

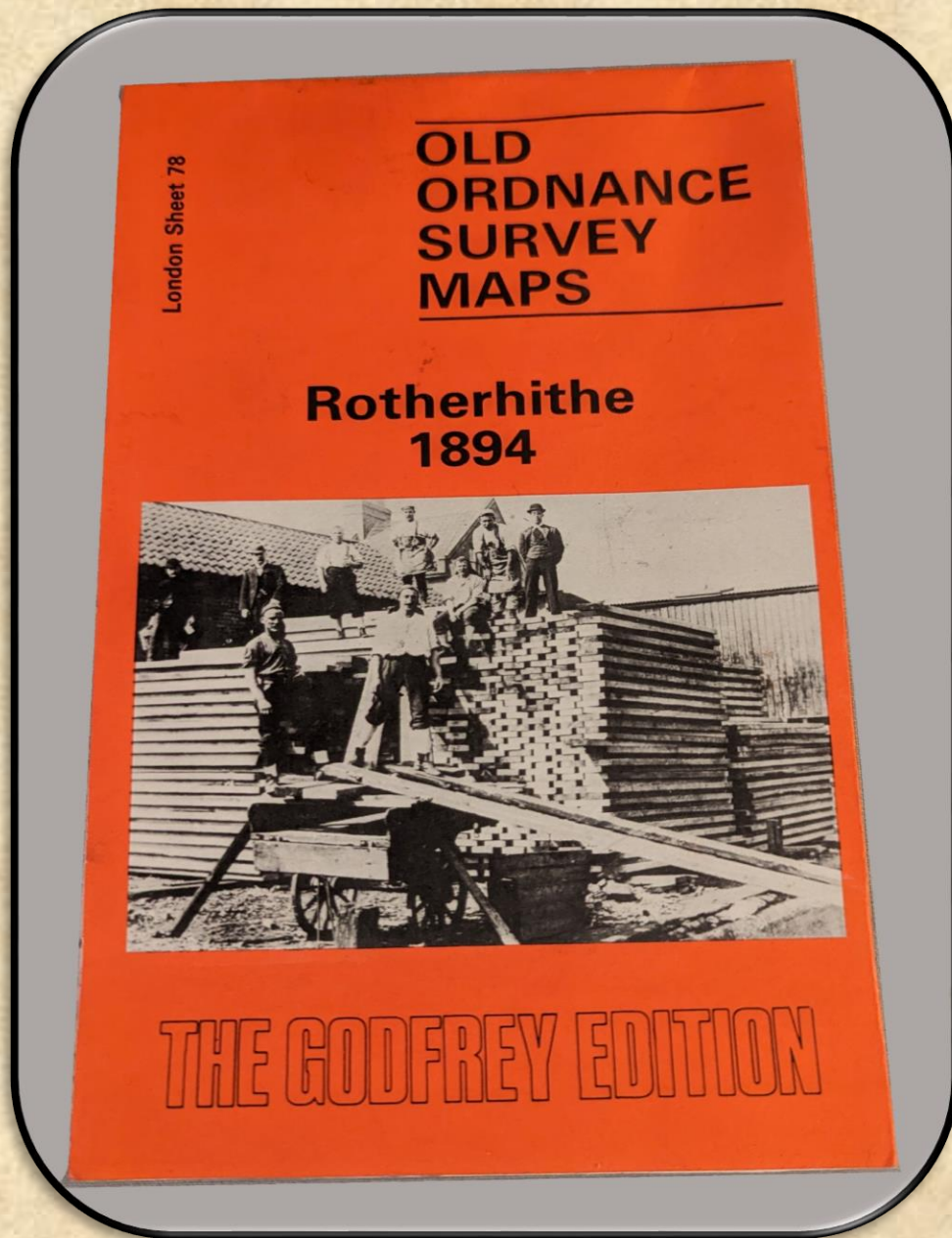
Adventure XLVI – The Adventure of the Dying Detective



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 Ordnance Map of Rotherhithe where Holmes was investigating before becoming 'deathly ill'.

From the story:

'There is little I can tell you, sir. He has been working at a case down at Rotherhithe in an alley near the river and he has brought this illness back with him.'

HERLOCK
HOLMES: 'I KNOW WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH ME.
IT IS A COOLIE DISEASE FROM SUMATRA



Pictured is a map showing Sumatra, the origin of the Coolie disease. Several stamps from Indonesia are included on the map.

From the story:

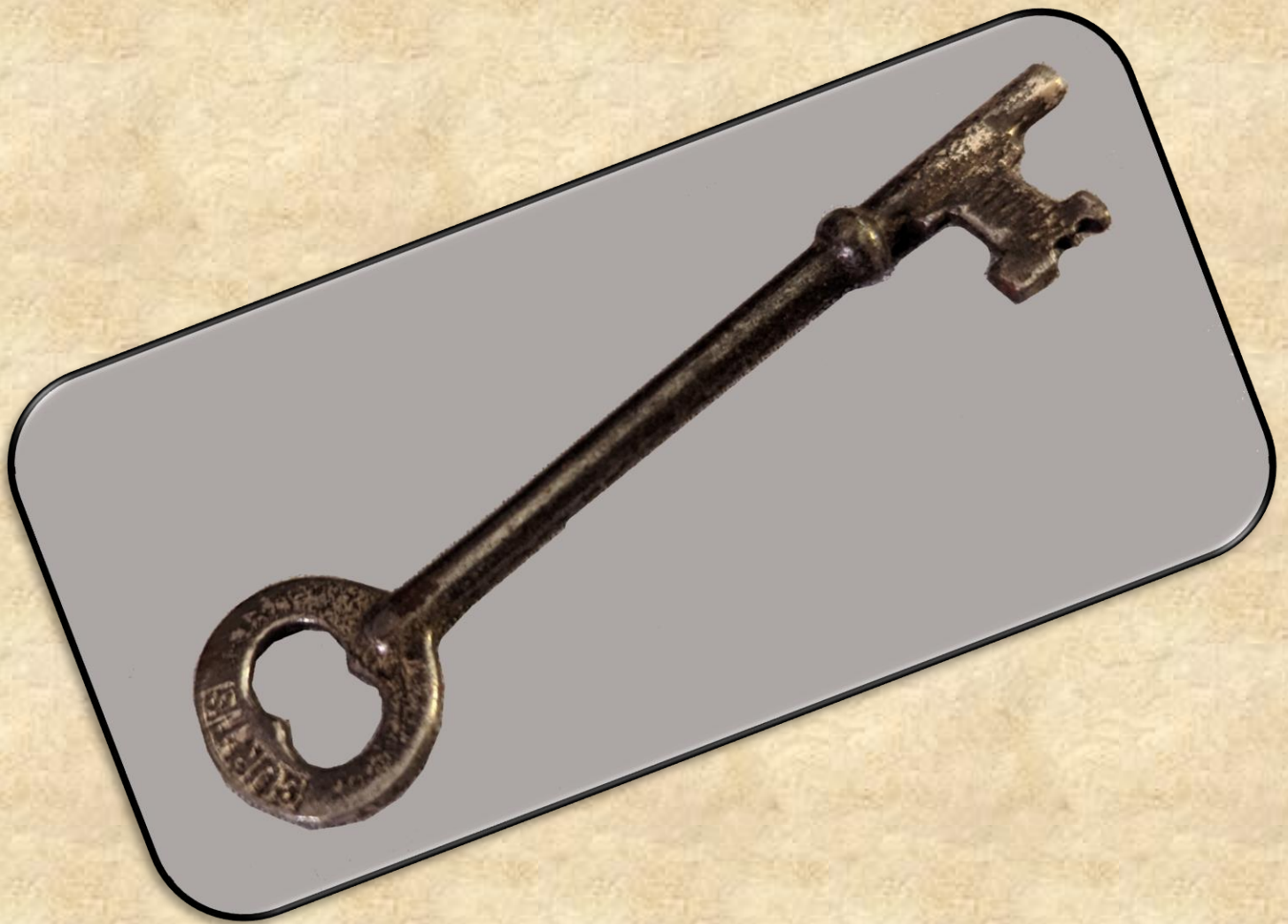
'I know what is the matter with me. It is a Coolie disease from Sumatra - a thing that the Dutch know more about than we, though, they have made little of it up to date. One thing only is certain. It is infallibly deadly and it is horribly contagious.'



Pictured is Holmes' portrayed his illness as a 'Coolie disease', rumored to be spread by inhabitants of India or China.

From the story:

'I know what is the matter with me. It is a Coolie disease from Sumatra - a thing that the Dutch know more about than we, though, they have made little of it up to date. One thing only is certain. It is infallibly deadly and it is horribly contagious.'



Pictured is the key Holmes used to lock the door to his bedroom, trapping Watson in the room with him.

From the story:

Never have I had such a shock. In an instant with a tiger-spring the dying man had intercepted me. I heard the sharp snap of a twisted key.



Pictured are the bullet cartridges Watson observed were strewn on Holmes' mantle.

From the story:

Finally, in my aimless perambulation, I came to the mantelpiece. A litter of pipes, tobacco-pouches, syringes, penknives, revolver cartridges, and other debris was scattered over it.



Pictured is one of the pen knives Holmes had located on the mantle of his bedroom.

From the story:

Finally, in my aimless perambulation, I came to the mantelpiece. A litter of pipes, tobacco-pouches, syringes, penknives, revolver cartridges, and other debris was scattered over it.



Pictured is one of several pipes used by Holmes, part of the collection Watson spotted on Holmes' bedroom mantle.

From the story:

Finally, in my aimless perambulation, I came to the mantelpiece. A litter of pipes, tobacco-pouches, syringes, penknives, revolver cartridges, and other debris was scattered over it.



Pictured is one of several syringes used by Holmes, part of the collection Watson spotted on Holmes' bedroom mantle.

From the story:

Finally, in my aimless perambulation, I came to the mantelpiece. A litter of pipes, tobacco-pouches, syringes, penknives, revolver cartridges, and other debris was scattered over it.



Pictured is the *Lovell's Library Magazine*, one of the books Holmes suggested. Watson couldn't settle down to read while Holmes was biding time.

From the story:

'You will find some books over there. I am somewhat exhausted.'



Pictured is one of tobacco-pouches used by Holmes, part of the collection Watson spotted on Holmes' bedroom mantle.

From the story:

Finally, in my aimless perambulation, I came to the mantelpiece. A litter of pipes, tobacco-pouches, syringes, penknives, revolver cartridges, and other debris was scattered over it.



Pictured are the tongs Holmes instructed Watson to use when picking up the ivory box, containing the deadly toxin.

From the story:

‘Excellent, Watson! There is a sugar-tongs there. Kindly raise that small ivory box with its assistance. Place it here among the papers. Good!’



Pictured is the matches used to light the gas lamp.

From the story:

‘You will now light the gas, Watson, but you will be very careful that not for one instant shall it be more than half on.’



Pictured are the coins, half crowns, which Watson had in his pockets.

From the story:

‘Now, Watson,’ said he. ‘Have you any change in your pocket?’

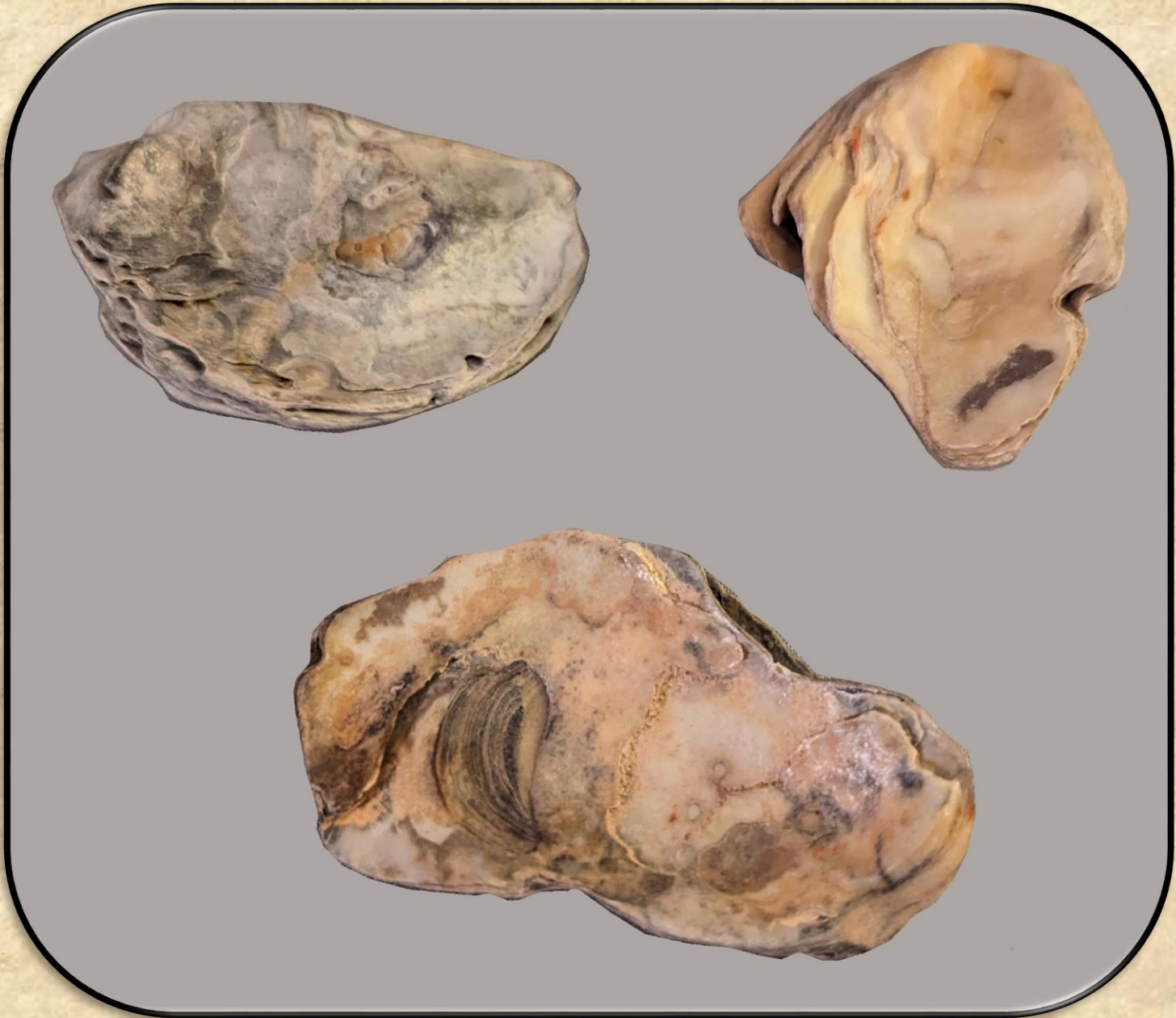
‘Yes.’

‘Any silver?’

‘A good deal.’

‘How many half-crowns?’

‘I have five.’



Pictured are a few of the oysters Holmes referenced when he stated he believed the world would be taken over by oysters.

From the story:

‘You and I, Watson, we have done our part. Shall the world then be overrun by oysters. No, no, horrible! You’ll convey all that is in your mind.’

John H. Watson, M.D.
General Practice and Surgery

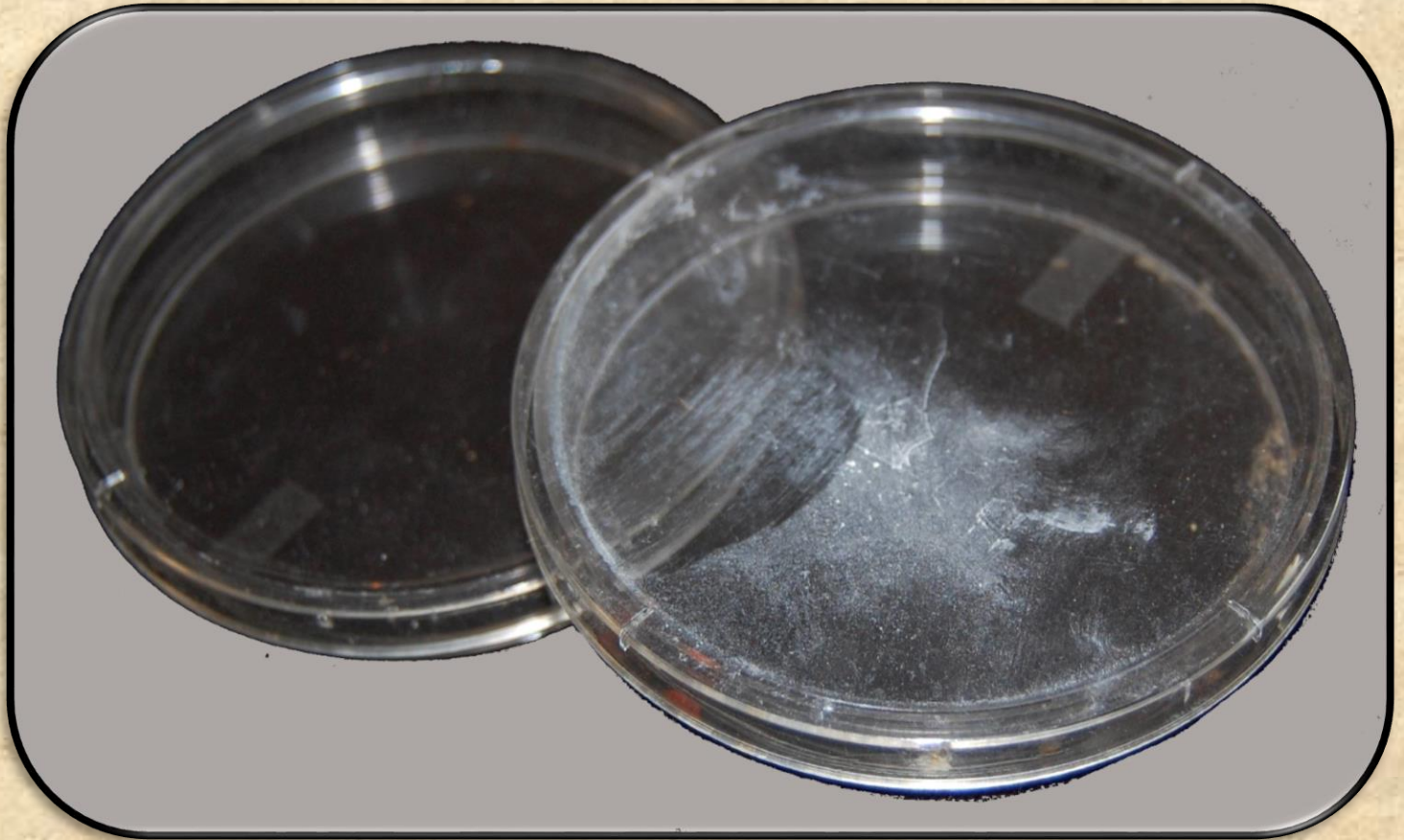
221B Baker Street

London, W1

Pictured is John Watson's visiting, or calling, card.

From the story:

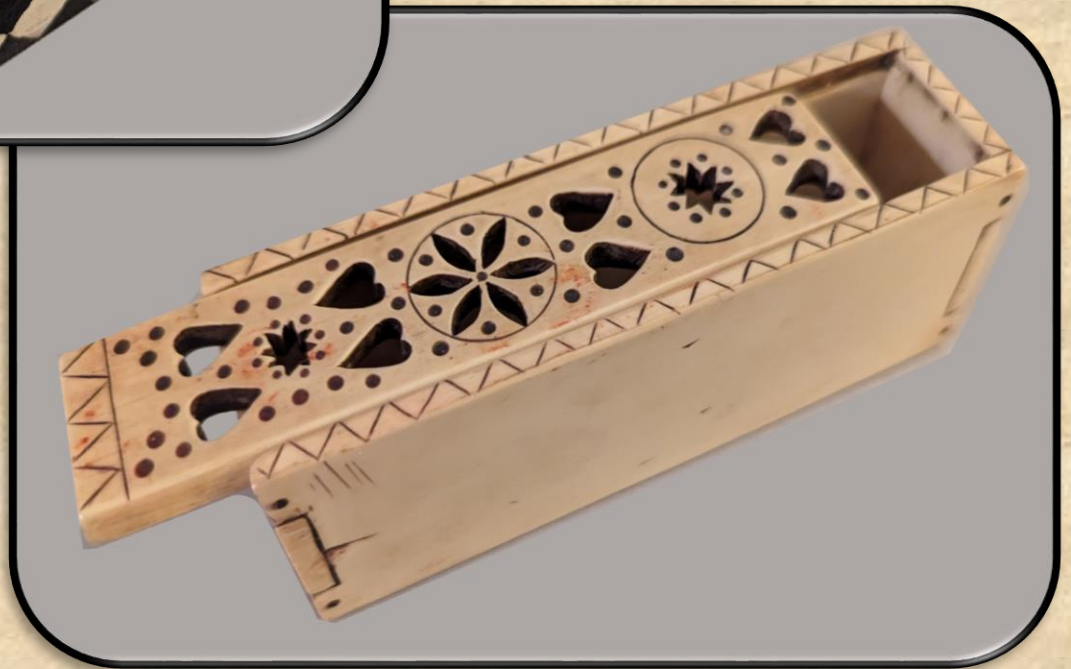
'Yes, Mr Culverton Smith is in. Dr Watson! Very good, sir, I will take up your card.'



Pictured are the petri dishes used by Culverton Smith to grow and cultivate his toxin.

From the story:

‘There are my prisons,’ he continued, pointing to a row of bottles and jars which stood upon a side table. ‘Among these gelatine cultivations some of the very worst offenders in the world are now doing time.’

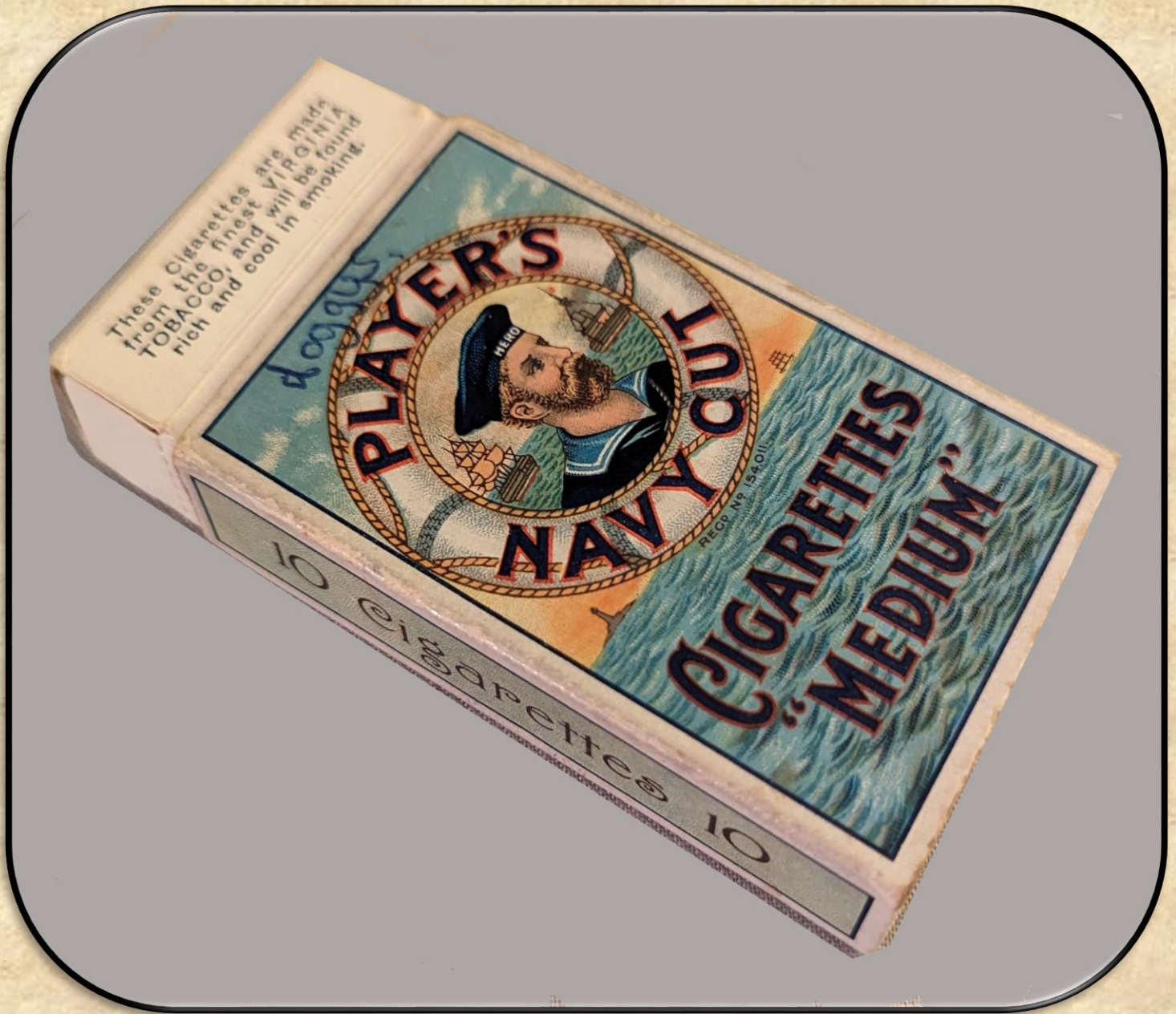


Pictured are two versions of the ivory box, one which Watson found sitting on the mantle, and one which was sent to Holmes by Culverton Smith., as well as Smith's nephew, Victor.

From the story:

'Do you remember a box - an ivory box? It came on Wednesday. You opened it - do you remember?'

'Yes, yes, I opened it. There was a sharp spring inside it. Some joke-'



Pictured are the cigarettes which Holmes asked Smith to pass to him.

From the story:

'Is there any other little service that I can do you, my friend?'

'A match and a cigarette.'

'But it is the tobacco which I find most irksome. Ah, here are some cigarettes.' I heard the striking of a match.



Pictured are the darbies, or handcuffs, used by Inspector Morton on Culverton Smith.

From the story:

There was a sudden rush and a scuffle, followed by the clash of iron and a cry of pain.

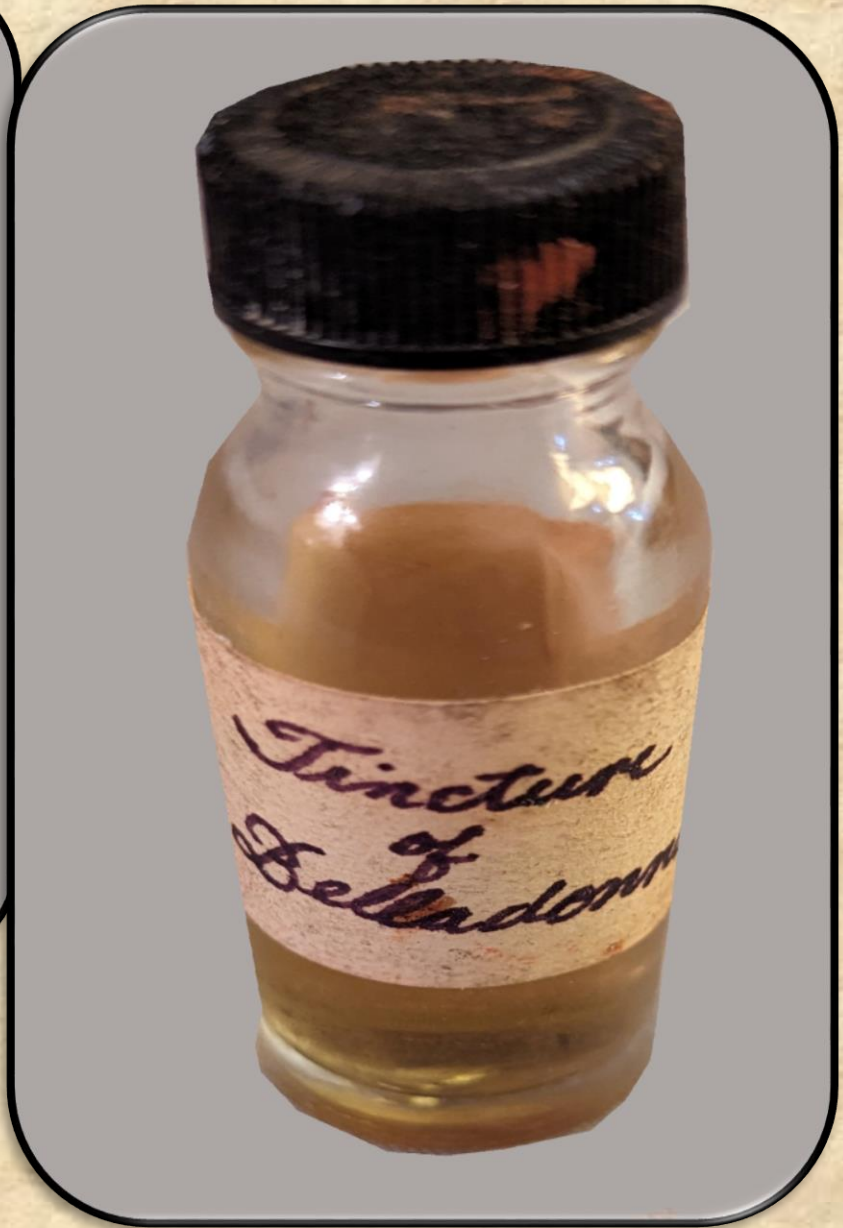
‘You'll only get yourself hurt,’ said the Inspector. ‘Stand still, will you?’
There was the click of the closing handcuffs.



Pictured is a honeycomb which contains natural beeswax, as well as a block of beeswax, which Holmes used as part of his disguise.

From the story:

‘With vaseline upon one's forehead, belladonna in one's eyes, rouge over the cheek-bones, and crusts of beeswax round one's lips a very satisfying effect can be produced.’



Pictured is a small bottle of tincture of belladonna, which Holmes used as part of his disguise.

From the story:

‘With vaseline upon one's forehead, belladonna in one's eyes, rouge over the cheek-bones, and crusts of beeswax round one's lips a very satisfying effect can be produced.’



Pictured is the sponge Holmes used to remove the different makeups and chemicals Holmes had applied to his face to make him appear he was dying.

From the story:

‘Three days of absolute fast does not improve one's beauty, Watson. For the rest there is nothing which a sponge may not cure.’



Pictured is the matches from Simpson's restaurant, which Holmes and Watson ate at after the arrest of Culverton Smith.

From the story:

'When we have finished at the police-station I think that something nutritious at Simpson's would not be out of place.'



Pictured is the makeup Holmes used to redden his cheeks in an attempt to look sickly.

From the story:

‘With vaseline upon one's forehead, belladonna in one's eyes, rouge over the cheek-bones, and crusts of beeswax round one's lips a very satisfying effect can be produced.’



Pictured is the jar of vaseline Holmes used as part of his disguise. Holmes used a large amount of vaseline for his disguise makeup through his career.

From the story:

‘With vaseline upon one's forehead, belladonna in one's eyes, rouge over the cheek-bones, and crusts of beeswax round one's lips a very satisfying effect can be produced.’

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



Pictured is one of hundreds of rent cheques written by Sherlock Holmes to Mrs. Hudson.

From the story:

On the other hand his payments were princely. I have no doubt that the house might have been purchased at the price which Holmes paid for his rooms during the years that I was with him.



Pictured is the clock on Holmes' bedroom mantle, which he watched for the two hours to elapse.

From the story:

He seemed to have been watching the clock, as well as I, for it was hardly six before he began to talk with the same feverish animation as before.