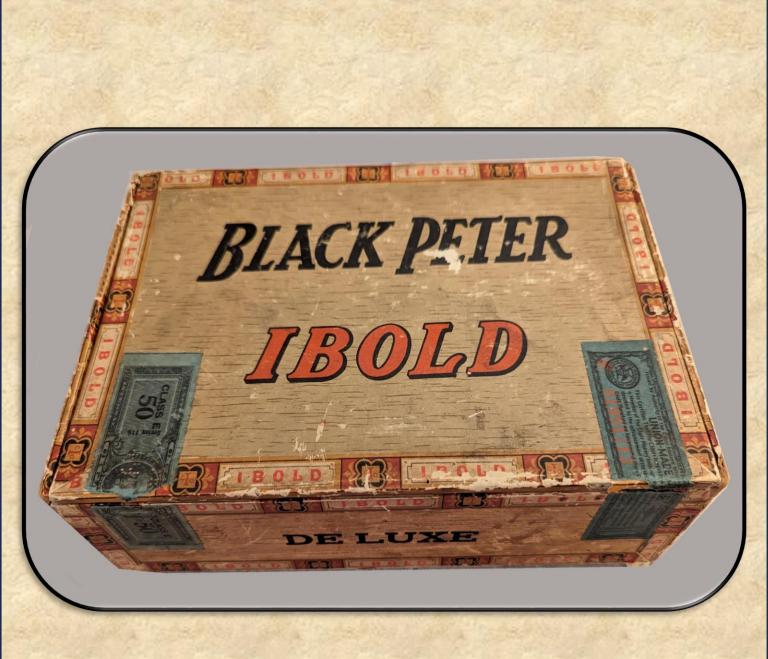
# **Adventure XXXIII – The Adventure of Black Peter**



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 cofounded 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 a box of cigars, the brand named after Black Peter.

dec. 31. 1874. Jel, 4,

Pictured is the photo of Cardinal Tosca, who mysteriously disappeared. Holmes investigated the death on behalf of the Vatican.

#### From the story:

In this memorable year '95 a curious and incongruous succession of cases had engaged his attention, ranging from his famous investigation of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca - an inquiry which was carried out by him at the express desire of his Holiness the Pope.



Pictured is a Pope Leo XIII portrait, stereo card and cigarette card, the gentleman who asked for Holmes assistance in the murder investigation of Cardinal Tosca.

## From the story:

...ranging from his famous investigation of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca - an inquiry which was carried out by him at the express desire of his Holiness the Pope.



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

FIRST SECTION - GENERAL AFFAIRS

N. 5.221

From the Vatican, 28 July 1895

His Holiness Pope Leo XIII gratefully acknowledges the kind assistance rendered by you, Mr. Sherlock Holmes, in investigating the sudden death of our beloved brother, Giuseppe Cardinal Tosca.

As a token of his esteem His Holiness imparts his Apostolic Blessing and invokes the grace and peace of the Risen Lord upon all your good works and services to God and humanity.

> Count Mariano Cardinal Rampolla del Tindaro Secretary of State

Pictured is a letter from the Pope, thanking Holmes for his work on the murder of Cardinal Tosca.

#### From the story:

...ranging from his famous investigation of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca - an inquiry which was carried out by him at the express desire of his Holiness the Pope.



Pictured is a papal blessing, issued by Pope Leo XIII to Sherlock Holmes for his help in the death investigation of Cardinal Tosca.

# From the story:

...ranging from his famous investigation of the sudden death of Cardinal Tosca - an inquiry which was carried out by him at the express desire of his Holiness the Pope.

LARDY Dat M NWI ACCOUNT 17 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 our account stated to date. If error is found

Pictured is receipt from the butcher shop where Holmes experimented on a pig with a harpoon.

## From the story:

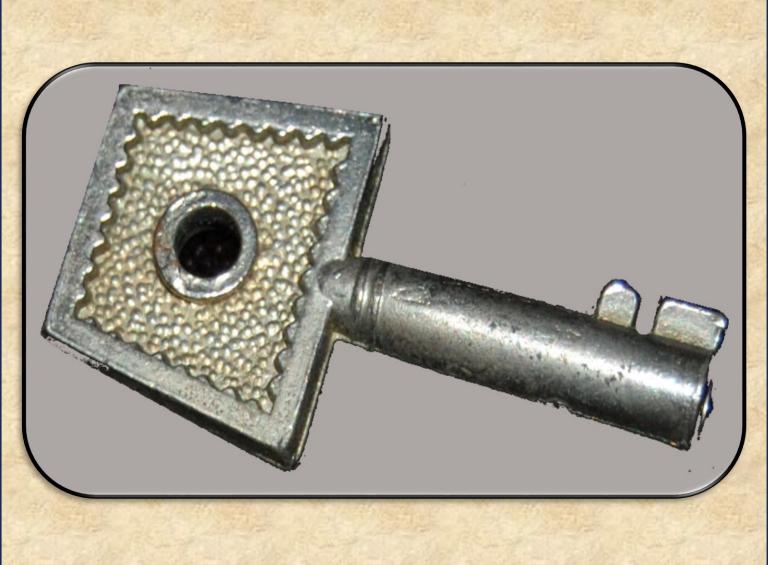
'If you could have looked into Allardyce's back shop you would have seen a dead pig swung from a hook in the ceiling, and a gentleman in his shirt-sleeves furiously stabbing at it with this weapon.'

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Pictured is the telegram from Inspector Hopkins to Holmes asking for his assistance in the murder of Peter Carey.

From the story:

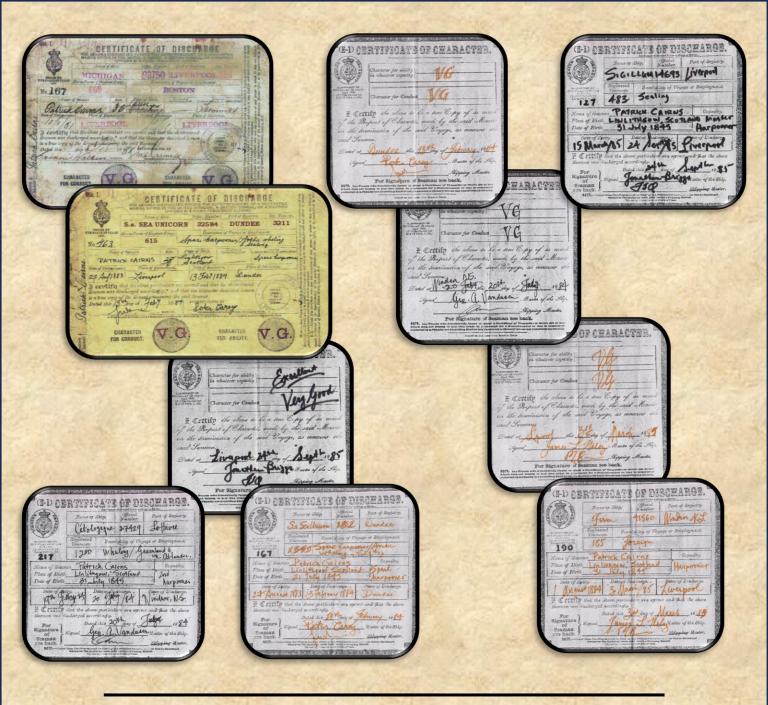
'Ah, Hopkins, I got your wire last night, and I have been expecting you. Come and join us.'



Pictured is the key to Peter Carey's cabin, which he kept in his own pocket. Hopkins used it to unlock the door for Holmes to examine the cabin.

#### From the story:

'It was a little, single-roomed hut, sixteen feet by ten. He kept the key in his pocket, made his own bed, cleaned it himself, and allowed no other foot to cross the threshold.'



Pictured are the discharge certificates earned by Peter Carey after successful voyages throughout his career. The certificate would also provide a summary of the seaman's character.

#### From the story:

'In 1883 he commanded the steam sealer Sea Unicorn, of Dundee. He had then had several successful voyages in succession, and in the following year, 1884, he retired.'



Pictured are the bottle of rum and cups from Peter Carey's cabin.

#### From the story:

'The fact that the crime was committed at two in the morning, and yet Peter Carey was fully dressed, suggested that he had an appointment with the murderer, which is borne out by the fact that a bottle of rum and two dirty glasses stood upon the table.'



Pictured is the seal-skin tobacco pouch found in Peter Carey's cabin, with the initials 'P.C' inside the flap.

From the story:

'There was this tobacco-pouch upon the table.'

'What part of the table?'

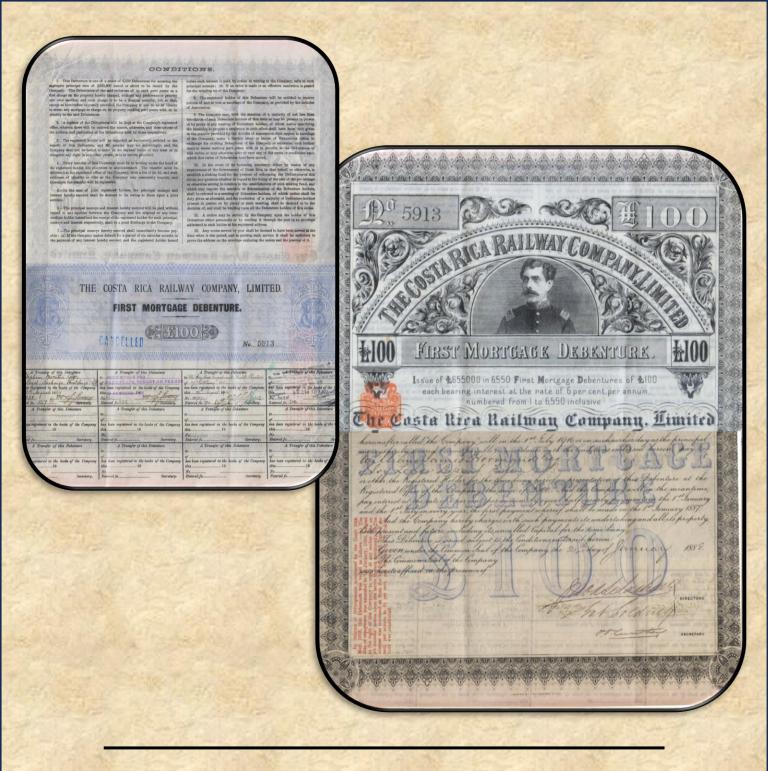
'It lay in the middle. It was of coarse sealskin - the straight-haired skin, with a leather thong to bind it. Inside was 'PC' on the flap.'

8.78.n C.P.R. By a S.V Co chi Jan 26 Lo cash mach 11 Feb. 10 do mach 11 Ce. S. Y Co die ly 1 cash do april 6 Bet 8 do Lee. 22 . 0 do del. . 31 do do Bel- S. do do de do nov 16 Be.23 do do L 157.10 3

Pictured is Neligan's notebook with 'C.P.R. as one of the listings.

From the story:

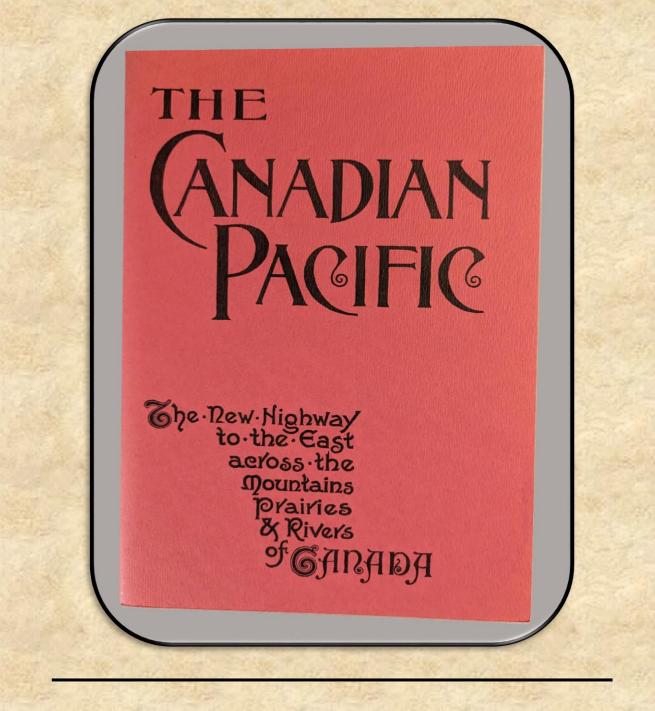
Stanley Hopkins drew from his pocket a drab-covered note-book. The outside was rough and worn, the leaves were discoloured. On the second page were printed the letters 'CPR', and then came several sheets of numbers.



Pictured are shares of stock from Costa Rica, one of the exchanges listed in Neligan's notebook.

From the story:

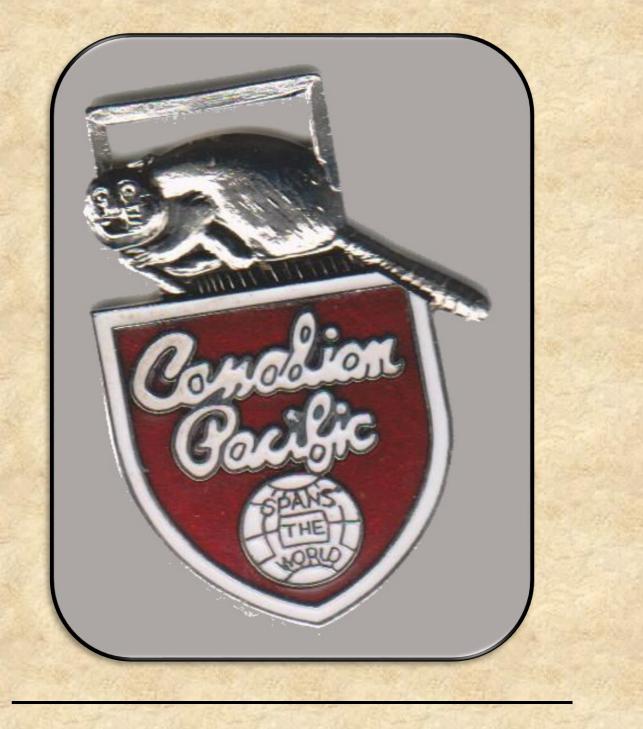
Another heading was Argentine, another Costa Rica, and another San Paulo, each with pages of signs and figures after it.



Pictured is a book on the history of the Canadian Pacific Railway, published in 1887. Stocks of this company were part of the stolen issues from Neligan.

## From the story:

'They appear to be lists of Stock Exchange securities. I thought that 'JHN' were the initials of a broker, and that 'CPR' may have been his client.' 'Try Canadian Pacific Railway,' said Holmes.



Pictured is a Canadian Pacific Keychain. Nelligan's notebook showed a CPR transaction.

## From the story:

'They appear to be lists of Stock Exchange securities. I thought that 'JHN' were the initials of a broker, and that 'CPR' may have been his client.' 'Try Canadian Pacific Railway,' said Holmes.



Pictured are stocks for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Stocks of this company were part of the stolen issues from Neligan.

## From the story:

'They appear to be lists of Stock Exchange securities. I thought that 'JHN' were the initials of a broker, and that 'CPR' may have been his client.' 'Try Canadian Pacific Railway,' said Holmes.



Pictured is the small pen-knife Neligan used to attempt to enter Peter Carey's cabin.

## From the story:

'It is very probable. He came expecting to find the door open. He tried to get in with the blade of a very small penknife. He could not manage it. What would he do?'



Pictured is the box in which Peter Carey kept his logbook, as well as his knife, rum, and cups. The box was originally a tobacco box.

## From the story:

'I read at the inquest a description of his cabin, in which it stated that the old log-books of his vessel were preserved in it.'

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Pictured is the receipt from the Brambletye Hotel where Holmes and Watson roomed while investigating Black Peter's death.

## From the story:

'Rooms have been reserved for you at the Brambletye Hotel, so we can walk down to the village together.'



Pictured are postal cards for the Canadian Pacific, possibly part of the C.P.R., and the Sea Unicorn of Alendee.

From the story: 'Try Canadian Pacific Railway,' said Holmes. ' on board the Sea Unicorn I might settle th

'...on board the Sea Unicorn, I might settle the mystery of my father's fate.'

No. of Milesago POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHIS. (Inland Telegrams.) 214 Words ice of Origin and Service Justructions. 10 10.15 Wignore to this Charge Receipt for the Cherger on this " Please Write Distinctly FROM Sumner, Shipping Agen CAptain 50 Retcliff Highway, 40 221 B BakerSt London NW 1 SEND THREE To MEN ON ARRIVE TEN TO-MORROW MORNING -BASIL 3/-1/2 BALANCE OF PORTERAC 1/5 This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1868 and to the Notice printed at the back hereof. HARRISON & SONG. SPH

Pictured is the telegram Captain Basil (Holmes) sent out seeking seamen to serve on an exploring ship.

#### From the story:

'Have you telegraph forms? Just write a couple of messages for me: 'Sumner, Shipping Agent, Ratcliff Highway. Send three men on, to arrive ten to-morrow morning. - Basil.' That's my name in those parts.'

No. of Micenage POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHIS. 215 (Inland Telegrams.) Office of Origin and Service Lustructional Words Sont 13 NISmore Charge A Receipt for the Charges on this "cis Please Write Dist FROM Septain Basil Sherlock Homes In Spector Stanley % ZZIB BekerSt ord Street Brixto London NWI COME BREAKFAST AT NINE-THIR TO-MORROW IMPORTANT. WIRE UNABLE TO IF 1/-COME SHERLOCK HOLMES 1/0 BALANCE OF PORTERACE 1/6 This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, and to the Notice printed at the back hereof. IMARRISON & BONS. PRINTERS

Pictured is the telegram Holmes sent to Inspector Hopkins inviting him to Baker Street when Holmes expected to capture the murderer.

#### From the story:

'Have you telegraph forms? Just write a couple of messages for me... The other is 'Inspector Stanley Hopkins, 46, Lord Street, Brixton. Come breakfast to-morrow at nine-thirty. Important. Wire if unable to come. -Sherlock Holmes.'



Pictured is the half sovereign Holmes paid to Lancaster and Pattin for applying to serve on the fake exploring ship.

From the story:

'I am sorry, Lancaster, but the berth is full. Here is half a sovereign for your trouble. Just step into this room and wait there for a few minutes.' The second man was a long, dried-up creature, with lank hair and sallow cheeks. He also received his dismissal, his half-sovereign, and the order to wait.

Arctic Explorations A DIVISION OF BASIL ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED Latrick Cairns, do hereby agree to serve well and faithfully aboard the ship \_ Boreas bound for the Arctic bride under the master \_ Cuptain R. Dasil I shall serve in the capacity of Master Harpooner and will obey the lawful commands of the Ship's Master and his Mates. For my services I shall receive from the Paymaster the sum of  $\pounds$   $\mathcal{S}: \mathcal{O}: \mathcal{O}$  per month for the duration of the voyage. By my signature or mark I certify that I am in good health, possess all of my faculties, and know of no impediment why I may not be able to fulfill my duties to the Master, his Mates, the Crew, and Company. Sworn before Almighty God this <u>5th</u> day of <u>July</u>, in the Year of Our Lord 18<u>95</u>, in the presence of these witnesses, I hereunto set my legal signature or mark. (Signature of Able Seaman, Company Representati

Pictured is the phony contract, or agreement, Captain Basil (Sherlock Holmes) executed with Patrick Cairnes.

From the story:

'Here's the agreement on the side-table. If you sign it the whole matter will be settled.'



Pictured are the handcuffs applied by Holmes to Patrick Cairns as he was signing the agreement to serve on the exploring ship.

## From the story:

I heard a click of steel and a bellow like an enraged bull. The next instant Holmes and the seaman were rolling on the ground together. He was a man of such gigantic strength that, even with the handcuffs which Holmes had so deftly fastened upon his wrist...

Pictured is Black Peter's knife which was found in his cabin.

From the story:

'I knew Black Peter, and when he pulled out his knife I whipped a harpoon through him sharp, for I knew that it was him or me.' MacPherson & Hamish, Shipping Dundee, Scotland

July 4 th

mr. Atohnes.

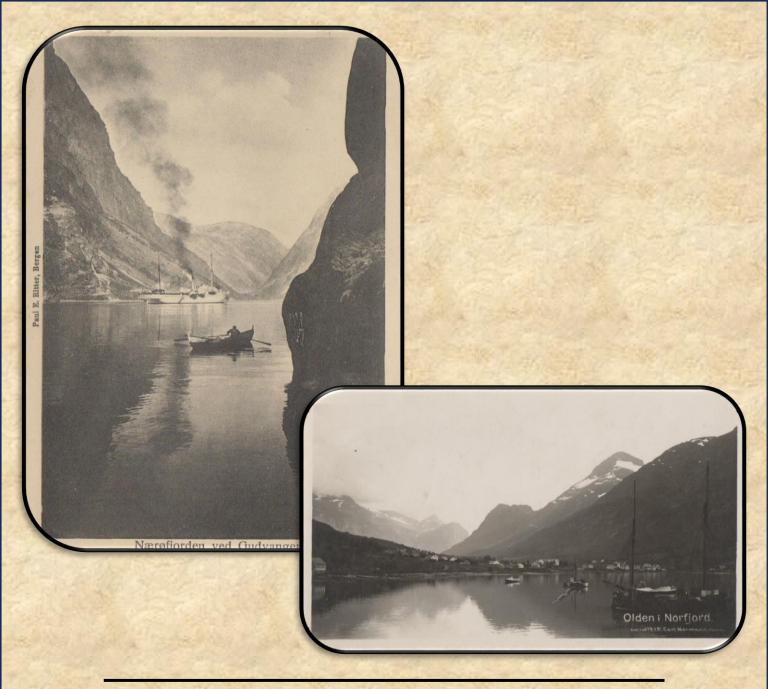
mus unre as new of our Sea Unicon in 1803 ner about whom you en no longer employed by our ave contacted this former crew makes, what alof we could lockte on puch short notice. dive to the little information has moved to Englin a railor man who met Cairos was asked of the where bouts of our former Ship's menter Peter Cury. That filos fold Cairno he had met him in Landon and had been told by Carey that Concernow hired in Woodsmoin Les, Sussex. you may be Ame Kow in and extres in flat Cain ris to be This is the Conden or in Sussex. latest information we have. In the absence of further organics from shall assume the matter is ch wich you success in your endeavours and if we can be of further as med but a

Mr. Sherlock Holmer 221B Baker Street London NW1

Pictured is the letter from Dundee responding to Holmes inquiry of the whereabouts of Patrick Cairns.

## From the story:

'I spent three days in wiring to Dundee, and at the end of that time I had ascertained the names of the crew of the Sea Unicorn in 1883. When I found Patrick Cairns among the harpooners my research was nearing its end.'



Pictured are postal cards from Norway, which was Senior Nelligan's intended destination, and that of Holmes and Watson after the conclusion of the case.

From the story:

'He started in his little yacht for Norway just before the warrant was issued for his arrest.'

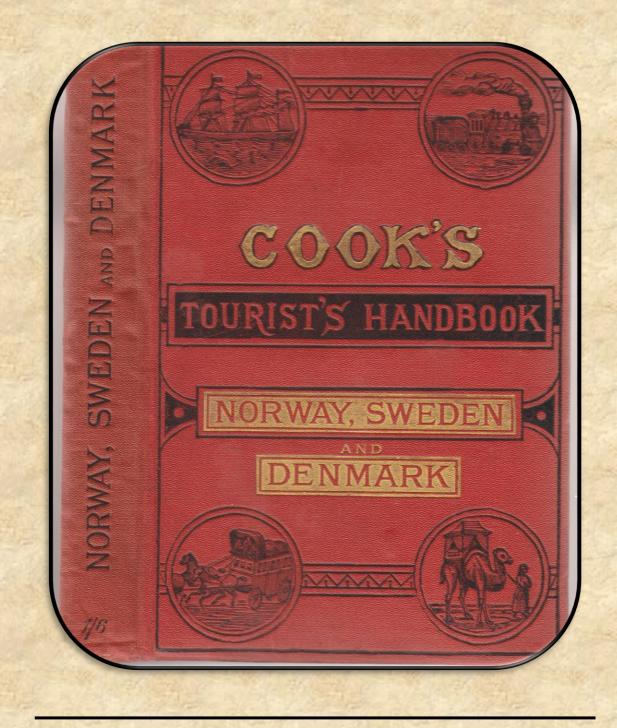
'If you want me for the trial, my address and that of Watson will be somewhere in Norway - I'll send particulars later.'

CATE OF MARINE OF OFFICER IN ERITISH POSSESSION ABROAD. Ohid. Number. Part of Registry. Reg. Tonninge. Name of Ship. 3211S.s. SEA UNICORN DUNDEE 32584 TE BOARD OF Loyage or Employment. Horse Power of Engines (if any). Description of 615 halen No. Place of Birth. No. of 2.3 R. Commission or Caralf. Name of Seaman. Ane. Place of Engagement. Date of Engagement under a certify that the above particulars are correct and that the above named Seaman was discharged accordingly," and that the character described hereon OWNER JANGE. is a true copy of the Report concerning the said Seamar. L.B. ANTHENT CATED BY Dated this / Than of Although the Co CHASACTES CHARACTER FOR ABILITY. CONBUCT

Pictured is the discharge certificate for Patrick Cairn from the S.S. Sea Unicorn.

#### From the story:

'I spent three days in wiring to Dundee, and at the end of that time I had ascertained the names of the crew of the *Sea Unicorn* in 1883. When I found Patrick Cairns among the harpooners my research was nearing its end.'



Pictured is Cook's Travel Book Scandinavia –likely consulted by Holmes and Watson for his post-case trip.

## From the story:

'If you want me for the trial, my address and that of Watson will be somewhere in Norway - I'll send particulars later.' Additional items of interest in "The Adventure of Black Peter" not included in the original Evidence Box.

Pictured is the harpoon, or spear, Holmes used at the butcher shop to practice spearing a pig.

### From the story:

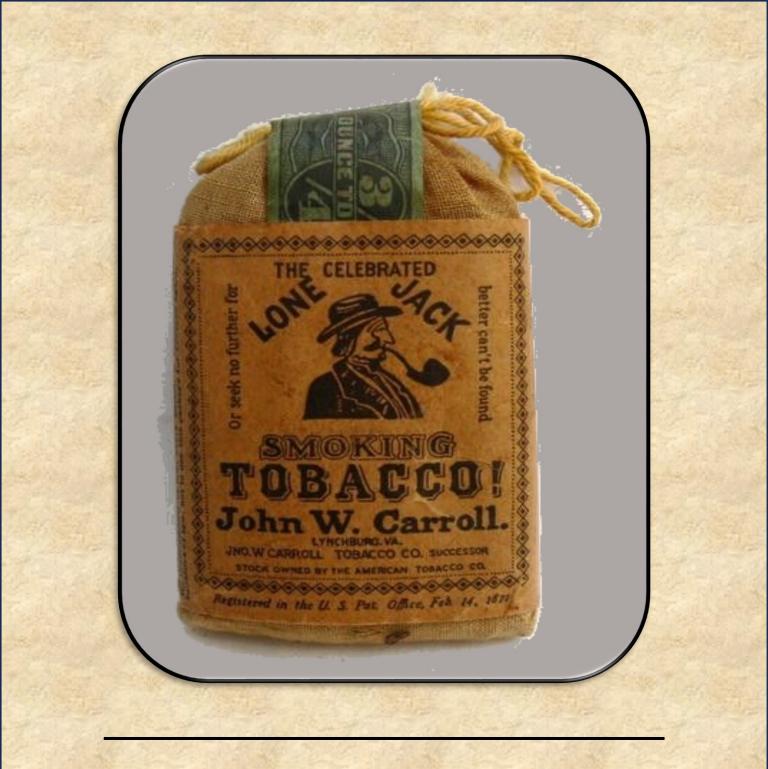
He had gone out before breakfast, and I had sat down to mine, when he strode into the room, his hat upon his head, and a huge barb-headed spear tucked like an umbrella under his arm.



Pictured is the tantalus which was found in Peter Carey's cabin. A tantalus held decanters of liquor, but could be locked to keep staff from drinking the alcohol.

# From the story:

'There was a tantalus containing brandy and whisky on the sea-chest. It is of no importance to us, however, since the decanters were full and it had therefore not been used.'



Pictured is a brand of strong tobacco, popular during the Victorian period, which may have been Patrick Cairns's tobacco pouch.

# From the story: 'There was half an ounce of strong ship's tobacco in it.'

Pictured is the cloth cap worn by young Neligan when he broke into Peter Carey's cabin to search for the stolen stock certificates.

From the story:

He was dressed like a gentleman, in Norfolk jacket and knickerbockers, with a cloth cap upon his head.



Pictured is a postal card for Forest Row, Sussex, with the Brambletye Hotel on the right side.

#### From the story:

'After that he travelled for some years, and finally he bought a small place called Woodman's Lee, near Forest Row, in Sussex.

'Rooms have been reserved for you at the Brambletye Hotel, so we can all walk down to the village together.'

Pictured is the tin box, which Peter Carey took from Mr. Neligan on the ship, and which carried the securities which Carey then sold.

From the story:

'All the baggage we took off with him was one tin box.'

'I guessed that he had done the deed for the sake of what was in that tin box, and that he could afford now to pay me well for keeping my mouth shut.'