

Adventure XII – The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor



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 family crest of the St. Simon's.

From the story:

...I tossed them all aside and lay listless, watching the huge crest and monogram upon the envelope upon the table.

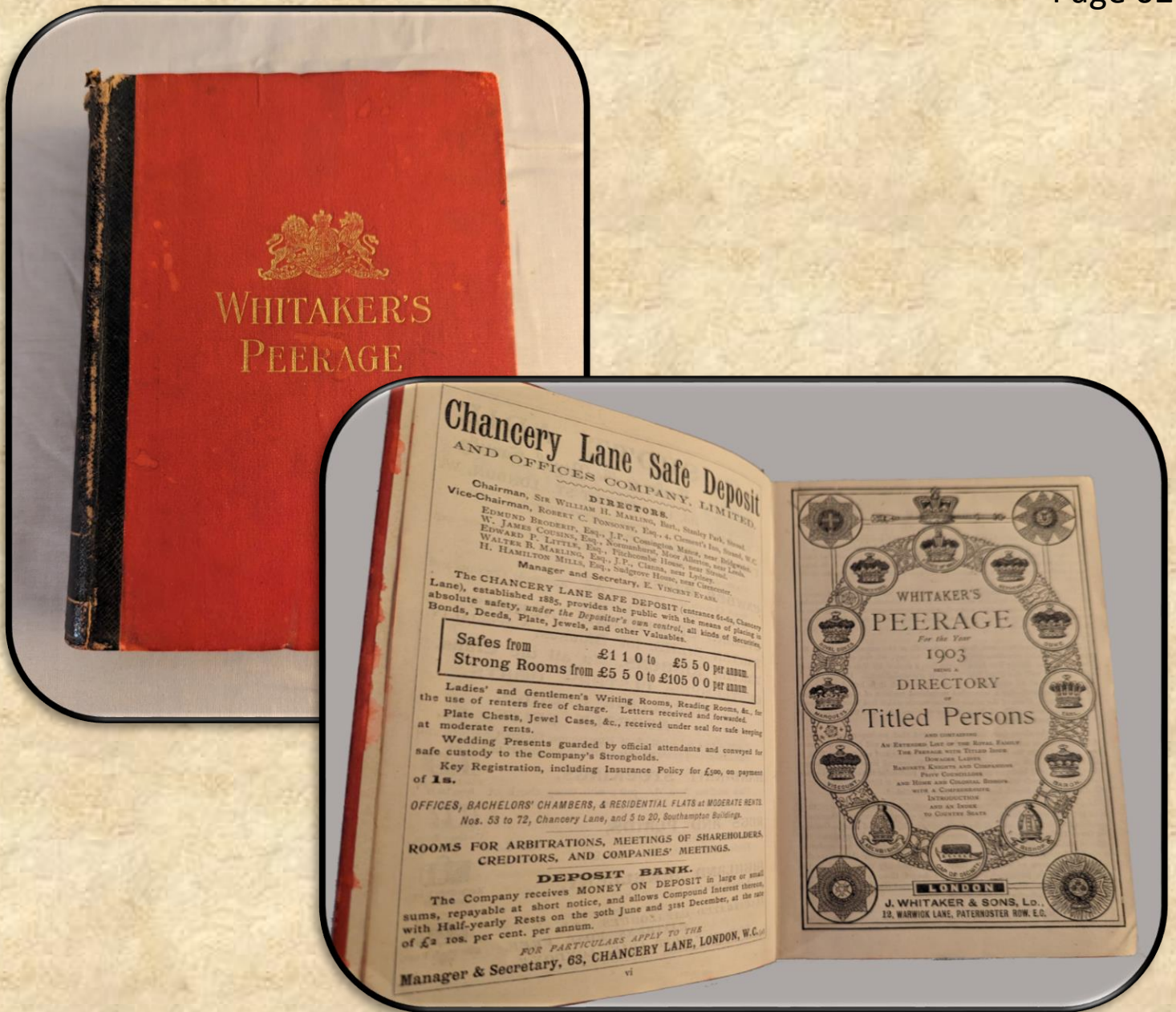


Pictured is the note and envelope delivered to Sherlock Holmes, asking his assistance to determine the fate of St. Simon's missing wife.

From the story:

I tossed them all aside and lay listless, watching the huge crest and monogram upon the envelope upon the table, and wondering lazily who my friend's noble correspondent could be.

‘The letter which I hold in my hand is from Lord St Simon.’



Pictured is Whitaker's Peerage of the Realm, a red-covered volume, an index of the peers of the United Kingdom. Holmes refers to it to learn more about the St. Simon family.

From the story:

He picked a red-covered volume from a line of books of reference beside the mantelpiece. 'Here he is,' said he, sitting down and flattening it out upon his knee.

EXPANDING THE BRITISH PEERAGE

There will soon be a call for protection in the marriage market, for the present free-trade principal appears to tell heavily against our home product. One by one the management of the noble houses of Great Britain is passing into the hands of our fair cousins from across the Atlantic. An important addition has been made during the last week to the list of the prizes which has been borne away by these charming invaders. Lord St. Simon, who has shown himself for over twenty years proof against the little gods arrows, has now definitely announced his approaching marriage with Miss Hatty Doran, the fascinating daughter of a California millionaire. Miss Doran, whose graceful figure and striking face attracted much attention at the Westbury House festivities, is an only child, and it is currently reported that her dowry will run to considerably more than six figures, with expectancies for the future. As it is an open secret that the Duke of Balmoral has been compelled to sell his pictures within the last few years, and as Lord St. Simon has no property of his own save the estate of Birchmoor, it is obvious that the California heiress is not the only gainer by an alliance which will enable her to make the easy and common transition from a republican lady to a British neeress.

Pictured is the article in a local London newspaper, Society page, bemoaning the number of eligible English bachelors marrying women from the United States.

From the story:

‘There was a paragraph amplifying this in one of the society papers of the same week. Ah, here it is.’

ing Post

27 September 18

DOVER.—DIVER'S CASTLE HOTEL, on the Quay, near both railway stations and Admiralty Pier, whence boats depart. Views of sea, Castle, and cliffs. Coffee and reading room. Terms moderate. Best attention. Night porter. Wire or write.

HOTEL BURLINGTON in DOVER BAY.

SATURDAY to MONDAY, £2 2s.

Including rail and hotel accommodation. Available for one journey on Saturdays and Mondays only by any train.

COUPONS may be obtained through Messrs. THOMAS COOK and SONS and their Branch Office; Chief Offices, Ludgate-circus, London; also on application to the Manager, Hotel Burlington, Dover.

INCLUSIVE TERMS: One week from £3 10s.,

According to position of rooms. The Hotel is situated opposite the Promenade Pier, where Military Bands Perform regularly. The prettiest illuminated sea front on the coast. General Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Tilbury arrive within 50 yards of the Hotel. Burlington String Band every night in the lounge.

EASTBOURNE.—ALEXANDER HOTEL, facing sea, close to Devonshire-park and baths. Unexceptionable cuisine. Choice vintage wines. Home comforts. Sanitary certificate.—M. E. Harrison, Proprietress. Telephone 132.

ILFRACOMBE.—ILFRACOMBE HOTEL.—Famous for its high-class cuisine and general comfort. The principal and only hotel on the seashore. An ideal position. 250 rooms. Grounds five acres. Tennis, croquet. Splendid swimming bath. Elegant lounge hall. Passenger lift. Moderate tariff. Terms en pension.—H. R. GROVE, Manager.

WEDDING — A MARRIAGE
has been arranged and will, if rumour is correct, very shortly take place, between Lord Robert St. Simon, second son of the Duke of Balmoral, and Miss Hatty Doran, the only daughter of Aloysius Doran, Esq. of San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

DINNER at THAMES HOTEL—Bands Perform regularly. The prettiest illuminated sea front on the coast. General Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Tilbury arrive within 50 yards of the Hotel. Burlington String Band every night in the lounge.

ST. BAR

The WINTER

ber, 1898.
Students can re-
ject to the coll-
The Hospital
Prizes of the ag-
The Medical
appointed labora-
rooms, museum.
A large recreat-
to members of th-
For further par-
of the College, Se-
A Handbook for

THE L

The WINTER
The Annual D-
day, Oct. 3, Mr.
The Hospital i-

constant use, an
pital for East Lo-
dice is immense,
accidents, 14,781

APPOINTME
more appointme-
than at any of
made annually,
appointed every
holders of resid-

SCHOLARSH
Prizes are given
will be offered in
SPECIAL CL

other higher Edu-
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lent opportunities

A reduction of
profession.

ENLARGEME
rooms, rec-reat-
Biology, &c., with
The Clubs U-

Hospital.
Luncheons
the Students
The Met-

WEDDING — A MARRIAGE
has been arranged and will, if rumour is correct, very shortly take place, between Lord Robert St. Simon, second son of the Duke of Balmoral, and Miss Hatty Doran, the only daughter of Aloysius Doran, Esq. of San Francisco, Cal., U.S.A.

Pictured is the notice, posted in the Morning Post, announcing the upcoming marriage between Lord Robert St. Simon and Hatty Doran.

From the story:

‘Here is the first notice which I can find. It is in the personal column of the *Morning Post*, and dates, as you see, some weeks back.’



Pictured is Flora Millar, a stranger who tried to enter the wedding ceremony without an invitation. Lestrade ultimately arrested her for the disappearance of Hatty Doran.

From the story:

‘That Miss Flora Millar, the lady who had caused the disturbance, has actually been arrested. It appears that she was formerly a danseuse at the Allegro, and that she had known the bridegroom for some years.’



Pictured is the locket which St. Simon produced. An ivory miniature of Hatty Doran was inside the locket.

From the story:

‘Have you her photograph?’

‘I brought this with me.’ He opened a locket, and showed us the full face of a very lovely woman. It was not a photograph, but an ivory miniature.



Pictured is the black canvas bag in which Hatty Doran's wedding dress, shoes, and veil were found floating in the Serpentine, a 40-acre lake in Hyde Park.

From the story:

'Oh, indeed! Then you think that the Serpentine plays no part in the matter?'

'I think it very unlikely.'

'Then perhaps you will kindly explain how it is that we found this in it?' He opened his bag as he spoke, and tumbled on to the floor a wedding dress of watered silk, a pair of white satin shoes, and a bride's wreath and veil, all discoloured and soaked in water.



Pictured is a garter, the wedding ring, and the bouquet stored in the black canvas bag and found floating in the Serpentine Lake.

From the story:

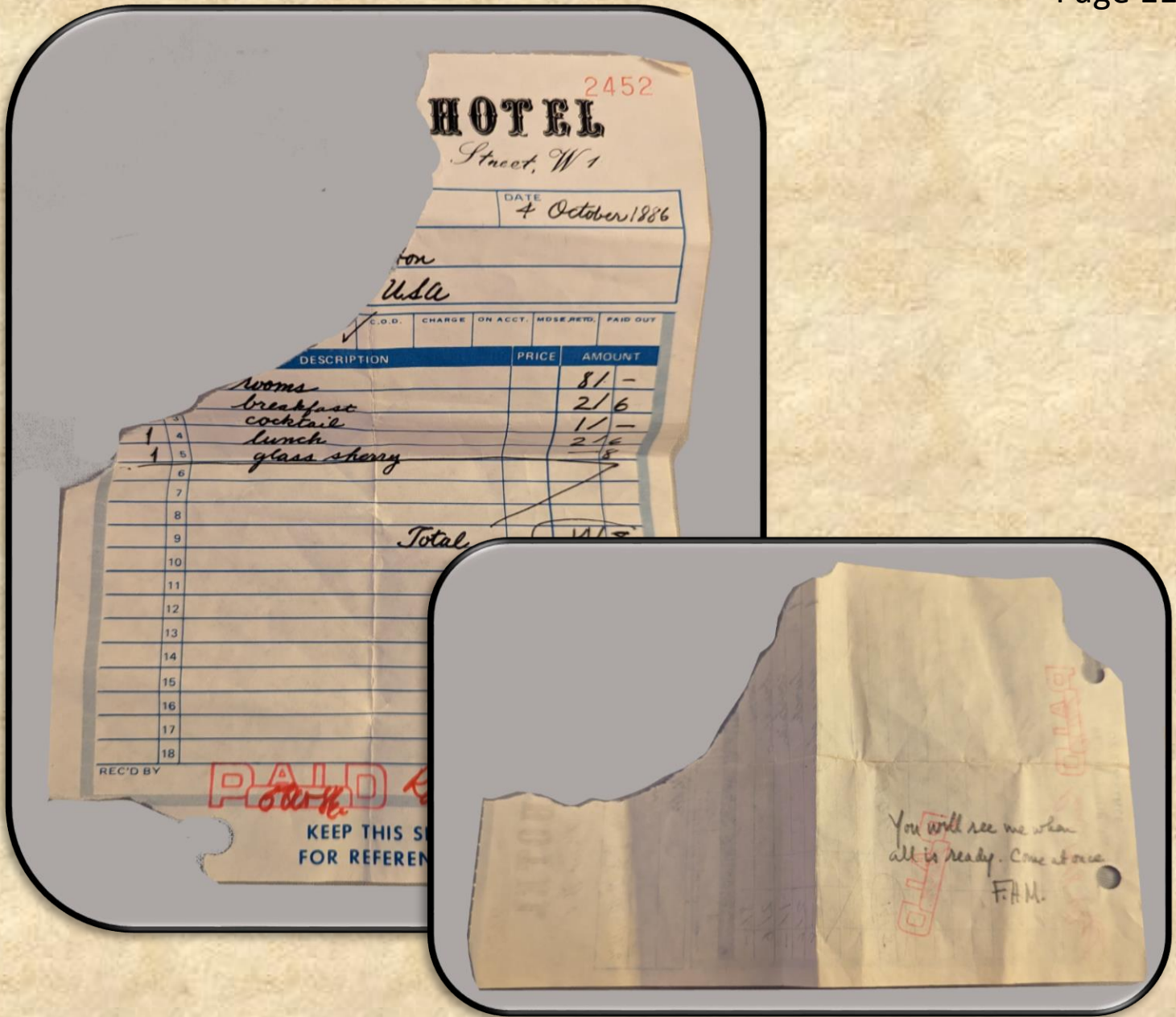
He opened his bag as he spoke, and tumbled on to the floor a wedding dress of watered silk, a pair of white satin shoes, and a bride's wreath and veil, all discoloured and soaked in water. 'There,' said he, putting a new wedding-ring upon the top of the pile.



Pictured is the card case and note that was found in the wedding dress, which the police found floating in the Serpentine Lake.

From the story:

‘In the dress is a pocket. In the pocket is a card-case. In the card-case is a note. And here is the very note.’ He slapped it down upon the table in front of him ‘Listen to this. You will see me when all is ready. Come at once, F.H.M.’



Pictured is the note found in the card case in the wedding dress. The front of the note was a receipt to a hotel in London, on Northumberland Avenue.

From the story:
 'And here is the very note.' He slapped it down upon the table in front of him 'Listen to this. You will see me when all is ready. Come at once, F.H.M.'



Pictured is a postcard of the fountain at Trafalgar Square, a public square in the City of Westminster. The square's name commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar.

From the story:

Sherlock Holmes leaned back in his chair and laughed heartily.

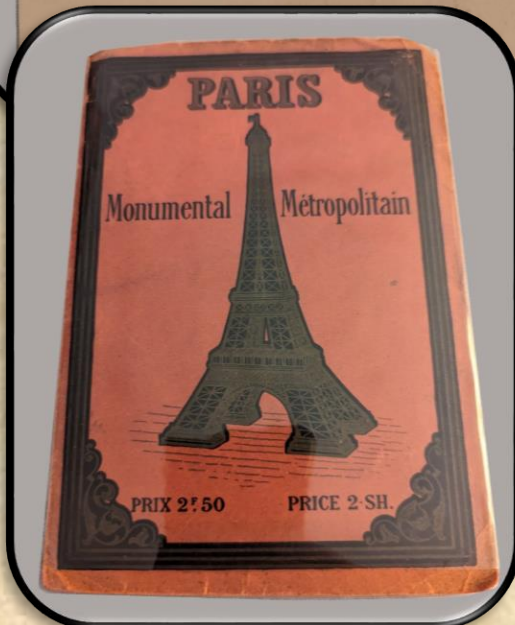
‘Have you dragged the basin of the Trafalgar Square fountain?’ he asked.



Pictured is the set of scales Francis Moulton would use during his days as a gold prospector. The scales would confirm to the prospector how much gold they had collected at one time.

From the story:

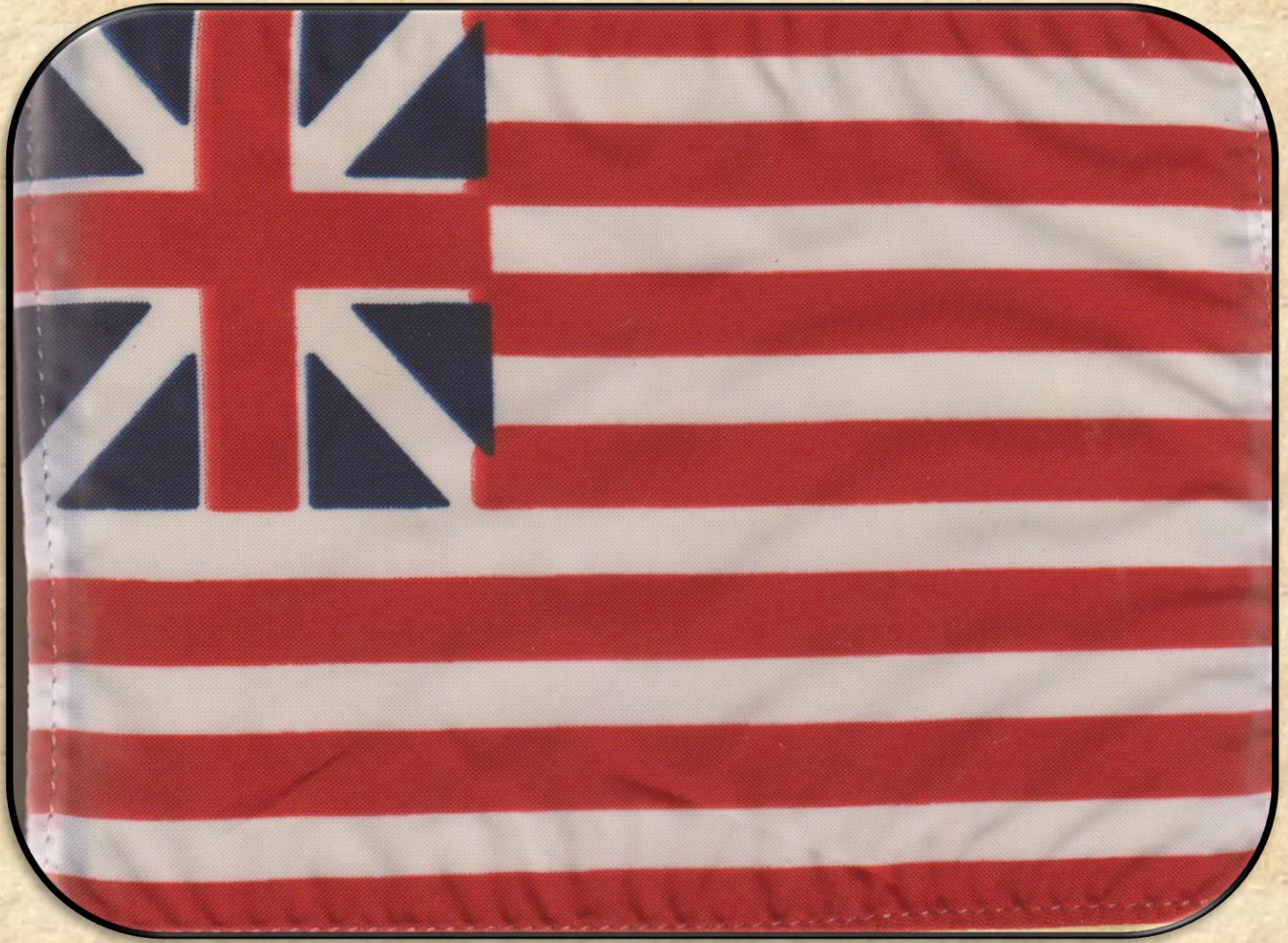
‘The next that I heard of Frank was that he was in Montana, and then he went prospecting into Arizona, and then I heard of him from New Mexico.’



Pictured is a map of the city of Paris, noting monuments and museums, as well as a postcard of Paris. Hatty and Frank had considered escaping to Paris after running from the wedding.

From the story:

‘It is likely that we should have gone on to Paris to-morrow, only that this good gentleman, Mr Holmes, came round to us this evening.’



Pictured is the Union Jack, the flag of the United Kingdom. Holmes postulated the United Kingdom and the United States joining under one flag.

From the story:

‘...for I am one of those who believe that the folly of a monarch and the blundering of a Minister in far gone years will not prevent our children from being some day citizens of the same world-wide country under a flag which shall be a quartering of the Union Jack with the Stars and Stripes.’

Additional items of interest
in “The Adventure of the
Noble Bachelor” not
included in the original
Evidence Box.



Pictured is a post card of St. George's Church, located in Hanover Square, where the marriage between Lord St. Simon and Hatty Doran was conducted.

From the story:

‘Then there is another note in the *Morning Post* to say that the marriage would be an absolutely quiet one, that it would be at St George's, Hanover Square.’



Pictured is the sideboard in Holmes and Watson's lodging at Baker Street. Normally, a tantalus and gasogene would be found placed on the sideboard, as well as the location Mrs. Hudson would place food items.

From the story:

'Good afternoon, Lestrade! You will find an extra tumbler upon the sideboard, and there are cigars in the box.'



Pictured is the pâté de foie gras pie, which Holmes had delivered to Baker Street as part of the supper for their late evening guests, Hatty Doran and Frank Moulton.

From the story:

There were a couple of brace of cold woodcock, a pheasant, a pâté de foie gras pie, with a group of ancient and cobwebby bottles.