

THE FINAL PROBLEM DATE OF THE ADVENTURE*

(The Struggle at Reichenbach Falls)

CLUES:

1. Accounts appeared in the public press on "May 6th, 1891" (469)
2. Holmes walked into Watson's consulting-room " ... upon the evening of April 24th." (469)
3. Watson says, " ... on the afternoon of the fourth we set off together ... (towards) ... Rosenlaui." (478)
4. The struggle at Reichenbach Falls was on the day the trip to Rosenlaui began
5. May 1, 1891 was Friday

CONCLUSIONS:

- A. 1 implies the meeting at Reichenbach Falls took place shortly before May 6, 1891
- B. A and 2 imply that the case started after April 24, 1891
- C. B and 3 imply the trip to Rosenlaui was on May 4, 1891
- D. C and 4 imply that the struggle at Reichenbach Falls was on May 4, 1891
- E. D and 5 imply that the struggle at Reichenbach Falls was on Monday, May 4, 1891

The struggle at Reichenbach Falls was on
Monday, May 4, 1891

*The story may contain other clues to the date of the adventure. However, use only the clues shown here. Your only goal should be to use logical reasoning to find a date based on the clues shown here.

THE FINAL PROBLEM VOCABULARY WORDS

- singular (469, 473) - beyond what is ordinary or usual;
remarkable
- perversion (469) - incorrect interpretation
- air-gun (470) - gun in which condensed air is used to propel
the bullet
- garden (470, 474) - lawn
- the Continent (470, 474) - land area where the rest of Europe lies
- placid (470) - pleasantly calm, peaceful, tranquil
- treatise (470) - extensive, systematic written discourse on a
subject
- binomial theorem (470) - theorem that specifies the expansion
of the sum of two terms to any
power without requiring the
explicit multiplication of the terms
- army coach (471) - private tutor who prepares men for
entrance examinations into the officer
corps
- malefactor (471) - one who does evil
- my toils (471) - snares or traps
- thrust-and-parry (471) - stab and defend
- ascetic (472) - one who practices self-denial or leads an
austere, simple life
- you stand fast (472) - refuse to change your position
- incommoded (472) - inconvenienced
- dock (473) - place where prisoner stands in a courtroom
- foot-path (473) - sidewalk
- pavement (473) - sidewalk
- slates (473) - pieces of fine-grained metamorphic rock cut
for use as roofing material

rough (473) - a crude, unmannered person; a rowdy
 bludgeon (473, 475) - short, heavy club with a weighted end
 hansom (474) - two-wheeled, one horse carriage seating two
 with the driver mounted behind and reins
 going over the roof of the hood; invented by
 J. A. Hansom, a Yorkshire architect who
 patented the cab in 1834
 brougham (474, 475) - one-horse enclosed carriage with four
 wheels and an open driver's seat in
 front, named for the Scottish-born
 jurist, Henry Peter Brougham, First
 Baron Brougham and Vaux (1778-1868)
 Continental express (474) - fast train from London across the
 English Channel to the rest of
 Europe
 first-class carriage (474) - railway car providing the best
 accommodations
 lithe (474) - supple; flexible
 venerable (474) - commanding respect by virtue of age or dignity
 porter (474, 475) - railway worker who assists people with
 luggage and performs other duties at the
 railway station
 decrepit (475) - weakened and worn out from old age or
 illness
 ecclesiastic (475) - clergyman
 cassock (475) - long, close-fitting gown
 coachman (475) - driver of any carriage
 mercenary (475) - someone who acts for money
 special (476) - private train
 carpet-bags (476) - traveling bags made of carpet
 ruefully (476) - sorrowfully; regretfully
 points (476) - switches
 coup-de-maitre (476) - master stroke
 buffet (476) - dinette at a railway station

salle-à-manger (477) - dining room
 virgin (477) - unsullied; in a natural, unblemished state
 lofty pinnacle (477) - high point
 exuberant (477) - full of unrestrained enthusiasm
 equanimity (477) - mental or emotional stability, composure,
 calmness
 hamlet (478) - small village
 abyss (478) - deep gulf or chasm
 chasm (478, 479) - deep, steep-sided opening in the earth's
 surface; a gorge
 consumption (478) - tuberculosis
 Alpine-stock (479) - long staff, pointed with iron, used in
 climbing mountains
 brambles (479) - prickly shrub or bush
 boulder (479) - boulder
 cauldron (480) - large kettle or boiler