

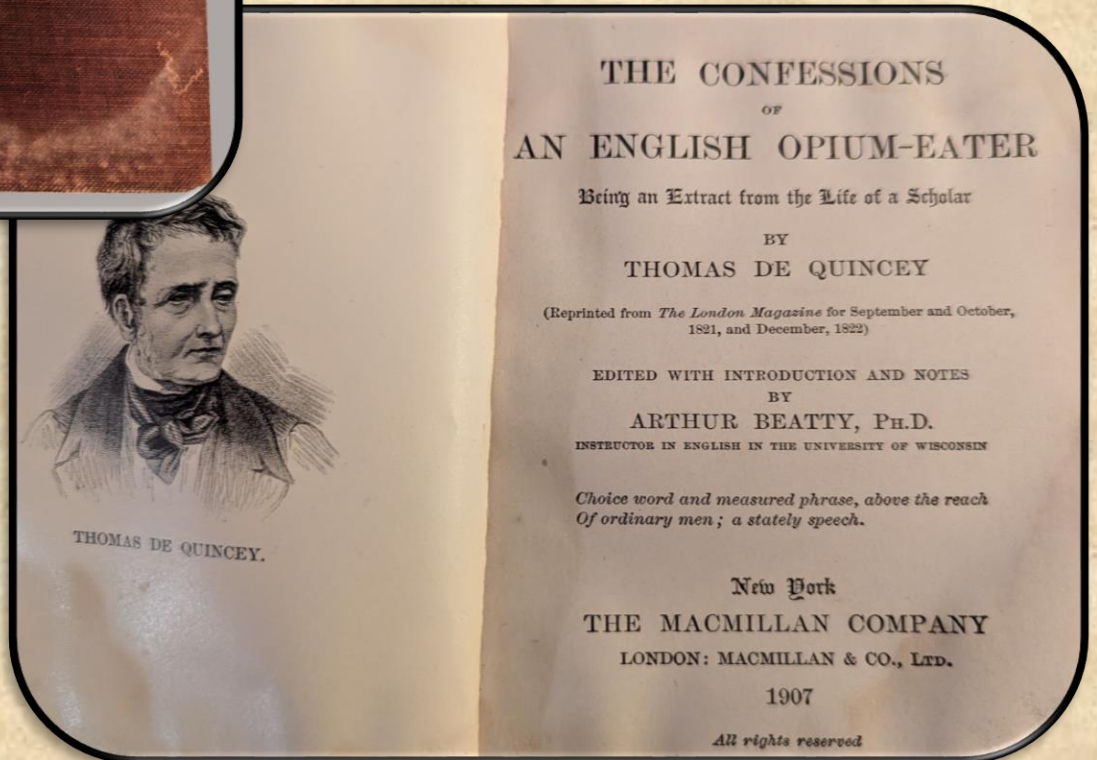
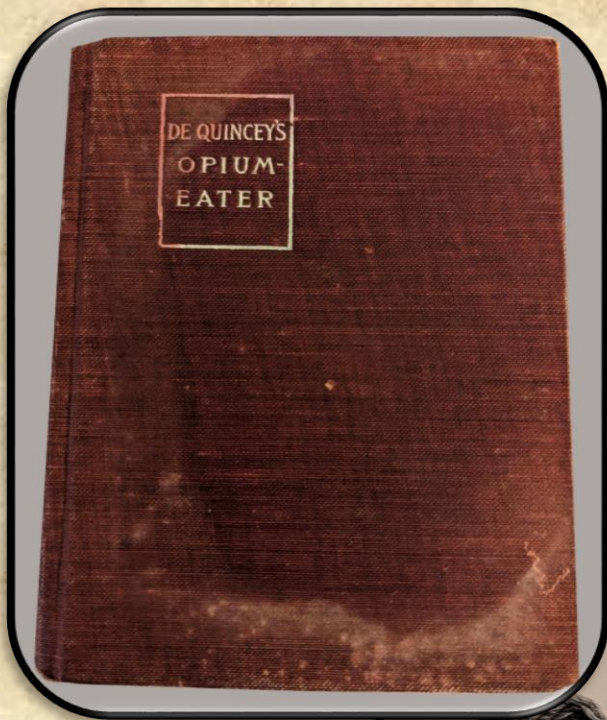
Adventure VIII – The Man with the Twisted Lip



Paul Churchill once quipped he had a hard time studying for Sherlockian quizzes, so inspired by Simon Goodenough's *A Study in Scarlet – A Sherlock Holmes Murder Dossier*, Paul began collecting Canonical artifacts around 1990 to help him remember each story. Over 1,500 artifacts later, Paul's 'Evidence Boxes' became legendary in the Sherlockian world as he displayed them at numerous Scion meetings.

What Paul could not find, he made. He became known as a master forger, and 'created' numerous 'genuine faux' objects, such as letters, documents, and telegrams. Paul was invested in the Baker Street Irregulars in 2006 as "Corot." After Paul's passing, the Evidence Boxes were bequeathed to Watson's Tin Box Scion Society, a Society Paul co-founded in 1989. Debbie Clark has maintained the Boxes and continues the practice of displaying the items from one of the Boxes at each society meeting.

Beth Austin assisted in this effort by photographing, annotating the items, and finding the quotes for many of the items, while Denny Dobry and Rusty Mason supported Paul's efforts by photographing each of the items, as well as developing a comprehensive inventory with notations of item's mentioned in the story. Each of the Boxes is posted with permission of Debbie Clark and Jacquelynn Morris.



Pictured is the book, *The Confessions of an English Opium-Eater*, by Thomas DeQuincey, an autobiographical account about his laudanum addiction and its effect on his life.

From the story:

The habit grew upon him... from some foolish freak when he was at college, for having read De Quincey's description of his dreams and sensations, he had drenched his tobacco with laudanum in an attempt to produce the same effects.

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Pictured is a recent business card, depicting a Neville St. Clair, who considers himself an intuitive consultant.



Pictured is the bottle of laudanum which Isa Whitney would use to soak his cigarettes in.

From the story:

...he had drenched his tobacco with laudanum in an attempt to produce the same effects...



Pictured is box of building bricks Mrs. St. Clair recognized in the upper floor of the Lascar's rooms. Mr. Neville was purchasing the blocks for their son.

From the story:

'Last Monday Mr Neville St Clair went into town rather earlier than usual, remarking before he started that he had two important commissions to perform, and that he would bring his little boy home a box of bricks.'



Pictured is a plate from the Aberdeen Steam Navigation Company. Mrs. Sinclair had a package awaiting her at the Aberdeen Shipping Company.

From the story:

‘...to the effect that a small parcel of considerable value which she had been expecting was waiting for her at the offices of the Aberdeen Shipping Company.’



Pictured is the cheque drawn from The Capitol & Counties Bank to the Toy Emporium, where Neville St. Clair purchased the child bricks for his son.

From the story:

‘Last Monday Mr Neville St Clair went into town rather earlier than usual, remarking before he started that he had two important commissions to perform, and that he would bring his little boy home a box of bricks.’

N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

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POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than $\frac{1}{2}$ d. being reckoned as $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and if it be found that there was any inaccuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Fresno St Post office, London

Charges
to pay

s. d.

KENT

Handed
in at

9304

Received
here at

942 A.M.

TO { *Mrs Neville St Clair*

*Small parcel of considerable value
awaiting you offices of Aberdeen Shipping
Company Fresno St City*

Pictured is the telegram sent to Mrs. St. Clair she had a package ready for pick up at the offices of the Aberdeen Shipping Company.

From the story:

'Now, by the merest chance his wife received a telegram upon this same Monday, very shortly after his departure, to the effect that a small parcel of considerable value which she had been expecting was waiting for her at the offices of the Aberdeen Shipping Company.'



Pictured is the hat Hugh Boone would set on the street for people to pitch pennies and halfpennies into.

From the story:

‘His boots, his socks, his hat, and his watch - all were there.’

‘Every pocket stuffed with pennies and halfpennies - four hundred and twenty-one pennies, and two hundred and seventy halfpennies.’

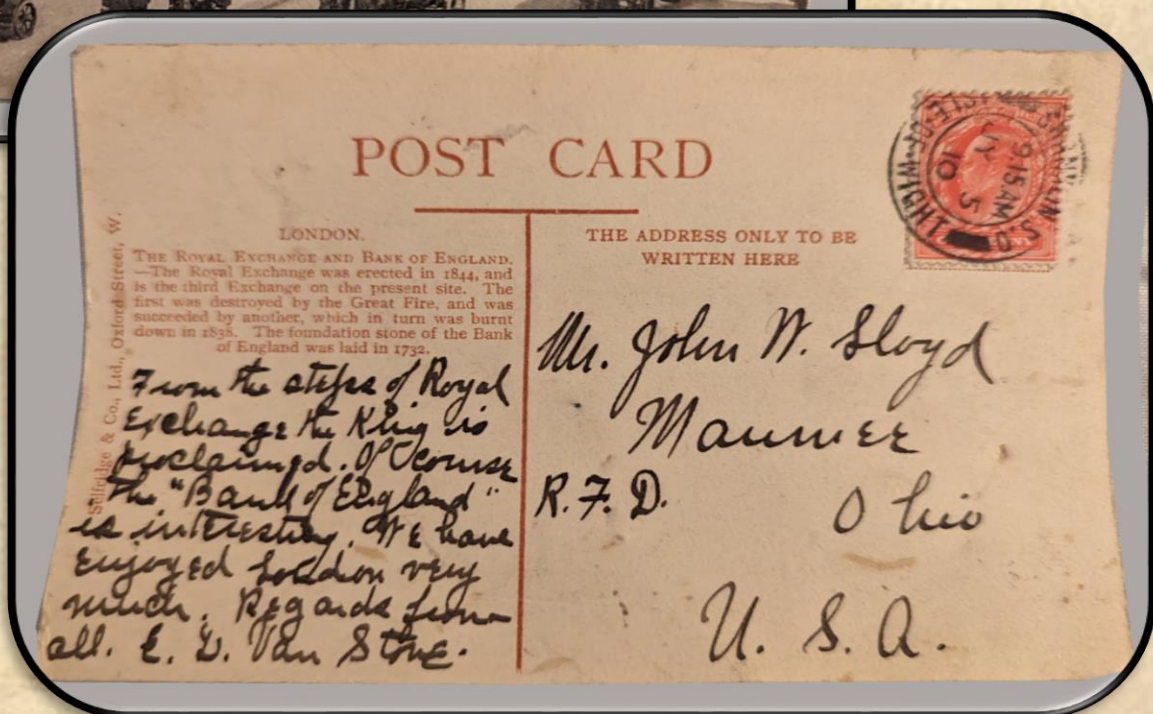


Pictured is a box of vestas sold by Hugh Boone to keep the police from arresting him for begging on the streets of London.

From the story:

‘He is a professional beggar, though in order to avoid the police regulations he pretends to a small trade in wax vestas.’

‘Here it is that the creature takes his daily seat, cross-legged, with his tiny stock of matches on his lap.’



Pictured is a postcard for The Royal Exchange Bank on Threadneedle Street in London, close to where Hugh Boone peddled his vestas for pennies each day.

From the story:

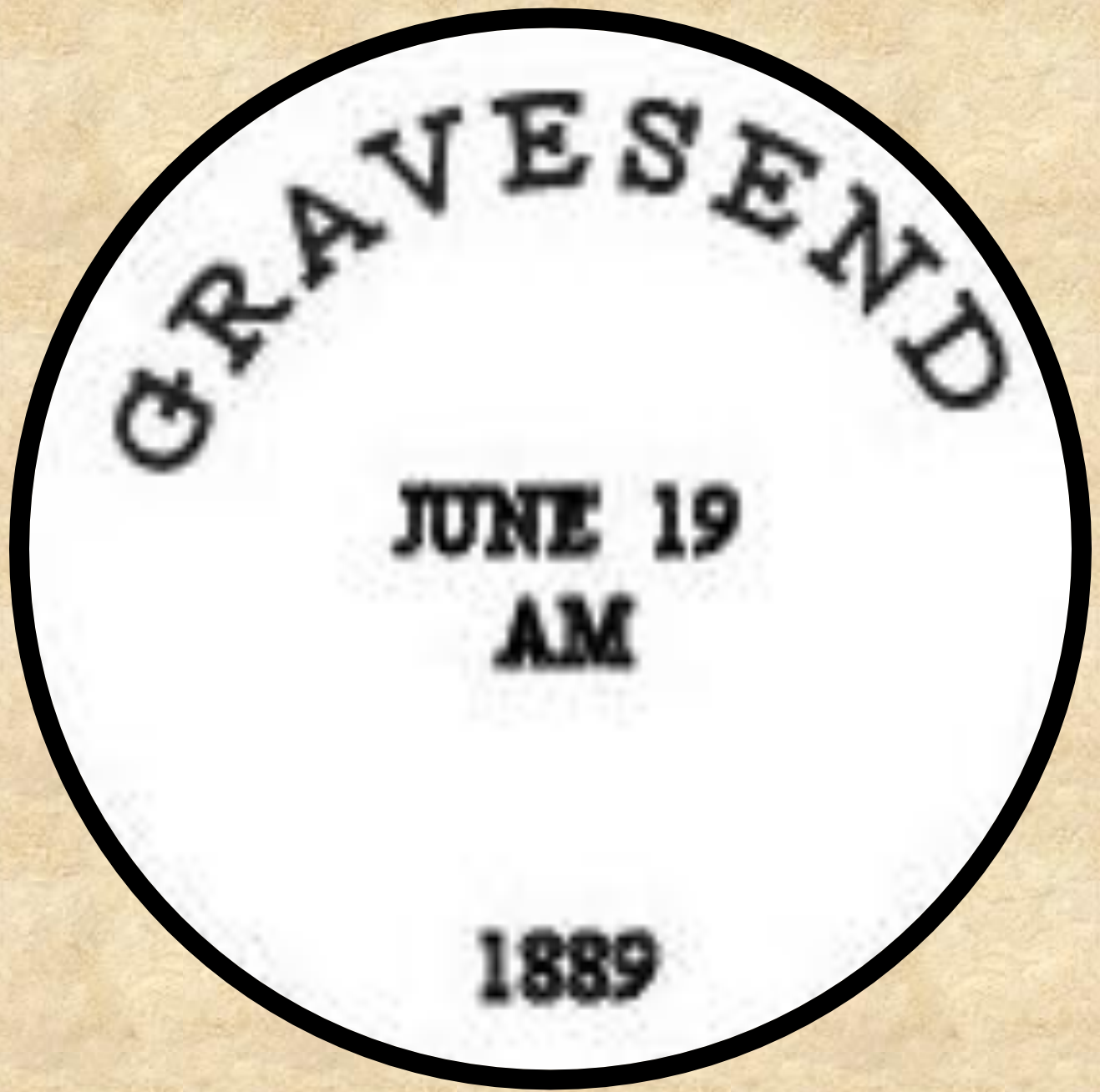
‘Some little distance down Threadneedle Street upon the left hand side there is, as you may have remarked, a small angle in the wall. Here it is that the creature takes his daily seat.’



Pictured is many of the pennies and half-pennies collected by Hugh Boone while begging on the streets of London.

From the story:

‘Every pocket stuffed with pennies and halfpennies - four hundred and twenty-one pennies, and two hundred and seventy halfpennies.’



Pictured is the postmark of Gravesend, on the letter send to Mrs. St. Clair from her husband. The postmark was for the day before.

From the story:

The envelope was a very coarse one, and was stamped with the Gravesend post-mark, and with the date of that very day, or rather of the day before, for it was considerably after midnight.



Pictured is the letter Neville St. Clair sent to his wife at The Cedars, indicating he was alright and that he would soon explain everything to her.

From the story:

‘Then perhaps, Mr Holmes, you will be good enough to explain how it is that I have received this letter from him today?’



Pictured is the signet ring which accompanied the letter sent to Mrs. St. Clair at The Cedars, purportedly from her husband, stating all was well and would be soon be resolved.

From the story:

‘Let us now see the letter! Ha! there has been an enclosure here!’

‘Yes, there was a ring. His signet ring.’



Pictured is the briar pipe Holmes brought with him to The Cedars, where the St. Clair's resided. Holmes would often smoke a pipe and tobacco while contemplating a case.

From the story:

In the dim light of the lamp, I saw him sitting there, an old briar pipe between his lips, his eyes fixed vacantly upon the corner of the ceiling...



Pictured is a container of black shag tobacco, similar to what Holmes would have smoked in his pipe while contemplating a case.

From the story:

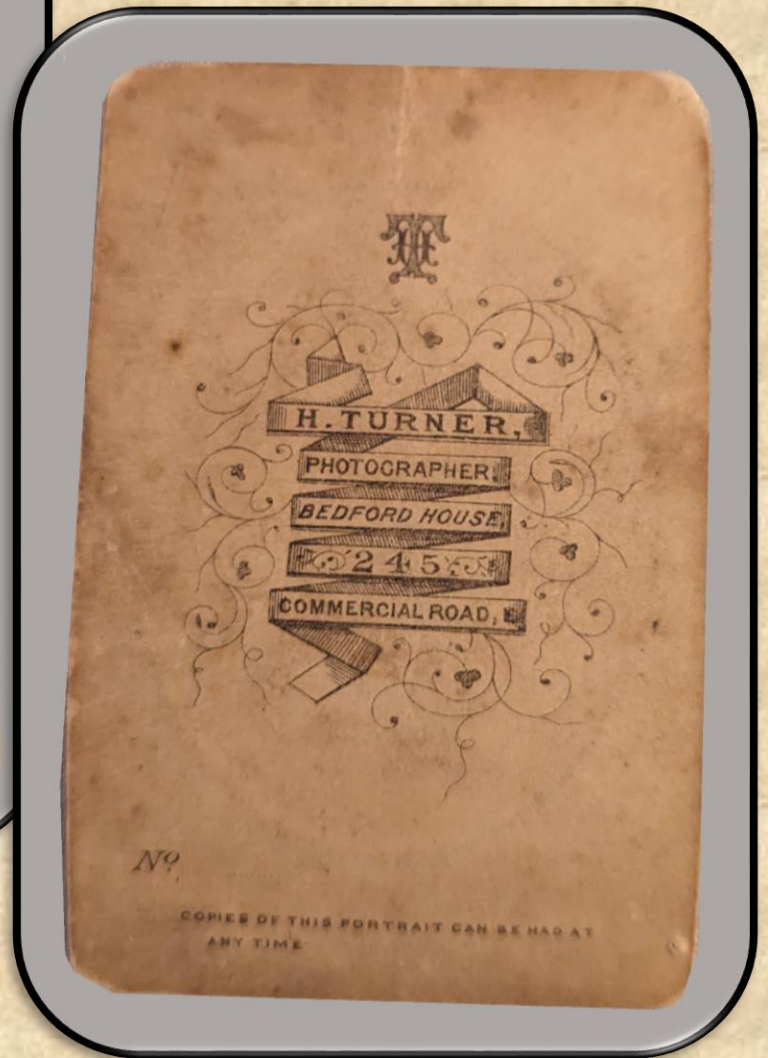
With these he constructed a sort of Eastern divan, upon which he perched himself cross-legged, with an ounce of shag tobacco.



Pictured is the bag and sponge Holmes brought to the jail to remove the disguise, made up of artist's make up, from St. Clair's face.

From the story:

He opened his Gladstone bag as he spoke, and took out, to my astonishment, a very large bath sponge.



Pictured is a young Neville St. Clair, soon after being employed as a newspaper reporter.

From the story:

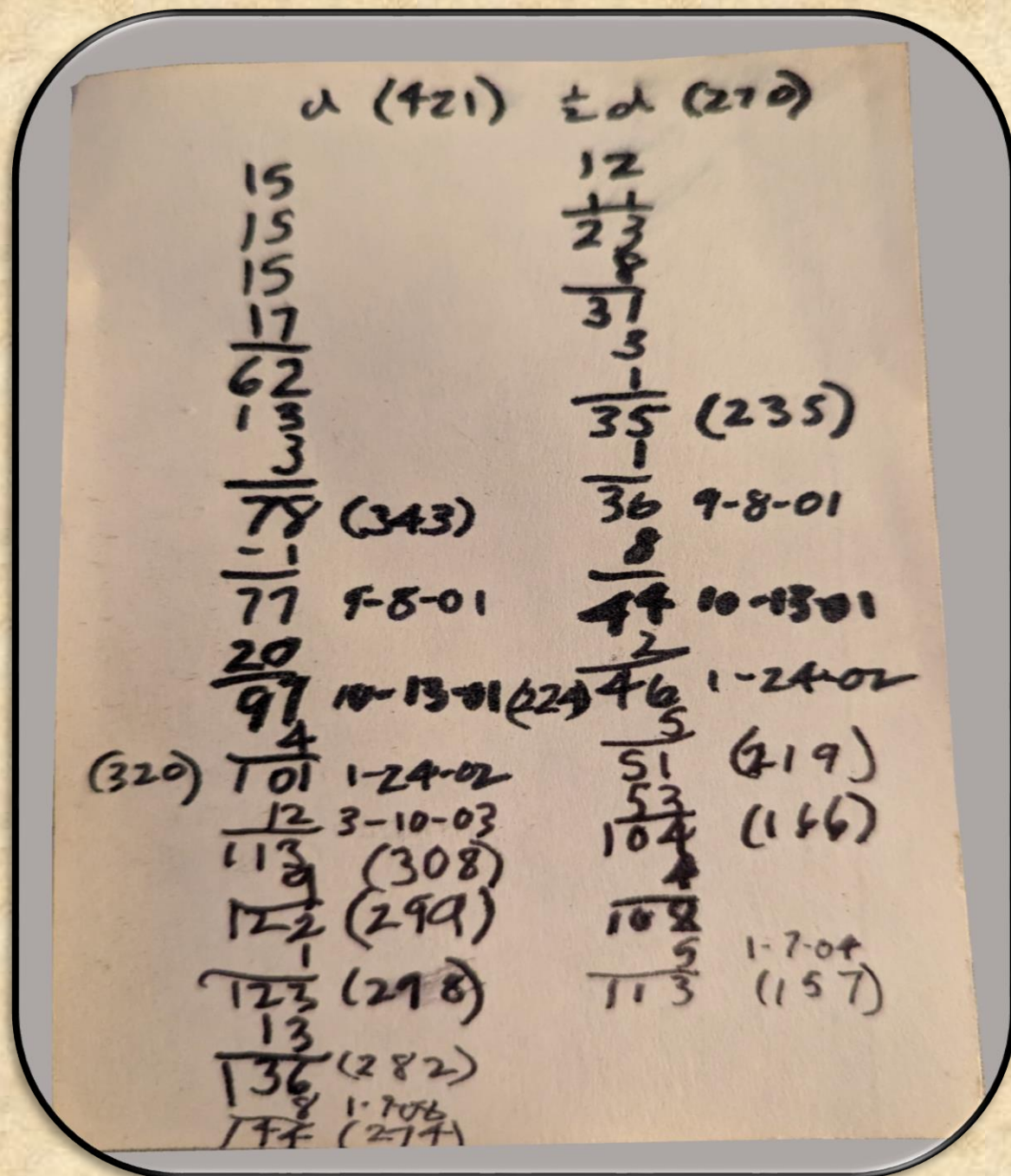
‘I travelled in my youth, took to the stage, and finally became a reporter on an evening paper in London.’



Pictured is the wig worn by Neville St. Clair, with along with makeup, allowed him to become the beggar, Hugh Boone.

From the story:

‘Swiftly I threw off my clothes, pulled on those of a beggar, and put on my pigments and wig. Even a wife's eyes could not pierce so complete a disguise.’



Pictured is tally sheet Hugh Boone used to keep a counting of the coins he acquired from begging each day.

From the story:

‘For seven hours I plied my trade, and when I returned home in the evening I found, to my surprise, that I had received no less than twenty-six shillings and fourpence.’

Additional items of interest
in “The Man with the
Twisted Lip” not included in
the original Evidence Box.



Pictured is a brazier, such as the type used as the opium den on Upper Swandam Lane. Watson does not recognize Holmes, in disguise, huddled under the brazier.

From the story:

At the further end was a small brazier of burning charcoal, beside which on a three-legged wooden stool there sat a tall, thin old man...

Mary,

I have encountered Holmes while delivering Isa home to his wife. He asked my assistance on a small matter. I shall return with details as soon as possible.

Adoringly,

John

Pictured is the note Holmes requested Watson sent to his wife, letting her know he would be assisting Holmes on a case temporarily.

From the story:

‘I should recommend you also to send a note by the cabman to your wife to say that you have thrown in your lot with me.’



Pictured is the pieces of plaster used by St. Clair to help disguise himself as a beggar with deformed features.

From the story:

‘I painted my face, and to make myself as pitiable as possible I made a good scar and fixed one side of my lip in a twist by the aid of a small slip of flesh-coloured plaster.’



Pictured is the newspaper, The Evening News, where St. Clair worked as a reporter. He was assigned to write a series on begging in London, which led to his taking on the role as a beggar.

From the story:
'I travelled in my youth, took to the stage, and finally became a reporter on an evening paper in London. One day my editor wished to have a series of articles upon begging in the metropolis, and I volunteered to supply them.'