Adventure XXV – The Adventure of the Naval Treaty



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 cofounded 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.

...there is nothing so important as

TRIFLES

In "The Naval Treaty," Lord Holdhurst directed Percy Armitage to stay late at the Foreign Office and copy a secret treaty. "I knew that Joseph [his prospective brother-in-law] . . . was in town," Percy said, "and that he would travel down to Woking by the eleven o'clock train, and I wanted if possible to catch it."

At the end of the case Holmes said, "I had already begun to suspect Joseph, from the fact that you had intended to travel home with him that night, and that therefore it was a likely enough thing that he should call for you."

Not at all likely. Before getting his overtime assignment, Percy had been expecting to go home at the usual time. There had been no opportunity to speak to Joseph. Yet Joseph turned up at the Foreign Office — not at Percy's usual quitting time, as he might ordinarily have done, but after nine o'clock.

Joseph spotted the treaty and stole it on impulse, Holmes said. But what made Joseph think Percy would still be in the office? Did he know something? Holmes never inquired.

It is, of course, a trifle, but...

WILLIAM HYDER, B.S.I.

Napoleon LXXVI The Six Napoleons of Baltimore January 2003

Pictured is the 'Trifles' on The Naval Treaty, authored by Bill Hyder, and given out at the 2003 Baker Street Irregulars' annual dinner.

Briarbrace, Working

How do schoolfellow,

My dear Wetson ,

I have no doubt that you can remember Tadpole' Phelpe, who warn the fifes for when you were in the third. It is possible even that you may fave heard eller, through my uncless influence. I officines a good appoint ment at the Foreign office, and that I was in a setuation of trust and homom until a porsible major time cume indeney to Alext my careen.

There is no use writing the details of this dreshed event. In the sound of your acceding to my request, it is probable that I shall have to nine weeks of brain floor, and an still exceeding y wests. Do you think that you could bing your friend Mr. Holmes, down to see me? I should like to have this aprinon of the case, though the authorities assure me that nothing more can be done. Try to bring him down, and so soon as possible. Every minute sterms an hour while I have not asked this address from the that, if I have not asked this address borner, it was not because I did not appreciate his talents, but because I did not appreciate his talents, that because I have been off my head ther that the blow file. Now I am clear again, though dars not this of the supermeating the second the the same of the this set the supermeating the second the the blow file. Now I am clear again, though a dars not this of the supermeating the second the second and the second the second off the the second second the second the second second the second the second the second the second the second the second second the second second the second second the second second second second second second the second second second second the second secon

Pictured is the letter and envelope sent to Dr. Watson, from Percy Phelps, requesting assistance to find the missing Naval Treaty.

From the story:

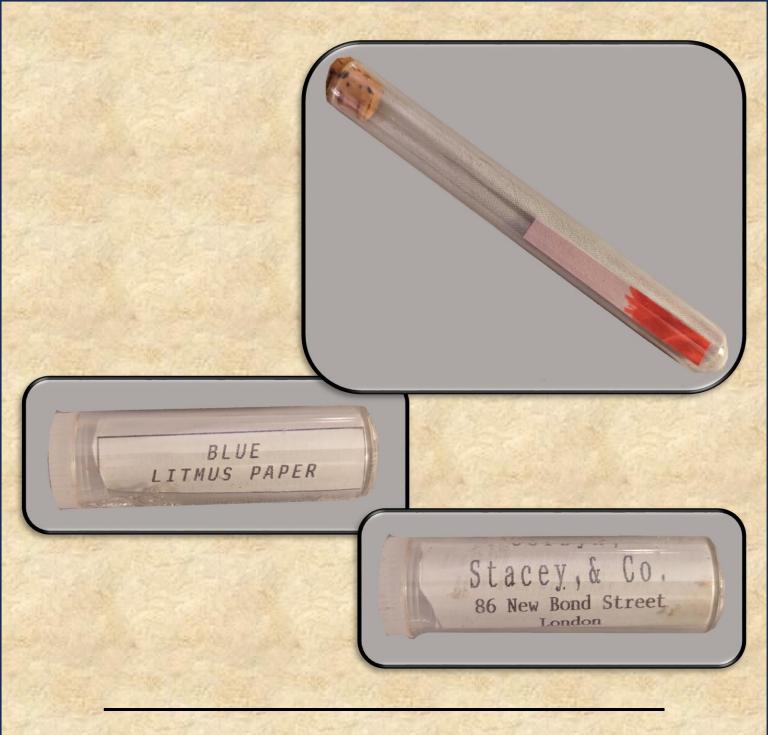
I heard vaguely that his abilities and the influence which he commanded had won him a good position at the Foreign Office, and then he passed completely out of my mind until the following letter recalled his existence.



Pictured is a cigarette card for the Marylebone Cricket Club showing a cap, bat, and wicket stumps. While in school together, Watson remembers Percy being picked on by having his shins wacked with a Cricket Wicket.

From the story:

This gaudy relationship did him little good at school; on the contrary, it seemed rather a piquant thing to us to chevy him about the playground and hit him over the shins with a wicket.



Pictured are tubes of litmus paper Holmes was using to test a solution in a test tube when Watson entered the sitting rooom'.

From the story:

He dipped into this bottle or that, drawing out a few drops of each with his glass pipette, and finally brought a test-tube containing a solution over to the table. In his right hand he had a slip of litmus-paper.



Pictured is the chain and locket, inscribed with initials "J.H." and containing Annie Harrison's photograph. The locket tipped off Holmes Harrison was not related to Phelps.

From the story:

'We have had no details yet,' observed Holmes. 'I perceive that you are not yourself a member of the family.'

Our acquaintance looked surprised, and then glancing down he began to laugh.

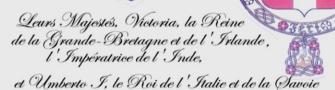
'Of course you saw the 'J. H.' monogram on my locket,' said he.

John H. Watson, M.D. General Practice and Surgery London, W1 221B Baker Street Mr. Sherlock Holmes Consulting 2216. Baker Street Detectivo London.

Pictured are the visiting, or calling, cards for Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson provided once they arrived at Phelps' residence.

From the story:

On sending in our cards we were shown into an elegantly appointed drawing-room, where we were joined in a few minutes by a rather stout man, who received us with much hospitality.



resolus fermement d'assurer à leurs États la suite de leur amitié mutuelle dans des affaires navales, nonobstant l'existence du Traité de la Triple Entente conclu le 20 mai 1882 et remplacé par traité le 20 février 1887, ont nommés comme leurs plénipotentiaires, Savoir: Seigneur Holdhurst, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangère du Gouvernement Britannique; et Duc Giuseppe d'Ivarna, l'Imbassadeur Extraordinaire à la Court de Saint James.

Traité

Pictured is the title page of the Treaty between Italy and England. Also pictured is the treaty rolled and bound with ribbon as it appeared when Holmes returned it to Phelps.

From the story:

'This,' said he, taking a grey roll of paper from his bureau, 'is the original of that secret treaty between England and Italy, of which, I regret to say, some rumours have already got into the public.'

Across the centre of it was lying a little cylinder of blue-grey paper.



la Reine de la Grande-Bretaane le Roi de l'Italie et de l'Irlande, l'Empress et de la Lavoie Lond convonue des articles deurs etter mourour trouves en bonne et due forme. Seinnent PholoDinitist, le Ministre des ponsonne des articles suivantes. Article I soukaise maitent en agage teurs dans des affaires naveles. Article II falting et le fouvernament de de Article II officien fait de le faltie fouvernament Article II officien fait de le faltie fouvernament Article II officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article II officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officien fait de le fait de fouvernament Article IV officient de fait de fouvernament Article IV officient de fait de fouvernament Article IV officient d Naolus fermement d'assurer à leurs flats la suite de leur amit, al aires mannes, nonobétant l'existence du Traité de la Triate de Met remplace par traité le 20 férrier 1857, ont nommis comme leurs de l'Inde et le Duc Giuseppe d'Avarna plenipotentiare à la fourt de Article XXI Derforces 4 secont definis l'un ou l'autr imposte Article XXII I Public agira en taux que mediateur entre l Bretagne et l'E Alternand si le dernio uter sa Ag l'angre pouvoie des fores navales Article XXIII des position por les ters to libre Article XXIII de de des aufatras par gover facilitation the plus grandes at telepite on pour facilitation the plus grandes Almandes de Article IV Cut le me dans et accord mediterrancen Article XIV actuel doit tracer dans et accord mediterrancen Article XIV actuel doit tracer da perspective de la prode metiden ancles et de L'Apire de la nord. Article V de la Trance altendence de la prode Article XV auditans de l'étalie dans de alprire marsin metiden auteur de l'étalie dans de alprire marsin auditans de l'étalie dans de alprire marsin marsin en la france altendente acce de auditans de l'étalie dans de alprire marsin marsin en la france altendente acce de auditante de l'étalie dans de alter de acce de audit de la tracer de altendente acce de audit de l'étalie dans de alter de acce de audit de l'étalie dans de alter de acce de audit de la tracer de la de acce de la constance de la de acce de audit de l'étalie des des proces de la des de acce de la de acce de flotte des deux sig Laité pour les Lie your oin les frees naveles sony Article XXIV iden l'interposition par les tiers ou buden Article XXIV a conduite legitame de ses affaires par iraus de contendu de Le leurs regionsabilités. Millie powora les forces navales pour l'interposition par les tirs en tras l'interposition par les tirs en tras conduste legtine de ses éfaires par Maule Egget Article XXV Siger E galie a capete de ne par déiméger les tonens da aux gouvernets que au matte artige par de la constituent aux gouvernets que aux matterations de su particle es als éliés de la Super Allence de Sal Ander Sales de ne en gou de louger la mar à la Prance on à la Bassie. rande-Bretagne Article VI a grande des faces en Brage. Article VI a grande des faces de mans Article XXVI a Brage de ser grande a la grande Brade gra Line Att in france stand in Microsenet ed a gui la françaitor L'Arte State S Article VII Les plonipotentiaires respectifs nt signé le prosent Traité pour leurs Souvereigne et Article VII Les interder territoriaux du Royaume de acceptes par la grande Interdere. Article XVII See Aquipenents de la Grande Bredage. disposition any navies de l'Halle comme Vicesqu'are nt apposé leurs cachets. Fait à Londres, 12 mai 188 Article IX La interstationiana de la Grande-Britagne de Soudan et en Haute-gypte Article XIX Des semenents servet définis comme Sont accepte par Estate. Sont accepte par Estate. 0 Article X Chanes days around i hautre une. Article X Chanes days a somet i hautre une. Article X Chanes days a somet i hautre briter briterians a sone appre dans the article of dessur rommis. Seigneur Holdhurst le Auc Giuseppe

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Pictured is the secret treaty between Italy and England, in the original French. The treaty consisted of 26 articles.

From the story:

'It was a long document, written in the French language, and containing twenty-six separate articles.'

TREATY	Hittle XIII—Great Britain will furnish naval forces to prevent the encroachment of a third party Libya in the legitimate conduct of its affairs by Italy [sic].		
htir Majtstits, Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Umberto I, King of Italy and Savoy, firmly resolve to assure their States of their mutual friendship in naval	Titlt XIV—Italy will provide naval forces to prevent the encroachment of a third party in Suda the legitimate conduct of its affairs by Great Britain.		
affairs, notwithstanding the existence of the Treaty of the Triple Alliance concluded on 20 May, 1882 and replaced by the Treaty of February 1887, and have named as their plenipotentiaries the llowing: Lord Holdhurst, minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Britain, Duke Giuseppe of	$\mathbf{\mathcal{M}}$ tidt $\mathbf{\mathcal{X}}\mathbf{\mathcal{V}}$ —Italy will provide naval forces to prevent the encroachment of a third party in Upper Egy in the legitimate conduct of its affairs by Great Britain.		
varna, Ambassador Extraordinaire to the Court of St. James.	Hitlt XVI—Great Britain will provide naval forces to prevent the encroachment by a third party Ethiopia in the legitimate conduct of its affairs by Italy.		
/ho, after the exchange of their credentials and authority to act, which were found to be in order, have greed to the following articles:	H tittt XVII—The facilities of Italy and its possessions will be made available to the ships of Gru Britain when necessary.		
Titlt I—The Sovereigns pledge their mutual desire for peace and friendship in naval affairs.	A titlt XVIII—The facilities of Great Britain and its possessions will be made available to the ships Italy when necessary.		
Ttift II —The Queen and the Government of Great Britain, called hereafter "Great Britain," accept that the King and the government of Italy, called hereafter "Italy," have obligations to the Treaty of se Triple Alliance.	That when necessary. That when necessary. That when necessary. The second se		
Titlt III—Great Britain will make no request which would violate the intention of this treaty towards the German Empire and the Empire of Austria and Hungary.	Tritt XX—Facilities will also be defined to include medical treatment for personnel who cannot treated aboard ship.		
Titlt IV—It is the goal of this current Mediterranean agreement to outline the perspective of Great Britain towards an alliance with regard to naval forces and North Africa.	Titlt XXI—The use of naval forces will be defined to include blockades to prevent a third part in landing supplies or personnel which could compromise one or the other of the two signatories of		
T titlt V—If France were to desire ascendancy over Italy in naval affairs, one projects that France would form an alliance with Russia, which would threaten the balance of power in Europe.	agreement.		
Trifft VI—Great Britain agrees to support any action that would make it possible for Italy to maintain its in- fluence in the Mediterranean, particularly in regards to navigation near the islands of Corsica & Sardinia.	Let the latter decides to increase its sphere of influence in Sudan or in Upper Egypt.		
tildt VII—Great Britain gives to Italy the use of its facilities in Malta, if the need arises.	Signatories will be enhanced to facilitate greater increase in the exchange of intelligence.		
T titlt VIII—The territorial interests of the Kingdom of Italy in Libya and Ethiopia are recognized by	Hitt XXIV —The admirals of the fleets of the two signatories will be informed of the contents of the treaty to help them in the exercise of their responsibilities.		
Great Britain.	Ttitt XXV—Italy agrees not to divulge any part of the contents of this Treaty to the governments the soldiers or the armies of war to its allies of the Triple Alliance; Great Britain promises not to divu		
titlt IX—The territorial interests of Great Britain in Sudan and Upper Egypt are recognized by Italy.	the same to France or Russia.		
Hitlt X—Each country promises carte blanche in the territorial interests of the other's Empire as stated in the articles above.	Hitt XXVI —The parties above express their mutual respect for the naval forces and the territor responsibilities of each other, and the desire for Mediterranean peace.		
Tiddt XI—Neither country will take naval action against the other without first communicating its intentions through the Foreign Minister to the Ambassador of the other country.	The respective plenipotentiaries signed this Treaty for their Sovereigns and affixed their seals. Done London, 12 May, 1889		
Truth XII—If the naval forces of France take any action against the naval forces of Italy, Great Britain pledges to use its influence, diplomatic, military, & naval, to prevent the dominance of France over	HoldhursfLord Duke Giuseppe d'Avarna Witnesses:		

Pictured is the English translation of the treaty between Italy and England. The treaty outlines the policy between the Triple Alliance of France, Italy, and England.

From the story:

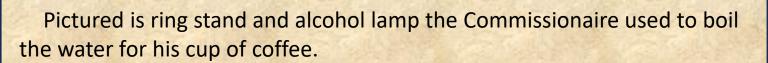
'Without going into details, I may say that it defined the position of Great Britain towards the Triple Alliance, and foreshadowed the policy which this country would pursue in the event of the French fleet gaining a complete ascendency over that of Italy in the Mediterranean.'



Pictured is a postal card depicting three women as the members of La Triple Entente, Italy, Germany and Austria- Hungary. The Naval Treaty was drafted between Italy and Great Britain. The Triple Alliance, of which Italy was a participant, was a separate arrangement.

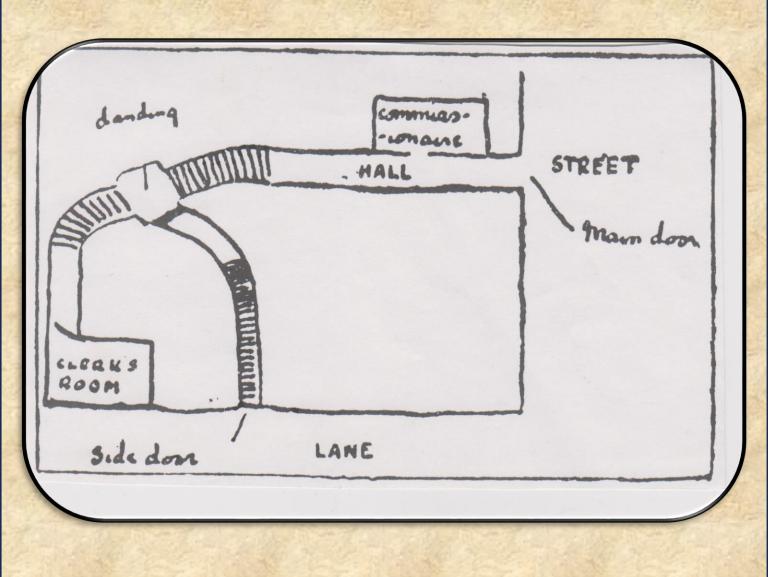
From the story:

'Without going into details, I may say that it defined the position of Great Britain towards the Triple Alliance, and foreshadowed the policy which this country would pursue in the event of the French fleet gaining a complete ascendency over that of Italy in the Mediterranean.'



From the story:

'A commissionaire remains all night in a little lodge at the foot of the stairs, and is in the habit of making coffee at his spirit-lamp for any of the officials who may be working overtime. I rang the bell, therefore, to summon him.'



Pictured is the sketch map, or chart, of the layout of Phelps' building (Foreign Affairs Office) and side streets.

From the story:

'The second one leads, by means of a second small stair, to a side-door used by servants, and also as a short cut by clerks when coming from Charles Street.'

'Here is a rough chart of the place.'



Pictured is the omnibus ticket used by Mrs Tangey to travel from the Foreign Office back to her residence in Brixton.

From the story: 'Where do you live?' said I.

'No. 16 Ivy Lane, Brixton,' he answered; 'but don't let yourself be drawn away upon a false scent, Mr. Phelps. Come to the other end of the street, and let us see if we can hear of anything.'



Pictured is the list slippers (with a fabric sole), shawl, and cap of Mrs. Tangey, the wife of the Commissionaire. Mrs Tangey was a charwoman at the Foreign Office, a person employed to clean offices.

From the story:

'The charwomen are in the habit of taking off their boots at the commissionaire's office, and putting on list slippers.'



Pictured is a cap badge for the Coldstream Guards, to which Tangey, the Commissionaire, had been attached.

From the story: 'Do you know anything of the commissionaire?' 'Nothing, except that he is an old soldier.' 'What regiment?' 'Oh, I have heard - Coldstream Guards.'



Pictured is the moss rose which Holmes uses to deliver a dissertation on providence as evidenced by the existence of the flower.

From the story:

'But this rose is an extra. Its smell and its colour are an embellishment of life, not a condition of it. It is only goodness which gives extras, and so I say again that we have much to hope from the flowers.'



Pictured is a postal card of a moss rose, as well as an egg cup with a rose motif, such as Holmes uses to deliver a dissertation on providence as evidenced by the existence of the flower.

From the story:

'What a lovely thing a rose is!'

He walked past the couch to the open window, and held up the drooping stalk of a moss rose, looking down at the dainty blend of crimson and green.

24-8-89 Dear nephew. as it has been o Mr. Derey Philps Briarbrae Woh Surrey

Pictured is the letter and envelope from Lord Holdhurst to his nephew Phelps concerning the theft of the Naval Treaty, and that no decisions would be made until Phelps was better.

From the story:

'God bless you for promising to come,' cried our client. 'It gives me fresh life to know that something is being done. By the way, I have had a letter from Lord Holdhurst.'

'Ha! What did he say?' 'He was cold, but not harsh.'

Pictured is the note Holmes wrote, offering a reward for locating the cab which dropped off a fare at Percy Phelps' office.

From the story:

He handed over a sheet torn from the notebook. On it was scribbled in pencil:

'10 Reward. - The number of the cab which dropped a fare at or about the door of the Foreign Office in Charles Street, at a quarter to ten in the evening of May 23rd. Apply 221B Baker Street.'



Pictured is the cap badge for the Corps of Commissionaires. As a veteran formerly with the Coldstream Guard, it follows that Tangey would have been offered a position in the Corps of Commissionaires

From the story:

'Tangey, the commissionaire, has been shadowed. He left the Guards with a good character, and we can find nothing against him.'

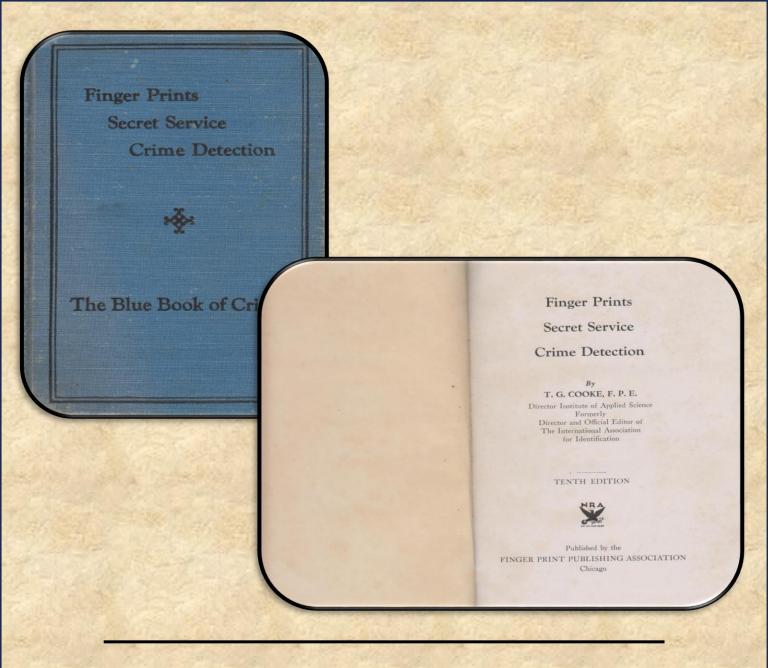
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This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1865 the Notice printed at the back hereof.

Pictured is the telegram Holmes sent to Inspector Forbes, requesting his assistance with the Naval Treaty case.

From the story:

Holmes had already wired to Forbes, and we found him waiting to receive us: a small, foxy man, with a sharp but by no means amiable expression.



Pictured is the book *Finger Prints, Secret Service, Crime Detection, The Blue Book of Crime* by T.G. Cooke, F.P.E., 1935, with a chapter on the Bertillon System, for which Holmes expressed admiration.

From the story:

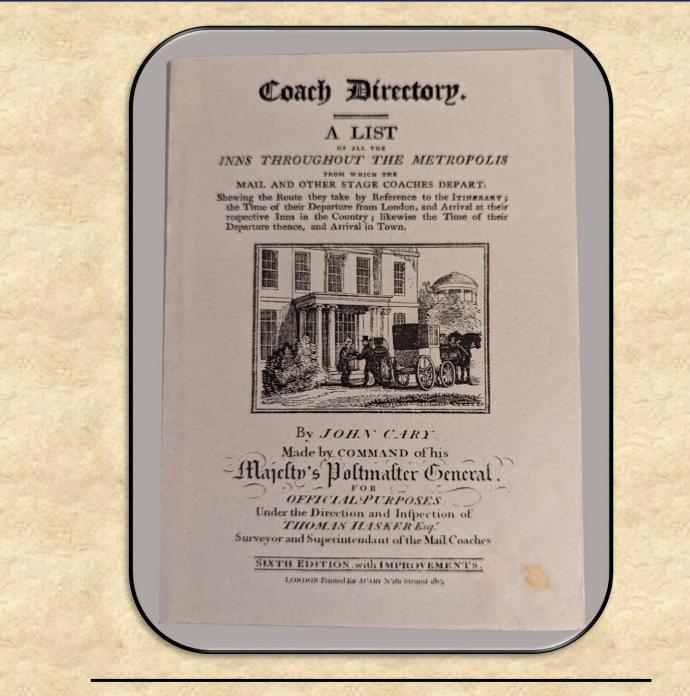
He had, when he so willed it, the utter immobility of countenance of a Red Indian, and I could not gather from his appearance whether he was satisfied or not with the position of the case. His conversation, I remember, was about the Bertillon system of measurements, and he expressed his enthusiastic admiration of the French savant.



Pictured is the piece of the top of the wooden rail snapped off by the intruder, James Harrison.

From the story:

'There's a place, however, on the wooden fence which skirts the road which shows signs, they tell me, as if someone had got over and had snapped the top of the rail in doing so.'



Pictured is a Coach Directory, which lists a complete directory of inns throughout the London metropolis. Holmes may have used it to find the inn where he had a snack.

From the story:

'After leaving you at the station I went for a charming walk through some admirable Surrey scenery to a pretty little village called Ripley, where I had my tea at an inn, and took the precaution of filling my flask and of putting a paper of sandwiches in my pocket.'



Pictured is the flask Holmes filled at the inn in Ripley, preparing for a night outside in the garden.

From the story:

'After leaving you at the station I went for a charming walk through some admirable Surrey scenery to a pretty little village called Ripley, where I had my tea at an inn, and took the precaution of filling my flask and of putting a paper of sandwiches in my pocket.'



To all and every of the Constables of the Metrapolitan Police Four.

Metropolilan Police District. to wil.

JOSEPH HARRISON WHEREAS

of BRIANBRAE, WOKING, SHEREY AND NORTHUMBERLAND ORIG (hereinafter called the Defendant) hath this day been charged upon Oath before the undersigned, one of the Magistrates of the Police Courts of the Metropolis sitting at the Police Court in the County of London and within the Metropolitan Police District. For that he the said day of AUGUST 1889 1st Defendant on the at

in the said County and District

did feloniously assent and injure Mr Sherlock Holmes did attempt to absend with H.M. Government propertyplan

and did confire to make said property available for sale to foreign embassies

THESE ARE THEREFORE TO COMMAND YOU and every of you the Constables of the Metropolitan Police Force, in His Majesty's name, forthwith to apprehend the said defendant and to bring h tembefore Me at the Police Court aforesaid, or before such other Magistrate of the said Police Courts as may then be there, to answer unto the said charge, and to be further dealt with according to Law.

first GIVEN under my Handhand Seal, this in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight of August me Hundred and & is by Mine at the Police Court aforesaid.

SCHED. 1.-No. 6. WARRANT First Instance 2000-8-01. M.F. (120)

Pictured is an arrest warrant issued for Joseph Harrison, based on the particulars provided by Holmes, for the injury to Holmes and the theft of government documents.

From the story:

'He looked 'murder' out of the only eye he could see with when we had finished, but he listened to reason and gave up the papers. Having got them I let my man go, but I wired full particulars to Forbes this morning.'



Pictured is Holmes handkerchief, which he used to staunch the blood from his knuckles after fighting with Harrison.

From the story:

'He flew at me with his knife, and I had to grass him twice, and got a cut over the knuckles, before I had the upper hand of him.'



SCHERON

Pictured is the slim bladed melon knife used by Joseph Harrison to open the window to Phelps' sick room to access the hidden Naval Treaty.

From the story:

'...when he reached the window, he worked a long-bladed knife through the sash and pushed back the catch...Putting his knife through the crack in the shutters, he thrust the bar up and swung them open.'

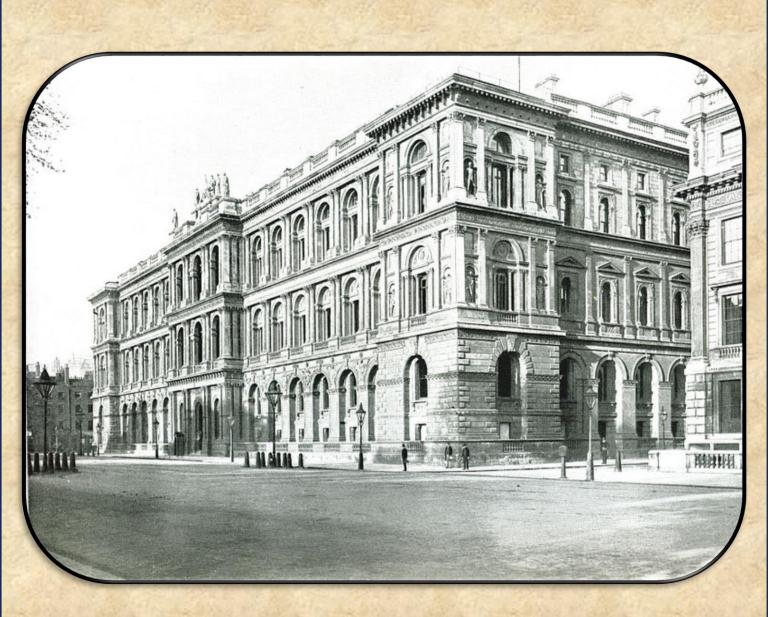
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This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1866, and to the Notice printed at the back hereof.

Pictured is the telegram Holmes sent to Inspector Forbes, asking for the arrest of Joseph Harrison for the theft of the Naval Treaty.

From the story:

'Having got them I let my man go, but I wired full particulars to Forbes this morning. If he is quick enough to catch his bird, well and good!' Additional items of interest in "The Adventure of the Naval Treaty" not included in the original Evidence Box.



Pictured is a postal card for the Foreign Office in London where Percy Phelps was employed.

'It is possible even that you may have heard that, through my uncle's influence, I obtained a good appointment at the Foreign Office...'



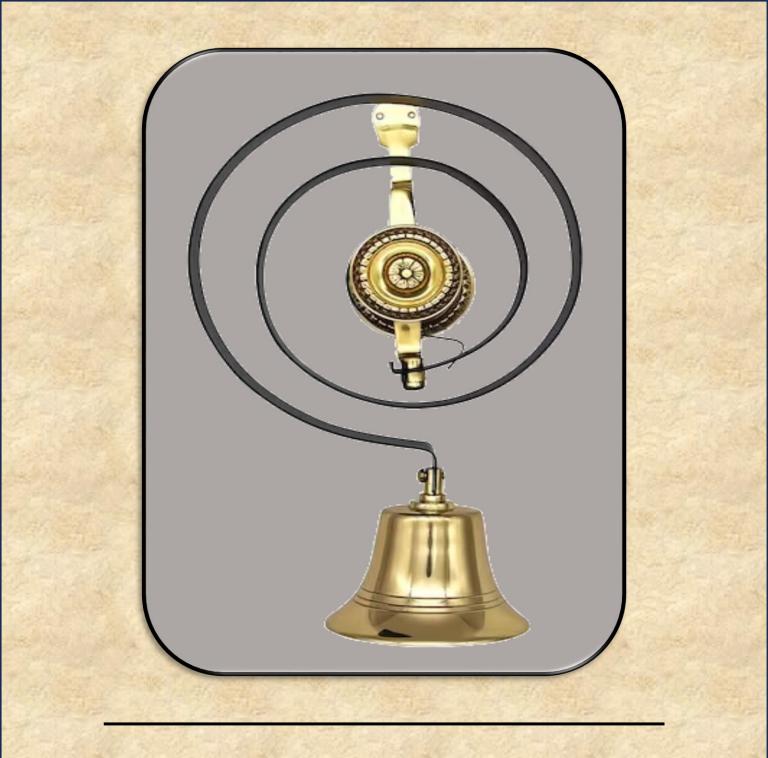
Pictured is the locket worn by Joseph Harrison with his initials on the outside of the locket.

'Of course you saw the "J. H." monogram on my locket,' said he. 'For a moment I thought you had done something clever. Joseph Harrison is my name, and as Percy is to marry my sister Annie, I shall at least be a relation by marriage.'



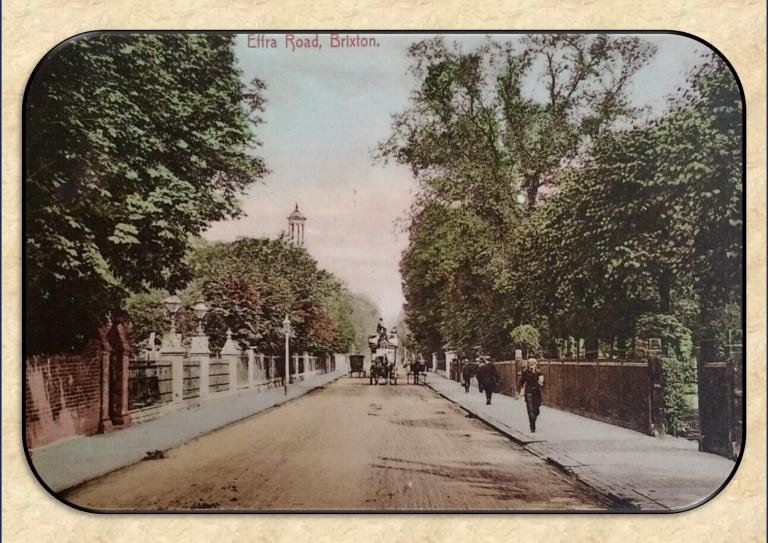
Pictured is a postal card for Woking, in Surrey County, where Percy Phelps resided.

We were fortunate enough to catch an early train at Waterloo, and in a little under an hour we found ourselves among the fir-woods and the heather of Woking.



Pictured is the bell which rang at the commissionaire's desk from Phelps' office.

'I had put out my hand and was about to shake the man, who was still sleeping soundly, when a bell over his head rang loudly, and he woke with a start.'



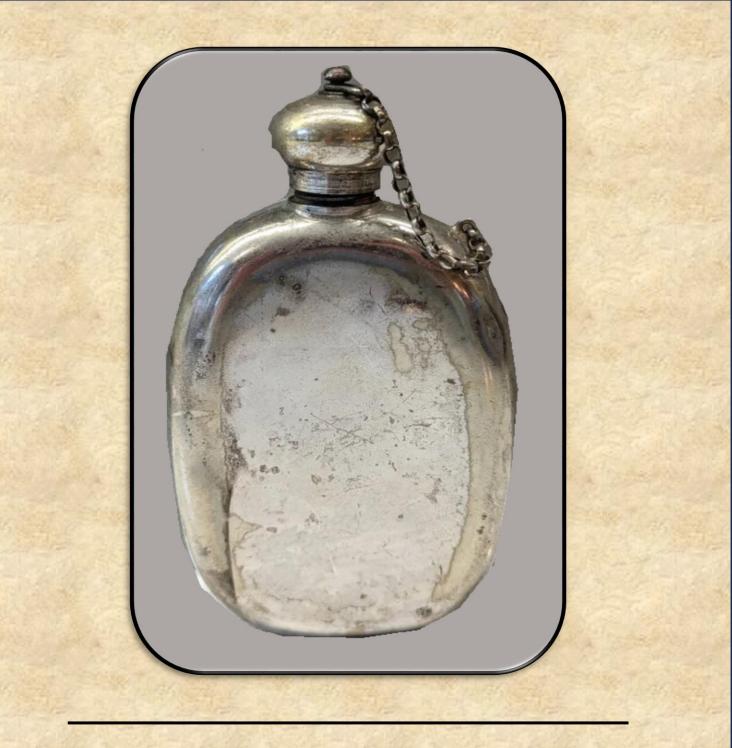
Pictured is a postal card for Brixton, an area in south London, where the commissionaire, Tangey, and his wife, resided.

'No. 16 Ivy Lane, Brixton,' he answered; 'but don't let yourself be drawn away upon a false scent, Mr. Phelps. Come to the other end of the street, and let us see if we can hear of anything.'

Pictured is the covered dish Holmes used to hide the naval treaty in when he invited Phelps to Baker Street for breakfast.

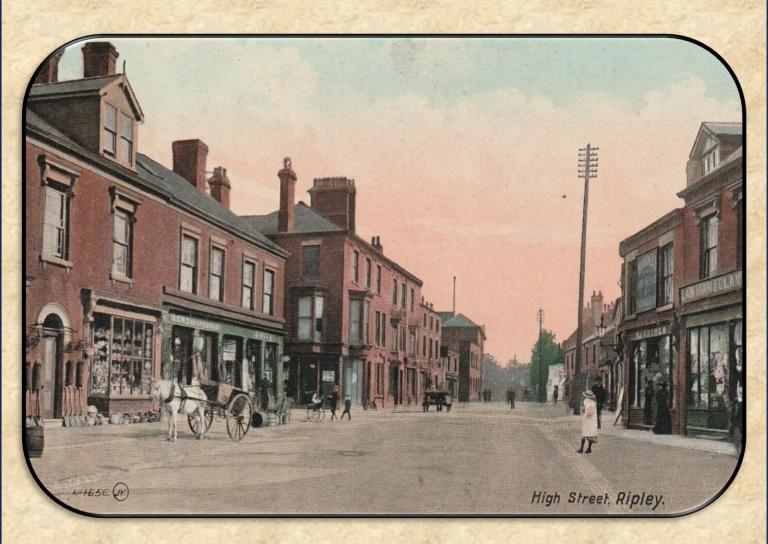
'Well, then,' said Holmes, with a mischievous twinkle, 'I suppose that you have no objection to helping me?'

Phelps raised the cover, and as he did so he uttered a scream, and sat there staring with a face as white as the plate upon which he looked.



Pictured is the flask Holmes refilled while he visited the village of Ripley.

'After leaving you at the station I went for a charming walk through some admirable Surrey scenery to a pretty little village called Ripley, where I had my tea at an inn, and took the precaution of filling my flask and of putting a paper of sandwiches in my pocket.'



Pictured is a postal card for Ripley, a small village Holmes walked to.

'After leaving you at the station I went for a charming walk through some admirable Surrey scenery to a pretty little village called Ripley, where I had my tea at an inn, and took the precaution of filling my flask and of putting a paper of sandwiches in my pocket.'