

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
August, 1904

The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter



"The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter"

01

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - Godfrey Staunton

Canonical Characters



Frederic Dorr Steele,
November, 1904

The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter



"The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter"
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

01

- 08 - Cyril Overton
- 09 - Lord Mount-James
- 10 - Pompey
- 11 - The Porter
- 12 - Mrs. Godfrey Staunton
- 13 - Dr. Leslie Armstrong
- 14 - 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 features of 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 in the first reserve, but he is trained as a half; he always edges right in on to the line instead of keeping out on the wing. He's a fine place-kick, it's true."

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter



"The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter"

03

(*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

Mr. Cyril Overton of Trinity College, Cambridge, comes to seek Holmes' assistance in the disappearance of Godfrey Staunton, the key man on his rugby union team.

They will not win an important match against Oxford the next day if Staunton cannot be found.

Can Holmes save the day for Cambridge, or find the true meaning of the player's disappearance?

Canonical Characters



The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter



"The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter" (*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 Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

05

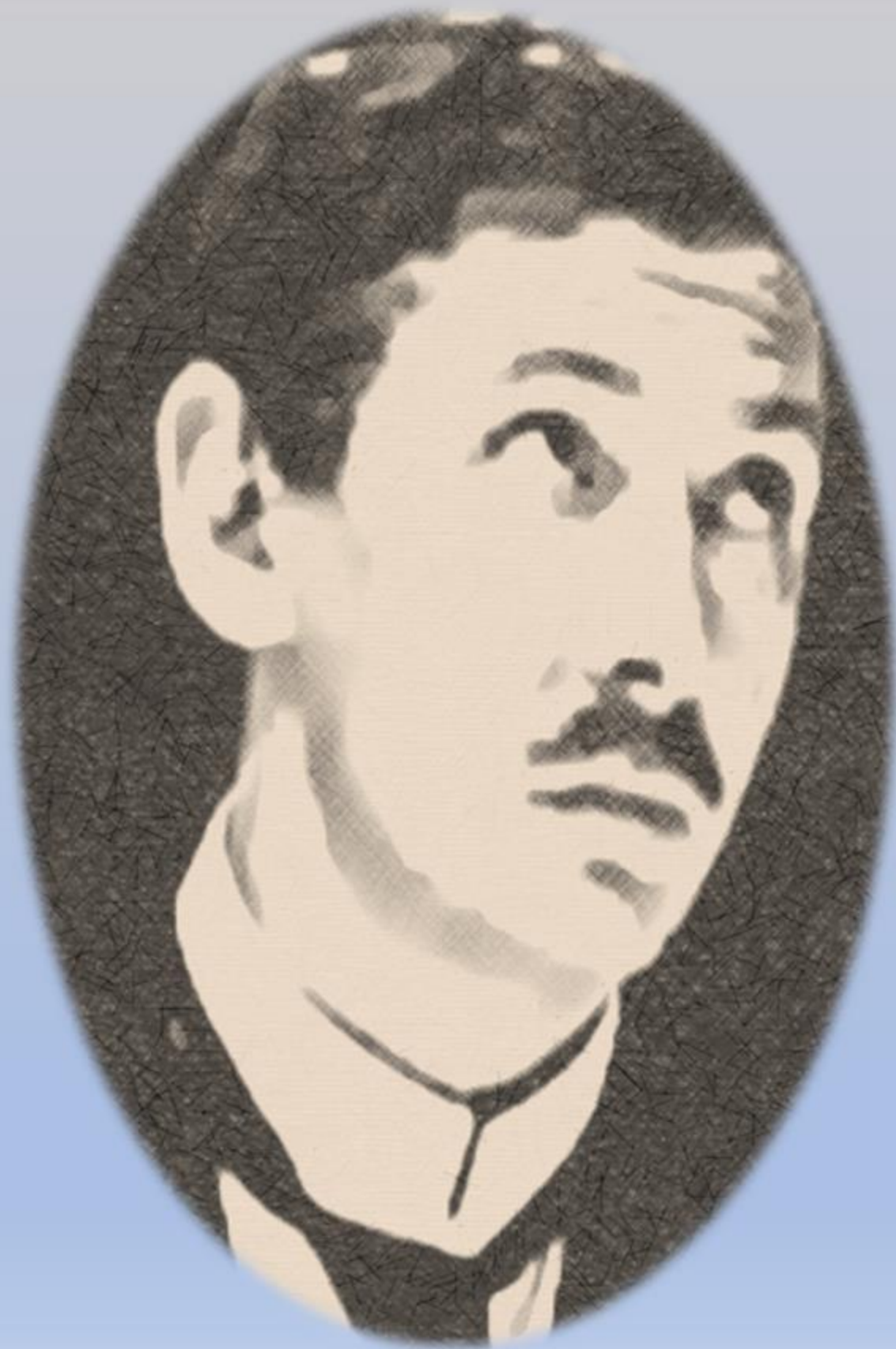
“Even the most insignificant problem would be welcome in these stagnant days.”

“This young man saw a formidable danger which approached him, and from which someone else could protect him.”

“Excellent, Watson! You are scintillating this evening.”

(Rupert Everett, 2004, Sherlock Holmes and the Silk Stocking)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

06

“We were fairly accustomed to receive weird telegrams at Baker Street.”

“Terrible misfortune. Right wing three-quarter missing, indispensable to-morrow.
OVERTON.”

“I don't think that among all our cases I have known one where the motives are more obscure.”

(Ian Hart, 2004, Sherlock Holmes and the Silk Stocking)

Canonical Characters



Godfrey Staunton



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”

07

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Secretly married his landlady’s
daughter.

“The crack three-quarter,” who
played rugby on the Cambridge,
Blackheath, and five International
teams.

“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 all
together.”

“You are too late. She is dead.”

Canonical Characters



Cyril Overton



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

08

Skipper of the Trinity College,
Cambridge, varsity rugby team
who came to see Holmes for
help to find Godfrey Staunton.

*“He had gone off at a
moment's notice with this
stranger, and no word has
come from him since.”*

*“It is entirely possible that a
gang of thieves have secured
[him].”*

Canonical Characters



Lord Mount-James



“The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter”

09

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

One of the richest men in England, uncle to Staunton. “A queer little old man. He was dressed in rusty black, ... the whole effect being that of a very rustic parson or of an undertaker's mute.”

“He never allowed Godfrey a shilling in his life, for he is an absolute miser.”

“Spare no pains, Mr. Detective! I beg you to leave no stone unturned to bring him safely back.”

Canonical Characters



Pompey



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

10

“A squat, lop-eared, white-and-tan dog, something between a beagle and a foxhound.

“Pompey is the pride of the local draghounds—no very great flier, as his build will show, but a staunch hound on a scent.”

“Pompey ran about and whined eagerly outside the gate, where the marks of the brougham's wheels were still to be seen.”

Canonical Characters



The Porter



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

11

Porter at Bentley’s private
hotel.

Was present when Staunton
received a telegram from a
“medium-looking chap,” a
man of fifty, beard grizzled,
pale face, quietly dressed.
“He seemed himself to be
agitated.”

(Jack Raymond 1922, *The Missing Three-Quarter*)

Canonical Characters



Mrs. Godfrey Staunton



“The Adventure of Missing
Three-Quarter”
(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

12

Daughter of Godfrey’s
landlady who secretly
married Staunton a year
earlier and died of
consumption.

“She was as good as she was
beautiful and as intelligent
as she was good. No man
need be ashamed of such a
wife.”

Canonical Characters



Dr. Leslie Armstrong



“The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter”

13

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

One of the heads of the Cambridge
medical school.

*“No spying upon me can in any way
help Mr. Godfrey Staunton, and I
am convinced that the best service
you can do to that gentleman is to
return at once to London.”*

Holmes said, “I have not seen a man
who, if he turns his talents that way,
was more calculated to fill the gap
left by the illustrious Moriarty.”

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
August, 1904

The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter



“The Adventure of Missing Three-Quarter” (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

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First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
August, 1904
U.S. - *Collier's*
November 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:

February
(Watson)
December 08, 1896
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

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

Christ
Abbreviation:

MISS