



## The John H Watson Society 2019 Treasure Hunt

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### “WAS THERE NOTHING TO IDENTIFY THIS MAN?” (VALL) CANONICAL IDENTIFICATIONS

1. He was the best man in more ways than one. Who?

#### **Sherlock Holmes**

«“It was the most preposterous position in which I ever found myself in my life [...] my lucky appearance saved the bridegroom from having to sally out into the streets in search of a **best man.**”» (SCAN, 169)

«...him whom I shall ever regard as the **best and the wisest man** whom I have ever known.» (FINA, 480)

2. A former soldier told the detective that he had a little quarrel almost immediately. In doing so he used a word that was also referred to the leader of a gang. Name the soldier, the leader, and the stories.

#### **James M. Dodd; Barney Stockdale; BLAN, 3GAB**

«“We had a **bit of barney** right away, and I should have walked back to the station if I had not felt that it might be playing his game for me to do so.”» (BLAN, 1002)

«“His immediate principal, **Barney**, is a more astute person. They specialize in assaults, intimidation, and the like.”» (3GAB, 1024)

«“A bit of a barney”: An argument, a quarrel.» (Les Klinger, *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes vol. II*, p.1488)

«Barney, noun (bar·ney | \ 'bär-nē \), plural barneys. Definition of *barney*: 1. British, informal - a : an angry argument : altercation, row» (Merriam-Webster Dictionary Online)

3. A man on duty, with something batrachian in his appearance, met two early risers. Name the three men and the story.

#### **Inspector Bradstreet; Holmes and Watson; TWIS**

«As I dressed I glanced at my watch. It was no wonder that no one was stirring. It was **twenty-five minutes past four.**» (TWIS, 240)

«“Who is **on duty**?” asked Holmes. “Inspector Bradstreet, sir.”

“Ah, Bradstreet, how are you?” A tall, stout official had come down the stone-flagged passage, in a peaked cap and **frogged jacket.**» (TWIS, 241)

«*frogged jacket*: a jacket fastened or ornamented with **frogs** (spindle-shaped buttons covered with silk or other material which pass through loops on the other side of the garment).» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Adventures*, p. 352)

4. For a person it was quite easy to find in the papers what he/she wanted, because it all had happened recently. Who is the person?

#### **Dr. Watson**

«“**I have very little difficulty in finding what I want,**” said I, “for **the facts are quite recent,** and the matter struck me as remarkable. (...) Here is the first notice which I can find. It is in the personal column of the *Morning Post.*”» (NOBL, 288)

5. Two different notices of disrupted nuptial arrangements appeared on the same newspaper. Which newspaper?

#### **The Morning Post**

«“Now, you remember the sudden end of the engagement between the Honourable Miss Miles and Colonel Dorking? Only two days before the wedding there was a paragraph in the *Morning Post* to say that it was all off.”» (CHAS, 574)

«Three days later appeared a paragraph in the *Morning Post* to say that the marriage between Baron Adelbert Gruner and Miss Violet de Merville would not take place.» (ILLU, 999)

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**“I WANT YOU TO REALIZE THOSE GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES WHICH MAY  
HAVE A GOOD DEAL TO DO WITH OUR INVESTIGATION.” (PRIO)  
CANONICAL LOCATIONS**

6. Holmes and Watson visited this place (which was, at least in one circumstance, doubled and levelled) three times. Name the place and the stories.

**Winchester.**

«Please be at the Black Swan Hotel at **Winchester** at midday to-morrow [...] “There is a train at half-past nine,” said I, glancing over my Bradshaw. “It is due at Winchester at 11.30.”» (COPP, 322)

«Four days later Holmes and I were again in the train, **bound for Winchester** to see the race for the Wessex Cup.» (SILV, 347)

«“I have no doubt we can get the necessary permits this morning and **reach Winchester** by the evening train.”» (THOR, 1062)

«McMurdo sprang to his feet and half drew his revolver; but his arm stopped midway as he became conscious that **two Winchester** rifles were **levelled** at his head.» (VALL, 844)

7. The name of this town was connected in the Canon both with North and South Africa.

**Palmyra. The town in NY State was the birthplace of the Latter Day Saints movement, from which subsequently originated the Mormons. Their sacred writings were written in Egyptian letters. Egypt is in North Africa. Jack and Ivy Douglas were traveling for South Africa on a boat of the same name.**

«“We are of those who believe in those sacred writings, drawn in **Egyptian** letters on plates of beaten gold, which were handed unto the holy Joseph Smith at **Palmyra**.”» (STUD, 57)

«“I told you that they started together for **South Africa** in the *Palmyra* three weeks ago.”» (VALL, 865)

«“Palmyra, a village of New York, pop. 1,937. It was here that Joseph Smith received the golden tablets of the *Book of Mormon* and the first copies were published.”

“Palmyra, the ship aboard which John and Ivy Douglas set out for South Africa, and from which Douglas was lost overboard.”» (Jack Tracy, *The Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana*, p.275)

8. The last correspondence came from here, a location also connected with Watson’s health.

**The Hotel National at Lausanne (or simply Lausanne).**

«“She is a lady of precise habits, and for four years it has been her invariable custom to write every second week to Miss Dobney, her old governess... **The last letter** was from the Hotel National at Lausanne.”» (LADY, 943)

«“You say that you have had it because you need a change. Let me suggest that you take one. How would Lausanne do, my dear Watson? (...) Hence the **health-giving expedition to Lausanne**.”» (LADY, 943)

«The Hotel National was in existence from 1865 until 1951.» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, His Last Bow*, p. 209)

«Hotel National, a hotel at Lausanne, from which Lady Frances Carfax disappeared.» (Jack Tracy, *The Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana*, p.184)

9. To gain information Holmes once visited this institution; not, though, in Knightrider Street, where it was previously located until 1865. What institution is it? In which story does Holmes visit it?

**Doctors' Commons; SPEC.**

«“And now, Watson, we shall order breakfast, and afterwards I shall walk down to **Doctors' Commons**, where **I hope to get some data** which may help us in this matter.” (...) “I have seen the will of the deceased wife,” said he.» (SPEC, 265)

«The society's buildings, which were acquired in 1567, were originally situated near St. Paul's Cathedral at Paternoster Row, and later nearby in **Knightrider Street** where it remained until the buildings were sold in 1865.» (Wikipedia)

«Doctor's Commons, the name formerly applied to a society of ecclesiastical lawyers in London, dissolved in 1857, and to the building near St. Paul's occupied by this corporation. Here records of marriage licences, divorces, and wills were kept until the building was demolished in 1867. In 1874 archives were transferred to *Somerset House*, a great place on the Strand begun in 1547 and not completed until 1856, which now contains many government offices as well as King's College. Holmes examined the will of the late Mrs. Stoner at “Doctors' Commons”» (Jack Tracy, *The Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana*, p.105-106)

Holmes refers to the old name of the institution, though by 1883, the date of SPEC, the society was virtually extinct (despite what Tracy says, it officially ceased to exist with the death of its last fellow in 1912). To view the late Mrs. Stoner's will, Holmes went to Somerset House.

10. The widow of the sweet monarch lived here. Also, this was the location of a small problem that was clear from the start. Name the place and the stories.

**Grosvenor Square; 3GAB; NOBL**

«We had taken a cab and were speeding to some address in **Grosvenor Square**. Holmes had been sunk in thought, but he roused himself suddenly. (...) “does the name Isadora Klein convey nothing to you? (...) She married the aged **German sugar king**, Klein, and presently found herself the richest as well as the **most lovely widow upon earth**.”» (3GAB, 1031)

«“Oh, you mean the little problem of the **Grosvenor Square** furniture van. That is quite cleared up now—though, indeed, **it was obvious from the first**.”» (NOBL, 288)

«*Grosvenor Square*: in the West End of London, to the south of Oxford Street.» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Case-Book*, p. 265)

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**“I HOPE BEFORE VERY LONG TO BE ABLE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE PAIR OF THEM.” (SIGN)  
SIMILARITIES IN THE CANON**

11. These men both had doubts about whether the world is governed by circumstance, although one of them thought it was inconceivable. Who are they?

**Jefferson Hope and Sherlock Holmes**

“Let us see if there is justice upon the earth, or if we are **ruled by chance**.” (STUD, 81)

“It must tend to some end, or else our universe is **ruled by chance**, which is unthinkable.” (CARD, 901)

12. These men were both noiseless and crabby, and that may explain why they didn't have many friends. Who are they?

**Herr Heidegger the German master, and Sidney Johnson**

«“He had been with me for two years, and came with the best references; but he was a **silent, morose** man, not very popular either with masters or boys.”» (PRIO, 541)

«“The senior clerk and draughtsman, Mr. Sidney Johnson. He is a man of forty, married, with five children. He is a **silent, morose** man, but he has, on the whole, an excellent record in the public service. He is unpopular with his colleagues, but a hard worker.”» (BRUC, 917)

13. Two men were described with similar words as agitated and restless, but on the first the effect was to sharpen his senses, though it also depressed him somehow; on the second, the effect was seriously damaging to his health. Who are the two men?

**Dr. Watson and Sir Charles Baskerville**

«To me, with **my nerves worked up** to a pitch of expectancy, there was something depressing and subduing in the sudden gloom (...) yet **my nerves were worked up** to the highest pitch of tension, and my hearing was so acute that I could not only hear the gentle breathing of my companions, but I could distinguish the deeper, heavier in-breath of the bulky Jones from the thin, sighing note of the bank director.» (REDH, 188)

«“His **nerves were so worked up** that the appearance of any dog might have had a fatal effect upon his diseased heart. I fancy that he really did see something of the kind upon that last night in the Yew Alley. I feared that some disaster might occur, for I was very fond of the old man, and I knew that his heart was weak.”» (HOUN, 706)

14. Two persons both lived for some time in the meridional part of a Continental European country. Who are the two persons?

**Sherlock Holmes and the Duchess of Holderness**

«“Returning to France I spent some months in a research into the coal-tar derivatives, which I conducted in a laboratory at Montpellier, in the **South of France.**”» (EMPT, 488)

«“It is an open secret that the Duke’s married life had not been a peaceful one, and the matter had ended in a separation by mutual consent, the Duchess taking up her residence in the **South of France.**”» (PRIO, 540)

15. Two persons were both described as being handsome and of middle age. Who are they?

**Lady Frances Carfax and Brenda Tregennis**

«“A rather pathetic figure, the **Lady Frances**, a beautiful woman, still in fresh **middle age**, and yet, by a strange change, the last derelict of what only twenty years ago was a goodly fleet.”» (LADY, 943)

«Holmes plucked it off and disclosed the statuesque face of a **handsome** and spiritual woman of **middle age.**» (LADY, 953)

«Miss **Brenda Tregennis** had been a very beautiful girl, though now verging upon **middle age**. Her dark, clear-cut face was **handsome**, even in death.» (DEVI, 959)

16. Holmes and Watson were both busy men, but two others were self-described as such in the Canon. Who?

**Lord Cantlemere and John Garrideb a.k.a. “Killer” Evans**

«“I am a **busy man**, sir, engaged upon important affairs, and I have no time or taste for foolish jokes.”» (MAZA, 1022)

«“I told him I was a **busy man** and could not spend my life hiking round the world in search of Garridebs.”» (3GAR, 1046)

17. Two frightened men were described in a similar way as having cold pounded into their cardiac muscle. Who are the two men?

**John Ferrier and Dr. Watson**

«How this warning came into his room puzzled John Ferrier sorely, for his servants slept in an outhouse, and the doors and windows had all been secured. He crumpled the paper up and said nothing to his daughter, but the incident **struck a chill into his heart.**» (STUD, 67)

«The vast size of the building, with its gloom and its deathly silence, **struck a chill to the heart**. Even Thaddeus Sholto seemed ill at ease, and the lantern quivered and rattled in his hand.» (SIGN, 107)

«The barren scene, the sense of loneliness, and the mystery and urgency of my task all **struck a chill into my heart**.» (HOUN, 738)

18. Two persons, in two different stories, gave excellent advice to a detective. Who are the two persons?

**Miss Harrison and Sherlock Holmes**

«“Then go to London and test your conclusions.”

“**Your advice is very excellent**, Miss Harrison,” said Holmes, rising.» (NAVA, 456)

«“Do what you like and go where you will, but meet me here before dusk without fail—without fail, Mr. Mac.”

“That sounds more like sanity.”

“**All of it was excellent advice**; but I don’t insist, so long as you are here when I need you.”» (VALL, 808)

19. Two persons were completely worn out in a similar way. Who are they?

**Grant Munro and Hall Pycroft**

«“It seems dreadful to discuss the conduct of one’s wife with two men whom I have never seen before. It’s horrible to have to do it. But I’ve got **to the end of my tether**, and I must have advice.”» (YELL, 353)

“I had been taking three pounds a week at Coxon’s, and I had saved about seventy of them, but I soon worked my way through that and out at the other end. I was fairly **at the end of my tether** at last, and could hardly find the stamps to answer the advertisements or the envelopes to stick them to.” (STOC, 364)

20. Two men had a similar Continental notoriety, but their careers differed widely with reference to their reputation in England. Name the two men.

**Professor Presbury and Professor Moriarty**

«“The professor, Watson, is a man of **European reputation**. His life has been academic. There has **never been a breath of scandal**.”» (CREE, 1072)

«“At the age of twenty-one he wrote a treatise upon the Binomial Theorem, which has had a **European vogue**. On the strength of it he won the Mathematical Chair at one of our smaller universities, and had, to all appearance, a most brilliant career before him. (...) **Dark rumors gathered round him in the university town**, and eventually he was compelled to resign his chair and to come down to London, where he set up as an army coach.”» (FINA, 470-471)

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“**HE HAS AN EXTRAORDINARY FACULTY FOR FIGURES**” (GREE)  
CANONICAL NUMBERS

21. One of the two men in [the answer to question number 20], though of a respectable age, was still active. Another man, instead, quit working when he reached that age. What age?

**Sixty-one. Professor Presbury is the first man and Josiah Amberley the second.**

«“He is, I gather, a man of very virile and positive, one might almost say combative, character. (...) **He is sixty-one years of age**, but he became engaged to the daughter of Professor Morphy, his colleague in the chair of comparative anatomy.”» (CREE, 1072)

«“He made his little pile, retired from business **at the age of sixty-one**, bought a house at Lewisham, and settled down to rest after a life of ceaseless grind.”» (RETI, 1113)

22. In three separate occasions in the Canon, the amount of seven thousand was associated with a crime. But in another case the owner of seven thousand had a legal right to have them; the money was certainly his own. Who was the owner?

**John Ferrier. He ran away from Salt Lake City with 7,000 \$ in gold and notes.**

«“How much money have you?”

“**Two thousand dollars** in gold, and **five** in notes.”» (STUD, 68)

«“Tobin, the care-taker, was murdered, and the thieves got away with seven thousand pounds.”» (RESI, 434)

«“What are your terms?”

“Seven thousand pounds.”

“And the alternative?”

“My dear sir, it is painful for me to discuss it; but if the money is not paid on the 14th there certainly will be no marriage on the 18th.”» (CHAS, 573-574)

«“However, the woman seems to have had a duplicate key, and between them they had carried off some seven thousand pounds’ worth of cash and securities.”» (RETI, 1115)

23. A certain number of pursuers came to a dip and found something there. In another story, the same number is found in connection with an address named after a sort of a dip and that same something. What is the number and which are the two stories?

**13; HOUN; STUD**

«“But at length some sense came back to their crazed minds, and the whole of them, **thirteen** in number, took horse and started in pursuit.”» (HOUN, 674-675)

«“...at the head of a **deep dip** or goyal, as we call it, upon the moor... standing over Hugo, and plucking at his throat, there stood a foul thing, a great, black beast, shaped like a **hound**, yet larger than any hound that ever mortal eye has rested upon.”» (HOUN, 675)

«“And what may your address be?” I inquired, taking up a pencil.

“**13, Duncan Street, Houndsditch**. A weary way from here.”» (STUD, 39)

«Houndsditch is a one-way street in London linking Outwich Street in the north-west to St. Botolph Street in the south-east. It runs through parts of the Portsoken and Bishopsgate Without wards of the City of London, the historic nucleus and modern financial centre of London. It marks **the route of an old ditch** that ran outside a part of the London Wall, renowned for being used as a site for disposing of waste and, particularly, **deceased dogs**. [...] The name *Houndsditch*e appears in the 13th century, and seems to relate to the quantity of rubbish and **dead dogs** thrown into it.» (Wikipedia)

24. To find a certain person, the best option would be to go to a certain place within a 175 minutes’ interval. What place? Who is the person?

**The Diogenes Club; Mycroft Holmes**

“The Diogenes Club is the queerest club in London, and Mycroft one of the queerest men. He’s always there **from quarter to five to twenty to eight**.” (GREE, 435-436)

25. This person received sixty-three out of every two hundred and fifty-two. Who is the person and what did he receive?

**Dr. Percy Trevelyan; pence**

«“Then you hand over to me **three quarters of what you earn**, and you keep the other quarter for yourself.”

“This was the strange proposal, Mr. Holmes, with which the man Blessington approached me. I won’t weary you with the account of how we bargained and negotiated. (...) His life was irregular, but in one respect he was regularity itself. Every evening, at the same hour, he walked into the consulting-room, examined the books, put down **five and three-pence for every guinea that I had earned**, and carried the rest off to the strong-box in his own room.”» (RESI, 426)

«Please bear in mind that there were 12 pennies to the shilling and 20 shillings to the pound - thus 240 pennies in a pound. (...) A guinea existed as a coin only between 1663 and 1814, but usage of the word continues to this day. Its value was set at 21/-.» (Nicholas Utechin, *Coins of the Canonical Realm*, pp. 13-14)

In the pre-decimal English system, there were 21 shillings - 252 pence - to a guinea. Dr. Trevelyan received 1/4 of every guinea he earned, i.e. 5 shillings and 3 pence, equal to 63 pence.

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### **“YOU KNOW MY METHODS, WATSON” (CROO) LOGIC REASONING AND INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES**

26. By cudgeling one’s brains hard enough, a thinker could presuppose the existence of this thing. But one should also be careful not to find the content of one’s skull spattered on a representation of the same thing. What thing are we talking about?

#### **The Atlantic**

«“From a drop of water,” said the writer, “**a logician could infer the possibility of an Atlantic** or a Niagara without having seen or heard of one or the other.”» (STUD, 23)

«Then we rushed on into the captain’s cabin, but as we pushed open the door there was an explosion from within, and there he lay with **his brains smeared over the chart of the Atlantic** which was pinned upon the table, while the chaplain stood with a smoking pistol in his hand at his elbow.» (GLOR, 383)

27. Perhaps they lacked that faculty that Holmes called “the mother of truth”, but they had other qualities that put them at the top. Who or what are we talking about?

#### **Scotland Yard**

«“I have been down to see friend Lestrade at **the Yard**. There may be **an occasional want of imaginative intuition** down there, but they **lead the world for thoroughness and method.**”» (3GAR, 1051)

«“It is, I admit, mere imagination; but how often is **imagination the mother of truth?**”» (VALL, 802)

28. Holmes used this tool, among other things, to identify no. 30 and no. 29. What is it?

*Hint: The reference is not to questions no. 30 and no. 29.*

#### **A microscope.**

«“No; my friend, Merivale, of the Yard, asked me to look into the case. Since I ran down that coiner by the **zinc and copper** filings in the seam of his cuff they have begun to realize the importance of the microscope.”» (SHOS, 1102)

Zinc is the chemical element with atomic number 30 and copper is number 29.

29. Holmes’s knowledge on this subject was precise, but irregular. Two men with common scientific interests enjoyed talking about it. Which subject? Who are the men?

#### **Anatomy; Mr. Mortimer and Sir Charles Baskerville**

«*Sherlock Holmes—his limits* (...)»

**Anatomy.—Accurate, but unsystematic.**» (STUD, 21)

«“Sir Charles was a retiring man, but the chance of his illness brought us together, and a community of interests in science kept us so. He had brought back much scientific information from South Africa, and many a charming evening we have spent together **discussing the comparative anatomy** of the Bushman and the Hottentot.”» (HOUN, 678)

30. According to Watson, Holmes's knowledge on another subject was zero. Yet he was able to use, with reference to a certain person, a term originated in this field of studies. What term and which person?

**Personal equation; Brunton**

«*Sherlock Holmes—his limits* (...)

**Astronomy.—Nil.**» (STUD, 21)

«“In this case the matter was simplified by Brunton's intelligence being quite first-rate, so that it was unnecessary to make any allowance for **the personal equation**, as the **astronomers have dubbed it.**”» (MUSG, 395)

«The term *personal equation*, in 19th- and early 20th-century science, referred to the idea that every individual observer had an inherent bias when it came to measurements and observations. The term originated in astronomy, when it was discovered that numerous observers making simultaneous observations would record slightly different values (for example, in recording the exact time at which a star crossed the wires of a reticule in a telescope), some of which were of a significant enough difference to afford for problems in larger calculations.» (*Wikipedia*)

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**“SURELY MY WHOLE CHAIN OF REASONING CANNOT HAVE BEEN FALSE.” (STUD)**  
**A SEQUENCE OF CANONICAL CHAIN QUESTIONS**

31. Two persons wanted to earn this sum; another person was reluctantly disposed to pay it, while a third person steadfastly refused it. What sum are we talking about?

**A tenner (ten pounds)**

«“There goes the reward!” said he, gloomily. “Where there is no money there is no pay. This night's work would have been worth **a tenner** each to Sam Brown and me if the treasure had been there.”» (SIGN, 143)

«“In the meantime spare no pains, Mr. Detective! I beg you to leave no stone unturned to bring him safely back. As to money, well, so far as a fiver, or even **a tenner**, goes, you can always look to me.”» (MISS, 627)

«“I was not sure, but I know now. Well now, Susan, it will be worth ten pounds to you if you will tell me who is at the back of Barney.”

“Someone that could lay down a thousand pounds for every ten you have in the world.”

“So, a rich man? No; you smiled—a rich woman. Now we have got so far, you may as well give the name and **earn the tenner.**”

“**I'll see you in hell first.**”» (3GAB, 1026)

32. Now find the year in which in March a doctor published and a fatal letter was received; subtract the page number where the refusal happens in the answer to question 31, add 1.000, and you'll have the year in which something happened that was helpful to a Frenchman. What is the year and who is the Frenchman?

**1857; François Le Villard**

1883-1026+1000=1857

«“Mortimer, James, M.R.C.S., (...) Author of ‘Some Freaks of Atavism’ (*Lancet* 1882). ‘Do We Progress?’ (*Journal of Psychology*, **March, 1883**).”» (HOUN, 671)

«“The letter arrived on **March 10, 1883**. His death was seven weeks later, upon the night of May 2nd.”» (FIVE, 221)

«“I was consulted last week by **François Le Villard**, who, as you probably know, has come rather to the front lately in the French detective service.(...) The case was concerned with a will, and possessed some features of interest. I was able to refer him to two parallel cases, **the one at Riga in**

**1857**, and the other at St. Louis in 1871, which **have suggested to him the true solution.**”» (SIGN, 90)

33. Go forward from the page where you found [the answer to question 32], for a number of pages equal to the number of years during which they have been produced. You will find a doctor visiting a weary lady in a location where a detective every now and then sent a sum of money. What location?

**Camberwell. (90 + 39 = 129)**

«The public seemed appreciative and desirous of more, so that from that date, **thirty-nine years ago, they have been produced** in a broken series which now contains no fewer than fifty-six stories.» (*Preface* to the Case-Book, 983)

«“Then **I shall run over to Camberwell** and call upon Mrs. Cecil Forrester. She asked me to, yesterday.”

“On Mrs. Cecil Forrester?” asked Holmes with the twinkle of a smile in his eyes.

“Well, of course on Miss Morstan, too. They were anxious to hear what happened.” (...)

**At Camberwell I found Miss Morstan a little weary** after her night’s adventures but very eager to hear the news.» (SIGN, 129)

«“No doubt, Mr. Mac. But how do you propose to lay your hands on the so-called Porlock?”

MacDonald turned over the letter which Holmes had handed him. “Posted in Camberwell—that doesn’t help us much. Name, you say, is assumed. Not much to go on, certainly. Didn’t you say that you have sent him money?”

“Twice.” “And how?” “In notes to **Camberwell post-office.**”» (VALL, 775)

34. A criminal affair happened in [the answer to question 33]. Find out what type of affair and you’ll get a clue to help you find a couple of red labels in consecutive years. What years?

**1896 and 1897**

“Among my headings under this one twelve months I find an account of the adventure of the Paradol Chamber, of the Amateur Mendicant Society, who held a luxurious club in the lower vault of a furniture warehouse, of the facts connected with the loss of the British barque “Sophy Anderson”, of the singular adventures of the Grice Patersons in the island of Uffa, and finally of **the Camberwell poisoning case.**” (FIVE, 218)

« One forenoon—it was late in **1896**—I received a hurried note from Holmes asking for my attendance.» (VEIL, 1095)

«Two days later, when I called upon my friend, he pointed with some pride to a small blue bottle upon his mantelpiece. I picked it up. There was a **red poison label.**» (VEIL, 1102)

«It was, then, in the spring of the year **1897** that Holmes’s iron constitution showed some symptoms of giving way in the face of constant hard work of a most exacting kind, aggravated, perhaps, by occasional indiscretions of his own.» (DEVI, 955)

«Dr. Sterndale drew from his pocket a paper packet and laid it upon the table. On the outside was written “Radix pedis diaboli” with a **red poison label** beneath it.» (DEVI, 968)

35. Both the dates in [the answer to question 34] are recalled in another adventure, where a man’s hobby is a clue to his mentality. This hobby is mentioned in another two stories in the Canon, in the description of two persons. What’s the hobby? Who are the two persons?

**Chess; Colonel Emsworth and Sherlock Holmes**

«“Retired in **1896**, Watson. Early in **1897** he married a woman twenty years younger than himself—a good-looking woman, too, if the photograph does not flatter. (...) It would appear that **Amberley has one hobby in life, and it is chess.**”» (RETI, 1113)

«“Amberley excelled at chess—**one mark, Watson, of a scheming mind.**”» (RETI, 1120)

«“My request seemed both to puzzle and to irritate my host. His great eyebrows came down over his eyes, and he tapped his fingers impatiently on the table. He looked up at last with **the**

**expression of one who has seen his adversary make a dangerous move at chess**, and has decided how to meet it.”» (BLAN, 1002)

«**Holmes looked at him thoughtfully like a master chess-player** who meditates his crowning move. Then he threw open the table drawer and drew out a squat notebook.» (MAZA, 1017)

36. One of the persons in [the answer to question 35] had experience in a theater of war. The father of another person had fought in the same war. Name the person.

**The Hon. Philip Green**

«He was Colonel Emsworth’s only son—**Emsworth, the Crimean V. C.**—and he had the fighting blood in him, so it is no wonder he volunteered.» (BLAN, 1001)

«For two days the Hon. Philip Green (he was, I may mention, **the son of the famous admiral** of that name who commanded the Sea of Azof fleet in the **Crimean War**) brought us no news.» (LADY, 948)

37. A man bearing the same title as [the answer to question 36] was the victim of a murder. Though the evidence was indisputable, the guilty party escaped capital punishment. Name the victim and the killer.

**The Hon. Ronald Adair; Colonel Sebastian Moran**

«It was in the spring of the **year 1894** that all London was interested, and the fashionable world dismayed, by the **murder of the Honourable Ronald Adair** under most unusual and inexplicable circumstances. (...) the case **for the prosecution was so overwhelmingly strong** that it was not necessary to bring forward all the facts » (EMPT, 483)

«“The man that the whole force has been seeking in vain—**Colonel Sebastian Moran, who shot the Honourable Ronald Adair with an expanding bullet from an air-gun** through the open window of the second-floor front of No. 427, Park Lane, upon the 30th of last month. **That’s the charge**, Lestrade.”» (EMPT, 493)

«...upon **September 3, 1902**, the day when my narrative begins. (...)”If your man is more dangerous than the late Professor Moriarty, or than **the living Colonel Sebastian Moran**, then he is indeed worth meeting.”» (ILLU, 984-985)

38. One of the persons of [the answer to question 37] had received the same education of a young man who apparently was engaged in philanthropy somewhere in Britain. Who’s the man and where was he so engaged?

**John Clay; Cornwall**

«*Moran, Sebastian, Colonel*. Unemployed. Formerly 1st Bangalore Pioneers. Born London, 1840. Son of Sir Augustus Moran, C.B., once British Minister to Persia. Educated **Eton and Oxford**.» (EMPT, 494)

«“John Clay, the murderer, thief, smasher, and forger. He’s a **young man**, Mr. Merryweather, (...) His grandfather was a royal duke, and he himself has been to **Eton and Oxford**. (...) He’ll crack a crib in Scotland one week, and be raising money **to build an orphanage in Cornwall** the next. I’ve been on his track for years and have never set eyes on him yet.”» (REDH, 186)

39. While he was in the place of [the answer to question 38] Holmes tried to get to the root of the matter regarding the branch. What branch?

**The Cornish branch of the great Celtic speech (Cornish language)**

«The ancient Cornish language had also arrested his attention, and he had, I remember, conceived the idea that it was akin to the Chaldean.» (DEVI, 955)

«“I think we may dismiss the matter from our mind and go back with a clear conscience to **the study of those Chaldean roots** which are surely to be traced in **the Cornish branch of the great Celtic speech**.”» (DEVI, 970)

40. In [the answer to question 39] there is an adjective who was also applied to a victim of brain-fever. Who is the victim?

**Rachel Howells**

«“A few months ago we were in hopes that he was about to settle down again for he became engaged to **Rachel Howells**, our second house-maid; but he has thrown her over since then and taken up with Janet Tregellis, the daughter of the head game-keeper. Rachel—who is a very good girl, but of an excitable **Welsh** temperament—**had a sharp touch of brain-fever.**”» (MUSG, 389)

«“What smouldering fire of vengeance had suddenly sprung into flame in this passionate **Celtic** woman’s soul when she saw the man who had wronged her—wronged her, perhaps, far more than we suspected—in her power?”» (MUSG, 396)

41. About 101.65 kg. was the weight of a man who had been against the country of origin of [the answer to question 40]. Who is the man?

**Cyril Overton**

«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.» (MISS, 622)

«“Great Scot!” cried the athlete. “Why, I was first reserve for England **against Wales**, and I’ve skippered the ‘Varsity all this year.» (MISS, 623)

In terms of weight units, one stone is about 6.35 kgs.

42. Now take the page number where you first meet [the answer to question 41], subtract the number of the page where an omitted comment by Watson about travelling and Holmes’s understanding of the situation should have been found, and you’ll find the queerest. Who or what is it?

**The fort of Agra**

**622 - 476 = 146**

«“In the meantime we shall treat ourselves to a couple of carpet-bags, encourage the manufactures of the countries through which we travel, and make our way at our leisure into Switzerland, via Luxembourg and Basle.”

*\*I am too old a traveller to allow myself to be seriously inconvenienced by the loss of my luggage, but I confess that I was annoyed at the idea of being forced to dodge and hide before a man whose record was black with unutterable infamies. It was evident, however, that Holmes understood the situation more clearly than I did.\**

At Canterbury, therefore, we alighted, only to find that we should have to wait an hour before we could get a train to Newhaven.» (FINA, 476)

«“Our leader moved across the river, therefore, and took up his position in the **old fort of Agra**. I don’t know if any of you gentlemen have ever read or heard anything of that old fort. It is a very queer place—the **queerest that ever I was in**, and I have been in some rum corners, too.”» (SIGN, 146)

*«I am too old a traveller ... more clearly than I did: this passage did not appear in the story as it was first published in the Strand. It had, however, been added by the time the story was published in the Memoirs. It does not appear in American texts.» (The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Memoirs, p. 319)*

43. From [the answer to question 42] proceed as the crow flies towards east-south-east for about 1.160 kms. (or 722 miles) and you will be in a place where a doctor was in practice before the death of his wife. What is the place and who is the doctor?

**Calcutta; Dr. Grimesby Roylott**

«“The last squire dragged out his existence there, living the horrible life of an aristocratic pauper; but his only son, my stepfather, seeing that he must adapt himself to the new conditions, obtained

an advance from a relative, which enabled him to take a medical degree and went out to **Calcutta**, where, by his professional skill and his force of character, **he established a large practice**. (...) When Dr. Royslott was in India he married my mother, Mrs. Stoner, the young widow of Major-General Stoner, of the Bengal Artillery. (...) Shortly after our return to England **my mother died**—she was killed eight years ago in a railway accident near Crewe”» (SPEC, 259-260)  
Agra is about 1.160 kms. or 722 miles from Calcutta as the crow flies.

44. [The answer to question 43] is described as an avian predator. Which other character in the Canon is described with the same words?

**Josiah Amberley**

«A large face, seared with a thousand wrinkles, burned yellow with the sun, and marked with every evil passion, was turned from one to the other of us, while his deep-set, bile-shot eyes, and his high, thin, fleshless nose, gave him somewhat the resemblance to a fierce old **bird of prey**.» (SPEC, 264)  
«The man sprang to his feet with a hoarse scream. He clawed into the air with his bony hands. His mouth was open, and for the instant he looked like some horrible **bird of prey**. In a flash we got a glimpse of the real Josiah Amberley, a misshapen demon with a soul as distorted as his body.» (RETI, 1119)

45. Finally, to complete the chain, subtract from the page number of [the answer to question 44] the number of the odd ones that are missing and you'll come to a page where you'll find links. What page and which adventure?

**875; WIST**

**1119 – 244 = 875**

«“You have noticed the number on the top of the page. It is two hundred and forty-five. Where are **the odd two hundred and forty-four pages?**”» (3GAB, 1030)  
«“There were grave events afoot, as the sequel showed, and the coaxing of Scott Eccles to Wisteria Lodge had some connection with them.”  
“But what possible connection?”  
“Let us take it **link by link.**”» (WIST, 875)

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**“MY WELL OF ENGLISH SEEMS TO BE PERMANENTLY DEFILED.” (LAST)**  
**FOREIGN WORDS AND LANGUAGES IN THE CANON**

46. This word in English can refer to a horse tipster or informer, and a man helpful to Watson. But in a foreign language the man is nothing, but the work is [this same word] - and “that’s all”. What word are we talking about? In which stories is it found?

**Tout; SILV, SHOS, ENGR, REDH, IDEN**

«“So, you’re one of those damned **touts!**” cried the lad. ‘I’ll show you how we serve them in King’s Pyland.’» (SILV, 337)  
«“Sir Robert has been too clever for the **touts.**”» (SHOS, 1104)  
«“It’s Sir Robert, sir. He’s terrible jealous of **touts.**”» (SHOS, 1107)  
«As I descended, my old ally, the guard, came out of the room and closed the door tightly behind him. (...) “It’s a new patient,” he whispered. “I thought I’d bring him round myself; then he couldn’t slip away. There he is, all safe and sound. I must go now, Doctor; I have my dooties, just the same as you.” And off he went, this **trusty tout**, without even giving me time to thank him.» (ENGR, 274)  
«“**L’homme c’est rien—l’oeuvre c’est tout,**’ as Gustave Flaubert wrote to George Sand.”» (REDH, 190) (*The man is nothing, the work is all*)

«“The same post brought me a letter from Westhouse & Marbank, of Fenchurch Street, to say that the description tallied in every respect with that of their employee, James Windibank. *Voilà tout!*”» (IDEN, 201) (*Voilà tout* = *That’s all*)

«Tout, noun. Definition of *tout*: : one who touts: such as a : one who solicits patronage - b *chiefly British* : **one who spies out racing information for betting purposes** - c : **one who gives tips or solicits bets on a racehorse**» (Merriam-Webster Dictionary Online)

47. It may hiss, but it speaks with the voice of the Divinity. What is it?

### **Populus**

«“**Populus** me sibilat, at mihi plaudo

*Ipsae domi simul ac nummos contemplar in arca.*”» (STUD, 86)

(*The public hisses at me, but I applaud myself in my own house, as I contemplate the money in my chest.*)

«“Vox **populi**, vox Dei. You are acquitted, Captain Croker.”» (ABBE, 650)

(*The voice of the people is the voice of God.*)

48. By Zeus, Holmes thought that this foreign word was a signal. In its English translation it was the title of Chapter 6, and the Literary Agent, Sir Arthur, used it for the title of one of his short stories and a collection. Which word is it?

### **Pericolo (danger)**

«“PERICOLO—pericolo—eh, what’s that, Watson? ‘Danger,’ isn’t it? Yes, **by Jove, it’s a danger signal**. There he goes again! PERI. Halloa, what on earth—”» (REDC, 907)

«Chapter 6. DANGER» (VALL, 853)

*Danger! and other stories* is a collection of short stories published by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in 1918.

49. Watson thought that its possibilities were infinite, but Holmes did not think that it would be useful to find something. What is it?

### **Idée fixe**

«“**There are no limits to the possibilities of monomania,**” I answered. “There is the condition which the modern French psychologists have called the ‘*idée fixe*,’ which may be trifling in character, and accompanied by complete sanity in every other way. (...)”

“That won’t do, my dear Watson,” said Holmes, shaking his head; “for no amount of *idée fixe* would enable your interesting monomaniac **to find out where these busts were situated.**”» (SIXN, 584)

«French: a fixed idea; a monomania, also called “partial moral mania”.» (Les Klinger, *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes vol. II*, p. 1036)

«Literally ‘fixed idea’, ‘an obsession’. It was first used by English and American psychologists in the 1830s and gained a wide currency. (...) ‘Monomania’ is a form of madness directed against a single object.» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Return*, p.379 )

50. Even solemn vows of philanthropy and loyalty could lead to bad deeds. But a French author (born in the same town as Monsieur Oscar Meunier) had a different opinion about what could push men towards unlawful acts. Find the quotation, the name of the author, and the story.

«“**Le mauvais goût mène au crime**” (*Bad taste leads to crime*); **Stendhal** ; **SIGN**.

«“I would ask you, then, when you joined the Freeman’s society in Chicago and swore **vows of charity and fidelity**, did ever it cross your mind that you might find **it would lead you to crime?**”» (VALL, 841)

«“*Le mauvais goût mène au crime.*” The French have a very neat way of putting these things.» (SIGN, 104)

«“The credit of the execution is due to Monsieur Oscar Meunier, **of Grenoble.**”» (EMPT, 489)

Thaddeus Sholto's quotation is widely attributed to Stendhal (pen name of Marie-Henri Beyle, **born in Grenoble** on January 23, 1783)

«William S. Baring-Gould observes that the expression was coined by Le Baron de Marestre but was immortalised by the writer Stendhal (Henri Beyle, 1783-1842).» (Les Klinger, *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes vol. III*)

«A phrase immortalized by the French novelist Henri Beyle ('Stendhal') (1783-1842).» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Sign of the Four*, p. 128)

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**“WE SPENT SOME TIME OVER OUR MEAL.” (PRIO)  
EATING AND DRINKING IN THE CANON**

51. A man who was in a happy mood for a double success invited a doctor to a small jollification. Who's the man and what did he offer to the doctor?

**Mr. Frankland; a glass of wine**

“Good-day, **Dr. Watson**,” cried he with unwonted good humour, “you must really give your horses a rest, and come in to have **a glass of wine** and to congratulate me. (...) It is a great day for me, sir—one of the red-letter days of my life,” he cried with many chuckles. “**I have brought off a double event.** (...) Both cases decided, Dr. Watson, and both in my favour.”» (HOUN, 736)

52. Once Holmes and Watson sat for half an hour arguing a question in a *salle-à-manger* in a certain foreign town. In another adventure, a dish is mentioned that is named after that same town, although it is not called as such in the Canon. What dish and which adventure?

**Pâté de foie gras pie (often called Strasbourg – or Strasburg – pie); NOBL**

«This he unpacked with the help of a youth whom he had brought with him, and presently, to my very great astonishment, a quite epicurean little cold supper began to be laid out upon our humble lodging-house mahogany. There were a couple of brace of cold woodcock, a pheasant, a *pâté de foie gras pie* with a group of ancient and cobwebby bottles.» (NOBL, 296)

«We made our way to Brussels that night and spent two days there, moving on upon the third day as far as **Strasbourg**. (...) We sat in the Strasbourg *salle-à-manger* **arguing the question for half an hour**, but the same night we had resumed our journey and were well on our way to Geneva.» (FINA, 476-477)

«The standard dictionaries reveal that the term ‘*pâté de foie gras pie*’ was used before Watson's time. Since *pâté de foie gras* was the leading product of Strasbourg in Alsace, the confection was also called a **Strasbourg pie**.» (William S. Baring-Gould, *The Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, vol. 1, p. 295)

«A pastry containing fatty goose liver and other ingredients is known as the “**Strasbourg pie**” since Strasbourg was a major producer of **foie gras**. The pie is mentioned in William Makepeace Thackeray's novel *Vanity Fair* as being popular with the diplomatic corps.» (Wikipedia)

53. Probably his friend would have preferred something more nutritious, though uncooked, but the swimmer told him to prepare only vegetarian food. Who are the two friends and what's the food?

**Jonathan Small and Tonga; yams, cocoa-nuts and sweet potatoes**

«“I wasn't destined to do much soldiering, however. I had just got past the goose-step, and learned to handle my musket, when I was fool enough to go **swimming in the Ganges.**”» (SIGN, 144)

«“We earned a living at this time by my exhibiting **poor Tonga** at fairs and other such places as the black cannibal. He would **eat raw meat** and dance his war-dance: so we always had a hatful of pennies after a day's work.”» (SIGN, 156)

«I gave him directions to have several gourds of water and a lot of **yams, cocoa-nuts, and sweet potatoes.**» (SIGN, 155)

54. Though he never had it for breakfast, he brought it home at last. Who and what?

**Sherlock Holmes a.k.a. Altamont; bacon**

«For answer the man waved a small brown-paper parcel triumphantly above his head.

“You can give me the glad hand to-night, mister,” he cried. “**I’m bringing home the bacon at last.**”» (LAST, 975)

(Bacon is not mentioned elsewhere in the Canon, though “ham and eggs” appear three times)

55. A simple concoction was prescribed to a man who had called someone in seven times. Who’s the man and what are the ingredients of the concoction?

**Stanley Hopkins; hot water and lemon**

«“Now, my dear Hopkins, draw up and warm your toes,” said he. “Here’s a cigar, and the doctor has a **prescription containing hot water and a lemon** which is good medicine on a night like this.”» (GOLD, 608)

«“Hopkins **has called me in seven times**, and on each occasion his summons has been entirely justified,” said Holmes.» (ABBE, 636)

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“**I KNEW NOT WHAT WILD BEAST WE WERE ABOUT TO HUNT DOWN IN THE  
DARK JUNGLE OF CRIMINAL LONDON” (EMPT)  
ANIMALS IN THE CANON**

56. Both these two beasts both could not bite, and so were useful to their owners. Which two beasts?

**Slow-worm; cobra**

“Don’t mind that, sir: it’s only a **slow-worm. It hain’t got no fangs**, so I gives it the run o’ the room, for it keeps the beetles down.” (SIGN, 117)

“Snake-catcher is what I call them, and Teddy is amazing quick on **cobras**. I have one here **without the fangs**, and Teddy catches it every night to please the folk in the canteen.” (CROO, 421)

57. The trail was lost just past the white one. Among them, something black can occasionally be found. What animal are we talking about?

**Eagle**

«Our course now ran down Nine Elms until we came to Broderick and Nelson’s large timber-yard, just past the **White Eagle** tavern. (...) “Evidently what puzzled the dog at the corner of Knight’s Place was that there were two different trails running in opposite directions.” (SIGN, 122)

«But you do occasionally find a **carrion crow among the eagles.**» (SHOS, 1108)

58. Two persons were so pale that they were compared with a certain part of the anatomy of an animal. Who are the two persons?

**Harry Pinner aka Beddington; Godfrey Emsworth**

«His brow glistened with perspiration, **his cheeks were of the dull, dead white of a fish’s belly**, and his eyes were wild and staring.» (STOC, 369)

«“Only in colour. **His face was**—how shall I describe it?—**it was of a fish-belly whiteness**. It was bleached.”» (BLAN, 1007)

59. A department of the British Government made the same noise as the crest chosen by a group of people. What was pictured on the crest?

**A bee-hive**

«It was a warm June morning, and the Latter Day Saints were as busy as the **bees whose hive they have chosen for their emblem.**» (STUD, 59)

«“I have never seen the Prime Minister so upset. As to **the Admiralty**—it is **buzzing like an overturned bee-hive.**» (BRUC, 916)

«Young had an expansionist’s view of the territory that he and the Mormon pioneers were settling, calling it Deseret – which according to the Book of Mormon was an ancient word for “honeybee”. This is symbolized by **the beehive on the Utah flag**, and the state’s motto, “Industry”» (Wikipedia)

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**“WHOEVER HAD LOST A TREASURE, I KNEW THAT NIGHT THAT I HAD GAINED ONE.” (SIGN)  
THE TREASURE**

60. To complete the Hunt, you will find the final location of the Treasure in a place where a man lived who had previously worked near Victoria Station and where a celebrity met his destiny. What location?

**Meiringen**

«It was on the third of May that we reached the little village of **Meiringen**, where we put up at the Englischer Hof, then kept by Peter Steiler the elder. Our landlord was an intelligent man, and spoke excellent English, having served for three years as waiter at the **Grosvenor Hotel in London.**» (FINA, 477-478)

«“For years I have endeavored to break through the veil which shrouded it, and at last the time came when I seized my thread and followed it, until it led me, after a thousand cunning windings, to ex-**Professor Moriarty of mathematical celebrity.**”» (FINA, 471)

«Any attempt at recovering the bodies was absolutely hopeless, and there, deep down in that dreadful cauldron of swirling water and seething foam, **will lie for all time the most dangerous criminal** and the foremost champion of the law of their generation.» (FINA, 480)

«*The Grosvenor Hotel*: opened in 1861, shortly after the completion of Victoria Station. The hotel fronts London’s Buckingham Palace Road.» (*The Oxford Annotated Sherlock Holmes, The Memoirs*, p. 319)

«*Grosvenor Hotel*, a London hotel, located at Victoria Station, and owned by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. Peter Steiler the elder had been a waiter here.» (Jack Tracy, *The Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana*, p.147)