Arquivo Virtual da Geração de Orpheu

BNP/E3,  $14^6 - 68^r$ 

A very erroneous idea has

#### Transcrição

The great merit of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in the tales of Sherlock Holmes, is this limitation of per possibility - this arrival at true individuality - though but external individuality.

A very erroneous idea has great acceptation - namely that a detective story is but a literary composition of an inferior kind. Critics, especially those who occupy themselves with poetic and philosophical works, are very unanimous in decrying this kind of tale. They look upon it as something needing no imagination and little, if any, logic. But they are

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in this nustaken - that have never attempted have considered what detective stony really of these critics may be too much access timed the unk in the line anne mentlemen ja will be much bles and imminer all other gentlemen of they have literary value they have very correctly inferred from What they know that a the detective Stones needs no maying

Transcrição

in this mistaken - that they have never attempted to analyse the stories I treat of, that they never have considered what a detective story really is, and what faculties are needed for its writing. Some of these critics may be excused in that, being too much accustomed to the work, in this line of some gentlemen who will be nameless {...} and numerous all other gentlemen of this like literary value, they have very correctly inferred, from what they know, that a the detective story needs no imagin-

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146-69 ation that at new no logic that indeed, amy one can write it if only the have no respect for allat intellect he On the other hand the popular idea thes in the lotter extreme. The crowd midges from the same mercises and it draws an opposite conclusion. As the imagination of the authors have sperten is not superin the popular inagination as their logic is not more acute than the lope of ~ carpenter is of a latter Imprime, the carpenter + the Harry to have no more intellect than may be supposed),

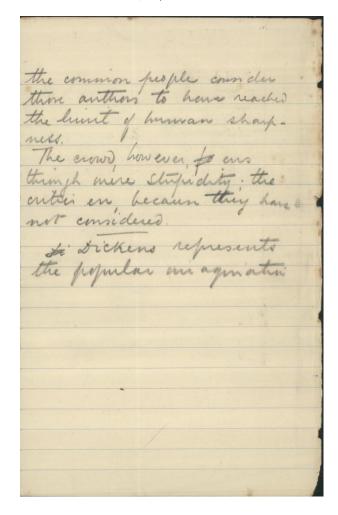
Transcrição

ation, that it needs no logic - that, indeed, anyone can write it, if only he have no respect for whatever intellect he may have. possess.

On the other hand, the popular idea lies in the other extreme. The crowd judges from the same premises and it draws an opposite conclusion. As the imagination of the authors of whom I have spoken is not superior to the popular imagination; as their logic is not more acute than he logic of a carpenter or a baker (supposing the carpenter and the baker to have no more intellect than may supposed),

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#### Transcrição

the common people consider those authors to have reached the limit of human sharpness.

The crowd, however, p errs through mere stupidity; the critics err, because they have not considered.

 $\frac{\text{Di}}{\text{Dickens}}$  Dickens represents the popular imagination.



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