



## The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes

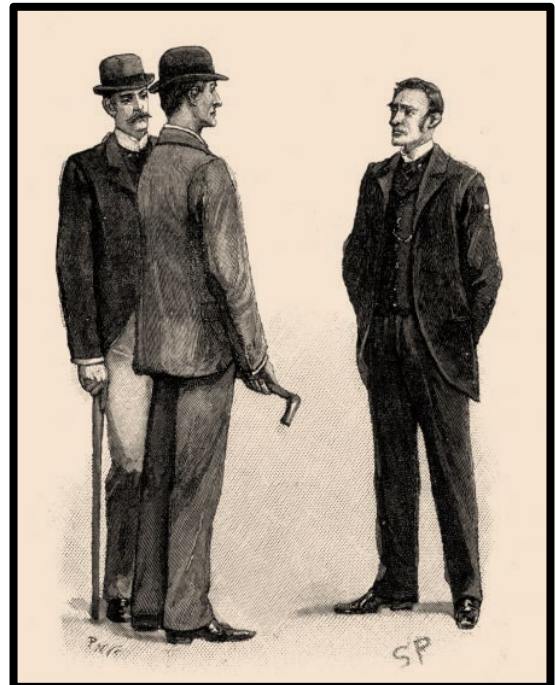
### Adventure XXV – The Adventure of the Naval Treaty

And now we turn to NAVA — one of the longer short stories in the canon, but well worth the time invested reading it! Watch for all those quotable lines (stormy petrel of crime...note upon his shirtcuff...nothing in which deduction is so necessary as in religion...light-houses my boy!..). Does it get any better than this? Here are my questions and comments to start this week's discussion:

The clerk, Gorot, was a suspect and was shadowed for weeks on end by the police. Reason? His French surname. Gorot fit a "profile." Not so different from 1997, when persons with Arabic names are suspected of any number of international crimes. Gorot is also interesting because the description of his background, "of Huguenot extraction, but as English in sympathy and tradition as you and I are," sounds suspiciously like ACD's own heritage.

Surprisingly, Percy Phelps doesn't smoke or drink. Most of his contemporaries did. Is there evidence in the story of Percy enjoying other "vices?"

Holmes said that in the course of his interview with Percy he'd been furnished with seven clues to test. What are those seven clues?



“Watson here will tell you that I never can resist a touch of the dramatic,” Holmes told Percy. I like to think Mrs. Hudson has some dramatic tendencies herself, being an apparently willing participant in the little joke played on Percy. In the name of drama, however, wasn’t the treaty exposed to some risk in the kitchens of 221B? Would you entrust Mediterranean security and world peace to your landlady?

**Sonia Fetherston, BSI**

**August 01, 1997**