



*Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.*  
IX.—THE ADVENTURE OF THE ENGINEER'S THUMB.  
By A. CONAN DOYLE.

**I**F all the problems which have been submitted to my friend Mr. Sherlock Holmes for solution during the years of our intimacy, there were only two which I was the means of introducing to his notice, that of Mr. Hatherley's thumb and that of Colonel Warburton's madness. Of these the latter may have afforded a finer field for an acute and original observer, but the other was so strange in its inception and so dramatic in its details, that it may be the more worthy of being placed upon record, even if it gave my friend fewer openings for those deductive methods of reasoning by which he achieved such remarkable results. The story has, I believe, been told more than once in the newspapers, but, like all such narratives, its effect is much less striking when set forth *en bloc* in a single half-column of print than when the facts slowly evolve before your own eyes and the mystery clears gradually away as each new discovery furnishes a step which leads on to the complete truth. At the time the circumstances made a deep impression upon me, and the lapse of two years has hardly served to weaken the effect.

It was in the summer of '86, not long after my marriage, that the events occurred which I am now about to summarise. I had returned to civil practice, and had finally abandoned Holmes in his Baker-street rooms, although I continually visited him, and occasionally even persuaded him to forego his Bohemian habits so far as to come and visit us. My practice had steadily increased, and as I happened to live at no very great distance from Paddington Station, I got a few patients from among the officials. One of these whom I had cured of a painful and lingering disease, was never weary of advertising my virtues, and of endeavouring to send me on every sufferer over whom he might have any influence.

One morning, at a little before seven o'clock, I was awakened by the maid tapping at the door, to announce that two men had come from Paddington, and were waiting in the consulting room. I dressed hurriedly, for I knew by experience that railway cases were seldom trivial, and hastened downstairs. As I descended, my old ally, the guard, came out of the room, and closed the door tightly behind him.

"I've got him here," he whispered, jinking his thumb over his shoulder; "he's all right."

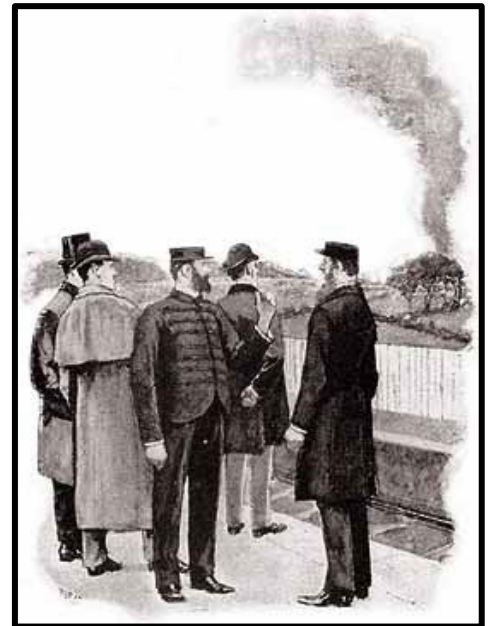
"What is it, then?" I asked, for his manner suggested that it was some strange creature which he had cagot up in my room.

"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 duties, just the same as you." And off he went, this trusty tout, without even giving me time to thank him.

I entered my consulting room, and found a gentleman seated by the table. He was quietly dressed in a suit of heather tweed, with a soft cloth cap, which he had laid down upon my books. Round one of his hands he had a handkerchief wrapped, which was mottled all over with blood-stains. He was young, not more than five-and-twenty, I should say, with a strong masculine face; but he was exceedingly pale, and gave me the impression of a man who was suffering from some strong agitation, which it took all his strength of mind to control.

"I am sorry to knock you up so early, doctor," said he. "But I have had a very serious accident during the night. I came in by train this morning, and on inquiring at Paddington as to where I might find a doctor a worthy fellow very kindly escorted me here. I gave the maid a card, but I see that she has left it upon the side table."

I took it up and glanced at it. "Mr.



## **SHERLOCK HOLMES CANONPUZZLES**

**Word Search, Criss Cross & Crossword Puzzle**

**DEVELOPED BY STEVE MASON**

# **The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes**

## **The Adventure of the Engineer's**

## **Thumb -- Part 3**

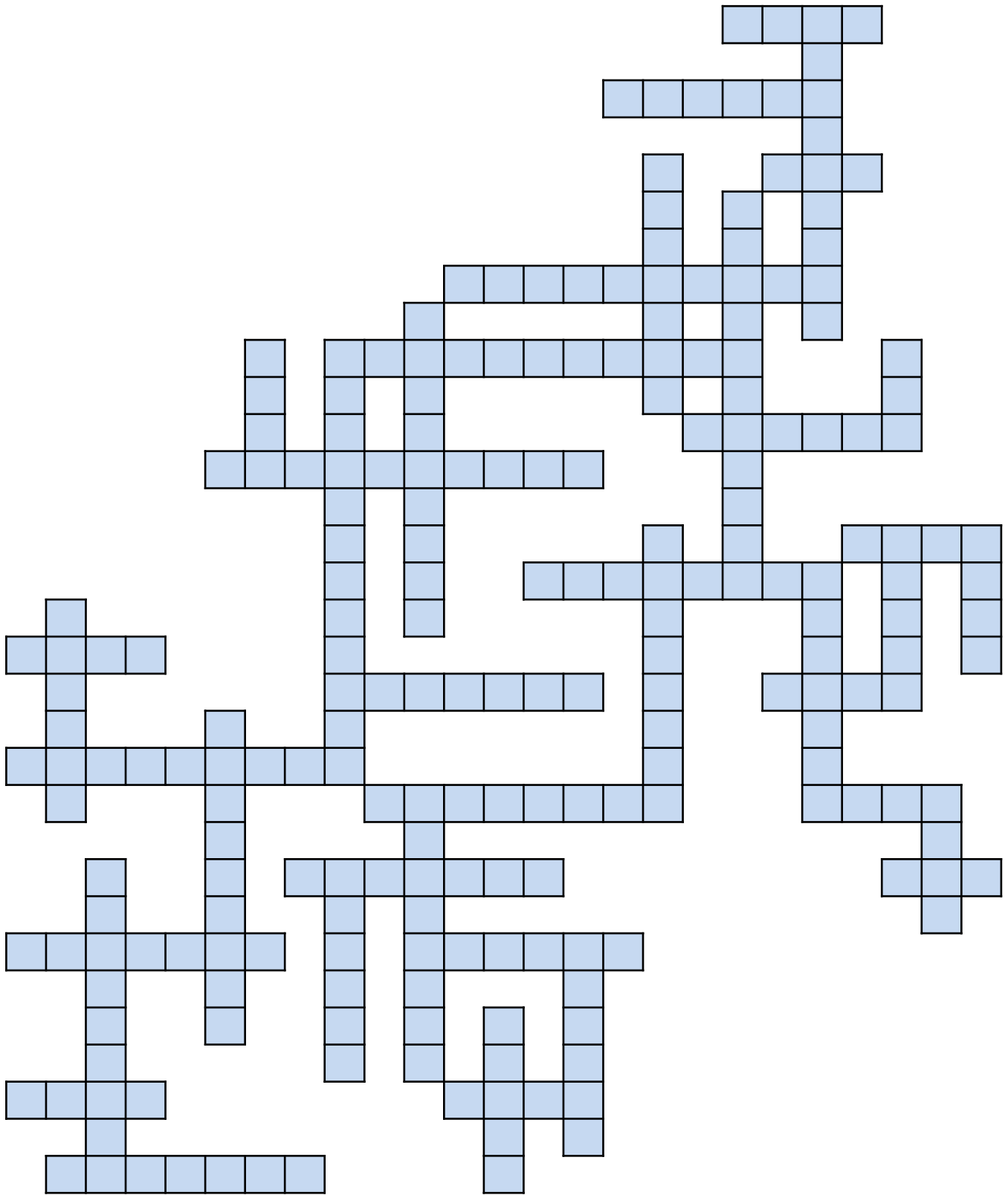
**These Puzzles include specific terms related to the story.  
All words and terms come directly out of the Canon.**

**Thanks to Bill Dorn for his gracious allowance of  
vocabulary words from Study Guide to Sherlock Holmes,  
vols. 1 and 2**



# Engineer's Thumb (Puzzle #8)

CRISS-CROSS: Fit each word into their proper place in the Framework.



- |      |      |       |        |         |          |           |              |
|------|------|-------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| DEW  | FIVE | RUSE  | HACKED | AMALGAM | VIRTUES  | CARBOLIZE | EMACIATION   |
| MUD  | GAZE | TOUT  | MOROSE | BEARING | AFFORDED | FLESHLESS | RECOMPENSE   |
| PIT  | KEEN | TWIG  | ORPHAN | CLEAVER | CONVEYED | HARMONIUM | MANTELPIECE  |
| AKIN | PRAY | ASIDE | PATRON | DRAUGHT | HIGHROAD | INCEPTION | WHITEWASHED  |
| DANK | PULP | BRISK | SODDEN | SHUTTER | INTIMACY | LINGERING | MONOSYLLABLE |



## Engineer's Thumb (Puzzle #9)

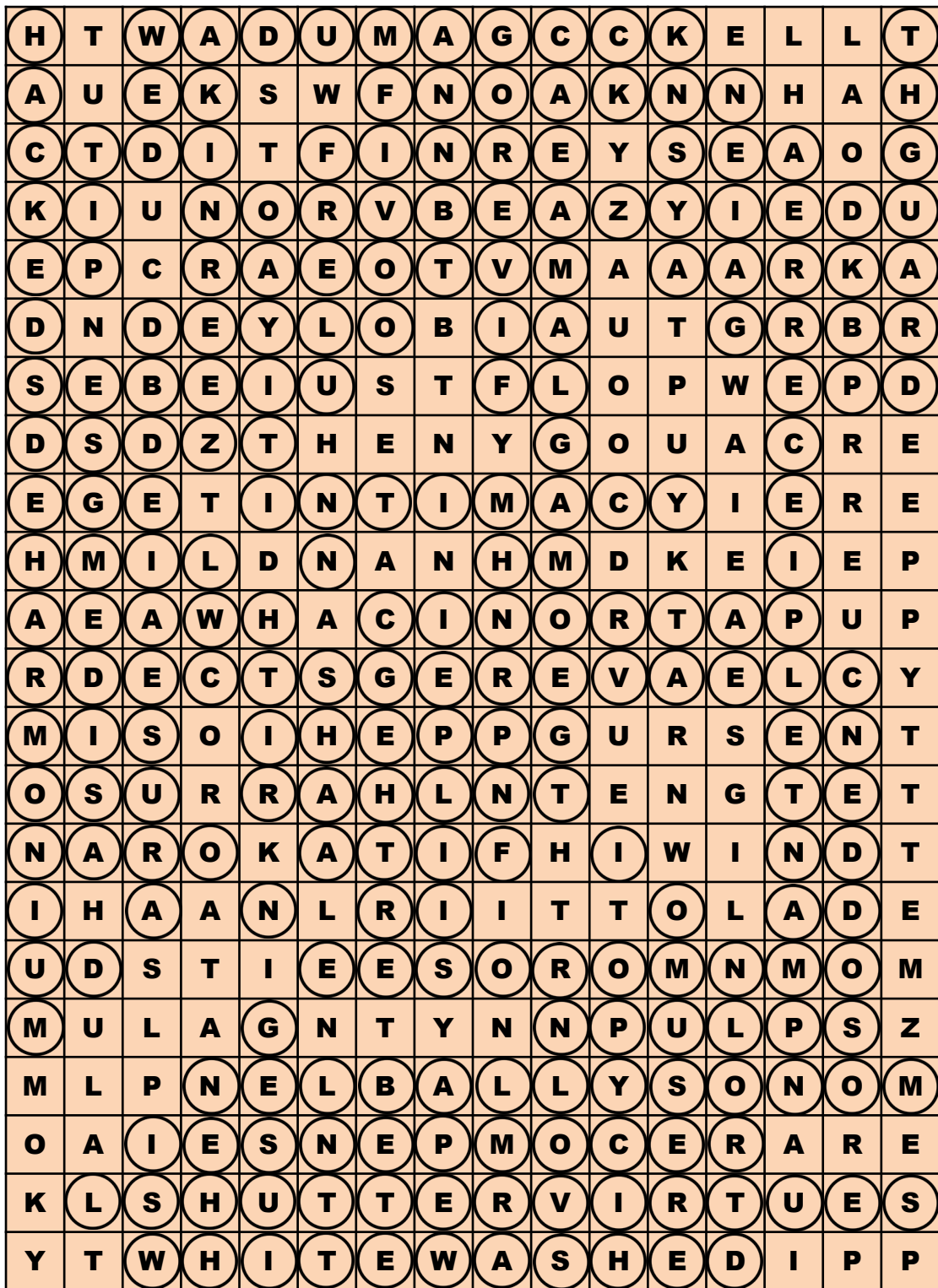
### Across

1. Very short word
6. \_\_\_ - lit; not bright
10. Large deep hole from which minerals are dug
11. Readily-available money
13. Thinks deeply or carefully about
16. Writing implement
17. Cut with rough or heavy blows
20. Each of a pair of hinged panels fixed outside a window
21. A smaller part of a larger object
22. I have
23. Steady intent look
25. Final thing
27. \_\_\_ - jacket
28. Long-lasting
30. Wail; sob
31. Sullenly melancholy; gloomy
32. Plot of land
33. Billiard - \_\_\_\_\_
35. Reared in a specified environment or way
38. Long-bodied predatory freshwater fish
42. Sudden outbreak of intense emotion
44. Transported or carried to a place
45. Speak or complain in a weak or foolish way
47. Small reed organ driven by air bellows
50. Place of rest
51. Fruit seed
52. Large and strong; heavily built
53. \_\_\_ - shop
54. Enclosed compartment for cooking and heating food
57. Small lodging for travellers
58. Treat with carbolic acid, a very strong antiseptic
59. Used as a preface to polite requests or instructions
63. Extreme thinness appearing to be a result of starvation
64. Current of air in an enclosed area
66. Citrus fruit
68. Saturated with liquid, especially water
70. Soft, sticky matter resulting from the mixing of earth and water
71. Skill; aptitude
72. Of similar character
73. Slender woody shoot growing from a branch or stem of a tree
74. Lean and gaunt

### Down

2. Raw minerals
3. Tell an untruth
4. Suitable in the circumstances
5. \_\_\_\_\_ - and - twenty
7. Frozen water
8. Structure of wood, marble, or stone above and around a fireplace
9. Covered with a mixture of lime and water to whiten it
12. Close familiarity or friendship; closeness
13. Action intended to deceive someone
14. Prolonged and bitter quarrel or dispute
15. Tool with a heavy, broad blade
18. Alloy of mercury with other metals
19. Bottom centerline of a vessel
21. Person who gives financial support to a person
24. Lament for the dead
26. Commotion
29. Establishment or starting point of an activity
34. Provided or supplied
36. Compensation given for loss suffered
37. Disagreeably damp, musty, and typically cold
38. Request made in an urgent and emotional manner
39. Interested in or attracted by
40. Main road
41. Soft, wet, shapeless mass of material
43. Active, fast, and energetic
46. To one side; out of the way
48. Males
49. Feeling most distressed or pessimistic
52. Person's way of standing or moving
55. Very large feline
56. Leash
59. Type of acid, made with cyanide
60. Brutal or vicious persons
61. Mix together
62. Child whose parents are dead
65. Someone who provides information
67. Absence of difficulty or effort
69. Tiny drops of water that form on cool surfaces at night

# Engineer's Thumb (Puzzle #7)



T	E	L	L		U	S		W	H	A	T		Y	O	U		C	A	N	,		B	U	T
S	T	O	P		W	H	E	N		Y	O	U		A	R	E		T	I	R	E	D		
A	N	D		K	E	E	P		U	P		Y	O	U	R		S	T	R	E	N	G	T	H
W	I	T	H		A		L	I	T	T	L	E		S	T	I	M	U	L	A	N	T		

# Engineer's Thumb (Puzzle #8)

