



## The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes

### Adventure LIII – The Adventure of the Three Garridebs

#### Publishing History

# 53 of the 60 stories

First published in *The Strand Magazine*, January, 1925

In the US *Collier's Weekly*, October 25, 1924

Part of *The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes* collection by

John Murray, London, 1927

George D. Doran, New York, 1927

British Illustrator – Howard Elcock

#### Chronology

Baring-Gould places the dating of the story at Thursday, June 26 to

Friday, June 27, 1902 making it 51<sup>th</sup> of the 60. This means that

Holmes is 48 and Watson 50.

#### Christopher Morley Says

“A huge fortune was supposedly offered to the American Mr.

Garrideb if he could find two others with the same unusual name to

share it. This might not have been so difficult in the U. S. – there are

three listings of a very similar name in the 1943 Manhattan telephone directory – but the real purpose (as in

“The Red-Headed League” and “The Stockbroker’s Clerk”) was to gull a simpleton. Holmes shows unusual

emotion when Watson is wounded.”



## **Dummies Short Summary**

“What begins as an odd story of misdirection ends with terror for Holmes when Watson is shot.”

## **How Many Words**

At 6,231 words 3GAR has the 8<sup>th</sup> most words (#1 is VEIL – 4,499, #56 if NAVL – 12,701)

## **Classifying This Case**

This case is one of 3 classified as a theft of money. The others were REDH and STOC.

## **The Best Of Sherlock Holmes**

- 1999 – The Baker Street Irregulars voted it 41st of the 56 short stories.
- 1999 – The Sherlock Holmes Society of London voted it 39th of the 56 short stories.

## **What Else Happened That Year (1902)**

- Joseph Chamberlain advocates return to Protection and Imperial Preference.
- Peace of Vereeniging, ends Boer War.
- Salisbury resigns, succeeded as PM by Arthur Balfour.
- Anglo-Japanese Treaty, for mutual defense and to maintain status quo in Far East.
- Institution of the Order of Merit for distinguished service to the state; limited to 24 holders at one time.
- Esperanto introduced to England.
- Establishment of Metropolitan Water Board, supplying London.
- Arthur Conan Doyle is knighted.
- Franco-Italian secret treaty; Italy to remain neutral if France were attacked by a third power.
- Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria, Italy) renewed to 1914.
- Italian designs on Tripoli conditionally approved by France and Austria.
- Russo-Japanese Convention, Russia agrees to evacuate Manchuria in 18 months.
- French work day reduced to 9 1/2 hours.
- White settlement of Kenya begins.
- St. Pierre, Martinique, destroyed by earthquake.
- F.A. Krupp takes over Germania shipbuilding yard at Kiel; great armaments firm develops.

- Conan Doyle publishes *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.
- Kipling publishes *Just So Stories*.
- Arthur Edward Woodley Mason publishes *The Four Feathers*.
- Beatrix Potter publishes *Peter Rabbit*.
- Enrico Caruso makes his first gramophone record--154 recordings in all.
- Picasso paints *Nude, Back View*.
- Wireless telegraphy applied to ships.
- Trans-Pacific Cable laid.
- Completion of Aswan Dam in Egypt.

### Holmes And Watson – Personal Information

The pair are still sharing bachelor quarters at 221B Baker Street.

### Dramatis Personae

- **Nathan Garrideb**, eccentric, reclusive collector.
- **James Winter**, alias **John Garrideb**, (a lawyer from Kansas), alias **Morecroft**, alias **Killer Evans**
- **Alexander Hamilton Garrideb**, fictitious rich wheat trader, invented by Winter.
- **Dr. Lysander Starr**, fictitious former mayor of Topeka, invented by Holmes
- **Howard Garrideb**, fictitious constructor of agricultural implements, invented by Winter.
- **Holloway & Steele**, house agents who rented Nathan Garrideb's flat to him.
- **Rodger Prescott**, famous forger, engraved the counterfeit plates which were the reason for the Garrideb fabrication. He was killed by Winter in a fight over a card game

### Quotable Sherlock

One quote defines the depth of Holmes' friendship with Watson.

- "Well, Watson, we can but possess our souls in patience and see what the hour may bring."
- "If you had killed Watson, you would not have got out of this room alive."
- "In my profession all sorts of odd knowledge comes useful, and this room of yours is a storehouse of it."

### Holmes' Fee

No fee is mentioned but Sherlockians vigorously argue "Yes or NO" and "How Much."

## Unrecorded Cases

I have never figured out “why not.” It can’t be exposure because Watson has been doing that for years.

- Holmes refused a knighthood – perhaps his service “can one day be described.”

## Sherlock Holmes On The Big And The Little Screen

This story has never been “on a screen” other than being significantly altered.

- 1937 It is little known is that on Nov 27, Louis Hector (Sherlock Holmes on the radio) played Holmes with William Podmore as Watson. The program was a “field Test” before actual broadcast television would start. (Does this count?)
- 1994 *The Mazarin Stone* with Jeremy Brett (due to ill health) being replaced with Charles Gray as Mycroft Holmes with the story being a blend of both *3GAR* and *MAZA*. It was the next to last episode done.

## Weapons

- **Service Revolver** - Dr. Watson’s and it is mentioned in 13 cases.
- **Revolver** - Sherlock Holmes’ and it is mentioned in 8 cases. To club “Killer” Evans
- **Firearm** - Which “Killer” Evans carried about with him, and with which he wounded Watson.

Frank Mentzel