

# FROM BALTIMORE TO BAKER STREET

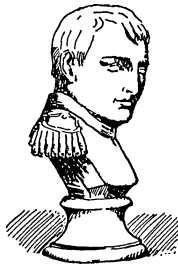
*Thirteen Sherlockian Studies*

*by* William Hyder

NAPOLEON LXXVI

The Six Napoleons of Baltimore

*With an Afterword by*  
Philip A. Shreffler, B.S.I.



THE BATTERED SILICON DISPATCH BOX

1995

# Table of Contents

Illustration by Scott Bond, B.S.I. . . . .	iii
Introduction by Marshall S. Berdan . . . . .	v
<b>I. “YOU DON’T KNOW SHERLOCK HOLMES YET”</b>	
Monsieur Sherlock Holmes: The Canon in Translation . . . . .	2
Parsley and Butter: The Abernety Business . . . . .	11
“ <i>What about that bloomin’ fiddle!</i> ”: Sherlock Holmes as Musician . . . . .	19
<b>II. “... DR. WATSON IS THE VERY MAN”</b>	
“... <i>I took my degree of Doctor of Medicine ...</i> ”: Watson’s Education and Medical Career . . . . .	42
The Rise of the Underdog: Watson in <i>The Hound         of the Baskervilles</i> . . . . .	60
<b>III. “I ... TOOK TO THE STAGE ...”</b>	
“ <i>The impression of a woman ...</i> ”: Sherlock Holmes Through Women’s Eyes . . . . .	72
The Adventure of the Second Fiddle: Conan Doyle vs. Sherlock Holmes . . . . .	95
<b>IV. “...MY INVESTIGATION HAS NOT BEEN ENTIRELY BARREN”</b>	
The Martha Myth . . . . .	116
“... <i>a nobleman who is in truth noble</i> ”: Titles in the Canon . . . . .	129
“... <i>a venerable Italian priest ...</i> ”: Religious Figures in the Canon . . . . .	150
<b>V. “A ... VEIN OF PAWKY HUMOUR ...”</b>	
The Root of the Matter . . . . .	166
The Detectives of Penzance; or, the Devil’s Afoot . . . . .	168
<b>VI. “OUR QUEST IS PRACTICALLY FINISHED”</b>	
“... <i>let us calmly define our position ...</i> ”: An Affirmation of Faith . . . . .	186
Afterword by Philip A. Shreffler, B.S.I. . . . .	195



## The Martha Myth

**A**LTHOUGH MRS. HUDSON'S FIRST NAME is stated nowhere in the Canon, most Sherlockians are certain that it is Martha.

The origin of this notion is an essay by the late Vincent Starrett called "The Singular Adventures of Martha Hudson," which first appeared in Bell's *Baker Street Studies*.<sup>1</sup> Few works of Sherlockian scholarship have had such far-reaching and permanent influence.

In the essay, Starrett offers a series of conjectures about the daily life of Sherlock Holmes's landlady. He pictures her thrilling at the dramas played out in her first-floor flat, proudly ushering the more prominent visitors up the seventeen steps, hovering outside the door of Holmes's sitting-room in the hope of catching a few words of conversation, giggling as Holmes came and went in his disguises, and generally basking in the notoriety reflected by her famous lodger.

Huckleberry Finn, commenting on Mark Twain's book *Tom Sawyer*, said, "There was things which he stretched, but mainly he told the truth." Starrett offers entirely believable surmises, illustrated with charming vignettes, and couched in fine writing. But having captivated the reader with all this, he proceeds to slip in what Huck called "stretchers." These have embedded themselves so firmly in the Sherlockian consciousness that they are accepted as revealed truths.

Let us state them baldly, without the advantage of Starrett's artistry.

First, while admitting that "it is nowhere explicitly asserted," Starrett declares that "there can be no reasonable doubt that [Mrs. Hudson] retired with Holmes to Sussex."<sup>2</sup> Thus he identifies her with the housekeeper Holmes mentions, but does not name, in "The Lion's Mane."

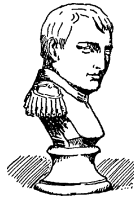
Then, having referred to Mrs. Hudson almost from the beginning of his essay as "Martha" Hudson, he attempts to justify this by further identifying her with Martha, housekeeper to the German spy Von Bork in "His Last Bow," who was actually an agent in Holmes's employ: "For two years she had served him [Von Bork] faithfully, by Holmes' [*sic*] order ... It was Martha Hudson's last adventure ..."<sup>3</sup>

The general acceptance of Starrett's assumptions has been aided by the fact that "The Singular Adventures of Martha Hudson" has been reprinted, according to De Waal, in Starrett's own *Bookman's Holiday* (1942, reissued

1971), in Edgar W. Smith's *Profile by Gaslight* (1944), and in the revised edition of Starrett's *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes* (1960).<sup>4</sup>

One hesitates to challenge one of the highest, noblest, most exalted names in Canonical scholarship. It is, we agree, pleasantly romantic to picture Mrs. Hudson accompanying Sherlock Holmes into retirement and, later, in "the most terrible August in the history of the world,"<sup>5</sup> helping him to bring his last recorded case to a triumphant conclusion. But surely the Master himself would say that wishful thinking is no substitute for reason.

Starrett passed beyond the Reichenbach as long ago as 5 January 1974 (appropriately, on the eve of the date traditionally accepted as Sherlock Holmes's birthday). Perhaps we may now, without disrespect, put forth an opposing view.



Let us first consider the notion that Mrs. Hudson "retired with Holmes to Sussex." The only information we have on the subject occurs in "The Lion's Mane," and comes from Holmes's own pen:

My house is lonely. I, my old housekeeper, and my bees have the estate all to ourselves.<sup>6</sup>

And, later in the adventure:

It was my old housekeeper who heard of it first by that strange wireless by which such people collect the news of the countryside.

"Sad story, this, sir, about Mr. McPherson's dog," said she one evening.

I do not encourage such conversations, but the words arrested me.

"What of Mr. McPherson's dog?"

"Dead, sir. Died of grief for its master."

"Who told you this?"

"Why, sir, everyone is talking of it. It took on terrible, and has eaten nothing for a week. Then to-day two of the young gentlemen from The Gables found it dead ) down on the beach, sir, at the very place where its master met his end."<sup>7</sup>

The question that cries out to be asked is, if the housekeeper was Mrs. Hudson, why did Holmes not say so? *Why* was it “nowhere explicitly asserted?” There was no reason for concealment, and we can be certain that Holmes did not omit the name absent-mindedly. He could not have supposed that Mrs. Hudson’s name would be meaningless to his readers; Dr. Watson’s writings had made her almost as well-known as Holmes himself. Can we imagine him, then, suppressing her name out of jealousy? We know Sherlock Holmes better than that. No, if he did not identify his Sussex housekeeper as Mrs. Hudson, it is because she was not Mrs. Hudson.

Perhaps Starrett assumed that by “my old housekeeper” Holmes meant “my former housekeeper.” This will not do. Mrs. Hudson was never Holmes’s housekeeper in Baker Street; she was his landlady. The same thing? Not at all. If you have a housekeeper, you are master of the house and she is your employee. If she fails to give satisfaction, you can send her packing. If you have a landlady, *she* is mistress of the house; if you displease her as a tenant, she has the right to send *you* packing. The two situations are virtual opposites, not only practically but legally. Holmes, with his precise mind, would never have confused them.

Male Sherlockians may be charmed by the picture of Holmes’s faithful landlady-turned-housekeeper, aged sixty-eight or seventy-three or eighty-one, tottering into his Sussex study with a heavy tea-tray clutched in her shaking hands. But their wives would assure them that there is more than one way of looking at the matter.

If Holmes had been a married man, his wife would have had nothing to look forward to after his retirement but more years of running the house and planning the meals. Mrs. Hudson, happily, was under no such obligation. She had spent two decades catering for “the very worst tenant in London,” as Dr. Watson refers to Holmes in “The Dying Detective.”<sup>8</sup> Would she really have been anxious, even allowing for the fondness for Holmes that Dr. Watson credits her with in the same passage, to spend the final years of her life the same way? Would she, moreover, have been willing to descend in the social scale from businesswoman to servant?

It seems more likely that the good landlady would have taken up a well-deserved retirement of her own, perhaps enjoying a bit of travel. Holmes’s “princely” payments, as Dr. Watson describes them,<sup>9</sup> would have put her in a position to do so.

Mrs. Hudson and Holmes’s housekeeper in Sussex were, plainly, two different women.

Now, what about Martha? Here is all the evidence we have, as set down by the anonymous narrator of “His Last Bow.” The scene is the spy Von

Bork's house on the English coast. Baron Von Herling, Chief Secretary of the German Legation in London, is speaking:

"... By the way, who is that?"

Only one window showed a light behind them; in it there stood a lamp, and beside it, seated at a table, was a dear old ruddy-faced woman in a country cap. She was bending over her knitting and stopping occasionally to stroke a large black cat upon a stool beside her.

"That is Martha, the only servant I have left."

The secretary chuckled.

"She might almost personify Britannia," said he, "with her complete self-absorption and general air of comfortable somnolence ..."<sup>10</sup>

In the next paragraph the narrator tells us that Von Bork "observed that his old housekeeper had put out her lamp and retired,"<sup>11</sup> thus defining Martha's position in the household.

Finally, here is Holmes, no longer posing as Von Bork's agent Altamont, speaking to Dr. Watson:

... Would you mind touching the bell? There is no one in the house except old Martha, who has played her part to perfection. I got her the situation here when I first took the matter up. Ah, Martha, you will be glad to hear that all is well.

The pleasant old lady had appeared in the doorway. She curtsied with a smile to Mr. Holmes, but glanced with some apprehension at the figure upon the sofa.

"It is all right, Martha. He has not been hurt at all."

"I am glad of that, Mr. Holmes. According to his lights he has been a kind master. He wanted me to go with his wife to Germany yesterday, but that would hardly have suited your plans, would it, sir?"

"No, indeed, Martha. So long as you were in the house I was easy in my mind. We waited for some time for your signal to-night."

"It was the secretary, sir."

"I know. His car passed ours."

"I thought he would never go. I knew that it would not suit your plans, sir, to find him here."

"No indeed. Well, it only meant that we waited half an hour or so until I saw your lamp go out and knew that the coast was clear. You can report to me to-morrow in London, Martha, at Claridge's Hotel."

"Very good, sir."

"I suppose that you have everything ready to leave."

"Yes, sir. He posted seven letters to-day. I have the addresses as usual."

"Very good, Martha. I will look into them to-morrow. Good night ..."<sup>12</sup>

Starrett's contention that Holmes's Sussex housekeeper was also Von Bork's housekeeper has gained support from a hazy belief held by some Sherlockians that Holmes's house and Von Bork's house, both situated on the English coast, were close to one another. This point can easily be cleared up.

Holmes, in "The Lion's Mane," tells us he lives in Sussex, "upon the southern slope of the downs, commanding a great view of the Channel."<sup>13</sup> Dr. Watson, in his preface to the collection of adventures titled "His Last Bow," refers more specifically to "a small farm upon the downs, five miles from Eastbourne."<sup>14</sup> In "His Last Bow," Baron Von Herling, standing on Von Bork's terrace, says, "Those are the lights of Harwich, I suppose."<sup>15</sup>

Eastbourne, in Sussex, is on the south coast of England. Harwich (pronounced to rhyme with carriage)<sup>16</sup> is in Essex, on the east coast. The towns are more than ninety miles apart as the crow flies, and much farther than that by road, rail, or sea (to get from one to the other by road or rail, in fact, a traveller must pass through London). So Holmes and Von Bork were not neighbours.

Now, once more we may ask why, if Martha was really Mrs. Hudson, we are not told so. Security? Hardly. The narrator reveals that Altamont was really Sherlock Holmes; how could it matter to reveal that Martha was Mrs. Hudson? It might be argued that the narrator (whose identity has been the subject of much conjecture by Sherlockian writers) was not well enough informed about Holmes's past to know that the agent he placed in Von Bork's house had been his landlady in earlier days ) but such speculation is idle. Martha could not have been Mrs. Hudson for reasons grounded in Victorian and Edwardian social customs.

It is difficult for modern North Americans, living in an age that has little use for formality, to imagine how far different daily life was in Victorian England. More than one Sherlockian writer has arrived at faulty conclusions by assuming that the people of Holmes's day thought and acted like late-20th Century North Americans. Even in Britain, many people today have only the vaguest ideas of how their forebears behaved. But the fact is that Holmes's England had a complex class structure that mandated strict standards of behaviour between one class and another (with, it should be noted, obligations on both sides).<sup>17</sup>

The events described in "His Last Bow" took place on 2 August 1914.<sup>18</sup> George V was on the throne; the Victorian and Edwardian eras were past; and the first World War, which Britain entered two days later, was to work vast changes in the British social structure. But in 1914, behaviour had changed little ) and by persons like Holmes and Martha, who had grown up under Victoria, probably not at all.

The passage quoted above shows Holmes addressing his agent as Martha. Under the social rules he lived by, Sherlock Holmes would never have called Mrs. Hudson by her first name. Certain classes of servant were properly addressed that way, but Mrs. Hudson, as we have seen, was never a servant. She would have considered it a liberty, perhaps an insult, even after years of close association with Holmes.

In “His Last Bow,” Holmes and Watson, social equals and friends of long standing, refrain from calling each other John and Sherlock. Holmes and Mrs. Hudson were not social equals; for Holmes to call Mrs. Hudson by her first name would have been taking unfair advantage, because she would have been unable to reciprocate. It is true that the woman in Von Bork’s house had been posing as his servant, but when Holmes spoke to her she was no longer playing that part. Had it been Mrs. Hudson, Holmes, as a gentleman, would have addressed her properly.

Then there is the matter of Martha’s curtsy ) which, again, was given in her own person, after she had abandoned the role of Von Bork’s housekeeper. In Baker Street, Mrs. Hudson called Holmes “sir” and treated him with deference because he was both a customer and a member of a higher class. But, as a woman who had been mistress of her own establishment for years, she would never have curtsayed ) to Sherlock Holmes or to anyone else in the kingdom, excepting royalty. By curtsying to Holmes, Martha ) whoever she was ) defined herself as an actual member of the servant class.

It may be hard today to believe that such rules were universally understood and followed. Indeed, some readers may deplore the Victorian social system and feel hostile toward the age that endorsed it. None the less it existed, and was accepted by people on all levels as part of the natural order of things.

Martha is described as “a dear old ruddy-faced woman in a country cap” ) a rustic or a good imitation of one. Mrs. Hudson was a Londoner, if not by birth then certainly by decades of residence. We know that she helped Holmes set up the climax of “The Naval Treaty” by concealing the missing document under a dish-cover and serving it to Percy Phelps,<sup>19</sup> and she demonstrated her courage in “The Empty House” by kneeling below a bust of Holmes and periodically shifting its position, in the sure knowledge that Colonel Sebastian Moran was going to take a shot at it.<sup>20</sup> But nowhere do we see that she had any talent as an actress. Is it likely that this London landlady, brave and clever as she was, could have played the countrywoman well enough to deceive not only the foreigner Von Bork and his family, but any other English servants in the household, to say nothing of tradesmen and neighbours?



Finally, let us consider Holmes's remark "You can report to me tomorrow in London, Martha, at Claridge's Hotel." If Martha had been, as Starrett assumed, both Mrs. Hudson and the Sussex housekeeper, he surely would have said something more like "Meet me in London to-morrow, Mrs. Hudson, at Claridge's Hotel. You can give me your report, and then go back to Sussex. I'll join you there in a few days."

Who, then, was Martha? Clearly, a professional. The words "report to me to-morrow in London" have a businesslike ring to them. She may have been supplied to Holmes by one of the British intelligence services ) Holmes was working for the government in this case ) but this is unlikely. A government agent, no longer playing the role of servant, would no more have curtsied to Holmes than Mrs. Hudson would have. And we know that Holmes preferred to play his own game, uninfluenced by the official forces.

It would appear, then, that Holmes had recruited Martha himself. In his years in practice he had formed a sizable pool of potential assistants ) witness the speed with which he mounted the charade outside Irene Adler's house in "A Scandal in Bohemia"<sup>21</sup> ) and a wide acquaintance among people in the underworld and on its fringes. Martha was probably someone who had worked with him in the old days. She was, as we have seen, intelligent and capable, a member of the servant class, and probably country-born.

We do not know whether Von Bork, settling in Essex, found all his servants locally or hired some of them in London, through an agency. If the latter, Holmes could have chosen as his agent a woman born anywhere in Great Britain. But regional dialects were strong, and if Von Bork had hired local people, Holmes would have needed someone born in Essex or one of the neighbouring counties.

So much seems fairly certain; now let us move into what Holmes, in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, called "the region where we balance probabilities and choose the most likely." It would appear that as a young woman, Martha, like thousands of men and women before her, fled the limited opportunities of country life to seek something better in London. Having no luck, she fell into a criminal environment (again, like thousands before her) and found herself picking up bits of information that Holmes was willing to pay for. Perhaps she had a criminal career of her own and escaped from it with Holmes's help. He may have persuaded her to infiltrate a criminal gang and supply him with information from the inside; certainly the success she made of her later assignment suggests that she had had experience in that line. Holmes would have sought her out again in 1912, before departing on his pilgrimage to the United States and Ireland,

briefed her on her role, and planted her in Von Bork's household.

Admittedly these are surmises, but we submit that they are more firmly rooted in probability than Starrett's. It is even possible that her name was not really Martha ) that "Martha" was a code name, "a nom de plume, a mere identification mark," like Porlock in *The Valley of Fear*.<sup>23</sup>

In any case, the weight of evidence shows that Vincent Starrett's "Martha" Hudson is a myth, compounded of three different women. (To answer a possible objection, we freely admit that even without Starrett's assumptions, Mrs. Hudson's first name *might* have been Martha. It also *might* have been Mabel. Or Geraldine, or Henrietta, or Ermintrude.)



Although Starrett's theory seems never to have been challenged on this side of the Atlantic, some British scholars have come out against it. D. Martin Dakin writes that the identification of Mrs. Hudson with Martha "will not hold water for a moment," and counters it with arguments similar to some of those we have made above.<sup>24</sup> Michael Hardwick, as we shall see, began by accepting the Martha myth but later thought better of it. A paper by Ian Jopson called "A Note on Identity," which we have not been able to examine, is summarized thus by De Waal: "The housekeeper Holmes refers to as Old [sic] Martha is not Mrs. Hudson."<sup>25</sup>

But any serious attempt to discredit the Martha myth would certainly be fruitless. Starrett, carried away by his romantic imagination, has carried generations of Sherlockians away with him. "Martha" Hudson, landlady in London, housekeeper in Sussex, secret agent at Harwich ) has become an article of faith, one in which such eminent scholars as John Bennett Shaw,<sup>26</sup> Norman M. Davis, Lord Gore-Booth, and Belden Wigglesworth<sup>27</sup> have professed their belief.

To understand the depth to which Starrett's parsley has sunk into the Sherlockian butter, it is instructive to examine some of the Canonical reference works that have appeared over the years. De Waal's great bibliography lists a few to which we do not have access, but we can cite enough works to recognize certain patterns.

*Appointment in Baker Street*, a directory of Canonical personages compiled by Edgar W. Smith, was issued as a pamphlet in 1938<sup>28</sup> and

anthologized in Starrett's "221B"<sup>29</sup> in 1940. The entry for Mrs. Hudson<sup>30</sup> does not place her in "The Lion's Mane" or "His Last Bow," and the entry for Martha<sup>31</sup> makes no claim that she was Mrs. Hudson. (By 1944, Smith had become a believer. Introducing Starrett's "The Singular Adventures of Martha Hudson" in his anthology *Profile by Gaslight*, he agrees that Mrs. Hudson "served the master not only in the heyday of his fame, but also in the later and less eventful years of his retirement on the Sussex Downs."<sup>32</sup> And in 1949, he published a sonnet by Helene Yuhasova in which Mrs. Hudson is apostrophized as "Martha."<sup>33</sup>)

Starrett's theories received their first formal recognition in 1947, with the publication of "An Irregular Guide to Sherlock Holmes," by Jay Finley Christ.<sup>34</sup> This is a concordance keyed to the one-volume Garden City edition of the Canon,<sup>35</sup> which was then the standard version in the United States. The entries under "Hudson, Mrs."<sup>36</sup> include:

referred to as Martha (?) LAST 1151  
with Holmes in retirement LION 1277

And in a list of Canonical personages arranged by first name we find:  
Martha Hudson (inferred) LAST 1147<sup>37</sup>

Christ had plainly derived these ideas from Starrett, but he did not feel it necessary to mention that fact, presumably because Starrett's essay had been reprinted only three years earlier and because the body of Sherlockian literature was much smaller in 1947 than it has since become. Christ's tentative attitude toward the Martha myth, as illustrated by his "(?)" and "(inferred)," has not been imitated. The authors of subsequent reference works have (except in once instance: see note 53) either ignored the myth or embraced it without hesitation.

In 1962 there appeared Orlando Park's *Sherlock Holmes, Esq., and John H. Watson, M.D.: An Encyclopedia of Their Affairs*.<sup>38</sup> Despite the title, this was not an encyclopedia but a concordance, listing names and words, identifying the adventures in which they occur, and giving a few words to put them in context. It does not claim that Mrs. Hudson was Martha or list her as present in "The Lion's Mane" or "His Last Bow."

The same is true of two later works, Jack Tracy's *Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana* (1977)<sup>39</sup> and Harrington's *Canonical Index* (1988).<sup>40</sup> In his introduction to the former, Tracy states (rather pointedly, it might seem): "I have preferred to stay well on the conservative side and avoid making an identification if the evidence is not all but conclusive."<sup>41</sup> Harrington's work, a concordance keyed to the one- or two-volume Doubleday edition of the

Canon, likewise sticks to the text and makes no assumptions.

But Starrett's attractive and insidious speculations, after their first appearance in Christ's "Irregular Guide," continued to find their way into ostensibly factual works. The year of Park's concordance, 1962, saw the publication of *The Sherlock Holmes Companion*, by the British writers Michael and Mollie Hardwick.<sup>42</sup> In their "Who's Who" chapter the Hardwicks do not include Martha (the list is not meant to be complete), but they do claim that Mrs. Hudson took part in both "The Lion's Mane" and "His Last Bow."<sup>43</sup> (Michael Hardwick repudiated this stand in his *Complete Guide to Sherlock Holmes*,<sup>44</sup> which he published in 1986 after "a complete reappraisal of the canon."<sup>45</sup> The "Who's Who of Characters" in this later work does not posit Mrs. Hudson's presence in the two above adventures,<sup>46</sup> and the entry for Martha states, emphatically and without elaboration, "She is *not* Mrs. Hudson."<sup>47</sup>)

Impressive support for the Martha myth came in 1967 in William S. Baring-Gould's *Annotated Sherlock Holmes*.<sup>48</sup> Holmes's reference to "my old housekeeper" in "The Lion's Mane" carries this marginal note: "Her first name, as we learn in 'His Last Bow,' was Martha. Commentators have generally assumed that Holmes's housekeeper in retirement was Mrs. Hudson."<sup>49</sup> The first sentence represents an astonishing leap of faith, assuming, without reference to Starrett (without, indeed, any justification at all), that Holmes's housekeeper in Sussex in 1907 was Von Bork's housekeeper at Harwich in 1914. But, curiously, there is no corresponding marginal note in "His Last Bow" tying Martha to Holmes's housekeeper or to Mrs. Hudson.

The explanation of these anomalies may lie in the fact that Baring-Gould died while the *Annotated* was in the later stages of preparation. His extensive notes show a number of typographical errors, and it is possible that in other ways as well the work did not achieve the final form he desired. What is certain is that Baring-Gould derived the sentiments in the note we have quoted above from Starrett, and was prepared to give him credit. "The Singular Adventures of Martha Hudson" is duly listed in his bibliography.<sup>50</sup>

After Baring-Gould, the Martha myth lived on in Sherlockian reference works, but mention of Vincent Starrett ceased. Bullard and Collins, in their *Who's Who in Sherlock Holmes*, list Mrs. Hudson as HUDSON MRS. MARTHA.<sup>51</sup> Oddly, however, their MARTHA entry<sup>52</sup> makes no mention of Mrs. Hudson, and they claim no connection between Mrs. Hudson and the Sussex or Harwich adventures. William D. Goodrich's *Good Old Index*, another concordance, shows Mrs. Hudson as present in both "The Lion's Mane" and "His Last Bow," but offers no explanation.<sup>53</sup>

Both these approaches are significant. Goodrich appears to assume, like Jay Finley Christ before him, that Starrett's theories are so well known and so widely accepted that no explanation is necessary. Bullard and Collins, on the other hand, give the impression that they are unfamiliar with Starrett's writings, and are only referring to "Martha" Hudson because they have heard other Sherlockians do so.

These contrasting situations illustrate a single fact: the Martha myth has taken on a life of its own, independent of Starrett's original essay. "Martha" Hudson has achieved an eminence in the Sherlockian faith comparable to that occupied in the Christian religion by Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar. We hear of these "three kings of Orient" every year at Christmas time. They have been depicted on innumerable Christmas cards, riding their camels across the desert. They figure in several hymns and at least one opera, and they have been portrayed in Christmas pageants, with greater or lesser degrees of enthusiasm, by generations of elementary and Sunday School children. Yet they are mentioned only once in the Bible, and then merely as "wise men from the east"<sup>54</sup> who followed a star to Bethlehem, worshiped the infant Jesus, and "presented unto him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh."<sup>55</sup> The other colourful details ( the number three, the names, the royal rank, the camels, the desert ) are not Canonical; they are artistic elaborations that come under the heading of Christian tradition.

Similarly, although the Sherlockian Canon offers no basis for it, the notion of "Martha" Hudson, landlady, housekeeper, and counterspy, has moved from the writings of Vincent Starrett into the realm of Sherlockian tradition.

And not only Sherlockian tradition but Sherlockian liturgy: every January, on the morning of the Baker Street Irregulars dinner in New York, the Martha Hudson Memorial Breakfast is celebrated at the Algonquin Hotel.

So it appears certain that Vincent Starrett's "Martha" Hudson ( three women in one, the Sherlockian trinity ) will enjoy eternal life. We can only put the evidence against it on record and ask our readers to consider it fairly.

#### NOTES:

1. H. W. Bell, *Baker Street Studies* (London: Constable & Co., Ltd., 1934), pp. 87- 130.
2. Bell, p. 127.
3. Bell, p. 128.
4. Ronald B. De Waal, *The Universal Sherlock Holmes* (Toronto: Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library, 1994), Vol. 2, p. 556, item C9984-A3531.
5. *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Company,

- Inc., n.d.), p. 970. (This has been issued in both one- and two-volume editions. The pagination is the same in both editions.)
6. *Complete*, p. 1083.
  7. *Complete*, p. 1089.
  8. *Complete*, p. 932.
  9. *Ibid.*
  10. *Complete*, p. 974.
  11. *Ibid.*
  12. *Complete*, pp. 977-978.
  13. *Complete*, p. 1083.
  14. *Complete*, p. 869.
  15. *Complete*, p. 974.
  16. As Gilbert and Sullivan fanciers know: see the Lord Chancellor's song in Act II of *Iolanthe*.
  17. Much of the present author's understanding of Victorian life and attitudes was absorbed almost unconsciously while growing up in the 1930s in a working-class family of British origin. Although outwardly the Depression era was totally different from the Victorian age, it was of course only thirty-odd years removed from it ) much closer to the Victorian era than it is to ours ) and many Victorian attitudes were still in the air.
  18. *Complete*, pp. 970, 975.
  19. *Complete*, pp. 465-466.
  20. *Complete*, pp. 490, 493.
  21. *Complete*, pp. 171-172.
  22. *Complete*, p. 687.
  23. *Complete*, p. 769.
  24. D. Martin Dakin, *A Sherlock Holmes Commentary* (Newton Abbot: David & Charles, 1972), p. 246.
  25. De Waal, Vol. 2, p. 556, Item C9991-B1611.
  26. De Waal, Vol. 2, p. 556, Item C9982-A3528.
  27. De Waal, Vol. 2, pp. 556-557, Items C9989-B1609, C9990-B1610, and C9996-B1616, respectively.
  28. De Waal, Vol. 2, p. 690, Item C12217-A4267.
  29. Vincent Starrett, ed., *221B: Studies in Sherlock Holmes*, by Various Hands (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1940), pp. 142-243.
  30. *221B*, p. 184.
  31. *221B*, p. 193.
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  54. Matthew 2:1.
  55. Matthew 2:9-11.