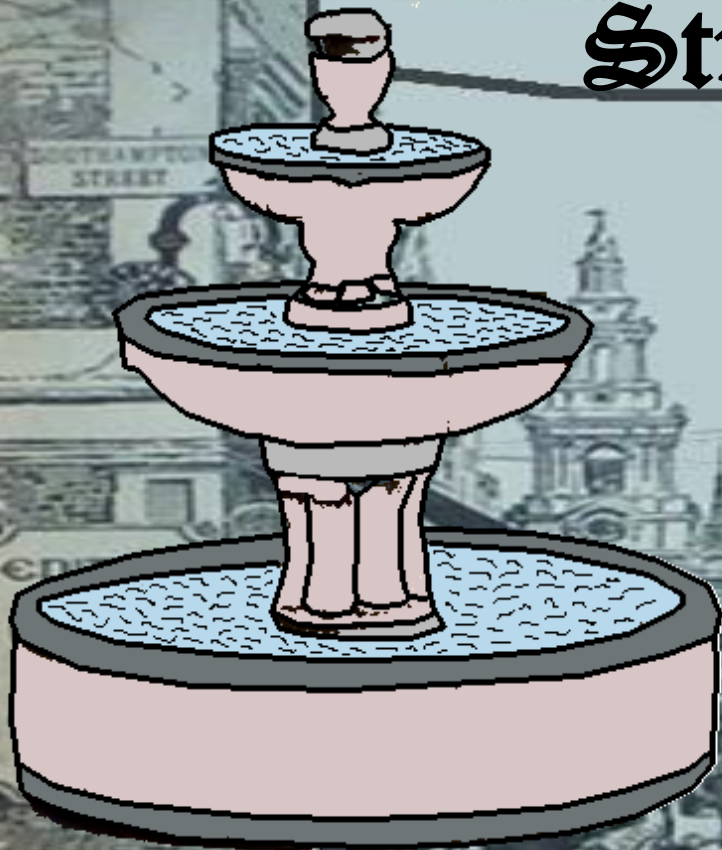


Baker Street

Elementary



Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

ADVENTURE IV.—THE BOSCOMBE VALLEY MYSTERY.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.



WE were seated at breakfast one morning, my wife and I, when the maid brought in a telegram. It was from Sherlock Holmes, and ran in this way :

"Have you a couple of days to spare? Have just been wired for from the West of England in connection with Boscombe Valley tragedy. Shall be glad if you will come with me. Air and scenery perfect. Leave Paddington by the 11.15."

"What do you say, dear?" said my wife, looking across at me. "Will you go?"

"I really don't know what to say. I have a fairly long list at present."

"Oh, Anstruther would do your work for you. You have been looking a little pale lately. I think that the change would do you good, and you are always so interested in Mr. Sherlock Holmes' cases."

"I should be ungrateful if I were not, seeing what I gained through one of them," I answered. "But if I am to go I must pack at once, for I have only half an hour."

My experience of camp life in Afghanistan had at least had the effect of making me a prompt and ready traveller. My wants were few and simple, so that in less than the time stated I was in a cab with my valise, rattling away to Paddington Station. Sherlock Holmes was pacing up and down the platform, his tall, gaunt figure made even gaunter and taller by his long grey travelling cloak, and close-fitting cloth cap.

"It is really very good of you to come, Watson," said he. "It makes a considerable difference to me, having someone with me on whom I can thoroughly rely. Local aid is always either worthless or else biased. If you will keep the two corner seats I shall get the tickets."

We had the carriage to ourselves save for an immense litter of papers which Holmes had brought with him. Among these he rummaged and read, with intervals of note-taking and of meditation, until we were past Reading. Then he suddenly rolled them all into a gigantic ball, and tossed them up on to the rack.

"Have you heard anything of the case?" he asked.

"Not a word. I have not seen a paper for some days."

"The London press has not had very full accounts. I have just been looking through all the recent papers in order to master the particulars. It seems, from what I gather, to be one of those simple cases which are so extremely difficult."



"WE HAD THE CARRIAGE TO OURSELVES."

Baker Street Elementary

"The Adventure of the Boscombe Fountain Mystery"

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1st Edition

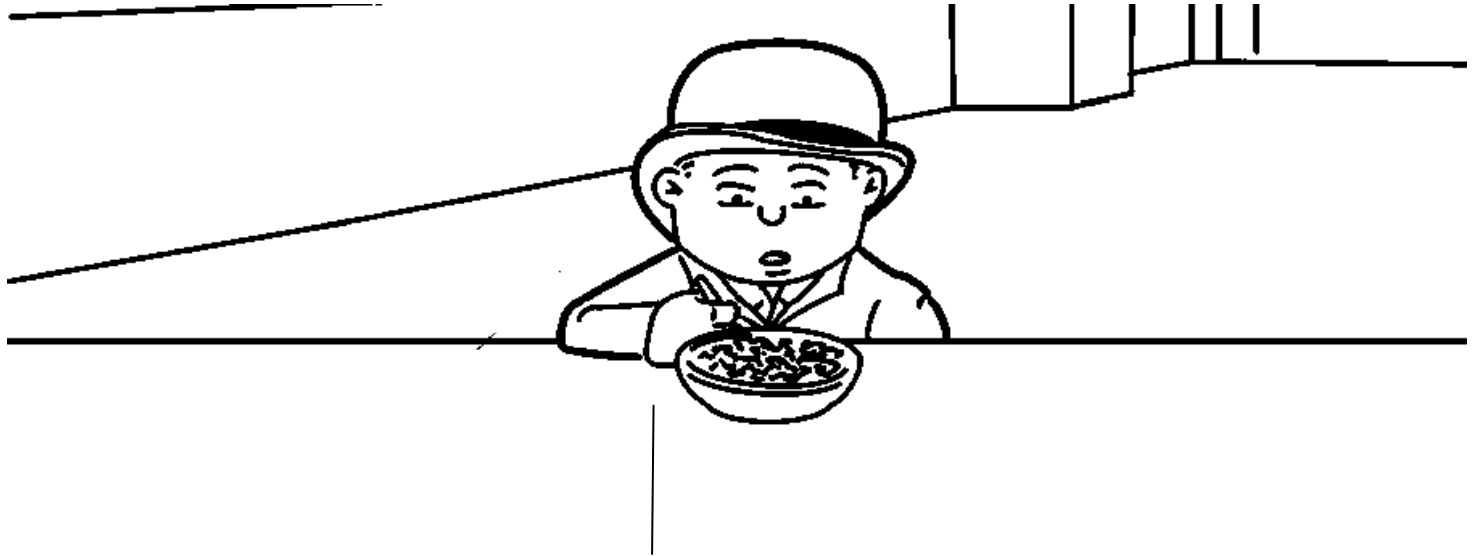
Published in Dallas, Texas

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*GOOD DAY, MRS. HUDSON... NOT ONE TO COMPLAIN, BUT YESTERDAY
THE BEEF STEW TASTED SLIGHTLY LIKE MY DOG'S FOOD.*

*SIMPLE SUGGESTION... QUIT EATING YOUR
DOG'S FOOD AT HOME AND YOU WON'T KNOW
WHAT TO COMPARE IT WITH.*



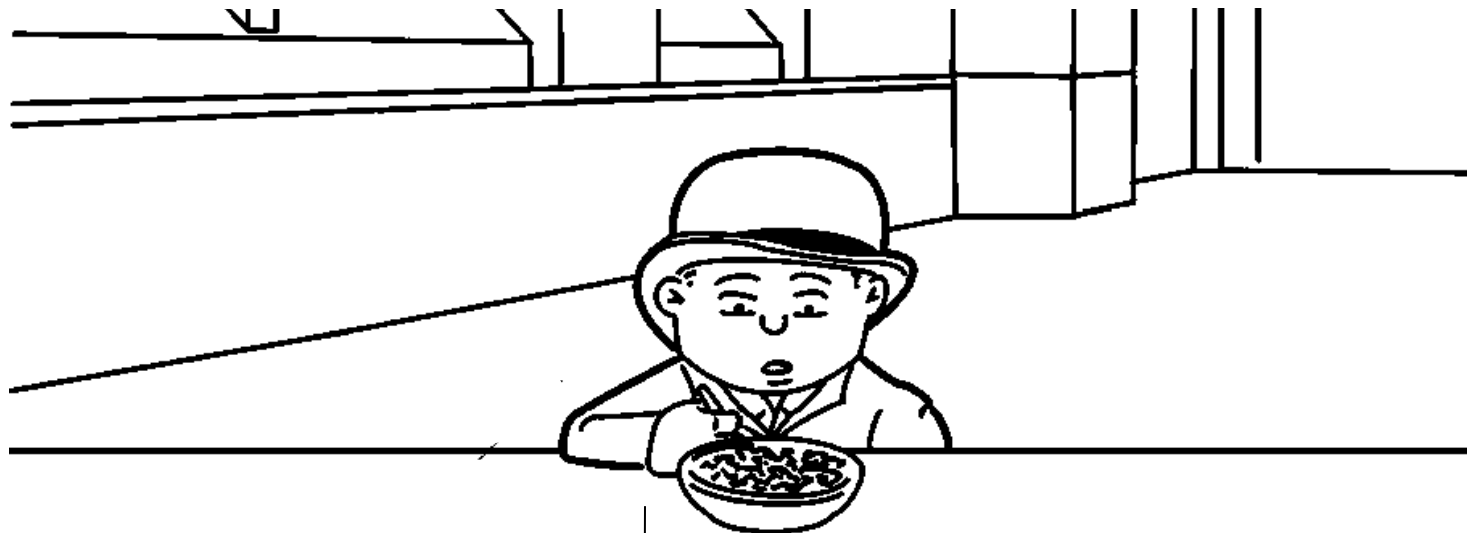
THERE SEEMS TO BE A PERVERTED LOGIC TO THAT SUGGESTION.

*THERE IS A MESSAGE UNDER YOUR PLATE,
THIS TIME FROM MASTER HOLMES.*



I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE WOULD DO WITHOUT YOU.

I GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT ONCE YOU TWO
MATRICULATE OUT OF THIS INSTITUTION.



WHO KNOWS, WE MAY JUST KEEP YOU
AROUND ONCE WE LIVE ON OUR OWN.

Have you a couple of days to
spare... Have been asked to look
into the boscombe fountain
mystery... Meet at wall at 11.15,
where the air and scenery perfect.
S.H.



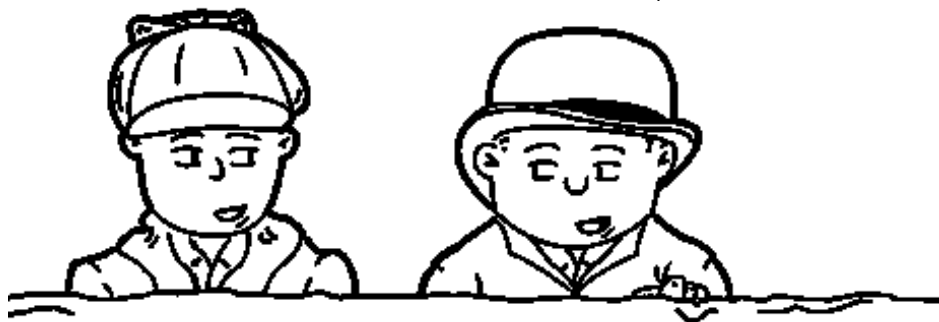
I ASSUME YOU WILL PITCH IN YOUR LOT TO ASSIST
MASTER HOLMES ONCE AGAIN... YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING
A BIT PALE LATELY... THE CHANGE MAY DO YOU GOOD.



USUALLY A DIAGNOSIS OF 'YOU'RE LOOKING PALE' WOULD BE
ACCOMPANIED WITH 'YOU SHOULD SEE THE SCHOOL NURSE'...
NOT, 'GO OFF ON A STRESSFUL ADVENTURE'... BUT YES, I WILL
SEE HOW I MAY ASSIST HOLMES.

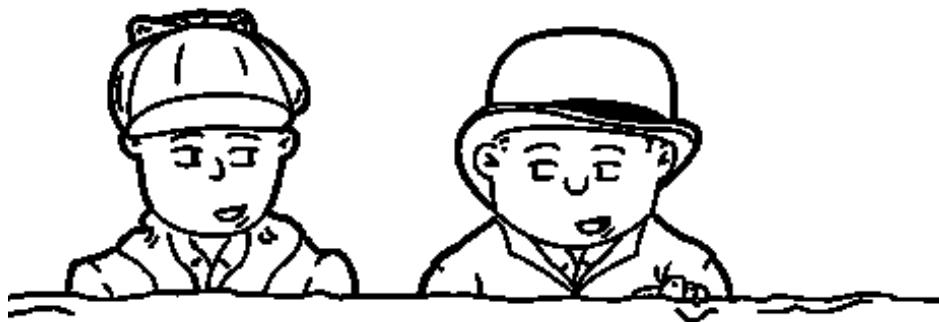
IT IS REALLY VERY GOOD OF YOU TO COME, WATSON... IT
MAKES A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE TO ME, HAVING
SOMEONE WITH ME ON WHOM I CAN THOROUGHLY RELY...
OTHER AID IS ALWAYS EITHER WORTHLESS OR ELSE BIASED.

LET ME GUESS... YOU WANT ME TO
READ SOMETHING TO YOU AGAIN?



NOT AT ALL... HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING OF THE CASE?

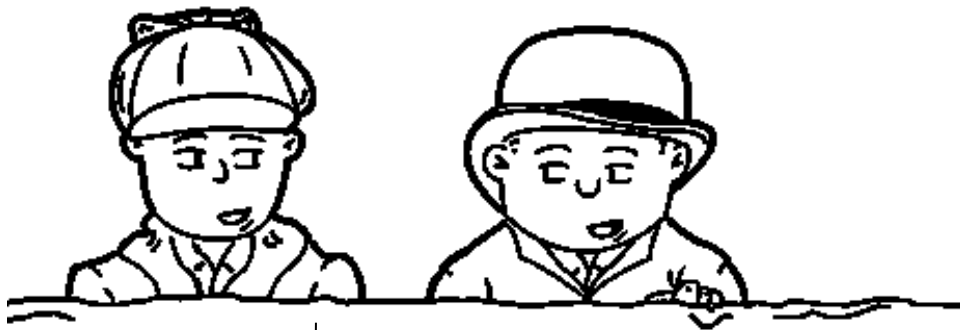
NOT A WORD.



A SMALL ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE SCHOOL PAPER LAST WEEK, BUT THE COVERAGE WAS WEAK AT BEST... IT SEEMS, FROM WHAT I GATHER, TO BE ONE OF THOSE SIMPLE CASES WHICH ARE SO EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

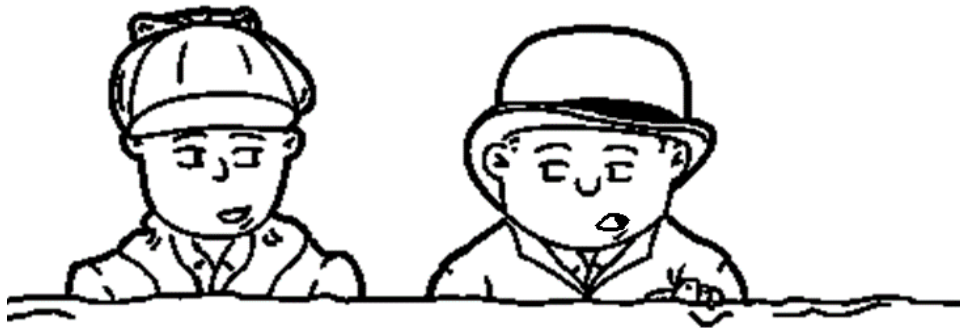


THAT SOUNDS A LITTLE PARADOXICAL, WHICH
ALSO EXPLAINS YOUR OWN MENTAL
PROCESSES SOMETIMES.



BUT IT IS PROFOUNDLY TRUE... SINGULARITY IS ALMOST INVARIABLY
A CLUE... THE MORE FEATURELESS AND COMMONPLACE A CRIME IS,
THE MORE DIFFICULT IT IS TO BRING IT HOME.

IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE
ESTABLISHED A VERY SERIOUS CASE AGAINST
THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE ASSAULTED MAN.



DO THEY KNOW FOR SURE AN ASSAULT HAS TAKEN PLACE,
AND NOT JUST A SERIOUS MISHAP OR ACCIDENT?



IT IS CONJECTURED TO BE SO... I SHALL
TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED UNTIL I
HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF LOOKING
PERSONALLY INTO IT... I WILL EXPLAIN
THE STATE OF THINGS TO YOU, AS FAR
AS I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO UNDERSTAND
IT, IN A VERY FEW WORDS.

TOO LATE FOR A
FEW WORDS.





"Light-houses, my boy! Beacons of the future! Capsules with hundreds of bright little seeds in each, out of which will spring the wiser, better England of the future." (Sherlock Holmes, "The Naval Treaty")

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



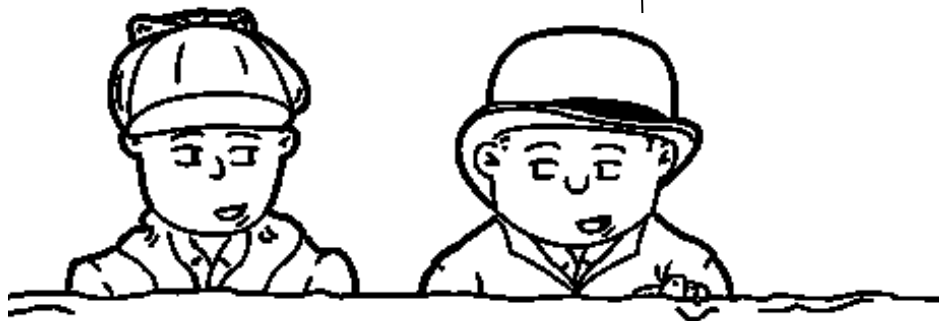


MASTER JOHN TURNER IS A SENIOR
STUDENT AT OUR SCHOOL, WHOSE
FAMILY RESIDES NOT FAR FROM ROSS
IN HERFORDSHIRE.

HIS FAMILY MADE
THEIR WEALTH IN
NEW ZEALAND BEFORE
RETURNING TO
ENGLAND A COUPLE OF
YEARS AGO.

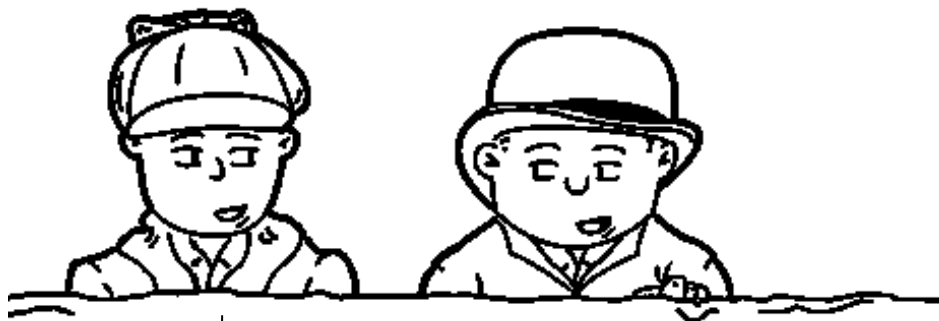


YOU KNOW I ONCE LIVED CLOSE TO THERE... AUSTRALIA ACTUALLY.



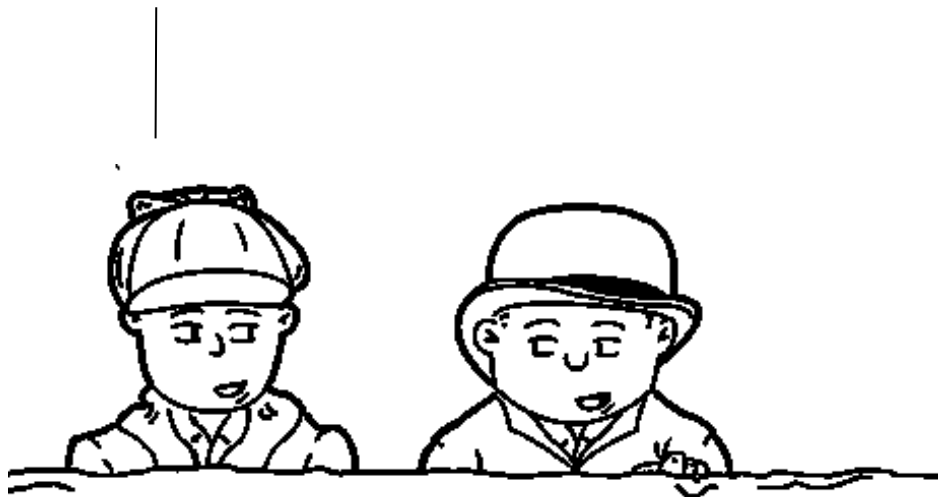
TWO CONTINENTS DOWN... ONE TO GO.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS THE
TURNERS HAVE ACQUIRED?



THAT HAS NOT BECOME CLEAR... ANYWAY, THE
TURNERS ALLOWED ANOTHER FAMILY, THE
MCCARTHY'S, TO TENANT UPON THEIR LANDS.

TO CLOSE OUT THE FAMILY TREE FOR OUR PURPOSES, MASTER TURNER HAS A GOOD FRIEND, MASTER CHARLES MCCARTHY, ALSO A SENIOR... CHARLES HAS A BROTHER, JAMES, ONE YEAR YOUNGER... MASTER TURNER HAS A YOUNGER SISTER, ALICE, WHO ATTENDS GREY COAT'S HOSPITAL.



I MAY HAVE TO DRAW A MAP OF THESE FAMILY TREES.



NOW FOR THE FACTS... ON MONDAY LAST, CHARLES MCCARTHY LEFT HIS HOUSE AND WALKED DOWN TO THE BOSCOMBE FOUNTAIN, WHICH BORDERS BOTH OUR CAMPUS AND THAT OF THE GIRL'S SCHOOL, FOR AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT HE HAD MADE... FROM THAT APPOINTMENT HE DID NOT COME BACK UNSCATHED.

SEVERAL WITNESSES STATE CHARLES WAS WALKING ALONE... HOWEVER, A FEW MINUTES LATER, JAMES WAS SEEN GOING THE SAME WAY WITH A SINGLESTICK UNDER HIS ARM.





PATIENCE MORAN, A YOUNGER STUDENT FROM GREY'S, WITNESSED JAMES AND CHARLES HAVING A VIOLENT QUARREL... SHE RAN TO THE CLOSEST OF OUR DORMITORIES, WHERE SHE INFORMED THE HOUSE MOTHER OF THE ISSUE.

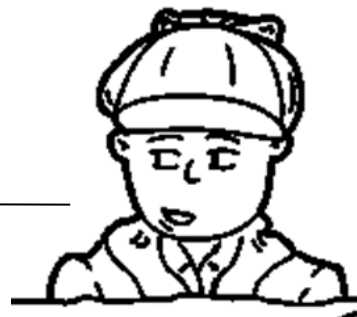
SHE HAD HARDLY SAID THE WORDS WHEN THE YOUNGER MCCARTHY CAME RUNNING UP TO SAY HE HAD FOUND HIS BROTHER KNOCKED SENSELESS NEAR THE FOUNTAIN... JAMES' SLEEVE AND RIGHT HAND WERE STAINED WITH FRESH BLOOD.





*JAMES, ACCOMPANIED BY A
GROUNDS-KEEPER, RETURNED TO THE
SITE AND FOUND HIS BROTHER
BESIDE THE FOUNTAIN WITH
OBVIOUS WOUNDS TO HIS FOREHEAD.*

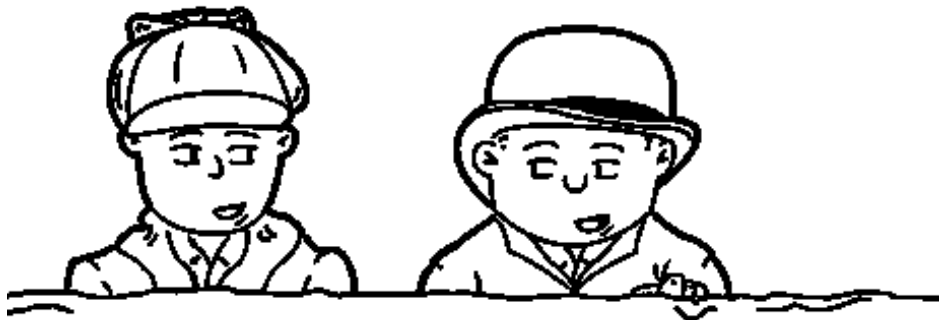
*THE INJURY WAS SUCH AS MIGHT
HAVE BEEN INFLICTED BY A BLUNT
OBJECT, SUCH AS A STICK...
JAMES' SINGLE-STICK WAS FOUND
LYING ON THE GRASS WITHIN A
FEW PACES OF CHARLES.*



JAMES WAS IMMEDIATELY TAKEN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICES, AND THE HEADMASTER HAS SUSPENDED HIM, UNTIL THE FACTS ARE FULLY DETERMINED... AN EXPULSION IS EXPECTED, AT WHICH TIME HIS PARENTS HAVE DETERMINED THE BEST COURSE IS TO SHIP HIM OFF TO SOUTH AFRICA TO FIND HIS OWN WAY.



*I COULD HARDLY IMAGINE A MORE DAMNING
CASE... IF EVER CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE
POINTED TO A CRIMINAL, IT DOES SO HERE.*



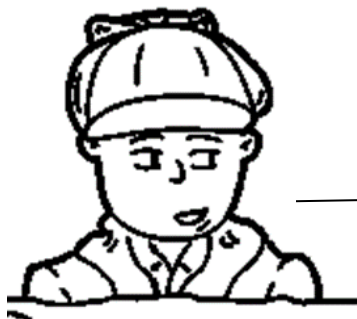
*OH WAIT, I CAN IMAGINE A CASE WHERE SOMEONE
MIGHT SIC A SNAKE ON TWO UNSUSPECTING
SISTERS... THAT WOULD BE PRETTY DAMNING.*



CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE IS A VERY TRICKY THING... IT MAY SEEM TO POINT VERY STRAIGHT TO ONE THING, BUT IF YOU SHIFT YOUR OWN POINT OF VIEW A LITTLE, YOU MAY FIND IT POINTING IN AN EQUALLY UNCOMPROMISING MANNER TO SOMETHING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.

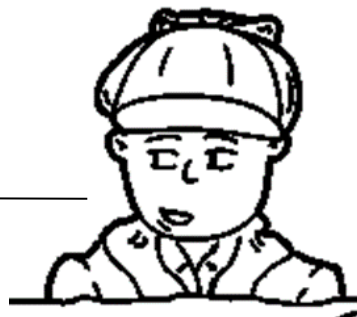
IT MUST BE CONFESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CASE LOOKS EXCEEDINGLY GRAVE AGAINST THE YOUNG MAN, AND IT IS VERY POSSIBLE THAT HE IS INDEED THE CULPRIT.





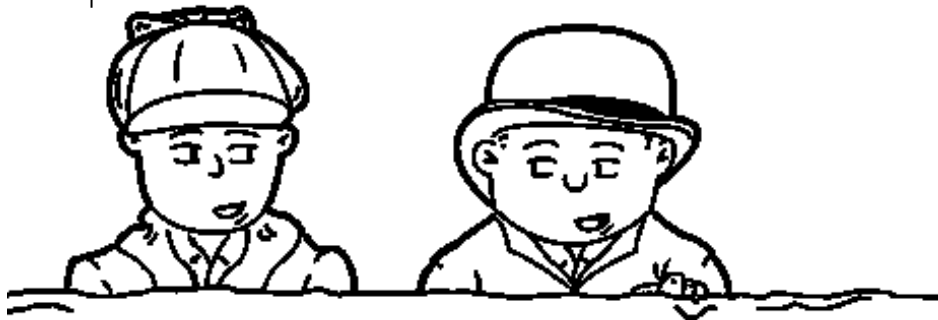
THERE ARE SEVERAL PEOPLE AT SCHOOL,
HOWEVER, AND AMONG THEM MISS
TURNER, WHO BELIEVE IN HIS
INNOCENCE, AND WHO HAVE RETAINED
OUR OWN PREFECT, LESTRADE, TO WORK
OUT THE CASE IN HIS INTEREST.

LESTRADE, BEING RATHER PUZZLED,
HAS REFERRED THE CASE TO ME, AND
HENCE IT IS THAT TWO STUDENTS
ARE STANDING AT THE WALL,
INSTEAD OF QUIETLY DIGESTING
THEIR LUNCH AT THE CAFETERIA.



I AM AFRAID, THAT THE FACTS ARE SO
OBVIOUS THAT YOU WILL FIND LITTLE
CREDIT TO BE GAINED OUT OF THIS CASE.

THERE IS NOTHING MORE DECEPTIVE
THAN AN OBVIOUS FACT... HEY, THAT
ONE'S CATCHY ALSO... YOU SHOULD
WRITE IT DOWN.



Dr. Batty's



For Your Health

ASTHMA CIGARETTES

SINCE 1882

*For the temporary relief of
paroxysms of asthma*

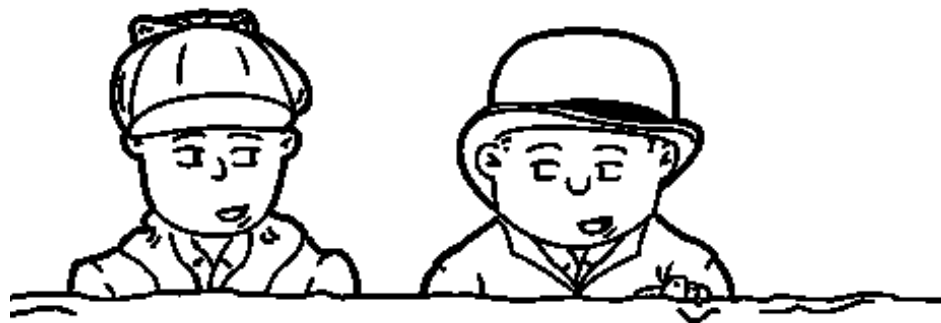
EFFECTIVELY TREATS:

ASTHMA, HAY FEVER, FOUL BREATH
ALL DISEASES OF THE THROAT,
HEAD COLDS, CANCER SOURS
BRONCHIAL IRRITATIONS

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6.

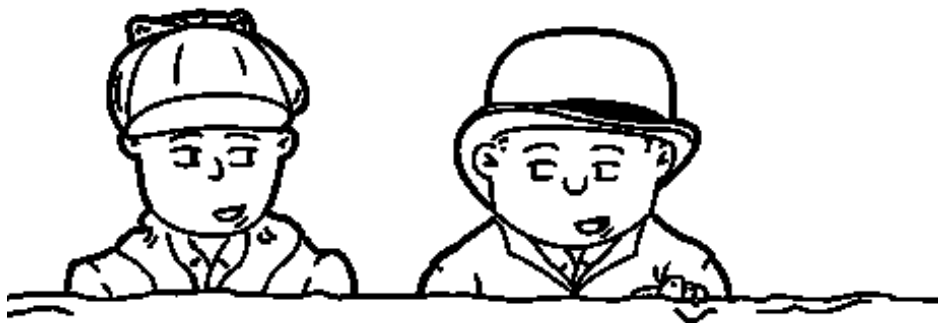
THERE ARE ONE OR TWO MINOR POINTS WHICH WERE
BROUGHT OUT WHILE THE HEADMASTER WAS INTERVIEWING
JAMES, AND WHICH ARE WORTH CONSIDERING.

WHAT ARE THEY?



**JAMES DID NOT SHOW SURPRISE HE WAS BEING
BLAMED FOR THE BEATING... HE EVEN STATED HIS
BEING ACCUSED WAS NO MORE THAN HIS DESSERTS.**

**NOT APPETIZERS... YOU'RE NOT
LAUGHING... SO, IT WAS A CONFESSION?**

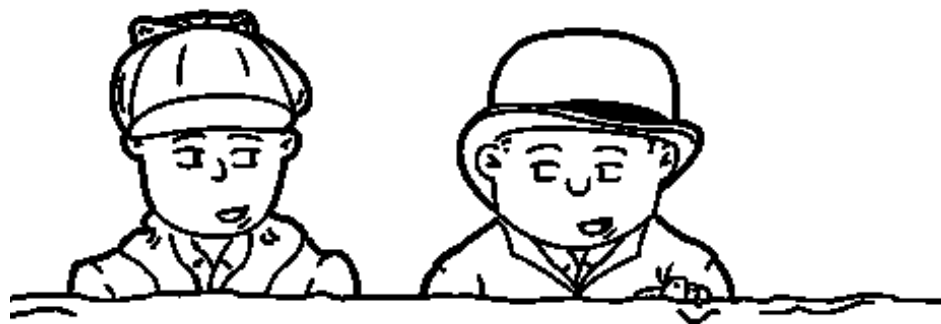


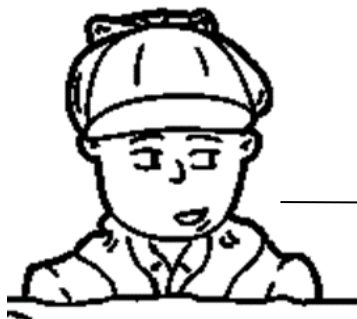
*NO, HE STILL PROTESTED HIS INNOCENCE,
WHICH APPEAR TO ME TO BE THE SIGNS OF A
HEALTHY MIND RATHER THAN OF A GUILTY ONE.*



*SO, YOU'RE PRACTICING AMATEUR PSYCHOLOGY NOW? WHAT
IS THE YOUNG MAN'S OWN ACCOUNT OF THE MATTER?*

NOT GOOD...





JAMES MCCARTHY INDICATED HE HAD RETURNED TO SCHOOL AFTER A LONG WEEKEND... HE SPOTTED HIS BROTHER, CHARLES WALKING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE FOUNTAIN... HE PICKED UP HIS SINGLE STICK AND STROLLED OUT IN THE DIRECTION OF THE FOUNTAIN, WITH THE INTENTION OF VISITING THE GYMNASIUM TO PRACTICE HIS SELF DEFENSE.

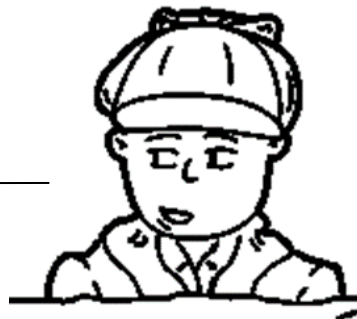
ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE POOL, HE HEARD THE CRY OF 'YOU-WEE' WHICH WAS A SIGNAL BETWEEN HIS BROTHER AND HIMSELF.





HE MET UP WITH HIS OLDER
BROTHER AT THE FOUNTAIN, AT
WHICH TIME AN ARGUMENT ENSUED.

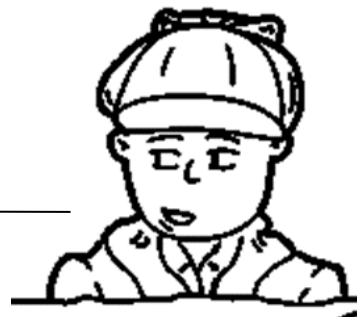
TO LET BOTH SIDES COOL
DOWN, HE WALKED AWAY,
PLANNING ON RETURNING TO
THE RESIDENT DORMITORY.





HE HAD STOPPED TO RETIE BOTH
SHOES, WHEN HE HEARD A HIDEOUS
OUTCRY BEHIND HIM.

UPON RETURNING TO THE FOUNTAIN,
HE HAD FOUND HIS BROTHER LYING
SENSELESS NEXT TO THE
FOUNTAIN, WITH AN OBVIOUS
WOUND TO THE FOREHEAD.





YOUNGER MCCARTHY STATED HIS
BROTHER DID MUMBLE SOMETHING
ABOUT 'A HUT,' BUT NOTHING ELSE.

GRATEFULLY, THE OLDER MCCARTHY IS
EXPECTED TO RECOVER AT SOME POINT,
BUT AT PRESENT, HE STILL LIES
UNCONSCIOUS AT ST. BART'S HOSPITAL.





TO THIS POINT, JAMES HAS CHOSEN
NOT TO REVEAL WHAT HIS BROTHER
AND HE ARGUED ABOUT BUT DOES NOT
THINK IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH
THE TRAGEDY WHICH FOLLOWED.

HE ALSO HAS NO CLUE WHY HIS
OLDER BROTHER WOULD HAVE CRIED
OUT THEIR COMMON SIGNAL 'YOU-
WEE' BEFORE KNOWING HIS YOUNGER
BROTHER WAS IN THE AREA.





IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE JAMES
HAS A VAGUE RECOLLECTION OR
IMPRESSION OF SEEING SOMETHING
GRAY IN COLOUR, MAYBE A COAT NEAR
THE FOUNTAIN WHEN HE RETURNED.

HOWEVER, AFTER ADMINISTERING TO
HIS BROTHER, WHEN HE ROSE TO
SEEK ASSISTANCE, IT WAS GONE.

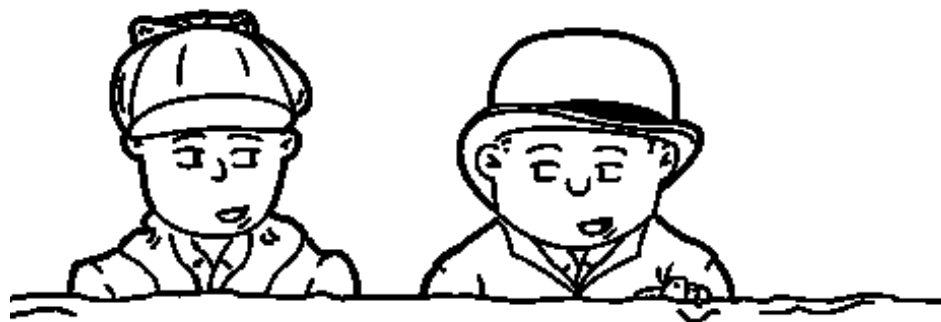


I IMAGINE THE HEADMASTER HAS FOCUSED ON THE SIGNAL SENT OUT BY CHARLES BEFORE JAMES FOUND HIM... WHY JAMES WILL NOT REVEAL THE CONVERSATION DETAILS WITH HIS BROTHERS, AND THE BROTHER'S WORDS BEFORE HE PASSED OUT... ALL THESE SEEM TO BE VERY MUCH AGAINST THE BROTHER.



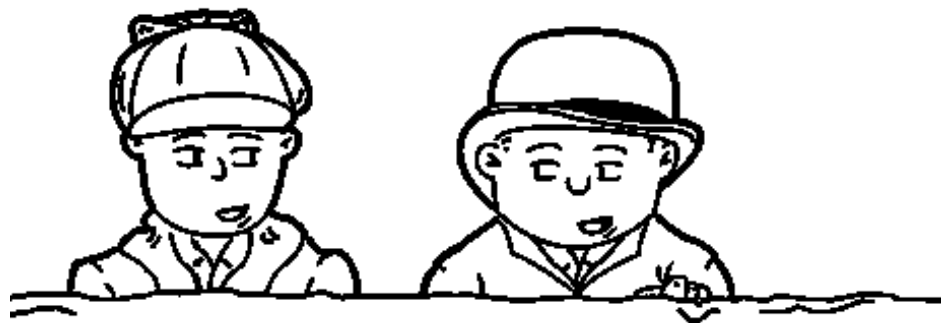
**BOTH YOU AND THE HEADMASTER HAVE SINGLED OUT THE
STRONGEST POINTS IN THE YOUNGER BROTHER'S FAVOUR.**

**NOT OFTEN HE AND I
AGREE ABOUT ANYTHING.**



*YOU ALTERNATELY GIVE YOUNG MCCARTHY CREDIT FOR
HAVING TOO MUCH IMAGINATION AND TOO LITTLE?*

*I DO THE SAME WITH YOU
ON A REGULAR BASIS.*





HE HAS TOO LITTLE IMAGINATION IF
HE COULD NOT INVENT A CAUSE FOR
THE QUARREL WHICH WOULD SATISFY
THE HEADMASTER; TOO MUCH
IMAGINATION IF HE COULD MAKE UP A
REFERENCE TO A HUT AND THE
VANISHING CLOTH.

I SHALL APPROACH THIS CASE AS IF
WHAT JAMES SAYS IS TRUE, AND WE
SHALL SEE WHITHER THAT
HYPOTHESIS WILL LEAD US... NOW
OFF TO A LATE LUNCH, IF MRS.
HUDSON WILL TOLERATE US.





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.



Later that afternoon...

*I WAS STARTING TO WONDER WHETHER I WAS
GOING TO BE IN THIS ADVENTURE.*



*I ASSUME YOU HAVE ALREADY FORMED YOUR
CONCLSIONS... THE CASE IS AS PLAIN AS A PIKESTAFF.*



THAT LITERALLY MAKES NO SENSE.

MISS TURNER WOULD LIKE TO
HEAR YOUR OPINION, AND IS
APPROACHING US NOW.



PLEASE MASTER HOLMES... I KNOW JAMES DID NOT DO IT...
WE HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE WE WERE VERY
YOUNG, AND HE IS TOO TENDER-HEARTED TO HURT A FLY.



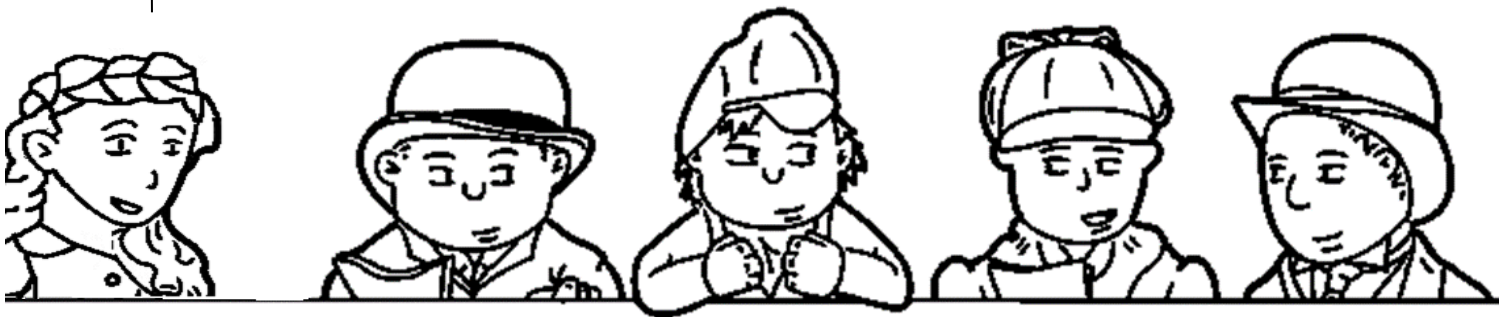
JUST OLDER BROTHERS.

*I THINK WE MAY CLEAR
HIM, MISS TURNER.*



YOU HAVE READ THE EVIDENCE... DO YOU
SEE SOME LOOPHOLE, SOME FLAW?

I THINK IT IS PROBABLE
HE IS INNOCENT.



WOULD NOT BET MY LIFE-SAVINGS ON HIM.

I AM AFRAID MY COLLEAGUE IS A LITTLE
QUICK IN FORMING HIS CONCLUSIONS.



I DO KNOW THE QUARREL WITH
HIS BROTHER DID CONCERN ME.

IN WHAT WAY?



PICCADILLY HALL HARVEY'S MIDGES

THE SMALLEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD.

ADMISSION 1/- CHILDREN HALF - PRID
 NOON FROM 2 TILL 5. EVENING FROM 7 TILL 9.



PRINCESS
LOTTIE

BORN

JULY 4TH 1869

20^{IN}

IN
HEIGHT

ACTUAL PRESENT

WEIGHT

9 LBS.



GENERAL TOT
31^{IN}
IN HEIGHT
15 YEARS



PRINCE
MIDGE

BORN

JAN. 14TH 1868

21^{IN}

IN
HEIGHT

&

WEIGHT

9¹/₂ LBS.



JENNIE WOODEN
25^{IN}
IN HEIGHT
12 YEARS

I GUESS THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO HIDE ANYTHING --

IS THERE A GOOD TIME?



ANYWAY, JAMES AND CHARLES HAD MANY DISAGREEMENTS
ABOUT ME... CHARLES BELIEVES JAMES AND I SHOULD
ALREADY BE PLANNING ON OUR WEDDING.



JAMES AND I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED EACH OTHER AS
BROTHER AND SISTER --

I'M NOT SURE I LIKE WHERE THIS IS GOING.



AND YOUR OLDER BROTHER? WAS HE IN
FAVOUR OF SUCH A UNION?

NO, HE IS ADVERSE TO SUCH A
UNION... IT APPEARS ONLY CHARLES
AND I FULLY SUPPORTED THE IDEA.



THANK YOU FOR THE INFORMATION... MAY
I CALL UPON YOUR BROTHER TOMORROW?

I AM AFRAID THE SCHOOL NURSE
WON'T ALLOW IT.



THE NURSE?



HE HAS TAKEN TO HIS BED, AND NURSE WRIGHT SAYS
HE IS A WRECK... MASTER MCCARTHY AND MY BROTHER
WERE VERY CLOSE FRIENDS IN NEW ZEALAND... MY
BROTHER HAS NOT TAKEN THE ASSAULT WEL..

HA! NEW ZEALAND... THAT IS IMPORTANT! I ASSUME
YOUR FAMILY MADE THEIR WEALTH IN SHEEP FARMING?



YES CERTAINLY.



_____ *I MUST GO TO MY BROTHER'S
ROOM TO TEND TO HIM.*

*NO DOUBT YOU WILL GO TO JAMES'
ROOM TO SEE HIM... PLEASE TELL HIM
I KNOW HIM TO BE INNOCENT.*



*I AM ASHAMED OF YOU, HOLMES... WHY SHOULD YOU RAISE UP
HOPES WHICH ARE BOUND TO DISAPPOINT? I CALL IT CRUEL!*



ACTUALLY, I SEE MY WAY TO CLEARING JAMES
MCCARTHY... I WOULD LIKE TO VISIT HIM THIS EVENING.

THAT HAS BEEN
ARRANGED.



At bedtime...

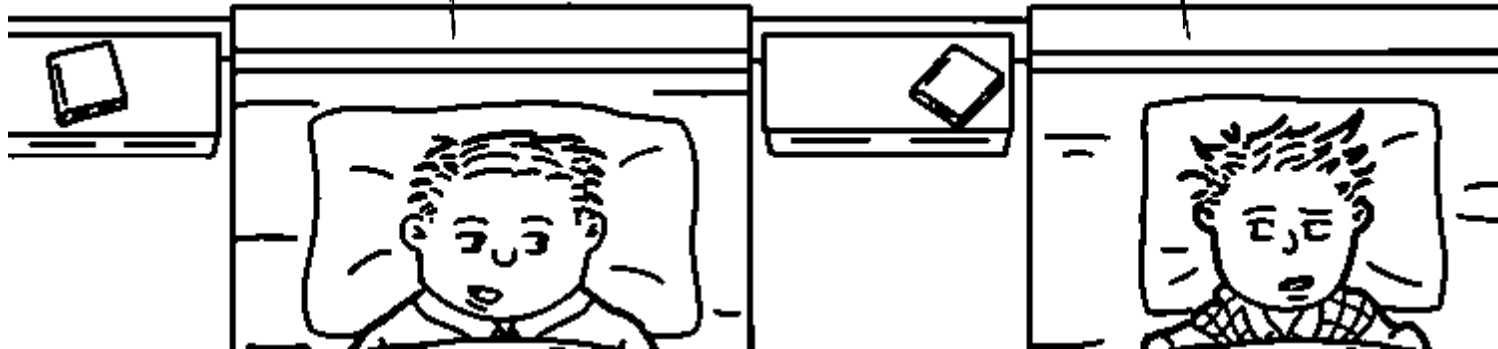
THE GLASS STILL KEEPS VERY HIGH...

AS COMPARED TO IT BEING HALF-EMPTY?



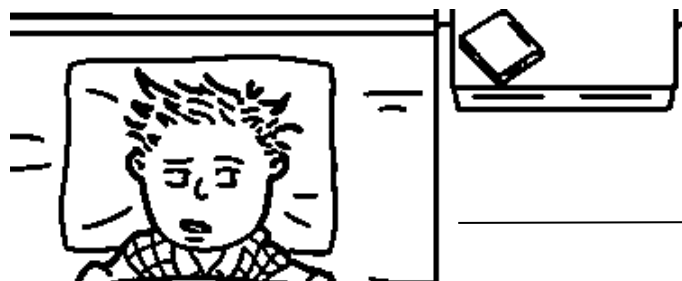
I REFER TO THE BAROMETER... I PLAN ON VISITING
THE FOUNTAIN BEFORE THE NEXT RAIN.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM YOUR
VISIT WITH YOUNG MCCARTHY?





*NOTHING... HE
THREW NO LIGHT
ON THE MYSTERY.*



*I BELIEVE HE IS AS
PUZZLED ABOUT THE
ASSAILANT AS WE ARE.*

DUNKLEY'S



21.



21.



WINTER BASSINETTE, 45.



20.



21.



15. 6.



20.

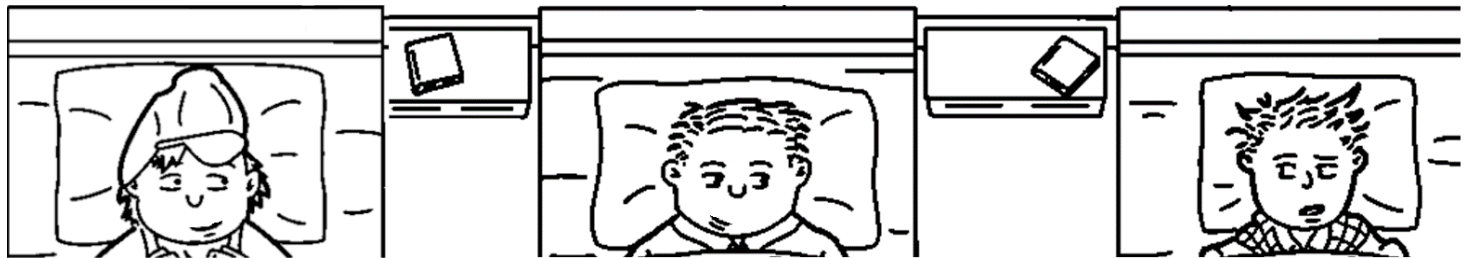


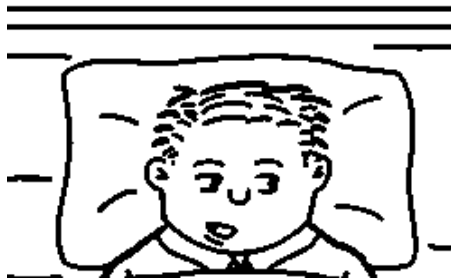
21.

Steam Cycles & Roadabouts, with Organ
COMPLATE.
DUNKLEY'S MAIL CARTS, 14/6.

76 Houndsditch, LONDON, E.C. Jamaica Row, BIRMINGHAM

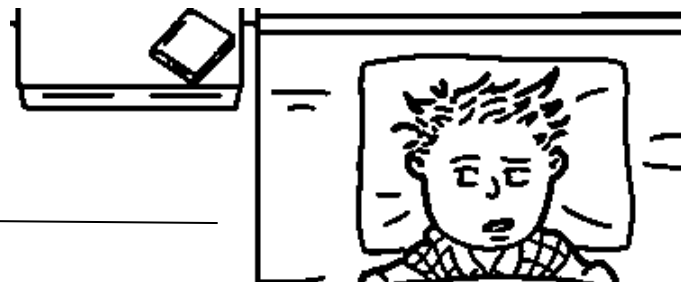
HE IS NOT A VERY QUICK-WITTED YOUTH, THOUGH COMELY
TO LOOK AT AND, I SHOULD THINK, SOUND AT HEART.





GOOD CREDENTIALS FOR A BEAUTY PAGEANT, BUT I CANNOT ADMIRE HIS TASTE IF HE INDEED IS AVERSE TO BEING UNITED WITH SO CHARMING A YOUNG LADY AS MISS TURNER.

THEREBY HANGS A RATHER PAINFUL TALE... THIS FELLOW IS MADLY IN LOVE WITH MISS TURNER, BUT TWO YEARS AGO, HE PROMISED HIMSELF TO ANOTHER LASS AT A SCHOOL NEAR HIS HOME.





**SHE WILL NOT RELEASE
HIM FROM HIS VERBAL
BOND, AND THREATENS
TO EMBARRASS HIM IF
HE TRIES TO BREAK THE
PROMISE.**



**AT THIS POINT IN HIS
LIFE, HE DARE NOT TAKE
THAT CHANCE WITH HIS
OLDER BROTHER AND
PARENTS... HE WAS WITH
THIS OTHER BETROTHED
THE LAST WEEKEND.**



IT IS OF IMPORTANCE
THAT HIS BROTHER AND
PARENTS DO NOT KNOW
OF THIS RELATIONSHIP...
GOOD HAS COME OUT OF
EVIL, HOWEVER.



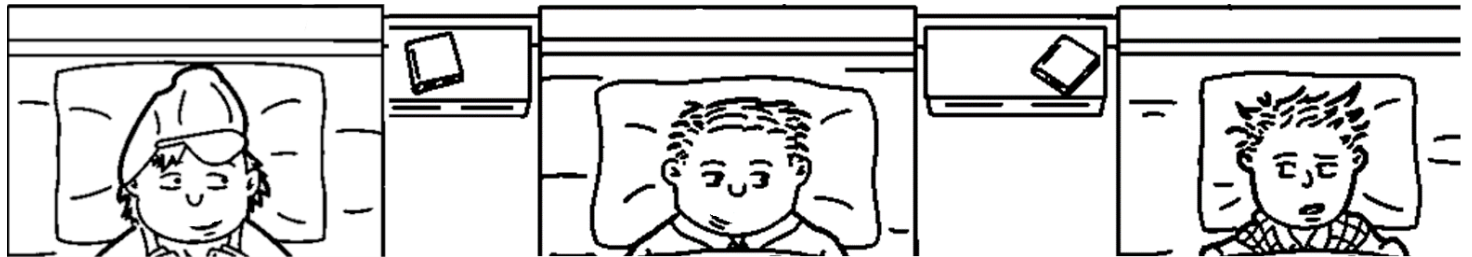
FORTUNATELY, THE OTHER
GIRLFRIEND HAS DECIDED TO
THROW HIM OVER UTTERLY
AS HE FINDS HIMSELF IN
SERIOUS TROUBLE.

BUT IF HE IS INNOCENT, WHO HAS COMMITTED THE ASSAULT?

*I WOULD CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO TWO POINTS...
THE OLDER BROTHER HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH
SOMEONE AT THE FOUNTAIN.*



IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, AS HE DID NOT KNOW HE HAD RETURNED FROM HOME, AS WELL AS CRYING OUT 'YOU-WEE'... THE CASE DEPENDS ON THESE POINTS.



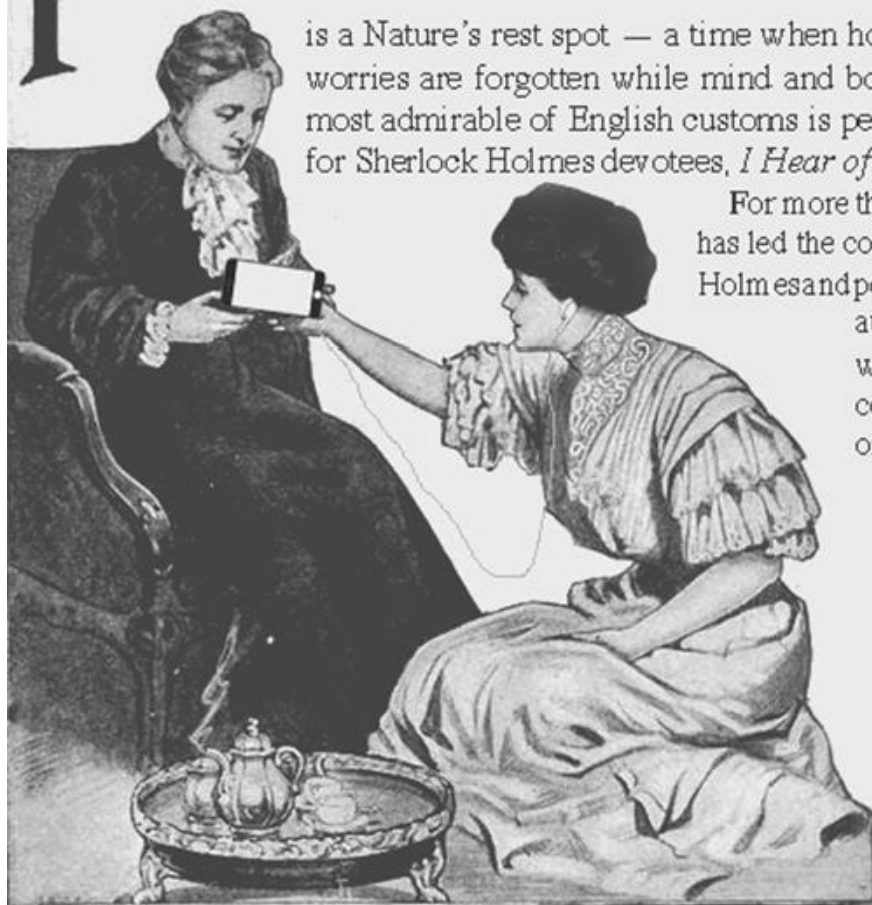
Four O'clock Tea

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*.

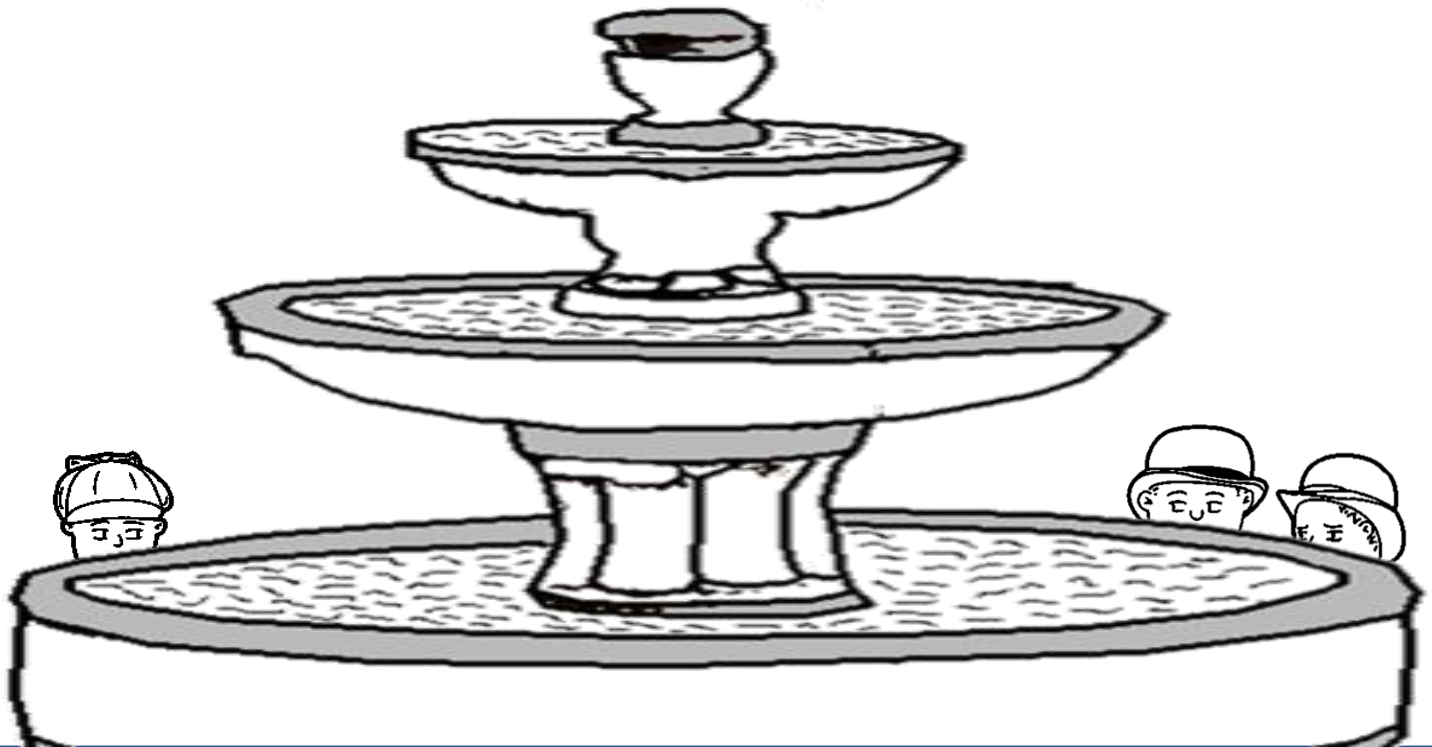
For more than ten years *I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere* has led the conversation about the intersection of Sherlock Holmes and popular culture. Shows features interviews with authors, actors or experts closely connected with the life and literature of the world's first consulting detective. New shows are available on the 15th and last days of each month.



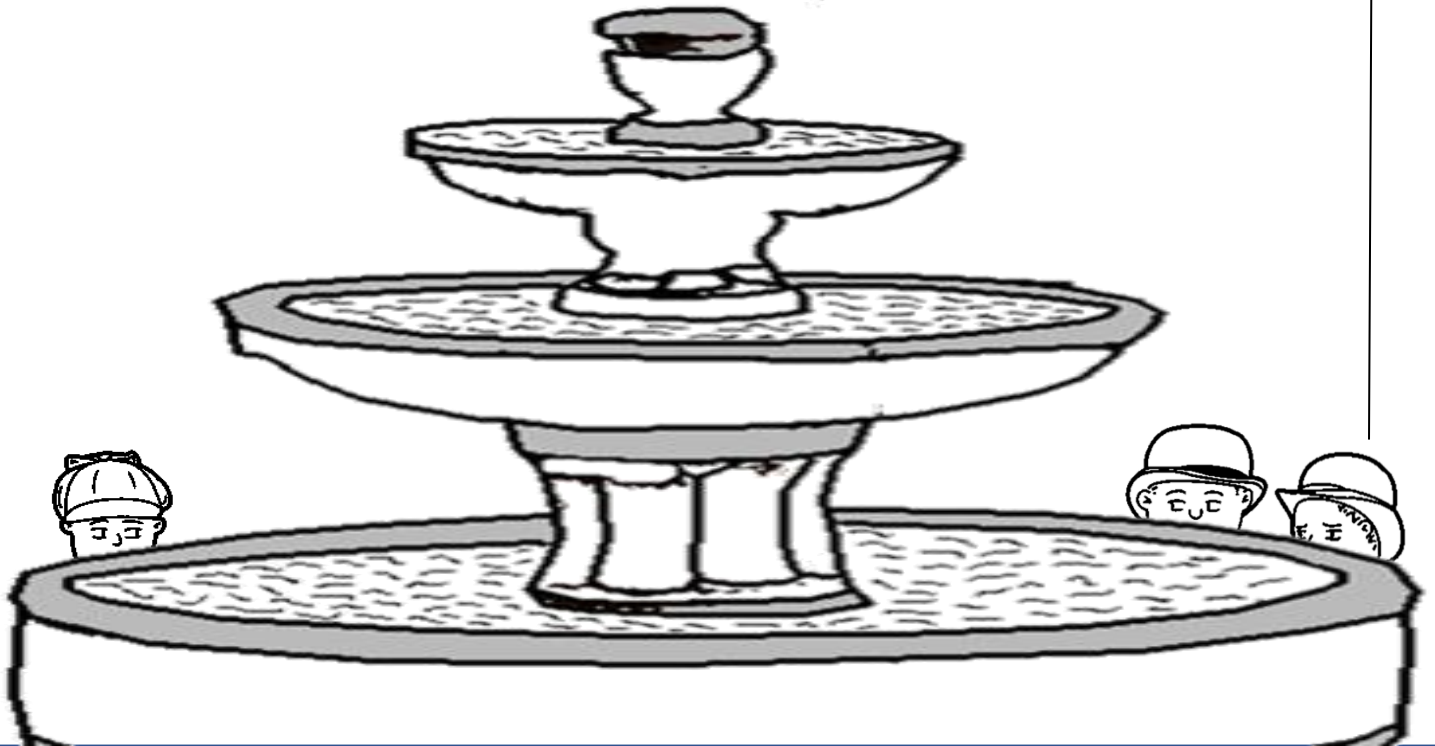
I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere is available on iTunes and popular podcast applications, or listen online to any of our shows any time at ihearofsherlock.com.



The next morning at the fountain...

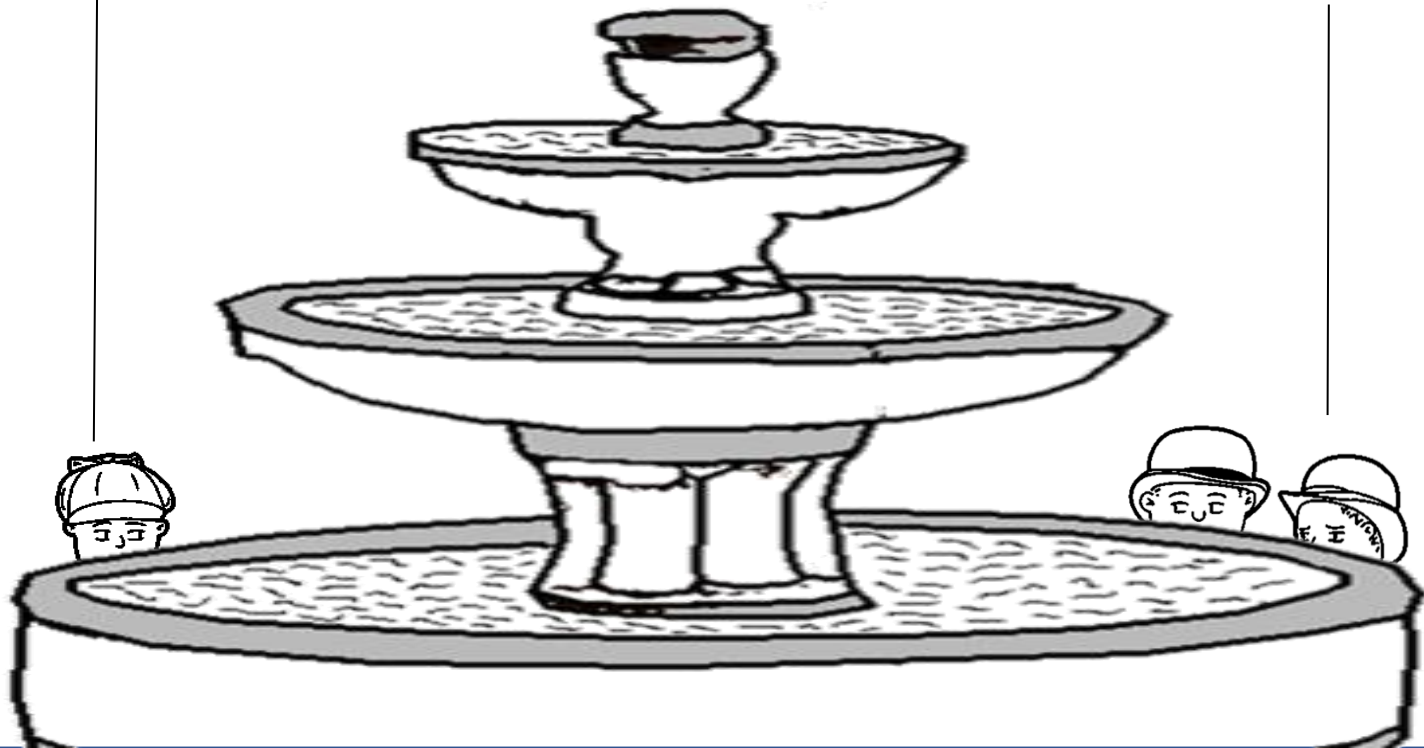


MASTER TURNER HAS HAD A TURN FOR THE WORSE... IT IS EXPECTED HE WILL RETURN HOME TO ROSS TO ASSIST IN HIS RECOVERY.



THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO
FAMILIES IS VERY INTERESTING.

YES, IT APPEARS TURNER'S FATHER ALLOWS THE
MCCARTHY'S TO LIVE ON THE FARM RENT FREE.





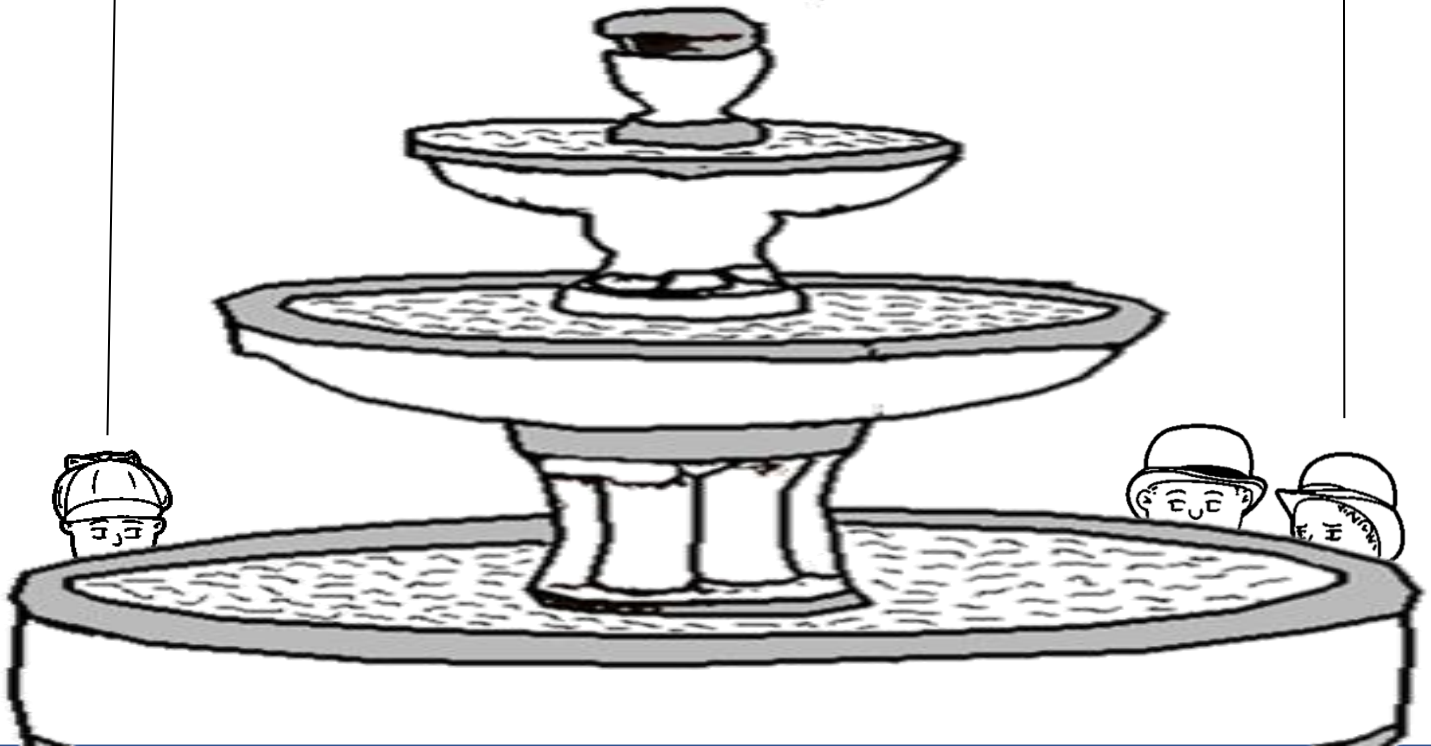
INDEED! THAT IS VERY
INTERESTING... IT SEEMS
SINGULAR THAT OLDER BROTHER
MCCARTHY, WHO HAS COME FROM
A FAMILY OF LITTLE RESOURCES
AND IS UNDER SUCH AN
OBLIGATION TO THE TURNERS...

... SHOULD BE SO COMMITTED TO THE
IDEA OF HIS YOUNGER BROTHER
MARRYING MISS TURNER, WHOSE
OLDER BROTHER IS AVERSE TO THE
IDEA... DO YOU NOT DEDUCE
SOMETHING FROM THAT?.



I DEDUCE YOU HAVE CRAZY NOTIONS ABOUT THIS CASE...
I FIND IT HARD ENOUGH TO TACKLE THE FACTS,
WITHOUT FLYING AWAY AFTER THEORIES AND FANCIES.

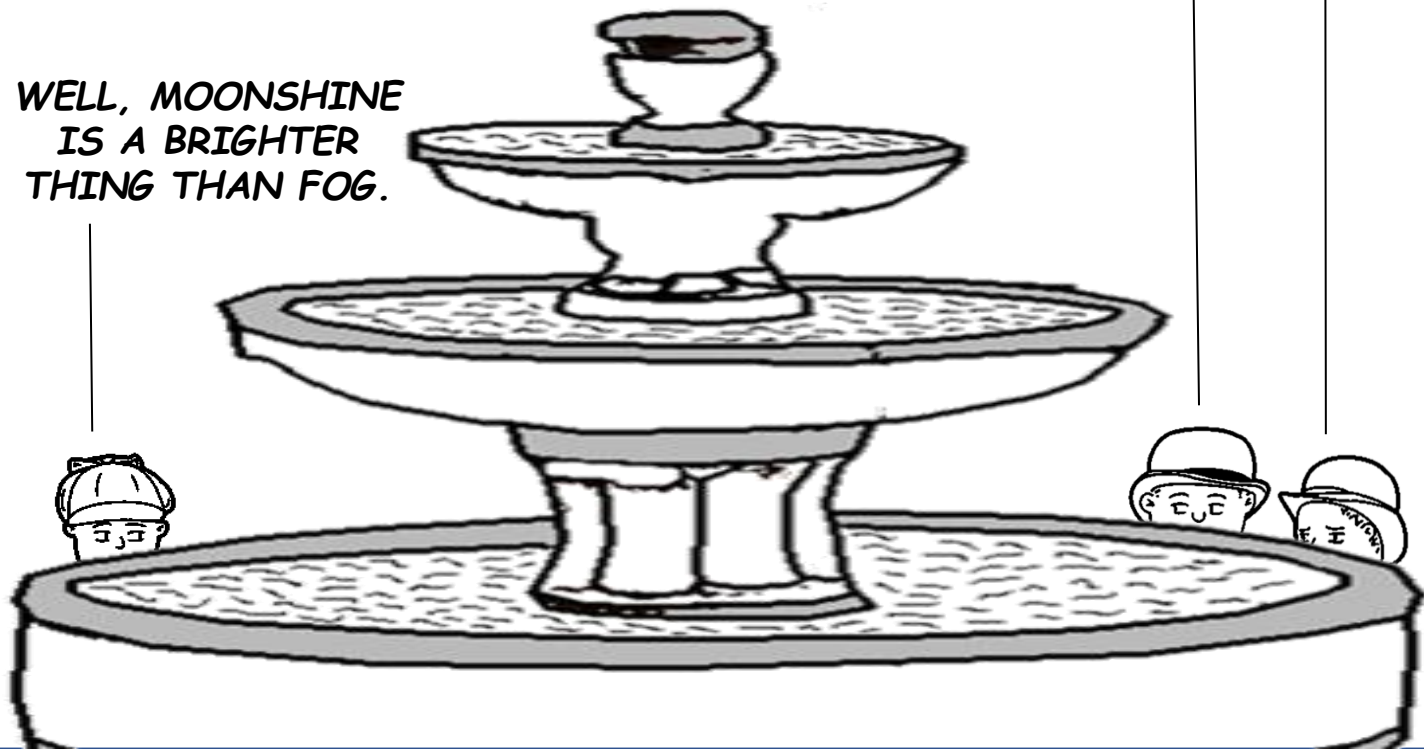
YOU ARE RIGHT... YOU DO FIND IT VERY
HARD TO TACKLE THE FACTS.



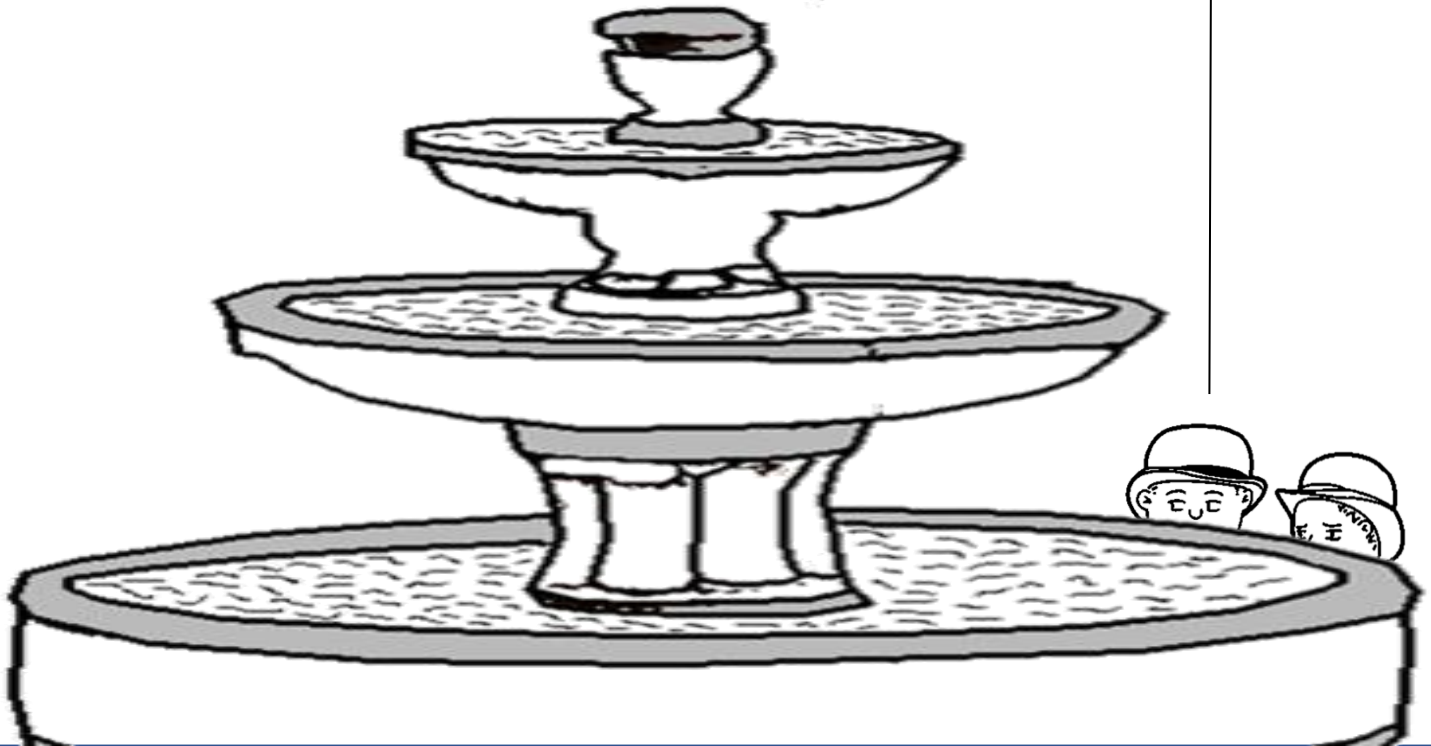
I HAVE GRASPED ONE FACT THAT YOU FIND DIFFICULT TO GET HOLD OF... THE OLDER MCCARTHY WAS ASSAULTED BY HIS BROTHER AND ALL THEORIES TO THE CONTRARY ARE THE MEREST MOONSHINE.

WHAT DOES ILLEGAL ALCOHOL HAVE TO DO WITH THIS?

WELL, MOONSHINE
IS A BRIGHTER
THING THAN FOG.

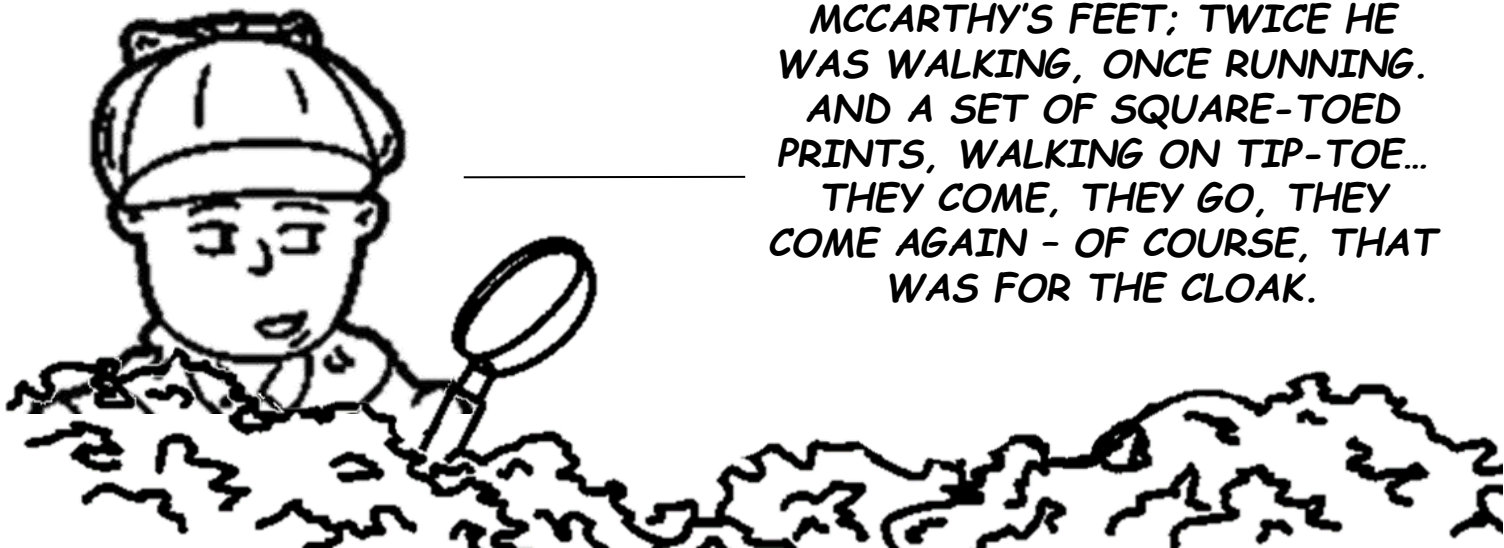


HE IS LIKE A HOUND DOG WHEN ON THE SCENT... I
WONDER WHY HE IS LOOKING IN THE MEADOW?

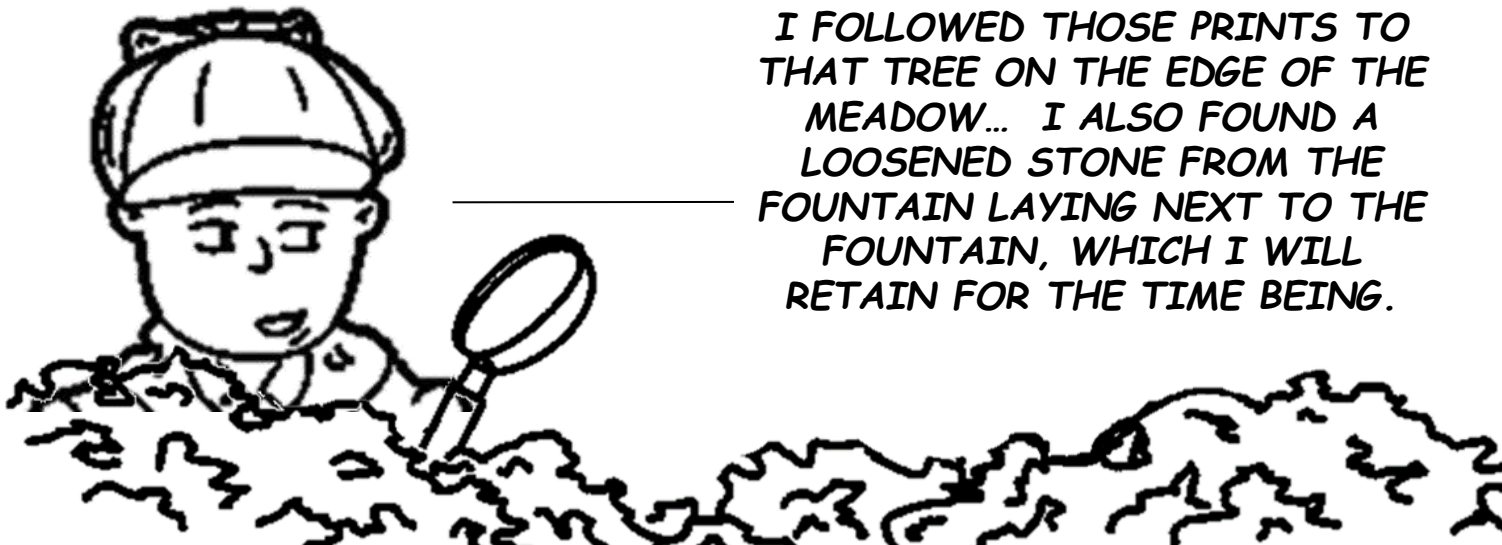


SO, WHAT DID YOU FIND? _____

I FOUND THREE SETS OF YOUNG
MCCARTHY'S FEET; TWICE HE
WAS WALKING, ONCE RUNNING.
AND A SET OF SQUARE-TOED
PRINTS, WALKING ON TIP-TOE...
THEY COME, THEY GO, THEY
COME AGAIN - OF COURSE, THAT
WAS FOR THE CLOAK.



AMAZING... I CAN'T EVEN
FIND THE CHAMBER POT IN
THE MORNING.



I FOLLOWED THOSE PRINTS TO
THAT TREE ON THE EDGE OF THE
MEADOW... I ALSO FOUND A
LOOSENED STONE FROM THE
FOUNTAIN LAYING NEXT TO THE
FOUNTAIN, WHICH I WILL
RETAIN FOR THE TIME BEING.

Somewhere on the school campus...

*IT IS A CASE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST... FOR
EXAMPLE, LESTRADE, IT MAY INTEREST YOU
THAT THIS STONE IS THE ASSAULT WEAPON.*

I SEE NO MARKS.



THERE ARE NONE.

THEN HOW DO YOU KNOW?

THE GRASS WAS GROWING
UNDER IT... IT HAD ONLY LAIN
THERE FOR A COUPLE OF
DAYS.... IT ALSO CORRESPONDS
WITH THE INJURIES.



AND THE ASSAILANT?

ACTUALLY, THERE
IS NOT ONE.



FORGIVE ME, BUT I AM VERY SCEPTICAL OF THAT...
THEORIES ARE ALL VERY WELL, BUT WE HAVE TO DEAL
WITH A HARD-HEADED BRITISH HEADMASTER.

BUT I CAN TELL YOU... THE
UNKNOWN VISITOR IS A
TALLER PERSON, HAS A SLIGHT
LIMP, AND IS LEFT-HANDED.



A HOUSEHOLD NECESSITY!

COLTAR TABLETS

**ARE DOUBLE THE GERMICIDAL
POWER OF PURE CARBOLIC ACID.**

ONE TABLET makes Five Gallons of Powerful Disinfecting Fluid that is guaranteed to destroy Typhoid and other Disease Germs. Does not cost a penny per gallon; makes rooms and floors sweet and clean.

PROTECTS ALL WHO USE IT!

For Washing Children's
Heads.

Washing Troubled Feet.

Washing Animals.

For Sick Rooms,

For killing Cockroaches
and other Vermin.

Killing Weeds on Garden Paths, etc.

A powerful Insecticide.

For Water Closets.

COLTAR TABLETS

STRONGEST DISINFECTANT CLEANSERS.

SOLD EVERYWHERE.

Manufactured by

W. McCLELLAN, MANUFACTURING CHEMIST. 41 to 47, Spa Road, BOLTON.
ESTABLISHED 28 YEARS

Imitations come and go but Coltar Tablets go on for ever.

'NOUS VERRONS'.

WHICH MEANS?

HOW SHOULD I KNOW... I SAW
IT IN ONE OF OUR
TEXTBOOKS, I LIKED IT.



I AM A PRACTICAL BOY, AND I REALLY CANNOT UNDERTAKE
TO GO ABOUT THE COUNTRY LOOKING FOR A LEFT-HANDED
LAD WITH A GAME LEG... I SHOULD BECOME THE LAUGHING-
STOCK OF OUR SCHOOL.



YOU WORK YOUR OWN METHOD, AND I SHALL WORK MINE... I WILL
INFORM YOU WHEN I AM READY TO BRIEF THE HEADMASTER.

Oh look, we're back at the playground wall...

*I AM CONVINCED THE TWO POINTS I SAW EARLY ON
ARE STILL VERY IMPORTANT TO THE CASE.*





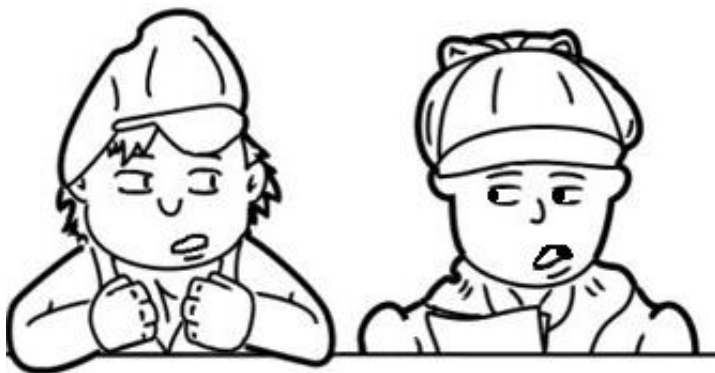
WHEN JAMES CALLED OUT 'YOU-WEE', IT
COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MEANT FOR HIS
YOUNGER BROTHER... IT WAS MEANT TO
ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF WHOEVER
HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH.

BUT 'YOU-WEE', ACTUALLY
SPELLED 'E-W-E-W-E-E' IS
USED IN RURAL AREAS OF
NEW ZEALAND TO CALL IN
THE SHEEP, AND ONE WHICH
IS USED BETWEEN KIWI'S.



PIECES OF FRUIT CAN CALL TO EACH OTHER?

MOVE ON.



THERE IS A STRONG PRESUMPTION THE PERSON MCCARTHY
WAS CALLING TO WAS SOMEONE FROM NEW ZEALAND.

WHAT OF THE 'HUT' THEN?



TAKE A LOOK AT A MAP OF THE REGION OF WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND... WHAT NAME DO YOU SUPPOSE YOU WOULD SEE?

YOU SERIOUSLY THINK I
WOULD KNOW?



YOU WOULD NOTE A LOCATION CALLED 'UPPER HUTT'... THAT WAS THE WORD CHARLES UTTERED... HE WAS TRYING TO UTTER THE NAME OF HIS ASSAILANT... SO AND SO, OF 'UPPER HUTT'.



BUT YOU TOLD LESTRADE THERE WAS NO ASSAILANT.

*WE WILL SOLVE THAT LITTLE
ISSUE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.*



CALVERT'S CARBOLIC
PRICKLY HEAT & BATH SOAP.

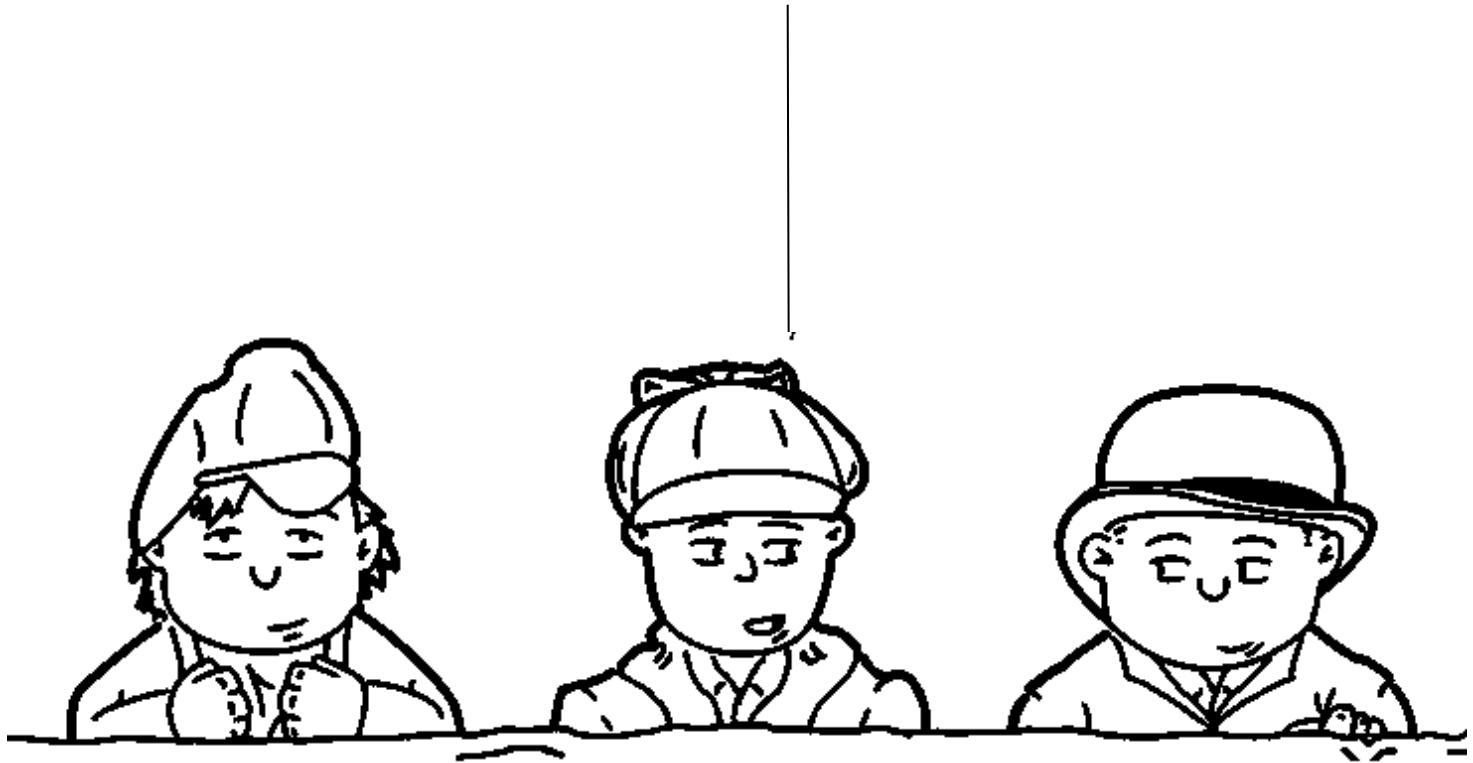


F. C. CALVERT & CO

MANCHESTER ENGLAND.

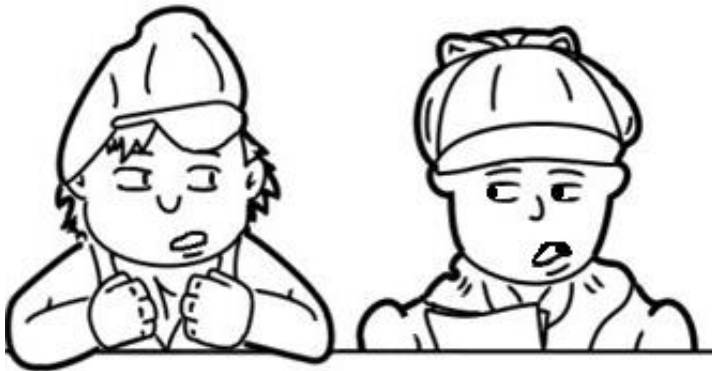
Awarded 100 Gold & Silver Medals and Diplomas

SO, I HAVE NARROWED THE FIELD FROM MERE
VAGUNESS TO THE IDENTITY OF A KIWI FROM 'UPPER
HUTT' WHO POSSESSED A GRAY CLOAK.



**AND WHO WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO OUR FOUNTAIN...
THE GUARD AT THE GATE WILL NOT LET IN STRANGERS.**

QUITE SO.



THEN COMES OUR EXPEDITION EARLIER TODAY... I
GAINED THE TRIFLING DETAILS I GAVE TO THAT
IMBECILE LESTRADE FROM INSPECTING THE
FOUNTAIN AND THE GROUND AROUND IT.



LITTLE ROUGH ON LESTRADE... BUT HOW DID YOU GAIN THEM?

YOU KNOW MY METHOD...



NOT SO MUCH, OTHERWISE I WOULD NOT HAVE ASKED.

*IT IS FOUNDED UPON THE
OBSERVATION OF TRIFLES.*



HIS HEIGHT I KNOW ROUGHLY FROM THE LENGTH OF HIS STRIDE.

HIS LAMENESS?



HIS RIGHT-FOOT IMPRESSION WAS ALWAYS LESS DISTINCT
THAN HIS LEFT, WHICH INDICATES A LIMP.

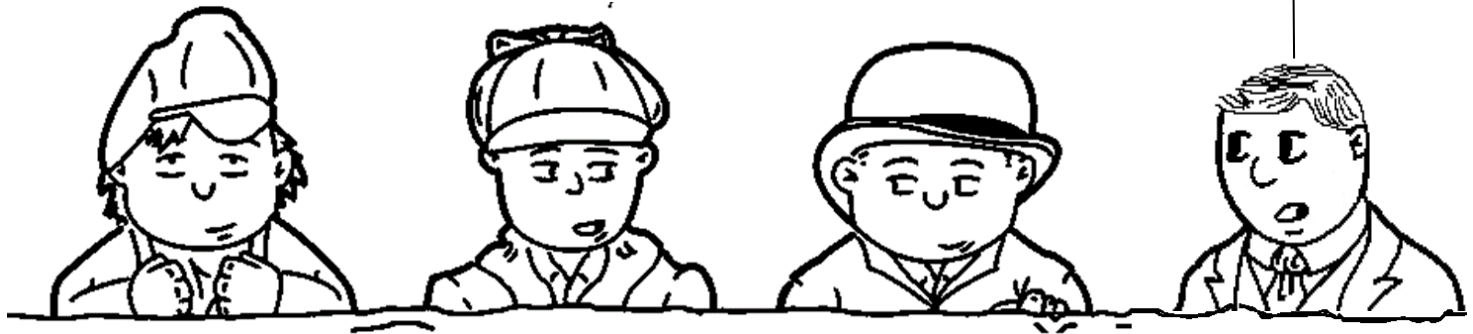
AND HIS LEFT-HANDEDNESS?

SIMPLY A GUESS... I HAVE A 50% CHANCE
OF BEING RIGHT... JUST THREW THAT IN
TO DRIVE LESTRADE EVEN CRAZIER.



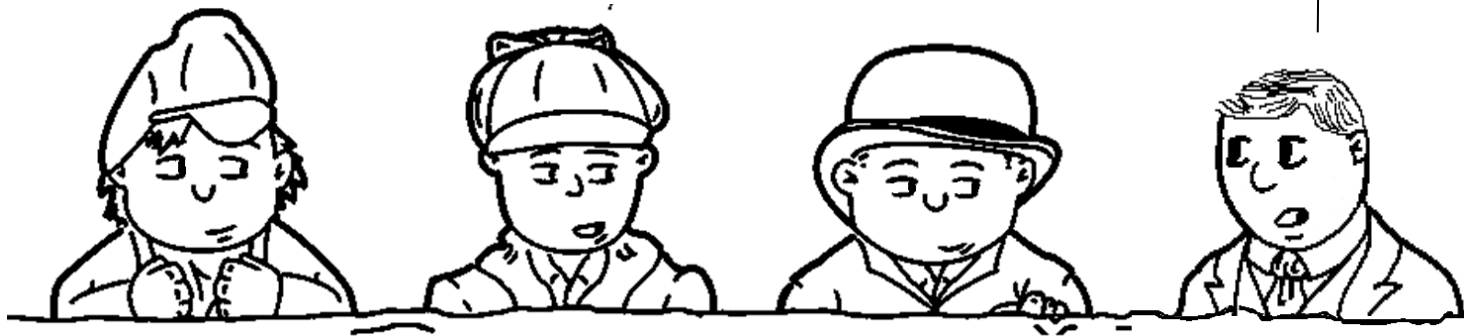
MASTER HOLMES, I RECEIVED YOUR NOTE... YOU
WISH TO SEE ME TO AVOID A SCANDAL.

WELCOME MASTER TURNER... I THOUGHT PEOPLE
WOULD TALK IF I WENT TO THE INFIRMARY.

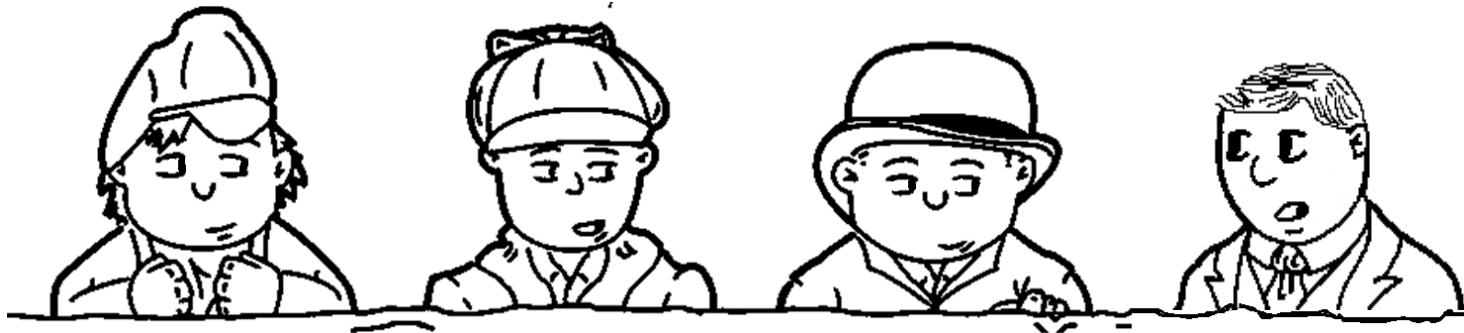


*I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU BACK ON YOUR FEET,
THOUGH YOU STILL LOOK VERY WEAKENED.*

*I AM GETTING BY... WHY
DID YOU WISH TO SEE ME?*



IT IS SO... I KNOW ALL ABOUT MCCARTHY.



*GOD HELP ME... I WOULD NOT HAVE LET THAT YOUNG MAN
SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES OF OTHER'S ACTIONS... I WOULD
HAVE SPOKEN OUT IF THE HEADMASTER RULED AGAINST HIM.*

The Scuttlebutt Diet

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

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



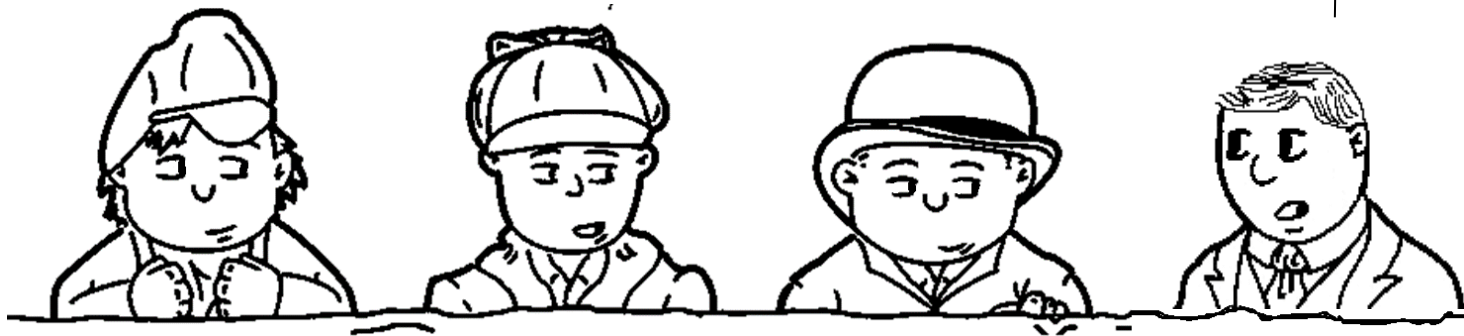
Instead of eating
that snack, curl up
with Peter's
Scuttlebutt from the
Spermacetti Press.



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

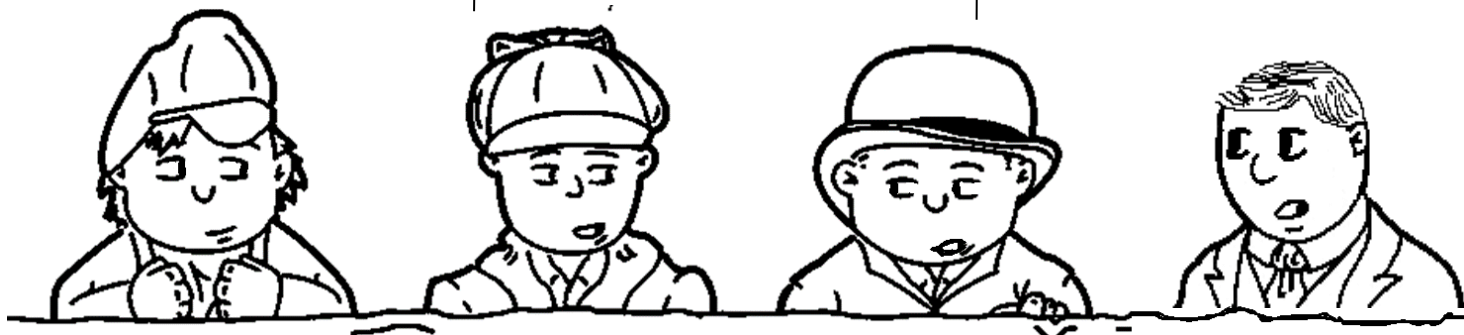
I AM GLAD TO HEAR YOU SO.

*IT WOULD BRAK MY SISTER'S
HEART TO KNOW I AM CONNECTED
IN THIS ENTIRE TRAGEDY.*



IT MAY NOT COME TO THAT... I AM NOT AN
OFFICIAL AGENT OF THE SCHOOL.

NOT REALLY AN OFFICIAL
AGENT OF ANYTHING.



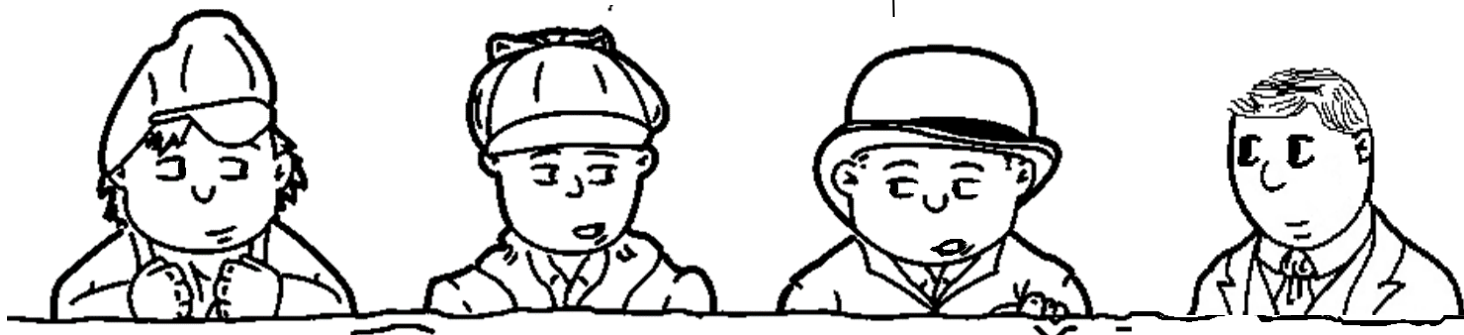
I AM ACTING IN YOUR SISTER'S INTERESTS, WHO
ASKED LESTRADE TO BRING ME INTO THE CASE...
YOUNG MCCARTHY MUST BE GOT OFF, HOWEVER.



I AM TRANSFERRING OUT OF THE SCHOOL, AND
HEADED BACK HOME TO FINISH SCHOOL AND TAKE
OVER PART OF MY FATHER'S BUSINESSES.

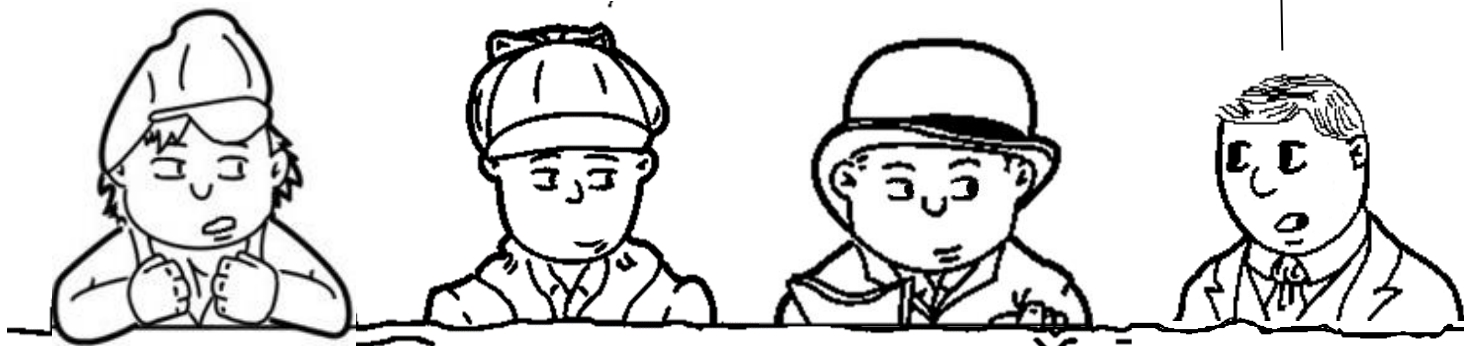
JUST TELL US THE TRUTH... WATSON WILL JOT DOWN THE FACTS... YOU WILL SIGN IT, WHICH STAMFORD CAN WITNESS... I WILL ONLY PRODUCE THESE NOTES IF IT IS ABSOLUTELY NEEDED.

SEE STAMFORD, I TOLD YOU WE WOULD BE USEFUL IN THE SOLVING OF THIS CASE.

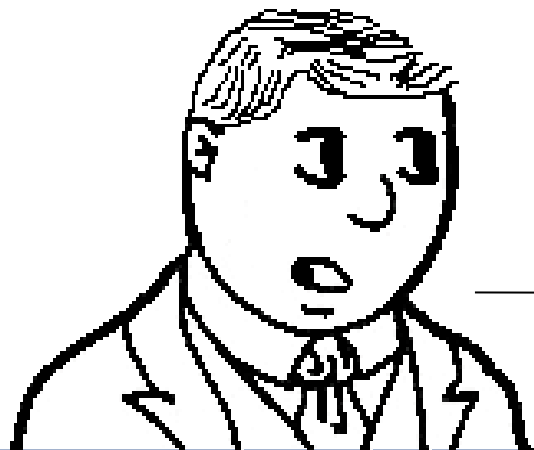
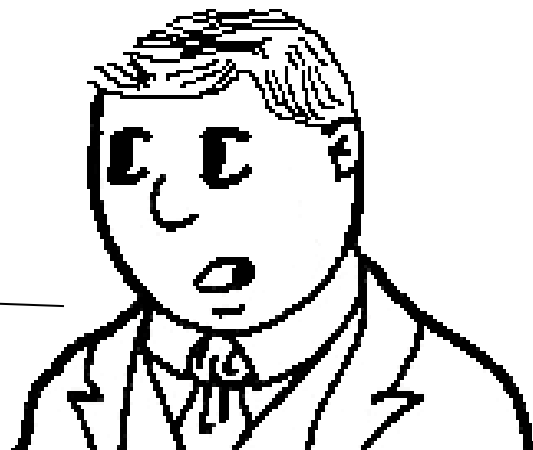


YOU DON'T KNOW THE MCCARTHY FAMILY... BOTH THE FATHER
AND ELDER SON ARE THE DEVIL INCARNATE... THEIR GRIP ON MY
FAMILY HAS BLASTED OUR LIVES... I'LL TELL YOU HOW WE
ARRIVED INTO THIS POSITION.

HOPE YOU HAVE LOTS OF PAPER.

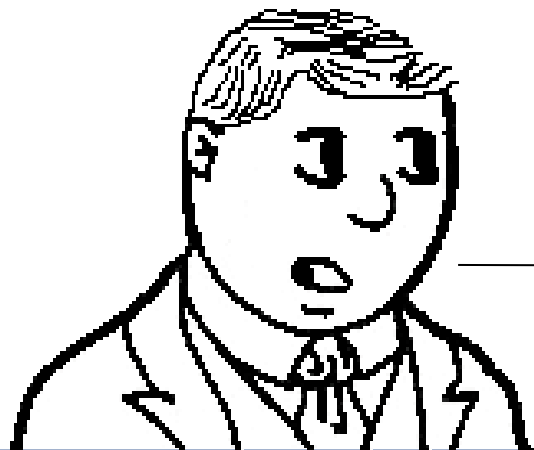
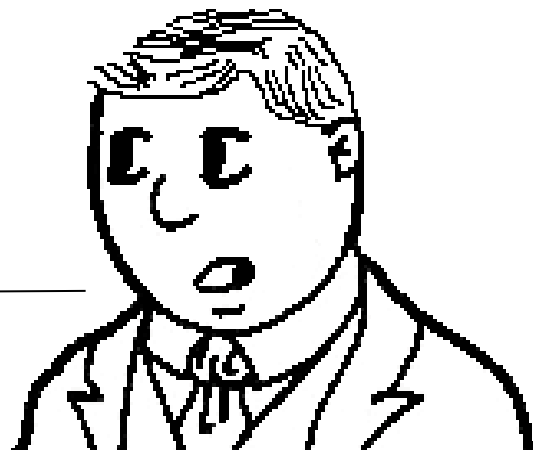


MY FATHER, SENIOR, WAS LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND, AS HIS PARENTS HAD SETTLED THERE... WHILE MY FAMILY HAD ESTABLISHED A REPUTABLE SHEEP BUSINESS, MY FATHER WAS A LITTLE STRONG-HEADED, AND SOON WAS GETTING IN TO VERY MINOR, PETTY ISSUES...



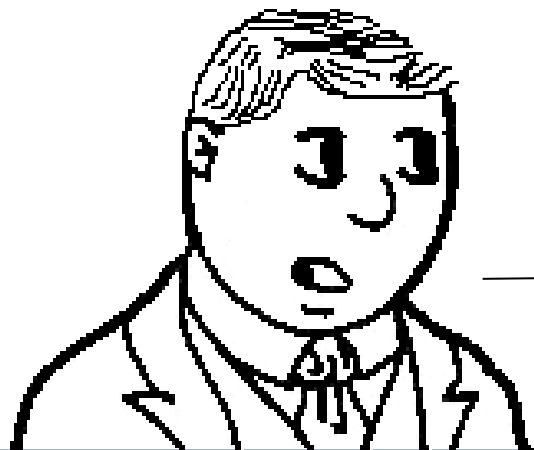
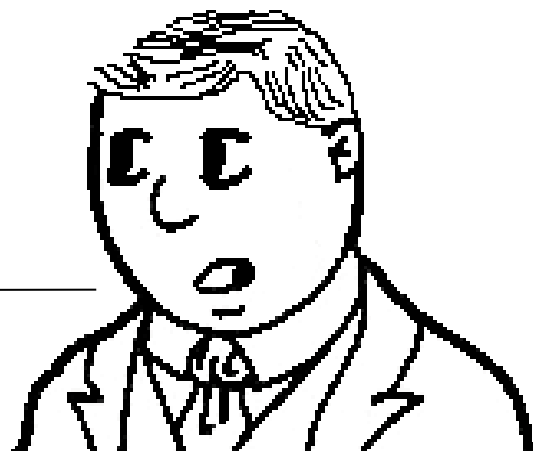
HIS NICKNAME BECAME 'THE NUT OF UPPER HUTT', AND SOON HE WAS RUNNING WITH A GANG CAUSING MAYHEM IN THE TOWN.

ONE NIGHT THEY EGGED
THE HOUSE OF A TOWN
OFFICIAL... THE ONLY
WITNESS TO THE
MISCHIEF WAS THE
LOCAL NEWSPAPER BOY,
MCCARTHY.



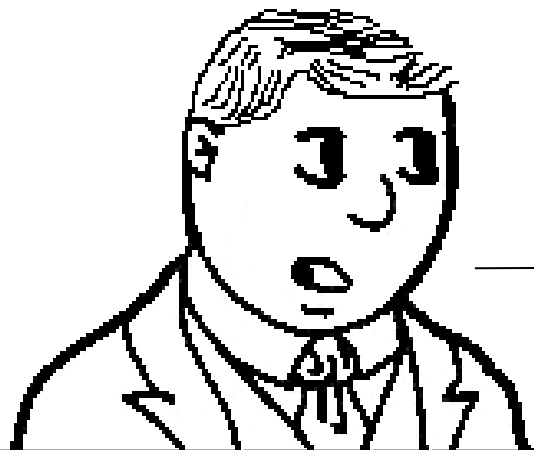
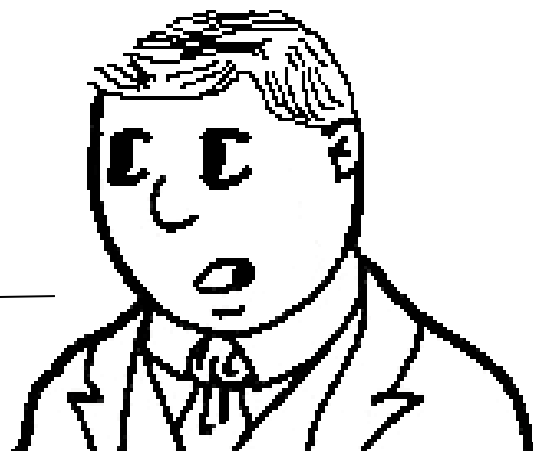
ONCE MY FATHER INHERITED
THE RESOURCES OF MY
GRANDFATHER, HE CHOSE TO
MOVE TO ENGLAND TO START
AFRESH, SETTLING DOWN TO A
QUIET AND RESPECTABLE LIFE.

HE BOUGHT THE ESTATE
NEAR ROSS, MARRIED,
AND HAD TWO
CHILDREN - DEAR ALICE
AND MYSELF... WEE
ALICE IS THE LIGHT OF
THE FAMILY.



ONE DAY, MY FATHER HAD
GONE INTO TOWN, WHERE
HE ENCOUNTERED SENIOR
MCCARTHY, DOWN TO HIS
LAST FARTHING.

'HERE WE ARE, JOHN... THERE'S TWO OF US, ME AND MY SON, AND YOU CAN HAVE THE KEEPING OF US.... IF YOU DON'T - IT'S A FINE, LAW-ABIDING COUNTRY IS ENGLAND, AND THERE'S ALWAYS A POLICEMENT WITHIN HAIL TO RECOUNT ALL YOUR ADVENTURES IN THE OLD COUNTRY.'



THEY CAME TO LIVE WITH US IN THE WEST COUNTRY, AND THEY HAVE LIVED RENT FREE EVER SINCE... WITHOUT QUESTION MY FATHER GAVE THEM MONEY, LAND, WHATEVER THEY ASKED FOR.



IS ANYONE ELSE HAVING A
HARD TIME FOLLOWING ALL OF
THIS... I FEEL LIKE I'M IN THE
MIDDLE OF A GOTHIC NOVEL.

WATSON'S

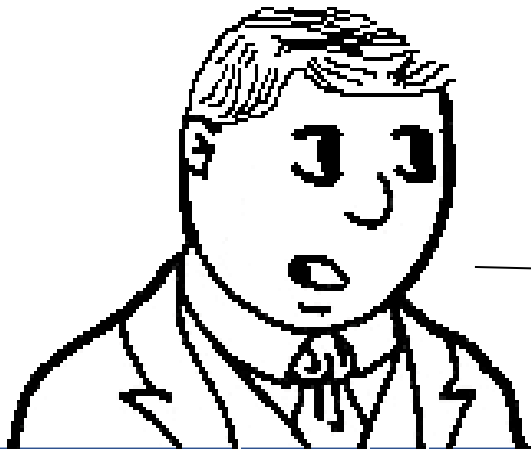
MATCHLESS GLEANSER



IS THE BEST SOAP
FOR ALL PURPOSES

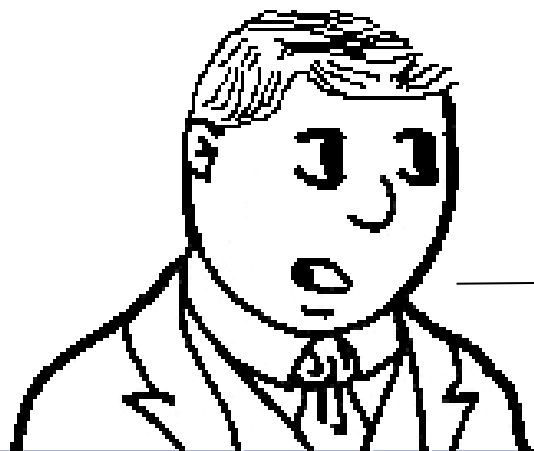
MATCHLESS GLEANSER.

AND HIS ELDER SON,
CHARLES, HAS NOT
FALLEN FAR FROM
THE TREE... SINCE WE
WERE VERY SMALL,
HE HAS BEEN A
BULLY TO ME,
MAKING MY LIFE
MISERABLE.



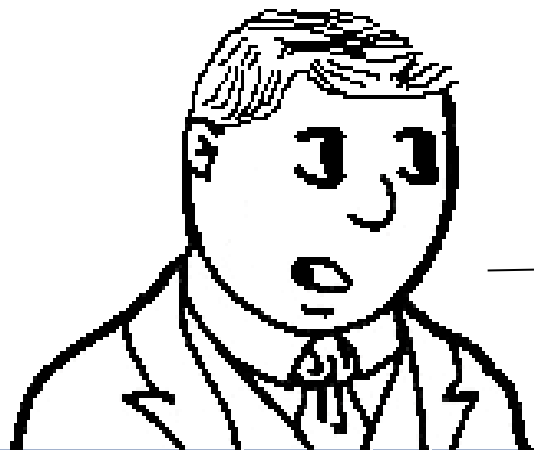
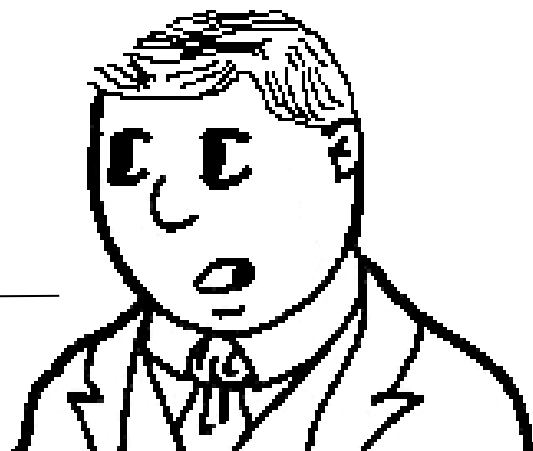
WHILE YOUNGER JAMES HAS BEEN ABLE
TO ESCAPE THE SHACKLES OF THAT
MISERABLE FAMILY, I JUST CANNOT
ALLOW MY SISTER TO BE MARRIED INTO
THE CLAN... THE FAMILY BLOOD IS IN
HIM, AND THE FATHER AND BROTHER
JUST SEE IT AS A WAY TO GET THEIR
CLAWS ON MORE OF MY FAMILY'S MONEY.

WE WERE TO MEET AT THE
FOUNTAIN ON THE EDGE
OF THE SCHOOL GROUNDS
TO TALK IT OVER.



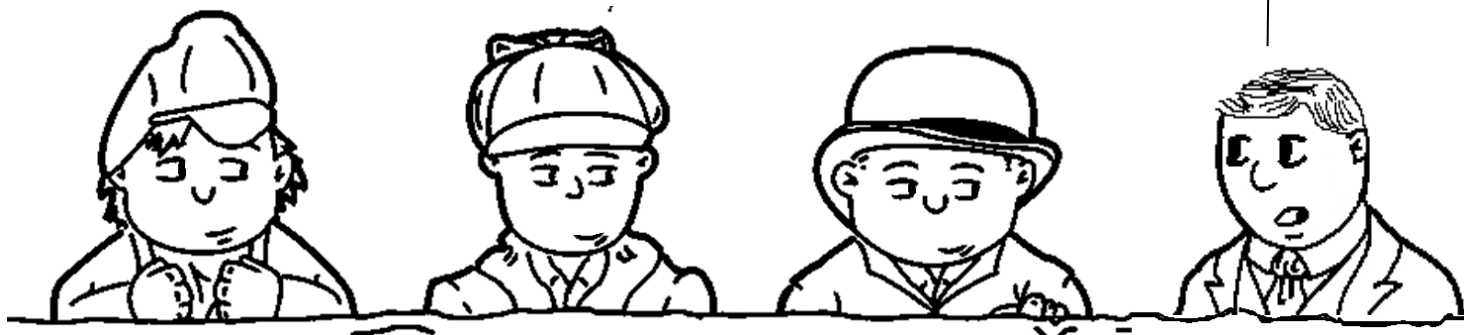
WHEN I WENT DOWN THERE I
FOUND HIM TALKING TO HIS
YOUNGER BROTHER, SO I
WAITED BEHIND A TREE
UNTIL HE SHOULD BE ALONE.

AS I LISTENED, MY
BLOOD BECAME BLACK
AND BITTER... HE WAS
URGING JAMES TO MARRY
MY SISTER, WITH LITTLE
REGARD FOR WHAT SHE
MIGHT THINK.

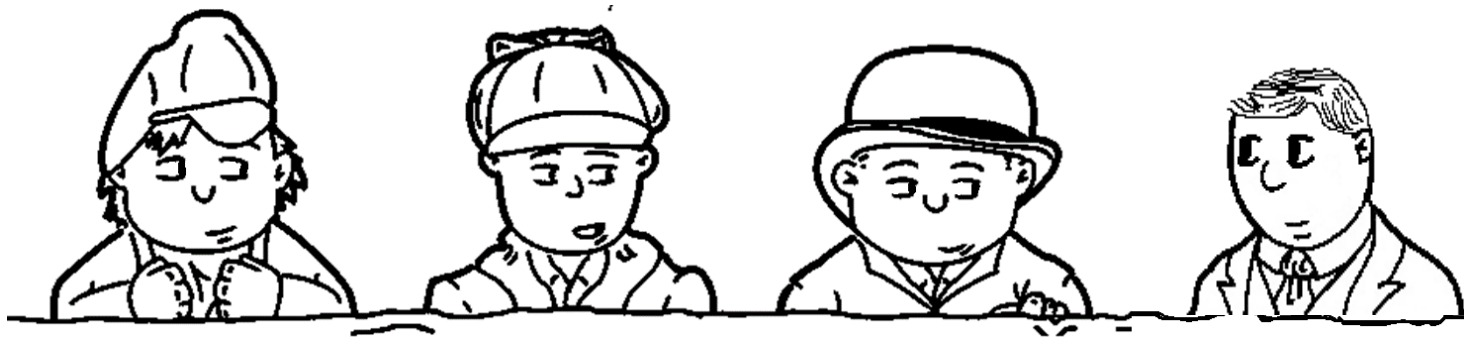


ONCE JAMES HAD LEFT,
I HAD EVERY PLAN IN
BASHING CHARLES'
SKULL IN... BUT FATE
HAD OTHER PLANS.

ONCE HE SAW ME APPROACH, HE HOPPED ONTO THE RIM OF THE FOUNTAIN, PACING BACK AND FORTH AS HE STATED HIS INTENTIONS TO PUSH THE MARRIAGE THROUGH... I REACHED FOR HIM, TO PULL HIM OFF, AND GIVE HIM A THOROUGH BEATING.

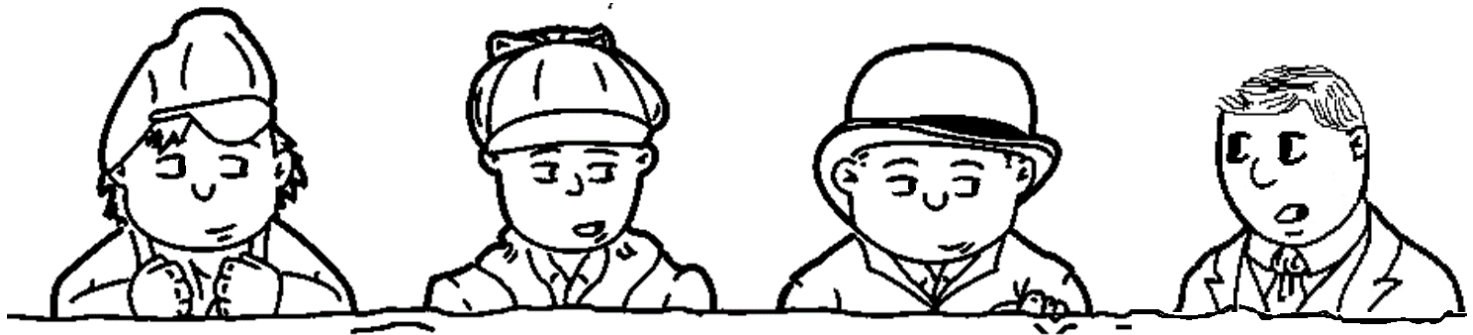


AT WHICH POINT, HE SLIPPED ON THE WET SURFACE, FELL FACE FIRST, HITTING HIS FOREHEAD ON ONE OF THE STONES, DISLODGING IT, AND COLLAPSING NEXT TO THE FOUNTAIN.



WHERE WERE YOU, TO WITNESS THIS SHOW?

TAKING A NAP IN MY ROOM... BUT I WAS
ABLE TO OBSERVE ALL THE SIGNS... YOU
TRYING TO SNEAK UP ON CHARLES...



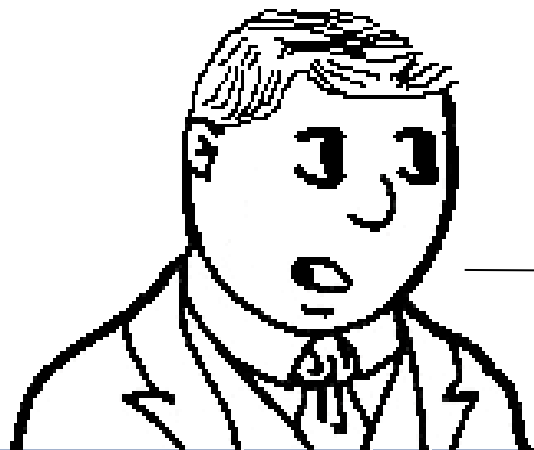
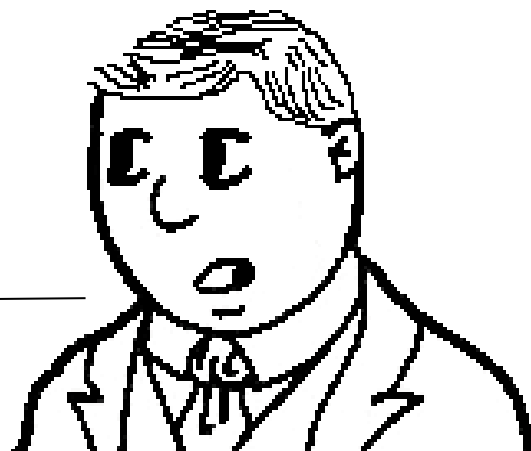


... HIS FOOTPRINTS ON THE RIM
PACING, SHOWING HE HAD
TRAIPSED THROUGH MUD JUST
BEFORE ARRIVING AT THE
FOUNTAIN, THE DISLODGED
STONE, WITH MINUTE AMOUNTS
OF BLOOD ON IT, AND THE
INDENTIONS ON THE GROUND
FROM HIS KNEES AND ELBOWS...

I ALSO NOTICED THE
INDENTION YOUR KNEE MADE
IN THE GROUND, WHICH HAD A
SMALL AMOUNT OF BLOOD IN
IT... THE BLOOD WAS THERE
BEFORE YOU REACHED CHARLES.



HIS CRY, AS HE FELL, BROUGHT
BACK HIS YOUNGER BROTHER; I
HAD GAINED THE COVER OF THE
TREE, THOUGH I WAS FORCED TO
GO BACK TO FETCH THE CLOAK
WHICH I HAD DROPPED... I WAS
SCARED TO RE-APPROACH HIM, SO
THANKFULLY JAMES PROMPTLY
RETURNED WITH HELP.



THAT IS THE TRUE
STORY, GENTLEMEN,
OF ALL THAT
OCCURRED.

PIESSE & LUBIN
PERFUMERY FACTORS

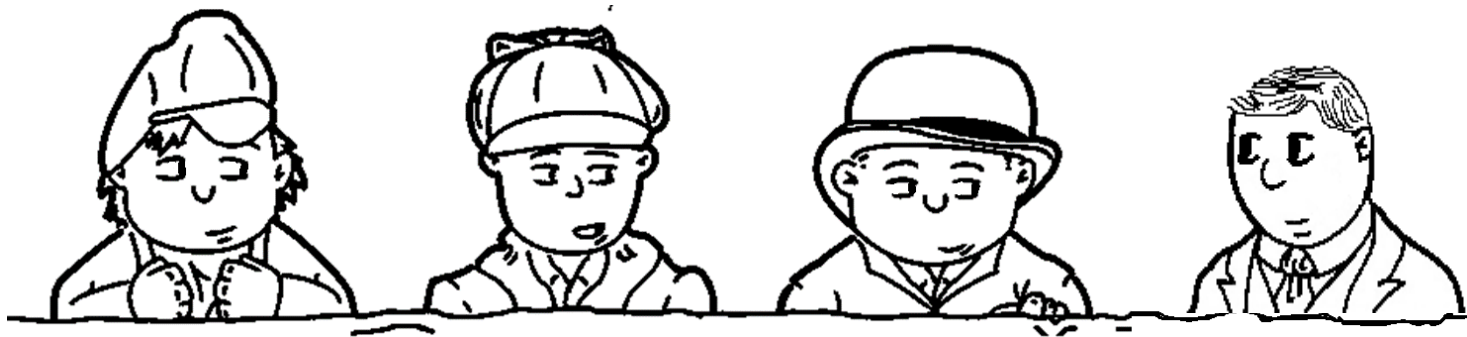
from
every flower that
breathes a fragrance

SWEET SCENTS
LOXOTIS OPOPONAX
FRANGIPANNI PSIDIUM

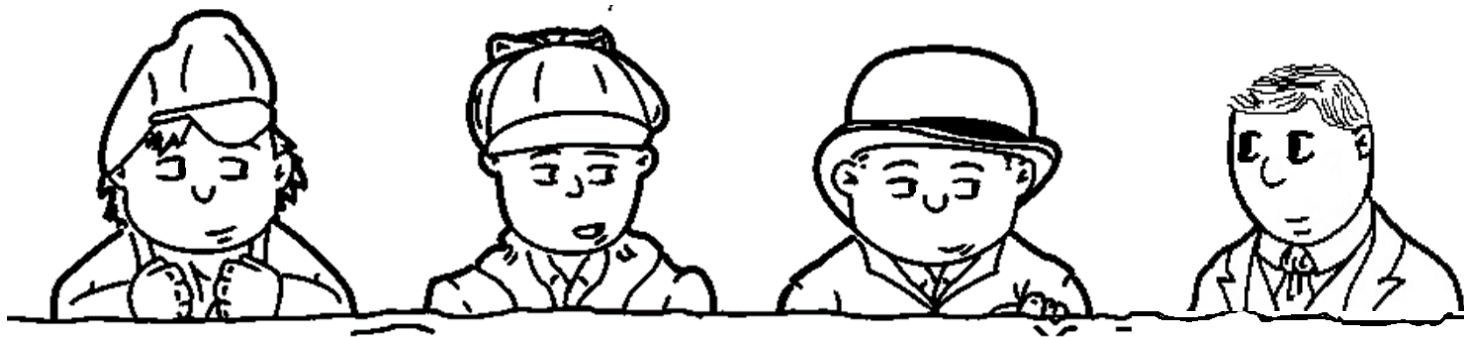
May be obtained
Of any Chemist or
Perfumer.

2 New Bond Street London

AS I HAVE STATED, THE TRUE ASSAILANT WAS THE
STONE FOUNTAIN, ASSISTED BY MCCARTHY'S
CLUMSINESS... IT APPEARS WE SHALL BE ABLE TO CLEAR
YOUNGER MCCARTHY WITHOUT TOO MUCH ISSUE.

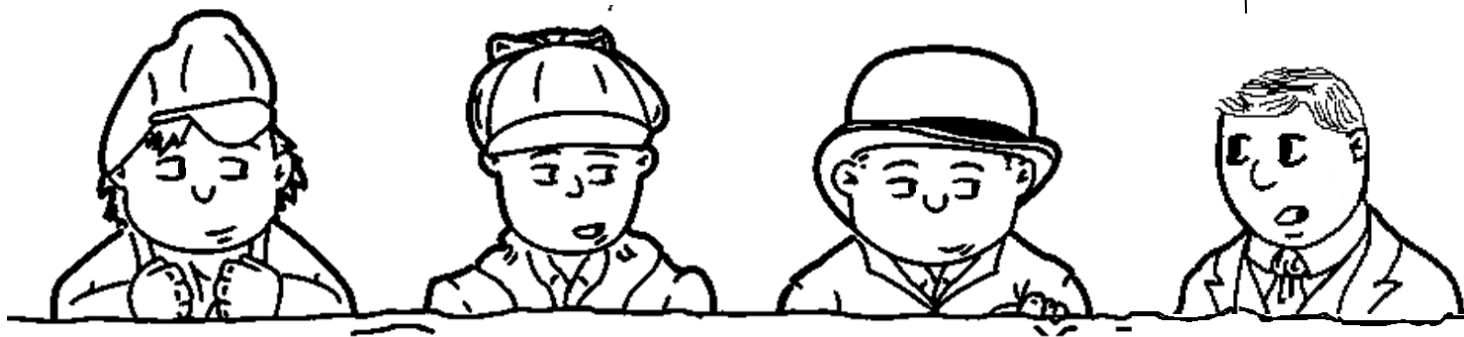


I AGREE YOU WOULD BE WELL SERVED TO RETURN TO THE FAMILY FARM, HELPING TO ENSURE IT STAYS WITHIN THE FAMILY... AFTER SPEAKING TO BOTH JAMES AND YOUR SISTER ALICE, I BELIEVE THEIR FUTURE IS BRIGHT AND SAFE, AND WILL BE FREE OF HIS FAMILY'S CURSES.



AS FOR THE MCCARTHY'S, FATHER AND SON, I SUSPECT THEY
WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO ANSWER FOR THEIR DEEDS AT A
HIGHER COURT THAN ANY EARTHLY COURT COULD AFFORD.

FAREWELL, THEN... YOUR
SLEEP WILL BE EASIER FOR
THE THOUGHT OF THE PEACE
YOU HAVE GIVEN TO ME.



*GOD HELP US! WHY DOES FATE PLAY SUCH
TRICKS WITH POOR, HELPLESS WORMS...*

MAYBE TO RELIEVE BOREDOM.



JAMES MCCARTHY WAS REINSTATED TO SCHOOL,
HIS ELDER BROTHER MATRICULATED AND WENT OFF
TO FIND HIS FORTUNES IN SOUTH AFRICA...



...AND THERE IS EVERY PROSPECT THAT JAMES
AND ALICE MAY COME TO LIVE HAPPILY TOGETHER
IN IGNORANCE OF THE BLACK CLOUD WHICH RESTS
UPON THEIR PAST.



STILL NOT CLEAR ON WHO WAS THE ACTUAL
CLIENT FOR ME TO SEND A BILL TO... THIS MAY
BE ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE HOLMES' CASES DONE
JUST FOR THE THRILL OF IT... RATS!!



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...AND SO MUCH MORE...

The Crew of the Barque Lone Star

