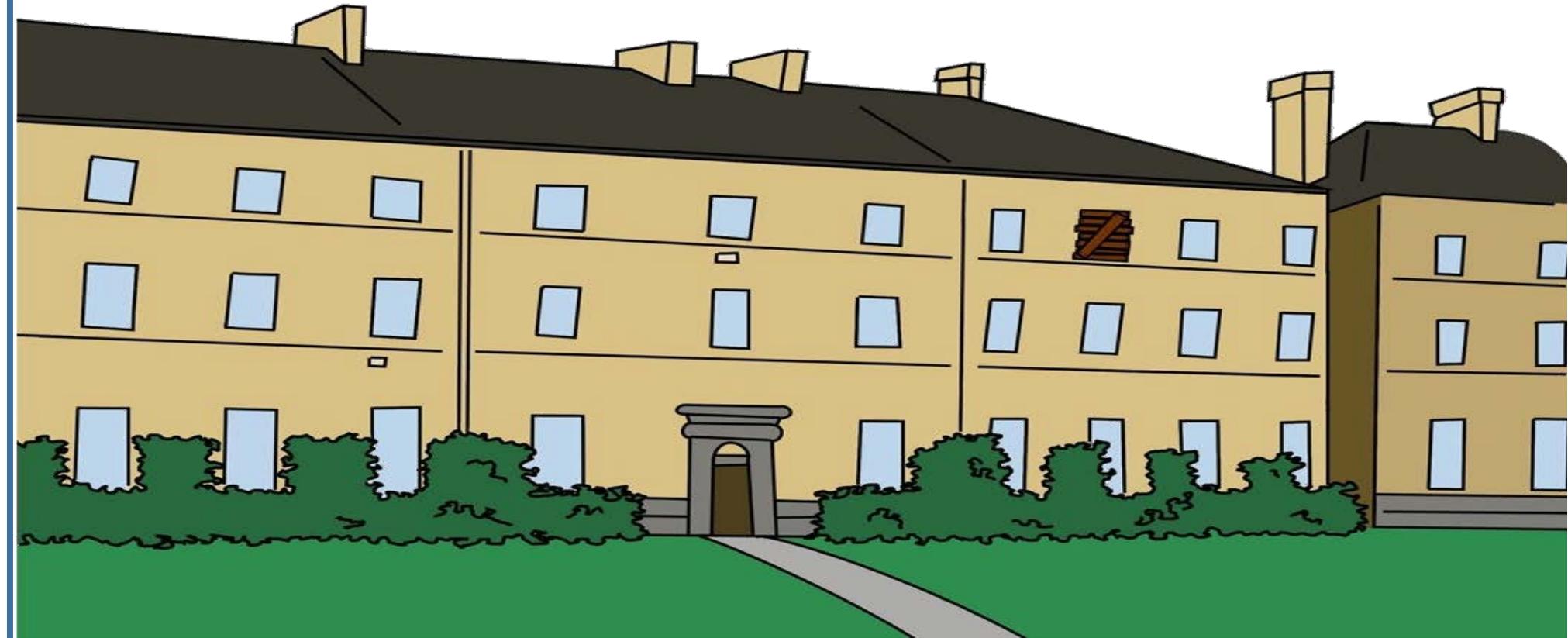


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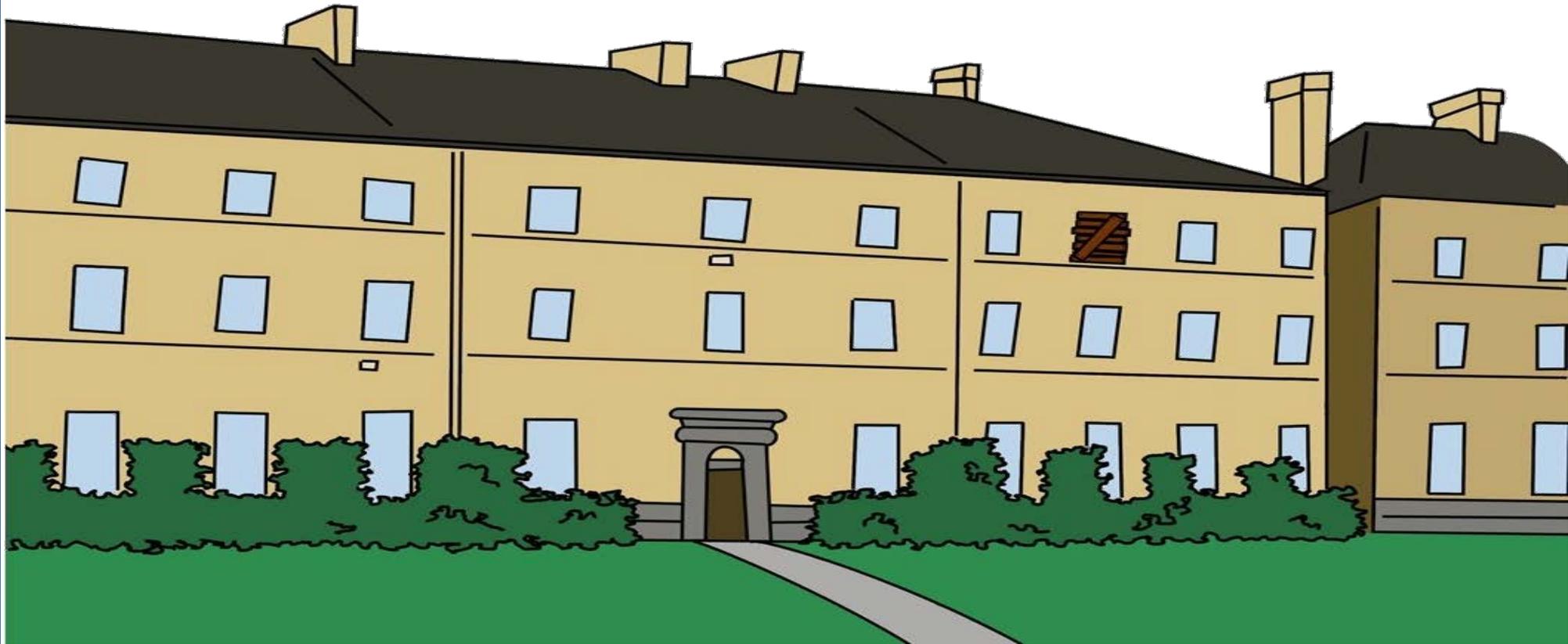
Presents

"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



Baker Street Elementary

The Life and Times in Victorian London
082 - Belly Up to the Bar, Boys - 11/17/2018



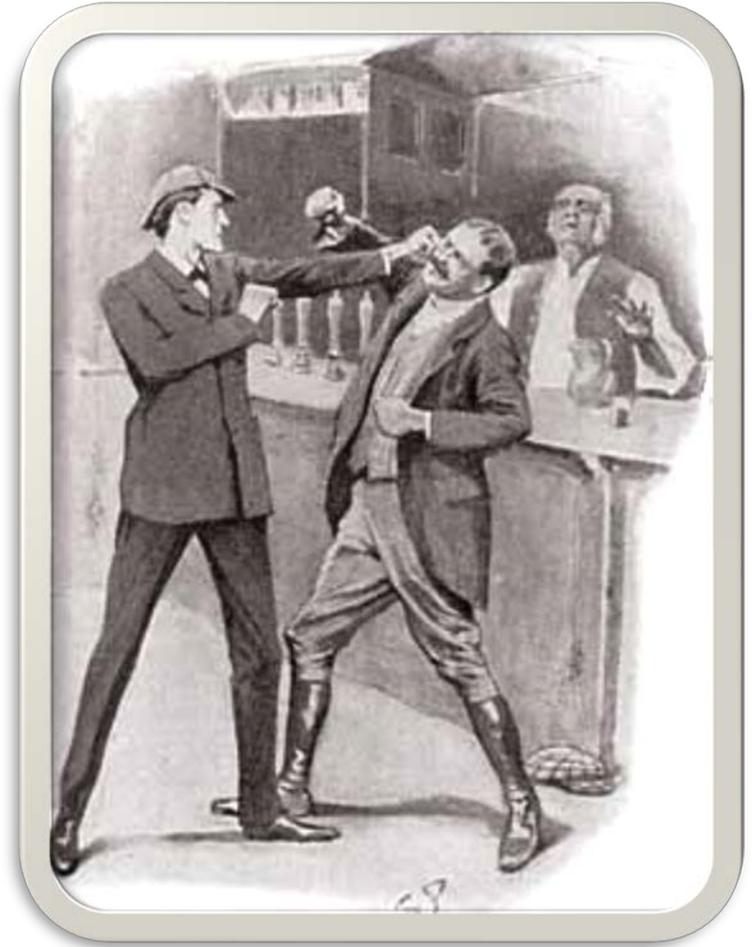
Welcome to topic number 82... today we will be looking at the role pubs play in Victorian times.



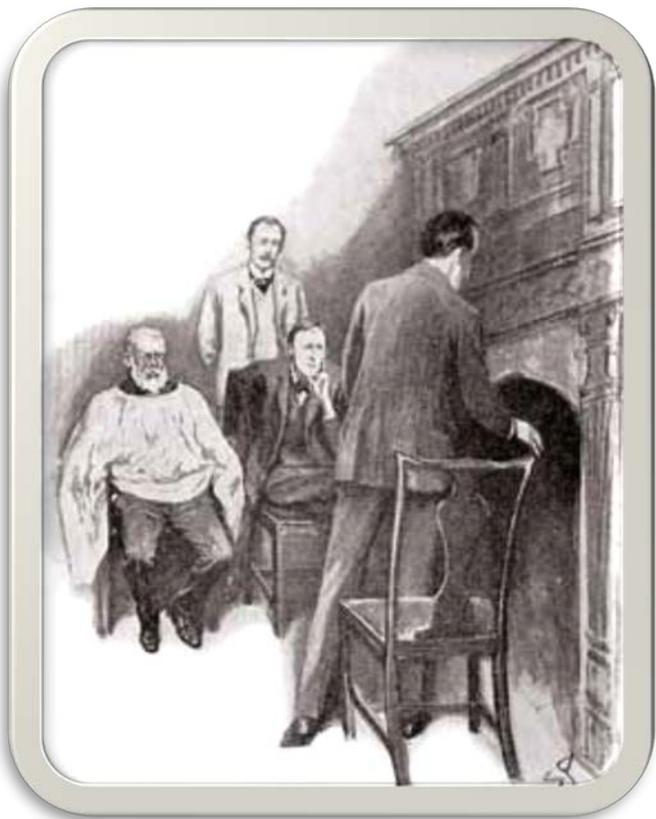
In "The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist," Holmes notes that pubs—or public houses—are "the centre of country gossip."



*While drinking at the bar,
Woodley, the object of his
inquiry, enters and a fight
ensues.*

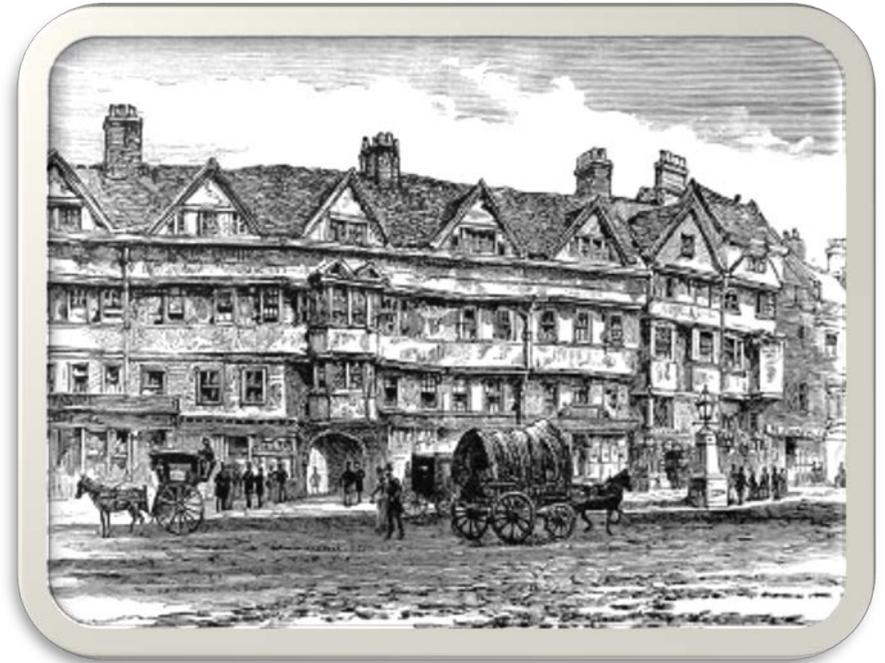


Understanding the significance of Holmes' preference for the pub's bar provides insights into both Holmes' abilities to blend in with the working class as well as Woodley's own social status.

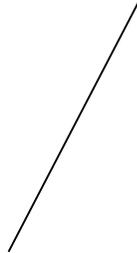


Victorians can imbibe in three different types of establishments.

The one with the most extensive services are the inns.



These facilities first appeared in Europe during Roman times when travelers required lodging as they journeyed throughout the Empire.



In England, inns have evolved to satisfy the need for way-stations between towns, providing meals and shelter to both the traveler and horse.



*In addition, they serve
as a delivery point for
mail and newspapers.*



Public houses, or taverns, are considered less prestigious.

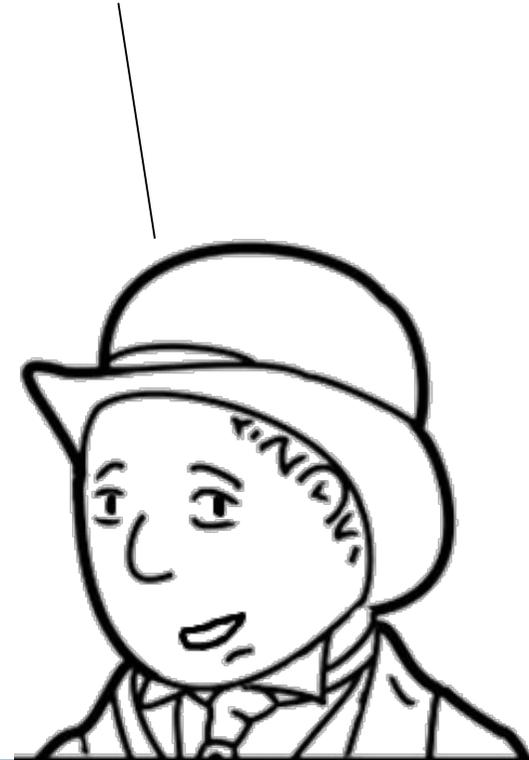
Pubs trace their roots to Roman tabernas where wine was served.



*After the Romans left Britain,
local wives would brew and sell
beer from their kitchens.*



As these businesses became more lucrative, husbands took over and provided a place for those who purchased the beer to also consume it in their home's front room.



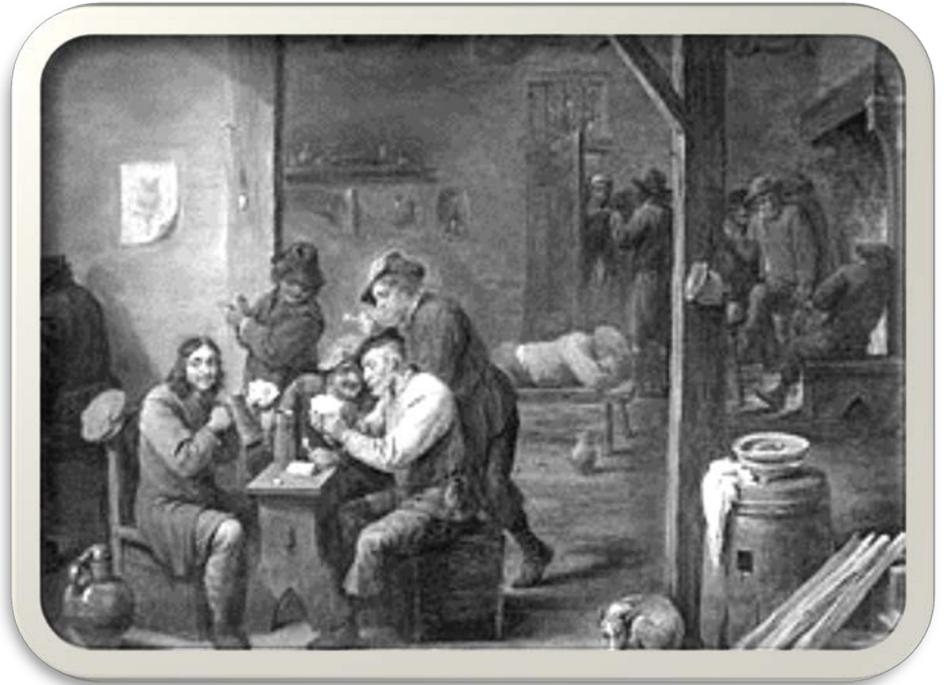
Over time, the more successful enterprises take over the entire home, and the publican moves into a bigger and more lavish home.



Brewers who expand to a number of alehouses or pubs selling their brand make considerable fortunes, and their daughters are viewed as desirable marriage prospects by the gentry.



The lowest class of drinking establishments are the alehouses that serve only beer and cider to working class patrons.



These enterprises expanded in the 1800s following the passage the Beer House Act of 1830.



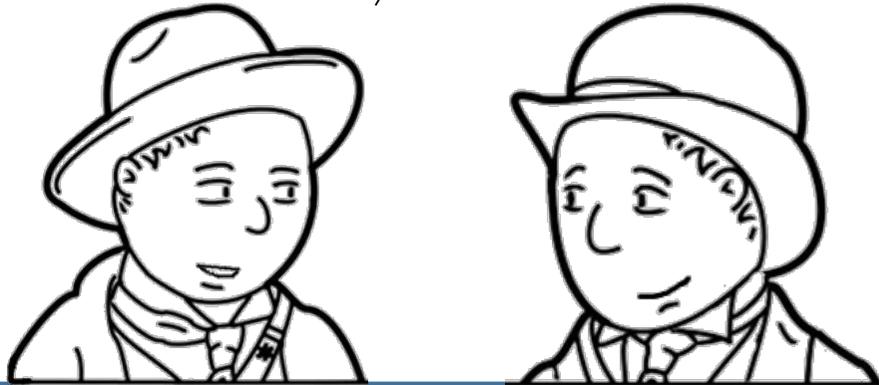
This legislation dropped the permit for those houses selling only beer to two guineas a year in an effort to encourage beer consumption (considered a more healthful drink) instead of gin.



In 1869 (due, in part, to the rise of the temperance movement), licensure is moved to local magistrates, and the number of beer houses drops from 49,000 to 31,000 by 1894.



With more modern methods and better transportation, brewers consolidate their businesses by purchasing alehouses and using them to sell their own product.



*By the end of the century,
90 percent of the public
houses will be tied to a
specific brewery.*



Within the public houses, different rooms offer different amenities to patrons.



The vault serve the working class, but women are not allowed to sit at the wooden benches or belly-up to the bar counter in these areas.



Tap rooms often offer a more club- or game-like atmosphere than the vault or public bar.



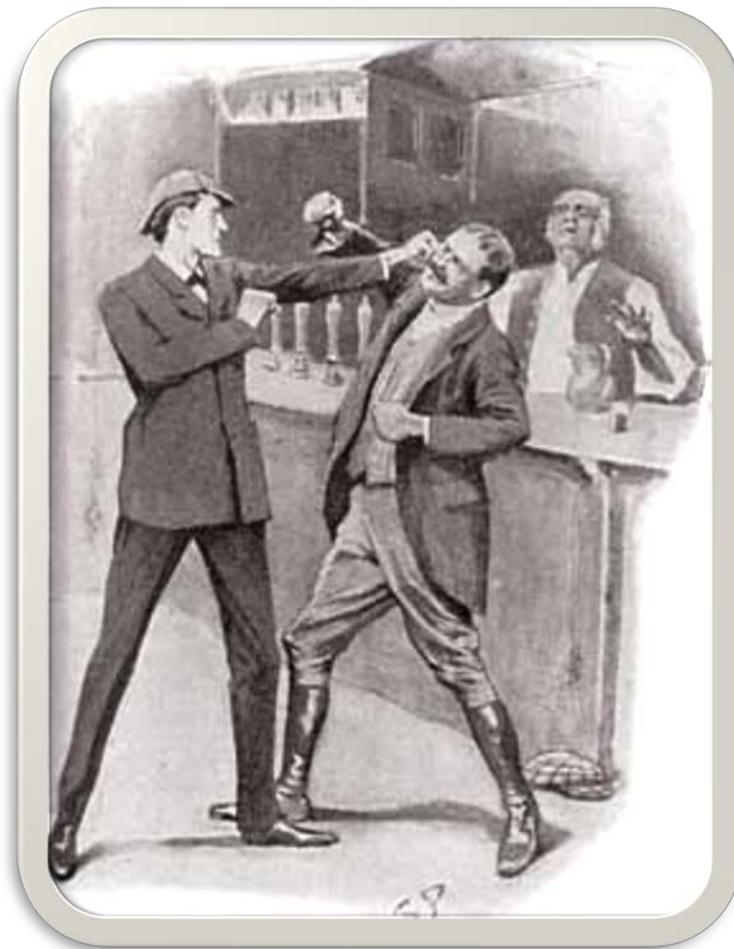
*For women or upper-class patrons,
the "best rooms" offer the same
beer, but at a higher price to
compensate for nicer furnishings.*



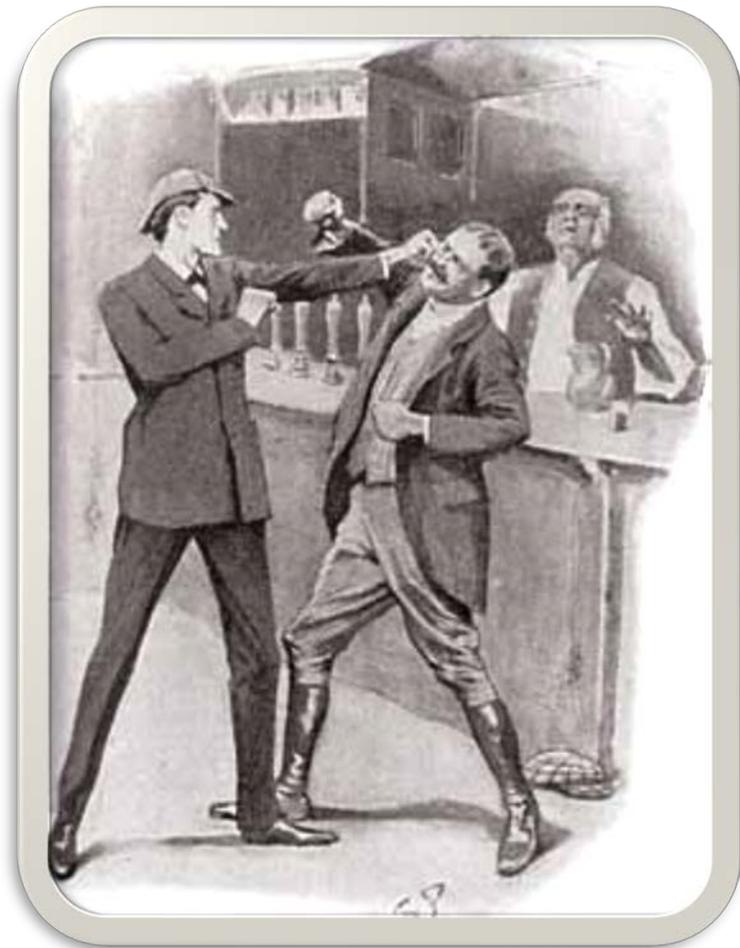
Entertainment, such as singers, might even be offered, and depending on the features, can be called by any number of names: the "music room," "concert room," "lounge," "parlor," "saloon," "commercial room," or "snug."



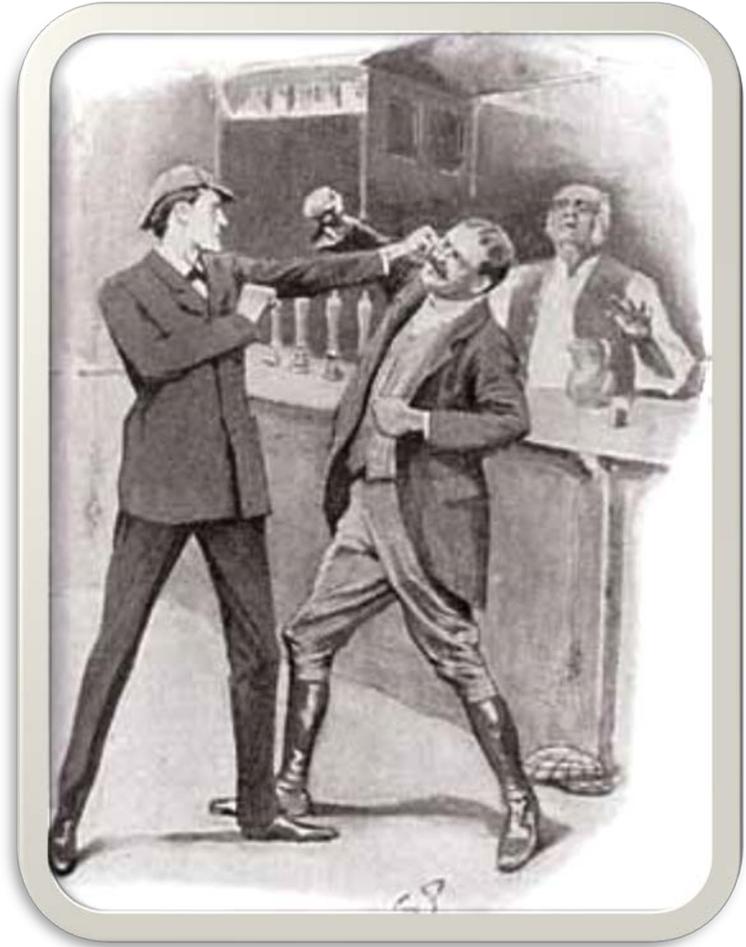
*Knowing that a person
of Woodley's caliber is
not welcomed in the
best rooms...*



... Holmes will understand that any information would have to be gathered from the pub's more public areas and will wisely choose the bar over a more elite parlor room.



In Farnham, this intimate knowledge of where to go to gather the needed information will pay off for the detective.



*So we have completed
topic 82 in our series...*

*Yes, but we'll be back
with another topic
soon...*



References for this topic:

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- <http://www.countrylovers.co.uk/fun/histpubs.htm>
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- <http://barclayperkins.blogspot.com/2011/07/vault-tap-room-and-lounge.html>



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"The Life and Times in Victorian London"

IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

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