



His Last Bow

Adventure XLVII – His Last Bow

Altamont	Alias used by Holmes in his guise as an Irish-American spy for the Germans; had a nice taste for wine, particularly Von Bork's Tokay, and spoke with such a severe accent Von Bork often had trouble understanding him
Belgium	Lowland kingdom of Europe; Von Herling believed England may leave Belgium on their own to face Germany when the Germans invaded in August 1914 despite a treaty between England and Belgium
Benz	German make of automobile manufactured by Karl Benz; transportation for Baron Von Herling to Von Bork's residence
Berlin	Largest city in Germany, capital of Prussia and the German empire; personnel of the Embassy in London were bound there
Bohemia, King of	(Wilhelm Gottsreich Sigismund von Ormstein), Grand Duke of Cassel-Felstein and hereditary King of Bohemia; Holmes identified himself to von Bork as he brought about the "separation" of Irene Adler and the King
Buffalo	City of the United States, located in New York State; Holmes had joined an Irish secret society there, in disguise as Altamont, after a stay in Chicago
Carlton House Terrace	Exclusive street in Westminster, just south of Pall Mall; the German Embassy was located there
Chicago	Second largest city in the United States, situated at the head of Lake Michigan in the State of Illinois; Holmes began his penetration of Von Bork's organization there
Claridge's Hotel	One of the more famous London hotels, located on Brook Street in Westminster; Holmes told his agent Martha to report to him there

Downs, The	Sheltered anchorage for shipping, between the coast of Kent and the Godwins; Retirement area for Holmes near Eastbourne
Duke of York's Steps	(Waterloo Steps) Broad flight of steps in Westminster, descending from Carlton House Terrace into St. James Park; the German Embassy adjoined these stairs, which Baron von Herling called, "the Duke of York's Steps"
Egypt	Country in the north-eastern part of Africa; during Victorian era, under the overall control of England but under the nominal authority of Turkey; there was a pigeon-hole in Von Bork's safe marked "Egypt"
English Channel	Body of water that separates England from France, approximately 24 miles to over 100 miles wide; there was a pigeon-hole in Von Bork's safe marked "The Channel"
Flushing	(Vlissingen) Important seaport of the Netherlands; Von Bork's wife and household crossed from England to Flushing the day before he himself was arrested
Ford	Make of automobile manufactured in the American company founded in 1903 by Henry Ford; Watson chauffeured Holmes to Von Bork's in a Ford
France	Republic in the south-western part of Europe; Baron von Herling considered the possibility England might leave France to her fate in the German invasion of 1914
Fratton	Suburban district of Portsmouth; Holmes as Altamont said he lived "down Fratton way"
Furies	In Greek mythology, certain deities who pursued all criminals who had escaped from the law and drove them mad from remorse; Von Herling claimed for the Germans credit for England's 'window-breaking Furies', an apparent allusion to the labor unrest which immediately proceeded the war.
Germany	Country of Central Europe; Martha mentions to Holmes Von Bork wanted Martha to accompany his wife to Germany; Holmes mentions he has done much business in Germany prior to their engagement
Grafenstein, Count Von und Zu	Elder brother of Von Bork's mother, whom Holmes saved from the Nihilist Klopman
Harwich	Seaport town in Essex, one of the best harbors in England, and one of the principal ports for passenger traffic to Holland and Germany; Von Bork's house overlooked Harwich and its harbor

Heinrich	Cousin of Von Bork who was Imperial Envoy in 1889; Holmes told Von Bork Heinrich was envoy during the time he had brought about the 'separation' between Irene Adler and the late king of Bohemia
Holland	The two provinces of Noord- and Zuid-Holland together are Holland; Altamont (Holmes) expressed the desire to escape to Holland, as he was worried of stool-pigeons working for Von Bork
Hollis	Member of Von Bork's spy ring, who was arrested just before the start of the War, probably upon Holmes' information; Von Bork was of the view he was mad, while Altamont (Holmes) added, "well he went a bit woozy towards the end"
Holmes, Sherlock	The world's first and only consulting detective; born in approximately 1854; ancestors were country squires; Watson described Holmes as "bohemian" in his habits and lifestyle; said to have a "cat-like" love of personal cleanliness, at the same time Holmes is an eccentric with no regard for contemporary standards of tidiness or good order.
Imperial Envoy	Von Bork's cousin, Heinrich, was an Imperial Envoy, that is, a diplomatic agent acting in the personal interest of the German Emperor
Ireland	More western of the two principal islands of the United Kingdom; one of the pigeon-holes in Van Bork's safe was marked 'Ireland'
James, Jack	American citizen arrested as a German spy, who was imprisoned in Portland
John Bull	Name used to signify the personification of the English people
Josef, Franz	Emperor of Austria; Von Bork's Tokay was said to be from Josef's special cellar at the Schoenbrunn Palace
Klopman	Nihilist from whom Holmes saved Von Bork's uncle, Count Von und Zu Grafenstein
London	Largest city in the world during the Victorian period, capital of England and the British Empire, located in the south-eastern part of England on the River Thames; extended into the counties of Surrey, Ken, Middlesex, and Essex; Holmes tells Martha she can report to him tomorrow in London, at Claridge's Hotel
Martha	Housekeeper of Von Bork, but in reality, a counter-espionage agent working for Holmes, who was to report to Holmes later at Claridge's Hotel; there has been some speculation that Martha was, in fact, Martha Hudson, Holmes' long-suffering landlady

Moran, Colonel Sebastian	Indian Army officer and renowned heavy-game hunter was forced to leave India and went to London, where he was sought as the chief of staff for Professor Moriarty; Holmes uses his name to Von Bork
Moriarty, Professor James	The Napoleon of Crime; endowed with a phenomenal mathematic facility, he wrote a treatise upon the binomial theorem, and authored <i>The Dynamics of an Asteroid</i> ; “The old sweet song,” said Holmes. “How often have I heard it in days gone by. It was a favorite ditty of the late lamented Professor Moriarty.”
Netherlands, The	(Holland) Kingdom of western Europe; Holmes, as Altamont, declared his intention of escaping to Holland
New York	City of the United States, next to London, the largest in the world during the Victorian period; Von Bork said Altamont could get a boat for New York at Rotterdam
Nihilism	Name applied around 1860 to a Russian revolutionary philosophy, its object being to destroy all forms of government; Klopman, who tried to murder Von Bork’s uncle, was a Nihilist
Portland Prison	Convict-prison upon the peninsula known as Portland Island, on the south coast of England; Jack James, a German spy captured in England, was sentenced there
Portsmouth	Seaport in Hampshire, and the chief naval station of England; the harbor was extensively fortified; Von Bork possessed papers in his safe detailing the Portsmouth forts; Altamont’s telegram to Von Bork was from there, and the spy Steiner was arrested there
<i>Practical Handbook of Bee Culture</i>	(<i>Practical Handbook of Bee Culture, with some Observations upon the Segregation of the Queen</i>) Book written by Holmes in retirement, which he called “the fruit of pensive nights and laborious days”
Prime Minister	In Great Britain, the leader of the majority party in Parliament and head of the Cabinet; Holmes was visited upon the Sussex Down and asked to take on his counter-espionage assignment by the Prime Minister himself
Prussia	Kingdom of Europe the largest state of the German Empire; Von Bork was a Prussian
Rosyth	Important naval base in Scotland, located upon the northern shore of the Firth of Forth; one of the pigeon-holes in Von Bork’s safe was marked ‘Rosyth’
Rotterdam	Chief commercial port of the Netherlands; Von Bork said Altamont could get a boat from Rotterdam to New York

Schoenbrunn Palace	Magnificent summer residence of the Emperor of Austria, located in the south-western part of Vienna and constructed the first half of the 18 th century; Von Bork's Tokay was said to be from Franz Joseph's special cellar there
Scotland Yard	Popular name given to the Metropolitan Police Force of London, and specifically to its Criminal Investigation Department (CID); the location of the CID is the New Scotland Yard, close to the Thames River; Holmes told Von Bork would stay quiet during their travel to Scotland Yard
Skibbereen	Town on the south side of Ireland; Holmes said as Altamont he had given serious trouble to the constabulary there
Solent, The	Strait of the English Channel between the mainland of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight; Holmes remarked it would brighten his declining years to see a German cruiser navigating the Solent according to the mine-field plans he had furnished Von Bork
South Downs	(Sussex Downs) Name given to the treeless upland extending from the center of Hampshire across the length of Sussex; Holmes retired to the southern slopes of the Downs to raise bees
Squire	In England, courtesy title of the chief landed proprietor, usually the lord of the manor, in a parish; Von Bork had been acting as a squire while living in England
Steiner	One of Von Bork's spies, arrested in Portsmouth the night before Von Bork himself was taken
<i>Times, The</i>	Great daily newspaper of London, began in 1788; always claimed to be a national organ, not a political organ; it stood in a class by itself among all the London newspapers; Baron von Herling said the special German war tax should have revealed to the English the German intentions as clearly as an advertisement upon the front page of the newspaper
Tokay	Rich, heavy wine, somewhat sweet in taste and very aromatic, produced in northern Hungary; Holmes and Watson enjoyed the Tokay at Von Bork's house, which was said to be Imperial Tokay from Franz Joseph's special cellar at the Schoenbrunn Palace
Von Bork	German spymaster whose career of espionage in England was foiled by Holmes; he was the head of a secret organization of agents that was gathering information about England; his wife left England the day before his arrest

Von Herling, Baron	Chief secretary of the German legation in London, visited Von Bork at his residence before Holmes (as Altamont) arrived with Watson; was an admirer of the master spy
Watson, John H.	Friend and biographer of Sherlock Holmes, it appears he was borne in the early 1850s; took his Degree of Doctor in Medicine in 1878; served as a staff surgeon at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; while serving in the Army Medical Department, he was severely wounded in the Battle of Maiwand in Afghanistan; his wound and general impairment of health earned him a retirement and wound pension
Zeppelin, Count Ferdinand von	German Army officer who invented and built the first dirigible; Baron von Herling mentioned the possibility of their use in the war