



The Hounds of the Internet

"A singular set of people, Watson."

An Inquiry into:

"A Study in Scarlet"

Vol. XV No. 60 • November 21, 2024

A Study in Scarlet first appeared in November 1887's *Beeton's Christmas Annual*. It was never published in *The Strand Magazine*. It is the first of the four Canonical novels.

Uncharacteristically, the overwhelming majority of our chronologists agree regarding the year in which these happenings took place, with most even concurring on a specific date!

If the case took place in 1881, as the majority of these Canon chronologists state, then at the time Sherlock Holmes was 27 years old and Doctor John H. Watson 29.

Main Characters:

Stamford, Watson's former dresser at Bart's. Inspectors Lestrade and Gregson, two of Scotland Yard's best detectives. Enoch J. Drebbler, an Elder of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake. Joseph Stangerson, Mormon Elder and Drebbler's secretary. Jefferson Hope, the man wronged by Drebbler and Stangerson. Constable John Rance, a beat policeman. Wiggins, leader of the Baker Street Irregulars, a gang of street Arabs. Madame Charpentier, Drebbler's landlady. Arthur Charpentier, a naval officer, son of Madame Charpentier. Alice Charpentier, Madame Charpentier's young daughter. John Ferrier, wanderer rescued by the Mormons. Lucy Ferrier, John Ferrier's adopted daughter. Brigham Young, leader of the Mormon Church.

Notable Quotes:

I served at the fatal battle of Maiwand. There I was struck on the shoulder by a Jezail bullet, which shattered the bone and grazed the subclavian artery. I should have fallen into the hands of the

A Study in Scarlet

Chronologist	Date of the Adventure
Canon	March 4, 1881
Baring-Gould	Friday, March 4, 1881
Bell	Friday, March 4, 1881
Blakeney	1881
Brend	March 1881
Christ	Friday, March 3, 1882
Dakin	Friday, March 4, 1881
Folsom	Friday, March 4, 1885
Hall	March 4, 1881
Keefauver	Tuesday March 4, 1884
Klinger	1881
Zeisler	Friday, March 4, 1881

Please note that Canon chronologists may differ on pivotal dates and comparative periods between cases, thus a simple majority is not necessarily correct. Most Canon scholars settle on a single chronologist's results for their research framework.

murderous Ghazis had it not been for the devotion and courage shown by Murray, my orderly, who threw me across a pack-horse, and succeeded in bringing me safely to the British lines.

I had neither kith nor kin in England, and was therefore as free as air—or as free as an income of eleven shillings and sixpence a day will permit a man to be. Under such circumstances, I naturally gravitated to London, that great cesspool into which all the loungers and idlers of the Empire are irresistibly drained.

“You don’t know Sherlock Holmes yet, perhaps you would not care for him as a constant companion.”

“Dr. Watson, Mr. Sherlock Holmes,” said Stamford, introducing us.

“How are you?” he said cordially, gripping my hand with a strength for which I should hardly have given him credit. “You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive.”

Sherlock Holmes—his limits.

1. Knowledge of Literature.—Nil.
2. Philosophy.—Nil.
3. Astronomy.—Nil.
4. Politics.—Feeble.
5. Botany.—Variable. Well up in belladonna, opium, and poisons generally. Knows nothing of practical gardening.
6. Geology.—Practical, but limited. Tells at a glance different soils from each other. After walks has shown me splashes upon his trousers, and told me by their colour and consistence in what part of London he had received them.
7. Chemistry.—Profound.
8. Anatomy.—Accurate, but unsystematic.
9. Sensational Literature.—Immense. He appears to know every detail of every horror perpetrated in the century.
10. Plays the violin well.
11. Is an expert singlestick player, boxer, and swordsman.
12. Has a good practical knowledge of British law.

“Well, I have a trade of my own. I suppose I am the only one in the world. I’m a consulting detective, if you can understand what that is. Here in London we have lots of Government detectives and lots of private ones. When these fellows are at fault they come to me, and I manage to put them on the right scent. They lay all the evidence before me, and I am generally able, by the help of my knowledge of the history of crime, to set them straight. There is a strong family resemblance about misdeeds, and if you have all the details of a thousand at your finger ends, it is odd if you can’t unravel the thousand and first.”

“It is a capital mistake to theorize before you have all the evidence. It biases the judgment.”

I had already observed that he was as sensitive to flattery on the score of his art as any girl could be of her beauty.

“There’s the scarlet thread of murder running through the colourless skein of life, and our duty is to unravel it, and isolate it, and expose every inch of it.”



In Praise of Sir Arthur

We once again raise anchor to embark on another circumnavigation of the Great Cycle and engage in the profound and scholarly study of The Canon of Sherlock Holmes.

There are some who may consider a devoted Sherlockian or Holmesian a gentle, slightly addleheaded creature, an inexplicable devotee of someone who never existed. Through talks and presentations, I am proud to say I have converted many of the heathen.

Unquestionably, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created one of the most enduring characters in the history of fiction. Surveys regularly state that Sherlock Holmes is more readily recognizable across the globe than Superman, Mickey Mouse, or any transient world leader. Detective fiction *aficionados* may unhesitatingly be able to tell you who Mrs. Marple, Nick Charles, or even Raffles are; but even someone who has never read a detective story will immediately recognize the aquiline profile in the deerstalker with the Meerschaum pipe.

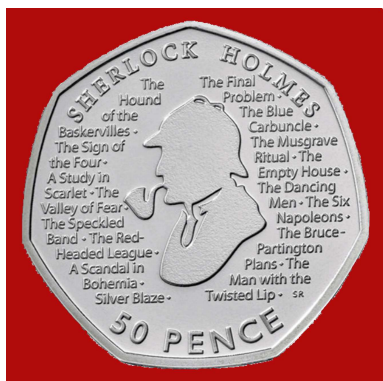


A recent survey carried out in London by YouGov, a global public opinion and data company that conducts surveys and polls on a wide range of topics, including politics, public affairs, and consumer behavior studies was very revealing in this aspect. Nearly 25% of those surveyed believed that Sir Winston Churchill is a fictional person, while 58% thought that Sherlock Holmes is real.



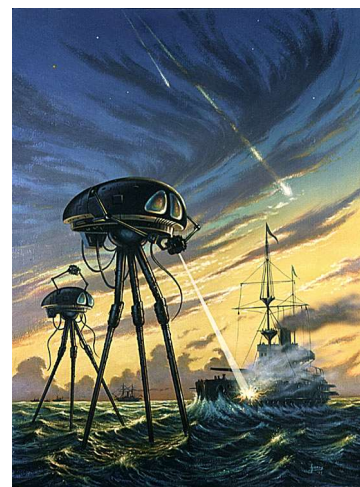
True, it might be argued that this survey's results reflect more the state of education in general than anything else;

however, the fact remains Holmes has overtaken Churchill (who still is well within living memory) in the realm of reality. In 2002 the Master Sleuth was distinguished with an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal Society of Chemistry, for his application of forensic science, and in 2019 England's Royal Mint, issued a 50-pence piece in his honor, bearing his likeness on the reverse, and that of Elizabeth II on the obverse.



place—everyone 30 years

old or older recalled the shattering effect that Darwin's *Origin of the Species* had upon the Victorian *zeitgeist*. Early science-fiction writers like Jules Verne, H.G. Wells, and Edgar Rice Burroughs also greatly contributed to the disruption by writing about the bright promises and dystopian possibilities brought by the advancement of science and technology. Sir Arthur himself played a significant part in extending the genre with the adventures of Professor Challenger.



It was then that Sherlock Holmes made his appearance, full-grown from ACD's mind, much like Athena emerging from Zeus' forehead. He was the first (and it can be genuinely argued, the only) of his kind. A consulting detective, whose activities were based on a firm foundation, equally composed of

applied science, observation, and logic who, for the sake of his calling, forced himself to be as detached as possible from the mainstream of human society, while being unerringly guided by his personal sense of ethics.

His like would not be seen again until the coming of Mister Spock who—with uncharacteristic Vulcan pride—once boasted from the very bridge of the *USS Enterprise* of being a direct descendant of the Great Detective.

It has been seven generations since Holmes made his appearance, and each of those generations in turn has attempted to transplant him into their time. Regardless of their quality, these efforts have met with limited success. Holmes is most definitely a product of his era. He forever lives in 1895; he



is the archetypal Victorian gentleman: a kind of paladin that no other culture or time could produce or match. He was the first to apply what we now know as forensic methods to the detection of crime—an able chemist who knew the use of a microscope and understood that crimes are solved by the observation of small details such as the ash of a cigar or a faint footprint.

Small wonder that once, Scotland Yard presented its new recruits with a copy of Watson's complete works.

It speaks to the genius of his creator that Holmes, like Superman, has weaknesses. His kryptonite is a self-pride often bordering on arrogance, he sometime indulges in what we today would call self-destructive behavior. With great difficulty he suffers the existence of those who like so many of us fail to follow the quantum leaps of his agile mind's lightning conclusions and, as poor Watson well knows, he has a propensity to indulge in acerbic comments.

Holmes continues calling us across the years because we would all like to be like him: observant, logical, and wise. As the entropy of our chaotic society continues to propagate, more than ever, we would like to inhabit his orderly world in which everyone and everything had its place and purpose, life moved graciously in three-quarter time, and where—with our help—justice always prevailed. Of course, this being impossible, we all content ourselves by emulating Watson.

Thank you very much, Sir Arthur.

And so once more, Hounds, the game is afoot!

The Sherlock Holmes Test

Regardless of the sensitivity of his test for hemoglobin his boast that it was accurate to one part in a million it seems Holmes was somewhat off in his calculation.

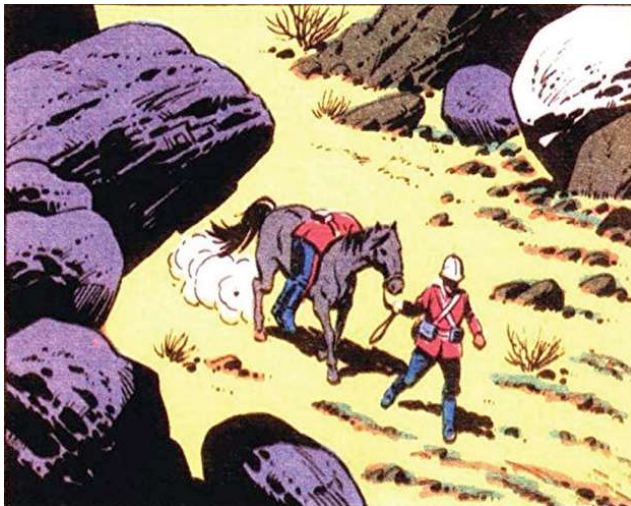
If one considers a drop of blood as being roughly the same volume as a drop of water (0.05 grams to a liter in this case), the result should have been one part in 50,000, not one part in a 1,000,000; this was first noted in 1980 by legendary science and science-fiction writer Isaac Asimov (himself a noted Sherlockian).

James O'Brien also concluded this in his excellent opus, *The Scientific Sherlock Holmes*, but he pointed out that Holmes' calculation, quickly done in his head 136 years ago, was not that much off as Asimov contended because, as he explained, "in Europe, quantities were, and still are, calculated in terms of weight rather than volume."



Watson's Health

Watson writes that he returned from the Afghan battlefield with his health "irretrievably ruined." Obviously this could not have been the case because it would have physically precluded him from becoming the stouthearted and oftentimes energetic (remember he jumped over a six-foot wall in CHAS!) participant in so many of Holmes' adventures. Although unquestionably his war wounds reminded him of their existence on certain occasions, the idea of an "irretrievably ruined" health seems to have been more a function of mind than reality.



A logical question is, then, why was he so weakened? Some Canon scholars suggest that he suffered from what today we post-traumatic stress syndrome. While this would not have been unusual, I do not think it likely.

It has been my experience that someone recovering from serious wounds and a life-threatening disease tends to undergo a period of depression. This strikes me as being nearer to the true reason for our medico's malaise. I base this on the Good

Doctor's own description, "Under such circumstances, I naturally gravitated to London, that great cesspool into which all the loungers and idlers of the Empire are irresistibly drained. There I stayed for some time at a private hotel in the Strand, leading a comfortless, meaningless existence. . . ." Note the word "lounger," and "leading a comfortless, meaningless existence."

This is not to belittle his war experiences. The seriousness of his condition cannot be understated. In pre-antibiotic days any wound could be serious. Watson was fortunate, considering that Jezail ordnance was composed of bits and piece of various metals—including old nails—which almost always resulted in infected wounds.

In the Good Doctor's case, things progressed from bad to worse. After being seriously wounded and when at his weakest during his recovery's beginning, he contracts enteric (i.e., typhoid) fever. Finally, after everything that he had to endure, he is invalidated out of the Army, possibly destroying the possibility of a career he may have intended to follow.

Thus, I think that what Watson needed was not so much rest, as a purpose for his life. Let us recall that although he states that his nerves are shattered and wants to avoid noise or excitement, he does not hesitate to share digs with someone described to him as a would-be poisoner who follows a mysterious course of studies—when he is at the university and not avoiding the place for weeks. Someone who nobody dares ask questions of a personal nature and beats up cadavers in the dissection room. One would think Watson would have him avoided like the plague; yet he puts himself in a position in which he has to share his daily life with someone with such seemingly unbalanced personality.

Yet when he asks Stamford how Holmes knew he had been in Afghanistan and the other tells him that many would like to know how he concludes these things, Watson's reaction is, "Oh! a mystery is it? This is very piquant. I am much obliged to you for bringing us together. 'The proper study of mankind is man,' you know."

His friendship with Holmes gave him when he needed most—a North for his life compass, which led to new interests, a resumption of his profession, and even embarking upon marriage (twice).

The Ignorant Shamus

It truly is impossible to disagree with the majority opinion amongst Sherlockians and Holmesians that Holmes was mercilessly having fun at Watson's expense when it came to the extent of his education. If, as demonstrated later in the relationship, he could guess Watson's thoughts when the latter fell into a brown study he surely could surmise from the sidelong glances and unexpressed curiosity over the clients who visited at 221B forcing him to abandon the sitting room that Watson burned with curiosity regarding his work.

Holmes had to realize—to his great amusement—that Watson was ineffectually attempting to gauge



his abilities. It was then that he decided to have fun at his expense by feigning ignorance of something as basic as the Copernican Theory. The truly remarkable thing is that Watson did not realize he was being had.

Regardless of how focused Holmes' adult studies were, as a schoolboy it would have been impossible for him to escape learning the basics of the Solar System. The discovery of Neptune 1846 was well-within living memory. Then Watson tells us that Holmes, "Prattled away about Cremona fiddles, and the difference between a Stradivarius and an Amati," quoted Darwin, and bought a book printed in Latin, *De Jure inter Gentes*, which, from the title, one may gather dealt with the beginnings of international law. In this first adventure with Watson, Holmes gives proof of having knowledge of German, French, and Latin.

It has been said that, "First impressions are always unreliable." In Watson's case, the lack of accuracy of his first (and later) impressions of Holmes was not improved by his companion's pawky wit.

Holmes' invitation to Watson (whom he still hardly knew) to accompany him in what would become their first case together is another indication of his great perspicacity in giving his new companion something to distract him from his despondency and survivor's misery.

Sadly enough, Watson was also mistaken when he concluded that had not been for "the temperance and cleanliness of his whole life," he might have suspected Holmes of using narcotics. Here, his incipient admiration for the man clouded his medical judgment.

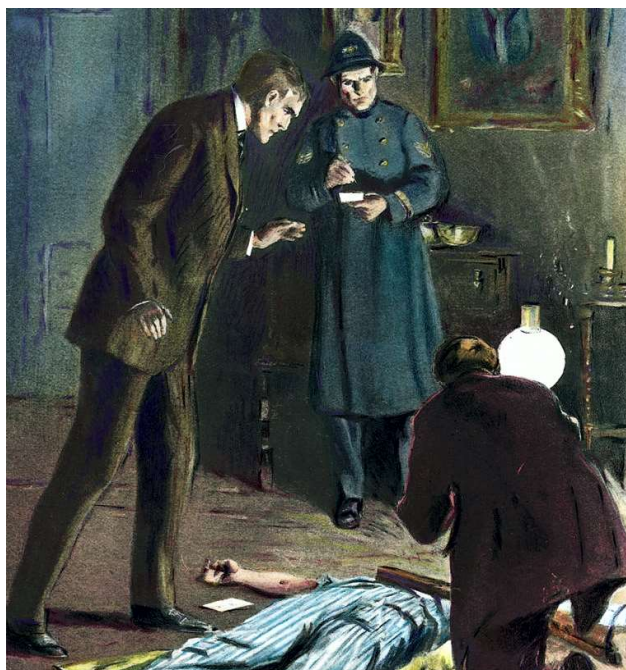
We can, however, celebrate the fact that the Good Doctor eventually weaned him away from the use of drugs.

Holmes' Supposed Indigence

Watson tells us that as soon as they were settled in at Baker Street, Holmes began receiving a long line of “visitors” (a.k.a. “clients”). It stands to reason that they started coming once they learned his new address, the question then arises as to how he could have been so lacking in funds that the only way he could afford adequate living quarters was with a roommate.

It stands to reason that he must already have a reputation before his biographer glorified him; otherwise, the Scotland Yarders would not have regularly consulted him. Even if most of his clients could only pay from a few shillings to a few pounds, it seems unlikely that Holmes would have been so hard up. It is a certainty that in those days he did not forego his fee.

At the beginning of the Great Friendship Holmes, like Watson, had to carefully marshal every pence. That being said, although he did not yet command the munificent fees that he was to receive years afterwards, the volume of a large clientele should have supplied a decent amount of shillings.



Therefore, in certain circles beyond those of the official police he must already have had a good—if not as yet considerable—reputation. As he himself remarked, some of his clients were recommended to him by the police. Watson discloses that by the time they first met, he already had a wide and varied clientele who obligingly climbed up those seventeen steps to consult him. In fact, as Holmes examined the rooms at Lauriston Gardens, Watson’s observation that Gregson and Lestrade “watched the maneuvers of their amateur companion with considerable curiosity and some contempt,” seems off the mark—after all Holmes was there at their request. Had they deemed him so contemptible it is unlikely that they would have called upon him so regularly.

It is obvious Holmes provided this assistance *pro bono*. He was unofficially called to help by the detectives on

the field, not by Scotland Yard authorities; therefore, no consultant fees. Considering that a police inspector’s yearly earning back then was \approx £80 (\approx \$\$\$30,000 today) our official detectives would have been unable to afford outside experts on their own shilling!

Of course, his unofficial assistance did little to burnish his reputation because even back then the papers would credit the Yard, not Holmes for the results.

To those of us who worked our way through university it comes as no surprise that although knowledge is readily available it comes at a considerable premium. Much discussion has been elicited by the question of whether Holmes attended Oxford or Cambridge. Regardless of which institution Canon scholars may favor, the fact remains that Holmes was a well-educated man.



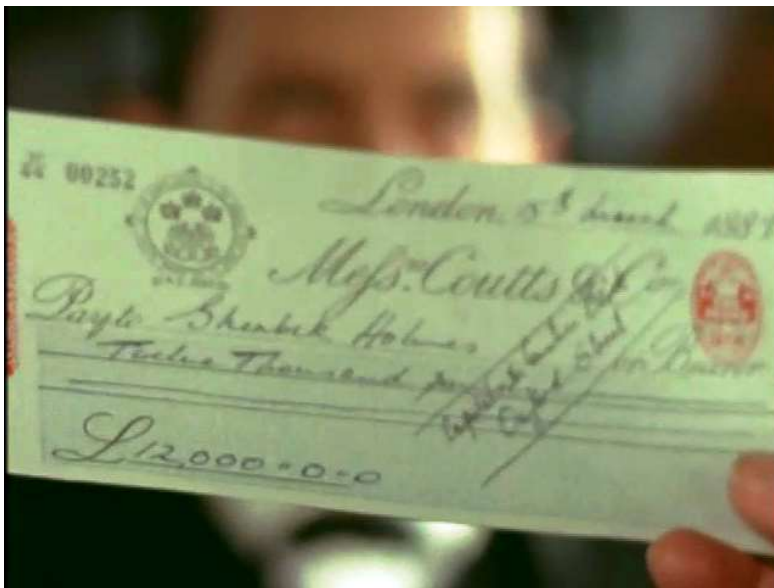
Whether he managed his university education aided by a scholarship or a relative—perhaps Mycroft—it seems undeniable that by the time Watson met him he had finished with these basic studies. By then, he was taking a number of courses that, although furthering the education he needed to

tackle his invented profession, led to no degree. We also see that he had access not only to laboratories, but to the dissection rooms as well. None of this could have been free, so he had to have paid for it from his own resources, very likely his detection fees which by that time may have been adequate but not ample.

It is difficult to believe that if he had been as strapped for cash as he supposedly was he would boast, “My professional charges are upon a fixed scale I do not vary them, save when I remit them altogether.” Surely, this was still in the future.

Because he was taking time off to complete his studies, instead of working full time during this period, it seems logical that he would have needed someone to share expenses. By the time his economic situation improved, having come to appreciate Watson’s friendship he continued this arrangement.

Let us remember that not too much later afterwards, by 1890, Holmes could afford paying “princely” sums for his digs all by himself, to the point at which, according to Watson, “the rooms might have been purchased at the price.”



Speculation that much of Holmes’ financial success at his invented profession partly resulted from the publicity that Watson’s telling of his adventures gave him is well based. Even he conceded the point in FOUR, “[A] good many of the criminal classes begin to know me—especially since our friend here took to publishing some of my cases. . . .”

Had it not been for Watson singing his praises, Holmes might not have experienced the resounding successes that he obtained.

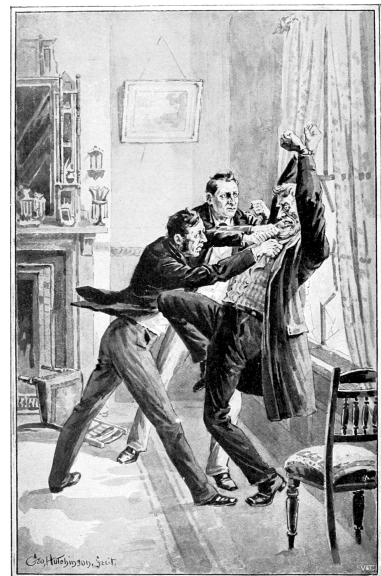
Then, years later, came what Sherlock Holmes must have considered the highest praise he ever received when, in SIXN, Lestrade says, “I’ve seen you handle a good many cases, Mr. Holmes, but I don’t know that I ever knew a more workmanlike one than that. We’re not jealous of you at Scotland Yard. No, sir, we are very proud of you, and if you come down to-morrow there’s not a man, from the oldest inspector to the youngest constable, who wouldn’t be glad to shake you by the hand.”

Jefferson Hope

Jefferson Hope is a sad figure with whom it is impossible not to sympathize. A good man, looking forwards to a happy life with Lucy Ferrier, the woman he loves, he suffers at the hands of self-entitled evil men like Enoch Drebber and Joseph Stangerson a deep personal loss when they caused the deaths of Lucy and her father John Ferrier. This turns him into an embittered, obsessive vengeful figure seeking to slake an obsession for justice.

Throughout his years-long pursuit, Hope demonstrates resourcefulness and cunning. He employs various disguises and strategies reach his targets.

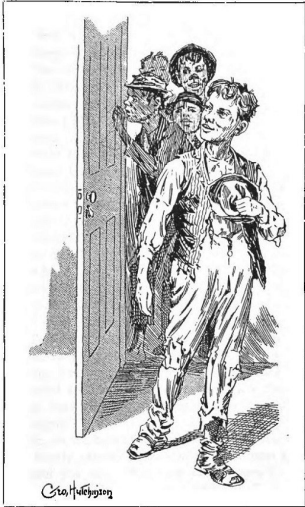
Although he ultimately exacts his revenge by killing Drebber and causing Stangerson’s death using methods that are calculated and



cold, it is a Pyrrhic victory—the chase has broken his health and once the objects of his efforts disappear, it is as if he had lost the motive power that propelled him and kept him alive.

A complex person, Jefferson Hope embodies both a victim and a villain.

The Baker Street Irregulars



One of the innumerable reasons we pursue our Canonical studies is that the Sacred Writings give us a glimpse—and often insight—into another era. Some are struck by Holmes' apparent unfeeling lack of humanity in his tacit acceptance of the state of Wiggins and the rest of the Baker Street Irregulars. Seemingly oblivious of their miserable situation, he seems to display a modicum of admiration for their pluck in earning a living. Some are also outraged by the term “street Arab.”

This is sheer presentism. “Street Arab,” generally meant “orphan” and at that time, in Victoria's Imperial England (and the rest of the world, West *and* East, for that matter), children were very much disposable. Some charitable organizations attempted to care for them but, for the most part, nobody was too concerned much about their fate. Dickens certainly knew what he was writing about.

Like in every country of the time, poverty existed with very little notice of the rest of the population, Mark's admonition (Mar 14:7), “For ye have the poor

with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always,” was staunchly believed.

A Mild Critique of Stud

A Study in Scarlet is the debut novel by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, published in 1887—by any measure an excellent effort, particularly on the part of a novice writer.

Its uniqueness lies in the introduction of possibly the most iconic characters in literature: Sherlock Holmes, with his unparalleled deductive skills and eccentric personality, as well as the redoubtable Doctor John H. Watson, his loyal and sensible companion—a perfect dynamic.

For the time, *STUD* had an innovative narrative structure—its division into two distinct parts: a classic whodunit detective story set in London, the second is a too-detailed backstory set in the American West. For the time, this structure was innovative and added depth to the plot. However, the too detailed backstory disrupts the pacing, making it jarring for many readers; the transition is abrupt and fractures the narrative flow.

Some find problems with Doyle's portrayal of the Mormons. He has been criticized by some who complain it is stereotypical and inaccurate. This criticism falls flat on its face because it smacks of presentism; it is at the same level of those complaining about the portrayal of Shakespeare's portrayal of Shylock, the Jewish moneylender in *The Merchant of Venice*. This is sheer presentism especially considering that some literary works cannot be enjoyed unless the reader is able to consider them from the perspective of the time in which they were written. Besides, during a visit to the United States, Sir Arthur met with a group of Utah Mormons, in what was described as a “very cordial” conversation.

Doubtless in time, our own era will come to be viewed with a critical and perhaps amused eye.

Holmes' detailed and methodical approach to solving the crime, including his use of forensic science and logical deduction, was groundbreaking and set a new standard for detective fiction, light-years ahead of earlier efforts by Edgar Allan Poe's efforts.

Compared to later Holmes stories, *A Study in Scarlet* is relatively straightforward, and Holmes' deductive leaps are somewhat less impressive given the lack of complexity. That was satisfactorily cured in subsequent works of the series.

Despite its flaws—real and imagined—*A Study in Scarlet* is a seminal work in detective fiction. It laid the foundation for the character of Sherlock Holmes, one of the most enduring and influential figures in literature. The novel's innovative approach and introduction of forensic science to popular literature make it unique for its time.



What else happened in 1881:

Empire



Sudanese Revolt under Mahdi, war in the Sudan (1881-1898).

India reaches 253 million.

◀ Stanley founds Leopoldville in the Congo.

Britain defeated by the Boers at Laing's Neck and Majuba Hill. Prime Minister Gladstone grants Transvaal self-government. Britain reserves right to veto all foreign treaties that might be entered into by the South African Republic.

British North Borneo Company chartered.

Parliament passes Second Irish Land and Coercion Acts, Land Courts to fix fair rents.

Britain

Bradlaugh reelected; ejected from Commons by ten policemen.

Report of Royal Commission on agricultural depression.

Flogging is banned by the British Army and Navy.

London's population reaches 3.3 million.

The Savoy Theatre is built in London.



Queen's College, Dundee, Founded; becomes part of St. Andrews University in 1953.

Former Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli (Lord of Beaconsfield) dies.

◀ Thomas Carlyle, British historian, dies.

National History Museum at Kensington in London opens.

Leadenhall Market opens.

Natural History Museum opens.

First electrical power plant and grid in Godalming, Britain.

Leyton Orient football team formed.

World

Jewish pogroms in East Europe, particularly Russia.

Tsar Alexander II of Russia accepts Melikov's proposal for a Consultative Committee for reform, is assassinated on that same day. Alexander III decides to dismiss the draft for a liberal constitution found in his father's desk after the assassination.

James A. Garfield, 20th U.S. President, shot and wounded after four months' administration; dies two months later.

Japanese promised a constitution and national parliament to meet in 1890. Rights of sovereignty and executive power, are vested in the person of the Mikado, with ministers were accountable to him alone. Certain expenditures of the realm, specified in the Constitution, are confirmed to the imperial Government in perpetuity. Parliament to assemble once a year, to be closed or dissolved by the Emperor. The Upper House was composed of three classes; to wit, hereditary peers, nominated peers, and elected members, the last two classes never to exceed the number of hereditary members.

Dr. Ogden of Aberdeen publishes account of experiments to ascertain the causes of inflammation and suppuration. He concludes that suppuration is caused by certain bacteria. Results achieved afterward verify this.

Maximilien Littré, French philologist and philosopher, author of the *Dictionnaire de la Langue Française* dies.

French Ministry of Agriculture established.

The Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth Circus is created.



National Society of the Red Cross is established.

◀ Gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

De Lesseps and Gustave Eiffel, French engineers, begin construction of the Panama Canal.

U.S. Supreme Court establishes income tax is constitutional.

France invades Tunis; occupies Bizerta; Treaty of Bardo establishes protectorate over

Tunis--Arabs revolt and are put down; Italians hostile.

Franco-British intervention secures most of Thessaly and part of Epirus for Greece.

Serbia and Austria sign secret treaty.

Liberty of public meeting and press granted in France.

Tidal wave in China kills 300,000 people.

Completion of St. Gotthard Tunnel linking Göschenen and Airolo, Switzerland.

Prince Alexander of Bulgaria Suspends Organic Laws; takes absolute power for seven years.

Jules Ferry laws passed in France, establish free, secular education.

Sitting Bull surrenders.

Russian General Skobelev takes Geok Tepe, defeats Turkomans, brings territory under Russian influence.

Nitrate war between Chile and Peru continues after fall of Lima.

Art



Nietzsche's *Aurora*.

Monet's painting, *Sunshine and Snow* exhibited.

Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience* debuts.

◀ Mark Twain publishes *The Prince and the Pauper*.

Tales of Hoffmann completed after Offenbach's death.

Feodor Mikhailovitch Dostoevsky dies.

Revised Version of the New Testament.

Flaubert's *Bouvard et Pécuchet*, published posthumously.

Anatole France's *Le Crime de Sylvestre Bonnard* published.

Ibsen's *Ghosts*, a drama dealing with venereal disease debuts.

Science and Technology

Electricity exhibition in Paris.



Hiram Maxim invents a self-regulating electrical generator.

Michelson invents an instrument to measure distance with light waves.

Carlos Finlay of Cuba develops theory that mosquitoes carry yellow fever.

◀ Koch works on the destruction effect of certain chemicals (disinfectants) on microbes.

Louis Pasteur develops anthrax vaccine.

Billroth successfully operates on the abdomen.

First electrical power plant and grid in Godalming, Britain.

Next week's case: SIGN

Respectfully submitted,

Murray, the Courageous Orderly

(a.k.a. Alexander E. Braun)

"I should have fallen into the hands of the murderous Ghazis had it not been for the devotion and courage shown by Murray, my orderly..."

All Sherlock Holmes photos have been published by courtesy of ITV Granada.

If you would like to join the Hounds of the Internet, email us at CourageousMurray@aol.com.

Copyright © 2024 Alexander E. Braun