

Recent Discoveries

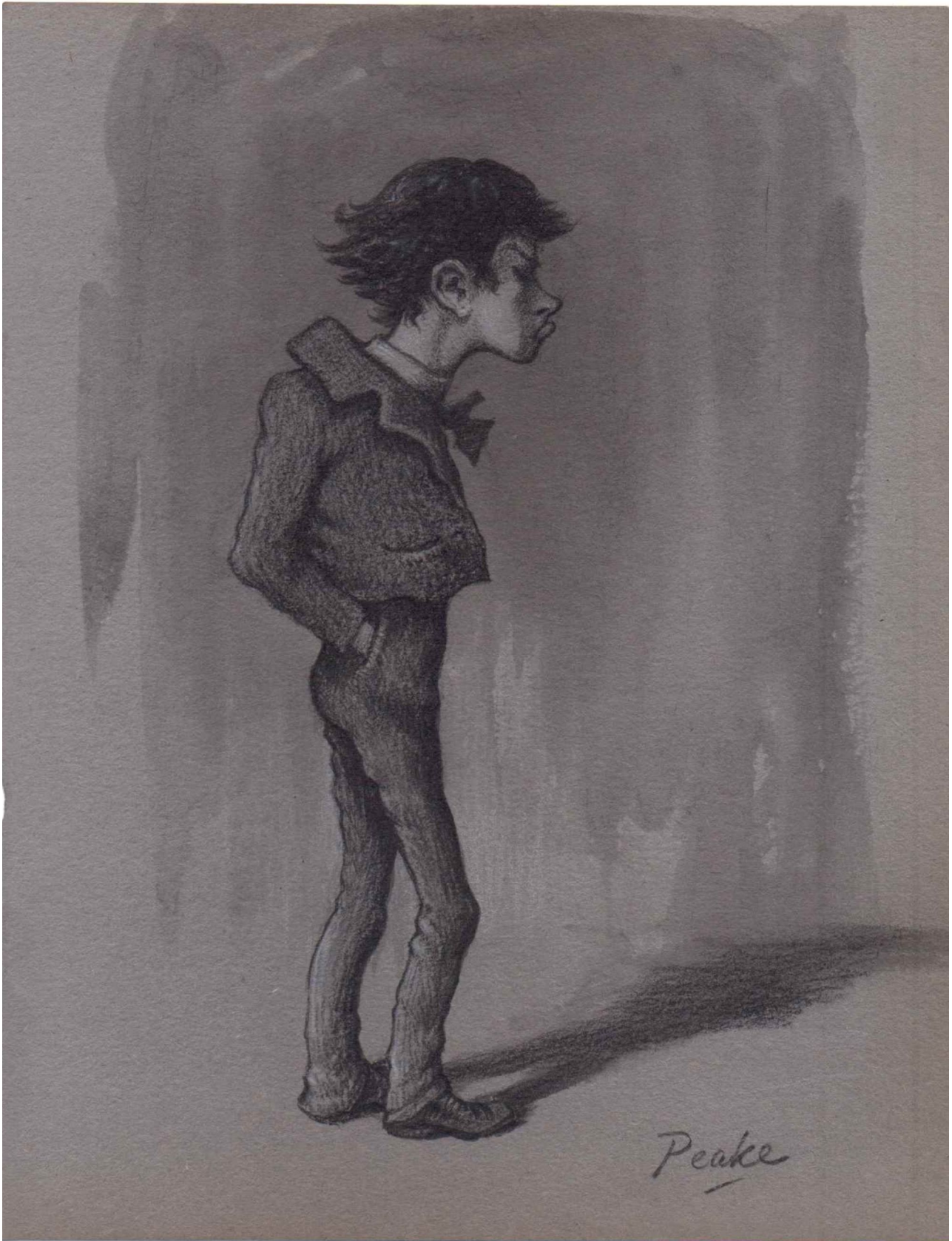
Every now and then, Mike Kemp sends me pictures of the new Peake artwork that he has come across. With his permission, I can share them with you here.

One of the most fascinating things has been a steady trickle of previously unseen drawings for *Bleak House*. I put several of them in *Peake Studies*, including Joe the crossing sweeper (13: iii, 25), Mr Gridley (13: iv, 12), Mr Guppy (14: ii, 3), Mrs Guppy (13: iv, 10), Mr Snaggsby (13: iv, 13), and Mr Turveydrop (13: iv, 11). These are of course additional to the images that appeared in the 1983 volume of *Sketches from Bleak House*.

Of all the characters in the book, Peake seems to have liked depicting Mrs Pardiggle (14: ii, 5) and her boys (13: iii, 23 & 24; and 14: ii, 4). Here they all are:



And now the eldest boy has slouched into view.



Judy Smallweed has put in a doleful appearance:



From the illustrations for *Alice* that have been appearing, Peake clearly created a number of characters in colour and then turned them into line drawings for the book publication. There is speculation that he might even have made these impressions before receiving the contract to illustrate the books. Here, at any rate, are some of the illustrations that have recently come to light.



I love the Hatter who is here preparing to appear as Hatta in *Through the Looking-Glass*.

And a slight variant on the horse looking out of the railway carriage window. For some reason it makes me think of Dr Prunesquallor.



And more Alice!



This looks very like the published illustration, but it is much larger, being 13 by 9.4 inches.

And then the Jabberwock, in soft pencil rather than pen and ink; also larger: 16 x 10.8 ins.



Most recently, this proud nude has emerged, and a variant on Peake's Hitler self-portrait:





Pealle

Another dead mouse! How many did he do? I've seen about half-a-dozen so far.



And this wonderful watercolour landscape, inscribed to Ruth Marshall (who came the nearest to supplanting Maeve in Peake's heart).



Another landscape: snow on Sark in the winter of 1947



The colour picture of Uncle Jake (who became a snake) that was on page 36 of *Writings & Drawings* (1974) has come to light.



And now we have an ink-and-wash version of the little mouse who was so amazed that someone should not have heard of Tom Thumb. Like all the other illustrations in those books (1954 and 1955), he was published only in line.

