

PERSONALITIES OF FOOTBALL.

By C. B. FRY.



SHERLOCK HOLMES' STORY.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.



See Page XVII.

SOUTHAMPTON
STREET

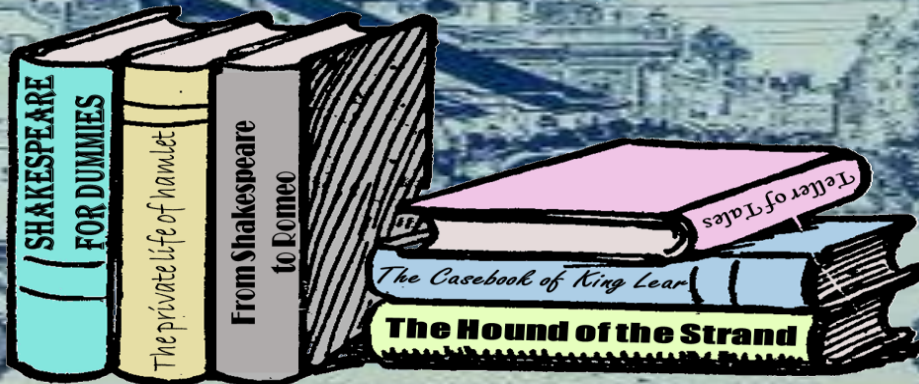
THE STRAND MAGAZINE

120 Pages.

142 Illustrations.

EDITED
By
Geo. Trevelyan
OFFICE

N° 134
VOL 23



FEB.
1902

AN ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

GEORGE KEWNER, L.D., PUBLISHERS, 25, ABINGDON STREET, AND 1, EASTON STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Baker Street Elementary

"A Sticky Situation"

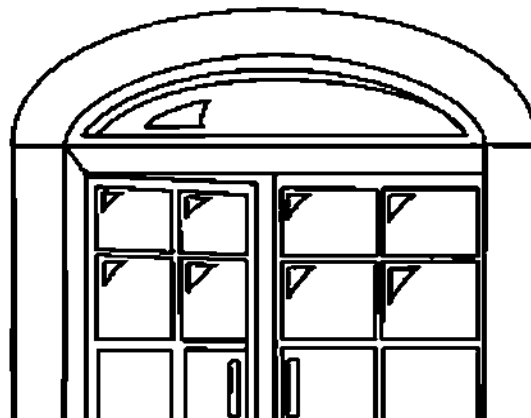
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1st Edition

Published in Dallas, Texas

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"INSPECTOR LESTRADE" LIBRARY



**WATSON, CAN YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY WE ARE GATHERED
OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY?**

**SO, THIS IS THE LIBRARY... I HAVE HEARD
SCARY STORIES ABOUT THIS PLACE.**



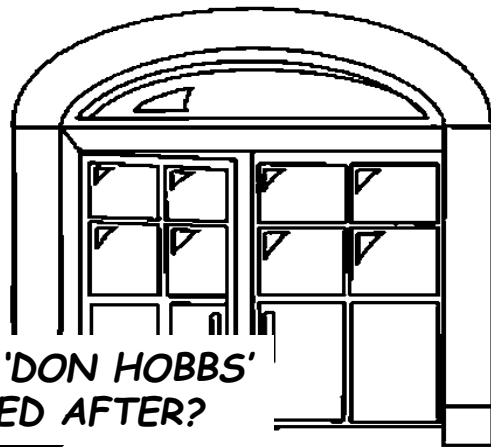
**PREFECT GREGSON ASKED US
TO MEET HIM HERE.**



**I CAN ONLY ASSUME HE AND LESTRADE HAVE
MISPLACED THEIR BADGES AGAIN AND WANT ME
TO FIND THEM BEFORE THEY GET IN TROUBLE.**

STANDING RIGHT HERE!

"INSPECTOR LESTRADE" LIBRARY



DOES ANYONE KNOW WHO THIS 'DON HOBBS'
IS THAT OUR LIBRARY IS NAMED AFTER?



I BELIEVE HE IS A COLLECTOR WHO DONATED HIS
FOREIGN EDITION COLLECTION TO OUR SCHOOL.

BOVRIL ^{IS} STRENGTH

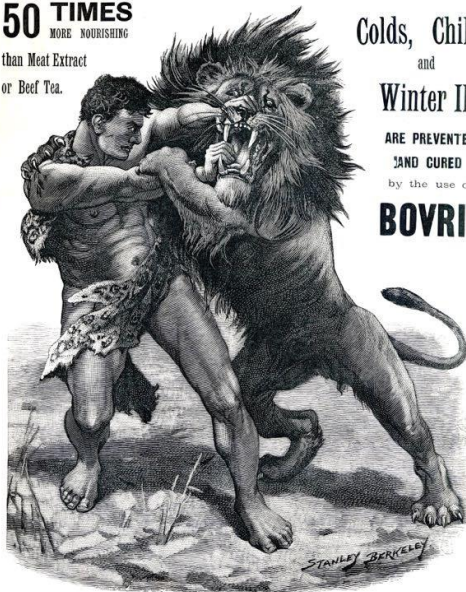
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than Meat Extract
or Beef Tea.

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and
Winter Ills

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*Learn more about what the Beacon Society does to introduce students to Sherlock Holmes at:
www.beaconsociety.com*



I STRUGGLE WITH ENGLISH EDITIONS.

AH, GREGSON... I SEE YOU HAVE RECOVERED
FROM OUR LAST LITTLE AFFAIR.



I WAS THRILLED TO CATCH THE SUGAR COOKIE BANDIT,
BUT I AM STILL CONFUSED HOW SMEARING PEANUT
PASTE OVER LESTRADE'S FACE HELPED IN THE CAPTURE.



TRUTHFULLY, IT DIDN'T... I JUST WANTED TO
SEE IF HE WOULD GO THROUGH WITH IT.

TOOK HIM TWO DAYS TO RINSE IT OUT OF HIS
HAIR... ALL THE YOUNG'UNS KEPT ASKING IF HE
WANTED JAM TO GO WITH HIS SCALP PÂTÉ.

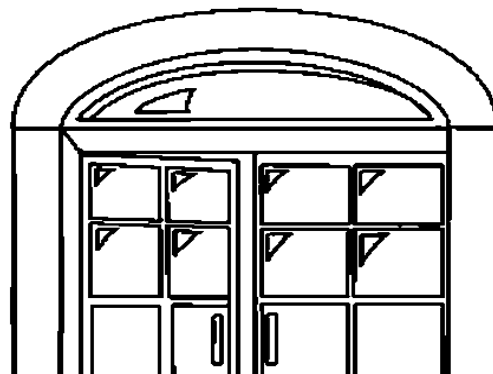


SO, WHAT NEW ADVENTURE WOULD YOU
LIKE TO GET US INVOLVED IN TODAY?

I'M NOT SURE... I WAS ASKED TO SEE IF YOU COULD MEET
WITH A COUPLE OF LIBRARY INTERNS, MISS POLLAK AND
MISS GALLEGO... IT SEEMS TO BE VERY HUSH-HUSH.



"INSPECTOR LESTRADE" LIBRARY



THEN LET US PROCEED WITHIN TO SEE WHAT AWAITS US.

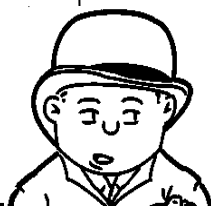


*whew... I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE GOING TO USE YOUR
'THE GAME IS AFOOT' LINE AGAIN.*



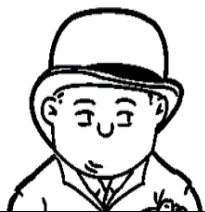
HI... I ADMIT YOU TWO
ARE UNFAMILIAR TO US.

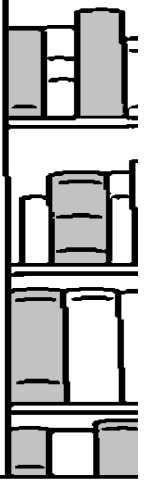
HI BACK... MY NAME IS MARSHA.





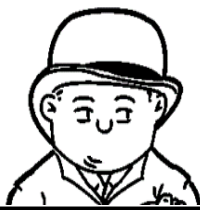
AND I AM BETH... WE ARE LIBRARY AIDES, INTERNING AT YOUR
LIBRARY... WE ATTEND THE GIRLS' SCHOOL DOWN THE ROAD,
WHERE I BELIEVE A FRIEND OF YOURS, MISS ADLER, ATTENDS.





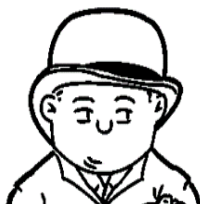
WHAT DOES A LIBRARY AIDE ACTUALLY DO?

WE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS
IN THE LIBRARY, PERFORMING CLERICAL DUTIES, SUCH
AS RE-SHELVING BOOKS, CHECKING IN BOOKS, ETC.

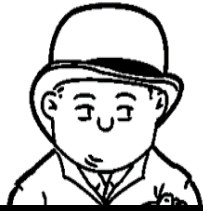




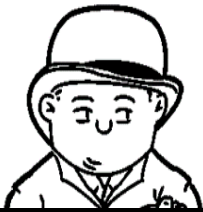
THAT'S INTERESTING WORK... HOW MUCH DO YOU GET PAID?



HA HA HA HA HA!!



**AFTER THIS MORNING, I NEEDED
THAT... THANKS, YOU'RE ADORABLE.**



They didn't have anything like
this when I
was young

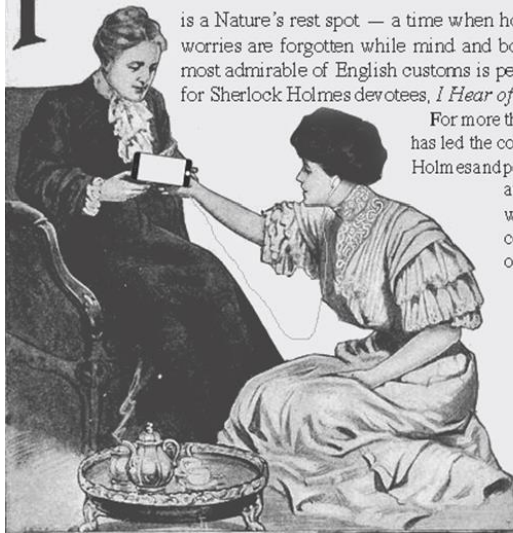
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THE SERPENTINE MUSE

A quarterly journal of the "Adventuresses
of Sherlock Holmes" (ASH), a compendium
of various and sundry LEARNED
ARTICLES, VERSES, PERTINENT NEWS
and ILLUSTRATIONS to amuse and
intrigue the discerning reader.



Four O'clock Tea



is a Nature's rest spot — a time when household cares, social duties and business worries are forgotten while mind and body gather new strength and energy. This most admirable of English customs is perfectly complemented by the first podcast for Sherlock Holmes devotees, *I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere*.

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I BELIEVE YOU ASKED FOR MY ASSISTANCE... CAN YOU
BE MORE SPECIFIC... START AT THE BEGINNING, BE
VERY CONCISE, BUT DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING OUT.



ISN'T THAT A SLIGHT CONTRADICTION IN DIRECTIONS?



WELCOME TO MY WORLD!

AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR RE-SHELVING BOOKS...
THIS MORNING I PROCEEDED TO THE MYSTERY SECTION TO CHECK
ON 3 BOOKS WHICH WERE CHECKED IN ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND
WERE IN FAIRLY POOR CONDITION.

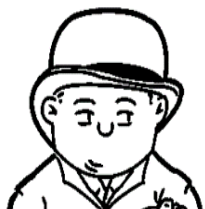
THEY WERE 3 FOREIGN EDITIONS
OF EDGAR ALLEN POE'S ANTHOLOGY,
DONATED BY MR. HOBBS.





**IMAGINE MY SURPRISE TO FIND THE SAME 3
FOREIGN EDITIONS MISSING FROM THE SHELF!**

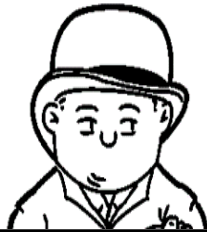
MAYBE THEY WERE JUST MISPLACED?



WHICH ONES WERE MISSING?

*THE ITALIAN, FRENCH, AND
SPANISH TRANSLATIONS.*

ARE THESE BOOKS MONETARILY VALUABLE?



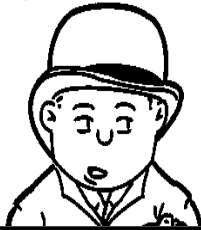
NOT AT ALL... THEY ARE COMMON TRADE EDITIONS.



YUCK! LOOK AT ALL THE PIECES OF
SPRUCE GUM STUCK UNDER THIS TABLE.

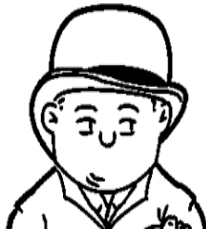
COULD THE BOOKS HAVE SIMPLY BEEN
CHECKED OUT WITHOUT YOUR NOTICING?

HARDLY, BETH AND I KEEP VERY
CLOSE TABS ON ALL BOOKS
LEAVING THE LIBRARY.



SOUNDS LIKE YOU MISSED A FEW...

EXCUSE ME!?



**SORRY, SOMETIMES RANDOM THOUGHTS WANDER
FROM MY BRAIN, AND MY TONGUE REACTS BEFORE I
CAN EXAMINE THE CONSEQUENCES.**



**THERE'S A LOT OF INITIALS CARVED INTO THE SIDE
OF THIS TABLE... IT'S A HISTORY OF YOUR SCHOOL.**

DO YOU HAVE ANY THEORIES ON WHO MAY
HAVE WANTED TO ABSCOND WITH SAID BOOKS?



NOT IN THE LEAST... THEY ARE VERY POPULAR
BOOKS WITH STUDENTS STUDYING THOSE
LANGUAGES, BUT AGAIN, NOT WORTH STEALING.

SO FAR, WE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW THE BOOKS ARE MISSING, BUT THE LIBRARIAN WALKS THE AISLES EACH AFTERNOON, AND I KNOW HE WILL NOTICE THE MISSING BOOKS.

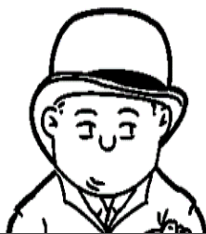


THEN WHAT?



WE HAVE NO WAY OF EXPLAINING THE MISSING BOOKS! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HELP US?

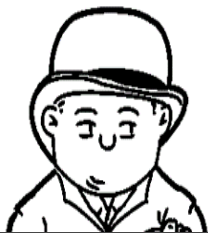
I CAN SEE DISTINCT POSSIBILITIES.



FUNNY, I DON'T SEE ANYTHING.

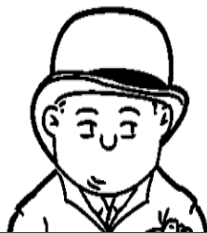
THIS IS WONDERFUL, BUT I WILL BE SURPRISED IF YOU CAN FIND THE BOOKS BEFORE THE LIBRARIAN ARRIVES BACK FROM LUNCH.

ON THE CONTRARY, I HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT I WILL SUCCEED IN FINDING THE BOOKS, MISS POLLAK, IN VERY SHORT ORDER.



*I AM DELIGHTED TO HEAR IT. IF YOU FIND THE
BOOKS, PLEASE LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY.*

*CERTAINLY, I LET YOU KNOW, THEN,
THAT I HAVE ALREADY FOUND THEM!*



WHAT! WHERE?



OH, IT WON'T DO - REALLY IT WON'T. IT TOOK NO
TIME FOR ME TO SOLVE SO SIMPLE A QUESTION.

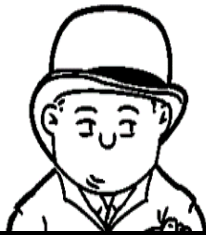
THIS DIALOGUE IS SOUNDING EERILY SIMILAR... IT'S
LIKE I'VE HEARD IT BEFORE.



NOT YET YOU HAVEN'T.

*BUT MISS POLLAK, MISS GALLEGO, I HAVE ONE
SIMPLE QUESTION FOR THE TWO OF YOU.*

*WHAT IS IT,
MASTER HOLMES?*



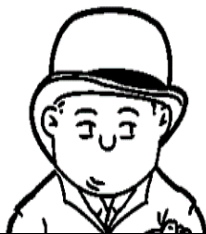
ONLY THIS... WHERE DID YOU HIDE THE BODIES...
oops... I MEANT, WHERE DID YOU PUT THE BOOKS?



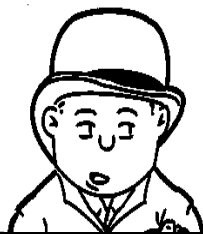
I TELL YOU, MASTER HOLMES, THAT YOU
ARE UNDER SOME ABSURD ILLUSION.

COME, LADIES. YOU HAVE THE BOOKS.

WHAT EVIDENCE DO
YOU HAVE TO BACK
THIS ACCUSATION?



LET ME EXPLAIN WHAT I BELIEVE HAPPENED... YOU CAN
CORRECT ME WHERE I STRAY.



STILL SOUNDING FAMILIAR.

ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON,
THE BOOKS WERE
RETURNED TO THE
LIBRARY, WHERE ONE OF
YOU NOTICED THE
BINDING OF ALL THREE
BOOKS HAD BEEN
DAMAGED WHILE BEING
DUMPED INTO THE BOOK
RETURN BIN.



YOU TWO DECIDED YOU
WOULD TAKE THE BOOKS
BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL
AND REPAIR THEM OVER
THE WEEKEND, THUS
SURPRISING OUR
LIBRARIAN TODAY WITH
THE BOOKS RETURNED
TO NEAR PRISTINE
CONDITION.



The Scuttlebutt Diet

Up To 1 lb. a month with Peter E. Blau

<http://www.sherlocktron.com/scuttle.htm>



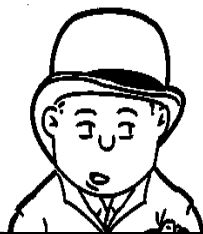
Instead of eating
that snack, curl up
with Peter's
Scuttlebutt from the
Spermacetti Press.

*As an added bonus, you
keep up with all the
current events in the
Sherlockian World.*



A VERY NOBLE AND SWEET GESTURE ON YOUR PART.

HOWEVER, SOMETHING WENT WRONG,
AND MY SURMISE IS THE BOOKS MAY
NOW BE IN A WORSE CONDITION
THAN WHEN YOU TOOK THEM.



LET'S JUST SAY WE HAVE A LOT TO
LEARN ON BOOKBINDING REPAIRING.

OBVIOUSLY, YOU COULD NOT RETURN THEM IN THEIR SORRY STATE,
AND YOU ARE NOW STRUGGLING TO EXPLAIN THEIR DISAPPEARANCE...
PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF I MISSED ANY SMALL POINTS.



IT IS LIKE YOU WERE THERE WITH US.



OUR ONLY DEFENSE IS THAT OUR
INTENTIONS WERE GOOD.

INDEED, THEY WERE... YOU SHOULD BE PROUD
OF YOUR ATTEMPT... IT APPEARS THE
EXECUTION MAY NEED A LITTLE POLISHING.



WHAT LED YOU TO BELIEVE WE ARE
IN POSSESSION OF THE BOOKS?

FIRST, YOU BOTH STRENUOUSLY STATED YOU KNOW
WHERE EVERY BOOK IN THE LIBRARY IS LOCATED...



...INCLUDING WHICH HAVE BEEN CHECKED-OUT, AND BY WHOM?

I TOOK YOU AT YOUR WORD, KNOWING
HOW SINCERE YOU ARE IN YOUR EFFORTS.



HARD TO BELIEVE YOU DON'T GET PAID.

SO, I DEDUCED THE
BOOKS DID
DISAPPEAR
BETWEEN THE
LIBRARY CLOSING
ON FRIDAY, AND IT
OPENING THIS
MORNING. NEXT,
WHO TOOK THEM?



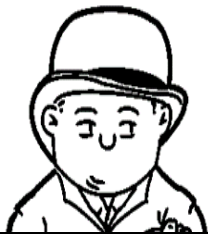
MAY I SUGGEST WHEN
YOU CHOOSE TO
REPAIR A BOOK
BINDING, YOU GIVE
YOURSELVES A LITTLE
MORE TIME, AS
RUSHING MAY LEAD
TO A FEW ERRORS.

WITHOUT GETTING INTO DETAILS, THIS HAS BEEN A COMEDY OF ERRORS SINCE WE BEGAN FRIDAY NIGHT.



A BOOKBINDER NEEDLE WITH UNBLEACHED COTTON THREAD HANGING OUT OF YOUR JACKET POCKET WAS MY FIRST CLUE... MISS GALLEGO, I NOTICED YOU HAVE REMNANTS OF GLUE ON YOUR FINGERS, AS WELL AS SEVERAL SMALL STICKING-PLASTERS WHERE YOU HAVE CUT YOURSELF WITH THE NEEDLE AND AWL USED TO PUNCH HOLES FOR THE NEEDLE.

AND, LASTLY, MISS POLLAK, YOU HAVE SEVERAL SMALL STRANDS OF THREAD IN YOUR HAIR... ALL OF THESE LED ME TO THE CONCLUSION YOU HAVE BEEN HURRIDLY TRYING TO REPAIR THE BOOKS, WITHOUT TRUE SUCCESS.



**YOU HAVE READ THE SITUATION LIKE A BOOK... NOW
HOW DO WE REPAIR THE DAMAGE?**



**YOU WILL FOLLOW THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE AND CHECK THE
BOOKS OUT TO YOURSELF... YOU WILL THEN DELIVER THE BOOKS
TO ME IN THE MORNING... LEAVE THE REST TO ME.**

THANKS SO MUCH... HOW CAN WE EVER REPAY YOU?

*THERE IS NO NEED FOR
PAYMENT... HELPING OTHERS OUT
OF 'BINDS' IS ITS OWN REWARD.*



AS HOLMES' FINANCIAL AGENT, WE'LL TALK LATER.

A few days later...

IS THE CASE CONCLUDED?

*YES, THE BOOKS HAVE BEEN REPAIRED AND
RETURNED TO THE SHELVES... OUR LIBRARIAN,
MR. LOMAX, IS VERY PROUD OF THE REPAIRS
THE BOOKS HAVE OBVIOUSLY GONE THROUGH.*

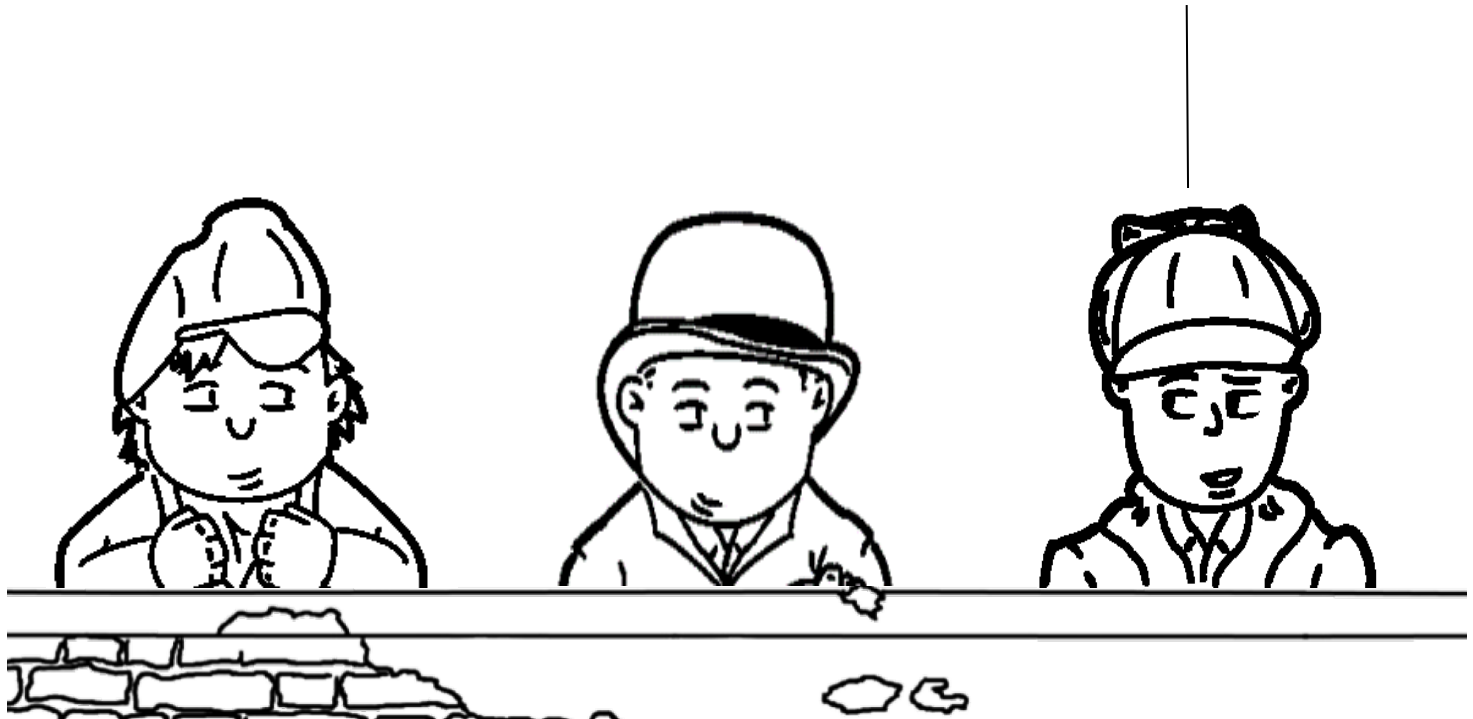


**HOW DID THEY GET REPAIRED? LITTLE COBBLING ELVES
WHO VISITED THE LIBRARY DURING THE NIGHT?**

**HOW WOULD THEY REACH
BOOKS ON THE UPPER SHELVES?**



NOTHING SO FANCIFUL... IT HAPPENS ONE OF MY RELATIVES
IS ON THE BOARD FOR THE LONDON LIBRARY. I HAD
CONDUCTED A VERY SMALL FAVOR FOR THE LIBRARY LAST
YEAR, AND IT WAS EASY TO CALL IN THE FAVOR TO GET THE
BOOKS REPAIRED IN AN EXPEDIENT MANNER.



ANOTHER AMAZING COINCIDENCE FOR YOU TO UTILIZE.

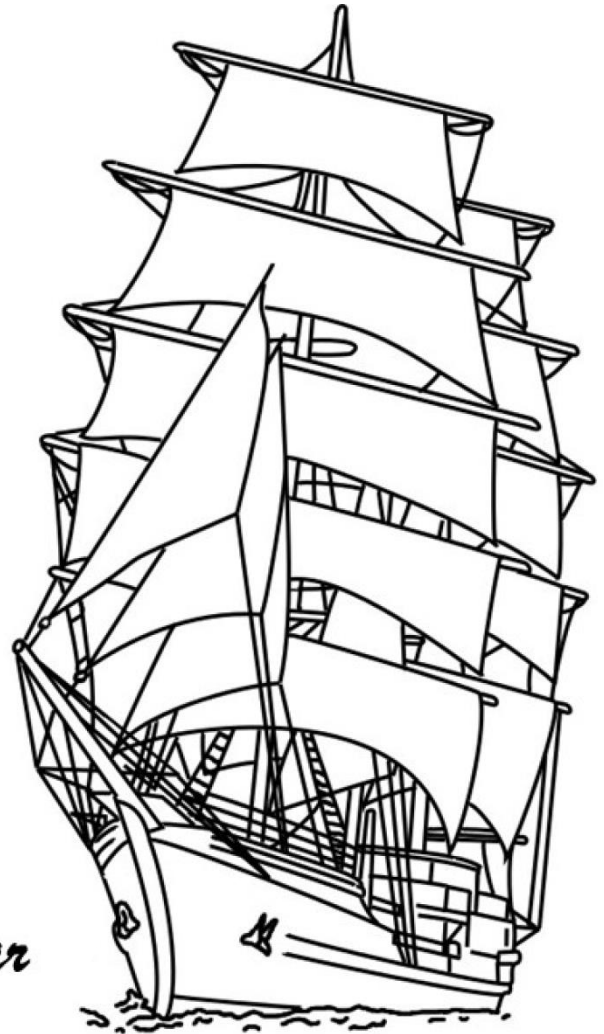
**I MAY CHECK OUT A POE BOOK...
I UNDERSTAND HE WROTE A
VERY GOOD MYSTERY.**



*MAY I SUGGEST YOU INSTEAD CHECK OUT JAMES HOGG'S
'THE BROWNIE OF BODSBECK', IN WHICH HIS PORTRAYAL OF
FAIRIES MAY BE MORE REALISTIC THAN ANYTHING POE OR
OTHER MYSTERY WRITERS HAVE PUT FORWARD.*



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The Crew of the Barque Lone Star

