



A Publication of the Pleasant Places of Florida

Communication #187

New Series

November/December, 1998

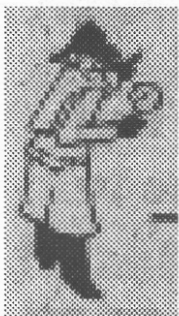
Volume 2 Issue 9

Okay, so it seems like you just got a Communication. Well, you did. The Halloween issue really cut it close to the line. In fact, most of you corresponding members probably received yours after the holiday. We do the best we can. Please note, however, that "Special Issues" are supposed to encourage you to send in something for publication. We've set up the Communication for publishing papers. The only problem is not getting papers. And that part is up to you. Try to submit something. A little art, a little poetry, a funny ad ...your choice. Also, take note that most of you will be up for renewal as the year ends. We'd like you to stay with us. Renew timely so you don't miss any issues. Now sit back and relax and enjoy this issue of the Communication.

The Papers on the Sundial



After his capture, Beppo picked up some extra cash posing as a model for the Paleontologist Artist Club.



THE 23RD ANNUAL FALL GATHERING

Twenty members gathered at the Dunedin home of Jeff & Wanda Dow to discuss the case, *The Red Circle*. Toasts were made by Culver Dow (Sherlock Holmes), Mike Bryan (Dr. Watson), Paul Gunning (Irene Adler), David Stoner (Mrs. Hudson), George Edwards (Leslie Marshall) and Elizabeth Dow (the Queen). Charles Amick impressed everyone with his (James Earl) Jonesian leading of *The Musgrave Ritual*, followed by the Dow Family players performing their Italian opera, *L'Cerchio Rosso*. Next up was a paper presented by David McCallister comparing the criminal element in *The Red Circle* and true-life Italian organizations prevalent in New York in the early 1900s. (cont. page 4)

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Canonical/Club Calendar

November/December

12/3/1878 - Captain Morstan disappeared.

Between 1887 & 1890 - It was on a foggy November day that Watson was summoned by Mrs. Hudson to come take care of his old friend.(cont. page 4)

1999 Proposed Calendar

January 17

Sherlock's Birthday Celebration II

February 13

Wessex Cup

March 6

Diogenes Meeting

May 8

24th Spring Gathering

July 9

Diogenes Meeting

September 11

Diogenes Meeting

November 6

24th Fall Gathering

Anyone wishing to volunteer to host one of the 1999 events, please contact *Representative* Carl Heifetz. Dates are not set in stone and may change at the discretion of the Host of each event.

FROM THE DESK OF DR. BEN WOOD, B.S.I. FEB. 2, 1981 (AN EXCERPT)

This seems to be a distillation of everyone's ideas (in regarding the gatherings of our Scion) and in no way is a directive, ex cathedra, from the Recorder.

1. There will be two (2) formal Gatherings of the PPoFF per annum. One, the Annual Spring Gathering .. on a convenient Saturday after Easter. The second formal Gathering will be the Fall Gathering. At each of the two Gatherings, we will have a printed souvenir program, rituals will be intoned, deerstalkers worn, and Holmesian news shared. BSI's & visiting S'ians from other Scions will be invited and encouraged to attend these more formal gatherings.

2. In between these two Gatherings may be scheduled meetings of the *Diogenes Club*. Any PPoFFer may offer to host one of these and hold it anywhere or when the host choses. The Host will be responsible for all arrangements, notices and agenda. When notice of a D-club meeting is given, the House should make very clear which type it is to be:

Type A: A study group, giving the participants the subject, required readings or preparation. This Type is an in-depth study of an adventure or other interesting subject. Perhaps a "paper" could be given, and then discussed - or whatever.

Type B: Just a fun-type social gathering of good "cheer," good food, and good fellowship. This is an informal get-together requiring no preparation.

Remember - anyone can be a Host whenever the Spirit of Baker Street moves you. Gatherings of the D-club do not require the approval of the Recorder. If it coincides with the publishing of a Communication, it will be announced, or, if after, will describe all the gory details.

3. I trust this will clear the air in regard to our Scion's gatherings.

HE'S EVERYWHERE ... In a recent issue of *Better Homes and Gardens Wood Magazine*, the article about identifying wood contains an illustration in the right hand corner of a gentleman in deerstalker, with magnifier in hand, examining the page ... Found in an old DC Superman Comic is a monkey with super powers. His name (and Canonical connection?) - Beppo ... check out the new *Rugrats* movie. (cont. page 4)



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Published PPoFFers

Carl Heifetz has been published in *The Wigmore Street Post Office*, #12, Summer 1998 issue. His article: *A Study in Scarlet Yields to the Methods of Sherlock Holmes, Scientist*.

David McCallister was published in *Baker Street West* (Vol.3 #4, 9/98) The article was titled *After You Gaston & subtitled Doy-lean Elements in Jules Verne, A Rebuttal*, and in the last issue of *Plugs & Dittles* with *The Way We Were or The Handwriting on the Wall*. For those of you lucky enough to attend, he presented this last paper at our Sherlockian Birthday party in January. (See Issue #188 for ad of program.)

The Shoso-In Bulletin Vol.8, 1998 An International Sherlockian Magazine in English

Editor: Hirayama Yuichi, BSI & Melanie Hughes

248 Pages, published by The Men with the Twisted Konjo including all the articles presented at The Japan Sherlock Holmes Club 40th Grand Meeting
\$12.00 including postage

Send subscription orders to: Melanie Hughes,

U.S.A. (Check or M.O. payable to Melanie Hughes)



Agony Column



Afflicted are you? Well, friends and neighbors, I'm here to tell you: Within this small vial I hold here in my hand is the answer to your afflictions, the very Cure of Moriarty, the antidote to visitation by ghostly entities and universal cure-all for wandering keyboard fingers. What is this marvelous mixture you ask? This, my friends, is none other than *Doc Watson's Liquid Canon*, good for boredom, fatigue, and chills of the spirit. It waxes, it wanes, it's good when it rains. No fun at parties? *Doc Watson's* amazing blend of devil's foot root and serum of langur will have you behaving like the crazy monkey all your friends know you truly are. Hiding your face behind a black veil or vizard mask? *Doc Watson* puts a dash of vitriol in every bottle, sure to erase clawmarks and traces of royalty.

Doc Watson's Liquid Canon has one thousand and one uses. Get rid of unwanted guests by sprinkling a little of *Doc Watson's* on a charcoal brazier. Pour it through air vents to put those nervous step-daughters to sleep. Paint it on your dog's muzzle

and you'll never again lose him in the dark!

Yes, friends, I know you're troubled by this Curse of Moriarty, but let me tell you how well *Doc Watson's Liquid Canon* will work for you. One drop in the water of Reichenbach Falls and Moriarty will bother you no more! (submitted by Brad Keefauver - "Not just a promoter of *Doc Watson's Liquid Canon*... I'm also my best client!")

Transmedia, 719 Battery Street, San Francisco, CA 94111 (800-227-7234) <www.transmediasf.com> has available Jim French's Sherlockian radio programs *The Poet of Death* (#114) and *The Sealed Room* (#121) on CD or cassette at \$7.99 postpaid.

The Adventure of the Wild Turkey and *The Red-Necked League* can be had from C. Bryan Gassner,

for \$4.00 each + \$1.20 shipping for one or two booklets. That's if you're interested at all in the continuing adventures of Hamhock Holmes written by Billy Joe-Bob "Bubba"

Watson.

The latest story from Dr. Fatso and the Pequod Press is **The Adventure of the Blue Garfunkel**, available from John Ruyle,

\$40.00 (cloth) or \$20.00 (paper).

Jo Friedman is still making **Sherlockian bears**. She tells us "they are fully dressed in period clothes right down to their watch fobs." She charges \$55 + \$10 s/h and delivers approximately 2-3 weeks after receipt of your order. Contact her at

The Sherlock Holmes Collection of Thomas L. Stix, Jr., Wiggins Emeritus, will be sold to Sherlockians by catalog. If you are interested in receiving a catalog, either drop Dorothy Stix a postcard with your namme or address at

or fax your request to

ROSTER UPDATE

New: Why aren't there any names here? Aren't you recruiting?

Changes: Blau, Peter, ZIP code

Halpert, Milton,

Singleton, Paul,

Whelan, Mike,

Removal: O'Hara, Gerry, *SHIEN* publication. (dec. 10/11/98)

Please check the address on your mailing label to make sure the correct information is being held by the club.

(cont. from page 2) Angelica is shown in a deerstalker. Rumors are there's a doll being sold by J.C. Penney ... speaking of *Rugrats*, Angelica is watching a tv show called *Shirleylock Holmes* in the new book, *Rugrats and the Zombies* by Sarah Willson ... Tyco, maker of *Sesame Street Beans* beanbag toys has finally come out with Sherlock Hemlock ... in 1986, the American Hemerocallis Society awarded a Junior Citation to a then-new day lily which was "blood red with a green throat" and called *Study in Scarlet*. It also won an honorable mention in 1990 ... Tome Press has come out with a new issue of its Caliber Comics line titled *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Holmes* ... the film *Zero Effect* is now available in video stores ... the Oct. 1998 issue of *Walt Disney's Comics & Stories* (#629) has Police Chief Ratz in Sherlockian costume on the cover as well as containing Detective Burlap-Bones ... back to Angelica and the *Rugrats*, she's been spotted on the lid of Mott's Applesauce and Fruitsations from which you can order a watch with her picture on the band ... spotted in a recent ad in *The New York Times* concerning what to eat, is the large print quote "Alimentary, dear Watson, alimentary." ... There is now an Association of fans and admirers of Peter Cushing OBE. To find out more, visit <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~bjholl> ... Our friends at *Mysteries by Mail* are offering a page or two of Sherlockian materials, including *The Moor and A Letter of Mary* by Laurie King, *Embassy Row and Against the Brotherhood* (Mycroft mysteries) by Quinn Fawcett, *The Secret Cases of Sherlock Holmes* by Donald Thomas, *My Dear Watson* by David Hammer, *The Star of India* by Carole Huggle, *The Mammoth Book of New Sherlock Holmes Adventures* edited by Mike Ashley, *The Game's Afoot, Mrs. Hudson*, by Sydney Hosier, *The Secret of Sherlock Holmes* by Gary Boothe,

The New Good Old Index by William Goodrich, *Sherlock Holmes and the Red Demon* by Larry Millet and a BBC cast reading of ENGI, NOBL, & COPP, complete with music & sound effects. 1-800-722-0726 or www.mysteriesbymail.com (by the way, we borrowed some of their graphics for this issue!) ...

(from page 1) This was followed by a rousing game of *Jeopardy!* designed and hosted by Dave Scott. Winners of the game were David McCallister (1st), David Stoner (2nd) and Carl Heifetz (3rd). Winners of the Mycroft & Watson quizzes were Charles Amick, Paul Gunning, Caroline Everett & Mike Carroll. Member Carl Heifetz read a eulogy on the late Tom Stix. Those who brought 'em, read their completions of the partial Agony Columns read by Holmes in *REDC*. Jeff Dow read 221-B.

1999 Sherlock Holmes Calendar

Printed in Baskerville type, it shows the dates for 54 of the 60 adventures, based primarily on Ernest B. Zeisler's chronology. Dates not specified by Zeisler are based on Jay Finley Christ's Chronology. 8 1/2" x 11" Also listed are the founding dates of 65 scion societies of The Baker Street Irregulars and logos for several of those. Cost is \$9.95, including postage (Int'l. add \$2.00) from William S. Dom,

(cont. from front page) Sherlock Holmes. DYIN

12/22/1887, 1889 or 1890 - John Homer was accused of stealing the Countess of Morcar's blue carbuncle.

1889 - At the end of November, Holmes finally gave Watson a full account of his adventures in Devonshire. HOUN

1894 - On a wild, tempestuous November night, Holmes deciphered a palimpsest while Watson studied a treatise upon surgery. GOLD

It was in the month of December that Violet Smith and her mother learned of an inheritance from her late uncle Ralph Smith. SOLI

11/1895 - In the third week of the month, a dense yellow fog settled down upon London; on Monday Holmes cross-indexed his book of references; on Tuesday and Wednesday, he studied the music of the Middle Ages; on Thursday, he chafed against inaction by pacing and biting his nails. BRUC

On one long evening, Watson joined Holmes at Goldini's Restaurant with a jemmy, a dark lantern, a chisel and a revolver. BRUC

1896 or 1897 - On a dull, foggy November evening, Holmes and Watson visited the Ferguson household. SUSS

11/8/1975 - Semi-annual meeting held in St. Petersburg in the Church Hall. Host - Leslie Marshall.

11/1976- Leslie Marshall resigns as Recorder. Dr. Benton Wood obtains title.

11/11/1978 - Third Annual Fall Gathering in St. Petersburg at the home of Kenneth & Helen Bohman. Host - (cont. page 7)

COMPLETED AGONY COLUMNS

The following are completions of the partial agony columns read by Holmes in *The Red Circle*. Members attending the 23rd Annual Fall Gathering were requested to complete the columns in any way they wished. We thought you might enjoy reading them. Names of those who submitted are not given to protect the innocent, but you have initials to go by.

Lady With A Black Boa At Prince's Skating Club

...Please contact London Zoological Gardens. Our lady boa pines away in his absence. (CA)

...Would like to see gentleman with speckled band again. Previous commitments not a problem. Your solution is proper training. Let me help. (WD)

...Where were you and your snake on the night of June 12th? Am missing my rat. (CD)

...Please call me at 272-9929. I think my black rat snake fell in love with your boa and left with you. (GE)

...Please claim your property within 48 hours or we must destroy. Herpetology Dept., London Zoo (MC)

...Please return and collect the remaining pieces of your snake. (JD)

...Please apply to the Royal Herpetological Society immediately, we will extract you from said serpent: meanwhile keep cool at rink. Franklin Buck, Hon. Sec., RHS, c/o London Zoo (DM)

...TAFKAP would like to get his wardrobe back. (DS)

Surely Jimmy Will Not Break His Mother's Heart

...I shall never believe those dark rumours, and am sure you are still a respectable Army Coach. Please write Mrs. Moriarty, Box 86. (CA)

...And continue this fascination with the seamier side of life. Come home and return to your mathematical studies. Your brothers James and Jamey miss you. (WD)

...to join the ballet troupe. (CD)

...by marrying the girl next door. Jimmy, marry the rich actress who loves you so poor mother can stop running the boarding house. (GE)

...by marrying that Irish colleen. Please write or call. (MC)

...But if he does you can forget that Trust money. (JD)

...Marry the Morstan girl with the pearls, already. Do you want to end up like your brother or a sidekick to that busybody of Baker Street? Mrs. J. Watson, Sr., Hampshire. (DM)

If The Lady Who Fainted In The Brixton Bus

...will contact me, I believe you have grounds for a legal action against the bus company. J. Shyster, Solicitor, Box 47 (CA)

...would please come forward and explain that is why her head was in Mr. Clinton's lap, he would be ever so grateful. (WD)

...had only known, she would not have sat next to the kid picking his nose. (CD)

...will come to St. Bart's, I will deliver your baby free. Dr. John Watson. (GE)

...will contact me, I will tell her the rest of the story. G. Craford, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1 (MC)

...would kindly pay me for the lemon meringue pie she fell into, it would be greatly appreciated. Please call Cambridge 5-8900. (JD)

...will apply to G. Norton, ESQ., QC, Middle Temple, London, she may qualify for the pending class action product liability suit against Queen Victoria's Secret Corset Manufacturers. Free consultation. No fee if no recovery. (DM)

Every Day My Heart Longs

...for you, S.H. Why, oh why, did I marry that Barrister? Irene. (CA)

...for my dear Frank, but I know he is gone. And so I marry today at St. George's. H.D. (WD)

...for a glass of Petri wine. (DS)

...for SURGE! (CD)

...to go back to India. If you love me, Geraldine, I will take you with me. (GE)

(cont. page 6)

(cont. from page 5)

...for the taste of genuine Indian curry. I find it at Fortnum & Mason's in Oxford Street. (MC)

...for a semi-retired doctor who carries an Elys No. 2. Call Whitehead 6-4500. Ask for Rachel. (JD)

...Xena, The Warrior Princess: ISO SWF, 6'+, into leather and parlour games, S&M, B&D, W&C, NS, ND, photo a must, contralto voice a plus. Contact Count "Hercules" Van Cramm, Langham Hotel, London.

OLD TIME RADIO SHOWS

If you're interested in Sherlockian radio plays, contact member David G. Stoner, Jr. He has a vast collection that he is willing to share. Send an SASE to receive his 6-page listed collection, pick what you want, then send him a blank tape and he'll be happy to copy it for you!

Among David's collection are the 1933 *Murder by Proxy* with Richard Gordon & Leigh Lovell, 1938 *The Immortal Sherlock Holmes* with Orson Welles & Ray Collins, the Basil Rathbone/Nigel Bruce shows from 1939-1946, Tom Conway/Nigel Bruce from 1946-47, John Stanley/Alfred Shirley from 1947-48, the 1949 Ben Wright/Eric Snowden *The Duke of Hollywell*, Sir John Gielgud/Sir Ralph Richardson 1954 (1955 U.S.), Carlton Hobbs/Norman Shelley 1959-64 and Robert Langford/Kenny Baker's 1967 *Reigate Squires*.

The collection also contains Behind The Scenes of *The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, an audio collection of abridged stories read by Basil Rathbone, *Tales of Fatima* starring Basil Rathbone, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle speaking about Sherlock Holmes, Gillette performing a sketch from his play, speakers on the Rathbone/Bruce series, and Basil Rathbone speaking about his life and career.

You can contact David at _____, or write to him at _____ Don't forget the SASE!

VIDEO ALERT!

For those members interested in Sherlockian video tapes, member Jennie Paton is the person to contact. Jennie runs the *Sherlock Holmes Video Loan Library*. She provides this service to individuals and Scion societies to help with the study and entertainment portion of their meetings. Contact her for a print-out of titles available for loan. The collection is in constant revision, so if you don't see an item listed, ask about it anyway. She may have obtained it and just not been able to update the files.

Once you obtain the list, request your tape 30 days prior to when you want to show it. Always give an alternative title in case the tape you want is already checked out. Cost is \$5.50 per title, which covers her shipping and handling costs. There is a two-tape limit and additional requested tapes are not sent until the others are returned.

She has copies on Video of

films such as *Sherlock Holmes Baffled* (1900), *The Copper Beeches* (1912), *The Mystery of the Leaping Fish* (1916), films starring Norwood, Fairbanks, Sr., Ronald Howard, Treville, Rathbone/Bruce, Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee, and more.

There are parodies, commercials, plays, cartoons, skits, international tv shows, and interviews. Just getting the listing from her is a wealth of information on Holmes in the media.

Write to Jennie at

An SASE (at least legal-sized) wouldn't hurt.

The "Achilles 'Heel'" in *The Norwood Builder*

by Thomas Dandrew

"What's in a name?" asked Juliet of her Romeo in William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. This same question, when applied to the Master's "unfortunate" client in *The Norwood Builder*, led to the discovery of certain mythological parallels that Conan Doyle (consciously or otherwise) may have had in mind in penning this tale. Specifically, Mr. John Hector McFarlane's middle name piqued this writer's curiosity in that Hector was, as one familiar with Homer's *Iliad* will recall, the greatest Trojan hero (cont. pg. 9)

(cont. from page 4) Caroline Everett. Program: *November the Eleventh: A Day for Remembering* (Tim Mitchell), Charades (Caroline Everett).

11/7/1980 - Fifth Annual Fall Gathering held in Bradenton at the Judge's Chambers. Program: Diogenes Club Report (Bill Ward), Performance by Paul Singleton, presentation by Mike Bryan.

11/29/1981 - Diogenes meeting in Clearwater. Hosts: John & Donna Fought.

11/7/1982 - Seventh Annual Fall Gathering in St. Pete Beach. Host: Bill Ward.

12/1982 - Publication of 8th Round-robin pastiche: *The Adventure of the Bar's Clue Bungle*.

11/10/1984 - Ninth Annual Fall Gathering held in Bradenton at Charlie Brown's Restaurant. Hosts: Joan & Ben Wood. Program: Special guest speaker, Queen Elizabeth's Chaplain, Canon Edwyn Young, *The England of Sherlock Holmes*, a slide show by Marsha Pollak, & a drawing for a bottle of *Baker Street Scotch*.

12/1/1985 - Members went to see the play, *Sherlock's Last Case* at the Ybor City Playhouse. High tea was held afterwards at the home of David & Cele McCallister.

11/7/1987 - Twelfth Annual Fall Gathering held at Holmes Beach at the First Church of the Ascension Hall. Hosts: Joan & Ben Wood. Program: Monograph on Sherlockian Art (Stephanie Hawks), Sherlockian Sing-a-long (Mike Carroll).

12/3/1988 - Thirteenth Annual Fall Gathering held in St. Petersburg at the home of host, Mike Carroll.

Theme: *Blue Carbuncle* Sherlockian gift exchange.

11/3/1990 - Fifteenth Annual Fall Gathering held in St. Petersburg at the home of hosts Mike & Mary Carroll. Theme: *The Gloria Scott* Presentations by Mike Carroll, Judy Buddle, Ben Wood and David McCallister.

11/13/1990 - Joan & Ben Wood host Northwestern University Alumni Club of Sarasota. Ben gives program *Sherlock Holmes is Everywhere*.

12/27/1990 - Mike Carroll's poem *Sherlock At The Bat* appears in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

11/2/1991 - Sixteenth Annual Fall Gathering held at King's Head Pub in Dunedin. Hosts - Jeff & Wanda Dow. Theme: *The Sussex Vampire*. Opera performed by the Dow Family Players.

11/7/1992 - Seventeenth Annual Fall Gathering held in Belleair at the Snoop Sister's Antique & Book Store. Host - David McCallister. Theme: *Cardboard Box*.

12/1992 - 1993 *Illustrated Philatelic & Numismatic Holmes* by Benton Wood published.

11/5/1994 - Nineteenth Annual Fall Gathering held in St. Petersburg at Stetson Law School. Host - Frank Smith. Theme: *A Case of Identity*.

11/18/1995 - Twentieth Annual Fall Gathering held in Ybor City at the Ybor City Brewery. Host - David McCallister. Theme: *Wisteria Lodge*. Presentation of *His Last Bow*, *A Talk Show* by the Dow Family Players.

11/1995 - 1996 *PPoff Sherlockian Calendar* published.

12/1995 - *Sherlockian Cookery Book No. 2* by Joan Wood, published.

11/9/1996 - Twenty-first Annual

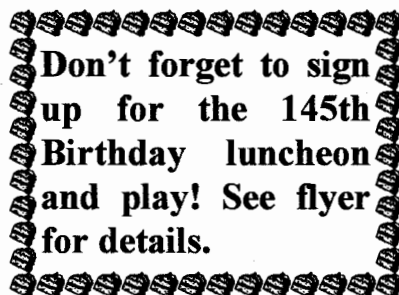
Fall Gathering held in Dunedin at the home of hosts, Jeff & Wanda Dow. Theme: *The Dying Detective*. Performance of *The Dining Detective* by the Dow Family Players, reading of excerpt from the diary of John Watson by Jeff Dow.

12/31/1996 - Dr. Benton Wood retires from his post as Recorder of PPoF.

11/1/1997 - Twenty-second Fall Gathering in Palm Harbor at the home of hosts, Carl & Sandi Heifetz. Theme: *The Blanched Soldier*. Presentations: *The Three James & Jonathons* (David McCallister), *Regarding the True Aetiology of the Skin-Lightening Syndrome in "The Adventure of the Blanched Soldier"* (Carl Heifetz), and *Live! From Palm Harbor! It's Saturday Afternoon!* (The Dow Family Players).

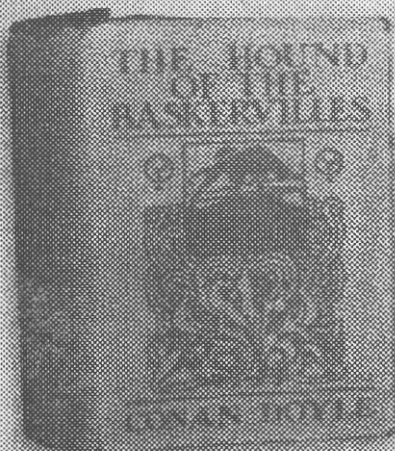
12/4/1997 - Wanda & Jeff Dow present a sock-puppet version of *The Blue Carbuncle* at Old Fashioned Christmas in Dunedin.

11/7/1998 - Twenty-Second Annual Fall Gathering held in Dunedin at the home of hosts Jeff & Wanda Dow. Theme: *The Red Circle*. Program: *L'Cerchio Rosso* (Dow Family Players), *Jeopardy* (David Scott), *The Real Criminal Element* (David McCallister).

**Don't forget to sign up for the 145th Birthday luncheon and play! See flyer for details.**

Question: If a man talks in the Diogenes club and no woman is present, is he still wrong?

Object of the Week



The Case of the Scarce Dust Jacket

Object: First edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*
Author: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Estimate: \$12,500 to \$18,900
Sold for / Buyer: \$17,101 /
Heritage Bookshop, Los Angeles (on behalf of a collector)

IT'S ELEMENTARY

This copy of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 1902 masterpiece, in which Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson track down the killer of Sir Charles Baskerville in the midst of Dartmoor, recently soared past

its pre-sale estimate at a Sotheby's Holdings Inc. auction in London.

Collectors of detective fiction usually pay about \$1,500 to \$2,500 for a first edition of the work, depending on condition, says Peter L. Stern, a rare-book dealer in Boston who specializes in the genre. But this one had the original dust jacket. Why the emphasis on a simple piece of paper? Rarity.

Introduced around the turn of the century, dust jackets were intended simply as wrappings for books, so buyers usually tossed them as soon as they left the shop. The only other known copy of this work with its dust jacket is in the Bodleian library at Oxford University, according to Peter Selley, book expert at Sotheby's.

"We live in a more visual age. Collectors are keen to acquire and display the books in their dust jacket," Mr. Selley said. Also, scholars have come to see them as an integral part of the book. "If you're going to collect [first-edition books], you might as well collect the whole thing," he said.

—*Etienne Kinsella*

WALL STREET JOURNAL 10-16-98



The Adventure of the Speckled Band

Start with a classic from Arthur Conan Doyle, add clever twists, a 1,000-piece puzzle and voila! You

have *Bepuzzled's* latest puzzle story mystery. You can get it from *Mysteries by Mail* (#419075) for \$20.00 + \$4.50 postage. Call 1-800-722-0726.

Submission Deadlines

January/February Issue

Postmark by 1/9/99

E-Mail by 1/15/99

Mad March Special Issue

& *March/April Issue*

Postmark by 3/1/99

E-Mail by 3/5/99

May/June Issue &

Father's Day Special Issue

Postmark by 5/1/99

E-Mail by 5/8/99

July/August Issue

Postmark by 7/1/99

E-Mail by 7/8/99

September/October Issue &

Girishia-go Tsuuyaku

by Ronald Ritter

I've been reading Keith E. Webb's book *Sherlock Holmes In Japan*. Below are Japanese translations of various titles from the Canon. Perhaps you would like to see if you can figure out the English titles. (The answers are elsewhere in the Communication.)

You will not be able to get help from that "remarkable linguist" Mr. Melas; he's still on the mend from that whack on the head.

- 1) Bohemiya no Shuubun
- 2) Burakku Piitaa
- 3) Uisuteria-sou
- 4) Chyaaruzu Oogasutasa Mirubaaton
- 5) Muttsu no Naporeon
- 6) Abei Noujyou
- 7) Guroria Sukotto-gou
- 8) Raigeito no Jinushi
- 9) Puraiari Sukuuru
- 10) Itsutsu no Orenji no Tane

By the way, the book has sparked my interest in Baritsu. With solemn dedication, with heartfelt seriousness, and with singleness of purpose I have been strenuously and vigorously practicing. (The doctors are giving me better than a 50/50 chance of recovering.)

Thanksgiving Special Issue

Postmark by 9/4/99

E-Mail by 9/8/99

November/December Issue & Endings & Beginnings Special Issue

Postmark by 10/30/99

E-Mail by 11/5/99)



BBC Radio 3
Broadcast: 10/16/98
"Sound Stories -
Sherlock Holmes"

Bach - *Sarabande* from *Partita No. 1 in D Minor*, BMV 1002 Yehudi Menuhim (violin) EMI CZS 767811 Track 9

Sarasate - *Habanera, Op.21 No. 2*, Pablo de Sarasate (violin) Symposium 1071 Track 6

Chopin - *Nocturne No.15 in F Minor, Op.55 No.1*, Arthur Rubenstein (piano) RCA RD 89563-2 Track 5

Mendelssohn arr. Achron - *On Wings of Song*, Jascha Heifetz (Violin), Emanuel Bay (piano) LP RCA LSB 8072 Side 1 Band 4

Verdi - *Stride la vampa* from *Il Trovatore*, Giulietta Siimionato (mezzo), Orchestra of the Grand Theatre, Geneva, conducted by Alberto Erede Decca 440 406 Track II

Donizetti - *Il segreto per esser felice* (*Lucrezia Borgia, Act 2*), Clara Butt (mezzo), Unnamed Orchestra & conductor Nimbus NI 7892 Track 7

Henry Russell - *Life on the ocean wave*, Clifford Jackson (baritone), William Bolcom (piano) Nonesuch H 71338 Side 2 Band 1

Hoffmann - *Barcarolle* from *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, conducted by Sir Georg Solti Decca 433 621 Track 2

Verdi - *Infelice! e tu credevi* (*Ernani*), Edward de Reszke (bass), Charles Prince (piano) Sony MH2K 62334 Track 16

Wagner - *Euch Luften* (*Lohengrin, Act 2*), Lotte Lehmann (soprano), Orchestra conducted by Frieder Weissmann EMI CDM 764010

Track 11

Paganini - *Sonata Napoleone*, Salvatore Accardo (violin), London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Charles Dutoit DG 439 981 Track 4

1)Scandal in Bohemia 2)Black Peter
 3)Wisteria Lodge 4)Charles Augustus Milverton 5)The Six Napoleons 6)Abbey Grange 7)Gloria Scott 8)Reigate Squires 9)Priory School 10)Five Orange Pips

(cont. from pg 6) in their ten-year war against the Greeks. What proved to be interesting, however, was that another figure in *The Norwood Builder*, Mr. Jonas Oldacre, proved to be an even more significant mythological allusion. The evil builder in several ways parallels in an ironic sense Achilles, the great Greek hero (and, appropriately enough, the opponent of Hector) in the above-mentioned conflict. Achilles was, of course, renowned for his one weakness, his heel, and one can hardly argue with the fact that Oldacre's fall was also attributable to his having been a heel of a different sort! Holmes comment to Watson about why Blackheath, not Norwood, would be the first stop in their investigation of McFarlane's difficulty substantiates this parallel: "Because we have in this case one singular incident coming close TO THE HEELS of another singular incident."

It was also reported that Achilles, after a slight to his honor, withdrew from active service in the war. Similarly, Oldacre, after an insult to his honor (having been rejected by McFarlane's mother), became a recluse (according to the report of the crime in *The Daily Telegraph*: "He [Oldacre] has had the reputation of being...secretive and retiring," a fact

verified to Holmes by the builder's maid, Mrs. Lexington).

Later, Achilles, known for being violent in his anger, impetuous in his hate, and merciless to his enemies, was to seek revenge for what he perceived as a wrong done to him (his best friend, Patroclus, had been slain by Hector). Oldacre, similarly, had "all his life...longed for vengeance," "an ample and crushing revenge" (as Holmes put it) for what he believed had been a wrong done to him (McFarlane's mother had once spurned his affections). Oldacre, for his part, also committed a "murder"--his own!--(not to mention his attempt to "murder" the reputation of his intended victim) in order to gain revenge against Mrs. McFarlane (in the solicitor's own words: "It will break my mother's heart--it will break her heart!"). And, in his utter disregard for the welfare of McFarlane, Jonas echoed clearly Achilles' earlier mentioned violent anger, impetuous hate, and mercilessness.

After slaying Hector, Achilles eventually took the body of his victim and burned it on a funeral pyre. In like manner, Oldacre supposedly "burned" the body of his "victim" (himself!) on one of the stacks of timber in his backyard!

In conclusion, while the above-mentioned list of similarities is not meant to be complete, it does suggest strongly that Doyle had intended to include classical allusions in *The Norwood Builder*, and it would be a "myth-take" on our part not to recognize this fact.

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