



Communication

#217

New Series

November/December, 2001

Volume 5 Issue 9

It's hard to believe that yet another year has come and is almost gone. And what a year it's been! The events of September 11th brought new meaning to the phrase, "You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive," and more than ever many of us have needed to escape to that world where it is always 1895. We wish you a peaceful holiday season and a joyful new year. Many of us need to renew at the end of the year, so don't forget that! In fact, put it on your Santa list for your loved ones to give you. We promise to be a gift that keeps on giving (10 issues throughout the year!). May all your bull pups be housebroken,

The Papers on the Sundial

▲▲▲▲▲
HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS
 ▲ If you're in the Clearwater
 ▲ Countryside area, don't forget to
 ▲ attend the December 4 showing of the
 ▲ 1939 *Hound of the Baskervilles*
 ▲ (Rathbone/Bruce) at the Countryside
 ▲ Branch of the Clearwater Library at
 ▲ 2pm. Member Dave Stoner is planning
 ▲ a few other Holmesian activities to go
 ▲ along with the film - maybe slides, a
 ▲ small discussion, a quiz... Drop in and
 ▲ support an interest in things
 ▲ Sherlockian! SR580 east of the mall.
 ▲ Call 669-1290 if you need directions.
 ▲▲▲▲▲

P.P. of F. Calendar

January 19, 2002

The Fifth Annual Sherlock's Sunshine State Birthday Celebration
 Jesse's Dockside
 Dunedin, FL

Hosts: Wanda & Jeff Dow

February 16, 2002

Wessex Cup XII

Tampa Bay Downs

Host: David McCallister

April 13

(tentative date)

27th Annual Spring Gathering
 Need Host volunteer, preferably in South Pinellas or Sarasota County.

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A page from *A DISNEY AFTERNOON* coloring book.

Sherlockain Limericks

by Charles Michael Carroll

Take a lesson from Balck Peter
Carey,
Of old ship-mates who visit, be
wary.
Don't store harpoons and such
On the walls of your hutch
In a quantity unnecessary.

Then there's Hudson, who's part
of the plot
Of the hapless bark Gloria Scott.
Because Hudson told all
Trevor Senior did fall;
They and Beddoes were all a bad
lot!

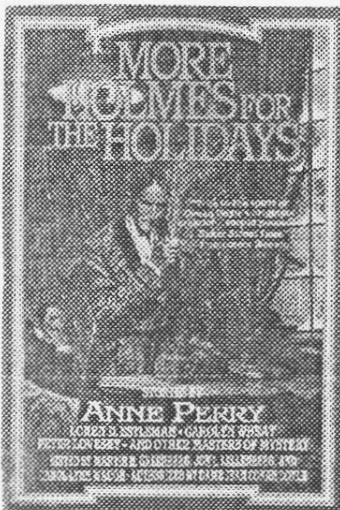
Holmes called it the Valley of
Fear;
The doings there were a bit
queer,
Till the Pinkerton man
Put the crooks in the can,
Said, "Let's have law and order,
right here."

"I know there is not means to say
Why none matches her suave
détaché.
She's a real barracuda,
That Norman-Neruda;
There's no fiddler like Lady
Halle."
"Her attack and her bow! Can I
say?
"She exceeds everyone of our
day!
"That small piece by Chopin
"Shows her superb elan.
"How's it go? Tra-la-la-lira-lay."

Ah, though some play the violin
with verve,
As an irritant oft it will serve.
We agree, yes, you betto,
With good Count Negretto;
"Confound it, it gets on my
nerve."

Dr. Mortimer looked all
around,
Saw some traces quite near on
the ground.
They were not made by foot
Or by Baskerville boot;
They were prints of a gigantic
hound!

"A more docile fold could not
be sought."
So Von Bork, giving Herling
his thought.
But their keen espionage
Turned out purely garbage;
Thanks to Altamont, all came
to nought.



All single-library cities now have a copy of the DK *Hound* thanks to donations made by generous members! The main libraries of Clearwater and St. Petersburg each have copies, but we are still working on getting copies to the branches of those two cities. So don't forget to include a couple of extra dollars to the Marshall/Wood Fund (if you can) when you make reservations for Wessex XII or the Fifth Birthday Bash.



FLORIDA WESEX CUP XII

Please note the
change of date


for the Wessex Cup! It is now
FEBRUARY 16.

While we will still be meeting
at Tampa Bay Downs in
Oldsmar, we will now be on the
second floor.

Cost of the event includes
Clubhouse admission, racing
program, PPoF program, tax
and gratuity. Parking,
additional tips, wagering and
drinks are on your own.

Everyone is welcome - even
non- or neo-Sherlockians.
Contact David McCallister,

for more
information.

Remember back in #214 the comic
book that Tom Takach sent? Well,
here's another installment. 

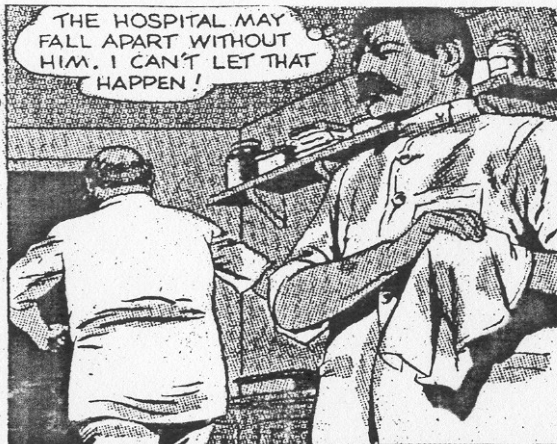
MANY DOCTORS FALL ILL. THE CHIEF SURGEON DECIDES TO LEAVE.

I CAN'T STAND THIS EPIDEMIC AND THE FILTH AND FLIES. I'M GOING HOME TO ENGLAND AT ONCE.

BUT YOU'RE THE HEAD DOCTOR HERE!



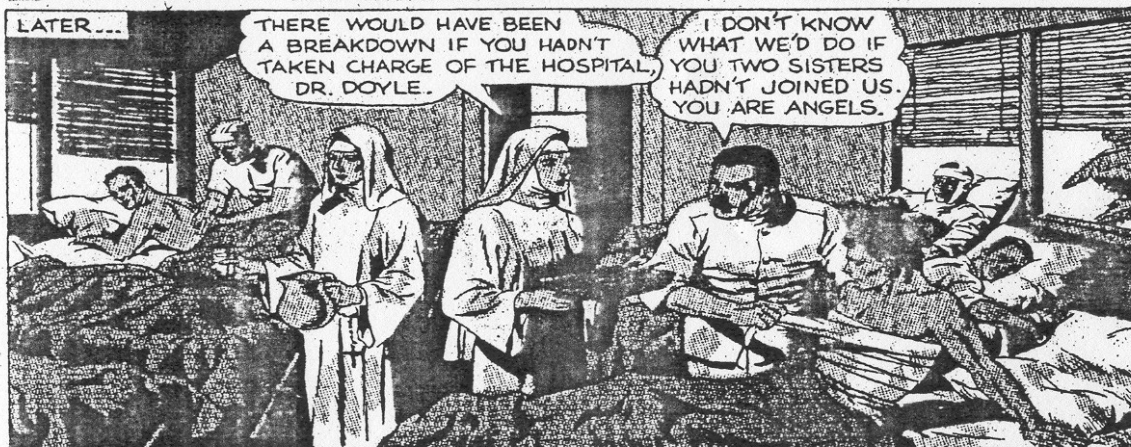
THE HOSPITAL MAY FALL APART WITHOUT HIM. I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!



LATER ...

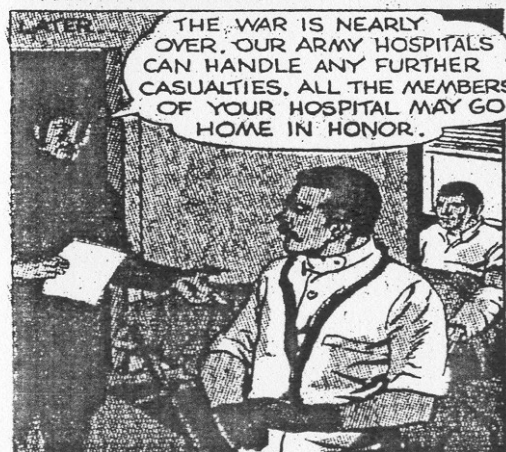
THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A BREAKDOWN IF YOU HADN'T TAKEN CHARGE OF THE HOSPITAL, DR. DOYLE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'D DO IF YOU TWO SISTERS HADN'T JOINED US. YOU ARE ANGELS.



LATER

THE WAR IS NEARLY OVER. OUR ARMY HOSPITALS CAN HANDLE ANY FURTHER CASUALTIES. ALL THE MEMBERS OF YOUR HOSPITAL MAY GO HOME IN HONOR.



DOYLE RETURNS TO HIS WRITING

THIS SETTING IS PERFECT FOR MY NEXT SHERLOCK HOLMES BOOK. THAT LEGEND YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THE GHOST HOUND GIVES ME AN INSPIRATION FOR THE PLOT.



HATS OFF TO RONDO

by David McCallister

On October 18, Rondo Hatton was recognized as a charter member of the Hillsborough High School Football Hall of Fame. Mr. Hatton played on the Terrier teams of 1913-14, and went on to play semi-profession baseball and football. He is remembered among Sherlock-ians as the actor who was Basil Rathbone's adversary in the *Pearl of Death*: The Hoxton Creeper. Mr. Hatton also played The Creeper in other non-Sherlockian movies, and was on the way to becoming a unique and popular character for Universal Pictures. Universal even filmed a semi-autobiographical movie about his life, high school football hero becomes disfigured movie star, titled *Horror Show*. Unfortunately, he died before his career developed further. His oeuvre has a curiously persistent cult following. Echoes and images of Mr. Hatton as the Creeper regularly appear in pop culture. *Cult Movies* magazine uses his face as a logo. There is a rock band named the Hoxton Creepers. Even the children's mystery cartoon *Scooby Doo* has The Creeper as a regular monster figure. Mr. Robert Burns of Texas, the world's foremost expert on Mr. Hatton attended the ceremony to accept the plaque on behalf of Mr. Hatton.

HE'S EVERYWHERE...

The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Bert Coule's scripts, have been recorded by BBC Radio 4 for broadcast in January and February, 2002. Holmes is again played by Clive Merrison, but we have a new Watson in Andrew Sachs. Sachs played Manuel in *Fawcety Towers*, but don't expect a Nigel Bruce Watson from him. He is a fine actor and has portrayed Father Brown as well as the King of Bohemia. Guest stars lined up are Jane Asher, Tom Baker, Eleanor Bron, Roy Hudd, Siobhan Redmond, Timothy West and Toyah Wilcox. Those of us "across the pond" can look for a BBC Worldwide release of 4 of the plays on cassette ... Richard Matthews reads *Teller of Tales: The Life of Arthur Conan Doyle* by Daniel Stashower on eleven 90-minute cassettes from Books on Tape, Box 7900, Newport Beach, CXA 92658 \$66 ... IMC Vision has released videos of the *Murder Room* series at £34 for the set ... *Bits and Pieces*, the puzzle catalog, offers a couple of 550-piece jigsaw puzzles, *The Watson Inheritance* and *The Case of the Fallen Actress* (anyone with prices & address please let us know so we can pass on the info) ... BSI Francine Swift has registered her new puppy with the American Kennel Club as "Corgi Glen's Hatty Doran" ... Dreamspinner Bed & Breakfast in Eustis, Florida offers a *Whodunit Weekend*. It's up to you to search out suspects and expose the real murderer. Join

in the madness and mayhem! This package includes a one night stay, double occupancy with afternoon tea, evening wine and cheese, dinner, and full breakfast for two, for \$325. Contact them for current schedules at 888-474-1229 in the US or email JEANO@DREAMSPINNER.NET ... In the world of music, an even earlier mention of Holmes has been found. Previously, we heard Sherlock Holmes mentioned in the lyrics of *Somebody Stole My Gal* by Fats Waller (Victor, 1935). Newly discovered by Sherlockian Ken Lanza is the recording *Dr. Watson and Mr. Holmes* by the Spirits of Rhythm (Decca, 1934). *Spermacetti Press* informs us that it is available on 2 CD sets: *Spirits of Rhythm 1933-1945* and *Spirits of Rhythm 1932-34* at \$17.95 each. Each offers a slightly different recording session.

BOOKS

Sherlock Holmes and the Apocalypse Murders - Is Jack the Ripper back? How does Oscar Wilde figure in Holmes' solution? This book by Barry Day captures "the flavor of Conan Doyle." US\$11.95 from Classic Specialties, PO Box 19058, Cincinnati, OH 45219. Still available by Day is *Sherlock Holmes and the Shakespeare Globe Murders* and *Sherlock Holmes and the Alice in Wonderland Murders*.

Starring (cont. on page 7)

Calendar Sherlockiana etal
2002

The Master's 148th Birthday

January 10 - 9am begins the festivities in New York with the annual *Christopher Morley Walk*, which ends with lunch at McSorley's.

Burt Coules will be the Distinguished Speaker of the BSI Lecture at the Williams Club, 24 East 39th St., NY, NY. Tickets are \$10 from Michael Whelan,

January 11 - 7-10am is the *Mrs. Hudson's Breakfast* (\$16) in the Oak Room at the Hotel Algonquin. Contact Mike Whelan. *The William Gillette Memorial Luncheon* (\$37) starts at noon at Moran's Chelsea Seafood Restaurant and Otto Penzler will hold his traditional open house at *The Mysterious Bookshop* from 11am - 5pm. Sherlockian authors will be on hand to autograph their works. The BSI will gather at 6pm at the Union League Club. The Clients of Adrian Mulliner will hold a *Junior Bloodstain* gathering at the Hotel Algonquin at 12:30pm Contact Anne Cotton, 12 Hollywood St., South Hadley, MA 01075.

The Baskerville Bash 2002 will be at 6:30pm at the Manhattan Club. If you are going to NYC for the weekend, and aren't going to "that other dinner," then you just might want to take in *The*

Bash. Good food, good entertainment, and good Sherlockian fellowship. If interested, please send \$75 for each participant to: P. J. Perry;

by
December 15, 2001. (Pssst! You don't have to be a BSI to get in!)

January 12 - The *BSI Annual Reception*, open to all Sherlockians and their friends, will be from 2:30-5:30pm at the National Arts Club (\$45) Contact Mike Whelan.

January 13 - The *Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes* will hold an informal brunch at 11:30am at the Baker Street restaurant. Contact Marina Stajic,

January 19 - The *Fifth Annual Sunshine Sherlockian Birthday Bash* of the Pleasant Places of Florida will be held at Jesse's Dockside Restaurant in Dunedin, Florida from 6:00pm until it's done. Contact hosts, Wanda & Jeff Dow,

or

February 16 - *Wessex Cup XII*, the Pleasant Places of Florida's answer to *Silver Blaze* will be held at Tampa Bay Downs in Oldsmar. Contact host, David McCallister at

February 16 - *AZ Murder Goes...Western* 9am-5pm, Ramada Valley Ho Resort, Scottsdale, AZ 85351. Bill Crider, Loren D. Estleman, Joe R. Lansdale, Elmore Leonard & Navajo Code Talker Samuel Smith. \$60 Call 888-560-9919 or email <karen@poisonedpen.com>

March 3-5 - *Malice Domestic XIV* at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA GOH: Edward Marston (Keith Miles). Toastmasters: Marty & Annette Meyers. Ghost: G.K. Chesterton. Lifetime Achievement: Tony Hillerman \$125 until 1/4/02, then \$135. Add \$50 if you want to go to the Agatha Awards Dinner. Write Malice,

March 15-17 - *Shuethfest* will be at the Hilton in Deerfield-Boca Raton, FL \$165 email

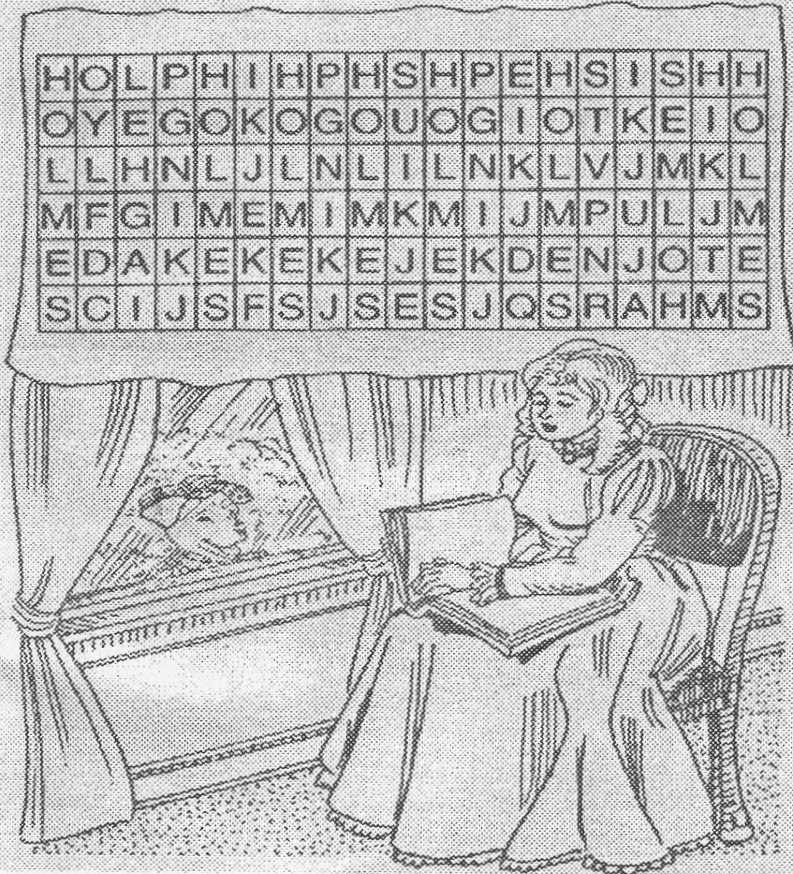
or call

Christine

March 21-24 - *LCC12* is having Laurie King as one of it's GOH. Doubletree Hotel, Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR. Also GOH: Steven Saylor, G.M.Ford as Toastmaster, Fan GOH, Don Herron, Publisher GOH Dennis McMillan. Cost was \$90 through 11/15, but we don't know what it is now. Contact LCC12.

April 13 - is the tentative date for The Pleasant Places of Florida's 27th Annual (cont. on page 6)

The king's old girlfriend wants to embarrass him with something from their past. Help Holmes discover what it is by filling in every square in the grid that has an H, O, L, M, E, or S in it. The shaded letters spell the answer.



(cont. from page 5) Places of Florida's 27th Annual Spring Gathering. Host, and therefore time & place, not yet set.
June 14-16 -*Bloody Words* will be held at the Delta Chelsea Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. GOH: Peter Robinson, Int'l Guest: Walter Mosley.

Go to <www.bloodywords.com> to find out more info.
September 27-29 - *Mid Atlantic Mystery 2002*, The Ninth Annual Mystery Book Fair & Convention where you can meet outstanding mystery authors, fans, editors and

even agents. Special guests are Jonathan Gash and Lisa Scottoline. \$140 pays for admission to facilities, panels (including a "How To Do It" seminar), private preview of book room, Friday night dinner & reception, Saturday breakfast & Sunday "wind-up." Send to MAM2002, c/o Society Hill Playhouse, 507 S. 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19147

October 17-20 - *Bouchercon 33* will be at the Renaissance Austin Hotel in Austin, TX. GOH: Mary Willis Walker. Toastmaster: Sparkle Hayter. Fan GOH: Bill Crider. Contact 2002 Bouchercon,

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL SHERLOCK'S SUNSHINE STATE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

(cont. from page 4) *Sherlock Holmes* by David Stuart Davies is the most comprehensive illustrated Silver Screen Sherlockian book published in a long time! Lots of info in this one, including commentaries, behind the scenes in films, tv series & radio, plus previously unpublished shots. Hardback US\$46.25 Get this one from Classic Specialties, too!

The True Crime Files of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle edited by Stephen Hines & Steven Womack. Doyles' letters to the press, books, trial transcripts & other contemporary papers make up this unique book. \$22.95 published by Berkley Prime Crime, Penguin Putnam, 375 Hudson St., NY, NY 10014.

Quoteable *Sherlock* compiled & edited by David W. Barber is available from Windsor Books International's Quotable Books series (The Boundary, Wheatley Rd., Garsington, Oxford OX44 9EJ U.K.) and may contain additional passages missing in Bruce Beaman's (out-of-print) *Sherlock Holmes Book of Quotations*.

A new comic book, *Sherlock Holmes and the Clown Prince of London* has

BRIDGE *St. Petersburg Times 10 29 01* submitted by David McCallister

By FRANK STEWART

"You never cease to amaze me, Holmes," Dr. Watson marveled. "I don't see how you knew which defender had the ace of clubs."

"Nor do I," Professor Moriarty grumbled.

"I didn't, Watson," Sherlock Holmes said dryly. "I knew only that I wished to make the contract."

Moriarty had led the jack of diamonds at Trick Two, and Holmes played low from dummy and ruffed in his hand. The sleuth next led a trump to dummy and returned a low club.

If East ducked, Holmes would take the jack, lead a trump to dummy, pitch his last club on the king of diamonds and lose in all two hearts and a diamond. When instead East took the ace of clubs, he had to lead a heart next since declarer had 10 winners available. Holmes played low, and when Moriarty won with the ace, the contract was safe.

"Good guessing, Holmes," Watson observed. "If instead you start the clubs by leading low from your hand, playing West for the ace, East captures one of dummy's honors and exits subtly with a club. You pitch two hearts on the king of diamonds and a high club, but you will lose two hearts."

"You should know my meth-

West dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North

♠ K J 7 6

♥ J 4

♦ K 7 3

♣ K O 5 3

West

♠ 4 2

♥ A 8 7 6

♦ A J 10 9

♣ 8 6 2

East

♠ 5

♥ Q 10 8

♦ Q 8 8 5 2

♣ A 10 9 7

South

♠ A Q 10 9 8 3

♥ K 5 3 2

♦ 4

♣ J 4

West

Pass 1 ♠

Pass 2 ♠

All Pass

Opening lead --- ♠ A

East

Pass 1 ♠

Pass 4 ♠

South

Pass 1 ♠

Pass 4 ♠

ods by now, Watson. I do not guess.

Why did Holmes play East for the ace of clubs?

The contract was at risk only if West had the ace of hearts, but he'd passed as dealer and had played the A-J of diamonds. If a club to the jack lost to West's ace, Holmes could be sure East had the ace of hearts, but if Holmes led a club from his hand and found East with the ace, he might fall.

been published by Moonstone, 582 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, IL 60409. Written by Joe Gentile and illustrated by Rich Gulick, it can be had for \$2.95.

Volume 11 of *The Shoso-in Bulletin* is now out! This excellent, international Sherlockian magazine is brought to us by The Men with the Twisted Konjo. Editor Mel Hughes and Editor-in-Chief Hirayama Yuichi have done their usual

excellent job of bringing us papers from authors far & wide - Czech, Japan, USA, UK, France, Denmark, Taiwan, Brazil, Canada, Belgium, Spain Italy & Russia are represented. You can get your copy from our friends at Classic Specialties & *The Sherlockian Times*, PO Box 19058, Cincinnati, OH 45219 for \$12 plus postage.

Shoso-in Bulletin



The Pleasant Places of Florida

*Founded: 1972
by Leslie Marshall (dec.)*

Recorder Emeritus: Dr. Benton Wood

For the record: **THE LAST COURT OF APPEALS**
David McCallister, Master of the House,

Jeff & Wanda Dow, The Papers on the Sundial,

Carl L. Heifetz, Representative both with the Servants and with the Tradespeople,

Mike Bryan, The Unopened Newspaper,

**If you see a red check here , this is your LAST COMMUNICATION! To
continue your membership, send US\$12.00 (US/CAN) or US\$13.00 (INTL) to Carl
Heifetz,**

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE DATE AFTER YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING LABEL.
THIS IS THE EXPIRATION DATE OF YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP.**

**Pleasant Places of Florida
The Papers On The Sundial**

