

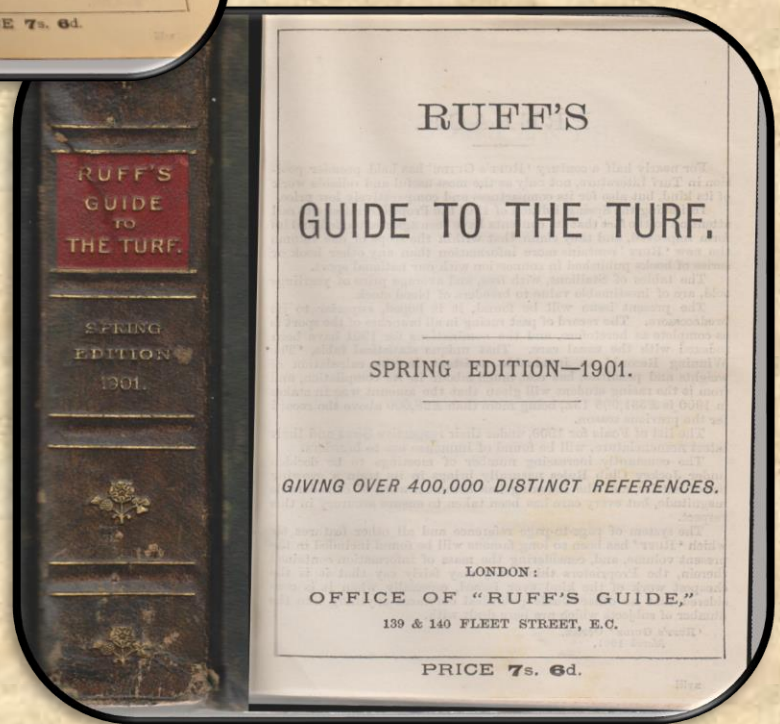
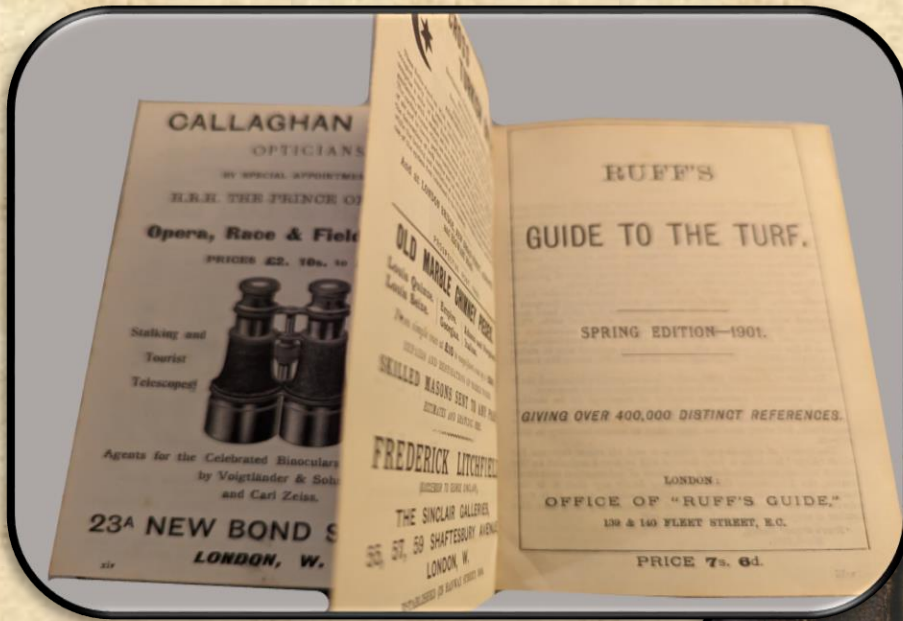
Adventure LX – The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place



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 Ruff's Handy Guide to the Turf, which Holmes alludes to with Watson.

From the story:

'Then I'll make you my *Handy Guide to the Turf*. What about Sir Robert Norborton? Does the name recall anything?'



Pictured is the microscope used by Holmes at Baker Street to see more closely clues from a case.

From the story:

Sherlock Holmes had been bending for a long time over a low-power microscope. Now he straightened himself up and looked round at me in triumph.



Pictured is the dog collar and chain from the Shoscombe spaniel belonging to Lady Beatrice Falder.

From the story:

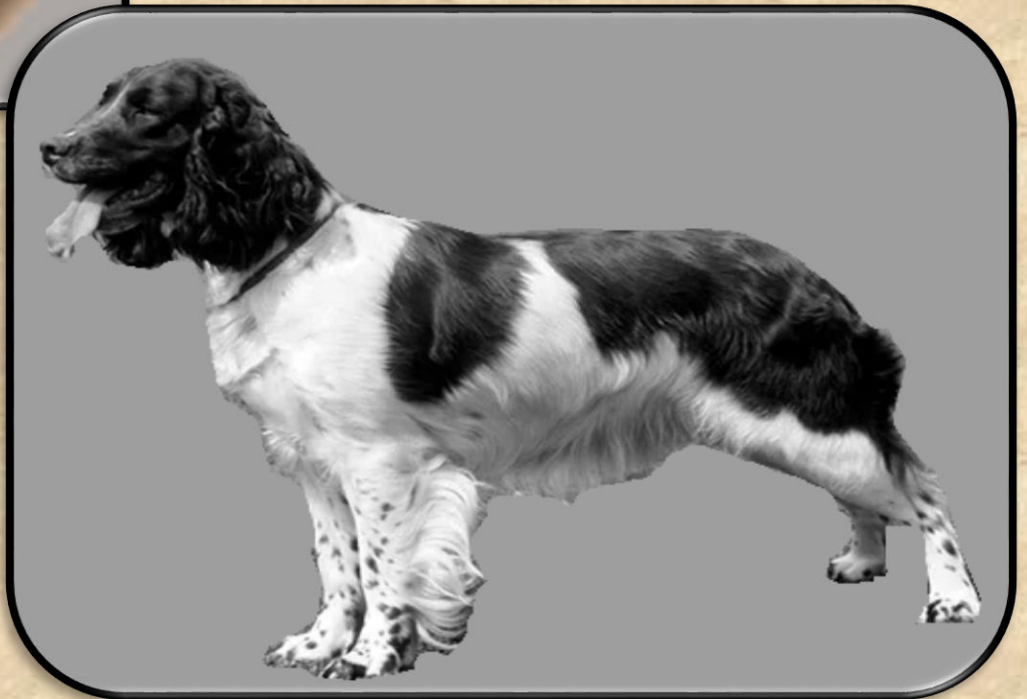
‘There are the Shoscombe spaniels,’ said I. ‘You hear of them at every dog show. The most exclusive breed in England. They are the special pride of the lady of Shoscombe Old Place.’



Pictured is the note from Mason, the head trainer, to Holmes on Shoscombe Old Place stationery.

From the story:

‘And the head trainer’, said Holmes, ‘is John Mason. You need not look surprised at my knowledge, Watson, for this is a letter from him which I am unfolding.’



Pictured is the photo of Lady Beatrice's pet spaniel, which Norborton gave away.

From the story:

'Why else would he give away her pet spaniel that she loved as if he were her child? He gave it a few days ago to old Barnes, what keeps the 'Green Dragon', three miles off, at Crendall.'

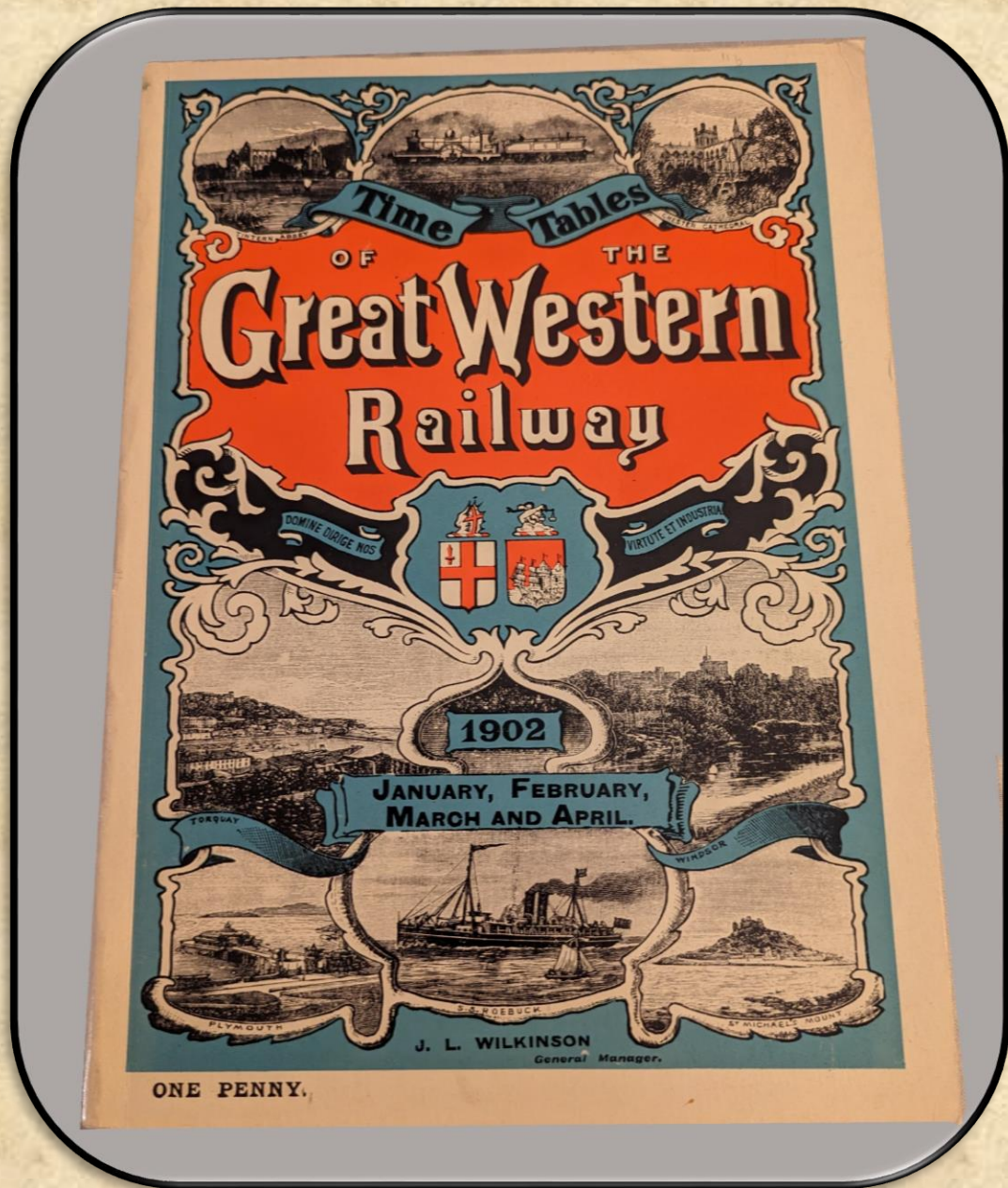


Pictured is the upper condyle of a human being found in the furnace in the cellar under Lady Beatrice's bedroom.

From the story:

It was burned to a black cinder, but there could be no question as to its anatomical significance.

'It's the upper condyle of a human femur,' said I.



Pictured is the schedule for the Great Western Railway, which Holmes and Watson took to Berkshire to visit Shoscombe Old Place.

From the story:

'Is there good fishing in that part of Berkshire?'

Thus it was that on a bright May evening Holmes and I found ourselves alone in a first-class carriage and bound for the little 'halt-on-demand' station of Shoscombe.

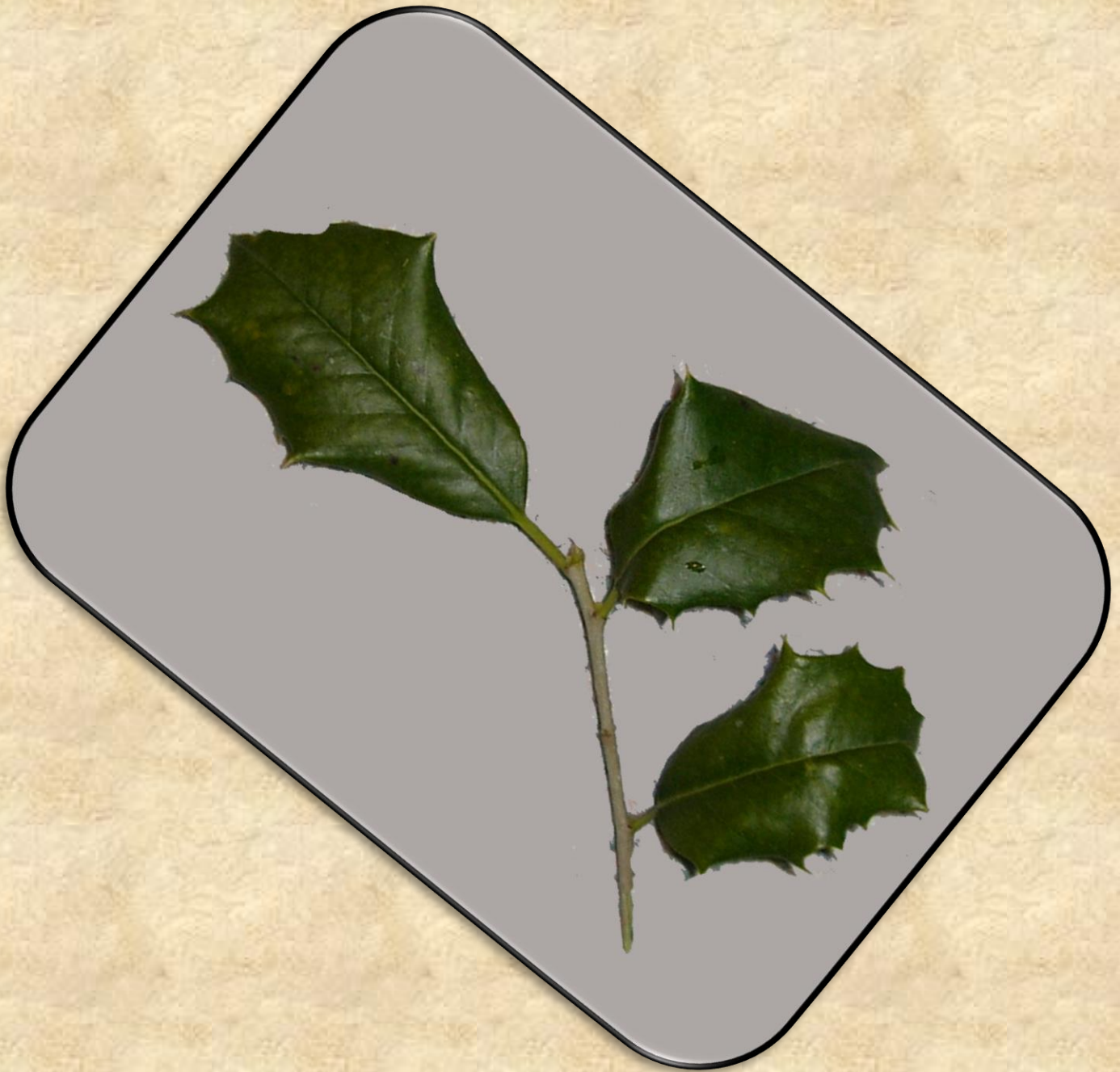


Pictured is the Green Dragon Inn, where Holmes and Watson stayed while in Berkshire investigating the case at Shoscombe Old Place.

From the story:

‘What is the name of that inn you spoke of?’

‘The Green Dragon.’



Pictured are holly leaves from the gate of Shoscombe Old Place

From the story:

‘Never mind me. I shall stand behind this hollybush and see what I can see.’



Pictured are the heraldic griffins which topped the gates and adorned the crypt's coffin-plates.

From the story:

‘This is the place,’ said he, as we came to two high park gates with heraldic griffins towering above them.

Its rays were reflected back from the coffin-plates, many of them adorned with the griffin and coronet of this old family which carried its honours even to the gate of Death.



Pictured are several fishing lures (spoon bait) brought and used by Holmes and Watson in their guise as fishermen.

From the story:

My companion seemed to have no further plans for the day, and we did actually use our fishing tackle in the mill-stream, with the result that we had a dish of trout for our supper.



Pictured is postal card showing the barouche ridden by Lady Falder to and from Old Shoscombe Place.

From the story:

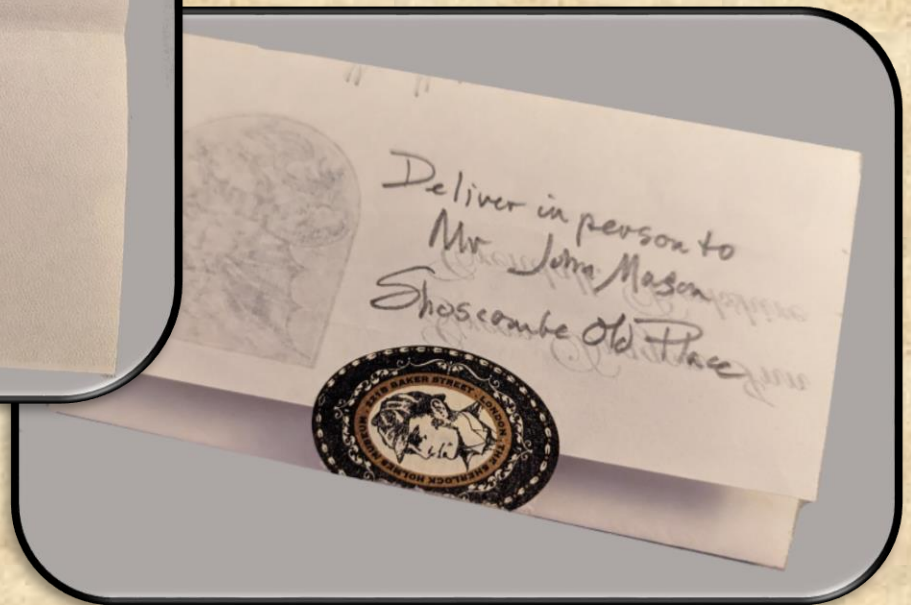
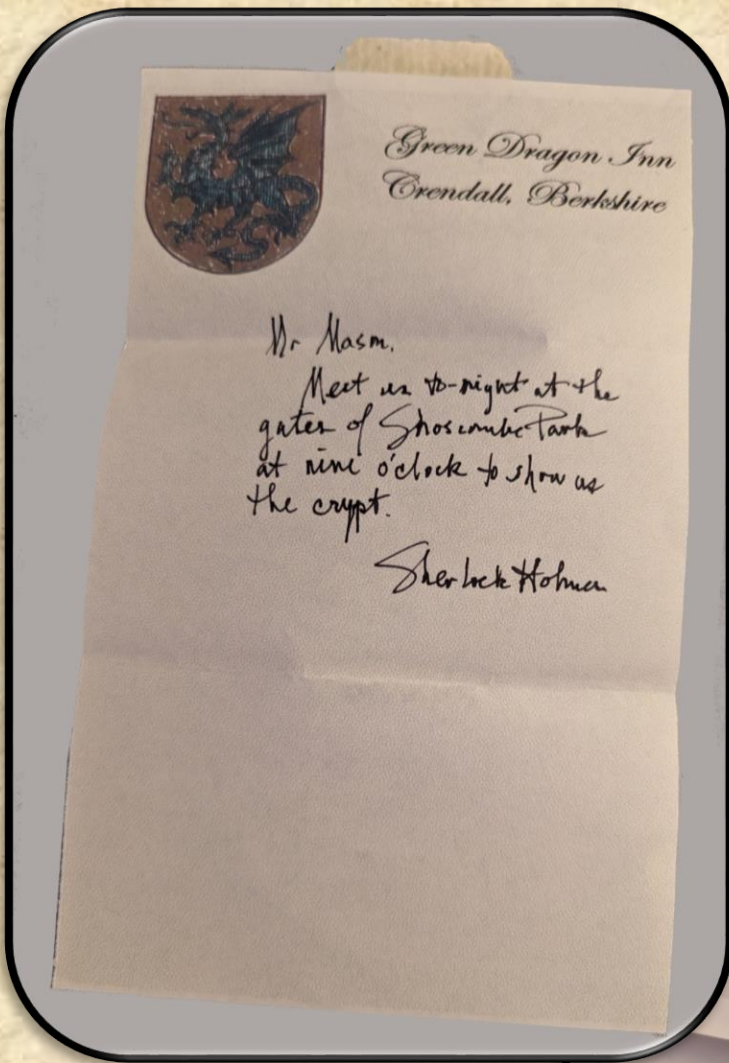
About midday, Mr Barnes informs me, the old lady takes a drive, and the carriage must slow down while the gates are opened.



Pictured is the fishing equipment, including fishing rod and reel, net and creel, brought and used by Holmes and Watson in their guise as fishermen.

From the story:

My companion seemed to have no further plans for the day, and we did actually use our fishing tackle in the mill-stream, with the result that we had a dish of trout for our supper.



Pictured is the note to Mason from Holmes on Green Dragon Inn stationery requesting they meet.

From the story:

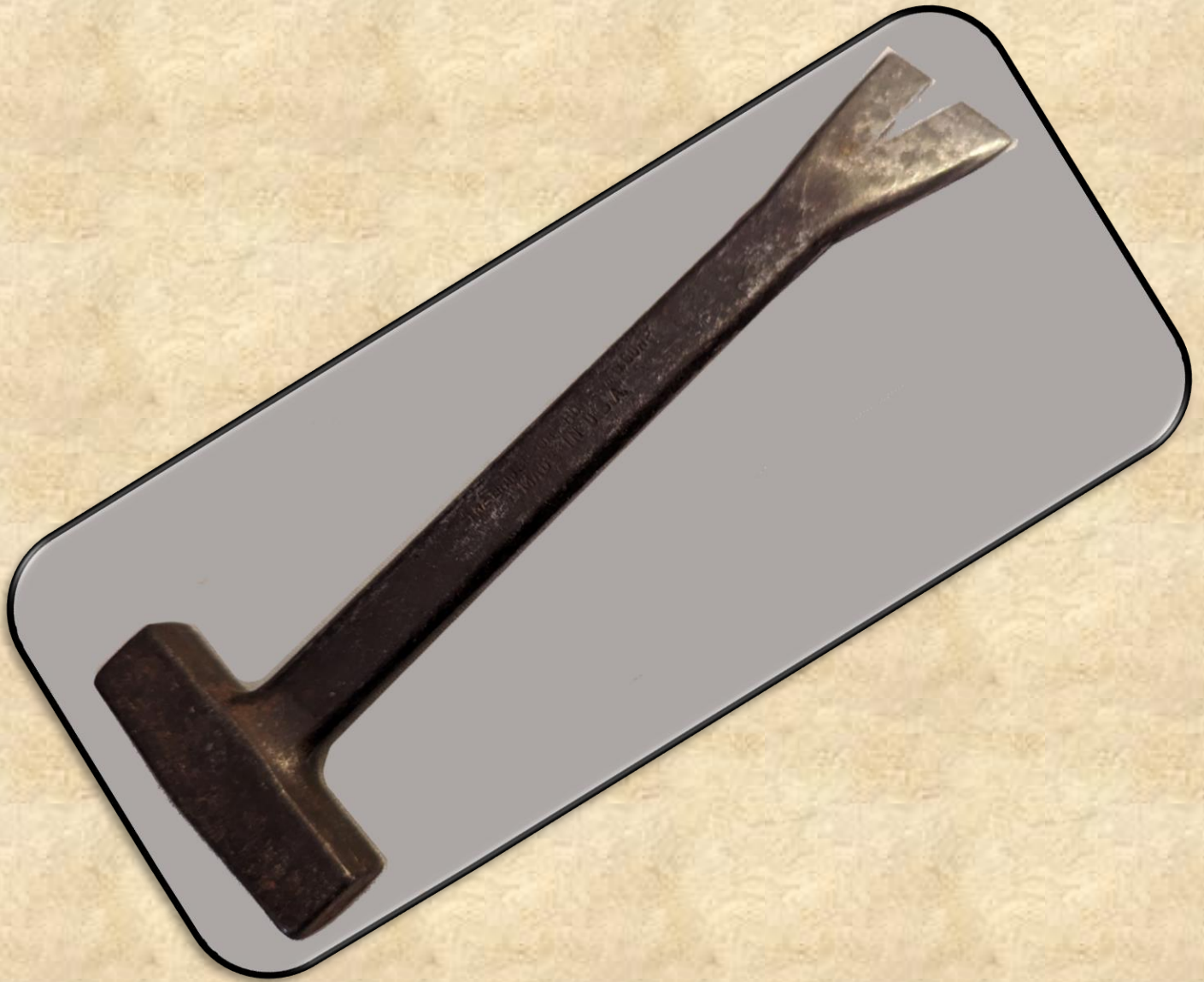
‘Good evening, gentlemen,’ said he. ‘I got your note, Mr Holmes. Sir Robert has not returned yet, but I hear that he is expected to-night.’



Pictured is the battery-operated flashlight Norberton used while in the crypt. This model of light had only been developed two years earlier.

From the story:

A light streamed down the stairs, and an instant later the man who bore it was framed in the Gothic archway.



Pictured is the nail puller/jemmy used by Holmes to open the coffin within the crypt.

From the story:

Then he drew from his pocket a short jemmy, a box-opener, which he thrust into a chink, levering back the whole front, which seemed to be secured by only a couple of clamps.

Additional items of interest
in “The Adventure of
Shoscombe Old Place” not
included in the original
Evidence Box.



Pictured is a postal card for Newmarket Heath, the location where Norberton beat the moneylender.

From the story:

‘It was when he horsewhipped Sam Brewer, the well-known Curzon Street moneylender, on Newmarket Heath. He nearly killed the man.’



Pictured is a board game, based on the Grand National Hunt run each year in England.

From the story:

‘Well, he has the name of being a dangerous man. He is about the most daredevil rider in England - second in the Grand National a few years back.’



Pictured is the sign for the Green Dragon Inn, where Holmes and Watson stayed in Berkshire.

From the story:

‘What is the name of that inn you spoke of?’

‘The Green Dragon.’



Pictured is the dark lantern Holmes had brought to the crypt at Shoscombe Old Place.

From the story:

Holmes had lit his lantern which shot a tiny tunnel of vivid yellow light upon the mournful scene.



Pictured is a container of medicine meant to cure dropsy and other kidney ailments. Many of these 'cures' were prevalent during the Victorian era.

From the story:

'My sister died of the dropsy which had long afflicted her.'
'That will be for a coroner to decide.'