

Adventure XIX – The Adventure of the Gloria Scott



Paul Churchill once quipped he had a hard time studying for Sherlockian quizzes, so inspired by Simon Goodenough's *A Study in Scarlet – A Sherlock Holmes Murder Dossier*, Paul began collecting Canonical artifacts around 1990 to help him remember each story. Over 1,500 artifacts later, Paul's 'Evidence Boxes' became legendary in the Sherlockian world as he displayed them at numerous Scion meetings.

What Paul could not find, he made. He became known as a master forger, and 'created' numerous 'genuine faux' objects, such as letters, documents, and telegrams. Paul was invested in the Baker Street Irregulars in 2006 as "Corot." After Paul's passing, the Evidence Boxes were bequeathed to Watson's Tin Box Scion Society, a Society Paul co-founded in 1989. Debbie Clark has maintained the Boxes and continues the practice of displaying the items from one of the Boxes at each society meeting.

Beth Austin assisted in this effort by photographing, annotating the items, and finding the quotes for many of the items, while Denny Dobry and Rusty Mason supported Paul's efforts by photographing each of the items, as well as developing a comprehensive inventory with notations of item's mentioned in the story. Each of the Boxes is posted with permission of Debbie Clark and Jacquelynn Morris.

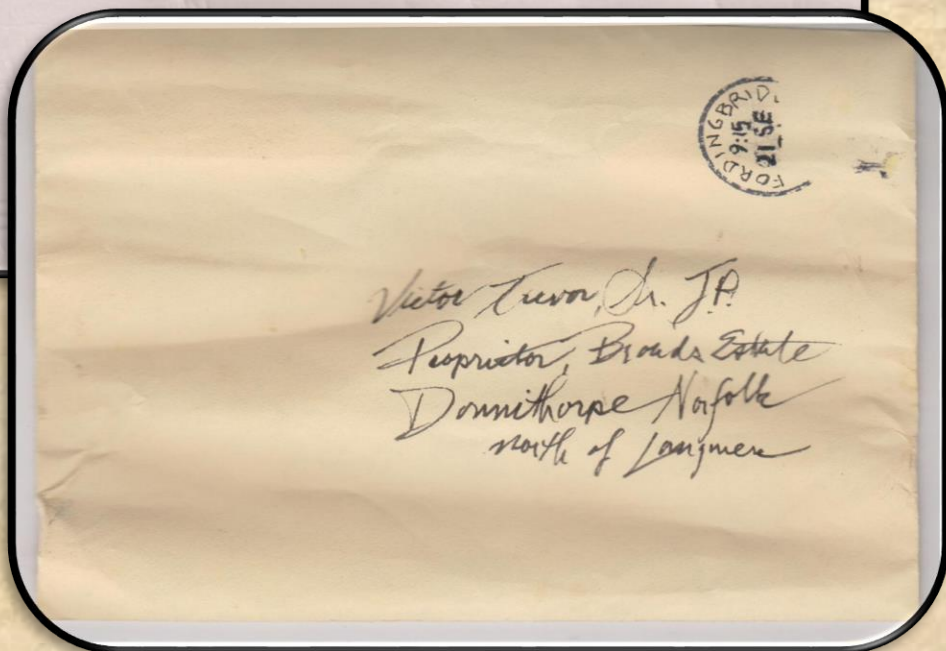


Pictured is the tarnished brass tube containing the senior Trevor's last account to his son, surrounded by the Hudson code note to the senior Trevor, all bound to the tube by red tape.

From the story:

He had picked from a drawer a little tarnished cylinder, and, undoing the tape, he handed me a short note scrawled upon a half sheet of slate-grey paper.

The supply of game for London
is going steadily up. Head-keeper
Hudson, we believe, has now been
told to receive all orders for
fly-paper, and for preservation
of your hen pheasant's life.

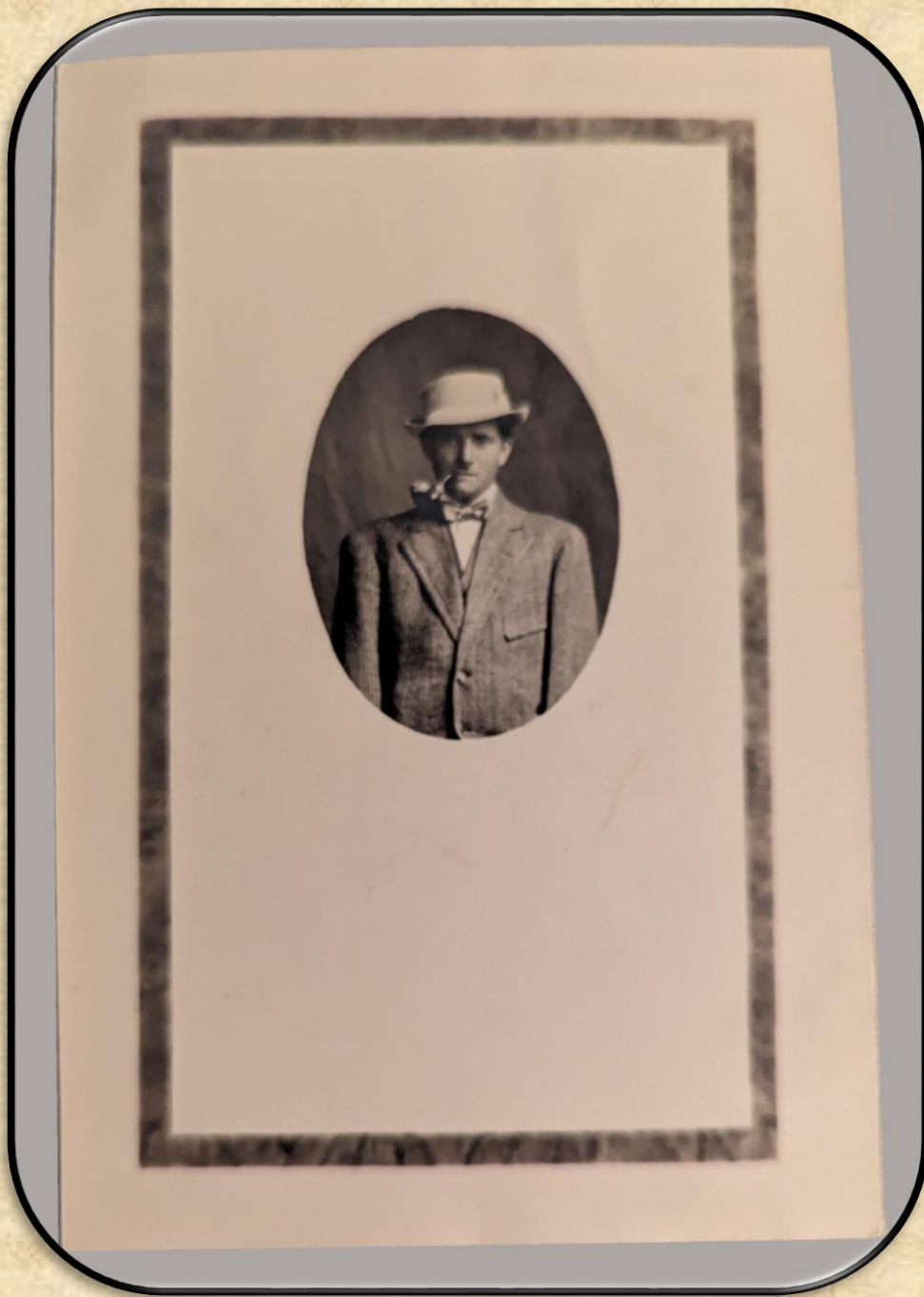


Pictured is the code note sent to Mr. Trevor, warning him about Hudson.

From the story:

He handed me a short note scrawled upon a half sheet of slate-grey paper.

'The supply of game for London is going steadily up,' it ran. 'Head-keeper Hudson, we believe, has been now told to receive all orders for fly paper, and for preservation of your hen pheasant's life.'



Pictured is a very young Sherlock Holmes, complete with pipe, taken during the first case he was engaged, that of the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

‘You arouse my curiosity,’ said I. ‘But why did you say just now that there were very particular reasons why I should study this case?’

‘Because it was the first in which I was ever engaged.’



Pictured is the finger glass, or bowl, which Holmes used to sprinkle water onto Trevor Senior to wake him from a faint.

From the story:

‘You can imagine, Watson, how shocked both his son and I were. His attack did not last long, however, for when we undid his collar and sprinkled the water from one of the finger glasses over his face, he gave a gasp or two and sat up.’



Pictured are the nuts and shells Trevor Senior was enjoying while talking to Holmes and Victor. Also pictured is a nutcracker which Mr. Trevor would have used.

From the story:

‘Mr Trevor stood slowly up, fixed his large blue eyes on me with a strange, wild stare, and then pitched forward on his face among the nutshells which strewed the cloth, in a dead faint.’



POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Office Stamp.

FRANK & SPOTTISWOODE, LONDON.

If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than 1/2d. being reckoned as 1/2d.; and if it be found that there was any inaccuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.

Charges } £ s. d.
to pay } — — —

Handed in at **Donnithorpe Norfolk**

Received here at



TO { **Mr. Sherlock Holmes 43 VANDALIA BAYWATER**

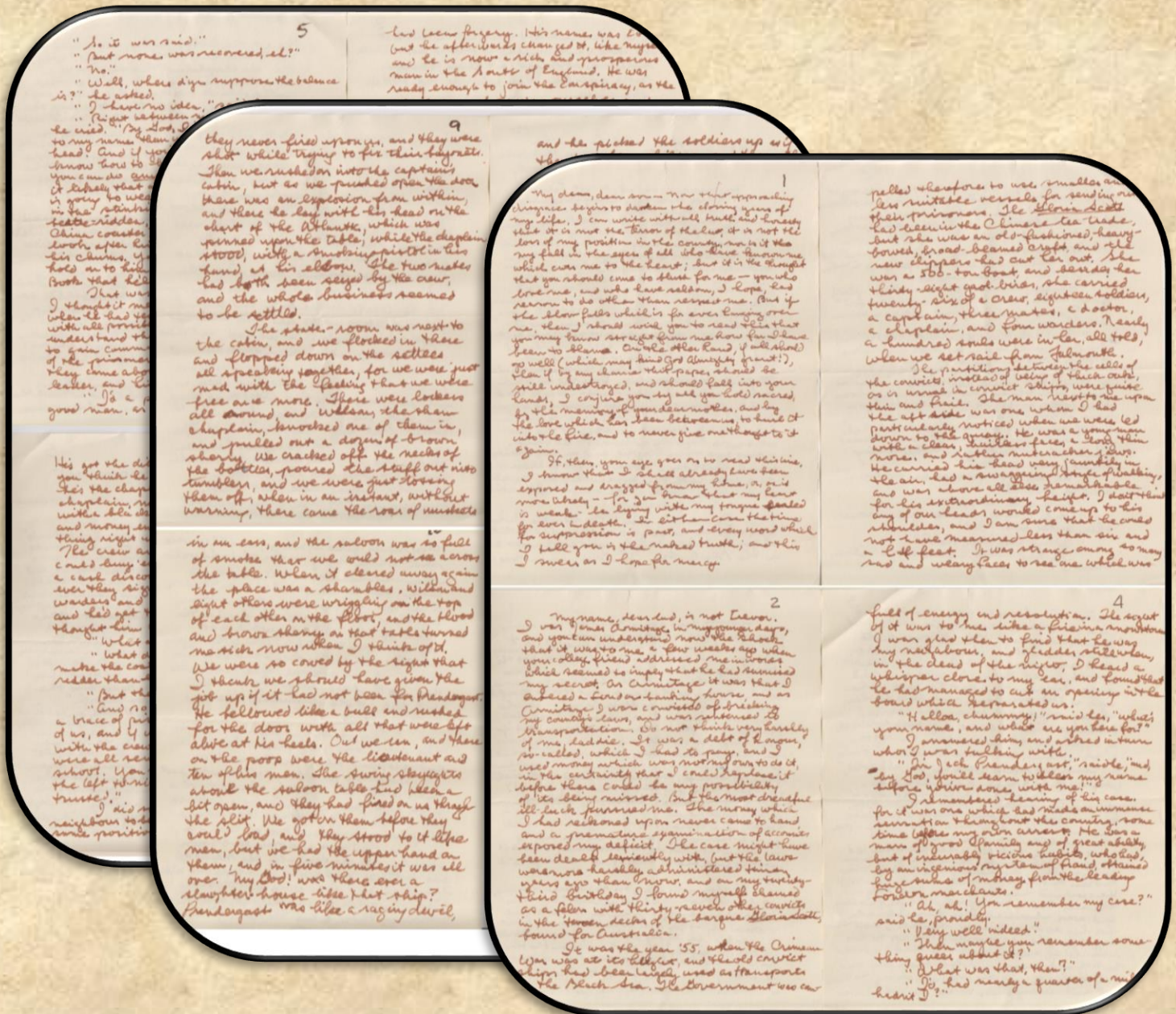
I IMPLORER YOU RETURN TO DONNITHORPE - AM IN GREAT NEED OF YOUR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE - DROP EVERYTHING - WILL MEET YOU AT LANGMERE STATION THIS PM VIKTOR TREVOR

N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Pictured is the telegram sent to Holmes by Victor Trevor, pleading with Holmes to return to Donnithorpe to help with Trevor Senior's death.

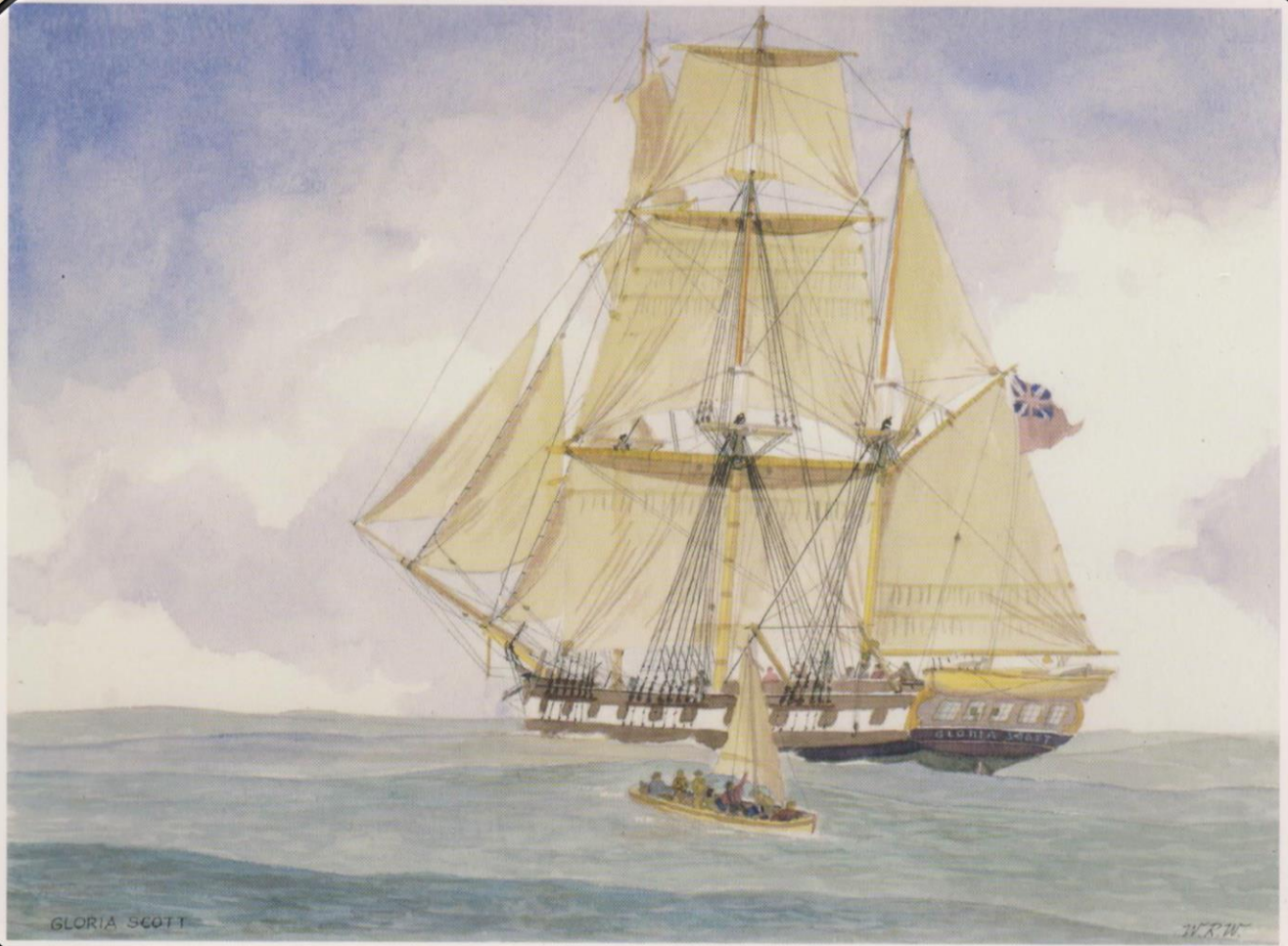
From the story:

'One day, however, when the autumn was far advanced and the vacation drawing to a close, I received a telegram from my friend imploring me to return to Donnithorpe, and saying that he was in great need of my advice and assistance.'



Pictured is the account, or confession, written by Trevor Senior to his son, providing him the details of the Gloria Scott.

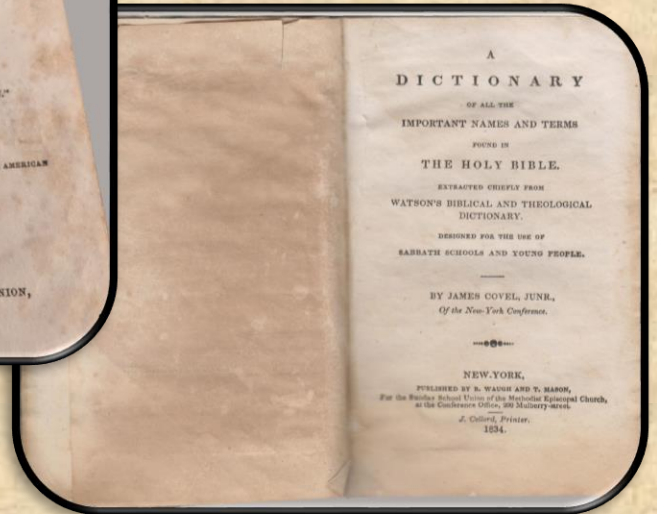
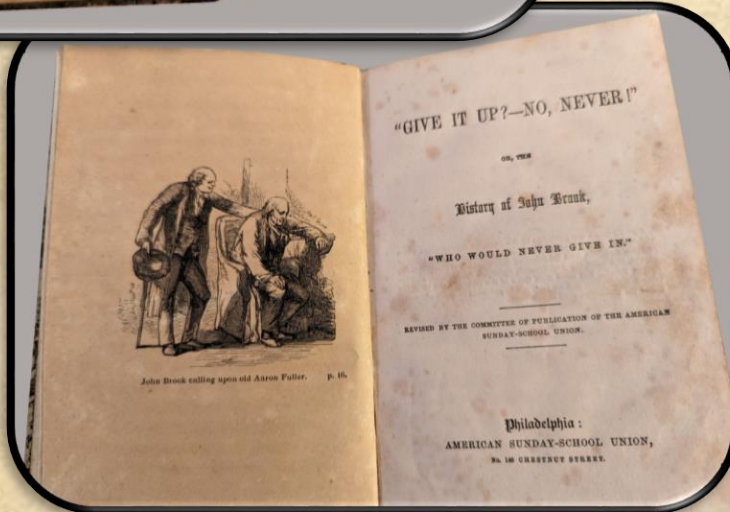
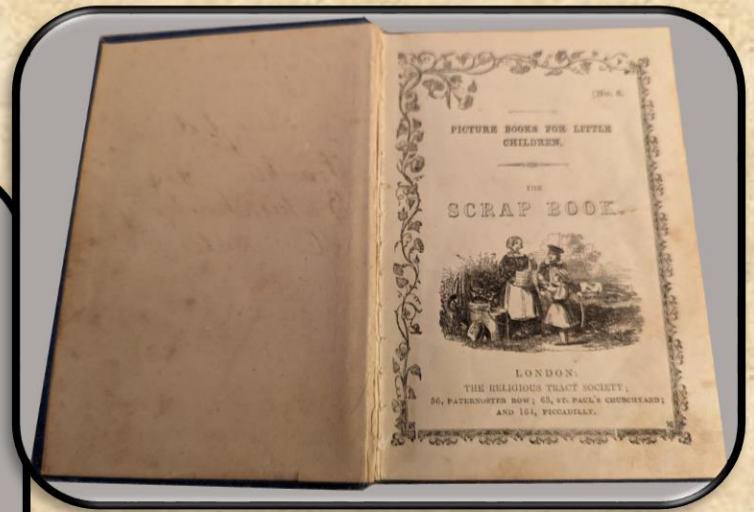
From the story:
‘These are the very papers, Watson, which he handed to me, and I will read them to you as I read them in the old study that night to him. They are indorsed outside, as you see: ‘Some particulars of the voyage of the barque *Gloria Scott.*’



Pictured is a postal card of the Gloria Scott, a prison ship, for conveying prisoners to Australia.

From the story:

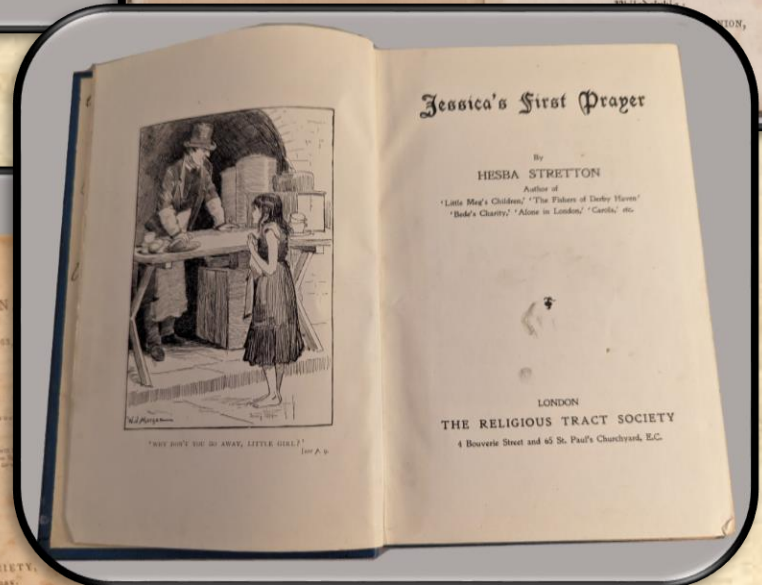
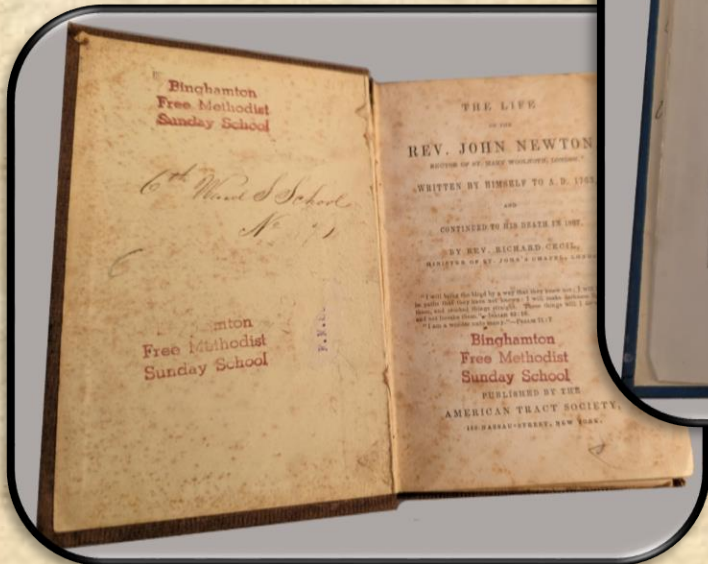
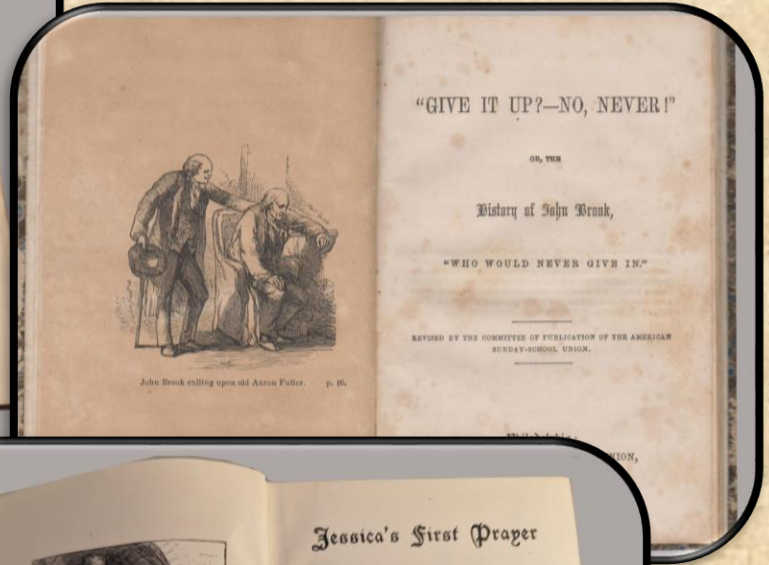
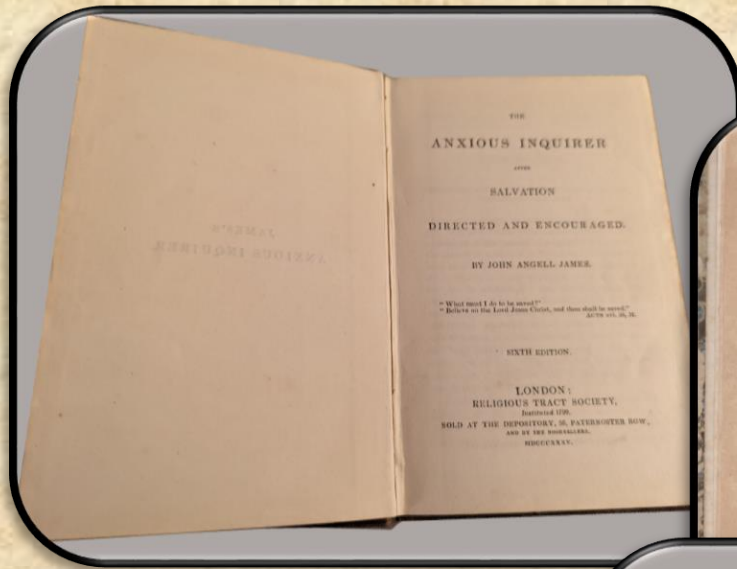
The case might have been dealt leniently with, but the laws were more harshly administered thirty years ago than now, and on my twenty-third birthday I found myself chained as a felon with thirty-seven other convicts in the 'tween decks of the barque *Gloria Scott*, bound for Australia.



Pictured are religious tracts, located in a black bag, carried by the sham chaplain on the Gloria Scott

From the story:

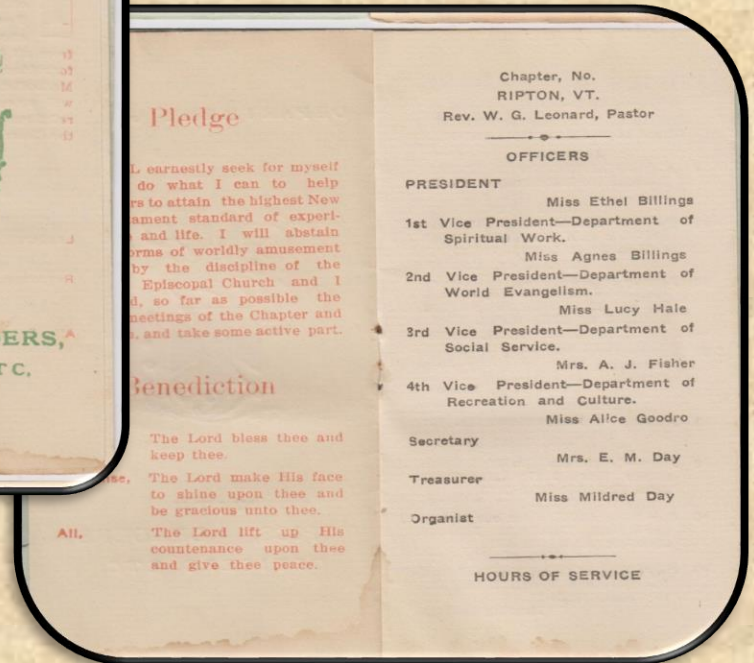
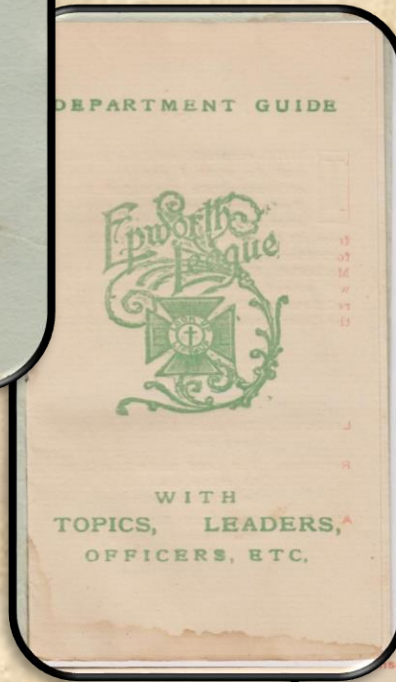
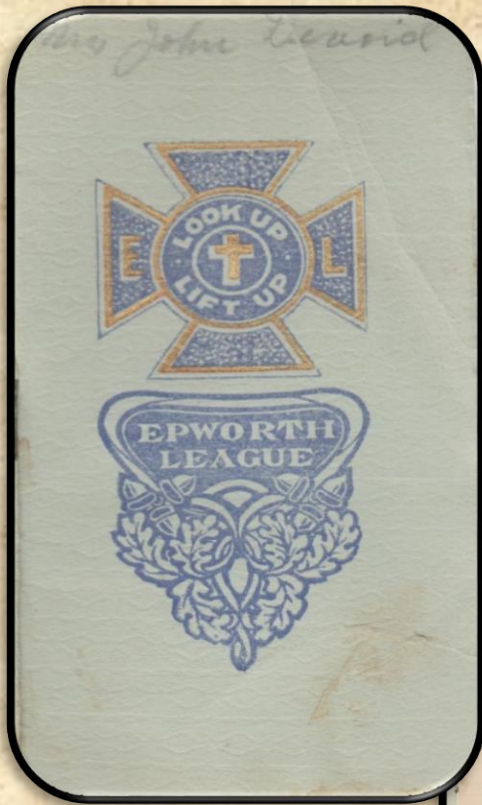
The sham chaplain came into our cells to exhort us, carrying a black bag, supposed to be full of tracts.



Pictured are religious tracts, located in a black bag, carried by the sham chaplain on the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

The sham chaplain came into our cells to exhort us, carrying a black bag, supposed to be full of tracts.



Pictured is an Epworth religious tract, located in a black bag, carried by the sham chaplain on the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

The sham chaplain came into our cells to exhort us, carrying a black bag, supposed to be full of tracts.



Pictured is the file and percussion caps brought by the chaplain onto the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

The sham chaplain came into our cells to exhort us, carrying a black bag, supposed to be full of tracts, and so often did he come that by the third day we had each stowed away at the foot of our bed a file, a brace of pistols, a pound of powder, and twenty slugs.



Pictured is the file and pound of powder given to James Armitage for use during the mutiny of the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

The sham chaplain came into our cells to exhort us, carrying a black bag, supposed to be full of tracts, and so often did he come that by the third day we had each stowed away at the foot of our bed a file, a brace of pistols, a pound of powder, and twenty slugs.



Pictured are the two (brace) percussion pistols provided to James Armitage (Trevor Senior) for use in the mutiny and takeover of the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

‘There's a brace of pistols for every mother's son of us, and if we can't carry this ship, with the crew at our back, it's time we were all sent to a young Miss's boarding school.’



Pictured is a boxed compass marked “H.M.S. Gloria Scott”, given to the parting crew. This one was recovered by James Armitage the day after the explosion, which destroyed the *Gloria Scott*.

From the story:

‘We were given a suit of sailors' togs each, a barrel of water, two casks, one of junk and one of biscuits, and a compass.’



Pictured is a sailing chart of the North Atlantic, including the Cape Verde Islands, close to where the mutiny of the *Gloria Scott* occurred.

From the story:

Our boat lay, rising and falling, upon the long, smooth rollers, and Evans and I, who were the most educated of the party, were sitting in the sheets working out our position and planning what coast we should make for. It was a nice question, for the Cape de Verds was about 500 miles to the north of us, and the African coast about 700 miles to the east..

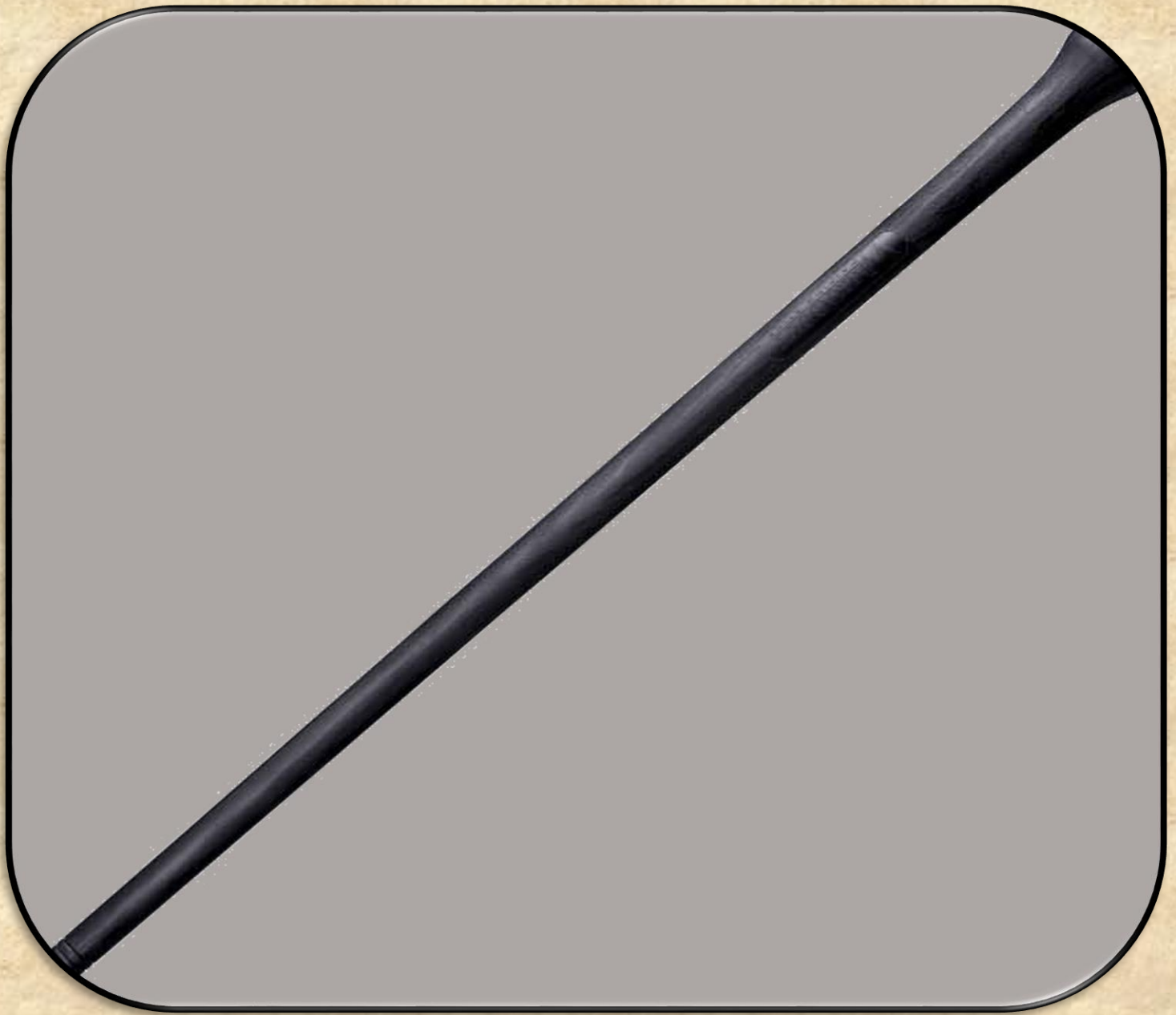
Additional items of interest
in “The Adventure of the
Gloria Scott” not included
in the original Evidence
Box.



Pictured is a postal card of a landscape in Langmere, Norfolk County, close to the Trevor's residence at Donnithorpe.

From the story:

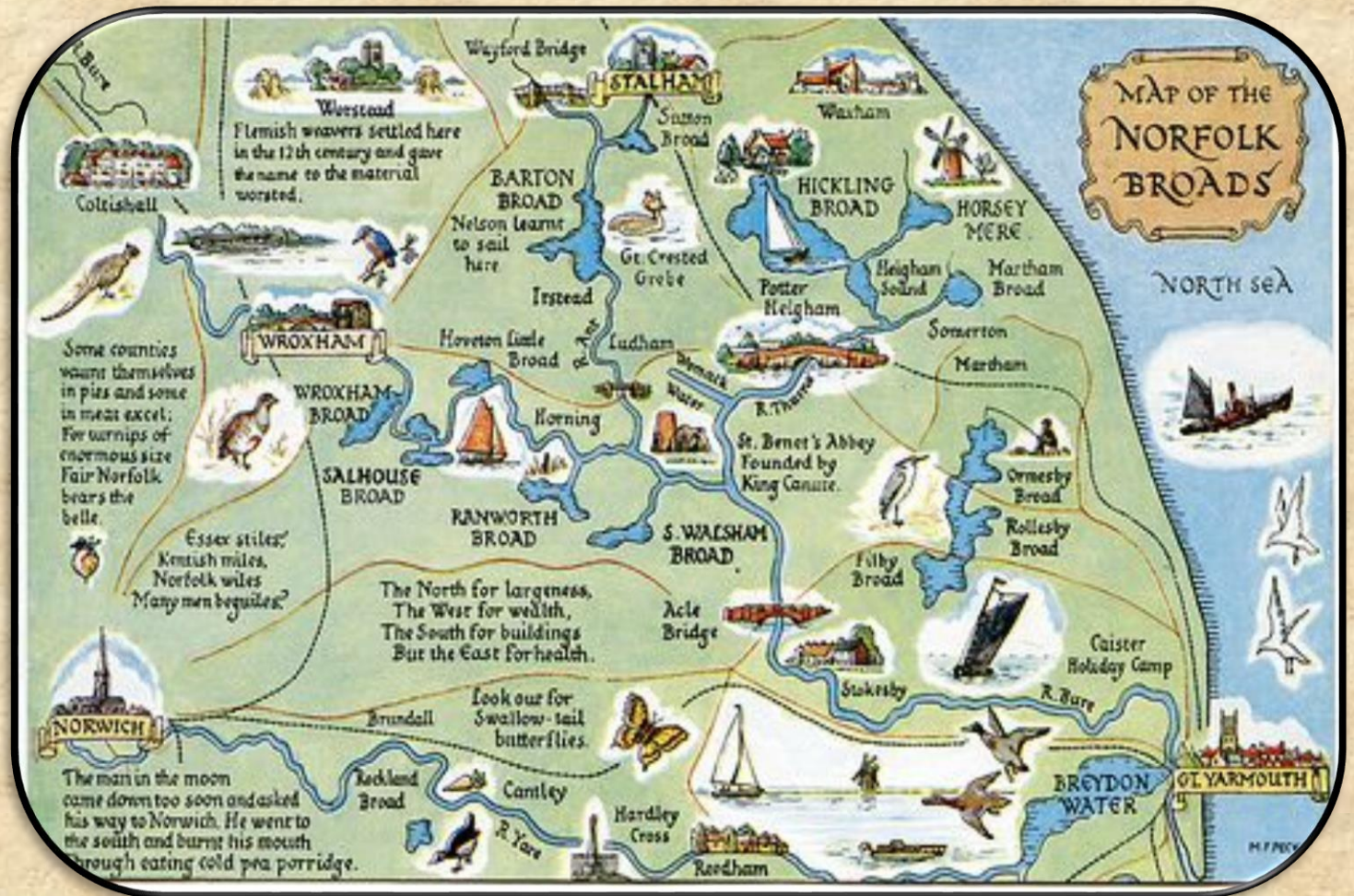
'Finally, he invited me down to his father's place at Donnithorpe, in Norfolk. Donnithorpe is a little hamlet just to the north of Langmere, in the country of the Broads.'



Pictured is the walking stick owned by Trevor Senior, which the father had added lead weight, making it a weapon, to be able to defend himself.

From the story:

‘You have a very handsome stick,’ I answered. ‘But you have taken some pains to bore the head of it and pour melted lead into the hole, so as to make it a formidable weapon.’

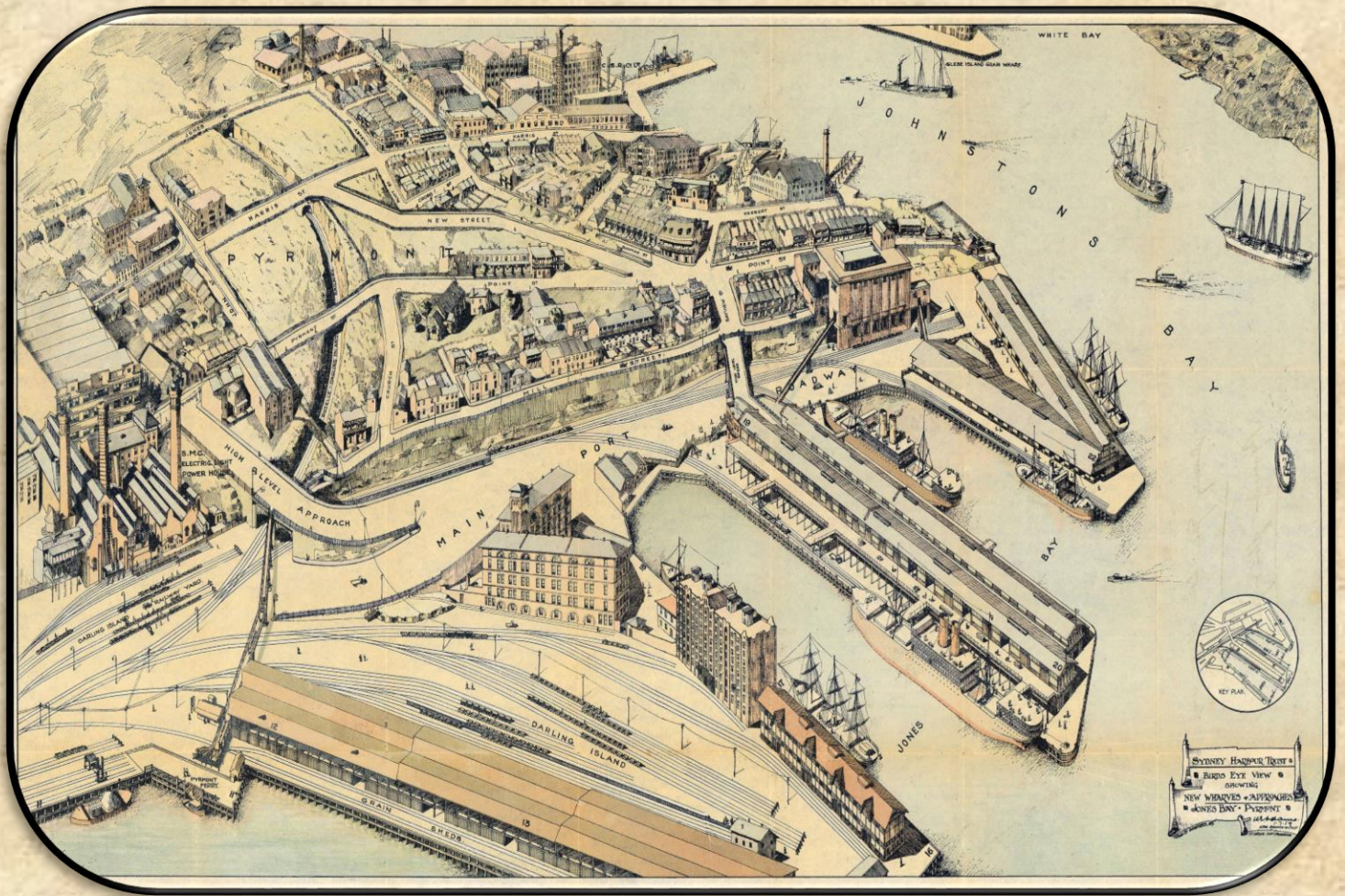


Pictured is a postal card of the Norfolk Broads, the site of the Trevor residence, near Langmere.

From the story:

‘Donnithorpe is a little hamlet just to the north of Langmere, in the country of the Broads.’

‘We were sitting out upon the lawn on garden chairs, the three of us, basking in the sun and admiring the view across the Broads, when the maid came out to say that there was a man at the door who wanted to see Mr Trevor.’



Pictured is a postal card of the Sydney Harbor, where the survivors of the Gloria Scott ended up.

From the story:

After an excellent voyage the Hotspur landed us at Sydney, where Evans and I changed our names and made our way to the diggings, where among the crowds who were gathered from all nations, we had no difficulty in losing our former identities.