

## **The Elephant Man** **Chapter 7 Synopsis (7.0) - The Last Letter**

In April 1890, Dr Treves found Merrick dead in bed. He was lying on his back, his heavy head off the bed. It broke his neck, he died quickly. Merrick would usually sleep on his knees, but that night, he tried to sleep on his back, like normal men.

The next day, the Chairman of The London Hospital, Mr. Gomm, wrote to the editor of The Times again. It was the second letter to The Times about Merrick since three and a half years ago.

Mr Gomm told the readers of The Times that he was going to use the balance money meant for Merrick, for the hospital. He thanked the readers for their help and for helping Merrick become happy again.

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## **The Elephant Man** **Chapter 7 [Extras] (7.1) - The Last Letter**

The Times,  
April 16th, 1890

Dear Sir,

Three and a half years ago I wrote to you about a man called Joseph Merrick. This man was called the 'Elephant Man' because he was born with a very ugly body. Merrick was not ill, but he could not work, and he had no money. The readers of The Times felt sorry for him, and they gave me a lot of money for Merrick. Because of this money, we could give Merrick a home in the London Hospital. It was his first good home, and for three and a half years he lived here happily. The doctors and nurses of the hospital helped him, and many important people visited him. He read many books, he went to the theatre, and in the summer he stayed in the country for six weeks. Because of your readers' money, we could give him a happy life. Last night Joseph Merrick died quietly in his bed. He was a man with a very ugly body, but he was a good, kind man, and he had a lot of friends. We liked to talk to him, and we are all very sorry because he is dead. A lot of people are going to remember him for a long time. There is some money left, so I am going to give it to the hospital.

Thank you, sir, for your help.

Yours faithfully,  
F.C. Carr Gomm Chairman of the London Hospital.

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