

Marakay (Malka) Rogers
Subject: Inspector Baynes (The Copper Beeches)
Presented to The Great Alkali Plainsmen
Date: February 21, 2025 (on Zoom)

Let's raise a glass to Inspector Baynes,
the splendid Surrey sleuth.
To do his work he took great pains,
Through Victoria's and Edward's reigns,
surveying all of their domains
to find and prove the truth.

To London with Gregson did come Baynes
to solve a homicide.
At 221B they climbed the stair,
to follow one Scott Eccles there.
Sherlock poured Eccles brandy rare
for him facts to provide.

With Holmes to Surrey traveled Baynes
to search both low and high.
Holmes thought Baynes was off the scent.
The dead man's servant was Baynes' bent.
In handcuffs off the voodoo went
Though Holmes could not tell why.

Holmes asked townfolk but not Baynes,
who was in search of clues.
Imagine the look on Holmes' face
to find our Baynes in the same place.
With the voodoo a trap Baynes laced
to capture the wrongdoer.

Investigation rough did Baynes
for he found more than Holmes.
Holmes had not the wit to follow
that the murderer was Don Murillo,
the infamous Tiger of San Pedro,
who'd hidden in a Surrey home.

Far will go Inspector Baynes,
to Watson Holmes declared.
We see no more of him in canon -
was he promoted over Gregson?
He certainly had a leg up on
the Met's criminal soothsayers.

A Sherlockian Toast (posted 2025-7-8)

So give a cheer for Inspector Baynes,
an officer endowed with brains
that well might rival Holmes.
His later efforts are quite misty -
perhaps he sold them to Miss Christie?
May he eternal roam.

To Inspector Baynes!