

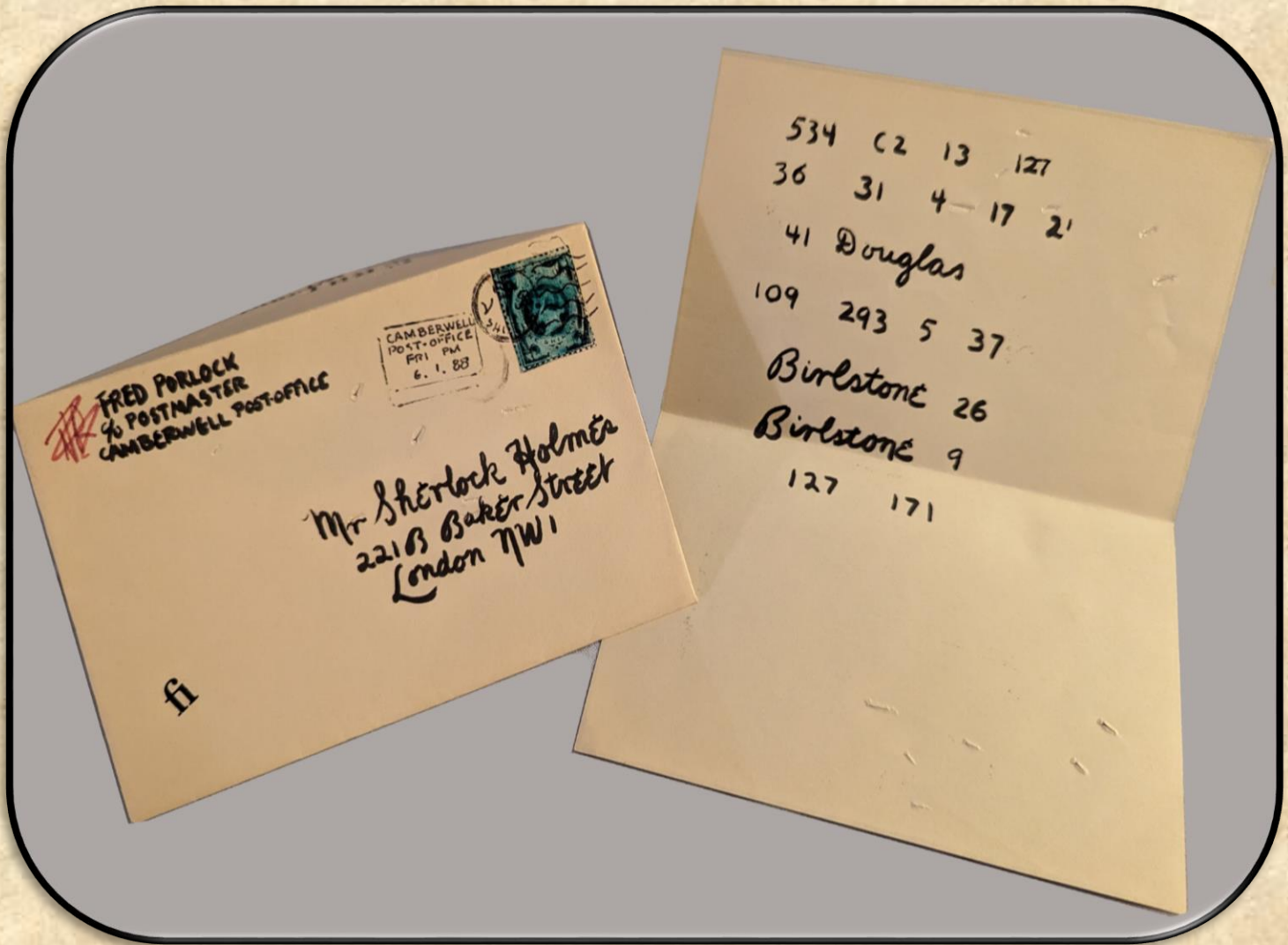
Adventure XLVIII – The Valley of Fear



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 coded letter from Porlock to Holmes.

From the story:

He leaned upon his hand, with his untasted breakfast before him, and he stared at the slip of paper which he had just drawn from its envelope.



"—and so we paid this man the highest price per word ever given a serial writer."

Sherlock Holmes.

He is the one man in the fiction world that everybody knows.

His adventures are clean and vivid. He has the action that the small boy likes, the mystery that woman-kind likes, and the analytical qualities that appeal to the man of sixty.

People who hate love stories, people with a sense of humor and people without, ordinary people and high-brows, all find their ideal of a "real story" in the immortal adventures of this great detective.

That is the value of Sherlock Holmes to the Associated Sunday Magazines—and to you.

He appeals to a larger audience than any other character we could possibly have selected.

He will attract new readers—*more* readers—and create new interest in the magazine.

He will make space in the Associated Sunday Magazines more valuable to you.

And so we paid Conan Doyle the highest price per word ever given a serial writer for his new Sherlock

Holmes story, "The Valley of Fear."

"The Valley of Fear" is **THE FIRST SHERLOCK HOLMES SERIAL** ever printed.

In addition, it is probably the last story in which this great detective will ever figure.

No other magazine in America had an opportunity to bid for this story. It was offered first to us, because of the place which the Associated Sunday Magazines occupies in this country, and because of the success of two of his serials published in this magazine,—"Sir Nigel" and "The Lost World."

But because Sherlock Holmes is big, but so bigger than his creator, Conan Doyle, "The Valley of Fear," which brings Sherlock Holmes to life amid new scenes of mystery, will surpass in popularity anything that Sir Arthur has ever written.

Unquestionably, it is the biggest feature that a magazine has ever offered its readers and its advertisers.

The value of space in the Associated Sunday Magazines during the run of

Pictured is the advertisement for The Valley of Fear which ran in the *Sunday Review* at the time of the publication of the story.

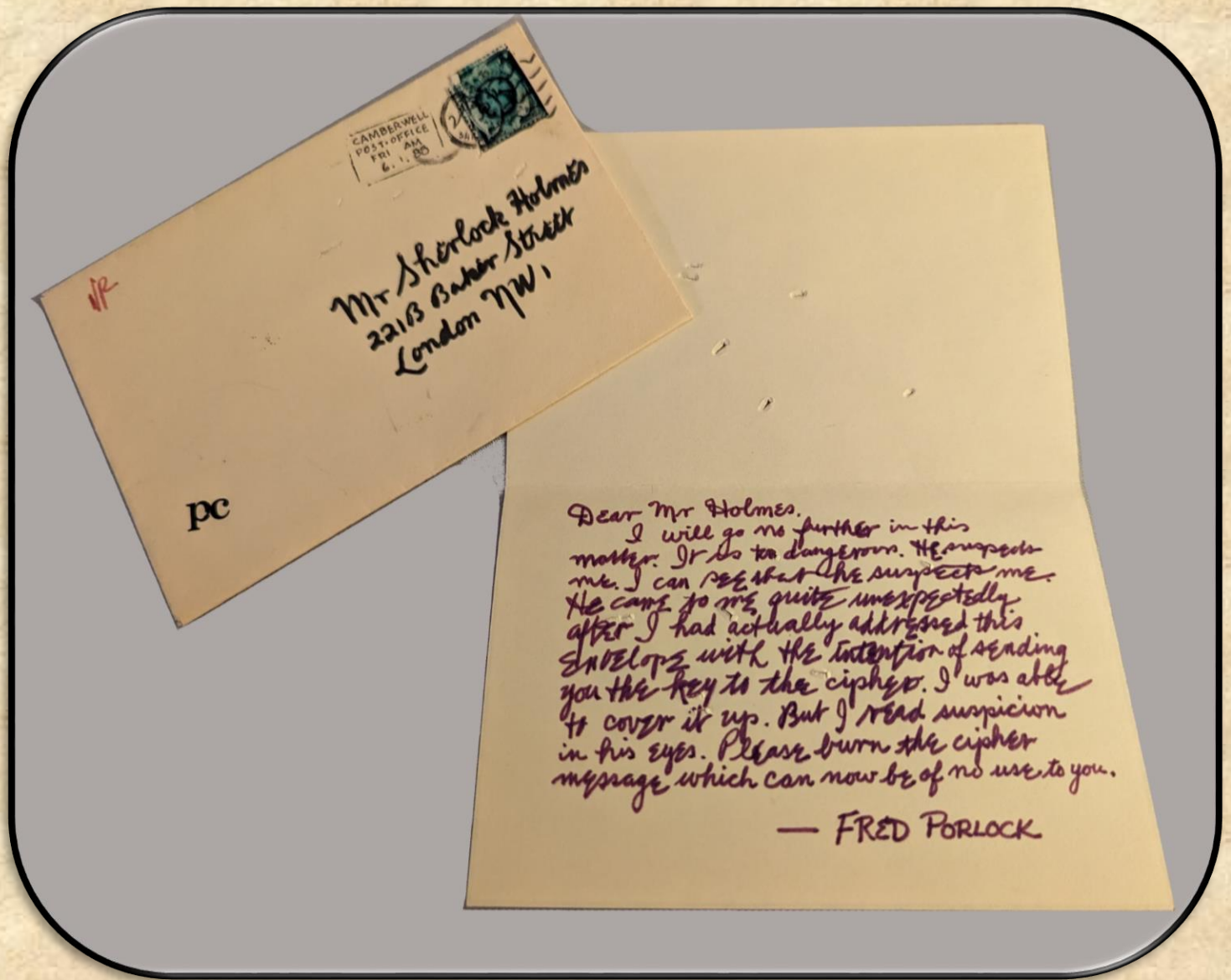


Pictured is a charm worn on Moriarty's watch fob.

From the story:

'You have heard me speak of Professor Moriarty?'

'The famous scientific criminal, as famous among crooks as-'



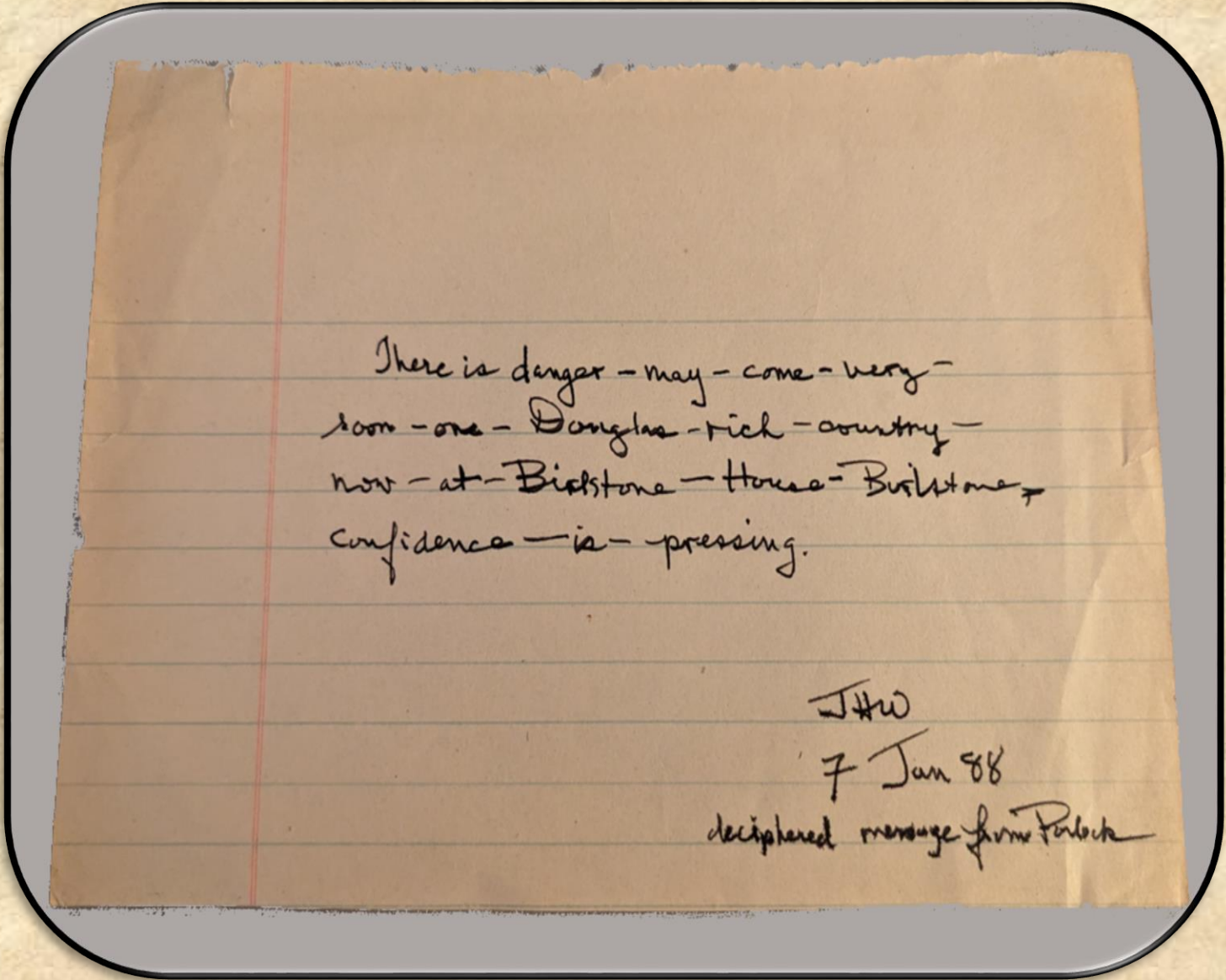
Pictured is the letter from Porlock to Holmes, as Porlock states he no longer wants to be involved with the situation.

From the story:

Holmes's calculation was fulfilled within a very few minutes by the appearance of Billy, the page, with the very letter which we were expecting.



Pictured is the calling, or visiting, card for Sherlock Holmes.



There is danger - may - come - very -
soon - one - Douglas - rich - country -
now - at - Birlstone - House - Birlstone -
confidence - is - pressing.

JHW

7 Jan 88

deciphered message from Parlock

Pictured is the decoded message, written by Watson, as Holmes gave him the message, word by word.

From the story:

'There is danger may - come - very - soon - one. Then we have the name Douglas - rich - country - now - at - Birlstone - House - Birlstone - confidence - is - pressing". There, Watson!'



Pictured is a photo of Inspector MacDonald, a young but trusted member of the detective force, who Holmes tolerated.

From the story:

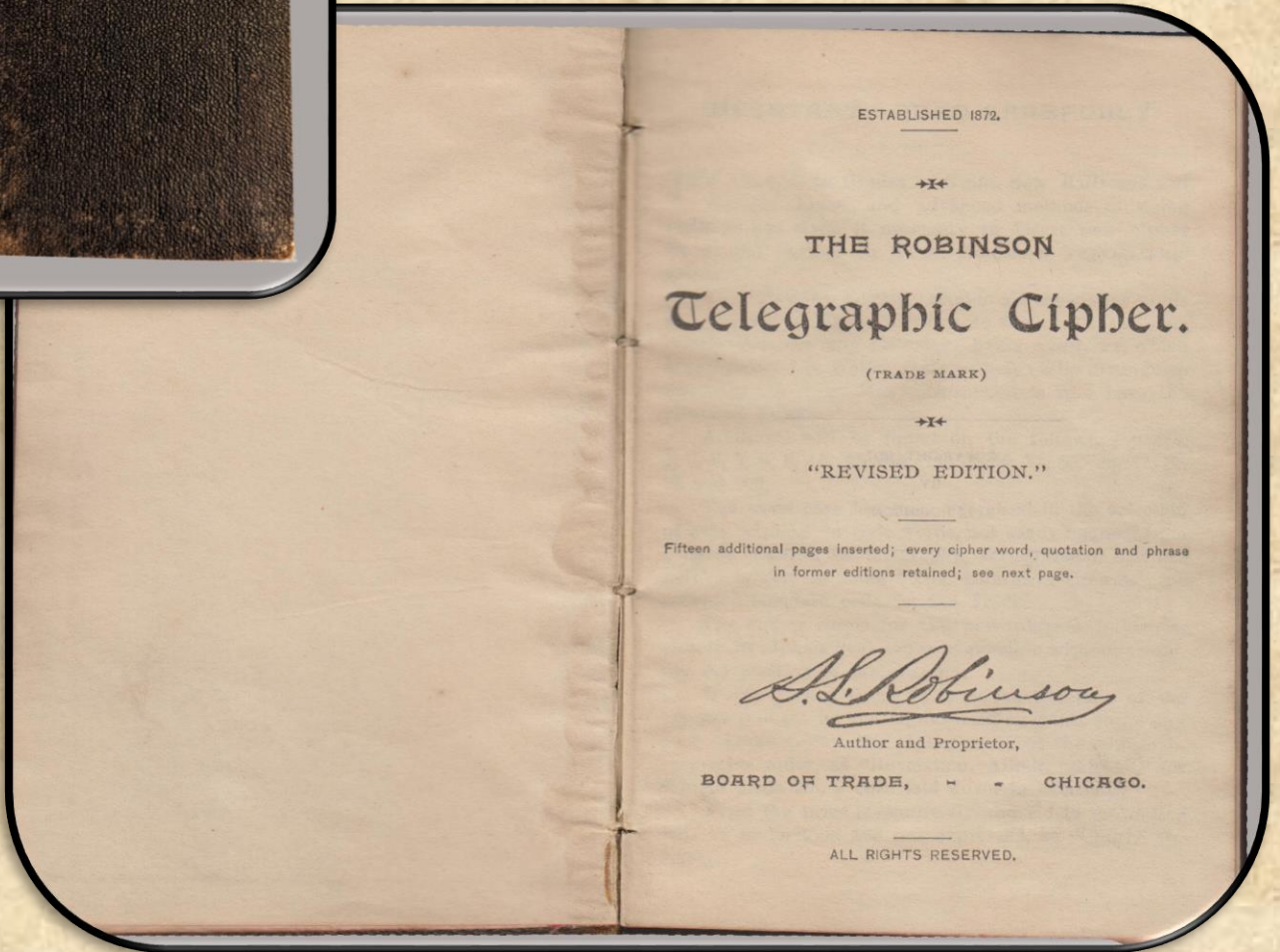
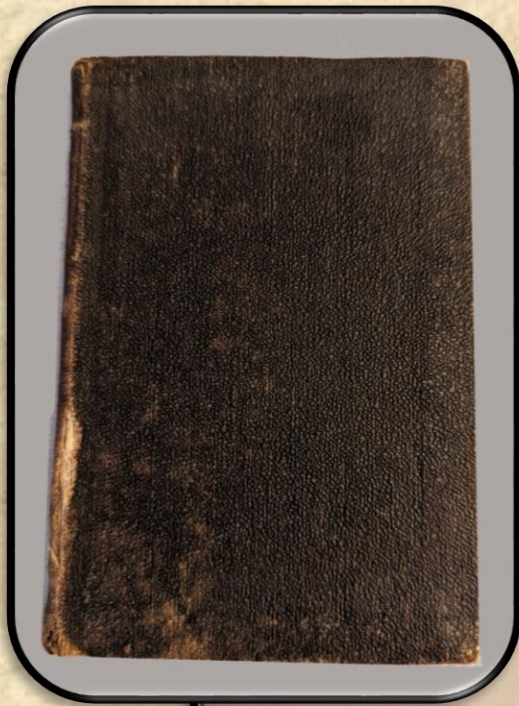
Those were the early days at the end of the eighties, when Alec MacDonald was far from having attained the national fame which he has now achieved.



Pictured are the postmarks from the letters posted by Porlock to Holmes.

From the story:

‘Posted in Camberwell - that doesn't help us much. Name, you say, is assumed.’



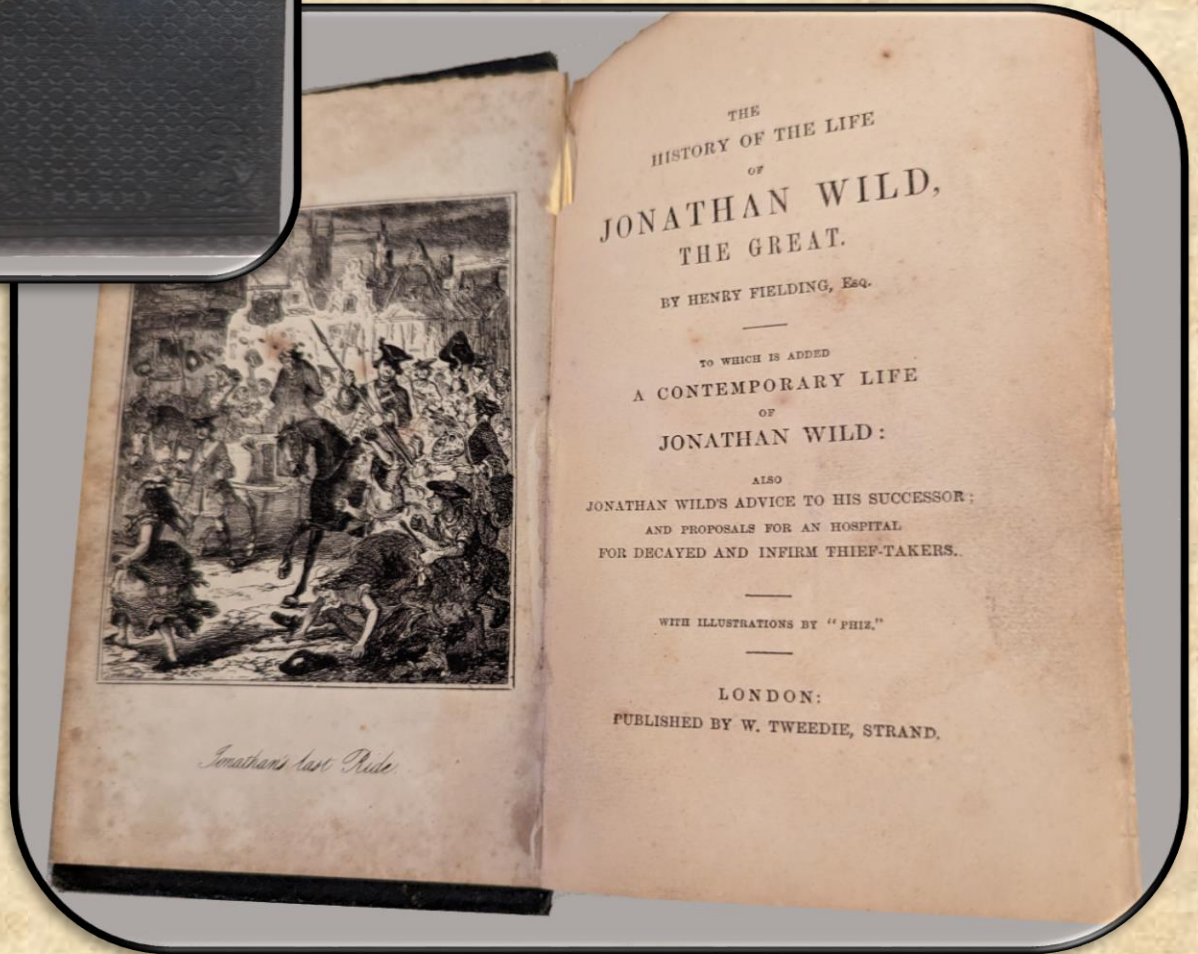
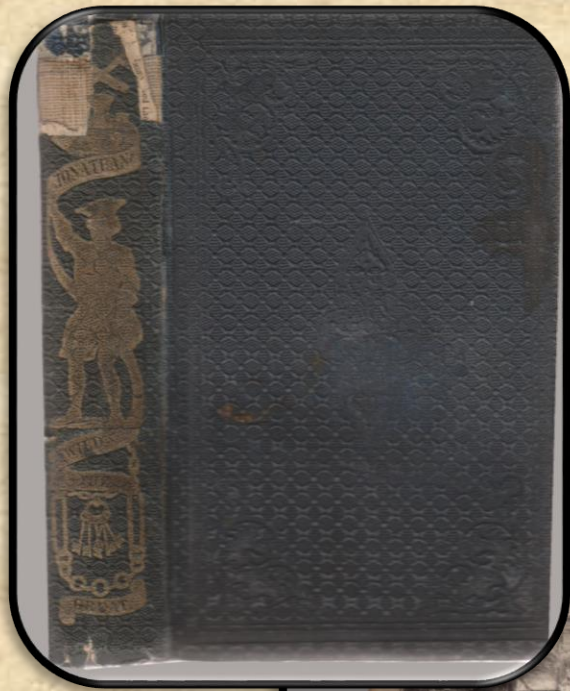
Pictured is a cipher reference book, popular for use in sending coded telegrams during the Victorian period.



Pictured is a book on the artist Jean Baptiste Greuze. Holmes noted Moriarty had a painting by the famed artist.

From the story:

‘Jean Baptiste Greuze,’ Holmes continued, joining his fingertips and leaning well back in his chair, ‘was a French artist who flourished between the years 1750 and 1800.’



Pictured is the book on Jonathan Wild which Holmes suggests Inspector McDonald read.

From the story:

‘Have you ever read of Jonathan Wild?’

‘Mr Mac, the most practical thing that ever you did in your life would be to shut yourself up for three months and read twelve hours a day at the annals of crime.’

Gruss aus Berlin



Deutsche Bank – Kanonierstr., Ecke Französischestr.

Pictured is a postal card for the Deutsche Bank in Berlin, where Holmes surmised Moriarty kept a large sum of money at.

From the story:

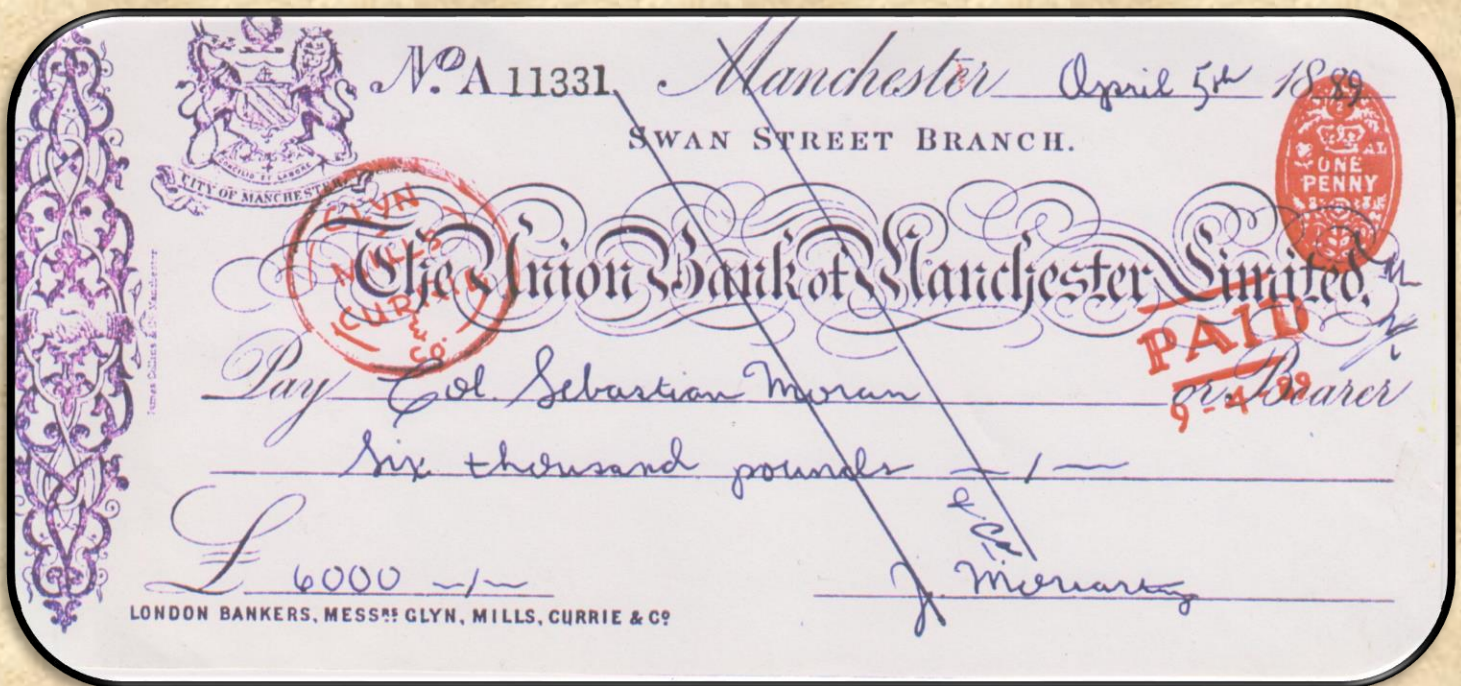
‘I have no doubt that he has twenty banking accounts - the bulk of his fortune abroad in the Deutsche Bank or the Crédit Lyonnais as likely as not.’



Pictured is a blank cheque for the Crédit Lyonnais, where Holmes surmised Moriarty kept a large sum of money at.

From the story:

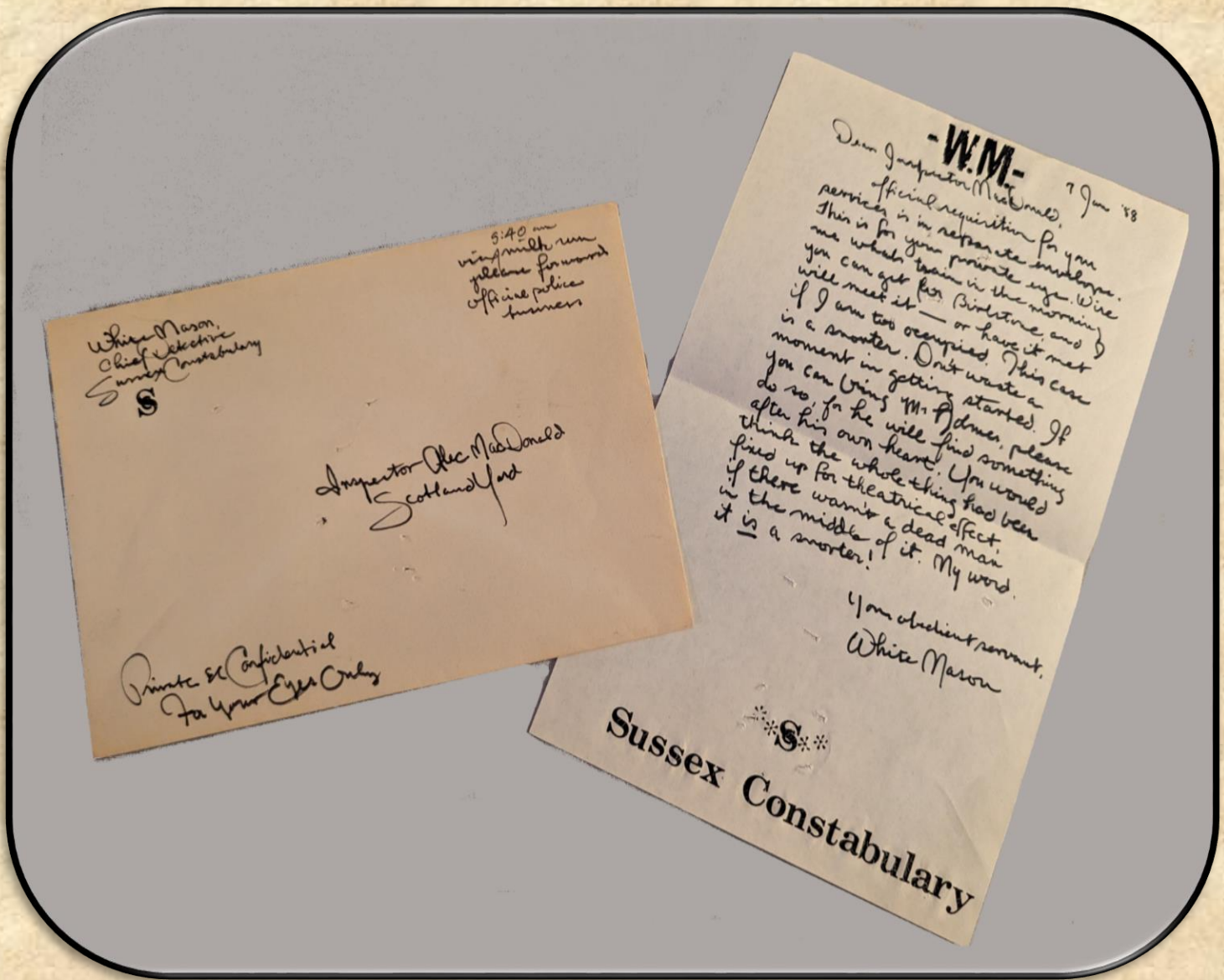
‘I have no doubt that he has twenty banking accounts - the bulk of his fortune abroad in the Deutsche Bank or the Crédit Lyonnais as likely as not.’



Pictured is the cheque issued from Union Bank of Manchester, signed by James Moriarty. The amount was the annual salary for Colonel Moran.

From the story:

‘Six thousand a year. That's paying for brains, you see - the American business principle. I learned that detail quite by chance.’



Pictured is the letter from Constable Mason to Inspector MacDonal requesting Scotland Yard assistance in the murder investigation.

From the story:

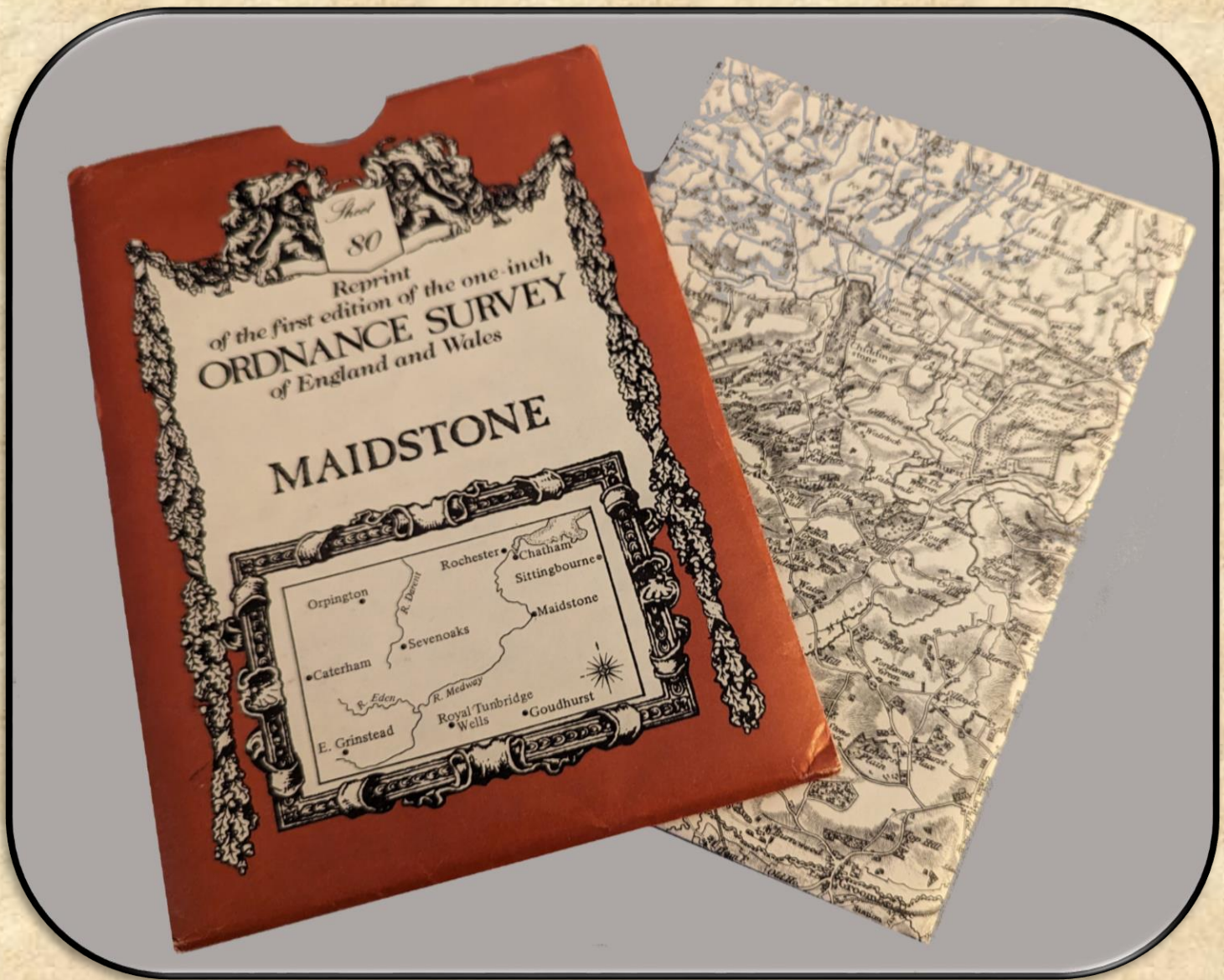
White Mason, the local officer, was a personal friend, and hence MacDonal had been notified very much more promptly than is usual at Scotland Yard when provincials need their assistance.



Pictured are the empty shot-gun shells, and the box they came in, used in the murder at Birlstone..

From the story:

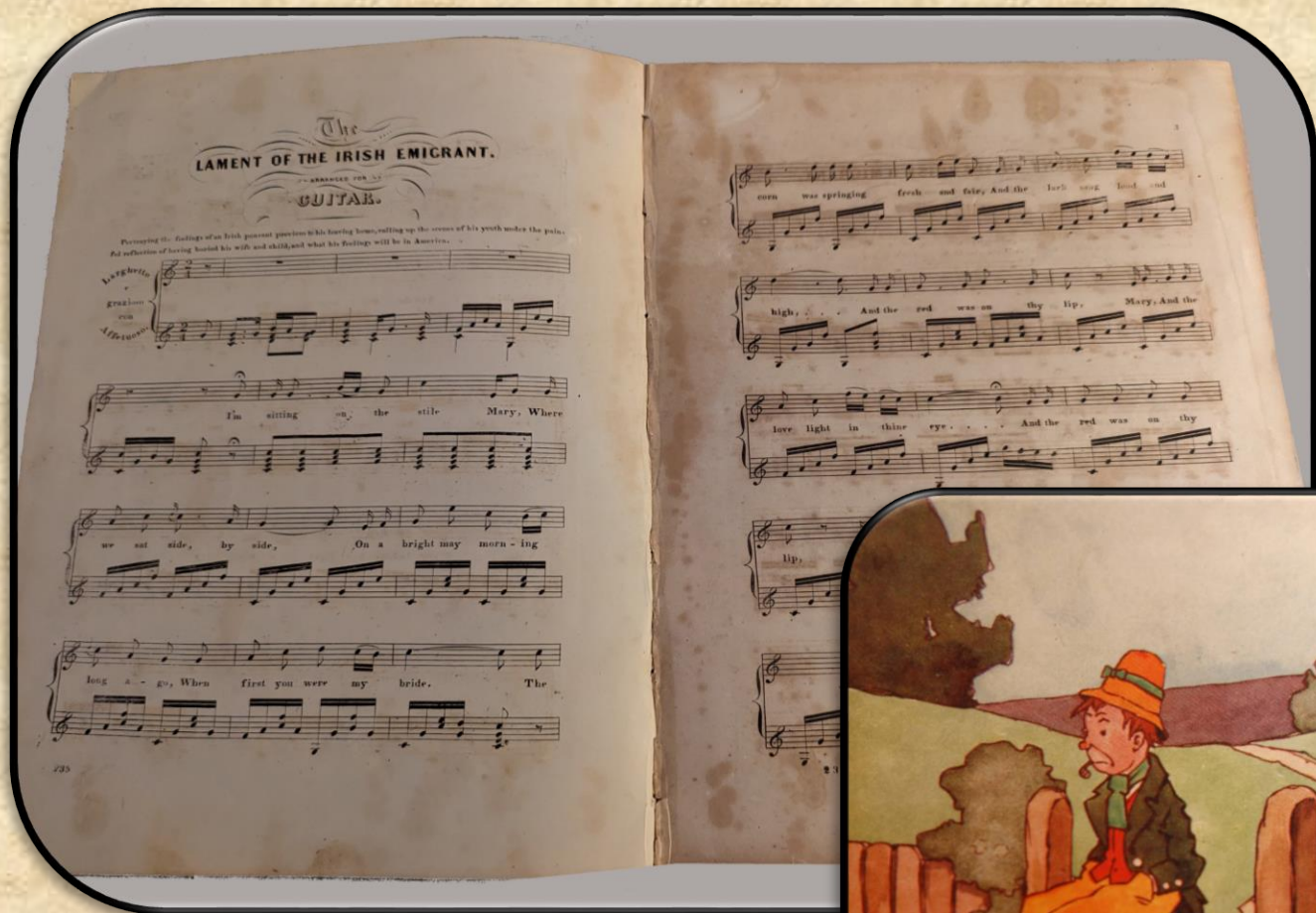
‘It mentioned that his injuries had been in the head, from the discharge of a shot-gun.’



Pictured is the Ordnance Survey Map for Maidstone, which is close to Tunbridge Wells where Baldwin stayed. The map was useful to Baldwin.

From the story:

It is the centre for a considerable area of country, since Tunbridge Wells, the nearest place of importance, is ten or twelve miles to the eastward, over the borders of Kent.



Pictured is the postal card for 'Sitting on the Stile, Mary', an Irish song, as well as the sheet music for an Irish immigrant.

From the story:

...having a remarkably rich tenor voice, he was always ready to oblige with an excellent song.



Pictured is John Douglas' ring with the rough nugget on it.

From the story:

'That ring with the rough nugget on it was above it, and the twisted snake-ring on the third finger.'



Pictured is the shotgun Baldwin brought to kill Douglas at Birlstone Manor.

From the story:

‘No doubt it is an American shot-gun,’ White Mason continued. ‘I seem to have read that a sawed-off shot-gun is a weapon used in some parts of America.’



Pictured is the fox horn used by hunters who used to gather at Birlstone Manor.

From the story:

Three centuries had flowed past the old Manor House, centuries of births and home-comings, of country dances and of the meetings of fox-hunters.



Pictured is an advertisement for a Rudge-Whitworth bicycle like the 'well-used Rudge-Whitworth' used by Baldwin to get to Birlstone Manor.

From the story:

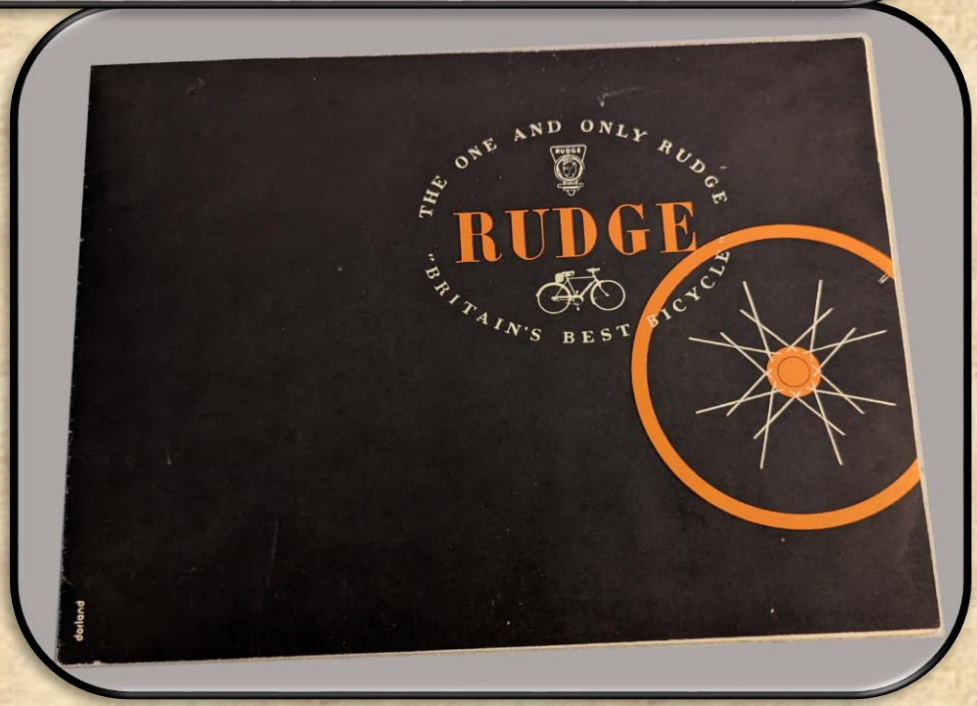
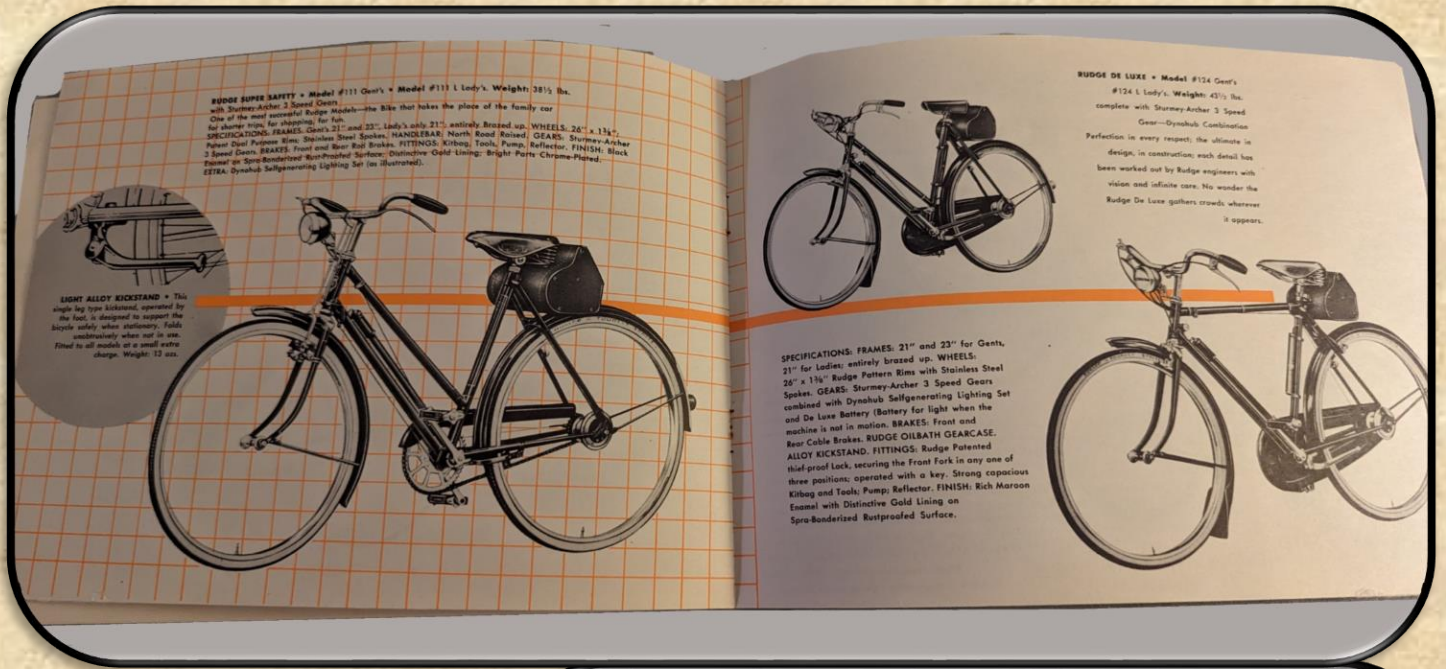
'We found three or four grooms and idlers standing in the drive inspecting a bicycle which had been drawn out from a clump of evergreens in which it had been concealed. It was a well-used Rudge-Whitworth, splashed as from a considerable journey.'



Pictured are Rudge Bicycle playing cards, the same brand as the bicycle Baldwin rode. Also pictured is the badge from the front of the bicycle.

From the story:

‘It was a well-used Rudge-Whitworth, splashed as from a considerable journey.’



Pictured is the manual for the bicycle used by Baldwin to get to Birlstone.

From the story:

'It was a well-used Rudge-Whitworth, splashed as from a considerable journey.'



Pictured is the photo of Cecil Barker, the California partner and friend of John Douglas.

From the story:

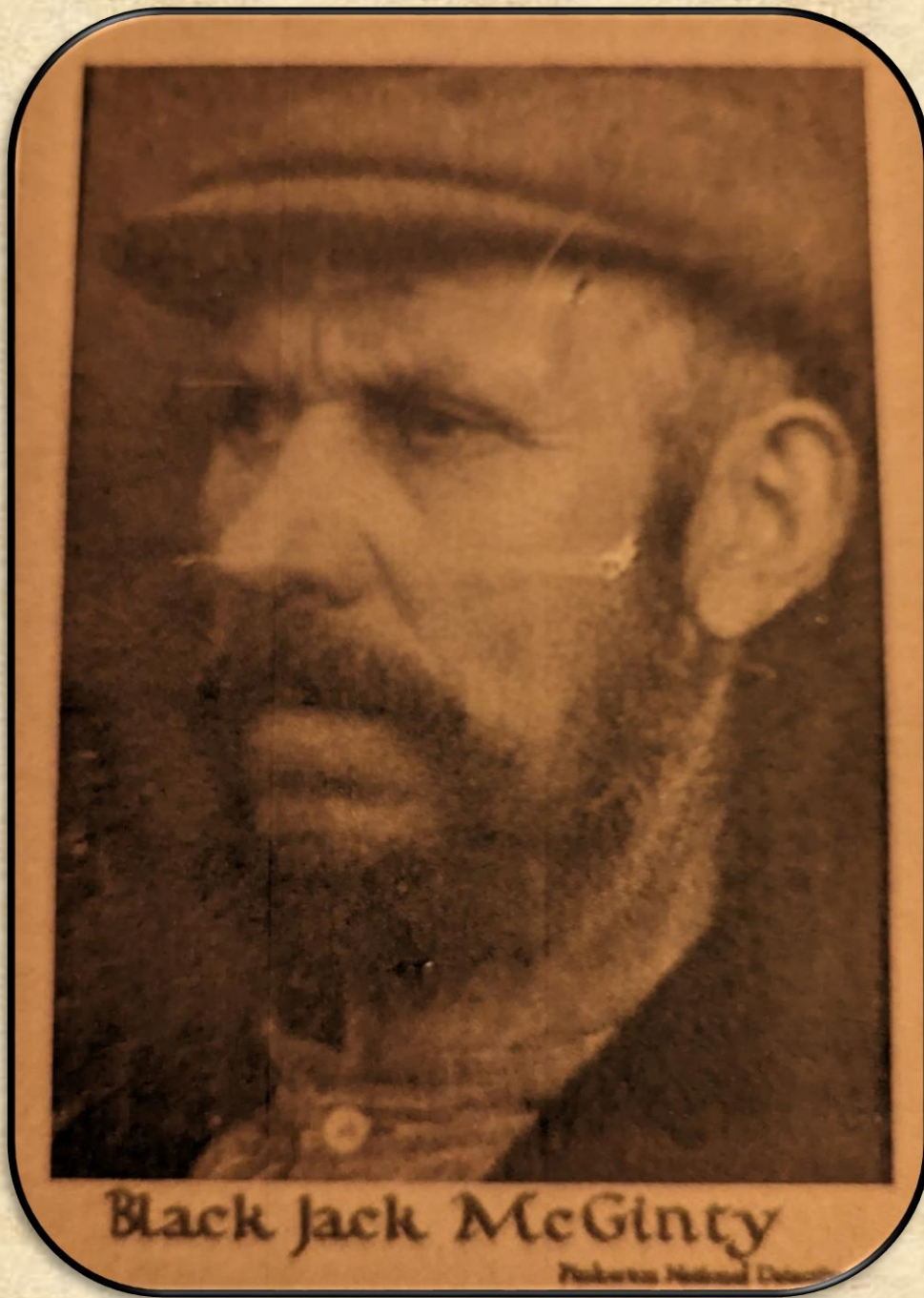
He had prospered well, and Barker had first met him in California, where they had become partners in a success-fill mining claim at a place called Benito Canyon.



Pictured are two \$20 gold pieces from California, signifying some of the gold which John Douglas acquired while in California.

From the story:

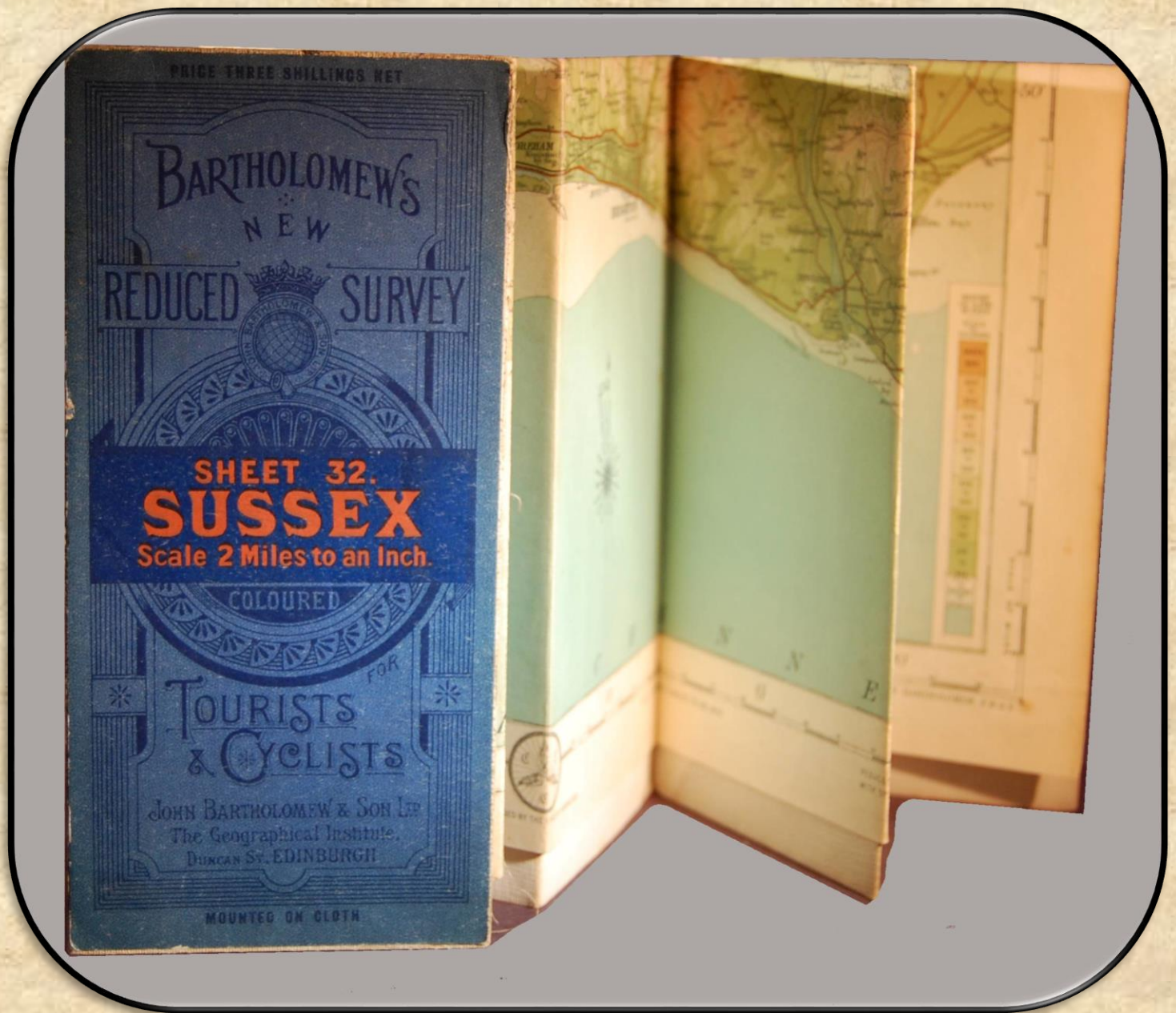
He had prospered well, and Barker had first met him in California, where they had become partners in a success-fill mining claim at a place called Benito Canyon.



Pictured is a photo of John Jack McGinty, Bodymaster of the Scowlers.

From the story:

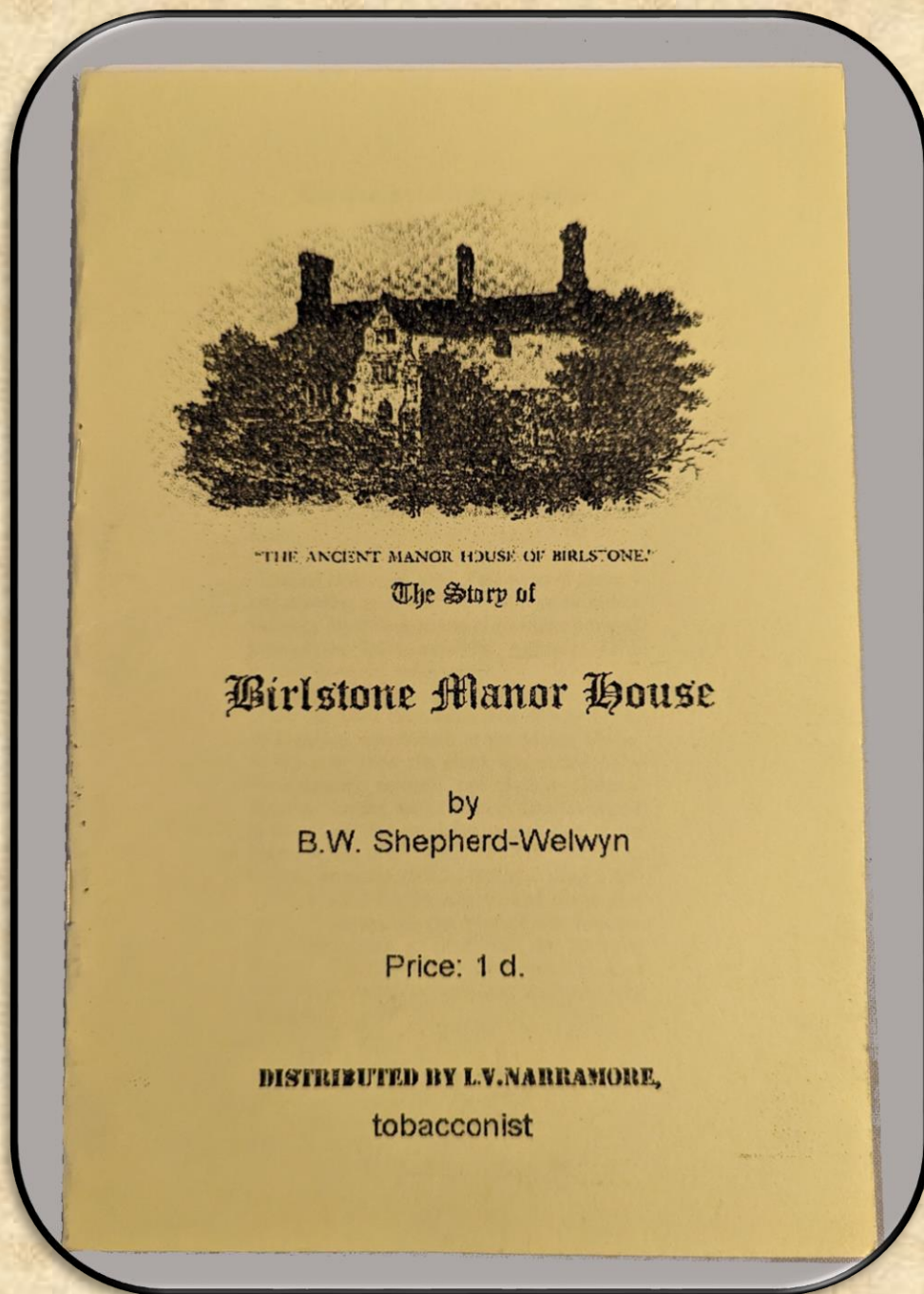
He spoke it with anger and a sort of horror. McGinty was the name Bodymaster McGinty.



Pictured is the cycle-map of the Sussex county found in Hargrave's (Ted Baldwin) hotel room.

From the story:

'There were no papers or letters and no marking upon the clothes. A cycle-map of the county lay upon his bedroom table.'



Pictured is the short narrative of Birlstone which purchased from a local merchant by Holmes.

From the story:

‘By the way, I have been reading a short, but clear and interesting, account of the old building, purchasable at the modest sum of one penny from the local tobacconist.’

Cecil Barker
Birlstone Manor

BY HAND

DEAR SIR,
IT HAS STRUCK ME THAT
IT IS OUR DUTY TO DRAIN
THE MOAT, IN THE HOPE
THAT WE MAY FIND SOMETHING
WHICH MAY BEAR UPON OUR
INVESTIGATION, I HAVE MADE
ARRANGEMENTS, AND THE
WORKMEN WILL BE AT WORK
EARLY TOMORROW MORNING
DIVERTING THE STREAM, SO
I THOUGHT IT BEST TO
EXPLAIN MATTERS BEFOREHAND

Inspector
Alec Mac Donald

Pictured is MacDonald's notice to Barker they plan to drain the moat.

From the story:

'I'll dictate it, if you like. Ready?

'Dear Sir, - It has struck me that it is our duty to drain the moat, in the hope that we may find some-'



Pictured is Hargrave's (Baldwin) knife Douglas knocked out of his hand with a hammer.

From the story:

'At the same moment he sprang at me. I saw the glint of a knife and I lashed at him with the hammer. I got him somewhere, for the knife tinkled down on the floor.'



Pictured are the tools of the coal-miner's trade, a miner's cap and picks.

From the story:

At least a dozen, by their grimed faces and the safety lanterns which they carried, proclaimed themselves as miners.



Pictured is a group of miners, who were part of the Scowlers gang, intent on intimidating those who did not accept their demands.

From the story:

These sat smoking in a group, and conversed in low voices, glancing occasionally at two men on the opposite side of the car, whose uniform and badges showed them to be policemen.



Pictured is a Vermissa Valley Coal and Iron stock certificate.

From the story:

The iron and coal valleys of the Vermissa district were no resorts for the leisured or the cultured.



Pictured is a magnet from the Vermissa Inn, where McMurdo may have stayed during his time in the Valley.

From the story:

‘Why, I seem to have read of the Scowrers in Chicago. A gang of murderers, are they not?’



WILLIAM UREN



THOMAS SANGER



JOHN P. JONES



JAMES ROARTY



JAMES BOYLE

THE
MOLLY MAGUIRES:

A thrilling narrative of the Rise, Progress and Fall of the most noted band of

CUT-THROATS
OF MODERN TIMES,

Giving data never before published, and which can be vouched for by persons who have belonged to the organization.

Full and Complete Description
of events in the early

HISTORY OF THE BLOOD-STAINED CREW.

THE ONLY RELIABLE HISTORY OF THE MOLLIES EVER PUBLISHED.

SUPPLEMENTED BY THE STATEMENT OF

DETECTIVE McPARLAN,

one of the most thrilling recitals ever made before a Court of Justice, and the confession of that prince of villains,

"JIMMY" KERRIGAN,

which fully corroborates the statement of McParlan.

PRICE, 25 CENTS.

Agents Wanted in all Parts of the Country.

Send two 3 cent Stamps for descriptive circulars and terms to Agents to

EVELAND & HARRIS, Publishers,

TAMAQUA, PA.

© KELLY PRINTING CO., ST. CLAIR, PA. — 1919

Pictured is a book on the Molly Maguires, the real-life gang from the coal mining areas of Pennsylvania.

From the story:

‘Why, I seem to have read of the Scowrers in Chicago. A gang of murderers, are they not?’



Pictured is a postal card for 'On the Banks of Allan Water', one of the Irish songs John McMurdo entertained his Lodge buddies with.

From the story:

Of an evening when they gathered together his joke was always the readiest, his conversation the brightest, and his song the best.



Pictured is the photo of Ted Baldwin, one of the Scowrers' lieutenants and enemy to Jack McMurdo.

From the story:

'It is Teddy Baldwin.'

'And who the devil is he?'

'He is a Boss of Scowrers.'

labour, and one fasting day per week.

JONAS PINTO SHOT IN BARROOM ATTACK

Jonas Pinto, a known criminal with a police record in coin forgery, was shot to death yesterday, Friday, January 2, 1874, as he stood sipping whisky in the afternoon in the Lake Saloon on Market Street in Chicago. Few people were present to witness the shooting, owing, no doubt, to the fact that so many revellers were still recovering from New Year's festivities of the day before. No one has been found to make a positive identification of the assailant, but police have a suspect whom they are seeking for questioning, a former associate of Mr. Pinto, one James McMurdo of this city. A coroner's inquest is scheduled for January 6th and is expected to return a verdict of wrongful death. Any person having information which will aid the police in their search for the suspect is asked to contact the nearest constable. Police have issued assurances that the identity of the person providing such information will be held in the strictest confidence.

LAKE STRANGLER FOUND

Police have arrested a suspect in the rash of stranglings which has paralyzed the city for the past month. The suspect

Pictured is the Chicago newspaper article reporting murder that McMurdo claimed to the Scowlers that he had committed.

From the story:

McGinty glanced his eyes over the account of the shooting of one Jonas Pinto, in the Lake Saloon, Market Street, Chicago, in the New Year week of 1874.

'Your work?' he asked, as he handed back the paper. McMurdo nodded.

The Vermissa Daily Herald

Vol. XII, Issue 42, Thursday, February 11, 1875 James Stanger, Editor Price: 1¢

Editorial

Law and Order! Reign of Terror in the Coal and Iron District

Twelve years have now elapsed since the first assassinations which proved the existence of a criminal organization in our midst. From that day these outrages have never ceased, until now they have reached a pitch which makes us the opprobrium of the civilized world. Is it for such results as this that our great country welcomes to its bosom the alien who flies from the despotisms of Europe? Is it that they shall themselves become tyrants over the very men who have given them shelter, and that a state of terrorism and lawlessness should be established under the very shadow of the sacred folds of the starry flag of freedom which would raise horror in our minds if we read of it as existing under the most effete monarchy of the East? The men are known. The organization is patent and public. How long are we to endure it? Can we for ever live under the brutal ægis of tyranny which the Scowrers, under the seemingly benevolent and fraternal title of Ancient Order of Freeman, have placed as a yoke over this community as if we were but mere cattle? Nay! I say it is time for honest citizens to wrest from that vicious organization their rights to a life of peace and dignity and to restore a regard for law and order which has been granted even unto the former slaves of the old Confederacy! Shall we, the original inhabitants of this valley, be entitled to any less? It is time to break the code of silence which has muffled the protestations of honest men!

JAMES STANGER, Editor
The Vermissa Daily Herald

DOWN IN THE VALLEY

The Ladies' Sodality of St. Patrick's Church will hold a pot-luck luncheon at the church hall following Mass on Sunday.

Pictured is the newspaper report written by James Stanger criticizing lack of order in Vermiss Valley.

From the story:

McGinty took a slip of paper from his waistcoat pocket.

'Law and Order! That's how he heads it.'

The Vermissas Daily Herald

Vol. XII, Issue 45 Sunday, February 14, 1875 James Stanger, Editor Price 1c

residence in the town except by special permission.

OUTRAGE AT THE HERALD OFFICE

EDITOR SERIOUSLY WOUNDED

Last night just before midnight, the editor of the Vermissas Daily Herald, James Stanger, was accosted by a band of several thugs in the editor's lodgings above the newspaper offices. They beat him with sticks and cudgels and forced him out onto the second floor landing where they continued their dastardly attack. One of the masked attackers was particularly violent and relentless in his beating of the editor, until one of the party intervened with a pistol to stop the attack lest the victim be killed. The criminals escaped as a group of compositors and typesetters arrived in the offices downstairs.

The matter is now in the hands of the police, but it can hardly be hoped that their exertions will be attended by any better results than in the past. Some of the men were recognized, and there is hope that a conviction may be obtained. The source of the outrage was, it need hardly be said, that infamous society which has held this community in bondage for so long a period, and against which the Herald has taken so uncompromising a stand. Mr. Stanger's many friends will rejoice to hear that, though he has been cruelly and brutally beaten and has sustained severe injuries about the head, there is no immediate danger to his life.

A party of guards of the Coal and Iron police, armed with Winchester repeating rifles, has been requisitioned for the defense of the Vermissas Daily Herald office.

Pictured is the newspaper article detailing the attack on James Stanger, the editor of the newspaper.

From the story:

Afterwards he read the Daily Herald. In a special column, put in at the last moment, he read, 'OUTRAGE AT THE HERALD OFFICE. EDITOR SERIOUSLY INJURED.'



Pictured is the photo of Ettie Shafter, John Douglas' first wife, as well as James Stranger, the journalist that was beaten by the Scowrers

From the story:

...and it was there that the light went for a time out of his life when Ettie Edwards died.

Mr Stanger's many friends will rejoice to hear that, though he has been cruelly and brutally beaten, and has sustained severe injuries about the head, there is no immediate danger to his life.



Pictured is a photo of Birdy Edwards as a Pinkerton Detective.

From the story:

‘Pinkerton has taken hold under their orders, and his best man, Birdy Edwards, is operating.’



Pictured is the Pinkerton badge of Birdy Edwards, which he did not wear while in Vermissa Valley for fear of being exposed.

From the story:

Pinkerton has taken hold under their orders, and his best man, Birdy Edwards, is operating.

Blank No. 2.

PHILADELPHIA, READING, POTTSVILLE, & VERMISSA TELEGRAPH COMPANY,

CONNECTING WITH THE LINES OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC, FRANKLIN
AND OTHER TELEGRAPH COMPANIES,
TO ALL PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The rules of this Company require that all telegrams received for transmission shall be written on the telegraph blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following telegram.

FRANKLIN B. GOWEN, President, }
PHILADELPHIA.

C. T. SELLERS, Superintendent, }
READING.

No. AND OFFICE SIGNAL.	Check.	Sent by.	Received by.	Time.
				M.

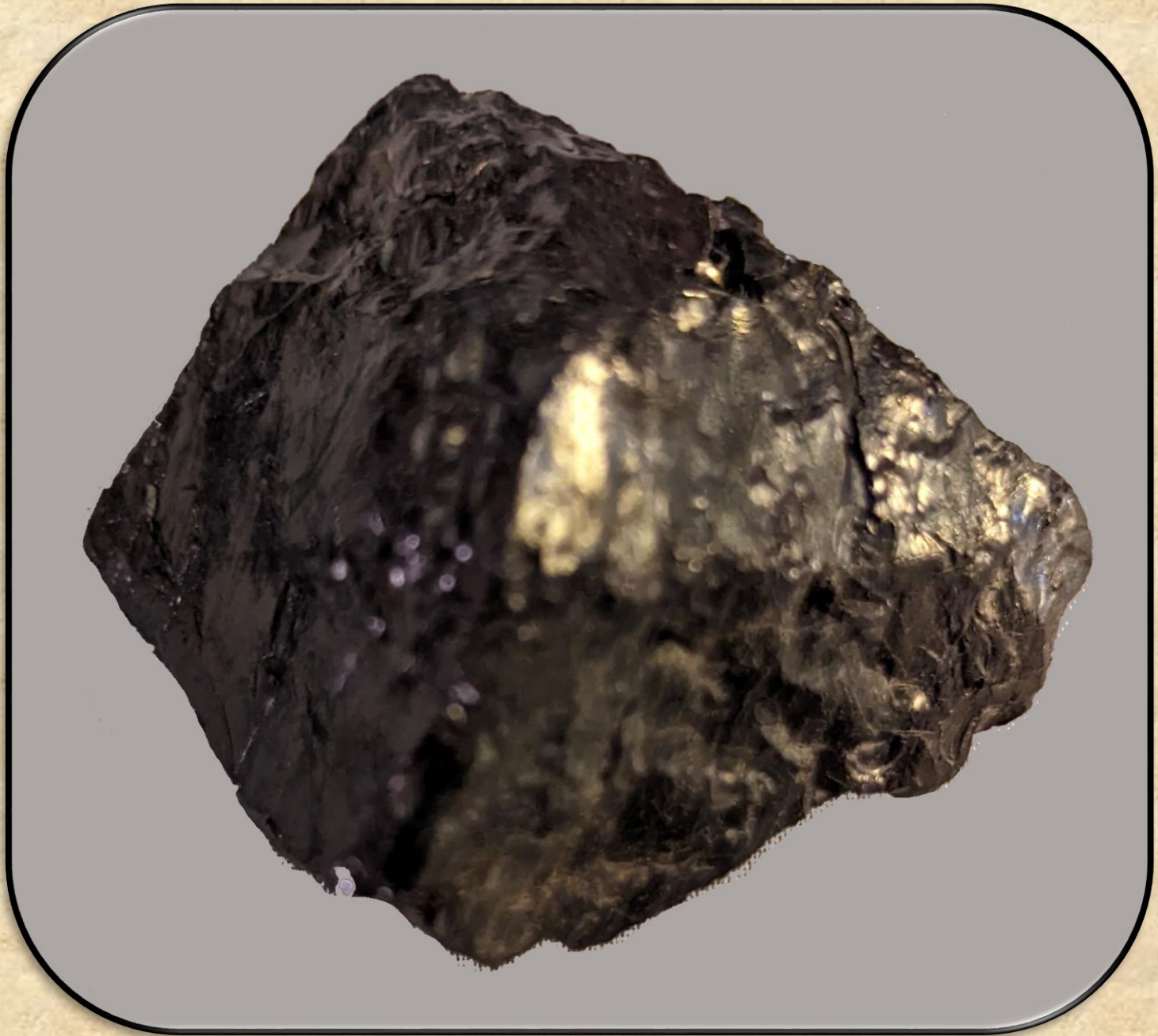
From _____ 18 _____
To _____

P. O. AND N. R. R. DEPOT,
NINTH & COLUMBIA AVENUE.

Pictured is a blank telegram form from the Vermissa Valley Telegraph office.

From the story:

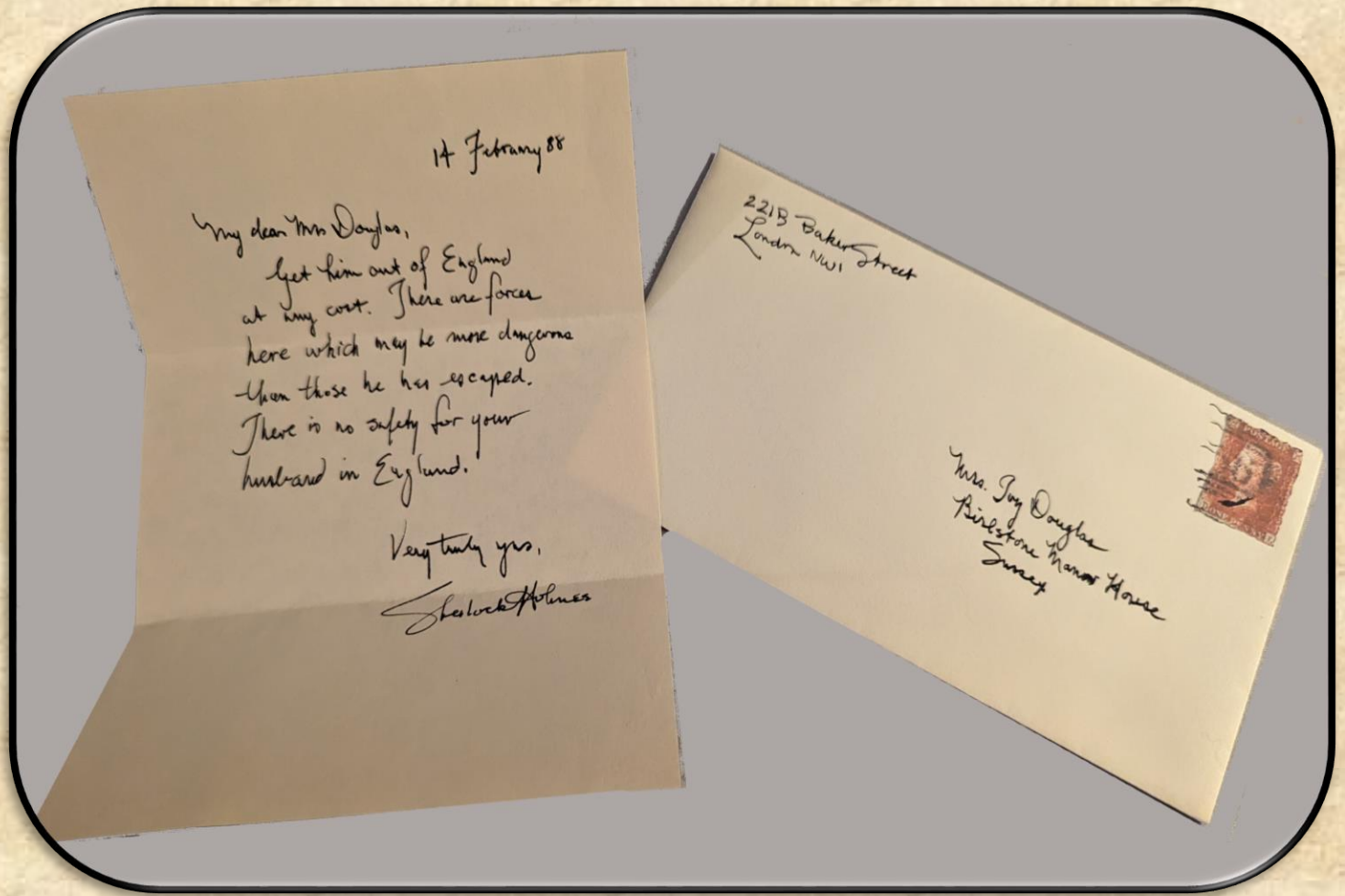
'I'll tell you. He got out at Hobson's Patch, and so did I. I chanced into the telegraph bureau, and he was leaving it.'



Pictured is a piece of coal from a mine in Pottsville, in Vermissa Valley, PA.

From the story:

‘Still, I had to carry out my job, and I came to the coal valleys.’



Pictured is Holmes's warning to Ivy Douglas to get her husband out of England

From the story:

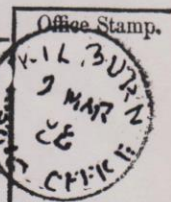
'Get him out of England at any cost,' wrote Holmes to the wife. 'There are forces here which may be more dangerous than those he has escaped. There is no safety for your husband in England.'



POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

4 Shortlands, 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 an error of accuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.



5784

Charges } £ s. d.
to pay } prepaid

to } Cape Town South Africa

at } Rec'd Kilburn from London overseas wire dept. at 9:30 A.M.,

Received } here at 7:35 A.M.

TO } Cecil Barker, Hale's Lodge, Hampstead, London NW

Jack has been lost overboard in gale off St. Helena. No one knows how accident occurred.

— Ivy Douglas

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

Pictured is the telegram from Ivy Douglas to Cecil Barker telling of the loss of John Douglas overboard on the ship they were on.

From the story:

'Jack has been lost overboard in gale off St Helena. No one knows how accident occurred - Ivy Douglas.'



Pictured is a postal card for the *Palmyra*, the ship John Douglas fell overboard.

From the story:

‘They tell me his name is Edwards, but he will always be Jack Douglas of Benito Canyon to me. I told you that they started together for South Africa in the *Palmyra* three weeks ago.’

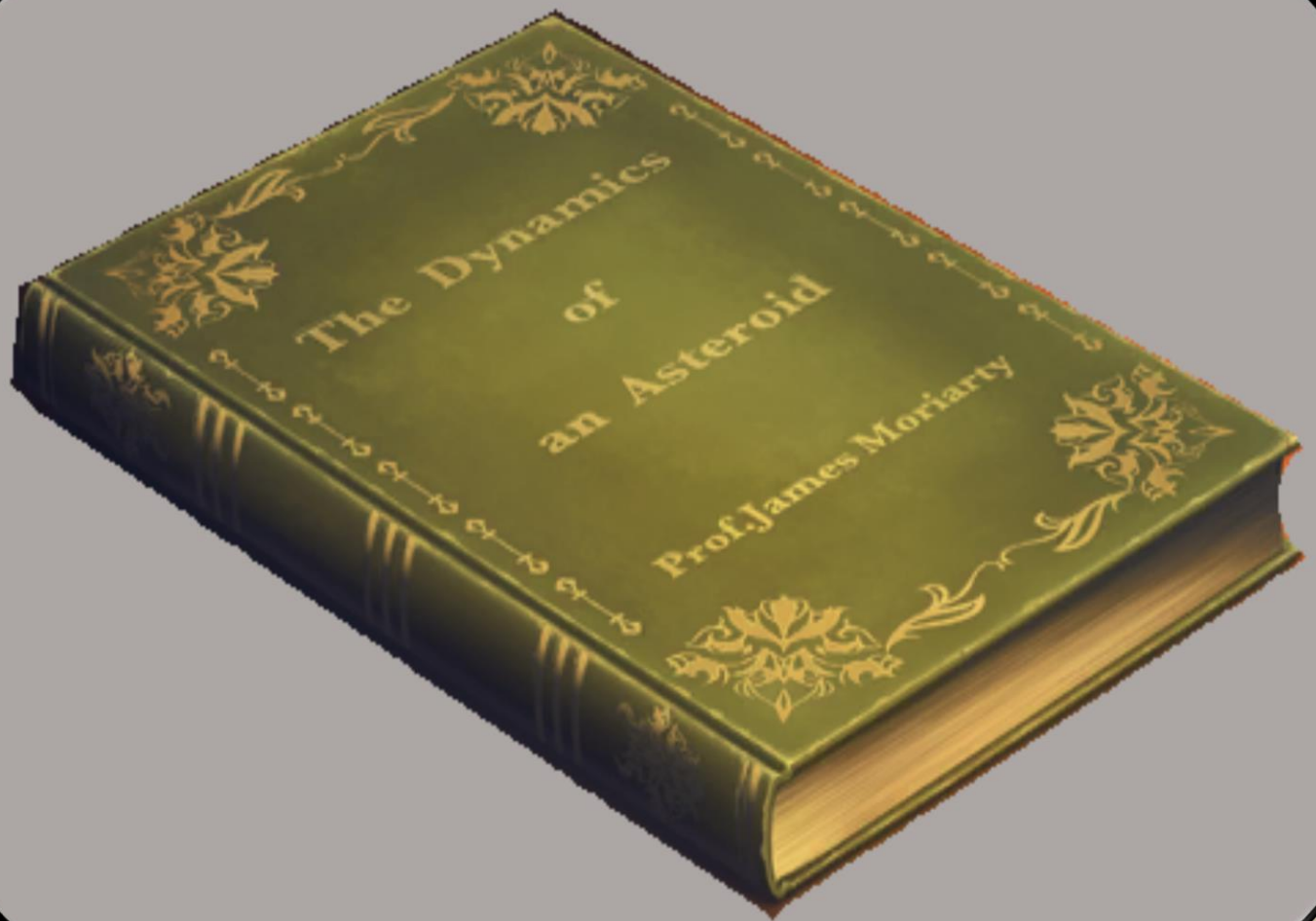


Pictured is the very terse note sent to Holmes by Moriarty on the loss of John Douglas.

From the story:

'I can tell a Moriarty when I see one. This crime is from London, not from America.'

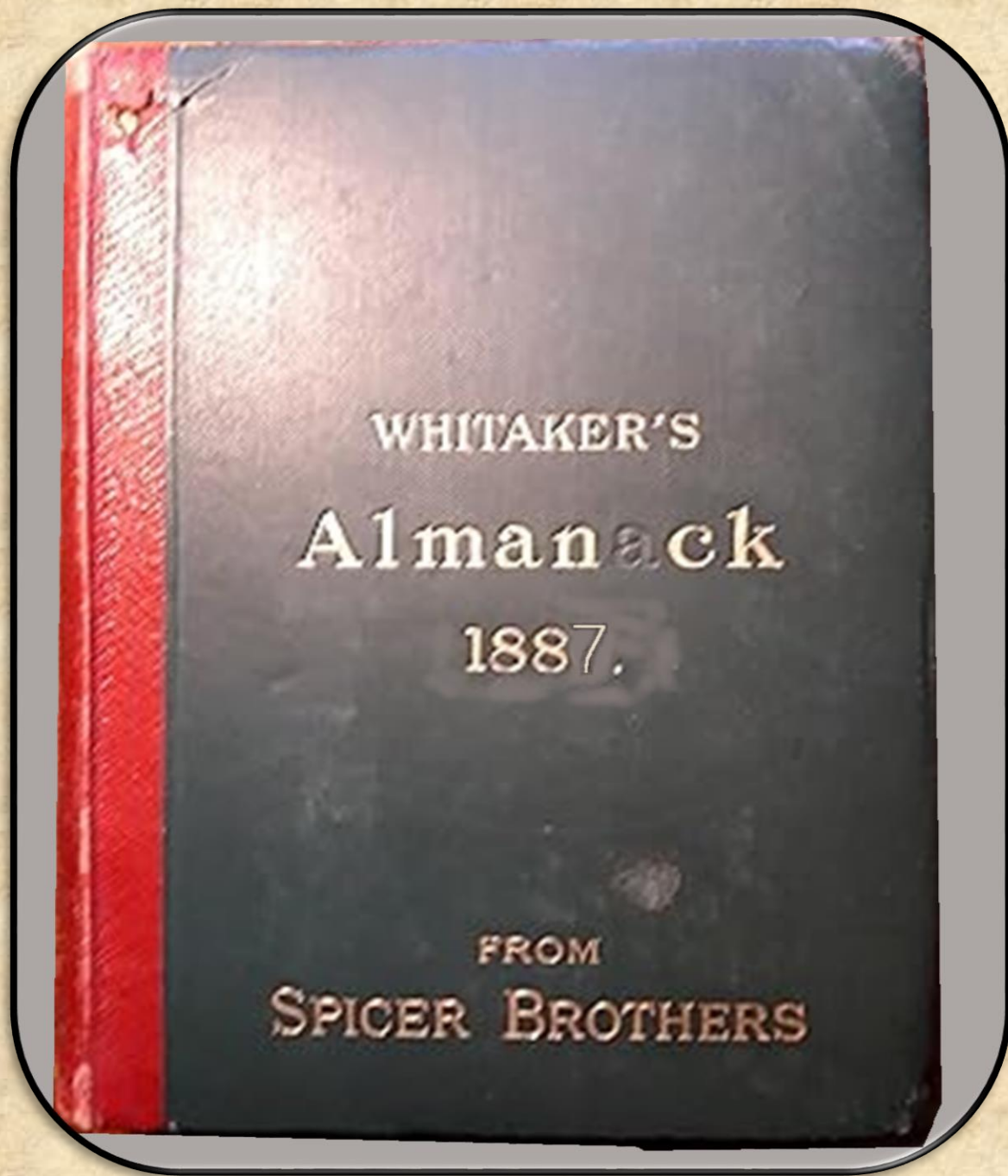
Additional items of interest
in “The Valley of Fear” not
included in the original
Evidence Box.



Pictured is the book on mathematics written by Professor Moriarty.

From the story:

‘Is he not the celebrated author of *The Dynamics of an Asteroid* - a book which ascends to such rarefied heights of pure mathematics that it is said that there was no man in the scientific press capable of criticizing it?’



Pictured is the book which Holmes used to decipher Porlock's cipher, an 1887 edition of Whitaker's Almanack.

From the story:

'An almanack! Let us consider the claims of Whitaker's Almanack. It is in common use. It has the requisite number of pages.'



Pictured is a postal card from Hampstead, England, the town in which Cecil Barker resided.

From the story:

‘This was Cecil James Barker, of Hales Lodge, Hampstead. Cecil Barker's tall, loose-jointed figure was a familiar one in the main Street of Birlstone village, for he was a frequent and welcome visitor at the Manor House.’



V.V.

341

Pictured is the card laying by the body of John Douglas.

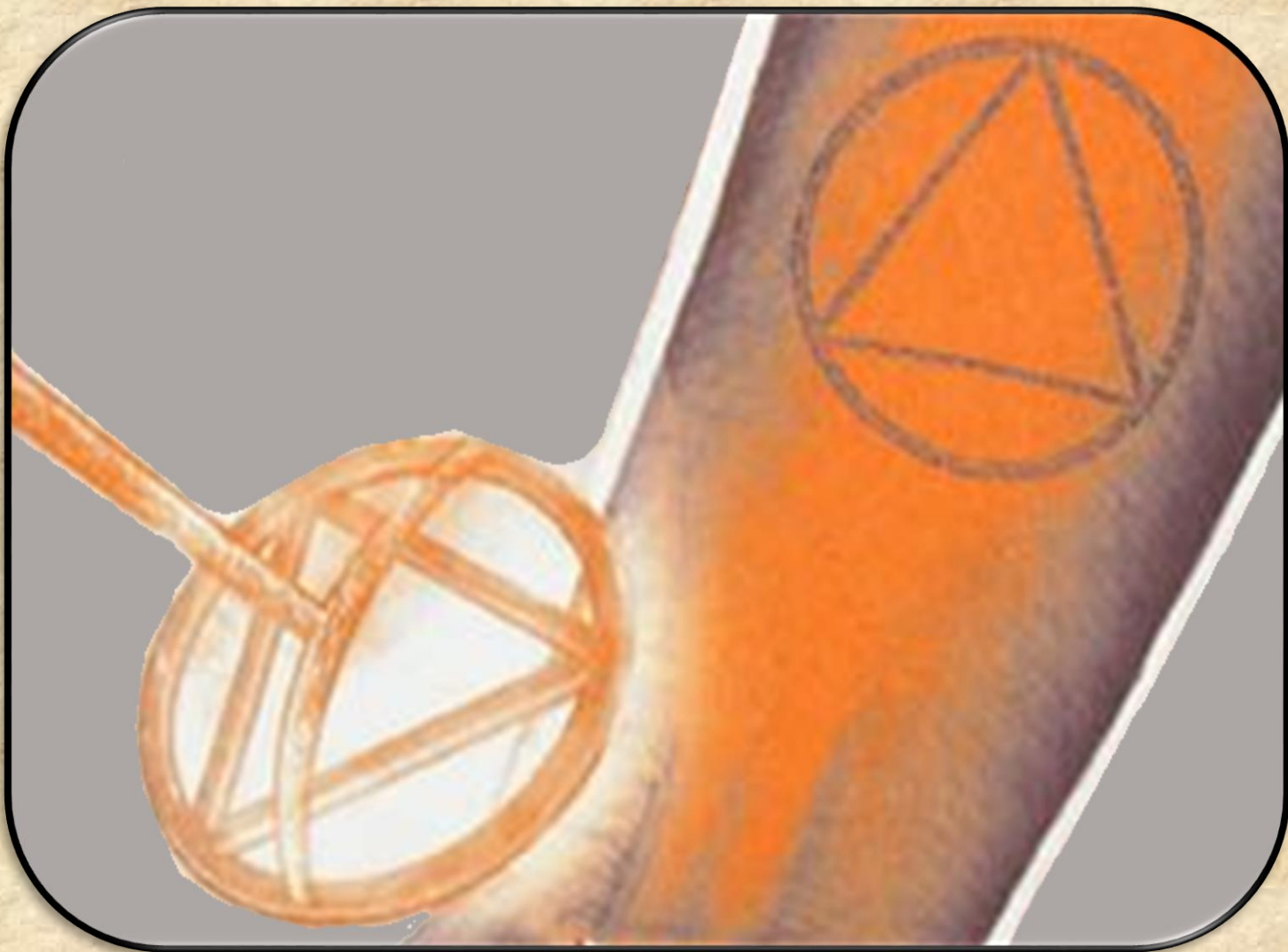
From the story:

The sergeant picked up a card which lay beside the dead man upon the floor. The initials V.V., and under it the number 341, were rudely scrawled in ink upon it.



Pictured is one of the three rings John Douglas wore, a twisted snake-ring.

From the story:
‘That ring with the rough nugget on it was above it, and the twisted snake-ring on the third finger.’



Pictured is a representation of the brand which was on John Douglas' forearm.

From the story:

The dead man's right arm was thrust out from his dressing-gown and exposed as high as the elbow. About halfway up the forearm was a curious brown design, a triangle inside a circle, standing out in vivid relief upon the lard-coloured skin.



Pictured is a photo of the Sussex Constabulary in the 1880s. Constable Mason was part of this group.

From the story:

‘White Mason is a smart man. No local job has ever been too much for White Mason. It won't be long now before he is here to help us.’



Pictured is the candle which Douglas carried into the room he was murdered in.

From the story:

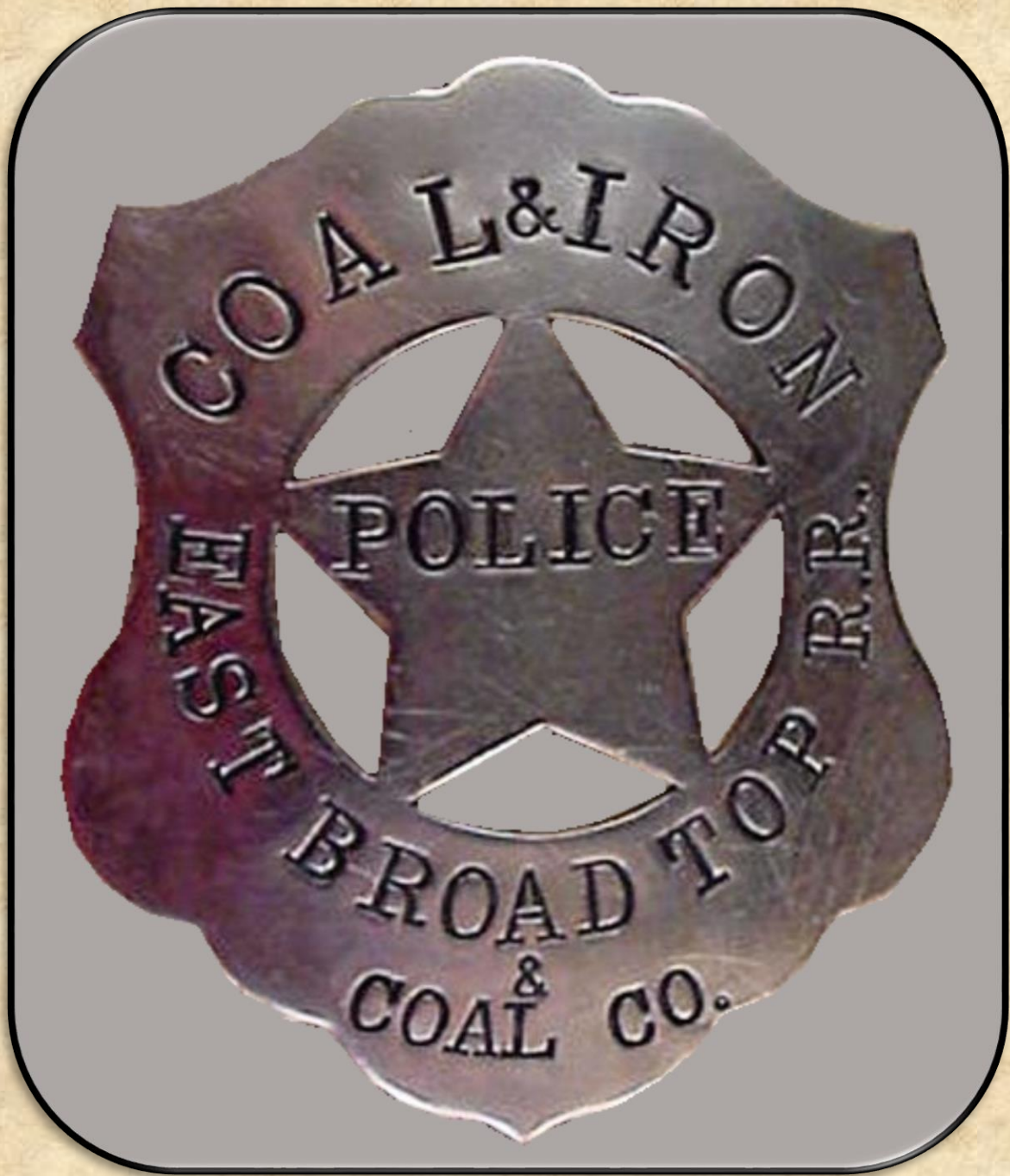
‘The candle, which was a new one, is not burned more than half an inch. He must have placed it on the table before he was attacked, otherwise, of course, it would have fallen when he fell.



Pictured is the dumb-bell which was missing from the Manor and was used to weigh down the clothing in the moat.

From the story:

‘This bundle, weighted with a dumb-bell, which you have just raised from the bottom of the moat.’



Pictured is the badge of a coal and iron officer, who supplemented the work of the local police force.

From the story:

Just at the crowded hour one night, the door opened and a man entered with the quiet blue uniform and peaked cap of the Coal and Iron Police.