

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Frederic Dorr Steele,
March, 1904

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton



"The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton" *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

01

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - Charles Augustus Milverton

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
April, 1904

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton



"The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton" *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

02

- 08 - Lady Eva Brackwell
- 09 - Inspector Lestrade
- 10 - Unnamed Noblewoman
- 11 - Agatha
- 12 - The Letters
- 13 - Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

The Return of Sherlock Holmes

VII

Charles Augustus Milverton
The Adventure of the Great Mummer's Dance.

It is years since the incidents of which I speak took place, and yet it is with the utmost diffidence that I allude to them. For a long time even with the utmost discretion and reticence it would have been impossible to make the facts public, but now the principal person concerned is beyond the reach of human law, and with due suppression the story may be told in such fashion as to injure no one. It records an absolutely unique experience in the career both of Mr. Sherlock Holmes and of myself. The reader will excuse me if I conceal the date or any other fact by which he might trace the actual occurrence.

We had been out for one of our evening rambles, Holmes and I, and had returned about six o'clock of on a cold frosty winter's evening. As Holmes turned up the lamp the light fell upon a card on the table. He glanced at it and then with an ejaculation of disgust threw it on the floor. I picked it up and read.

CHARLES AUGUSTUS MILVERTON.

AGENT.

APPLEDORE TERRACE,
HAMPSTEAD.

"Who is he?" I asked.

"The worst man in London," Holmes answered,

and stretched his legs before the fire. "Is an

of the card?"

I turned it over.

"Will call in at 6.30. C.A.M." I

! He's almost due. So

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton



"The Adventure of Charles
Augustus Milverton"
(*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

03

Lady Eva Brackwell has pleaded with Sherlock Holmes to help her recover compromising letters she had written and sent years ago.

Blackmailer Charles Augustus Milverton has purchased the letters and has threatened to turn the letters over to Brackwell's fiancé unless she pays for their return.

After an unsuccessful encounter with Milverton, Holmes must use all his resources to recover the letters before it is too late.

Canonical Characters



Stanley Armstrong,
April, 1905

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1922	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis
April 24, 1965	UK	Douglas Wilmer	Nigel Stock
1980	RU	Vasily Livanov	Vitaly Solomin
January 02, 1992	UK	Jeremy Brett	Edward Hardwicke
April 25, 2013	US	Johnny Lee Miller	Lucy Liu
January 12, 2014	UK	Benedict Cumberbatch	Martin Freeman

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
May 18, 1931	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
December 04, 1939	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
October 05, 1954	BBC	John Gielgud	Ralph Richardson
January 02, 1955	NBC	John Gielgud	Ralph Richardson
1959		Maurice Teynac	Pierre Mondy
December 18, 1961	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
1970		Robert Hardy	Nigel Stock
July 09, 1978	BBC	Barry Foster	David Buck
1987	BBC	Roy Marsden	John Moffatt
April 07, 1993	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
August 31, 2008		John Patrick Lowe	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

05

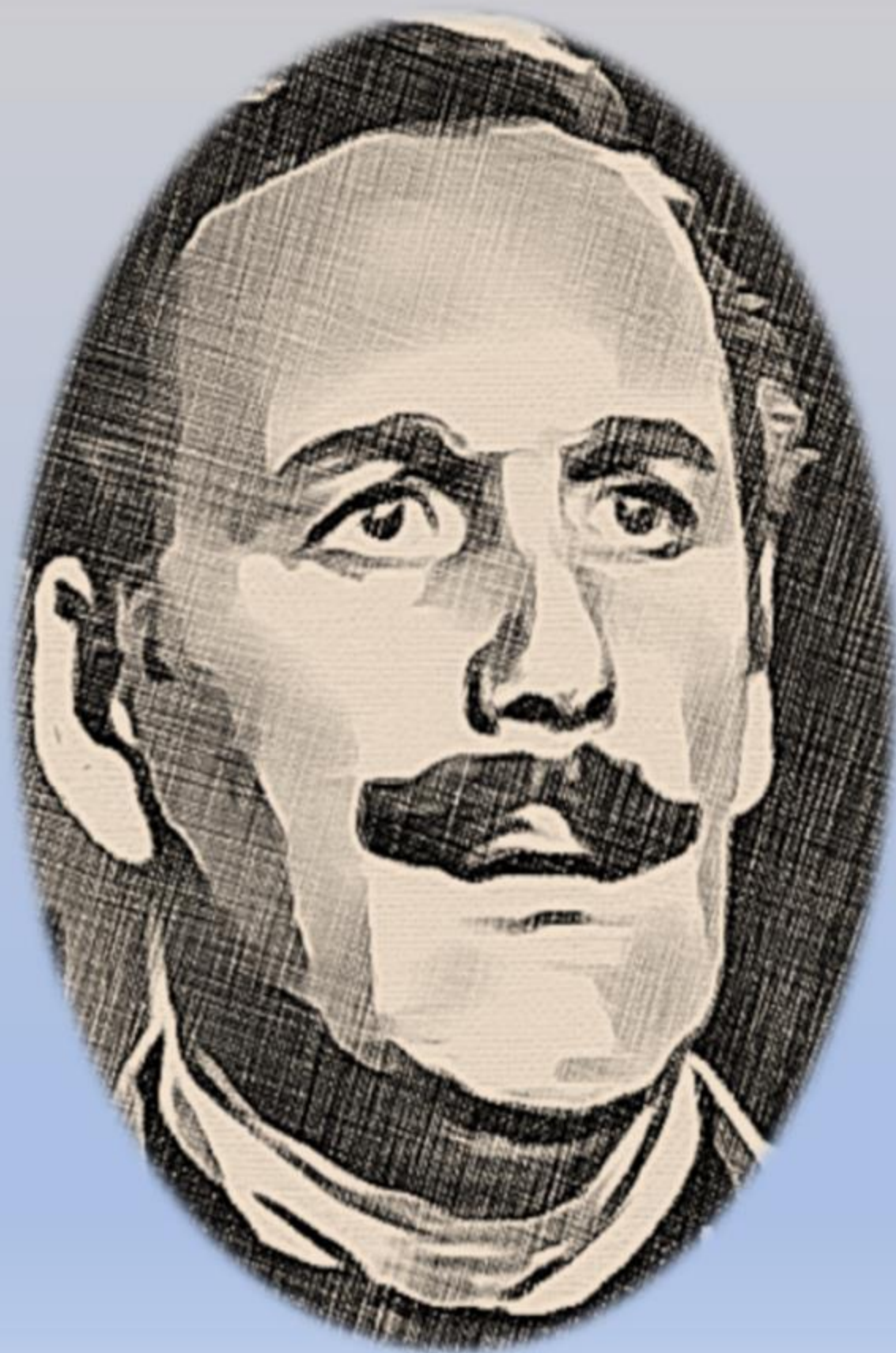
“For some days Holmes came and went at all hours in this attire, but beyond a remark that his time was spent at Hampstead, and that it was not wasted, I knew nothing of what he was doing.”

“Do you feel a creeping, shrinking sensation, Watson, when you stand before the serpents in the Zoo, and see the slithery, gliding, venomous creatures? Well, that's how Milverton impresses me.”

“Well, I'm afraid I can't help you, Lestrade,... My sympathies are with the criminals rather than with the victim, and I will not handle this case.”

(Ronald Howard, 1954, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

06

“The reader will excuse me if I conceal the date or any other fact by which he might trace the actual occurrence.”

“I give you my word of honour – and I never broke it in my life – that I will take a cab straight to the police-station and give you away unless you let me share this adventure with you.”

“I saw the picture of a regal and stately lady in Court dress, with a high diamond tiara upon her noble head. Then I caught my breath as I read the time-honoured title of the great nobleman and statesman whose wife she had been. Holmes put his finger to his lips as we turned away from the window.”

(Howard Marion-Crawford 1954, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*)

Canonical Characters



Charles Augustus Milverton



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

07

Of Appledore Towers, Hampstead, Holmes called him “the worst man in London,” and “the king of the blackmailers.” He blackmailed Lady Eva Brackwell causing Holmes and Watson to burgle his home to recover her papers, where they witnessed Milverton’s murder by a noblewoman who he had ruined.

“An exposure would profit me indirectly to a considerable extent. I have eight or ten similar cases maturing.”

“He ... then fell forward upon the table, coughing furiously and clawing among the papers. He staggered to his feet, received another shot, and rolled upon the floor. ‘You’ve done me,’ he cried, and lay still.”

(Robert Hardy, 1992, *Sherlock Holmes*, “The Master Blackmailer”)

Canonical Characters



Lady Eva Brackwell



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

08

Holmes’s client who was betrothed to the Earl of Dovercourt and had been blackmailed by Milverton.

Holmes called her, “the most beautiful debutante of last season.” Milverton had obtained “several imprudent letters ... which were written to an impecunious young squire in the country.”

“Lady Eva is not a wealthy woman. I assure you that two thousand pounds would be a drain upon her resources, and that the sum you name is utterly beyond her power.”

(Serena Gordon, 1992, *Sherlock Holmes*, “The Master Blackmailer”)

Canonical Characters



Inspector Lestrade



“The Adventure of Charles
Augustus Milverton”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

09

Sought Holmes’s help. “A most dramatic and remarkable murder. I would take it as a great favour if you would step down to Appledore Towers and give us the benefit of your advice.”

“There were two of them. They were as nearly as possible captured red-handed. We have their footmarks, we have their description, it's ten to one that we trace them.”

(Colin Jeavons, 1992, *Sherlock Holmes*, “The Master Blackmailer”)

Canonical Characters



Unnamed Noblewoman



“The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton” *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

10

“In front of him, in the full glare of the electric light, there stood a tall, slim, dark woman, a veil over her face, a mantle drawn round her chin.”

“It is I, the woman whose life you have ruined.”

“I begged and prayed you for mercy, and you laughed in my face as you are trying to laugh now.”

“You will ruin no more lives as you have ruined mine. You will wring no more hearts as you wrung mine. I will free the world of a poisonous thing. Take that, you hound—and that!—and that!—and that!”

(Norma West, 1992, Sherlock Holmes, “The Master Blackmailer”)

Canonical Characters



Agatha



“The Adventure of Charles
Augustus Milverton”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

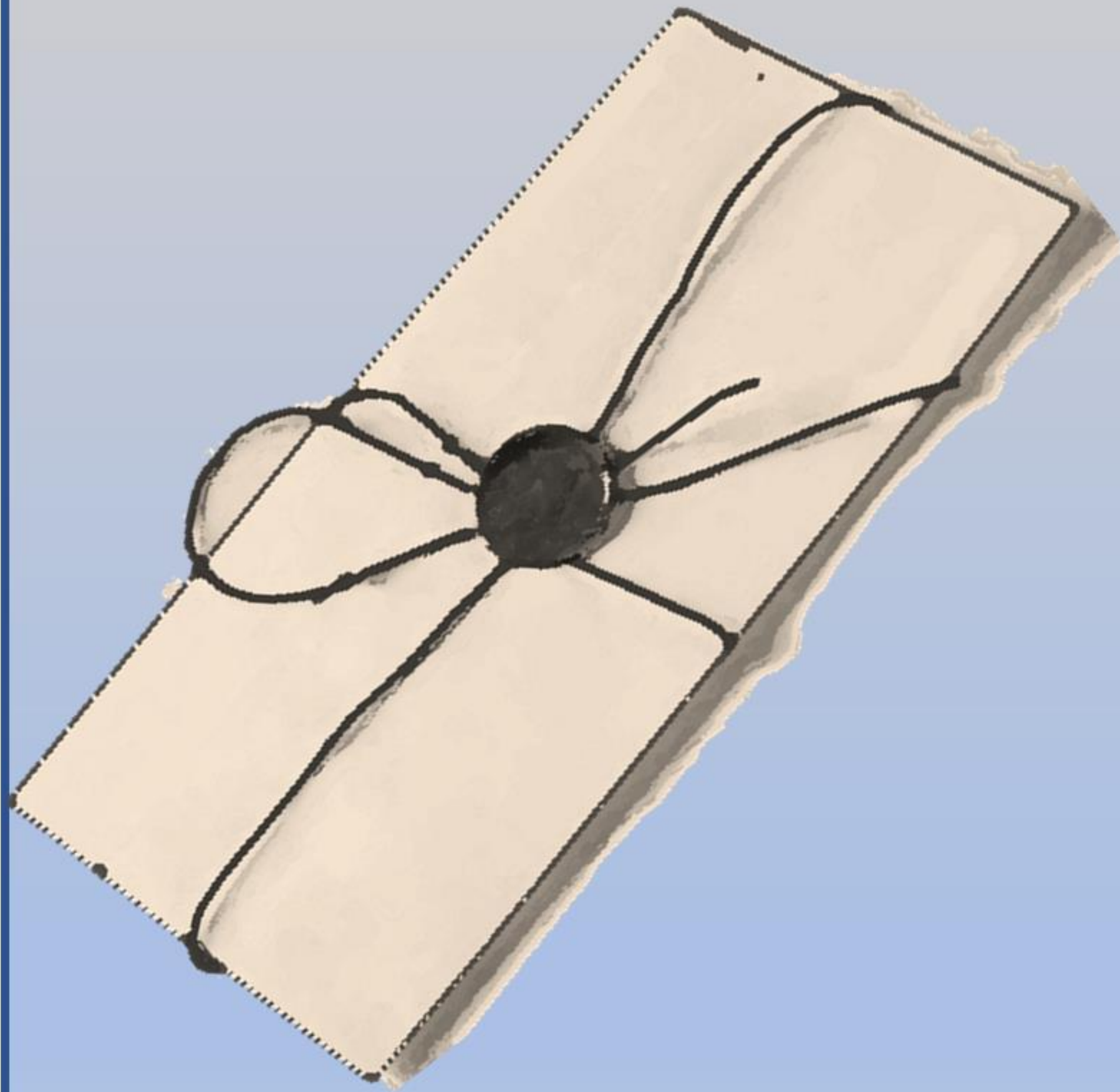
11

Milverton’s housemaid who
Holmes proposed to while
disguised as Escott, a rising
plumber.

“It is a joke in the servants’
hall that it’s impossible to
wake the master. He has a
secretary who is devoted to his
interests, and never budes
from the study all day.”

(Svetlana Kryushkova, 1980, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*,
“The King of Blackmail”)

Canonical Characters



The Letters



“The Adventure of Charles
Augustus Milverton”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

12

“... and inside I had a glimpse of a number of paper packets, each tied, sealed, and inscribed.”

“Let me assure them that this little bundle of letters would give more joy than all the candelabra and butter-dishes in London.”

“With perfect coolness Holmes slipped across to the safe, filled his two arms with bundles of letters, and poured them all into the fire.”

Canonical Characters



Martin Van Maele,
1906

The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton



"The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton" (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

13

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
April, 1904
U.S. -- *Collier's*
March 26, 1904

U.K. - *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
March 07, 1905 George Newnes Ltd.
U.S. - *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
February, 1905, McClure, Phillips & Co.

Chronological
Date:

January 05, 1899
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

16 of 56 short stories
(Sherlockian poll, 1999, Stock)

Christ
Abbreviation:

CHAS