



I only quote
this as a
trivial
example of
observation
and
inference.

His Last Bow

Adventure XLVII – His Last Bow

1. “A remarkable wine. Our friend upon the sofa has assured me that it is from Franz Josef's special cellar at the Schoenbrunn Palace. Might I trouble you to open the window, for chloroform vapor does not help the palate.”
2. “Here is the fruit of my leisured ease, the magnum opus of my latter years, *Practical Handbook of Bee Culture, with Some Observations upon the Segregation of the Queen*. Alone I did it. Behold the fruit of pensive nights and laborious days when I watched the little working gangs as once I watched the criminal world of London.”
3. “I've hardly seen you in the light yet. How have the years used you? You look the same blithe boy as ever.”
4. “It would brighten by declining years to see a German cruiser navigating the Solent according to the minefield plans which I have furnished.”
5. “Stand with me here upon the terrace, for it may be the last quiet talk that we shall ever have.”
6. “The Englishman is a patient creature, but at present his temper is a little inflamed, and it would be as well not to try him too far.”



7. "The old sweet song. How often have I heard it in days gone by. It was a favorite ditty of the late lamented Professor Moriarty. Colonel Sebastian Moran has also been known to warble it. And yet I live and keep bees upon the South Downs."
8. "Good old Watson! You are the one fixed point in a changing age. There's an east wind coming all the same, such a wind as never blew on England yet. It will be cold and bitter, and a good many of us may wither before its blast. But it's God's own wind none the less, and a cleaner, better, stronger land will lie in the sunshine when the storm has cleared."
9. "They will at least show our people what is known and what is not. I may say that a good many of these papers have come through me, and I need not add are thoroughly untrustworthy. It would brighten my declining years to see a German cruiser navigating the Solent according to the mine-field plans which I have furnished."
10. "Though unmusical, German is the most expressive of all languages."
11. "Tomorrow it will be but a dreadful memory. With my hair cut and a few other superficial changes I shall no doubt reappear at Claridge's tomorrow as I was before this American stunt. Watson, my well of English seems to be permanently defiled- before this American job came my way."
12. "I have a check for five hundred pounds which should be cashed early, for the drawer is quite capable of stopping it, if he can."
13. "You are a sportsman and you will bear me no ill-will when you realize that you, who have outwitted so many other people, have at last been outwitted yourself. After all, you have done your best for your country, and I have done my best for mine, and what could be more natural?"