

## Adventure XLIX – The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone

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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.

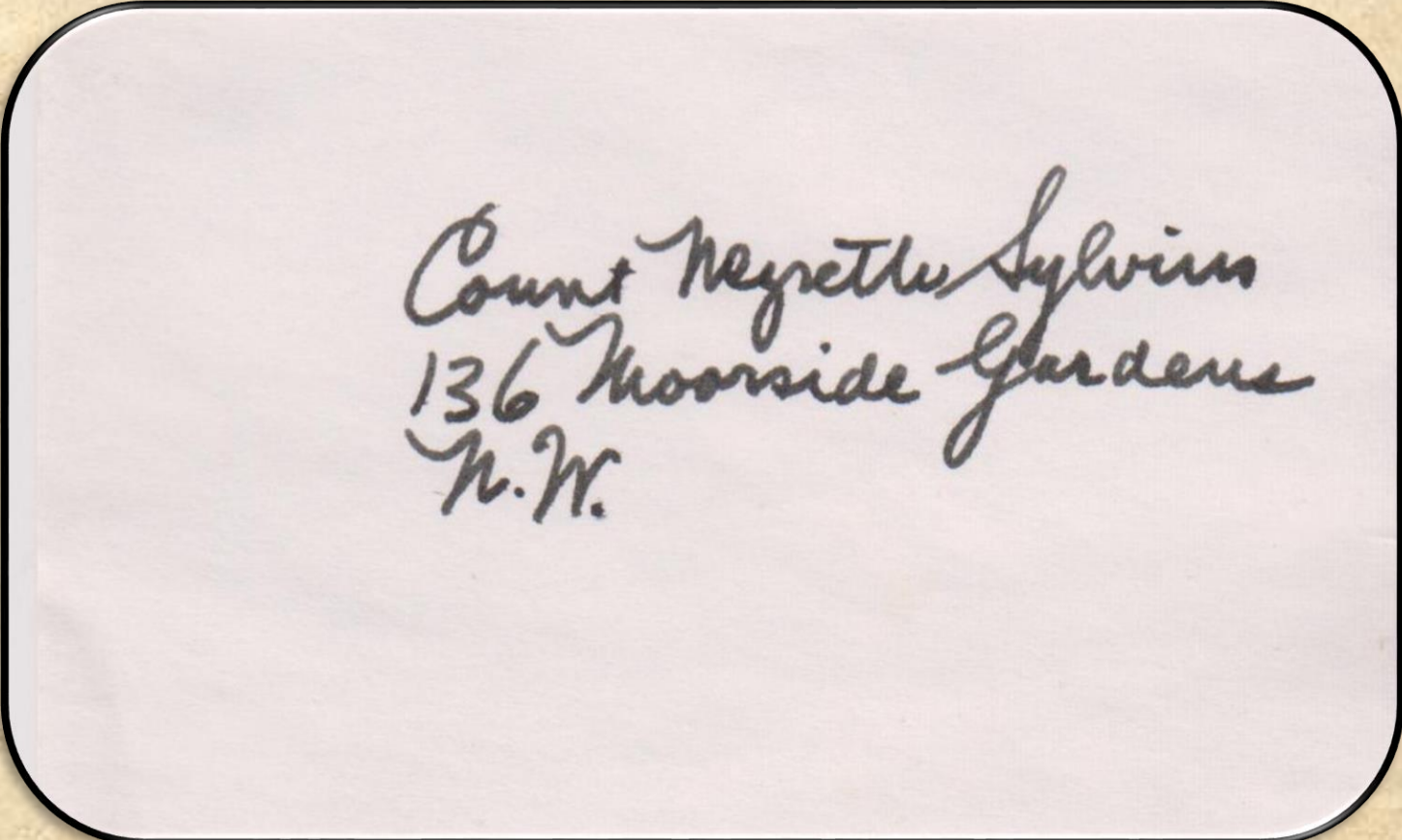


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Pictured is the missing Crown Jewel, stolen by Count Sylvius. Also pictured is an alternate version of the stone.

From the story:

‘Yes, the great yellow Mazarin stone. I've cast my net and I have my fish. But I have not got the stone.’



Count Myrtle Sylvius  
136 Moorside Gardens  
N.W.

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Pictured is the card on which Dr. Watson recorded the Count's name and address.

From the story:

'Ah, yes, in case it should come off, it would perhaps be as well that you should burden your memory with the name and address of the murderer.'



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Pictured is the cabinet photo of Count Sylvius.

From the story:

‘You can give it to Scotland Yard, with my love and a parting blessing.  
Sylvius is the name - Count Negretto Sylvius.’



No. 9791. — Gazogene, for making soda and seltzer water, &c., which can be drawn off in small quantities when the machine is fully charged. Made of thick, clear glass, covered with wicker, and with white metal tap.



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Pictured is an advertisement for gasogene powders and a gasogene, which will produce carbonated water for drinking purposes.

From the story:

‘The gasogene and cigars are in the old place. Let me see you once more in the customary arm-chair.’



**D. FÈVRE  
GENUINE**

**SELZOGENE  
POWDERS**

Add one tablespoon of powder to  
upper chambre of Seltzogene  
and one quart of water to lower  
chambre. Do not overfill!

Perfect for home, office, or club

No. 9794  
Seltzogene

For making soda,  
seltzer, and other  
mineral waters, complete  
with funnels (A & B),  
cleaning brush (C),  
and full directions  
for use.

Made of thick, clear glass,  
covered with either  
steel mesh or wicker  
at the option of the  
buyer. White  
metal top, glass or  
white metal base.

S. & F.  
London  
Importers &  
Purveyors of Fine  
Merchandise



**VÉRITABLE SELZOGÈNE, D. FÈVRE, PARIS**

Pictured is an advertisement for seltzogene powders and a seltzogene, which is a type of gasogene.

From the story:

‘The gasogene and cigars are in the old place. Let me see you once more in the customary arm-chair.’



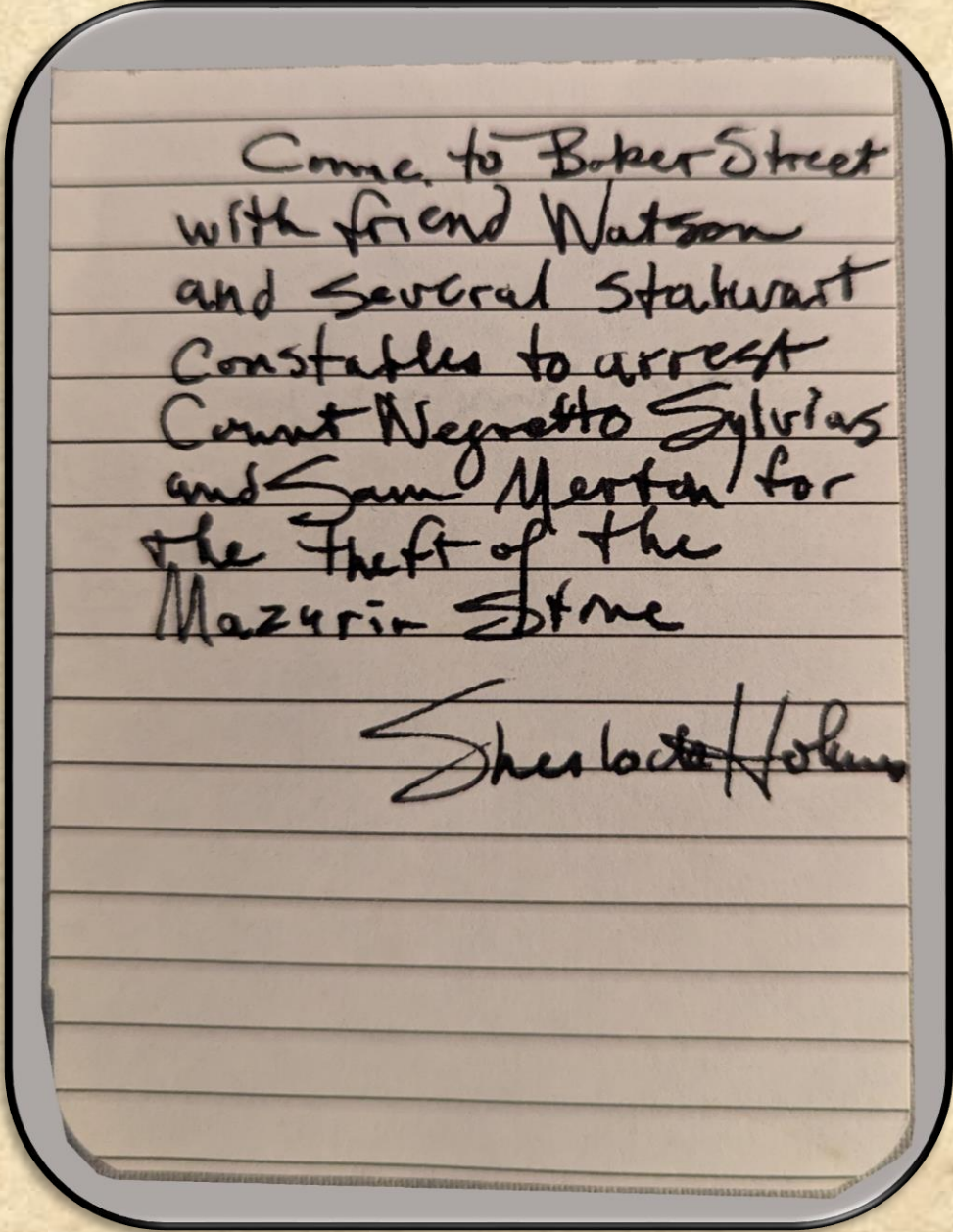
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Pictured are the calling, or visiting, cards from Lord Cantlemere and Negretto Sylvius, as well as the salver, or tray, which Billy brought them in.

From the story:

Once more their conversation was interrupted by the imperturbable Billy with his card-tray.

The boy had reappeared in the room with a card upon a tray.



Come to Baker Street  
with friend Watson  
and several Stewart  
Constables to arrest  
Count Negretto Sylvias  
and Sam Merton for  
the Theft of the  
Mazarin Stone

Shellock Holmes

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Pictured is the note from Holmes' note-book with instructions to Youghal at the C.I.D.

From the story:

'Take a cab to Scotland Yard and give this to Youghal of the CID. Come back with the police. The fellow's arrest will follow.'



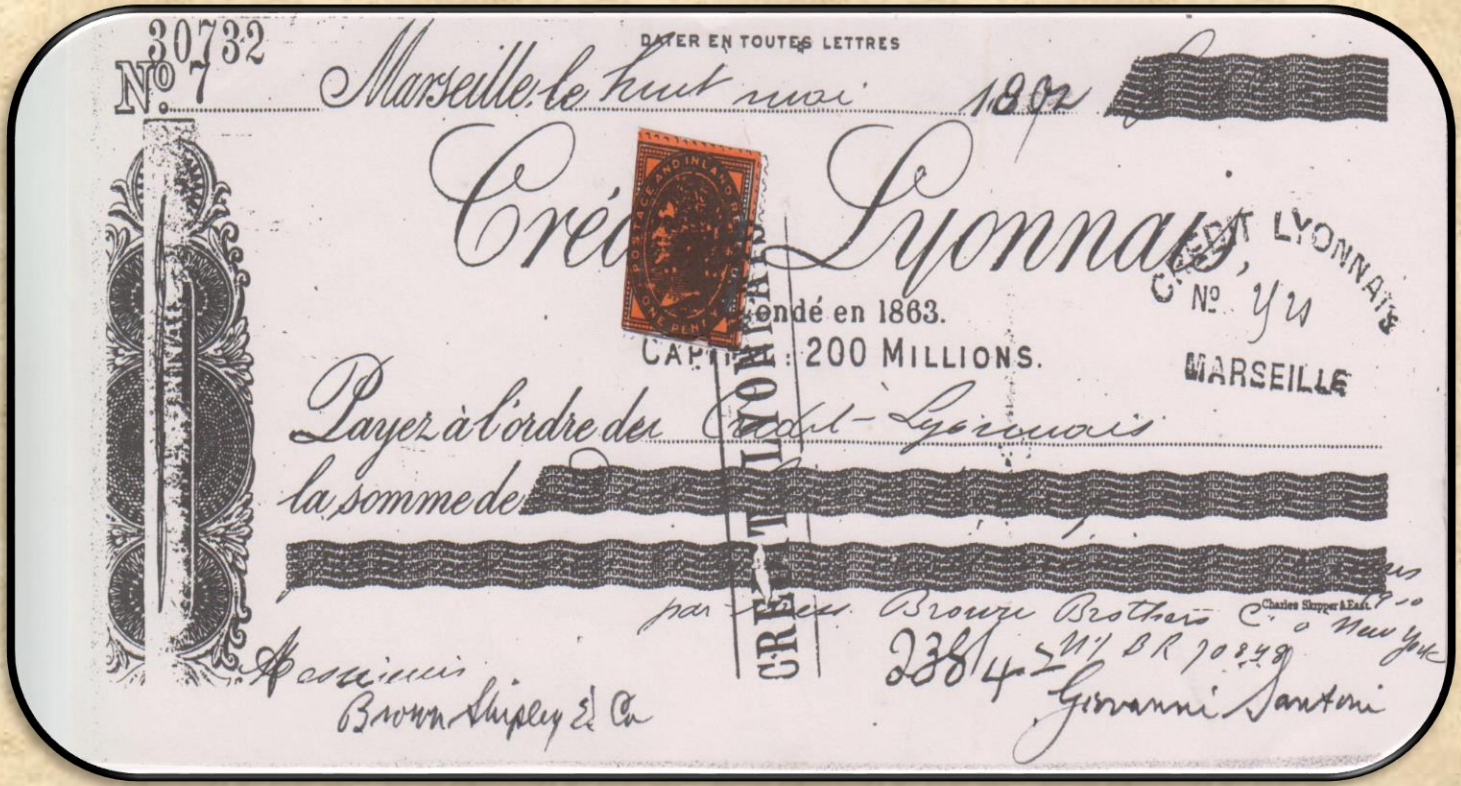


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Pictured is the Corps of Commissionaires cap badge, collar lugs and two buttons, all in a velvet box. The Commissionaire witness Sylvius near the jewel case.

From the story:

‘I have the Commissionaire who saw you near the case.’



Pictured is the forged check Holmes the accused the Count of being involved with.

From the story:  
'Here is the robbery in the train-de-luxe to the Riviera on February 13, 1892. Here is the forged cheque in the same year on the Credit Lyonnais.'

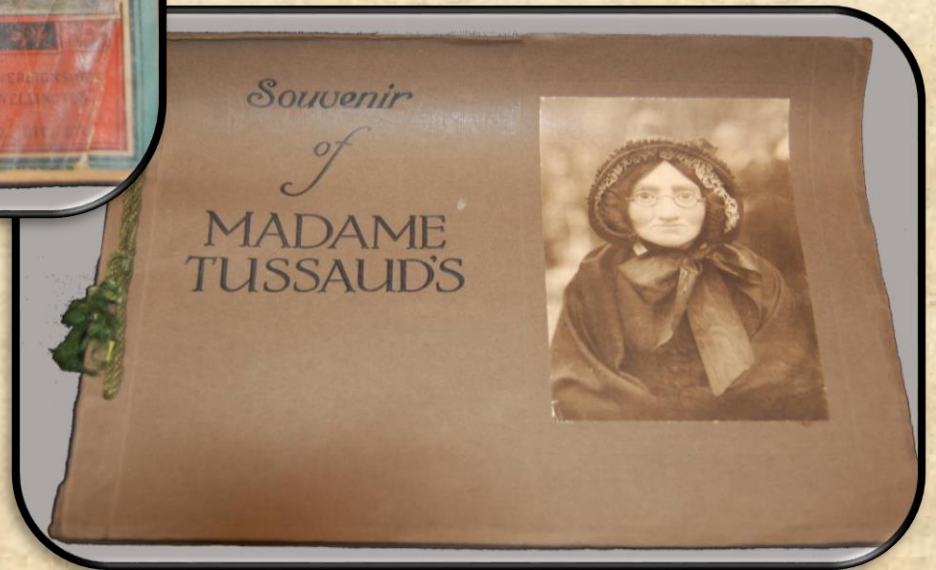
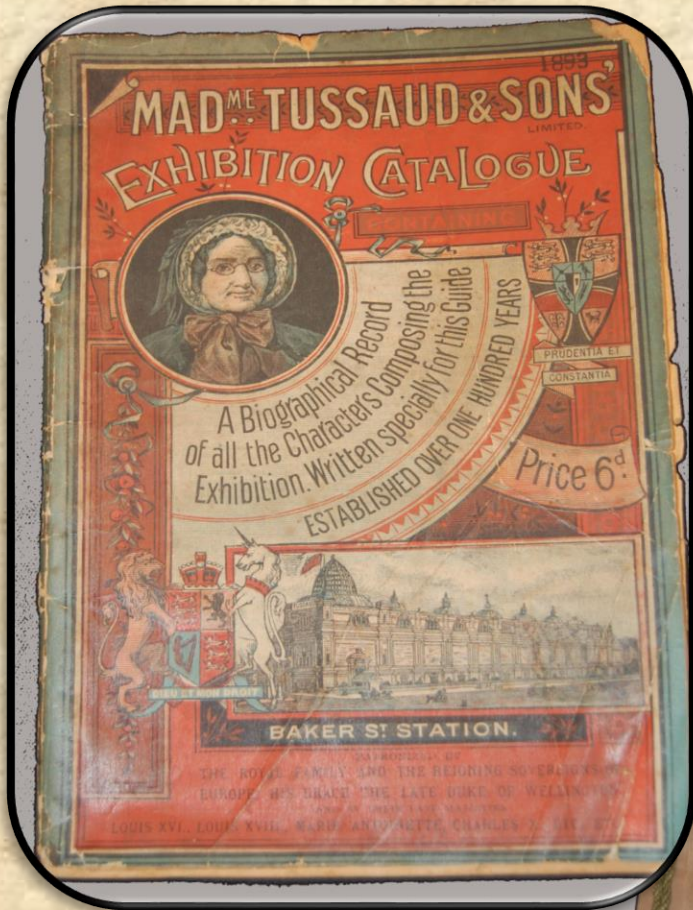


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Pictured is the King of Diamonds playing card which Holmes alluded to.

From the story:

‘That's the hand I play from,’ said Holmes. ‘I put it all upon the table. But one card is missing. It's the King of Diamonds. I don't know where the stone is.’

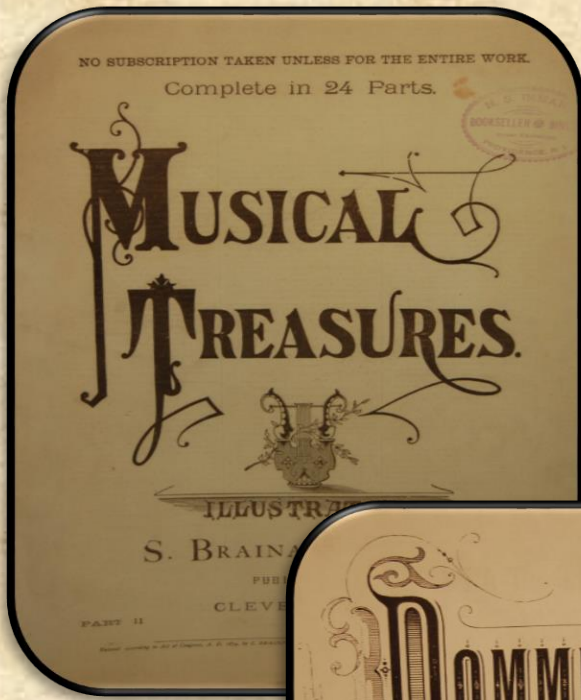


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Pictured are Madame Tussaud booklets, one from 1920's and one from 1897. Madame Tussaud Wax Museum was internationally known.

From the story:

'A fake, is it? Well, strike me! Madame Tussaud ain't in it.'



Pictured are sheet music from various songs which were popular at the time of the story and could have been on Holmes' playlist on the gramophone.

From the story:

'You are perfectly right. Let it play! These modern gramophones are a remarkable invention.'



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Pictured is Holmes' gramophone, which he used to deceive Sylvius and Sam Merton.

From the story:

'You are perfectly right. Let it play! These modern gramophones are a remarkable invention.'



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Pictured is the Tin Box for Victrola Player Needles, which Holmes would have used for his gramophone.

From the story:

‘Tut, tut!’ Holmes answered. ‘You are perfectly right. Let it play! These modern gramophones are a remarkable invention.’

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





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Pictured is the coal scuttle and violin Watson spotted upon entering Baker Street.

From the story:

He looked round him at the scientific charts upon the wall, the acid-charred bench of chemicals, the violin-case leaning in the corner, the coal-scuttle, which contained of old the pipes and tobacco.



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Pictured is the parasol used by Holmes as part of one of his many disguises.

From the story:

Billy pointed with a grin to a very baggy parasol which leaned against the sofa. 'That's part of the old woman's outfit,' he said.



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Pictured are the boxing gloves used by Sam Merton when he was a boxer.

From the story:

‘The other is Sam Merton, the boxer. Not a bad fellow, Sam, but the Count has used him.’



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Pictured is the air-gun Holmes referred to.

From the story:

‘Tavernier, the French modeller made it. He is as good at waxworks as your friend Straubenzee is at air-guns.’



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Pictured is the head of the heavy walking stick of Count Sylvius. Sylvius planned to use the stick to hit the 'fake Holmes' when he entered the sitting room.

From the story:

He took one more glance round to see that there were no witnesses, and then, on tiptoe, his thick stick half raised, he approached the silent figure.

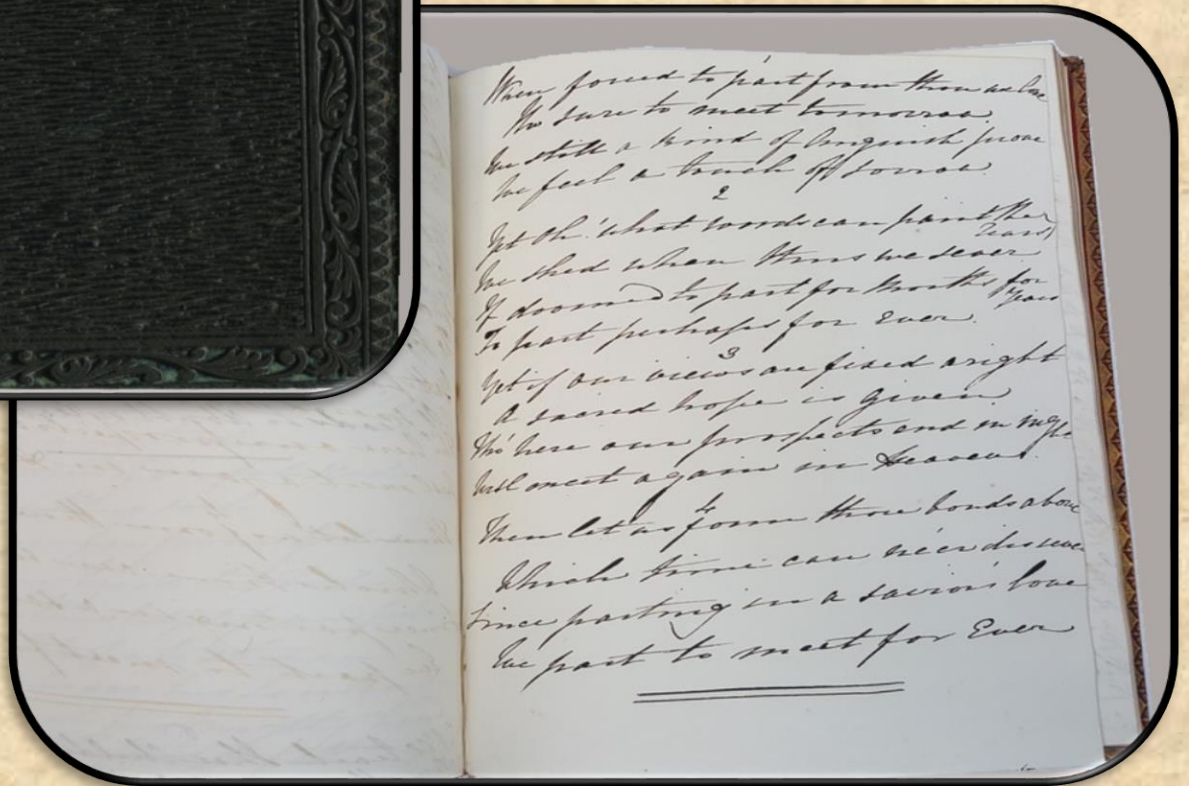
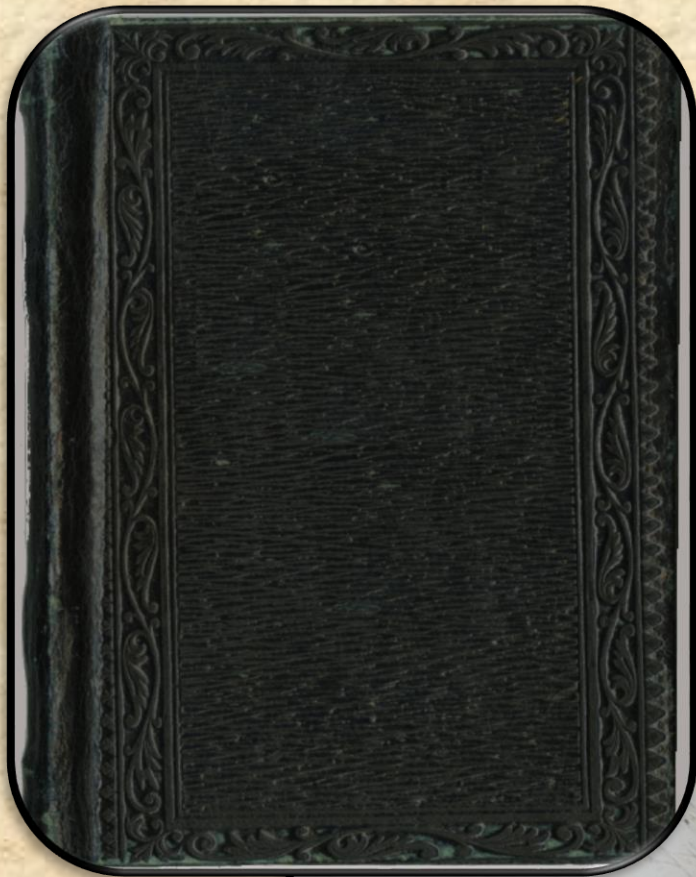


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Pictured is the bust Holmes used to deceive Count Sylvius.

From the story:

‘It's a pretty little thing,’ said Holmes, advancing towards the image.  
‘Tavernier, the French modeller made it.’



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Pictured is the notebook Holmes pulled out of his drawer and revealed his activities toward Sylvius.

From the story:

Then he threw open the table drawer and drew out a squat note-book.



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Pictured are the diamond cutting tools which were to be used to cut the Mazarin Stone once it arrived in Holland.

From the story:

‘The stone is here in my secret pocket. I take no chances leaving it about. It can be out of England to-night and cut into four pieces in Amsterdam before Sunday.’





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Pictured is a postal card of Liverpool, where Sylvius was going to tell Holmes the Mazarin Stone was being sent.

From the story:

‘I’ll tell him that the stone is in Liverpool. Confound that whining music, it gets on my nerves! By the time he finds it isn’t in Liverpool it will be in quarters and we on the blue water.’



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Pictured is a postal card of Whitehall, from where Count Sylvius was able to steal the Mazarin Stone.

From the story:

‘Where could I have it safer? If we could take it out of Whitehall someone else could surely take it out of my lodgings.’