

Adventure XLIV – The Adventure of the Red Circle



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 gum Arabic jar and brush used by Holmes in pasting clippings into his commonplace book.

From the story:

So spoke Sherlock Holmes, and turned back to the great scrap-book in which he was arranging and indexing some of his recent material.

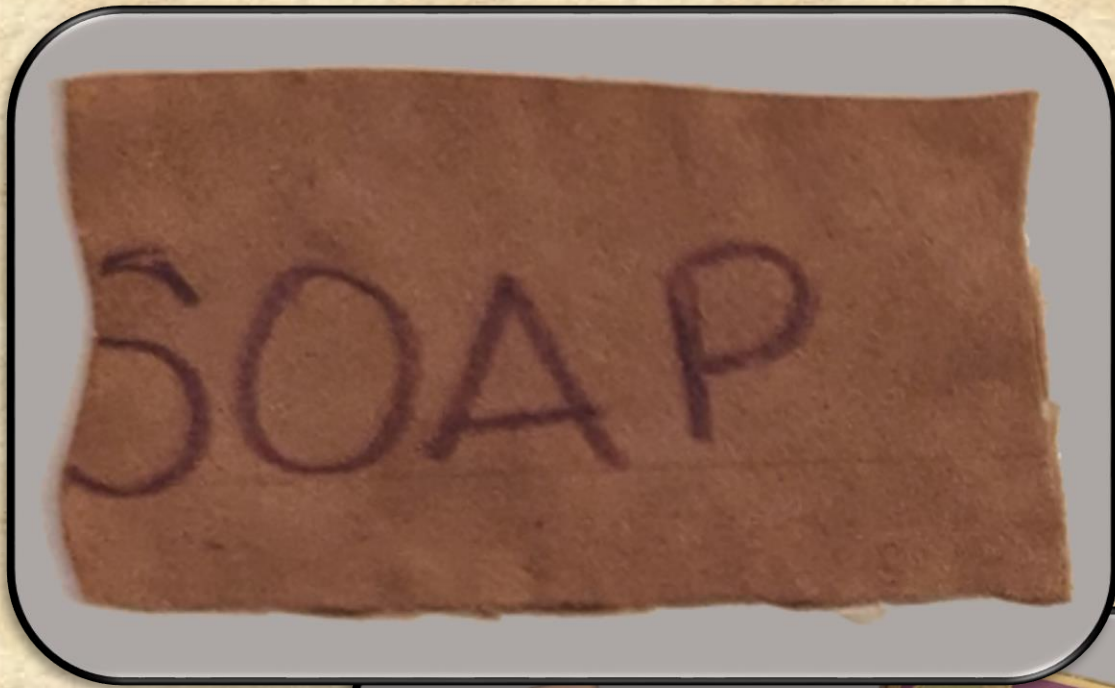
The two forces made him lay down his gum-brush with a sigh of resignation and push back his chair.



Pictured is the £10 white bank note offered by Gennaro to Mrs Warren.

From the story:

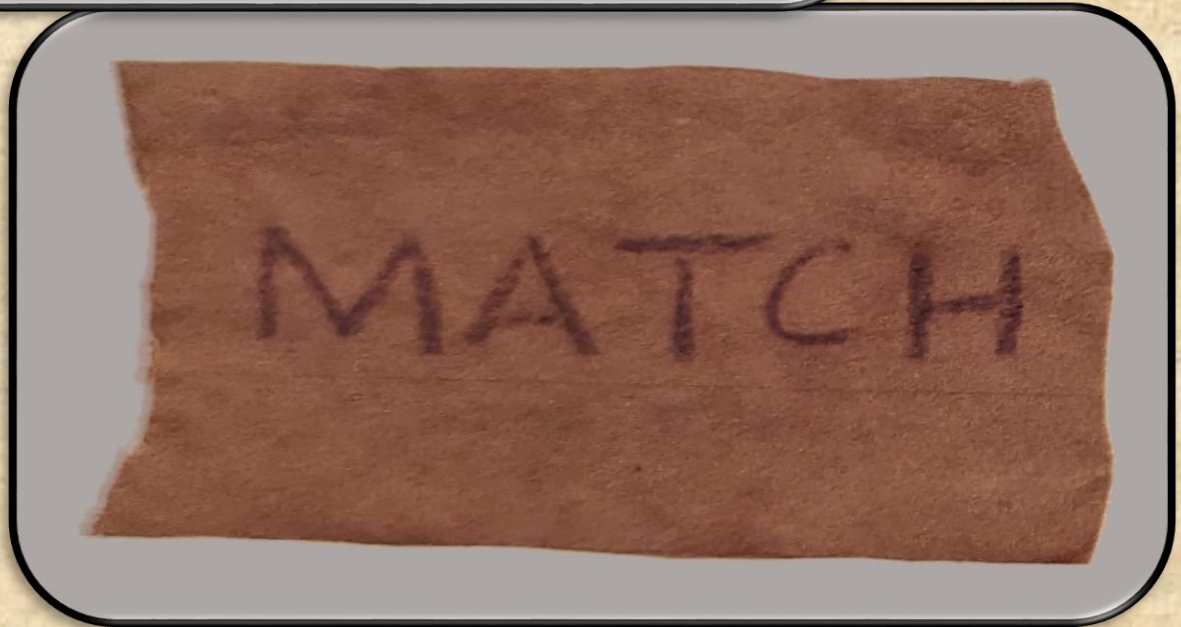
He took out a ten-pound note, and he held it out to me then and there. 'You can have the same every fortnight for a long time to come if you keep the terms,' he said. 'If not, I'll have no more to do with you.'



Pictured are the soaps asked for by the lodger to Mrs Warren.

From the story:

'Yes, sir, prints it in pencil. Just the word, nothing more. Here's one I brought to show you - SOAP.'



Pictured are the matches asked for by the lodger to Mrs Warren.

From the story:

'Yes, sir, prints it in pencil. Just the word, nothing more. Here's one I brought to show you - SOAP. Here's another - MATCH.'



Pictured is the bell used by the lodger to signal when she was finished her meals.

From the story:

‘It was his particular direction that we should always, when he rang, leave his meal upon a chair outside his door. Then he rings again when he has finished, and we take it down from the same chair.’

DAILY GAZETTE

The Daily Gazette.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 1882.—SUPPLEMENT.



JESSE JAMES

THE SUNSHINE

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THE SUNSHINE

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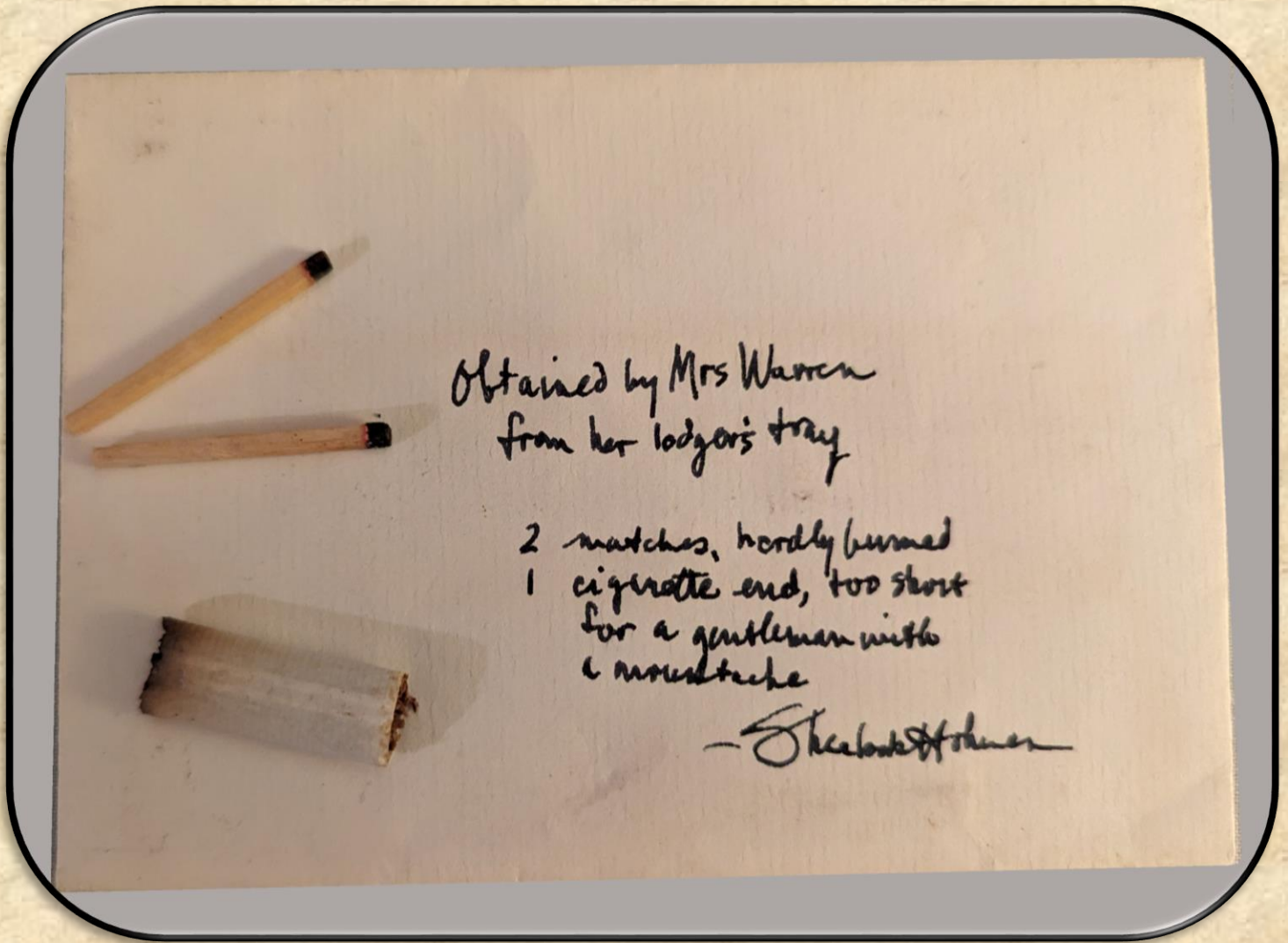
THE SUNSHINE

THE SUNSHINE

THE SUNSHINE

Pictured is the Daily Gazette and note left behind by Mrs Warren's lodger.

From the story:
'Here's one I brought to show you - SOAP. Here's another - MATCH. This is one he left the first morning - DAILY GAZETTE. I leave that paper with his breakfast every morning.'



Pictured is the envelope containing items from Mrs Warren's lodger's tray: 2 matches, hardly burned, and 1 cigarette end, too short for a gentleman with a moustache.

From the story:

The landlady drew an envelope from her bag, from it she shook out two burnt matches and a cigarette-end upon the table.



Pictured is the English-Italian and Italian-English dictionary published by Burgess & Bowes Ltd, London used by the lodger.

From the story:

‘I can imagine that the word was taken out of a dictionary, which would give the noun but not the plural. The laconic style may be to conceal the absence of knowledge of English.’

MORTON and WAYLIGHT
(formerly J. Shoolbred & Co.)
General Merchants
151-158 Tottenham Court Road
London, W.C.

26 September 1902

Dear Mr. Sherlock Holmes,

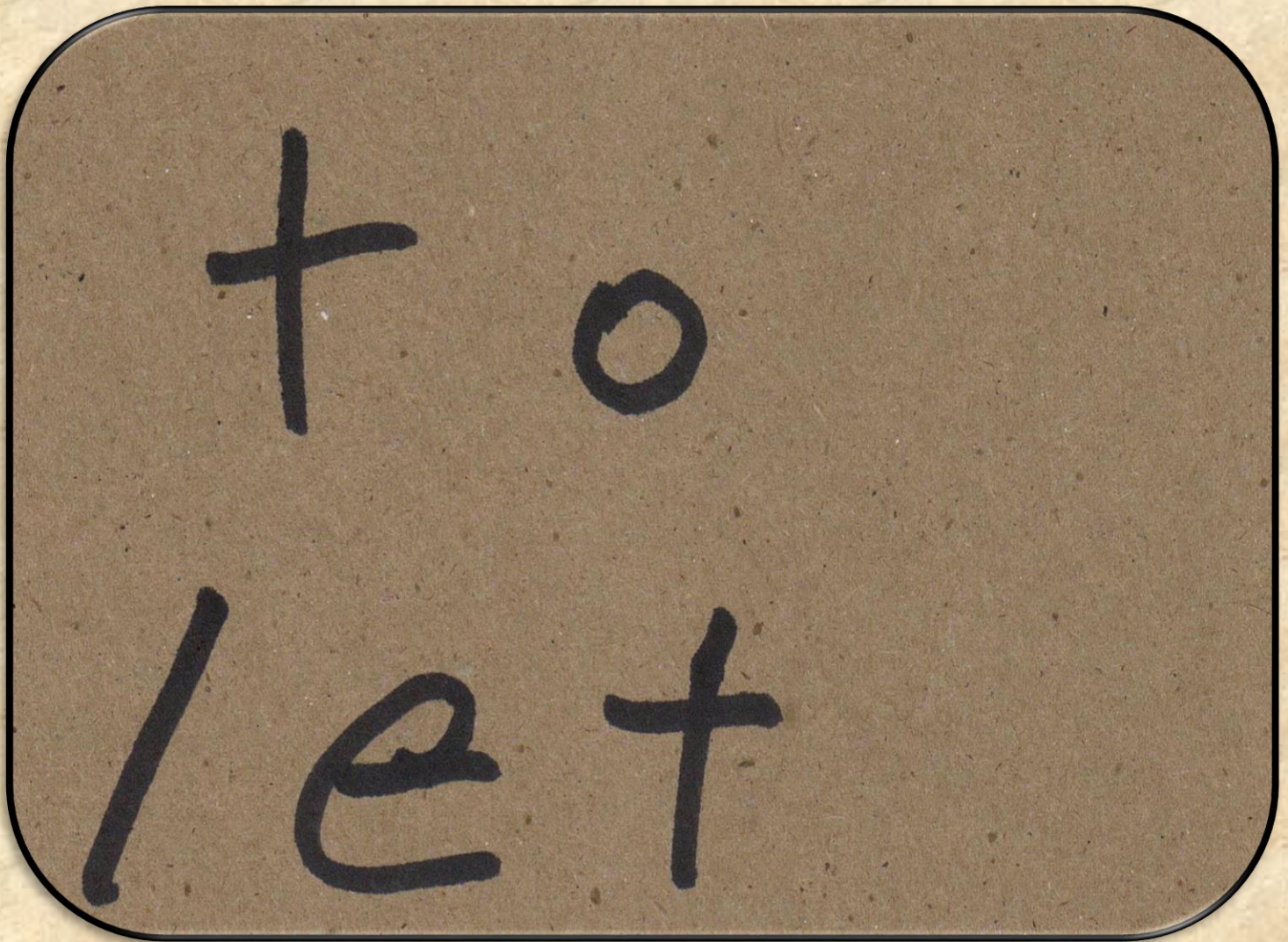
Everyone here at Morton & Waylight's wishes to express to you and your colleague, Doctor Watson, our sincere thanks and appreciation for your rôle in bringing to justice the man most responsible for the abduction of our trusted employé, the time-keeper, Mr. Warren who was waylaid yesterday by two thugs (for what else could one call them!) and rather unceremoniously left in Hampstead Heath shortly thereafter. We understand from his wife that he is making a satisfactory recovery from his ordeal and will return to work on Monday. Please accept our gratitude and our deep appreciation. I remain, on behalf of the firm,

Very sincerely yours,
Cedrick F. Morton

Pictured is the thank you note to Holmes from Morton & Waylight for his help in apprehending the man most responsible for the harm done to their time-keeper, Mr Warren.

From the story:

'Mr Warren is a time-keeper at Morton and Waylight's, in Tottenham Court Road.'



Pictured is the sign in window in the apartment across from Mrs. Warren', where Gennaro Lucca has been signaling to Emilia.

From the story:

'There's a 'To Let' card in that window. It is evidently an empty flat to which the confederate has access.'

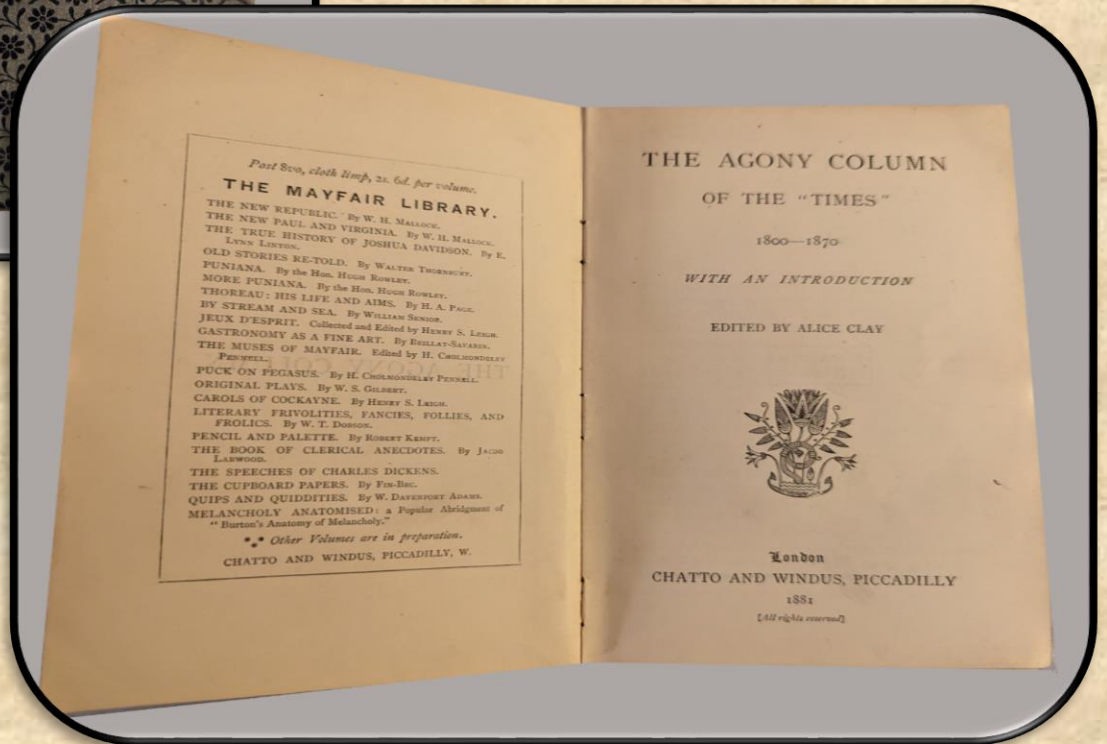
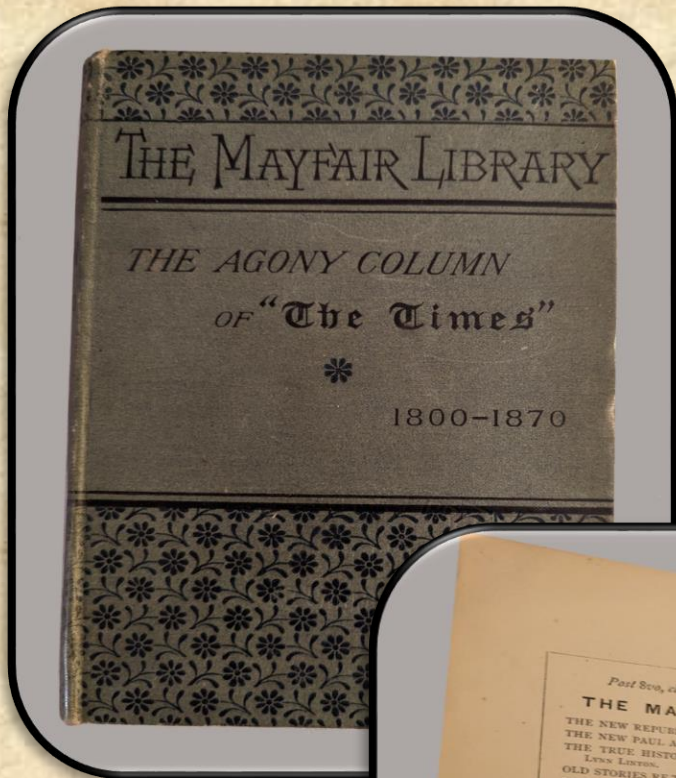


Pictured is the violet pencil used by Emilia, as well as the key to Emilia's suite.

From the story:

The words are written with a broad-pointed, violet-tinted pencil of a not unusual pattern.

Suddenly, as the landlady's footsteps died away, there was the creak of a turning key, the handle revolved...



Pictured is a bound edition of many of the Agony Columns published in the London newspapers. Emilia & Gennaro communicated through the Agony Column. Holmes kept Agony Columns in his files.

From the story:

‘Since he cannot communicate with her direct, he has recourse to the agony column of a paper. So far all is clear.’

Be patient. — Will find some sure means of communication. Meanwhile, this column.-- G.

The path is clearing. — If I find chance signal message remember code agreed - one A, two B, and so on. You will hear soon--G."

High red house with white stone facings. Third floor. Second window left. After dusk. - G."

Am — making successful arrangements. Patience and prudence. The clouds will pass. - G."

Pictured are messages Gennaro sent to Emilia through the Agony Columns.

From the story:

‘Since he cannot communicate with her direct, he has recourse to the agony column of a paper. So far all is clear.’



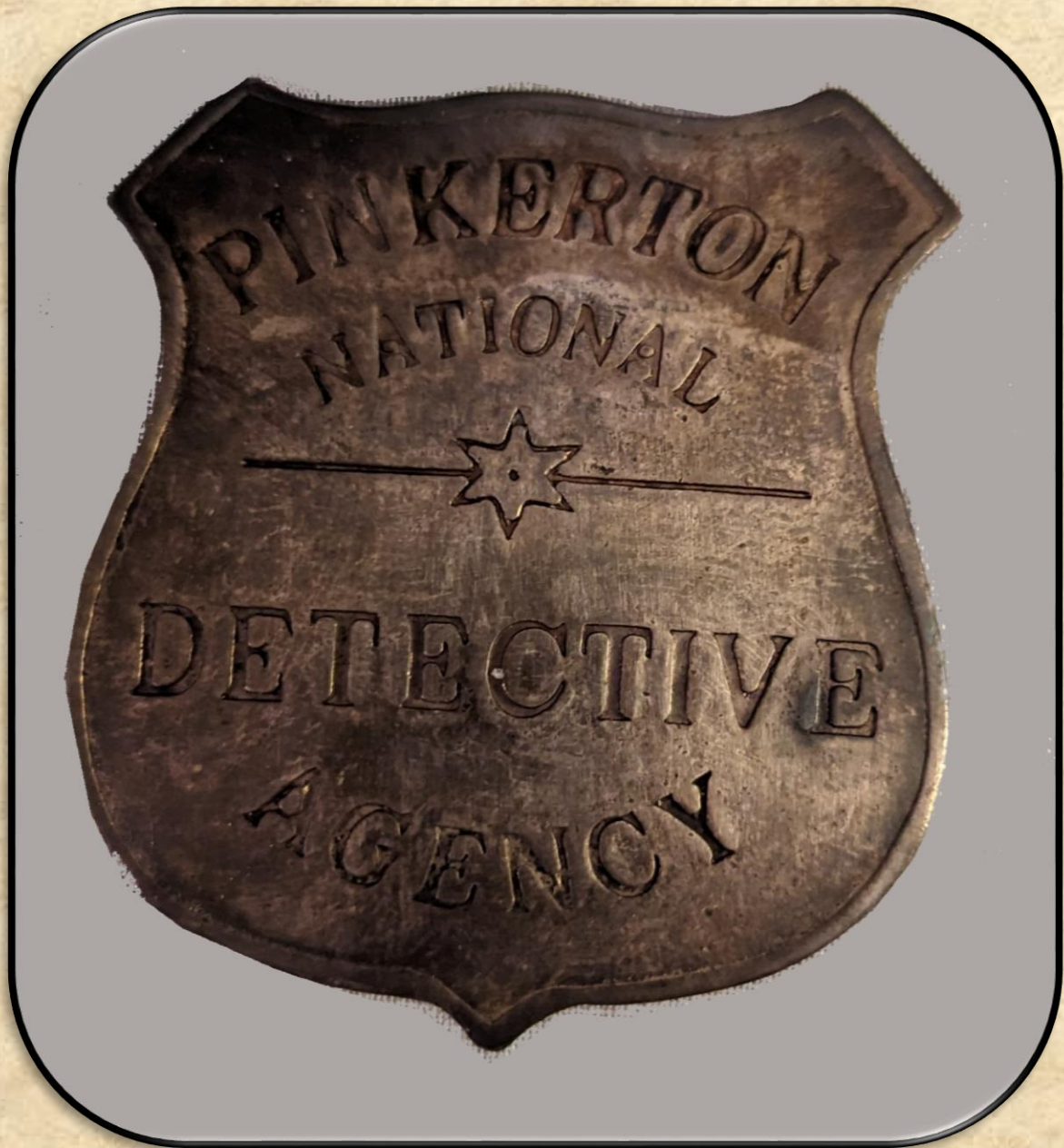
Gorgiano



Pictured is Gorgiano's calling, or visiting, card with the Red Circle depicted on the card.

From the story:

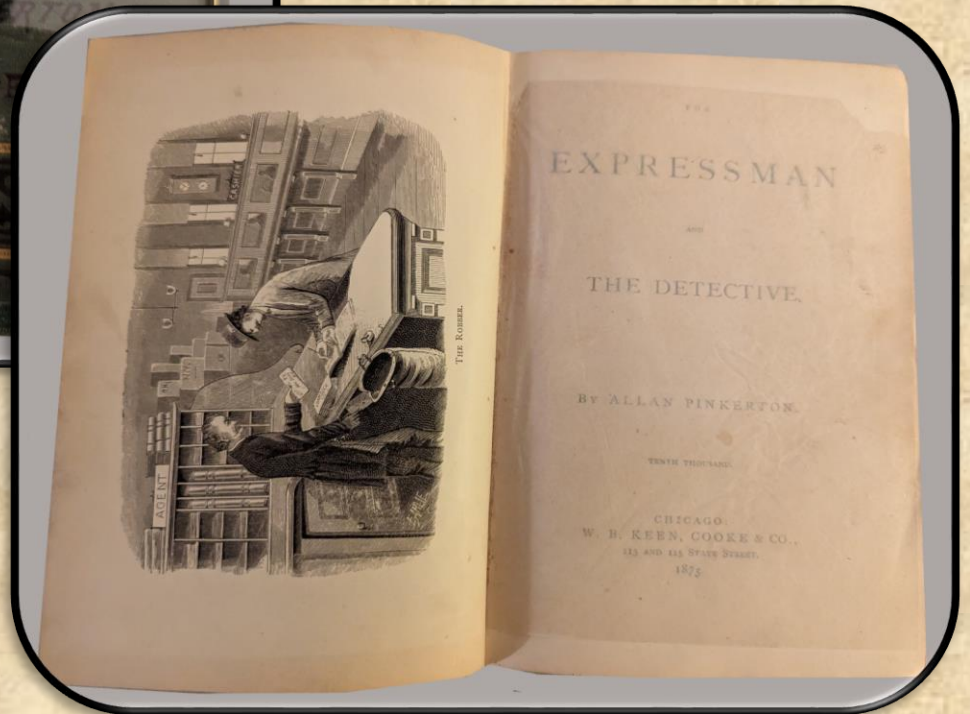
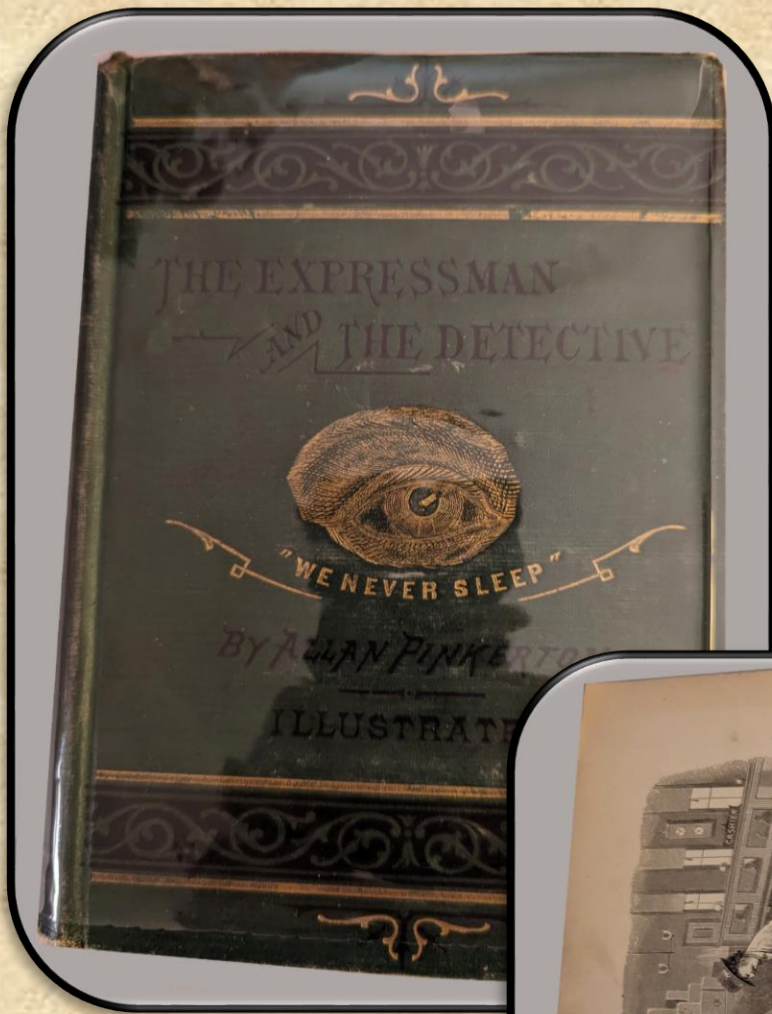
'What! Gorgiano of the Red Circle?'



Pictured is the Leverton's Pinkerton National Detective Agency badge.

From the story:

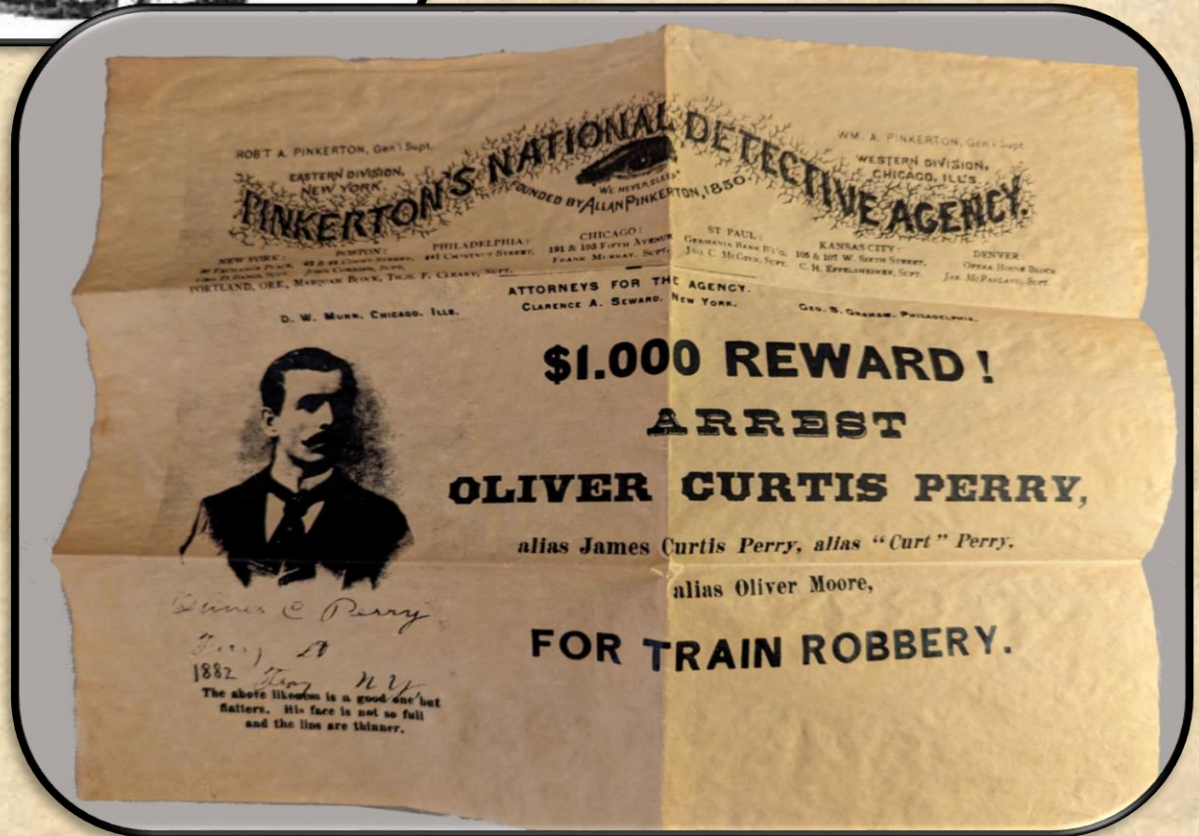
'I am on the trail of my life now, Mr Holmes,' said he. 'If I can get Gorgiano-'



Pictured is the book *The Expressman and the Detective* by Allan Pinkerton, 1875.

From the story:

‘I am on the trail of my life now, Mr Holmes,’ said he. ‘If I can get Gorgiano-’



Pictured is the Pinkerton's Detective Agency logo, as well as a wanted poster issued by Pinkertons during the 1800s.

From the story:

'May I introduce you to Mr Sherlock Holmes?' he said to the cabman.
'This is Mr Leverton, of Pinkerton's American Agency.'



Pictured is the candle used to pass messages between Emilia and Gennaro Lucca.

From the story:

‘Here is the candle in the window, Mr Holmes,’ said Gregson. ‘Why, whatever are you doing?’

Holmes had stepped across, had lit the candle, and was passing it backwards and forwards across the window-panes.



Pictured is the white handled clasp knife drawn from Gorgiano's neck, used by Gennaro.

From the story:

His knees were drawn up, his hands thrown out in agony, and from the centre of his broad, brown, upturned throat there projected the white haft of a knife driven blade-deep into his body.



Pictured is the glove and knife found next to body of Black Gorgiano.

From the story:

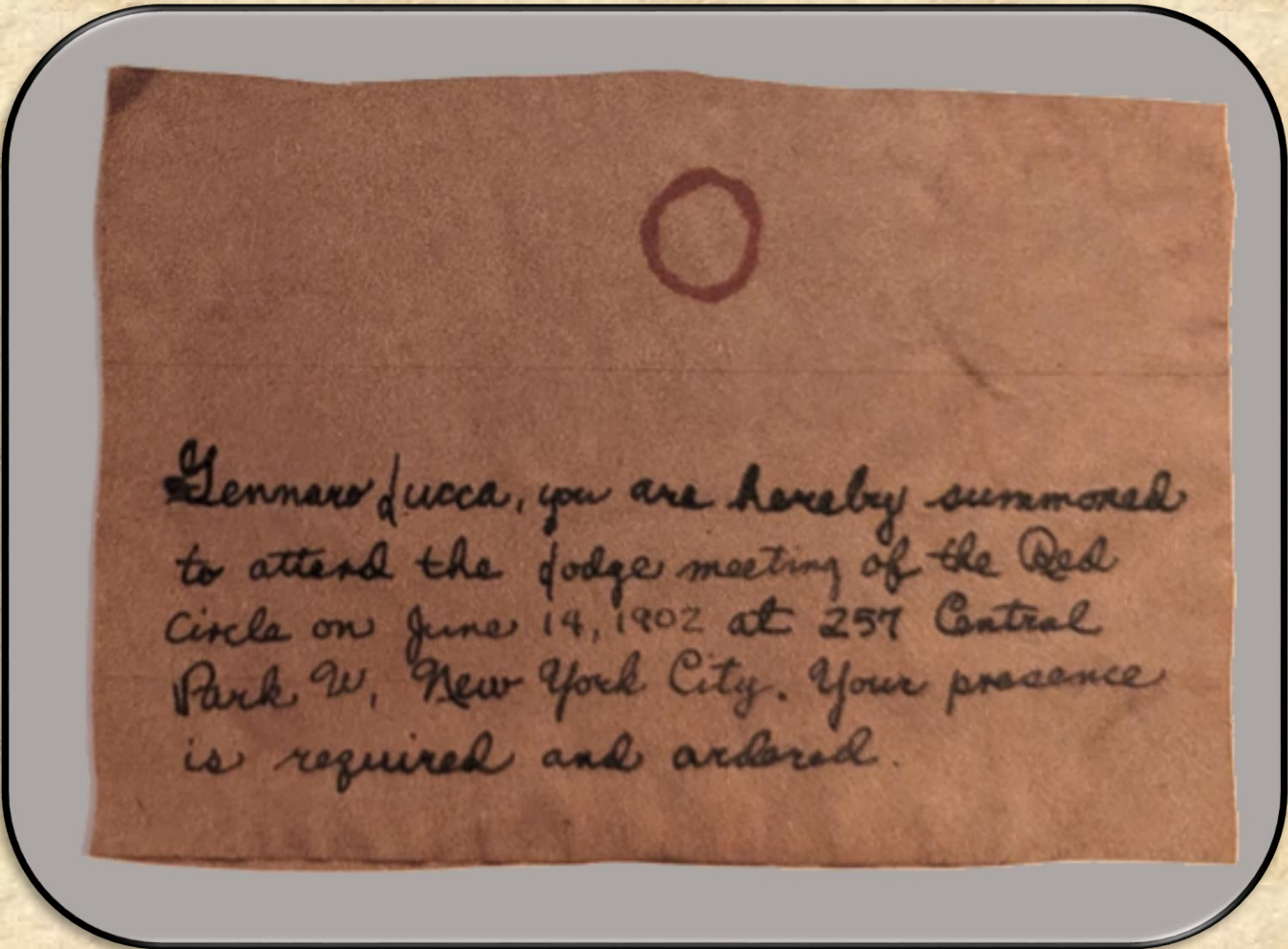
Beside his right hand a most formidable horn-handled, two-edged dagger lay upon the floor, and near it a black kid glove.



Pictured is Gregson's lantern that Watson lit. The lantern is marked S.N.L.W.Ltd. and depicting King Edward VII.

From the story:

Within, all was absolute silence and darkness. I struck a match, and lit the detective's lantern.



Gennaro Jucca, you are hereby summoned to attend the lodge meeting of the Red Circle on June 14, 1902 at 257 Central Park W, New York City. Your presence is required and ordered.

Pictured is the note sent to Gennaro by Black Gorgiano requiring his attendance at a Lodge meeting.

From the story:

'All this Gennaro told me, and showed me a summons which he had received that very day, a Red Circle drawn upon the head of it, telling him that a lodge would be held upon a certain date, and that his presence at it was required and ordered.'



Pictured is the advertisement for the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, a Wagner evening. Holmes plans to attend the concert at the end of the story.

From the story:

‘By the way, it is not eight o'clock, and a Wagner night at Covent Garden! If we hurry, we might be in time for the second act.’

THEATRE ROYAL
COVENT GARDEN.

M. RIVIERE'S
GRAND INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL
PROMENADE CONCERTS
(FOR SIX WEEKS.)

This Evening, Saturday, 26th August.

M. RIVIERE has great pleasure in announcing that he has entered into an arrangement with
PRINCE PONIATOWSKI
Who has kindly consented to Compose (expressly for these Concerts) and Conduct a New
GRAND TRIUMPHAL MARCH
"THE RETURN OF RICHARD CŒUR DE LION,"
For Full Orchestra, Military Band, and Chorus.

Vocalists already Engaged.
Mademoiselle **LIEBHART**,
Mme. **DEMERIC LABLACHE** AND Mdlle. **RUBINI**
Mademoiselle **CORNELIE D'ANKA**,
AND
Madame **CORA DE WILHORST**.
Madame **RUDERSDORFF**
Has been Engaged for the Sacred Music and will appear EVERY FRIDAY EVENING.
Mr. E. LLOYD, AND **Mr. WHITNEY**,
(Principal Bass of the Handel and Haydn Society, Boston, U.S.A.)
Mr. ARTHUR LINCOLN,
From New Orleans, has been expressly engaged, and will introduce, for the first time in Europe, an Instrument of the most novel and
extraordinary description, called **THE CRYSTALPHONICON**, upon which he will perform (with his right hand) a Solo and Variations,
accompanying the same, with his left hand, on the Pianoforte.

Solo Violinists.
Mdlle. **JENNY CLAU**S, Mdlle. **THERESE LIEBE**,
Mdlle. **VITTORIA DE BONO**, **Mr. VIOTTI COLLINS**.

Solo Cornet.
Mr. H. REYNOLDS.

Solo Pianists.
Madlle. **CARRENO**,
Mme. **JULIA WOLFF**, Miss **FLORA HEILBRON** (Aged 13),
AND
Le Chevalier **ANTOINE DE KONTSKI**.
(Fiancé to His Majesty the Emperor of Germany.)
Accompanist, **Mr. GEO. BICKNELL**. Organist, **Herr SALZMANN**. Chorus Master, **Signor LAGO**.

GRAND ORCHESTRA OF ONE HUNDRED MUSICIANS.
FULL CHORUS OF FIFTY VOICES.
FULL MILITARY BAND OF FIFTY MUSICIANS.
Selected from the Royal Artillery and the Grenadier Guards. Bandmasters, **Mr. J. SAVIN** and **Mr. D. GODFREY**.
(By Permission of the Commanding Officers.)

Conductor, - - **M. RIVIERE**.
Acting Manager, - **Mr. EDWARD MURRAY**.

PRINTED BY J. MILLS AND CO., 122, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET, - W

Pictured is the program for the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, a Wagner evening. Holmes plans to attend the concert at the end of the story.

From the story:

‘By the way, it is not eight o'clock, and a Wagner night at Covent Garden! If we hurry, we might be in time for the second act.’

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



Pictured is a postal card for Hampstead Heath, where Mr. Warren's abductors dropped him.

From the story:

'When he picked himself up he found he was on Hampstead Heath, so he took a bus home...'



Pictured is a postal card for the British Museum, just across Great Orme Street from the Warren residence.

From the story:

...a high, thin, yellow-brick edifice in Great Orme Street, a narrow thoroughfare at the north-east side of the British Museum.



Pictured is the mirror which Holmes and Watson can quietly spy on the lodger of the Warren's.

From the story:

It was an excellent hiding-place which she had arranged. The mirror was so placed that, seated in the dark, we could very plainly see the door opposite.



Pictured are fruit boxes which are shipped to and from New York's premier fruit importer.

From the story:

'...he was the senior partner of the great firm of Castalotte and Zamba, who are the chief fruit importers of New York.'