

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
September, 1904

The Adventure of the Abbey Grange



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange” 01

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - Sir Eustace Brackenstall

Canonical Characters



Holmes examines

Frederic Dorr Steele,
December, 1904

The Adventure of the Abbey Grange



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange"

02

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

- 08 - Inspector Stanley Hopkins
- 09 - Lady Brackenstall
- 10 - Theresa Wright
- 11 - Captain Jack Crocker
- 12 - The Wine Glasses
- 13 - Data! Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

THE STRAND MAGAZIN

AUGUST, 1904.

THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

XI.—*The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter.*

WE were fairly accustomed to receive weird telegrams at Baker Street, but I have a particular recollection of one which reached us on a gloomy February morning some seven or eight years ago and gave Mr. Sherlock Holmes a puzzled quarter of an hour. It was addressed to him, and ran thus:—

"Please await me. Terrible misfortune. Right wing three-quarter missing; indispensable to morrow.—OVERTON."

"Strand post-mark and dispatched thirty-six," said Holmes, reading it over and over. "Mr. Overton was evidently considerably excited when he sent it, and somewhat incoherent in consequence. Well, well, he will be here, I dare say, by the time I have looked through the *Times*, and then we shall know all about it. Even the most insignificant problem would be welcome in these stagnant days."

Things had indeed been very slow with us, and I had learned to dread such periods of inaction, for I knew by experience that my companion's brain was so abnormally active that it was dangerous to leave it without material upon which to work. For years I had gradually weaned him from that drug mania which had threatened once to check his remarkable career. Now I knew that under ordinary conditions he no longer needed for this artificial stimulus, but I was aware that the fiend was not dead, but sleeping; and I have known that the sleep of the night one and the waking near when the idleness I have seen the drawn Holmes's ascetic face, and the deep-set and inscrutable eyes.

Therefore I blessed this Mr. Overton, whoever he might be, since he had come with his enigmatic message to break that dangerous calm which brought more peril to my friend than all the storms of his tempestuous life.

As we had expected, the telegram was soon followed by its sender, and the card of Mr. Cyril Overton, of Trinity College, Cambridge, announced the arrival of an enormous young man, sixteen stone of solid bone and muscle, who spanned the doorway with his broad shoulders and looked from one of us to the other with a comely face which was haggard with anxiety.

"Mr. Sherlock Holmes?"

My companion bowed.

"I've been down to Scotland Yard, Mr. Holmes. I saw Inspector Stanley Hopkins. He advised me to come to you. He said the case, so far as he could see, was more in your line than in that of the regular police."

"Pray sit down and tell me what is the matter."

"It's awful, Mr. Holmes, simply awful! I wonder my hair isn't grey. Godfrey Staunton—you've heard of him, of course? He's simply the hinge that the whole team turns on. I'd rather spare two from the pack and have Godfrey for my three-quarter line. Whether it's passing, or tackling, or dribbling, there's no one to touch him; and then, he's got the head and can hold us together. What am I to do? That's what I ask you, Mr. Holmes. There's Moorhead as a first reserve, but he is trained as a half; he always edges right in on to the line instead of keeping out on the edge. He's a fine place-kick, it's true."

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The Adventure of the Abbey Grange



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange"

03

(*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

Dr. Watson is awakened by Sherlock Holmes, having received a request from Stanley Hopkins to come to Abbey Grange at once.

Can Holmes decipher the clues of a bent poker, used wine glasses, and a torn-down bell-rope to determine if the Randall gang is responsible for the murder of Sir Eustace Brackenstall, or does the mystery run much deeper?

Canonical Characters

of SHERLOCK



Reginald Russom,
May, 1905

The Adventure of the Abbey Grange



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange" *(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)*

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1923	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
June 08, 1931	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
October 26, 1932	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
December 29, 1940	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
August 14, 1962	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
September 29, 1993	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange" 05

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

"Every instinct that I possess cries out against it. It's wrong—it's all wrong—I'll swear that it's wrong."

"It can only mean that Lady Brackenstall and her maid have deliberately lied to us, that not one word of their story is to be believed, that they have some very strong reason for covering the real criminal."

"I had rather play tricks with the law of England than with my own conscience."

(Barry Foster, 1978, Sherlock Holmes)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange”

06

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

It was on a bitterly cold and frosty morning, towards the end of the winter of '97, that I was awakened by a tugging at my shoulder. It was Holmes. “Come, Watson, come!” he cried. “The game is afoot. Not a word! Into your clothes and come!”

“Now, gentleman of the jury, you have heard the evidence. Do you find the prisoner guilty or not guilty?”

“Not guilty, my lord.”

(David Buck, 1978, Sherlock Holmes)

Canonical Characters



Sir Eustace Brackenstall



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange"

07

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

One of the richest men in Kent.

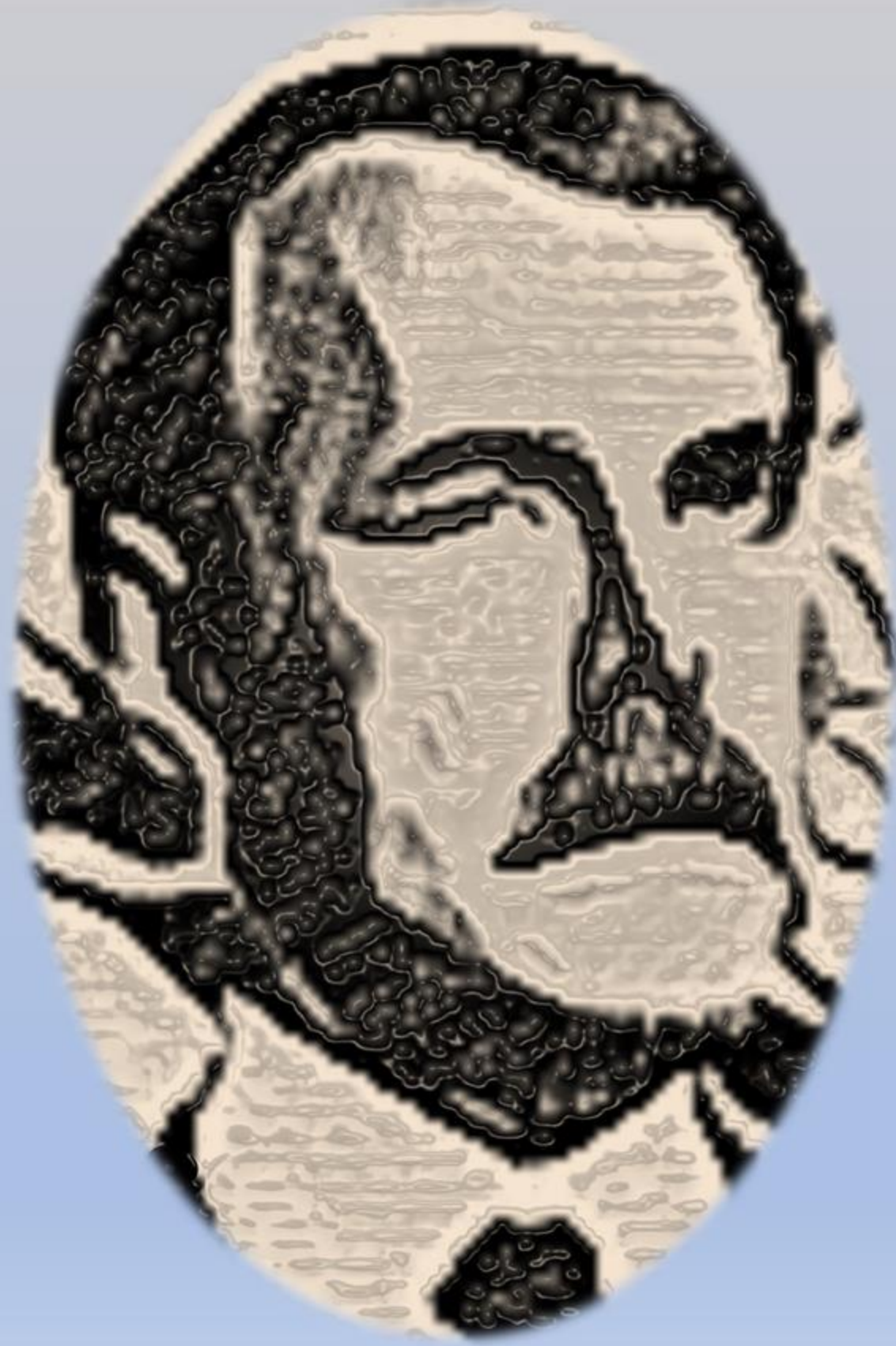
"Yes, his head was knocked in with
his own poker."

"He was a good-hearted man when
he was sober, but a perfect fiend
when he was drunk, or rather when
he was half drunk."

"There was a scandal about his
drenching a dog with petroleum and
setting it on fire—her ladyship's
dog."

*(Conrad Phillips, 1986, The Return of Sherlock Holmes,
"The Abbey Grange")*

Canonical Characters



Inspector Stanley Hopkins



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange"

08

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Scotland Yard investigator in charge
of the death of Sir Eustace
Brackenstall.

*"I should be very glad of your
immediate assistance in what
promises to be a most remarkable
case."*

*"You have made the affair far more
difficult. What sort of burglars are
they who steal silver and then throw
it into the nearest pond?"*

(Paul Williamson, 1986, *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
"The Abbey Grange")

Canonical Characters



Lady Brackenstall



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange”

09

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Mary Fraser of Adelaide, Australia.
Wife of Sir Eustace. She was a blonde,
golden-haired, blue-eyed.

*“I was brought up in the freer, less
conventional atmosphere of South
Australia, and this English life, with its
proprieties and its primness, is not
congenial to me.”*

*“He caught me first by the wrist and
then by the throat. I opened my mouth
to scream, but he struck me a savage
blow with his fist over the eye, and
felled me to the ground.”*

(Anne-Louise Lambert, 1986, *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
“The Abbey Grange”)

Canonical Characters



Theresa Wright



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange” 10

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Lady Brackenstall’s maid. Nursed Lady Brackenstall from childhood in Australia.

“I heard my mistress scream, and down I ran, to find her, poor lamb, just as she says, and him on the floor, with his blood and brains over the room.”

“He won her with his title and his money and his false London ways.”

(Zulema Dene, 1986, The Return of Sherlock Holmes, “The Abbey Grange”)

Canonical Characters



Captain Jack Crocker



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange”

11

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

A very tall young man, golden-moustached, blue-eyed, with a skin which had been burned by tropical suns.

“From the first day that I met her when she was a passenger and I was first officer of the ROCK OF GIBRALTAR. From the first day I met her, she was the only woman to me.”

“It was a fair fight between us. See here, on my arm, where his first blow fell. Then it was my turn, and I went through him as if he had been a rotten pumpkin.”

(Oliver Tobias, 1986, The Return of Sherlock Holmes, “The Abbey Grange”)

Canonical Characters



The Wine Glasses



"The Adventure of Abbey Grange"

12

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

The three glasses were grouped together, all of them tinged with wine, and one of them containing some dregs of bee-swing.

"And yet you must admit that the three glasses are very remarkable, Hopkins. What, you see nothing remarkable? Well, well, let it pass."

"That only two glasses were used, and that the dregs of both were poured into a third glass, so as to give the false impression that three people had been there. In that way all the bee-swing would be in the last glass, would it not? Yes, am convinced that this is so."

Canonical Characters



Gaston Simoes da Fonseca,
1909

The Adventure of the Abbey Grange



“The Adventure of Abbey Grange”

13

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
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U.S. - *Collier's*
September 31, 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:

Winter of 1897
(Watson)
January 23, 1897
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

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

Christ
Abbreviation:

ABBE