

A Compendium of Canonical Characters



The Return of Sherlock Holmes

Canonical Characters



Sidney Paget,
July, 1904

The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez



"The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez" 01

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

- 01 - Cover Card
- 02 - Cover Card
- 03 - Summary
- 04 - Filmography / Radiography
- 05 - Sherlock Holmes
- 06 - John Watson
- 07 - Professor Sergius Coram

Canonical Characters



Frederic Dorr Steele,
October, 1904

The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez



"The Adventure of Golden
Pince-Nez" 01

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

08 - Inspector Stanley Hopkins

09 - Alexis

10 - Susan Tarlton

11 - Willoughby Smith

12 - Anna Coram

13 - The Golden Pince-Nez

14 - Data! Data! Data!

Canonical Characters

THE STRAND MAGAZINE

JULY, 1904.

THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

X.—*The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez.*

WHEN I look at the three massive manuscript volumes which contain our work for the year 1894 I confess that it is very difficult for me, out of such a wealth of material,

to select the cases which are most interesting in themselves and at the same time most conducive to a display of those peculiar powers for which my friend was famous. As I turn over the pages I see my notes upon the repulsive story of the red leech and the terrible death of Crosby the banker. Here also I find an account of the Addleton tragedy and the singular contents of the ancient British barrow. The famous Smith-Mortimer succession case comes also within this period, and so does the tracking and arrest of Huret, the Boulevard assassin—an exploit which won for Holmes an autograph letter of thanks from the French President and the Order of the Legion of Honour. Each of these would furnish a narrative, but on the whole I am of opinion that none of them unite so many singular points of interest as the episode of Yoxley Old Place, which includes not only the lamentable death of Willoughby Smith, but also those subsequent developments which threw so curious a light upon the causes of the crime.

It was a wild, tempestuous night towards the end of November. Holmes and I sat in silence all the evening, he employed his powerful lens deciphering the original inscription upon a recent treatise upon the subject of wind-howled down the chimney and howled down the

against the windows. It was strange there in the very depths of the town, with ten miles of man's handiwork on every side of us, to feel the iron grip of Nature, and to be conscious that to the huge elemental forces all London was no more than the molehills that dot the fields. I walked to the window and looked out on the deserted street. The occasional lamps gleamed on the expanse of muddy road and shining pavement. A single cab was splashing its way from the Oxford Street end.

"Well, Watson, it's as well we have not to turn out to-night," said Holmes, laying aside his lens and rolling up the palimpsest. "I've done enough for one sitting. It is trying work for the eyes. So far as I can make out it is nothing more exciting than an Abbey's accounts dating from the second half of the fifteenth century. Halloo! halloo! halloo! What's this?"

Amid the droning of the wind there had come the stamping of a horse's hoofs and the long grind of a wheel as it rasped against the kerb. The cab which I had seen had pulled up at our door.

"What can he want?" I ejaculated, as a man stepped out of it.

"Want! He wants us. And we, Watson, want overcoats and cravats, gaiters, and goloshes, and every aid that we can invent to fight the weather. It is a rough night, though! There's the cab off to the eastward, I hope yet. He'd have kept us waiting if he wanted us to come. He's a good fellow, and open to suggestions. I hope the folk have been looking for us. When the

The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez



"The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez"

03

(*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

On a stormy night, Inspector Hopkins asks for assistance in determining the murderer of Willoughby Smith, the secretary to Professor Sergius Coram.

Smith, clutching a pair of golden pince-nez in his hand, had been stabbed with a sealing wax knife. Just before dying, he muttered "The professor - it was she..."

Can Holmes determine who killed Smith, before others become victims, from three clues?

Canonical Characters



The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez



"The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez" (*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

04

Filmography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
March, 1922	UK	Eille Norwood	Hubert Willis
March 21, 1994	UK	Jeremy Brett	Edward Hardwicke

Radiography

<u>Date</u>	<u>Network</u>	<u>Holmes</u>	<u>Watson</u>
June 01, 1931	NBC	Richard Gordon	Leigh Lovell
February 12, 1940	Blue (NBC)	Basil Rathbone	Nigel Bruce
April 25, 1949	Mutual	John Stanley	Wendel Holmes
April 10, 1955	NBC	John Gielgud	Ralph Richardson
1959		Maurice Teynac	Pierre Destailles
July 08, 1962	BBC	Carleton Hobbs	Norman Shelley
1987	BBC	Roy Marsden	John Moffatt
September 22, 1993	BBC	Clive Merrison	Michael Williams
July 25, 2010		John Patrick Lowrie	Lawrence Albert

Canonical Characters



Sherlock Holmes



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

05

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

“We, my poor Watson, want overcoats and cravats and goloshes, and every aid that man ever invented to fight the weather.”

“Our lady enters the room, advances to the bureau. While she is thus engaged, young Willoughby Smith enters the room. He seizes her, and she, snatching up the nearest object, which happens to be this knife, strikes at him. The blow is a fatal one. He falls and she escapes.”

(Hans Albers, 1937, Der Man, Der Sherlock Holmes)

Canonical Characters



John Watson



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

06

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

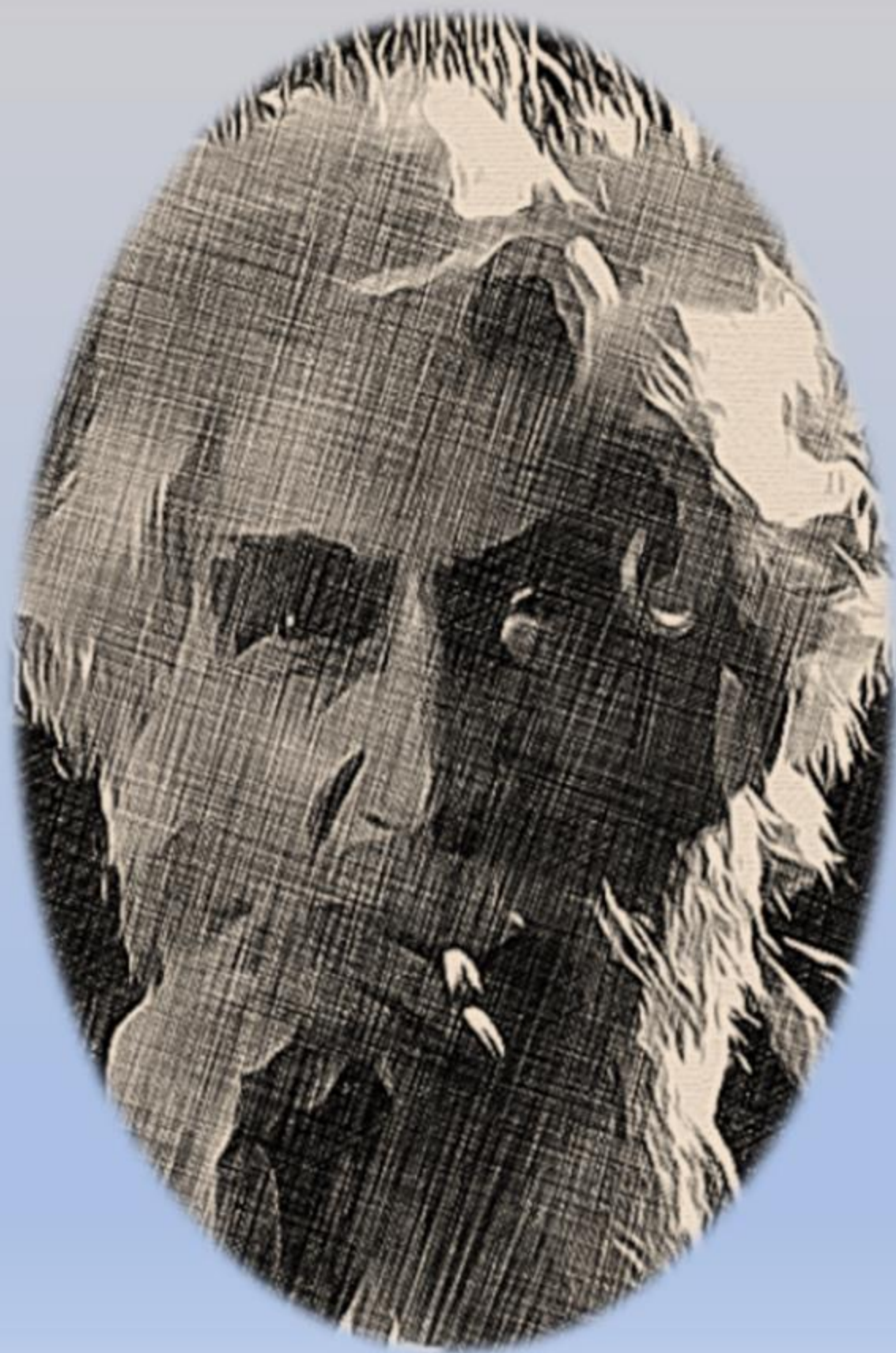
“It was a wild, tempestuous night, towards the close of November [in 1894]. Holmes and I sat together in silence all the evening.”

“I confess that it is very difficult for me, out of such a wealth of material, to select the cases which are most interesting in themselves, and at the same time most conducive to a display of those peculiar powers for which my friend was famous.”

“Have you a clue?”

(Heinz Ruhmann, 1937, Der Man, Der Sherlock Holmes)

Canonical Characters



Professor Sergius Coram



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

07

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Sergius, an elderly invalid Russian who lived at Yoxley Old Place.

During the Russian revolution, a police officer was killed, and in order to save his own life and to earn a great reward, he betrayed his own wife and his companions who were all arrested upon his confession. He came to England and lived in quiet ever since.

“You are surely joking, Mr Sherlock Holmes. You compel me to tell you that this is too serious a matter to be treated in such a fashion.”

(Frank Finlay, 1994, The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes, “The Golden Pince-Nez”)

Canonical Characters



Inspector Stanley Hopkins



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

08

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

“A promising detective, in whose career Holmes had several times shown a very practical interest.”

“My examination showed me that I was dealing with a cautious and expert criminal.”

Stanley Hopkins disclosed a golden pince-nez.

“Willoughby Smith had excellent sight, there can be no question that this was snatched from the face or the person of the assassin.”

(A. Harding Steerman, 1994, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, “The Golden Pince-Nez”)

Canonical Characters



Alexis



"The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez"

09

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

A Russian revolutionary who
Professor Coram testified
against and was sentenced to
work in a Siberian salt mine.

He was not guilty according
to Anna Coram, who
entered the house to find a
diary that would prove his
innocence.

*(Roger Ringrose, 1994, The Memoirs of Sherlock
Holmes, "The Golden Pince-Nez")*

Canonical Characters



Susan Tarlton



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

10

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Professor Coram’s maid. Heard a heavy thud and wild, hoarse scream, and then all was silence. Susan entered the study, finding Mr. Willoughby Smith was stretched upon the floor.

“She saw that blood was pouring from the underside of his neck the carotid artery.”

It was Susan who heard Smith’s final words.

—————
(Nathalie Morse, 1994, The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes, “The Golden Pince-Nez”)

Canonical Characters



Willoughby Smith



“The Adventure of Golden
Pince-Nez”

11

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

Professor Coram’s secretary
who graduated from
Cambridge.

“The professor,” he
murmured— “it was she.”

He tried desperately to say
something else, and he held
his right hand up in the air.
Then he fell back dead.

—
*(Christopher Guard, 1994, The Memoirs of Sherlock
Holmes, “The Golden Pince-Nez”)*

Canonical Characters



Anna Coram



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

12

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

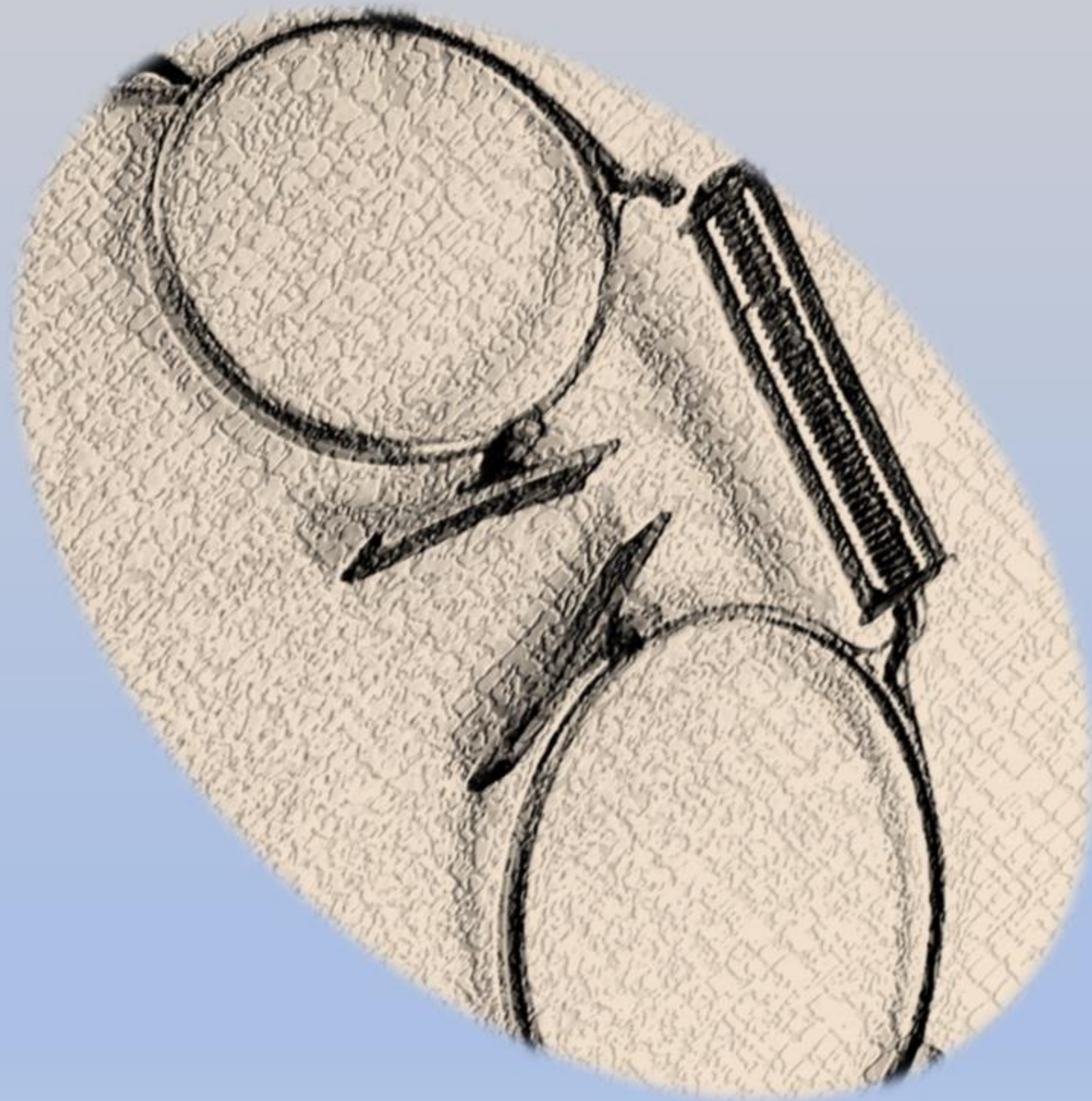
Wife of Professor Coram, who
stabbed Willoughby Smith to
death.

*“I confess it all. It was I who killed
the young man. But you are right—
you who say it was an accident. I
did not even know that it was a
knife which I held in my hand.”*

*“I took the poison before I left my
hiding-place. My head swims! I am
going!”*

(Anna Carteret, 1994, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, “The
Golden Pince-Nez”)

Canonical Characters



The Golden Pince-Nez



“The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez”

13

(The Return of Sherlock Holmes)

A set of spectacles found in the hand
of the victim, Mr. Smith.

Rimmed in gold, with one corked
pad missing.

“It hinged from the outset upon the
pince-nez. But for the fortunate
chance of the dying man having
seized these I am not sure that we
could ever have reached our solution.
It was clear to me from the strength
of the glasses that the wearer must
have been very blind and helpless
when deprived of them.”

Canonical Characters



Martin Van Maele,
1906

The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez



"The Adventure of Golden Pince-Nez"

14

(*The Return of Sherlock Holmes*)

First
Publication:

U.K. -- *The Strand Magazine*,
July, 1904
U.S. -- *Collier's*
October 29, 1904

U.K. - *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
March 07, 1905 George Newnes Ltd.
U.S. - *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*,
February, 1905, McClure, Phillips & Co.

Chronological
Date:

n/a
(Watson)
November 14, 1894
(Baring-Gould)

Ranking:

50 of 56 short stories
(Sherlockian poll, 1999, Stock)

Christ
Abbreviation:

GOLD

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