



The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure XI – The Adventure of the Engineer’s Thumb

Agony Column	In England, personal newspaper advertisements conveyed personal messages; Holmes occupied much of his time reading the columns.
Baker Street	Most famous of all London Streets, the residence of Sherlock Holmes from the 1880s to 1903, during the greatest part of his professional life as a consulting detective; also, the residence of John Watson for much of that same period
Becher, Dr.	Accomplice of Colonel Lysander Stark, and owner of the house at Eyford; introduced to Victor Hatherley as Ferguson
Berkshire	Southern county of England, almost entirely under cultivation; estate of Eyford was located there
Bradstreet, Inspector	Scotland Yard official who joined the Force in 1862; accompanied Holmes to Eyford to investigate the Victor Hatherley case, while assigned to the central headquarters staff
Elise	Woman who helped Victor Hatherley escape from Lysander Stark, after first warning him to flee the house; witnessed the removal of Hatherley’s thumb by Stark
Eyford	Village in Berkshire, near the border of Oxfordshire, where Dr. Becher (Mr. Ferguson) lived; railway service to nearby Reading was provided at Eyford Station
Greenwich	South-eastern metropolitan borough of London, most notable for the Royal Observatory; Victor Hatherley had been apprenticed to a Greenwich firm of hydraulic engineers

Hatherley, Victor	Hydraulic engineer called upon by Colonel Lysander Stark to examine a hydraulic stamping machine which was not functioning properly; two assaults occurred on Hatherley once he began to question the true intention of the machine; he found his way to Watson's consulting room with a wounded hand, and thence to Holmes
Hayling, Jeremiah	Young hydraulic engineer who disappeared approximately one year before Victor Hatherley was hired by the mysterious Colonel Lysander Stark to repair a hydraulic press; an advertisement had been run concerning his disappearance
Holmes, Sherlock	The world's first and only consulting detective; born in approximately 1854; ancestors were country squires; Watson described Holmes as "bohemian" in his habits and lifestyle; said to have a "cat-like" love of personal cleanliness, at the same time Holmes is an eccentric with no regard for contemporary standards of tidiness or good order.
London	Largest city in the world during the Victorian period, capital of England and the British Empire, located in the south-eastern part of England on the River Thames; extended into the counties of Surrey, Ken, Middlesex, and Essex; Hatherley indicated he was an orphan and bachelor, residing alone in lodgings in London
Oxfordshire	Inland county of England; county-town is Oxford, site of the University; Eyford was in Berkshire near the borders of Oxfordshire, where Dr. Becher's house was located
Paddington Station	Railway station in Paddington, London terminus of the Great Western Railway; Watson at one time lived near there, and received a few patients from among the officials of the Station, including Victor Hatherley
Reading	County-town of Berkshire, a manufacturing town and an important railway junction; Eyford, where Dr. Becher's residence was situated, was located within seven miles of Reading
Scotland Yard	Popular name given to the Metropolitan Police Force of London, and specifically to its Criminal Investigation Department (CID); the location of the CID is the New Scotland Yard, close to the Thames River; Bradstreet was a Scotland Yard inspector
Stark, Colonel Lysander	Name assumed while in England by the German counterfeiter who seemed to have murdered Jeremiah Hayling attempted to kill Victor Hatherley; his real name included Fritz

<i>Times, The</i>	Great daily newspaper of London, began in 1788; always claimed to be a national organ, not a political organ; it stood in a class by itself among all the London newspapers; Watson and Hatherley found Holmes reading the Agony Column of the newspaper
Venner & Matheson	Well-known Greenwich-based firm of hydraulic engineers to whom Victor Hatherley had been apprenticed for 7 years before setting out on his own
Victoria Street	Street in Westminster, extending westward from Westminster Abbey to Victoria Station; Victor Hatherley had his professional chambers there
Warburton, Colonel	Watson said he was the means of introducing Holmes to the case of Colonel Warburton's madness, the only other case recorded where Watson brought Holmes a case was of the Engineer's thumb and Victor Hatherley
Watson, John H.	Friend and biographer of Sherlock Holmes, it appears he was borne in the early 1850s; took his Degree of Doctor in Medicine in 1878; served as a staff surgeon at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; while serving in the Army Medical Department, he was severely wounded in the Battle of Maiwand in Afghanistan; his wound and general impairment of health earned him a retirement and wound pension
Watson, Mary	(Mrs. John H. Watson) nee Morstan, not a great deal is known about her life after she is married to Watson; devoted and thoughtful wife, ever wishing her husband to be happy; presumed she passed away sometime between 1891 and 1894; Watson rushed upstairs, explained the matter to his wife, and in five minutes was inside a hansom, driving with Victor Hatherley to Baker Street.