Adventure LI – The Adventure of the Creeping Man



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 trocar and cannula which Bennett found once he found Presbury's wooden box. A cannula is a thin tube inserted into a vein to administer medicine or drain off fluid.

From the story:

'The Professor brought back a little wooden box from his travels. This he placed in his instrument cupboard. One day, in looking for a cannula, I took up the box.'

Pictured is the tag for Professor Presbury's dog that attacked him, confused with the Professor's scent and behavior.

From the story:

'Thus I have it here that it was on that very day, July 2nd, that Roy attacked the Professor as he came from his study into the hall.'

Pge 04

Pge 07 The Chequers Camford, Cambridgeshire - Sta Mr. Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John H. Watson Suite 9 23 September 1903 4/6 Lodging for two 2/3 Dinner for two 2d Tea for two 6/11 Total Received with thanks (6/11 EQUER ERISWELL SUFFOLK ENGLAND

Pictured is the receipt from the Chequers Inn where Holmes and Watson stayed. Also pictured is a coaster from the inn.

From the story:

'There is, if I remember right, an inn called the 'Chequers' where the port used to be above mediocrity, and the linen was above reproach.'

SHERLOCK HOLMES CONSULTING DETECTIVE

221 B BAKER STREET LONDON W1

John H. Watson, M.D. GENERAL PRACTICE AND SURGERY

9 HARLEY STREET

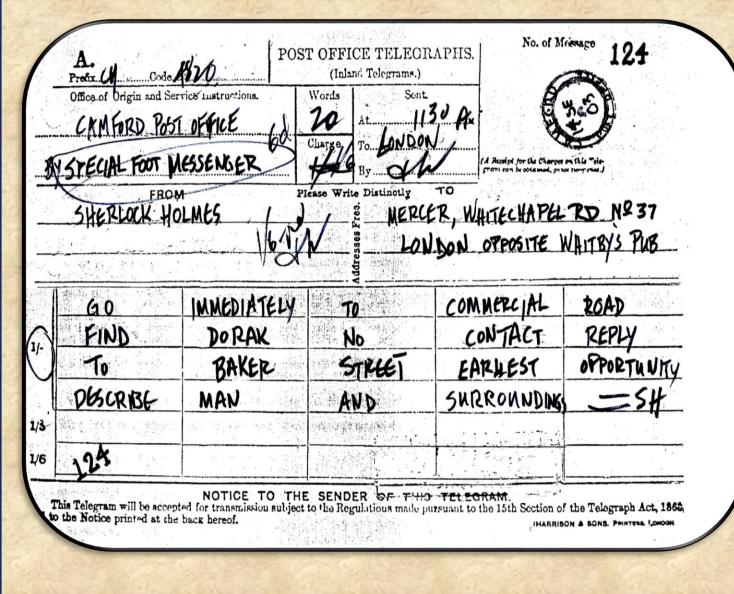
MARYLEBONE, LONDON W

Pictured are the calling, or visiting, cards for Holmes and Watson.

From the story:

He looked at our cards. 'Pray sit down, gentlemen. What can I do for you?'

Pge 11

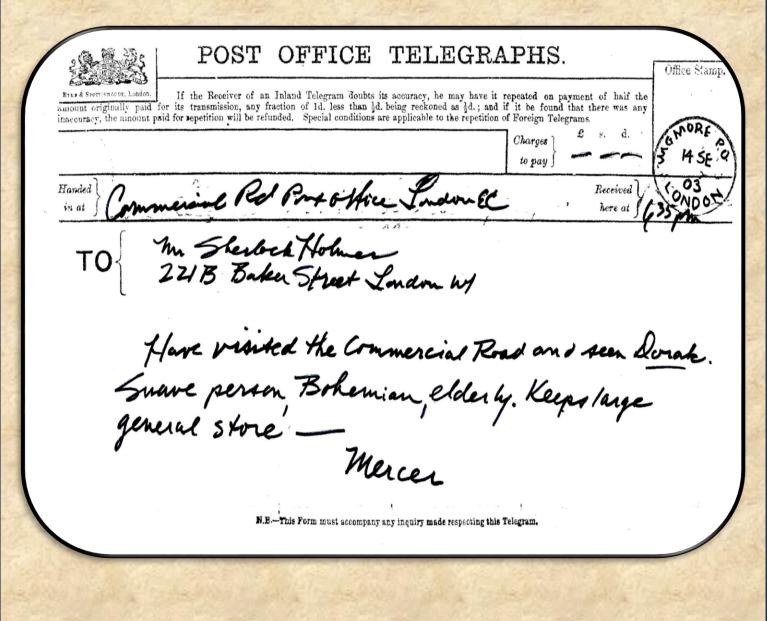


Pictured is the telegram to Mercer from Holmes, asking him to visit Dorak at Commercial Road.

From the story:

Holmes stopped at a post office and sent off a telegram on our way. 'Go immediately to Commercial Road. Find Dorak. No contact. Reply to Baker Street. Earnest opportunity. Describe man and surroundings.'

Pge 11



Pictured is the telegram to Holmes from Mercer, who had visited Dorak.

From the story:

The answer reached us in the evening, and he tossed it across to me. 'Have visited the Commercial Road and seen Dorak. Suave person, Bohemian, elderly. Keeps large general store. - Mercer.'

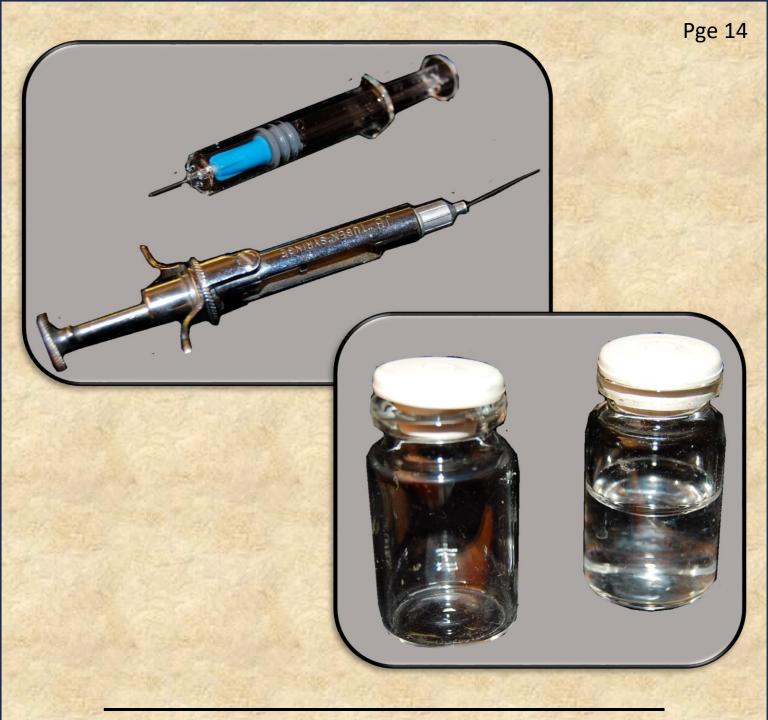


Pictured is the watch and watch chain upon which Presbury kept the key to the wooden box.

From the story:

'By the way, where is the key of that little box of which you spoke?' 'Upon his watch-chain.'

'I fancy our researches must lie in that direction. At the worst the lock should not be very formidable.'



Pictured are items found in Presbury's wooden box, including ampules and phials.

From the story:

'There was not much, but there was enough - an empty phial, another nearly full, a hypodermic syringe, several letters in a crabbed, foreign hand.'



Pictured is the envelope and receipts Dorak sent to Presebury for the purchase of the serum.

From the story:

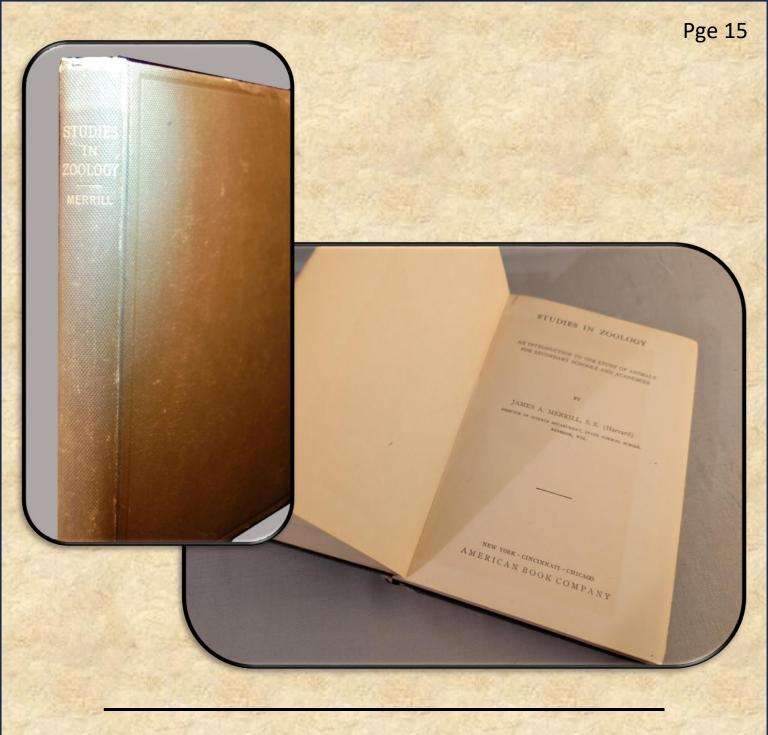
'A. Dorak'. They were mere invoices to say that a fresh bottle was being sent to Professor Presbury, or receipts to acknowledge money.'



Pictured is Presbury's wooden box which contained two phials, a syringe, and several letters.

From the story:

'Let us see what we can find in the Professor's mysterious box.' There was not much, but there was enough - an empty phial, another nearly full, a hypodermic syringe, several letters in a crabbed, foreign hand.



Pictured is the book *Studies in Zoology* by Merrill. The book was on the shelf consulted by Bennett regarding 'Langur'.

From the story:

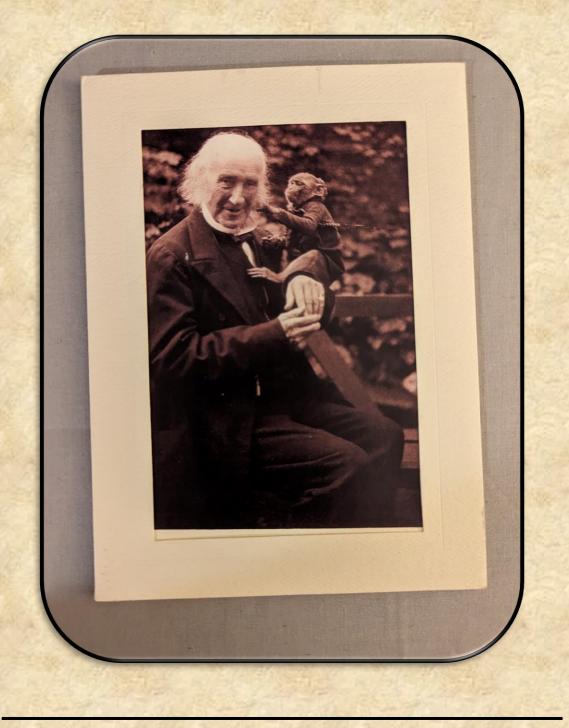
Bennett had taken a manual of zoology from the shelves. 'Langur' he read, 'the great black-faced monkey of the Himalayan slopes, biggest and most human of climbing monkeys.'



Pictured is the Family Doctor newspaper, which included an article about primates, written by Lowenstein.

From the story:

Lowenstein! The name brought back to me the memory of some snippet from a newspaper which spoke of an obscure scientist who was striving in some unknown way for the secret of rejuvenescence and the elixir of life.



Pictured is a photo of Professor Presbury with one of his pet monkeys.

From the story:

'Langur', he read, 'the great black-faced monkey of the Himalayan slopes, biggest and most human of climbing monkeys.' Ambassador Hotel Praha Bohemia 19 August 1903

HONOURED COLLEAGUE,

Since your esteemed visit I have thought much of your case, and though in your circumstances there are some special reasons for the treatment, I would none the less enjoin caution, as my results have shown that it is not without danger of a kind.

It is possible that the Serum of Anthropoid would have been better. I have, as I explained to you, used black-faced Langur because a specimen was accessible. Langur is, of course, a orawler and climber, while Anthropoid walks erect, and is in all ways nearer. I beg you to take every possible precuation of the process. I have one other client in England, and Dorak is ay agent for both. Weekly reports will oblige.

Weekly reports will oblige.

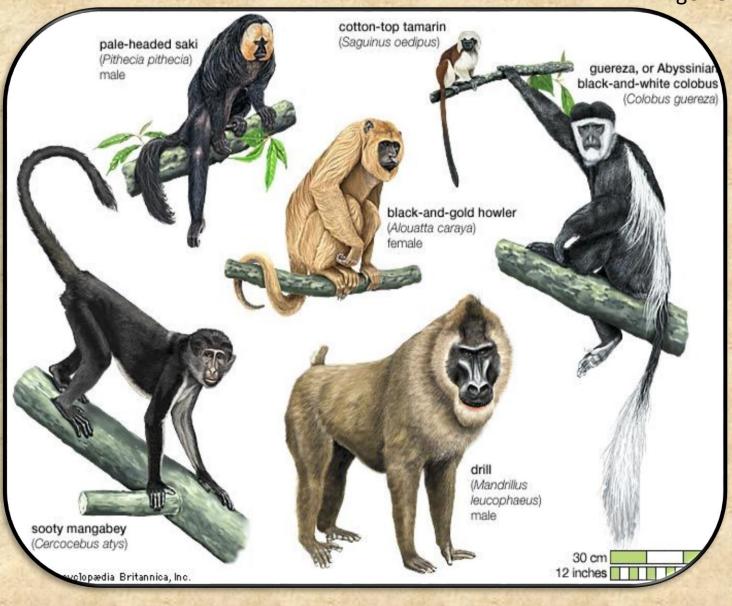
Pictured is the letter and envelope from Lowenstein, in Prague, discussing the serum received by Presbury.

Yours with high esteem, A Lowenstein H. Lowenstein

From the story:

There was one other envelope, however, in a more educated hand and bearing the Austrian stamp with the postmark of Prague.

'I have one other client in England, and Dorak is my agent for both. Weekly reports will oblige. Yours with high esteem, H. LOWENSTEIN'



Pictured is a poster of primates, including climbing monkeys, kept in Professor Presbury's study.

From the story:

'In a few words I said what I remembered. Bennett had taken a manual of zoology from the shelves. 'Langur', he read, 'the great black-faced monkey of the Himalayan slopes, biggest and most human of climbing monkeys.' Additional items of interest in "The Adventure of the Creeping Man" not included in the original Evidence Box. Come at once if convenient - if inconvenient come all the same. - S.H.

Pictured is the note sent by Holmes to Watson, asking for him to visit Baker Street to assist in the investigation of Professor Presbury.

From the story:

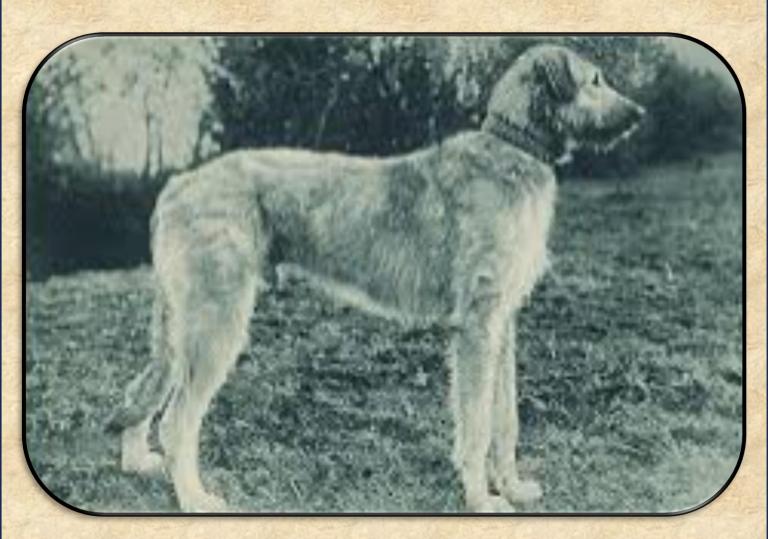
It was one Sunday evening early in September of the year 1903 that I received one of the Holmes's laconic messages:

'Come at once if convenient - if inconvenient come all the same. - SH.'

Pictured is Holmes' oily clay pipe, his choice of pipe while contemplating a case.

From the story:

When I arrived at Baker Street I found him huddled up in his arm-chair with updrawn knees, his pipe in his mouth and his brow furrowed with thought. It was clear that he was in the throes of some vexatious problem.



Pictured is a photo of Roy, the Irish Wolf-Hound. Although he was Professor Presbury's pet, he growled at him and attacked him when Presbury took the medicine..

From the story:

'...that such a man, whose friend has been his devoted wolf-hound, should now have been twice attacked by his own dog? What do you make of it?'