



## The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

### Adventure XIV – The Adventure of the Copper Beeches

Agony Column	In England, personal newspaper advertisements conveyed personal messages; Holmes occupied much of his time reading the columns.
Aldershot	City in north-eastern Hampshire; location of the largest permanent military camp in Britain; Holmes & Watson admired the hills enroute to Winchester
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
Black Swan Hotel	Inn of repute in Winchester; Holmes and Watson lunch there with Violet Hunter
Bradshaw's Railway Guide	Most complete of the numerous British railway guides, published monthly; Watson looked up the trains to Winchester in the Guide
Carlo	Mastiff belonging to Jephro Rucastle, killed by Watson, after it attacked its owner
Copper Beeches, The	Country home of Jephro Rucastle, who hired Violet Smith as a governess for his young son
<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	London newspaper, begun in 1855, published in the mornings; Holmes was observed by Watson reading this newspaper
Fowler	Suitor and future husband of Alice Rucastle; it was presumed he used a ladder to reach Alice and release her the locked room in which she was held by the Rucastles; the two then made their way to Mauritius
Halifax	Capital of Nova Scotia; Colonel Spence Munro received an appointment there, moving from England and leaving Violet Hunter without employment after working for the family for five years
Hampshire	(Southampton) Southern county of England, principally agricultural; Jephro Rucastle residence, the Copper Beeches, was in Hampshire; Holmes spoke of the countryside, and the evil that may lurk within them

High Street	One of the principal streets in Winchester; the Black Swan Inn, where Violet Hunter requested Holmes and Watson meet her, is located there
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.
Hunter, Violet	Young woman who came to ask Holmes' advice on whether she should accept a situation offered to her; she had previously served as governess for the Munro family; she passed on to Holmes some very strange arrangements the Rucastle family had for her employment
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; Holmes muses the "lowest and vilest alleys in London do not present a more dreadful record of sin than the beautiful countryside"
Mauritius	British-owned island in the Indian Ocean; Young Fowler received a government appointment there, after releasing Alice Rucastle from her father's imprisonment
Montague Place	Street running along the north side of the British Museum; Violet Hunter apparently lived there
Munro, Colonel Spence	Former employer of Violet Hunter, for whom she was governess for five years; Munro transferred to Halifax, Canada, due to his employment
Nova Scotia	Eastern province of Canada; Colonel Spence Munro received an appointment there and moved his family there, forcing Violet Hunter to find other employment
Peerage	In Great Britain, the rank of dignity of a peer, a holder of the title of one of the five degrees of hereditary nobility: Duke, Earl, Viscount, and Baron; Lord Southerton was a peer

Philadelphia	Chief city of Pennsylvania; Jephro Rucastle claimed his daughter Alice, by his first wife, was in Philadelphia
Rucastle, Alice	The daughter of Jephro Rucastle, by his first wife, who he kept imprisoned in the house to prevent her marriage, which would deprive him of the use of her inheritance; ultimately wed her fiancé Fowler by special license in Southampton
Rucastle, Edward	The son of Jephro Rucastle, the child of his second marriage, who had a very strange habit of killing insects for fun; Holmes found the child's behavior most enlightening about the parents
Rucastle, Jephro	Country gentleman residing with his second wife, Mrs. Rucastle, at the Copper Beeches in Hampshire; he kept his daughter, by his first wife, imprisoned in the house to prevent her marriage; he hired Violet Hunter to be governess to his young son, and she unwittingly impersonated Alice until Holmes revealed the truth
Southampton	Major seaport city of Hampshire; Mr. Fowler and Alice Rucastle were married in Southampton after escaping the Copper Beeches
Southerton, Lord	Copper Beeches was located in the midst of his preserves
Stoper, Miss	Manageress of Westaway's agency for governesses, where Violet Hunter had applied after being released by the Munro family; there she met Jephro Rucastle, who felt she was perfect for the position of governess within his home
Sutherland, Mary	Daughter of a Tottenham Court road plumber, who had become engaged to Hosmer Angel, and consulted Holmes when her fiancé vanished on her wedding day without a clue; Holmes referred to it as a singular experience
Toller	Groom to Jephro Rucastle, he was in charge of taking care of Carlo, the mastiff; he stayed in an inebriated state most of the time, and was passed out when Holmes, Watson, and Violet Hunter entered the house to determine the contents of the secret room
Toller, Mrs.	The wife of the groom to Jephro Rucastle, who was the housekeeper of the Copper Beeches; Violet Hunter locked her in the cellar before Holmes and Watson arrived to determine the contents of the secret room; afterwards, Mrs. Toller explained much of the circumstances of the house to Holmes and Watson
Walsall	Town in the Midlands; Violet Hunter became head of a private school there after his experiences at the Copper Beeches with the Rucastle family

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
West End	That part of London lying west of the City; Westway's, where Violet Hunter applied for a governess position, was in the West End
Westaway	Founder of Westaway's agency for governesses
Westaway's	Agency for governesses, founded by Mrs. Westaway, and managed by Miss Stoper; she was very abrupt with Violet Hunter, especially when Hunter expressed doubt for Rucastle's generous offer of employment, "You can hardly expect us to exert ourselves to find another such opening for you. Good-day to you, Miss Hunter"
Winchester	Historic city of Hampshire; the Copper Beeches, the residence of the Rucastles and where Violet Hunter was hired, was nearby; Holmes noted the tower of the Winchester Cathedral from the approaching train