



*I only quote
this as a
trivial
example of
observation
and
inference.*

The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes

Adventure XXVI -- The Final Problem

1. "Danger is part of my trade."
2. "He is the Napoleon of crime, Watson. He is the organizer of half that is evil and of nearly all that is undetected in this great city. He is a genius, a philosopher, an abstract thinker. He has a brain of the first order."
3. "I am pleased to think that I shall be able to free society from any further effects of his presence, though I fear that it is at a cost which will give pain to my friends, and especially, my dear Watson to you."
4. "I have my plans laid, and all will be well. Matters have gone so far now that they can move without my help as far as the arrest goes, though my presence is necessary for a conviction."
5. "I tell you, in all seriousness, that if I could beat that man, if I could free society of him, I should feel that my own career had reached its summit, and I should be prepared to turn to some more placid line in life."



6. "I tell you, my friend, that if a detailed account of that silent contest could be written, it would take its place as the most brilliant bit of thrust-and-parry work in the history of detection. Never have I risen to such a height, and never have I been so hard pressed by an opponent. He cut deep, and yet I just undercut him."
7. "I think that I may go so far as to say that I have not lived wholly in vain. If my record were closed tonight I could still survey it with equanimity. The air of London is the sweeter for my presence. In over a thousand cases I am not aware that I have ever used my powers upon the wrong side. Of late I have been tempted to look into the problems furnished by nature rather than those more superficial ones for which our artificial state of society is responsible."
8. "I think that you know me well enough to understand that I am by no means a nervous man. At the same time, it is stupidity rather than courage to refuse to recognize danger when it is close upon you."
9. "In over a thousand cases I am not aware that I have ever used my powers upon the wrong side."
10. "Let me pay you (a complement) in return when I say that if I were assured of the former eventuality I would, in the interests of the public, cheerfully accept the latter."
11. "My dear Watson, Professor Moriarty is not a man who lets the grass grow under his feet."
12. "Pray give my greetings to Mrs. Watson, and believe me to be, my dear fellow."
13. "There are limits, you see, to our friend's intelligence. It would have been a coup-mattre had he deduced what I would deduce and acted accordingly."
14. "There is no one who knows the higher criminal world of London so well as I do. For years past I have continually been conscious of some power behind the malefactor, some deep organizing power which forever stands in the way of the law, and throws its shield over the wrong-doer."

15. "Yes, I have been using myself up rather too freely. I have been a little pressed of late."

16. "You know my powers, my dear Watson, and yet at the end of three months I was forced to confess that I had at last met an antagonist who was my intellectual equal. My horror at his crimes was lost in my admiration at his skill."