SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE: A COLLECTION
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

A Collection of approximately 400 items, formerly the property of noted Sherlockian Book Collector John Ruyle of Berkeley, California.

Significant items and approximate value:

1. **THE CROWBOROUGH EDITION OF THE WORKS OF ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE.** Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Doran & Company. 1930. 24 volumes, complete. 700 copies printed, this being number 247, Signed by Doyle on the limitation leaf. Fine set. Prospectus and sample page laid into Volume One. A note from James Pepper on a small slip states that this was the Publisher’s File copy. $5000.00


4. **A STUDY IN SCARLET.** New York: United States Book Company. No Date [1892]. Second American edition. Pictorial wrappers. Issued as No. 29 in Lovell’s Detective Series (25¢]. Paper browned & with a few small chips to front endpaper, light soiling, very good copy. Rare, not listed in any bibliography. $750.00

5. **A STUDY IN SCARLET.** London: Ward, Lock & Bowden, 1893. A New Edition, With a Note on Sherlock Holmes by Dr. Joseph Bell. Three-quarter beige cloth lettered in red, red cloth spine designed and lettered in gilt. Forty Illustrations by Geo. Hutchinson. Top edge gilt. Floral patterned end papers. The first edition to contain the Note on Sherlock Holmes by Bell. Modest wear to spine & edges, some bubbling of cloth, a very good copy. $250.00

6. **A STUDY IN SCARLET.** Centenary Facsimile of the 1887 Beeton’s Christmas Annual. London: Ward Lock & Co. 1987. 550 numbered copies printed, this being number 35. Fine in wraps & slipcase. $200.00


13. **THE CAPTAIN OF THE POLESTAR And Other Tales.** London: Longman’s, Green, and Co. 1890. First edition, first issue. Original dark green cloth over bevelled boards. 750 copies printed. Spine rebacked with original cloth laid down, somewhat grubby; a good copy only. $250.00

14. **THE CAPTAIN OF THE POLESTAR And Other Tales.** London: Longman’s, Green, and Co. 1890. First edition, second issue (with the ad catalogue dated March 1890 that lists MICAH CLARKE plus this title for Doyle on its p. 12). Original dark green cloth over bevelled boards. Issued the same month as the first printing, this edition was also 750 copies. Very good bright copy. $500.00


16. **THE CAPTAIN OF THE “POLE-STAR”.** New York, Chicago & London: F. Tennyson Neely. No Date [1899]. First separate edition. Red cloth titled and decorated in silver and black. Issued as No 20 in Neeley’s Booklet Series. 23 pp ads at rear, which are heavily marked and annotated in pen by Stuart Teitler of Kaleidoscope Books, who used this copy for a checklist of Neely Books and here makes notes as to which titles are fantasy, lost race, etc. Other than this, a very good bright copy. $100.00
Items #6, 7, 4 and 5
Items # 2, 3, 10 & 12

18. **THE FIRM OF GIRDLESTONE. A Romance of the Unromantic.** New York: John W. Lovell Company, 150 Worth Street. [1889] [i.e., 1890]. First American edition. Issued as No. 65 in “Lovell’s International Series”. Brown cloth decorated in black, blocked in gilt on spine, floral endpapers. The binding reads “Oxford Edition”. Green & Gibson state that “no copies have been seen of this edition”, and go on to say “it is likely that there were three issues” – the first in March 1890 by Frank F. Lovell, the second (as here) by John W. Lovell, and the third by the United States Book Company, which took over Lovell in July, 1890. A very good bright copy with a small ticket from “Chas. Colby General Merchandise” of Colebrook, NH on the upper corner of the inner front cover. The first American edition of the first novel written by Doyle. $650.00


20. **THE SIGN OF THE FOUR; Or, The Problem of the Sholtos.** New York: United States Book Company, 5 and 7 East Sixteenth Street / Chicago: 266 & 268 Wabash Avenue. No Date [1893]. Early American edition. Blue cloth titled in gilt on spine and front panel, upper cover decorated in black. Includes “A Scandal In Bohemia” and “A Case of Identity”. This issue has the Lovell, Coryell Company imprint at base of spine panel. De Waal 755 (not noting the spine imprint). The United States Book Company was formed in 1890 and was bankrupt by the end of 1893. Very good bright copy. $350.00


23. **THE SIGN OF THE FOUR and A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA.** Chicago: E.A. Weeks & Company. 1894. Pictorial wrappers, ads at rear. Issued as No. 41 in The Marguerite Series. Some soiling to wrappers, very good. $200.00
24. **THE DOINGS OF RAFFLES HAW.** London: Cassell and Company. 1892. First edition. Dark blue cloth titled in gilt on spine. 2,000 copies printed. $400.00

25. **MY FRIEND THE MURDERER And Other Mysteries and Adventures.** New York: Lovell, Coryell & Company, 5 and 7 East Sixteenth Street. No Date [1893]. First American edition, and the first edition of this collection. A repackaging of MYSTERIES AND ADVENTURES (1889), but altogether a different collection of twelve stories. Five of the stories are here first collected, the remaining seven are here first printed in America. A very good bright copy. $250.00


28. **THE GREAT SHADOW and BEYOND THE CITY.** With Illustrations by James Greig and Paul Hardy. Bristol: Arrowsmith, [1893]. First combined edition. Orange cloth designed and lettered in blue, black and gilt. Bookplate on front end paper. Inner hinges renewed with white paper strips, old stain to upper corner of a few leaves, in general a bright very good copy. $200.00

29. **THE GREAT KEINPLATZ EXPERIMENT And Other Stories.** Chicago and New York: Rand, McNally & Company. No Date [1894]. Likely the first edition of this collection. Green cloth lettered in gilt, decorated in gilt and black. Four plates. Collects seven stories from THE CAPTAIN OF THE POLESTAR AND OTHER TALES [1890]. Bookplate, a bright, near fine copy. $200.00


31. **ROUND THE RED LAMP, Being Facts and Fancies of Medical Life.** London: Metheun & Co. 1894. Red cloth. Small bumps, slight spine lean, very good. $300.00

32. **THE PARASITE.** Westminster: A. Constable & Co. 1894. First UK edition. Blue cloth gilt. Very nice copy. Plus a copy in the original printed green wrappers (chipped), and two later issues (one in sensational pictorial cloth). $750.00


Items # 9, 14, 17 and 21
Items # 26, 30, 34 and 37
35. **UNCLE BERNAC. A Memory of the Empire.** London and Bombay: George Bell and Sons. 1897. First Colonial edition. Peach cloth. Fine bright copy. $400.00


37. **THE TRAGEDY OF THE KOROSKO.** With Forty Illustrations. London: George Bell and Sons. 1898. First Colonial edition, Canadian issue: Bound in blue cloth titled in gilt and decorated in black, “The Copp Clark Co.” imprint on spine and base of front panel, publisher’s monogram in blind on rear cover. Near fine copy. 12,500 copies of the regular Colonial issue were published, but very few copies would have been issued in this Canadian binding. $500.00


39. **THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES. Another Adventure of Sherlock Holmes.** London: George Newnes. 1902. Pictorial red cloth. Slight spine fade, a bright, clean copy, very good. $275.00


41. **ADVENTURES OF GERARD.** London and Bombay: Longman’s, Green, and Co. 1903. Colonial edition. Decorated gray-green cloth. Very good copy. $150.00

42. **THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.** Illustrated by Charles Raymond Macauley. New York: McClure, Phillips & Co. 1905. The true first edition, preceding the UK edition by a month. Pictorial black cloth titled and decorated in yellow and red. Extremely mild rubbing in one or two spots, bookplate, but essentially a fine bright copy. Very scarce in this condition, the yellow blocking tends to be extremely perishable. $650.00

43. **THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.** Illustrated by Sidney Paget. London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1908. “New Edition”, i.e., likely sheets of the first edition (Newnes, 1905), reissued under the Smith, elder imprint. Newnes withdrew from book publishing in 1906, retaining only the sixpenny editions. Green & Gibson note that the residue of the sheets for THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES were transferred to Smith, Elder and Co, who issued 3,356 copies with a new title page, dated 1907, same covers, imprint altered on the spine. This appears to be the same sheets, dated 1908 (no mention in G & G). Red cloth, gilt. Neatly rebacked, original cloth laid down, new endpapers; very good. $250.00


46. **ROUND THE FIRE STORIES. With a Frontispiece by A. Castaigne.** London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1908. Fine copy, enclosed in a folding solander case with leather spine. $650.00

47. **THE LOST WORLD. Being an Account of the Recent Amazing Adventures of Professor George E. Challenger, Lord John Roxton, Professor Summerlee, and Mr. E.D. Malone of the "Daily Gazette".** London: Hodder & Stoughton. No Date [1912]. First edition. Blue cloth titled in white & gold, pictorial image of Professor Challenger in gilt on front panel. Very good copy. $500.00

48. **THE LOST WORLD. Being an Account of the Recent Amazing Adventures of Professor George E. Challenger, Lord John Roxton, Professor Summerlee, and Mr. E.D. Malone of the "Daily Gazette".** London: Hodder & Stoughton. No Date [1912]. First edition, Colonial issue. Pictorial wrappers. The Colonial edition was issued the same date as the first English edition, 15 Oct 1912. Regular copies of the Colonial edition are in red cloth. The Colonial edition was also available in soft covers – light orange paper covers titled in black, upper cover using the dust jacket of the cloth edition as pictorial cover, lower cover with advertisement for The Women’s Economical Series. According to Green & Gibson, the only copies seen have ‘SECOND EDITION’ on title page, the present example is definitely the First Edition, and is the only copy of this edition seen in this binding. Small, contemporary bookstore stamp imprinted in blind on front endpaper “NSW Bookshop”. Bookplate, mild foxing & slight rubbing, a near-fine copy. Rare, possibly unique. Certainly, no copy in dust jacket of the first edition has appeared at auction in the past 25 years, and there is no other known copy of a first printing in pictorial paper wrappers. $12,500.00


50. **ORIGINAL ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES.** New York: Fenno, [1903]. Special Limited Edition. Light green cloth, front cover designed and lettered in dark green, gilt and white; spine lettered in white. Frontispiece & nine plates, all illustrations of scenes from the Gillette stage play. At least two bindings of this edition exist; this is the variety with the Art Nouveau floral design on the front cover, the flowers in white and gilt. Slight bubbling of cloth, a clean and attractive copy. $225.00


Items # 38, 39, 42 and 46
and one plate by Harry Rountree. Cloth rubbed at edges, some spotting of covers, foxing of some leaves, a very good copy. 300.00


56. **THE VALLEY OF FEAR. A Sherlock Holmes Novel.** Illustrated by Arthur I. Keller. New York: Doran, (1914) [actually 1915]. First American edition. Red cloth ruled and lettered in gilt. Light edge wear. Small bookplate on front end paper and larger bookplate on half-title leaf; a bright very good copy, better than usual. $400.00


58. **THE GUARDS CAME THROUGH and Other Poems.** Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, [1919]. First Canadian edition. Red wrappers ruled and lettered in black. A clean copy, about fine. Only about 250 copies of this Canadian edition were produced. $350.00


copy, nearly fine, in a bright very good dust jacket, slightly worn at edges and with a few short closed tears. $350.00

63. THE GREAT KEINPLATZ EXPERIMENT And Other Tales of Twilight and the Unseen. New York: Doran. [1925]. First edition of this collection. The correct first printing, red simulated leatherette cloth titled in gilt, publisher’s monogram on copyright page. Fine in dust jacket, one small chip at spine head. $250.00

64. THE CROXLEY MASTER And Other Tales of the Ring and Camp. New York: Doran. [1925]. First edition of this collection. The correct first printing, red simulated leatherette cloth titled in gilt, publisher’s monogram on copyright page. $250.00

65. THE LAST OF THE LEGIONS And Other Tales of Long Ago. New York: Doran. [1925]. First edition of this collection. The correct first printing, red simulated leatherette cloth titled in gilt, publisher’s monogram on copyright page. Fine in slightly rubbed dust jacket, a few small chips. $250.00

66. THE MAN FROM ARCHANGEL And Other Tales of Adventure. New York: Doran. [1925]. First edition of this collection. The correct first printing, red simulated leatherette cloth titled in gilt, publisher’s monogram on copyright page. Fine in dust jacket. $250.00

67. THE DEALINGS OF CAPTAIN SHARKEY And Other Tales of Pirates. New York: Doran. [1925]. First edition of this collection. The correct first printing, red simulated leatherette cloth titled in gilt, publisher’s monogram on copyright page. Fine in dust jacket. $250.00


70. THE LAND OF MIST. New York: George H. Doran Company. [1926]. First American edition. Light green cloth lettered in dark green. Small spots to rear panel, a nice bright clean copy. $250.00

71. THE CASE-BOOK OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. London: John Murray. [1927]. First edition. Ink name, endpapers brown, spine a bit tanned; a very good bright copy. $750.00

72. THE CASE BOOK OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. New York: George H. Doran Company. [1927]. First American edition. First printing, with the publisher’s monogram on the copyright page. Brown cloth titled in red. Bookplate, minor dust soiling, a very good copy in dust jacket. The dust jacket has been sectioned and slightly trimmed, but all parts – front & rear panels,
Items # 63, 65, 66 and 67
spine & flaps, are present. The jacket is the first issue, with no reviews on the rear panel. $750.00

73. **THE MARACOT DEEP And Other Stories.** London: John Murray. [1929]. First edition. Red cloth lettered in gilt. Minor dust soiling & small spots to cloth, a very good copy. $250.00

74. **THE MARACOT DEEP And Other Stories.** London: John Murray. [1929]. First edition, Colonial issue. Gray cloth titled and bordered in black. 7,970 copies of the Domestic issue were printed, this Colonial issue was only 2,500 copies. Glue marks to endpapers, very good copy in the original colour pictorial dust jacket. The jacket has been sectioned, slightly trimmed and mounted on stiff white paper, all parts are present – front & rear panel, both flaps & the spine. $750.00

75. **THE STRAND MAGAZINE.** 1891 – 1919. Complete in 57 volumes, plus 5 later issues from 1920-1923, as well as the year 1897 complete in individual issues in pictorial wrappers. Most volumes are in the full “Strand Library” blue pictorial cloth. Contains the first appearance in print of THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, THE LOST WORLD, etc., etc., etc. Nice set. $3000.00

Plus circa 250 additional items, being variant printings, early reprints, modern editions, etc, etc, etc. John Ruyle was a fastidious collector, a noted Sherlockian with a discerning eye for the rare and obscure, and this is an exemplary bibliographically-oriented collection. While lacking a few major highspots – the 1887 BEETON’S CHRISTMAS ANNUAL, for example – it is a vast and comprehensive collection of Doyle’s work, and contains a great many rarities in their own right.

**THE PRICE OF THE COLLECTION: $50,000.00**

Thompson Rare Books
5275 Jerow Road
Hornby Island, British Columbia
Canada V0R 1Z0
Ph: 250-335-1182
THE PARASITE. Westminster: Archibald Constable and Co. 1898. First edition, variant edition and binding. Yellow pictorial cloth with an image of a dragon on upper cover in red and black. Green & Gibson A17a.11, calling it a “second impression”; but they had not seen a copy and are incorrect – these are the first edition sheets, with a tipped in title page dated 1898. Likely precedes G & G A17a.i. Certainly, the scarcest binding issue. Minor dust soiling, a very good bright copy. See item #32.