of a computer—or how to painlessly absorb computer literacy.

As for the likelihood of future Holmes computer investigations, Ledgard says that his wife may receive another mysterious trunk filled with manuscripts before too long.

—Chris Sammartano

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