

# Silent Doyle

## Non-Sherlockian Conan Doyle and the Silent Film Era

by

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Part Three (1916 - 1923)

**(1916)**

**1916 - "The Flying Torpedo"** - John Emerson (1874 - 1956) as Winthrop Clavering, chemist, detective and Conan Doyle type of novelist. Fine Arts Film Company.



"The Flying Torpedo" - "The motif of the impending invasion of the United States controls the action of this piece.... an old inventor of a torpedo controlled by a wireless mechanism is killed... Winthrop Clavering, chemist, detective and Conan Doyle type of novelist, enters the action vigorously at this point." ... basically, the missiles he creates annihilates the enemy ending the foreign invasion.<sup>1</sup> Interesting that the lead character is compared to Conan Doyle, especially for his strong patriotism.

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<sup>1</sup> "Motography" Vol. 15 Jan - Mar 1916, Pg. 112



"The Flying Torpedo" - Yet another article comparing Winthrop Clavering to Conan Doyle, calls this a futuristic film of a war story in the year 1921, and a patriotic play on the part of the Triangle Film Company.<sup>2</sup>

### (1918)

**1918 - "The Chevrons Club (for POs and NCOs)"** - Arthur Conan Doyle in Newsreel. Tropical Film Co.

"Sir Francis Lloyd, Sir A Conan Doyle and Lord Derby attend the opening ceremony." Opening of the Chevrons Club for petty officers and NCOs. Lloyd, Doyle and Derby arrive in turn and are seen in close-up. Men outside the club stand to attention."<sup>3</sup>

### (1920)

**1920 - "Rodney Stone"** - Rex Davis as Boy Jim, Lionel d'Aragon as Sir Charles Tregellis, and Robertson Braine as Rodney Stone. Screen Plays (U.K.).

"Rodney Stone" - A blacksmith's boy becomes a boxer and is revealed as the son of a peer blamed for killing a cardsharp.

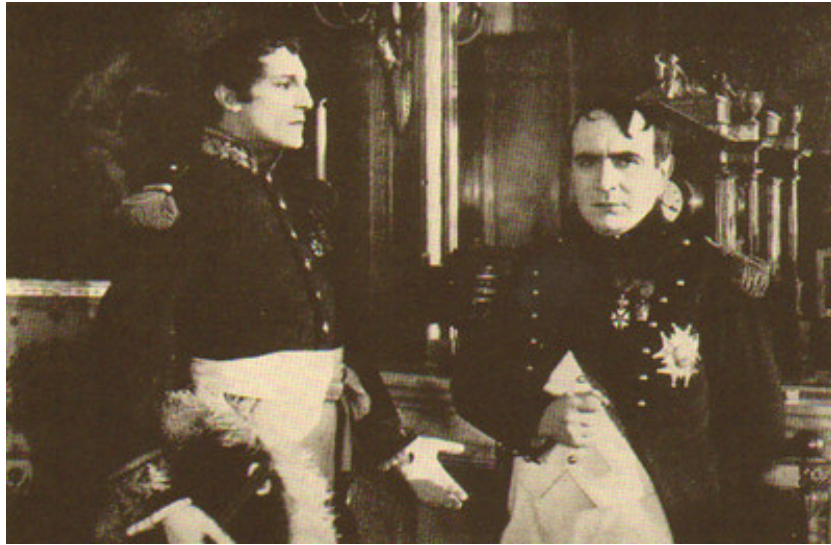
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<sup>2</sup> "The Moving Picture World" Jan. 8, 1916 Pg. 231

<sup>3</sup> <http://bufvc.ac.uk/newsonscreen/search/index.php/story/126435>

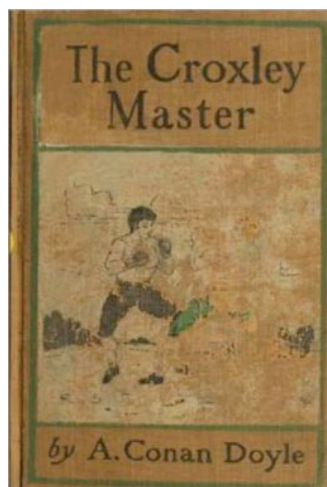
(1921)

**1921 - "Un drame sous Napoléon" - or, "Uncle Bernac"** Emile Drain (1890 - 1966) as Napoleon, Rex Davis as Louis de Laval. "Uncle Bernac" adaptation. Eclair Films (France).



"Uncle Bernac: A Memory of the Empire" is a novel written by Arthur Conan Doyle first published in 1897. It is the ninth story of the Gerard saga. A young man receives an invitation to join his uncle in France and enter into Napoleon's service. After many adventures he finally meets the Emperor.

**1921 - "The Croxley Master"** - Dick Webb as Robert Montgomery. "The Croxley Master" adaptation. Screen Plays (U.K.).



"The Croxley Master" - Based on a short story by Arthur Conan Doyle, a young Welsh medical student enters the boxing ring to fight for a £200 prize which will enable him to establish his own practice.

**(1922)**

**1922 - "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Family"** - Newsreel. Foxtone, Kinograms and Pathé.

Newsreel showing Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Family arriving in New York.



**(1923)**

**1923 - "Conan Doyle and Family"** - Newsreel. Foxtone.

Once again a newsreel of a New York arrival of Doyle family.

**1923 - "Is Conan Doyle Right"** - Documentary by Collum Holmes Ferrell.  
The Nine-Ten Corporation.



"Is Conan Doyle Right?" - Documentary exposé of the then-popular fad of spiritualism, of which Arthur Conan Doyle was a proponent.





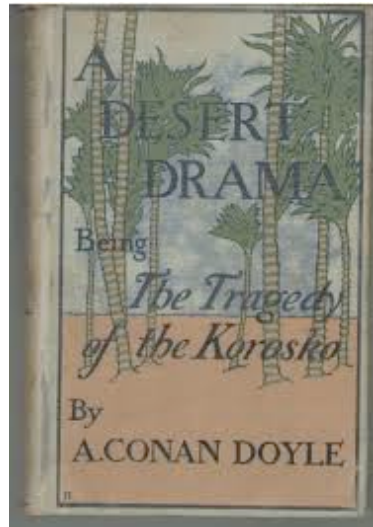
Doyle AND Holmes may easily be imagined sitting together one evening viewing this 1909 short offering J Stuart Blackton, Tobacco, Magnifying Glass and Fairies :) "The Smoke Fairy":-

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9d1MPD4eYM>

Doyle may well have appreciated Alice Guy Blache's 1898 "Cabbage Fairy" LOL

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYbQO6pwuNs>

**1923 - "Fires of Fate" - "The Tragedy of Korosko", adaptation.** Wanda Hawley (1895 - 1963) as Dorrine Adams, Nigel Barrie (1889 - 1971) as Col. Edgerton. Gaumont Films (U.K.).



"The Tragedy of Korosko" - "A group of European tourists are enjoying their trip to Egypt in the year 1895. They are sailing up the River Nile in a "a turtle-bottomed, round-bowed stern-wheeler", the Korosko. They intend to travel to Abousir at the southern frontier of Egypt, after which the Dervish country starts. They are attacked and abducted by a marauding band of Dervish warriors. The novel contains a strong defense of British Imperialism and in particular the Imperial project in North Africa. It also reveals the very great suspicion of Islam felt by many Europeans at the time."<sup>4</sup>

End of Part Three

Part Four (1925 - 1927) Next

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<sup>4</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Tragedy\\_of\\_the\\_Korosko](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Tragedy_of_the_Korosko)

