

# THE TESTIMONY OF PROF. PLUM

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*Did you see anything unusual at the Boddy mansion?*

Did I see anything unusual at the Boddy mansion? Oh yes! Mr. Boddy has an exquisite collection of art and antiquities. Almost immediately upon my arrival, I became enraptured with a cabinet in the hallway containing some exemplary coins, including a rare red FAO Manx half penny.

I was utterly delighted to discover that Mr. Boddy was also a numismatist. I attempted to find him so we could further discuss rare coinage, but the first door I tried was locked. It's too bad. I would have enjoyed learning more about his collection.

I began to wonder who else was at this party and whether I was in the wrong mansion! I hadn't seen anyone else since arriving. I headed into one of the rooms, where I finally met one of the other guests.

*Tell me more.*

Suddenly, the lights went out. Then we heard a faint scream. My companion rushed to see what was the matter. I followed her out of the room, but was too nervous to follow her around the staircase.

A figure ran past me, though I wasn't sure who it was. Soon after, my companion returned, and I followed her inside the Dining Room.

Once we were inside, I confessed that I hadn't explored any of the other rooms. She walked out, presumably to finish looking around the mansion. I considered helping her by checking one of the adjacent rooms, since I could hear noises coming from both directions. In the end, I couldn't decide which room to go to, so I stayed put.

*How long did you stay there?*

A long time. There were a lot of rooms that I hadn't visited, so I expected that it would take her quite awhile to look at all of them.

Eventually, I got tired of waiting and left the room. I saw Mrs. Peacock in the hallway outside the Kitchen, and she let me know that Mrs. White and Mr. Green were inside discussing the source of a mysterious noise he had heard. I joined them to see if my analytical mind could be of use.