

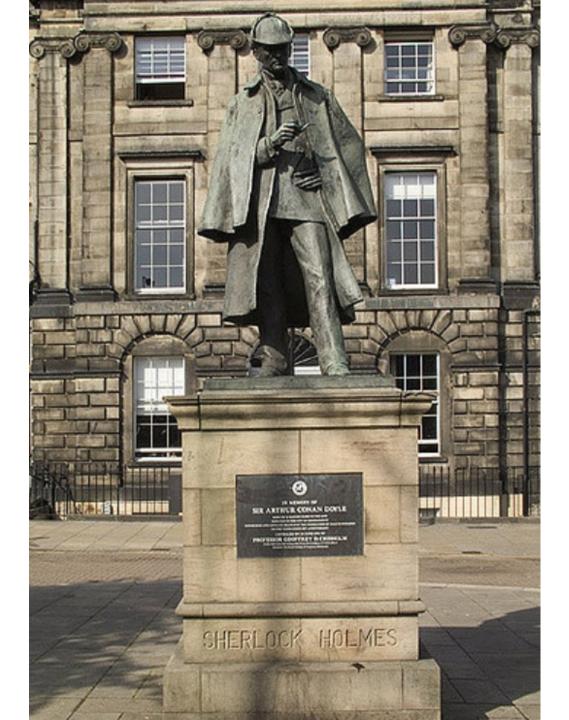
MR. PUNCH'S PERSONALITIES.

XII.—SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE.

YOUR own creation, that great sleuth Who spent his life in chasing Truth— How does he view your late defiance (O ARTHUR!) of the laws of Science? He disapproves your strange vagaries, Your spooks and photographs of fairies; And holds you foot-cuffed when you're fain To navigate the vast inane. We sympathise with *Holmes*; and yet In *Punch's* heart your name is set; Of every DOYLE he 's still a lover For DICKY'S sake, who did his cover.

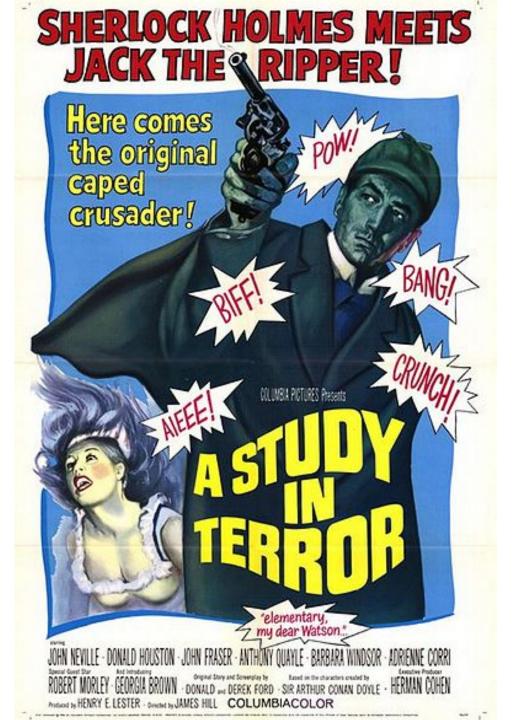
Janis Wilson and Christopher T. George

The Ripper,
Sherlock
Holmes,
and Sir Arthur
Conan Doyle



Sherlock Holmes
Versus Jack the Ripper:
A Titanic Battle,
Much Like Batman
Versus Superman?

Sherlock Holmes Statue in Edinburgh. (Source: Flickr)



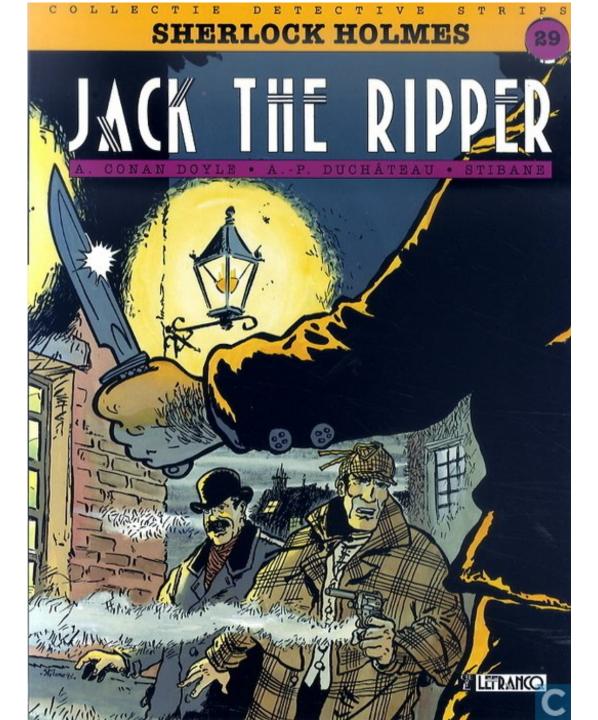
A Study in Terror, 1965, **Starring** John Neville as Sherlock **Holmes**

Murder by Decree, 1979, Starring **Christopher Plummer** as Sherlock Holmes



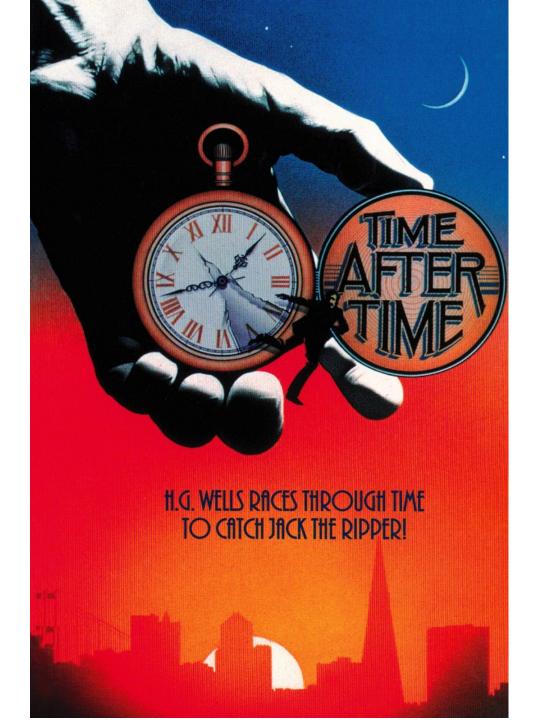
Still From Murder by Decree





Comic strip for a Sherlock **Holmes vs** Jack the Ripper tale.

(Source: ratatouilletv.blogspot.nl)





H. G. Wells versus the Ripper: Time After Time, 1979, starring Malcolm MacDowell as Wells and David Warner as Jack the Ripper

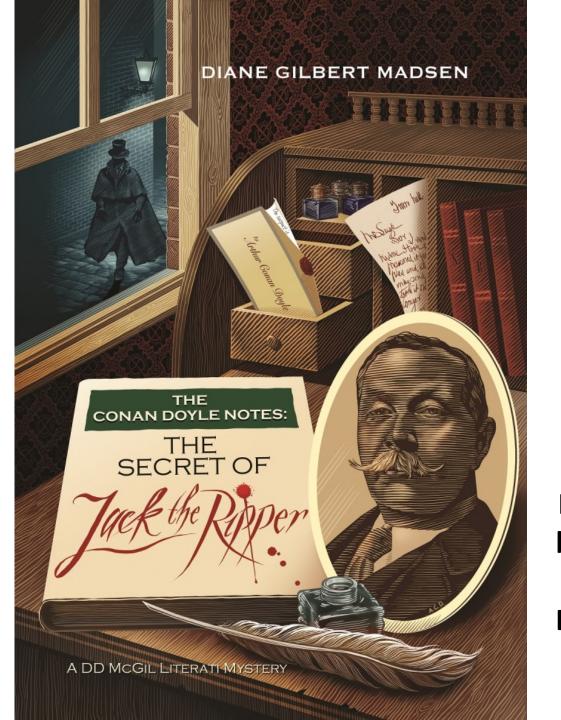
Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930) by Herbert Rose Barraud, 1893.





Sir Arthur Conan Doyle by Walter Benington, 1914.

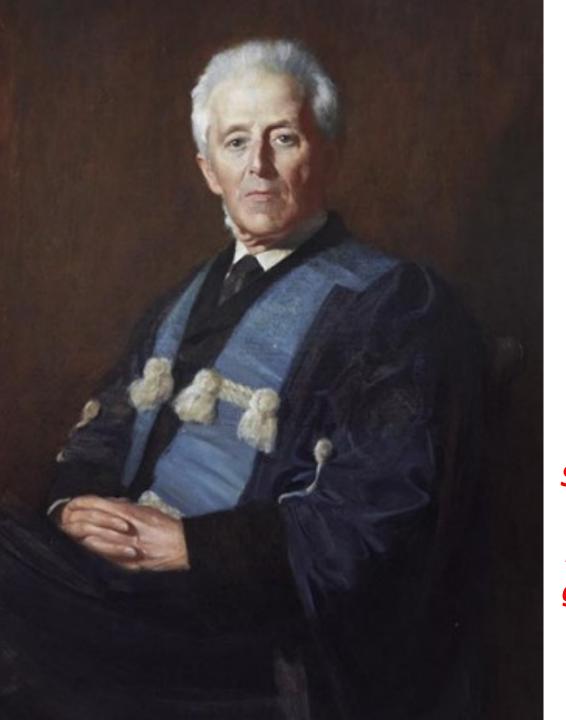
Doyle was knighted as a "Knight Bachelor" by King Edward VII on October 24, 1902. The knighthood was part of the King's Coronation Honors list announced June 26, 1902. Doyle believed the honor was **not** for creating Sherlock Holmes but because he'd written a short work titled The War in South Africa: Its Cause and Conduct (January 16, 1902) in which argued that Britain's cause in the Boer War was justified. Other reasons may be that Doyle served as a volunteer physician in South Africa, March to June 1900, and published *The Great Boer* War the same year. (Source: Wikipedia)



What did Doyle himself think about the Ripper Murders?

Did Arthur Conan
Doyle and "the Real
Sherlock Holmes"
solve the Jack the
Ripper mystery?

Fiction writer
Diane Gilbert Madsen
believes Doyle and his
mentor Dr. Joseph
Bell correctly deduced
the identity of the
Victorian serial killer.



Dr. Joseph Bell (1837-1911),
Scottish physician and mentor to Conan Doyle.

Bell was
apparently
Doyle's model for
Sherlock Holmes -or at least one of
his models for the
great Baker Street
sleuth.

Dr. Joseph Bell & Jack the Ripper,

Milwaukee

Journal, Oct 13,

1955

Tried to Catch Jack the Ripper

The sharp eyed doctor would escort his students through the outpatient department. Glancing at a newcomer, he would remark, "A cobbler, I see," and then point out to his audience that the inside of the man's trousers was worn from a cobbler's lapstone. Some of his observations were incorporated bodily into the Sherlock Holmes stories, such as the bit about deducing a person's previous whereabouts from the type of clay sticking to his shoes.

After the Holmes stories became popular, Dr. Bell even tried his hand at criminal detection, actually helping to convict one wife murderer. He also tried his hand in the classic "Jack the Ripper" affair in 1888, making an independent investigation.

From the suspects brought in, he made his choice of the murderer, checked it with a friend who had conducted an investigation of his own and found that both had picked the same man. Their findings were sent to Scotland Yard, and a week later the murders ended, although Jack the Ripperwas never arrested.

Also like Sherlock Holmes, he had little regard for the intelligence of the average policeman: "You cannot expect the ordinary policeman to stand eight hours on his legs and then develop a great mental strength." In addition, he had a sense of humor. When visitors begged him to give some example of his powers of deduction, he usually supplied the story of humorous miscalculation.

Right: Poet and erstwhile
Ripper Suspect J. K. Stephen,
Cambridge University
tutor to "Prince Eddy" aka
Albert Victor, the Duke of
Clarence and Avondale,
grandson of Queen Victoria
and son of "Bertie" who later
became Edward VII. Prince
Eddy is pictured below.







JACK THE RIPPER IN THE COUNTRYSIDE — A Jack the Ripper with skill in handling animals before he slashed.

"The First Sight I Had of Edalji Convinced Me of Improbability of His Guilt"

"The Great Wyrley Case"

(Copyright, 1949, by John Dickson Carr-From "The Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle," just published by Harper & Brothers, New York.)

Continued from the First Page

N STAFFORDSHIRE, from the potteries on the north to the mining districts on the south, they were trooping to work on that smoky August morning. The vilheaps and coal-tips.

The night before had been stormy, with heavy rain-squalls fordshire, Capt the Hon. George which began half an hour before Alexander Anson, kept a stolid face. midnight and ended at dawn. The field near the colliery, its yellow thought Black Men less than the beasts. Capt Anson believed ish-red soil a mixture of clay and that the culprit was none other sand, was slimy underfoot. A loop named Henry Garrett, on his way to work at 6:20 a. m., stum-bled over what had been done in the dover what had been done in

In a morass of blood, still alive, lay a pony belonging to the col-liery. The pony had been ripped up the belly with some very sharp blade. It had not been disembowelled; the cut, though sharp-slit, had not gone deeply enough. The pony moved freely, and blood still trickled from the

"Blood," young Henry Garrett testified, "was dropping pretty freely.

Meanwhile, he yelled for help. That yell brought a horde of other miners hurrying to see the pony. It also brought the police. Twenty constables and plain-clothes men, drawn from all districts, had been patrolling these lanes all night as they had been doing every night for some time. It was the eighth case of animal mutila-

Unless you apologise at once and by telegram for the outrageous hints you give in your sermons concerning my Chastity, I shall expose your adultery and rape.

* * *

Now this sort of thing might have case, the spots were not fresh. lage of Great Wyrley, less than been merely funny. But anonymous 20 miles from Birmingham, lay in malice is seldom funny to the man who experiences it. Under cover of an area partly agricultural and darkness, somebody strewed the partly mining. The Great Wyrley Edaljis' lawn with old spoons, old Colliery, whose morning shift be- knives, the refuse of dustbins. On gan at 6 o'clock, stood some dis-tance away amid fields and slag-from Walsall Grammar School, was left on the doorstep. And the ma-lignant amusement went on for

witness) had been in the house. The mary.



ported that the whitish and darkish stains on the coat were food-stains, with one possible exception. On the right-hand cuff were two spots, "each about the size of a threepenny-bit," which showed traces of mammalian blood. These might have come from a pony, or they might have been splashes from the gravy of underdone meat. In any

They arrested George Edalji late in the same day. They found him at his office in Birmingham, looking ill when they arrived. Edalji, conscious of his physical disabilities, felt himself penned in a corner. He was alternately sharp-tongued and

sunk in utter despair. "I'm not surprised at this," he cried on his way to the police station. "I have been expecting it for some time." These words were noted down and used at his trial as evidence of a guilty conscience.

"Will you give an account of your movements on the night of Aug. 17th, when the pony was mutilate

George Edalji's testimony, then age at a time when George (as his father's and mother's eyesight bore easily gathered together in a sum-

"I returned home to the vicarage from my office," he said, "at half-past six in the evening. I transacted some business at home. Then I walked along the main road to the bootmaker's at Bridgtown, and got there a little later than half-nast eight. I was then wearing a blue serge. coat." This was confirmed by John Hand the bootmaker. "My supper wouldn't be ready until half-past nine. So I walked round for a while. Several persons must have seen me. It had been raining during the day, though it was not

(And thus, noted Conan Doyle, accounting for the mud on the trous-er-legs and on the wet boots. It was the black mud of the roadway. Surely, they could make an ele-mentary distinction between the black mud of a village road and the yellowish-red soil, a mixture of sand and clay, in the fields roundabout?)

trumps, since the other evidence cattle-maiming. Mr. Gurrin was testimony had helped send an innocent man, Adolf Beck, to prison in 1896. In this case the jury found George

Edalji guilty. The layman-judge, emphatically denying that justice would have been served better by France. What did we have to say transferring the case to London out of a prejudiced area, then sentenced Edalji to seven years' penal "Lord have mercy on us!" cried

the prisoner's mother. That was late in October, 1903. It was true that there had been another case of horse-maiming while Edalji remained locked up awaiting trial, but counsel for the prosecution explained it as being more work of the "Wyrley gang" to con-fuse the issue over Edalji's guilt. In November arrived a further anonymous letter, and another horse was killed. Edalji had disappeared into prison, serving his time first at Lewes and then at Portland. As a last unsconscious stroke which would have pleased M. Anatole France, his prison work at Lewes was that of making parts for feed

Late in 1906, when he had served three years of his sentence, there was an occurrence as mysterious to him as any in the case. He was released from prison.

He was not pardoned.

Nobody told him why he was released.

He remained under police supervision, as a discharged convict.

His friends, headed by R. D. Yelverton, formerly Chief Justice of the Bahamas, had never ceased to urge the weakness of the evidence against him; at the time of his conviction, a petition to the Home Office for reconsideration was signed by 10,000 persons, including several hundred lawyers. The petition had no effect. Recently Mr. Yelverton had taken it up again, strongly aided by the magazine Truth. But the Home Office, whatever the reason for the action they took, offered no explanation. The gates of Portland clanged open: that was all.

what," asked the convict, "am I to do now?"

It was a bleak prospect "I

writing. Capt Dreyfus, in France, all abusive letters. had been made scapegoat because he was a Jew. Edalji, in England, had been made scapegoat because he was a Parsec. England, the home of liberty, had cried out in horror when such things happened in when it happened in our own

And what had been the attitude of the Home Office, under two administrations, when a legal authority like Mr. Yelverton presented evilong ag dence that Edalji had been wrongly asylum.

dwindled badly. Dr. Butter re-||the same authority whose expert | ity over a matter of forged hand- Edalji, Edalji, Edalji, Edalji, bad written carriage windows. At Walsall there | Home Secretary like poisoned darts.

The proof of what I tell you is in the writing he put in the papers when they loosed him out of prison where he ought to have been kept along with his dad and all black and yellow faced Jews. . . . Nobody could copy his writing like that, you blind fool.

* * * More than malice breathed out of it. This man, Conan Doyle had sea permanently, and was living in long ago decided, belonged in an the neighborhood of Great Wyrley sent to prison?
"Evidently," he wrote bitterly, pare them with specimens of all the each scrawl, so that he could com- on animals.

use a knife on animals.

At the end of December, '85, he was sent to sea as an apprentice. His ship (name of ship, captain and owner given) sailed from Liverpool. Early in 1903 he returned from the But he was eager to get during all the time of the attacks

Furthermore, for 10 months of the

professional man ruined by author- Always the joker screamed that his son cut the straps on railway of Commons, questions flew at the was one boy, Fred Brookes, with The Law Society, demonstrating the whom Peter Hudson had a bitter opinion of the legal profession, imnfeud; and this boy's family were mediately readmitted Edalji to the deluged with anonymous letters roll of solicitors with leave to prace during 1892-1895. After expulsion tice. The "Daily Telegraph" raised from school. Hudson was appren- a subscription of £300 for him. And ticed to a butcher, thus learning to Conan Doyle, with murder in his eyes, stalked into the Home Office.

"Do you maintain," he demanded. "that George Edalji is raving mad?" "There is no indication to that effect."

"Has there ever been any suggestion that he is mad?" "No, there has not."

"Then do you seriously suggest that he sent me seven violent letters threatening my life?"

"We can do no more than refer you to the committee's report, page six. 'These letters,' they state, 'can six. 'These letters,' they state, 'can have only a very remote bearing on whether Edalji was rightly convicted in 1903.' We regret that this must

It was not final! Again Conas Doyle charged into battle, first with Daily Telegraph articles called "Who Wrote the Letters?" and then with letters of his own through June to August, "I won't leave the job half-

He secured, by means best known to himself, specimens of Peter Hud-son's and John Hudson's handwrit-ing. These, with the anonymous letters, he submitted to Dr. Lindsay Johnson, Europe's foremost aubeen called by Maitre Labori in the Dreyfus trial. By means of in-ternal evidence, backed by Dr. Lindsay Johnson's verdict, he demon-strated that Peter Hudson was the principal author and John Hudson

the secondary author.
Officially, this did not matter. The authorities, sticking together, an-nounced blandly that there was no case against Peter Hudson either as writer or cattle maimer; and there could be no further investigation. It is only necessary to add that the merry joker, when Edalji had long been forgotten, was still writing an occasional mad threat in the Midlands in the year 1913.

* * *

But church music, the organ roll and the babble of excited voices, drown out that ugly story now. On Sept. 18, 1907, like a red carpet in the Hotel Metropole, the press un-





The Crazy Female Slaughterhouse Worker Theory (Autumn 1889)

Rochester Democrat And Chronicle September 21, 1889

Accounting for the Murders.

LONDON, Sept. 20. - Lawson Tait, the eminent gynecologist, to-day said he was of the opinion that the Whitechapel, Chelsea and Battersea murders were committed by the same criminal, probably a lunatic woman employed in a slaughter house and subject to fits of epileptic furor.

Gynecologic Surgeon Lawson Tait (1845-1899)



THE WHITECHAPEL MURDER. STRANGE SUGGESTION BY A SPECIALIST.

Dr. Lawson Tait, the eminent specialist of Birmingham, has been interviewed regarding Dr. Forbes Winslow's theory on the Whitechapel crimes. "My opinion is," he said. "the police fault lies at the beginning. Their investigations, I suggest, have been blocked by the question of sex. Looking at the subject as a surgeon, the first conclusion is that the whole murders in Whitechapel, Battersea, and Chelsea are the work of one and the same individual time. Yet the thing would be perfectly easy for Secondly, the crimes are the work of a lunatic; a woman. All she has to do is to roll up her the absolute motivelessness of the whole busi skirt to the waist, leaving her petticoats, and ness shows this. Then the operator must have been a person accustomed to use a sharp knife upon meat. The work was done by no surgeon : a surgeon cuts in a kind of way. The murderer in these cases has worked in a free, slashing manner. The criminal must have been a butcher, and a London butcher. The cuts would have been male quite differently if the operator had hailed from Dublin or Edinburgh. What ought the police to do? They should find out what licensed slaughter-houses are in the neighbourhood, who are in charge of them, what persons (male or female) have access to the slaughterhouses after workmen go home. Slaughterhouses are about the only spots in which the work could be done with any great probability of non-discovery. Could not the criminal there kill and cut up the victim, putting the remains in a cloth and disposing of them at leisure? The

police are accustomed to meet slaughter-house men with bundles of tripe and offal going to and fro constantly. On Tuesday fashion. Having sht the calf's neck, the next trict where the remains have been found, bottom of the abdomen, and lay aside the various and to me nothing is more likely than that organs in the very fashion reported at the in-"Jack the Ripper" is some big strong woman quests as having been done. There is scarcely engaged at a slaughter house in cleaning up, and now and then in actually cutting up meat. In a number of instances the women, when found, were hardly dead. The police promptly made a circuit round the neighbourhood; no man was arrested, but they did not look for a woman. It must be clearly understood that whoever was the and the corners of the slaughter-houses. Then criminal would be thoroughly splashed with blood. A man who thus besmeared himself the criminal is not a skilful butcher, nor likely could not possibly have got clear away in the fold up the shawl that is over her shoulders and tucked in at her middle: then she might pass through a crowd with the very slightest risk of detection. As to washing the blood-dyed garments, what would a man do? Plauge them into hot water, with the result that the blood coagulates, won't come off, and stains the clothes. And where is he to get hot water, or how is he to pour away the bloody water undetected? A woman is always at the washing, and she would put the clothes in cold water, when, with a little scap and rubbing, they would become clean, practically unstained, and she would go unsuspected. An important point is to be noted in connection with what has been termed the fiendish discmbowelling of bodies. and with reference to the particular place a; which the incisions have been begun. It is no wild slashing done without method by a novice. Having cut the victim's throat from behind with all the force and completeness which the position would render possible. the operator simply by an act of unconscious cerebration goes to work in regular butcher

I got a cab and went through the dis thing to be done is to make an incision at the any place but the claughter house where the cutting up could be done without leaving evidences of the crime. Hair is one of the most useful matters in the detection of crime. woman murdered had her hair cut through. Now there must be some of that hair in the gratings there must be bits of cartilege, Why? Because to be in regular employment. He hacks right through with his sharp knife. Those little hits of hacked cartilege, on microscopic examination. would prove human.

> Northeastern Gazette Sept 21, 1889

It looks as if Tait is including the torso murders as well, going by the *Birmingham Daily Post* story of September 21, 1889 in which he mentions that "the whole murders in Whitechapel, Battersea and Chelsea are the work of one and the same individual."

It would appear to me that it might be easier to conclude that the torso murders were the work of a butcher, perhaps, than those of the Ripper. Although, as we have noted, why he would favor a London butcher over any other, or a woman butcher over a male butcher is a mystery, particularly when he admitted that he had not seen the bodies.

Christopher T. George, JtRForums Com, April 27, 2013

