

A NEW ADVENTURE OF
SHERLOCK HOLMES



For
CHRISTMAS
better
than
FRY'S
STRACTION
STREET
*Baker
Street
Elementary*

THE STRAND MAGAZINE

GRAND CHRISTMAS
DOUBLE NUMBER



A NEW SHERLOCK HOLMES STORY

The Adventure of the Dying Detective.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

Illustrated by Wal. Paget.



WHEN HUDSON, the landlady of Sherlock Holmes, was a long-suffering woman. Not only was her first-floor flat invaded by all sorts of throngs of singular and often undesirable characters, but her remarkable while lodger showed an eccentricity and irregularity in his life which must have surely tried her patience. His lawless attitude, his addition to much of strange loiter, his constant revolver practice within doors, his weird and often malodorous scientific experiments, and the atmosphere of violence and danger which hung around him made him the very worst tenant in London. On the other hand, his payments were punctual, I have no doubt that the house might have been purchased at the price which Holmes paid for his rooms during the years that I was with him.

The landlady stood in the deepest awe of him, and never dared to interfere with him, however outrageous his proceedings might seem. She was fond of him, too, for he had a remarkable gentleness and courtesy in his dealings with women. He disliked and distrusted the sex, but he was always a chivalrous gentleman. Knowing how genuine was her regard for him, I listened anxiously to her story when she came to my rooms in the second year of my married life and told me

of the sad condition to which my poor friend was reduced.

"He's dying, Dr. Watson," said she. "For three days he has been sinking, and I doubt if he will last the day. He would not let me get a doctor. This morning when I saw him lying stretching out of his bed and his great bright eyes looking at me I could stand no more of it. 'With your leave or without it, Mr. Holmes, I am going for a doctor this very hour,' said I. 'Let it be Watson, then,' said he. 'I wouldn't waste an hour in coming to him, sir, or you may not see him alive.'"

I was horrified, for I had heard nothing of his illness. I need not say that I rushed for my coat and my hat. As we drove back I asked for the details.

"There is little I can tell you, sir. He has been working at a case down at Motherby's, in an alley near the river, and he has brought this illness back with him. He took to his bed on Wednesday afternoon and has never moved since. And those three days neither food nor drink has passed his lips."

"Good God! Why did you not call in a doctor?"

"He wouldn't have it, sir. You know how particular he is. I didn't dare to disturb him. But he's not long for this world, as you'll see for yourself the moment that you set eyes on him."

She was indeed a delightful spectacle. In

Baker Street Elementary

"The Adventure of the Trying Detective"

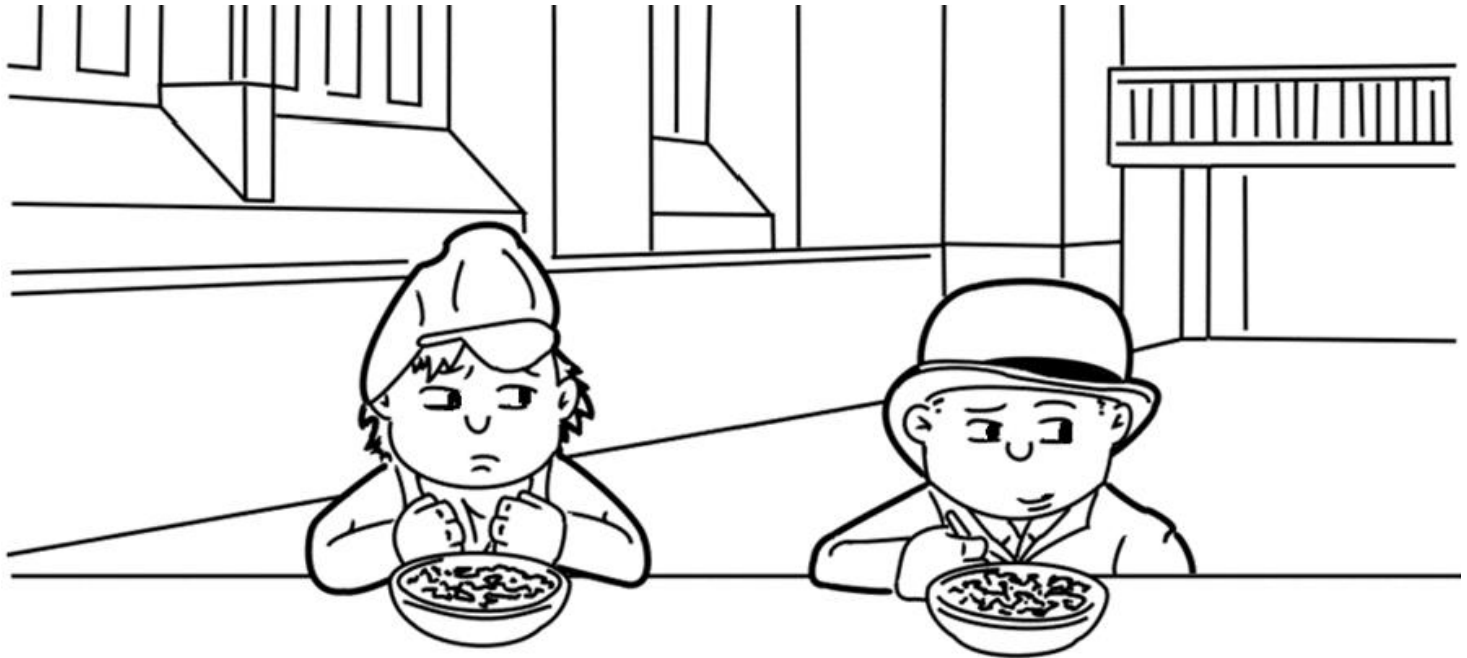
Copyright 2022 © by Joe Fay, Rusty Mason, and Steve Mason

1st Edition

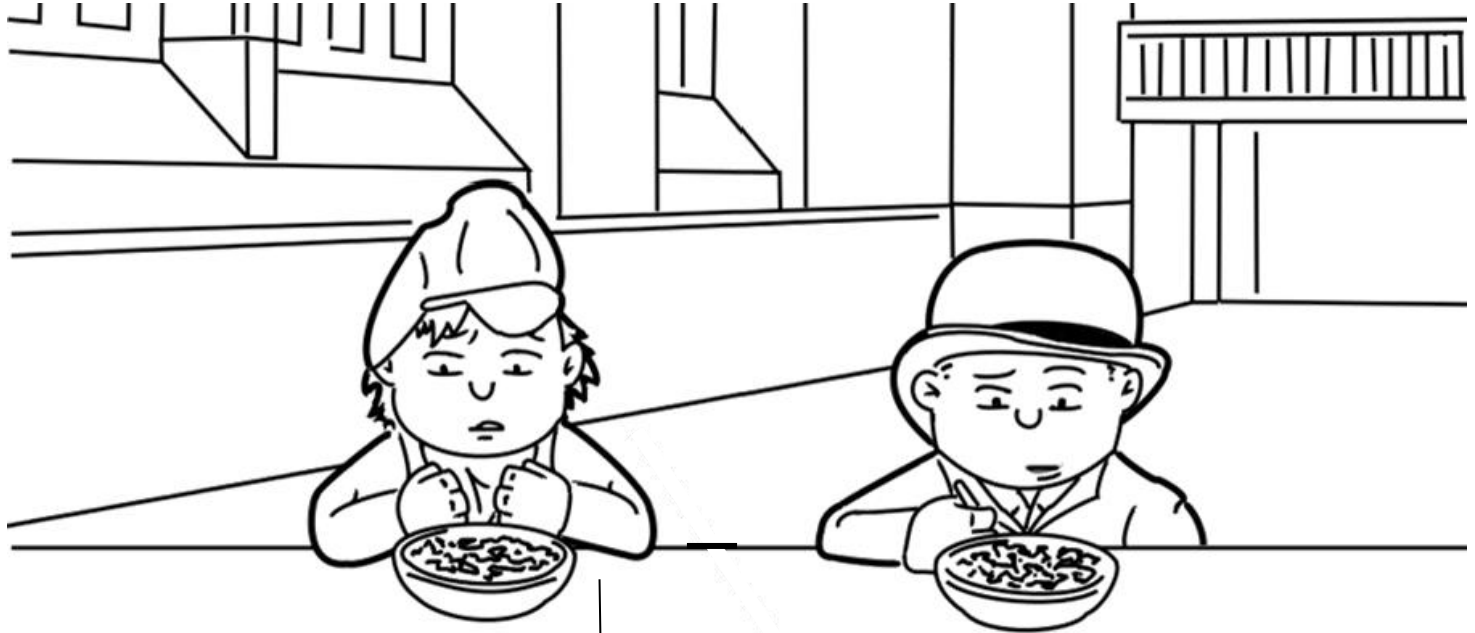
Published in Dallas, Texas

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored, or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior permission of the authors (which is not that hard to obtain), except for brief excerpts for reviews)

**MASTERS WATSON AND STAMFORD, I BELIEVE
YOUR ROOMMATE TO BE VERY ILL.**

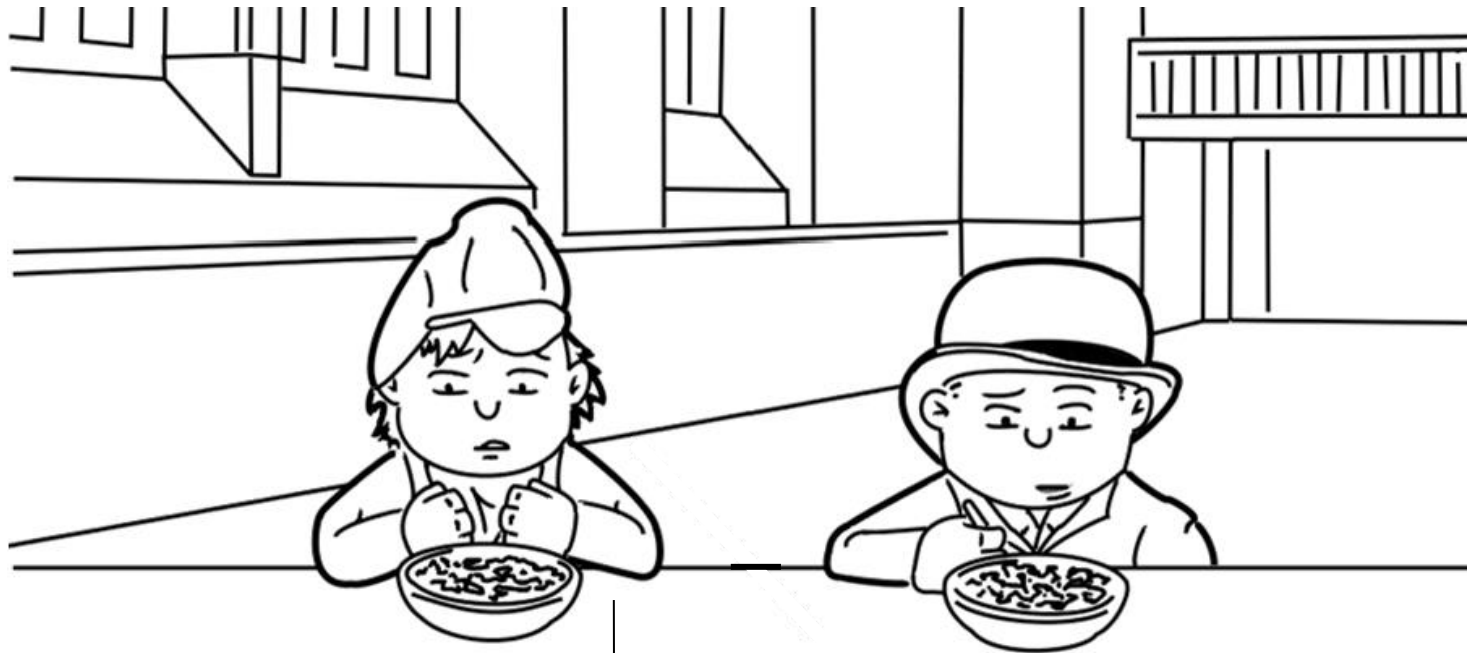


HE HAS NOT EATEN ANY OF MY
MEALS FOR THREE DAYS.



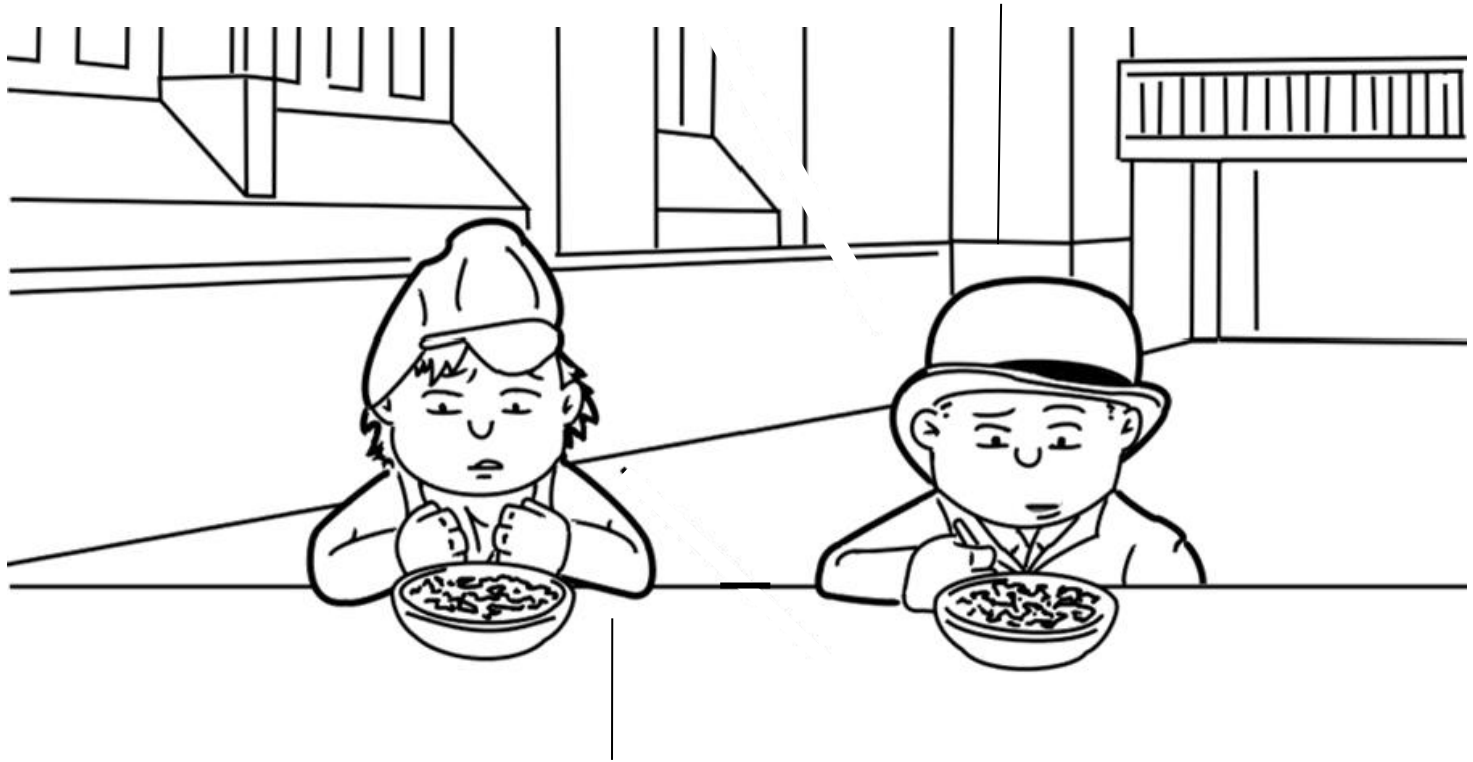
LUCKY KID.

WHAT ANIMAL MEAT WOULD YOU NOT LIKE TO TASTE _____
IN YOUR PIE TOMORROW... PORCUPINE?



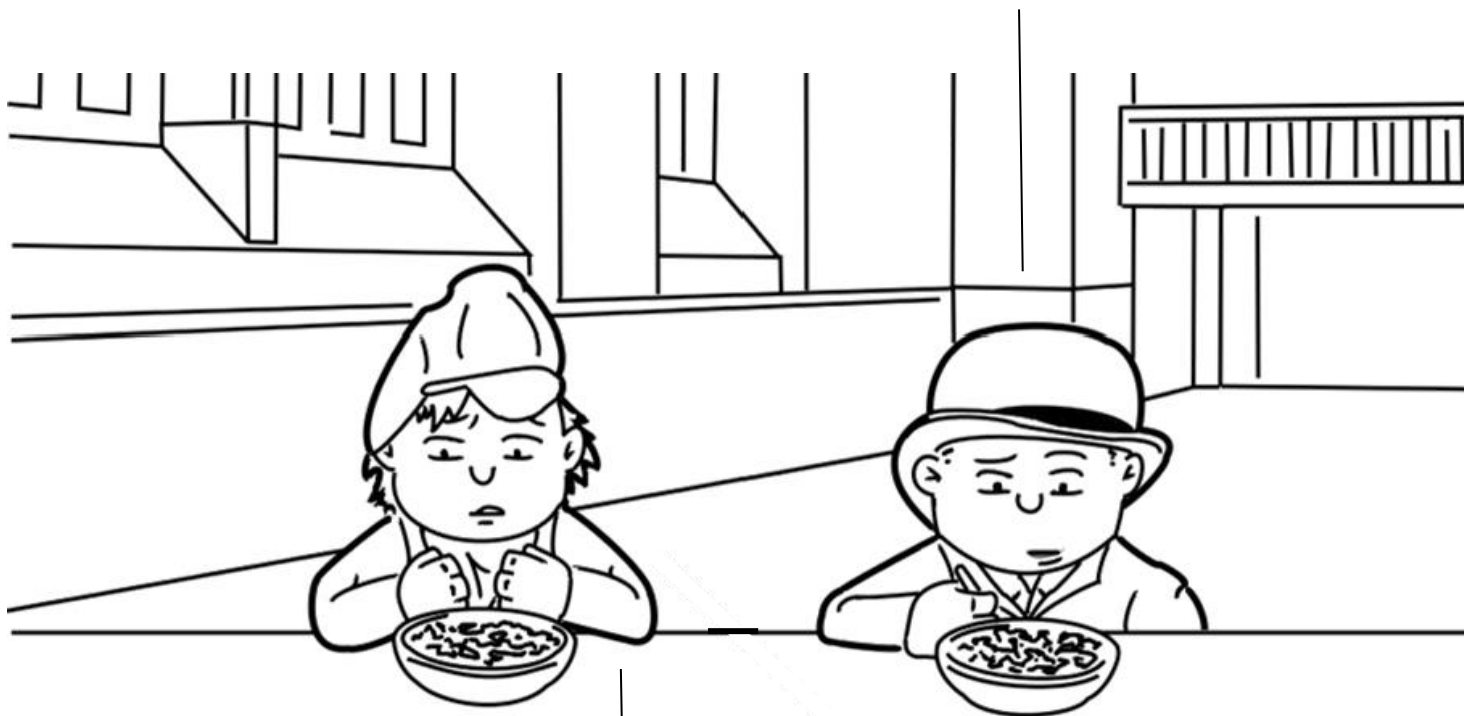
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT THIS IS,
BUT POINT TAKEN... SORRY.

THE SCHOOL NURSE HAS LOOKED IN ON HIM AND BELIEVE HIM TO BE SIMPLY SUFFERING FROM A STOMACH VIRUS.



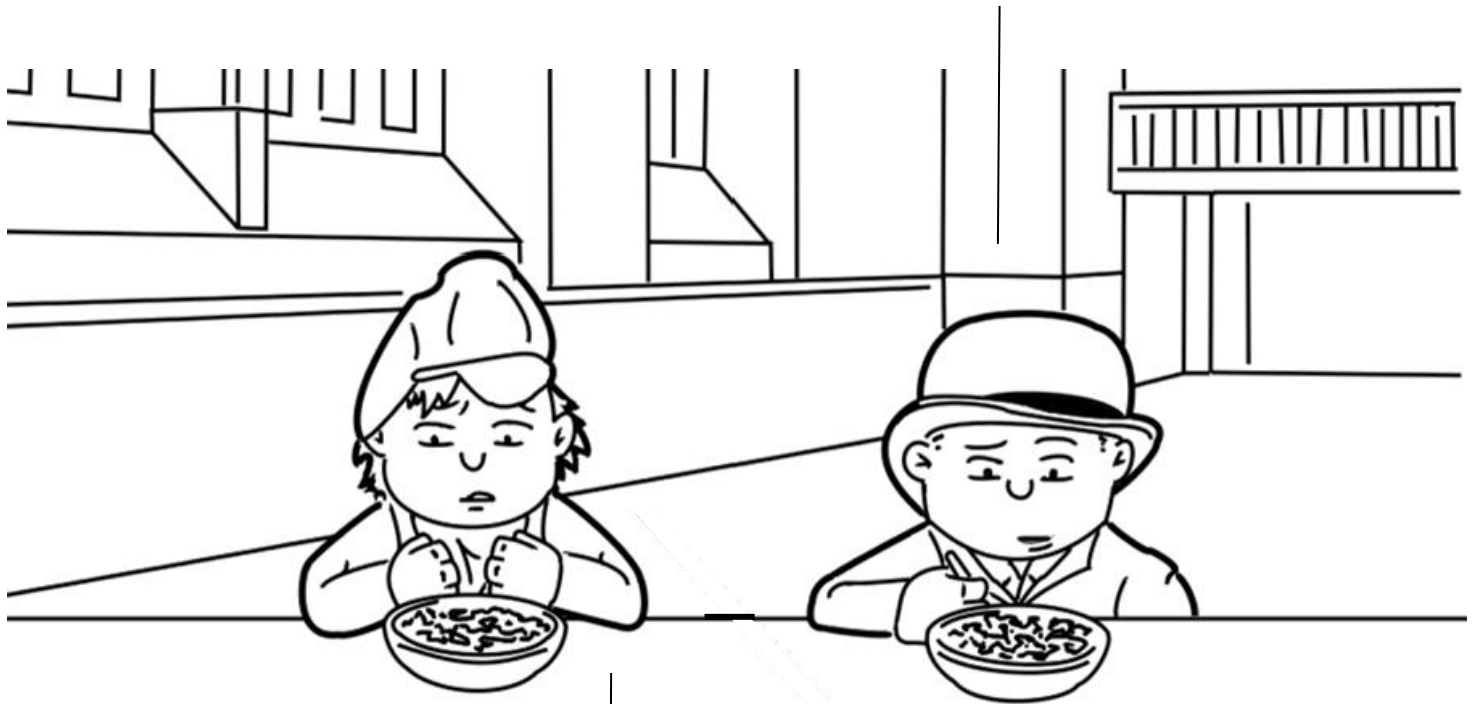
**WATSON AND I HAVE BEEN BUNKING IN ANOTHER ROOM,
SO THAT WE DO NOT CATCH THE VIRUS.**

WELL, I BELIEVE HE HAS BEEN ASKING FOR
THE TWO OF YOU... MAYBE HE IS LONELY.



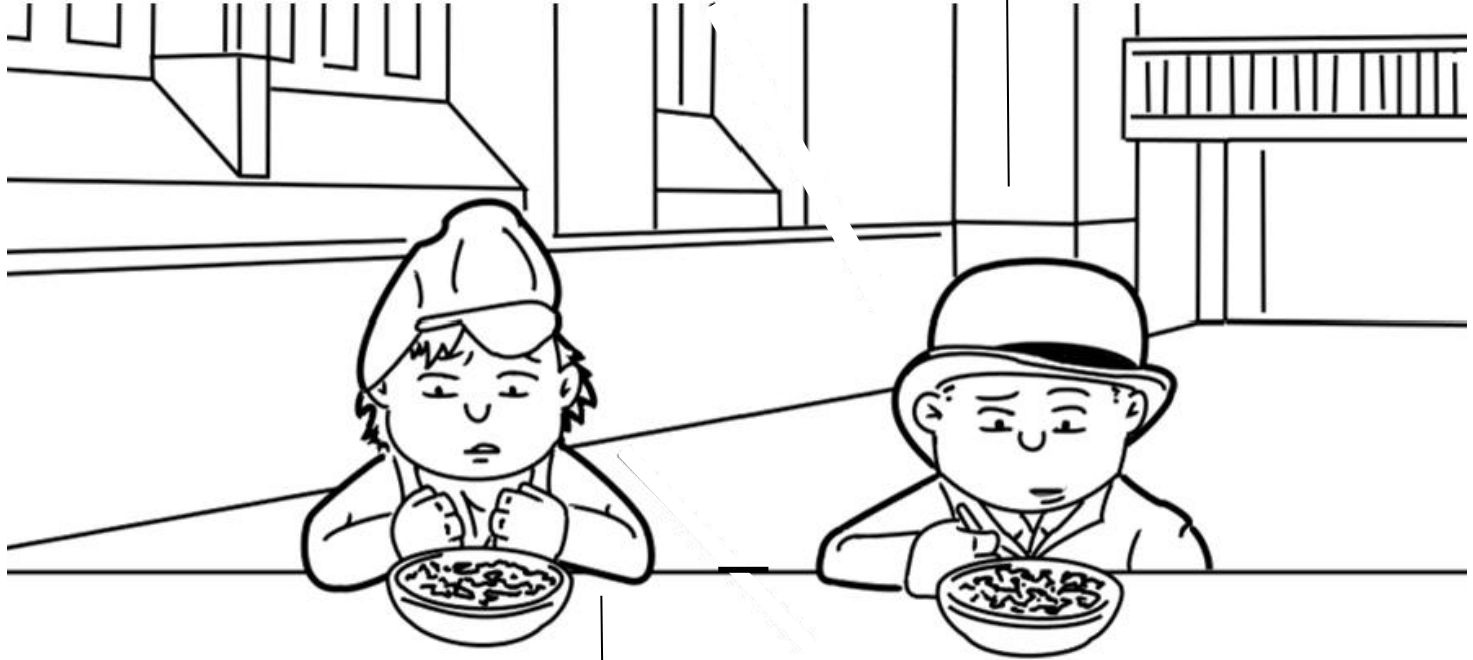
...OR WANTS TO TELL WHICH MEAL DID HIM IN.

HAVE A CARE, YOUNG MAN... OPOSSUM IT IS.



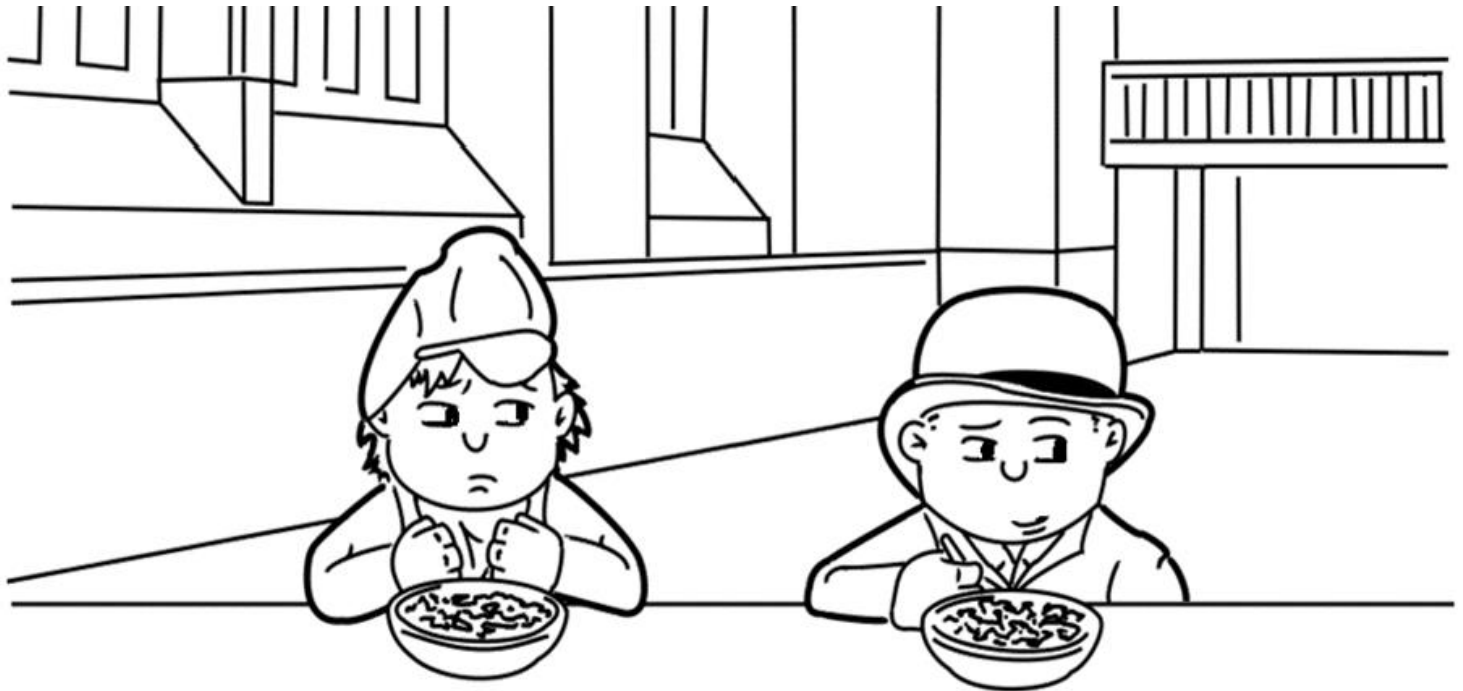
AGAIN, SORRY.

I KNOW HE HAD BEEN WORKING ON A CASE IN
THE BACK ALLEY OF THE SCHOOL, WHICH DEALT
WITH SMUGGLING OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

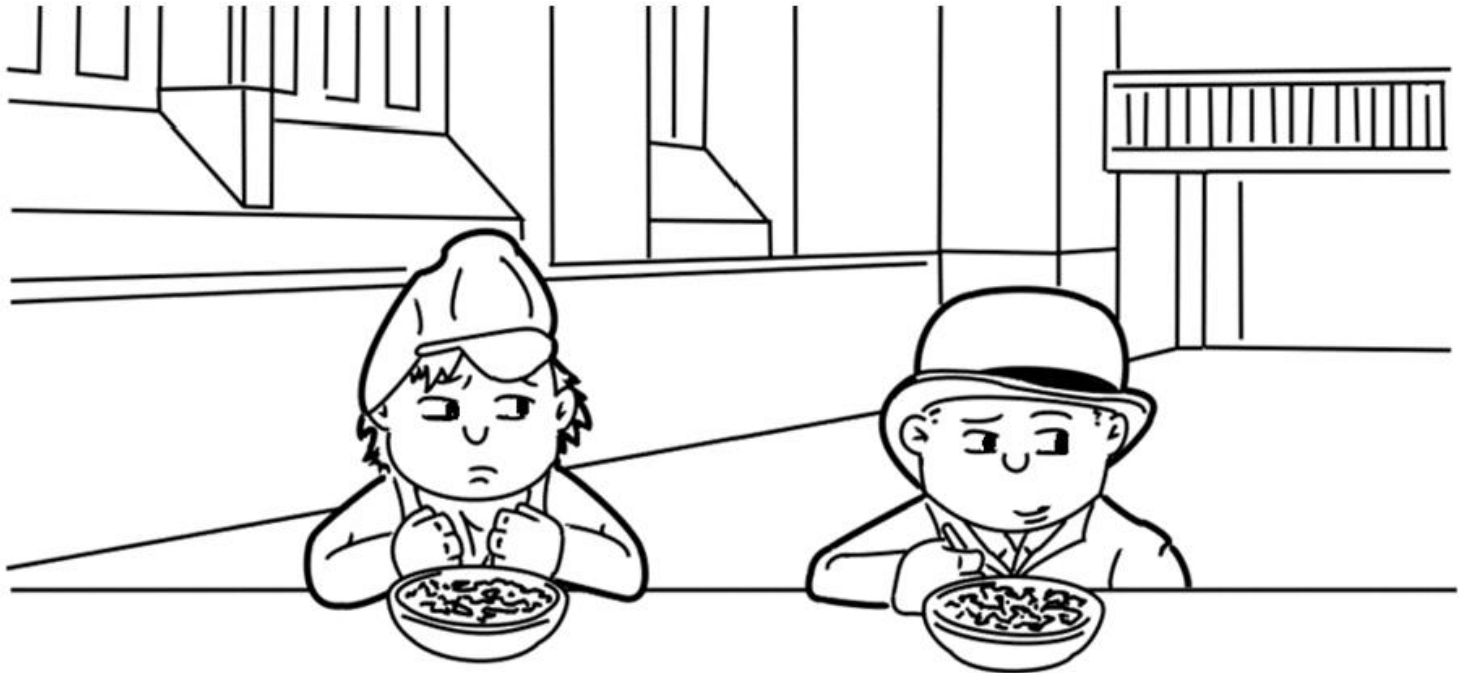


IT APPEARS HE CAUGHT THE VIRUS WHILE
ROOTING IN THE GARBAGE... HE TOOK TO HIS
BED WEDNESDAY, AND NOT MOVED SINCE.

**FOR THESE THREE DAYS, NEITHER FOOD NOR
DRINK HAS PASSED HIS LIPS.**



**HIS PARENTS ARE NOT REACHABLE, AS THEY
ARE OUT ON HOLIDAY... HE HAS MADE IT
CLEAR HE DOES NOT WANT TO SEE A DOCTOR.**

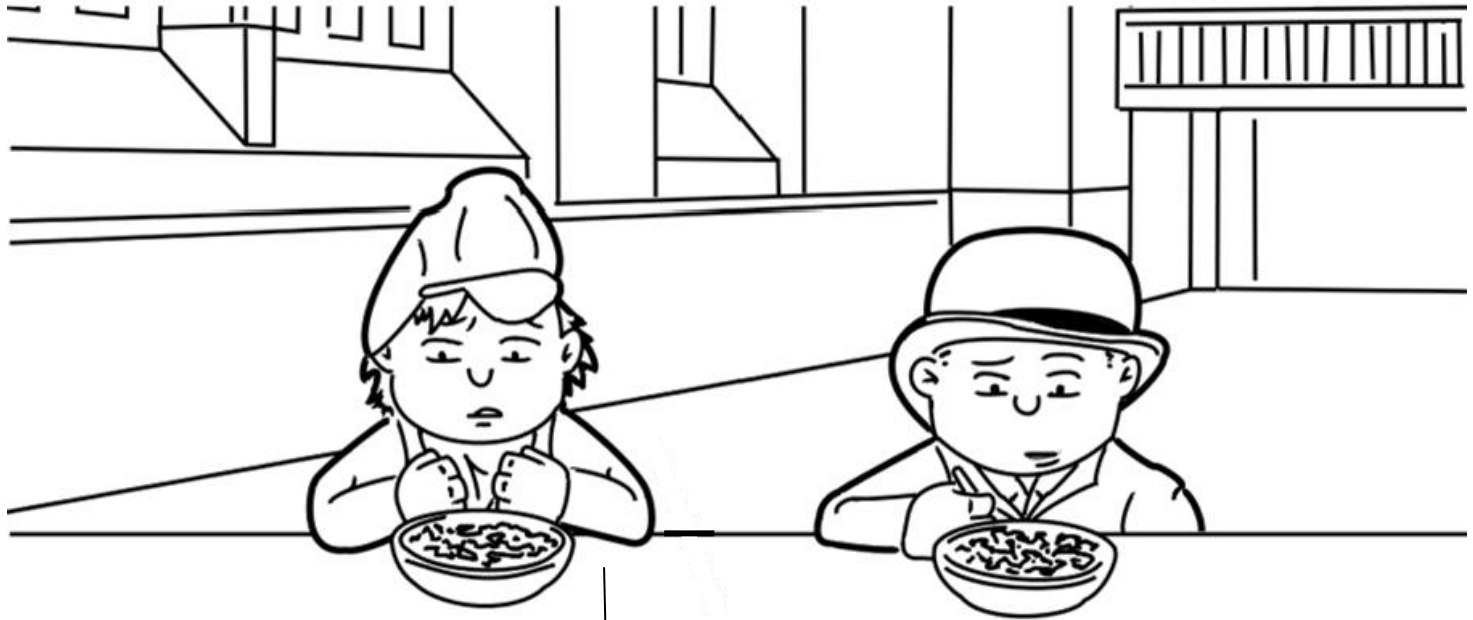


I FEAR HE IS NOT LONG FOR THIS WORLD, IF
HE CONTINUES TO STARVE HIMSELF, AS YOU
WILL SEE FOR YOURSELF.



I DO UNDERSTAND HIS RELUCTANCE TO EAT OR DRINK.

THE VIRUS SENT EVERYTHING HE TOOK IN
STRAIGHT THROUGH... BEFORE HIS FAST... IF
YOU GET MY MEANING... HE REFUSE TO
CONSTANTLY SIT ON THE CHAMBER POT.



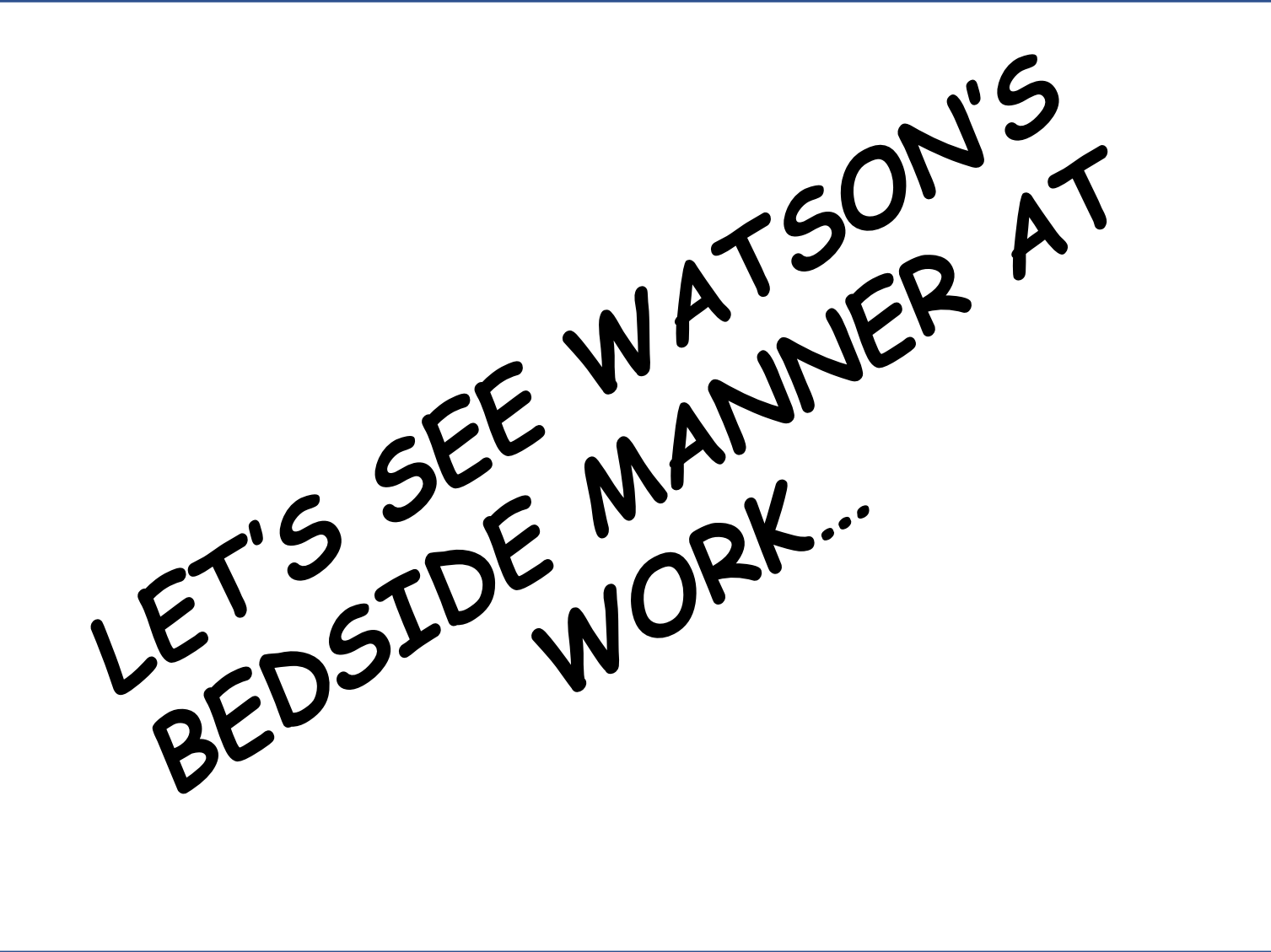
DEATH MIGHT BE A SAVIOUR AT THIS POINT.



"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*



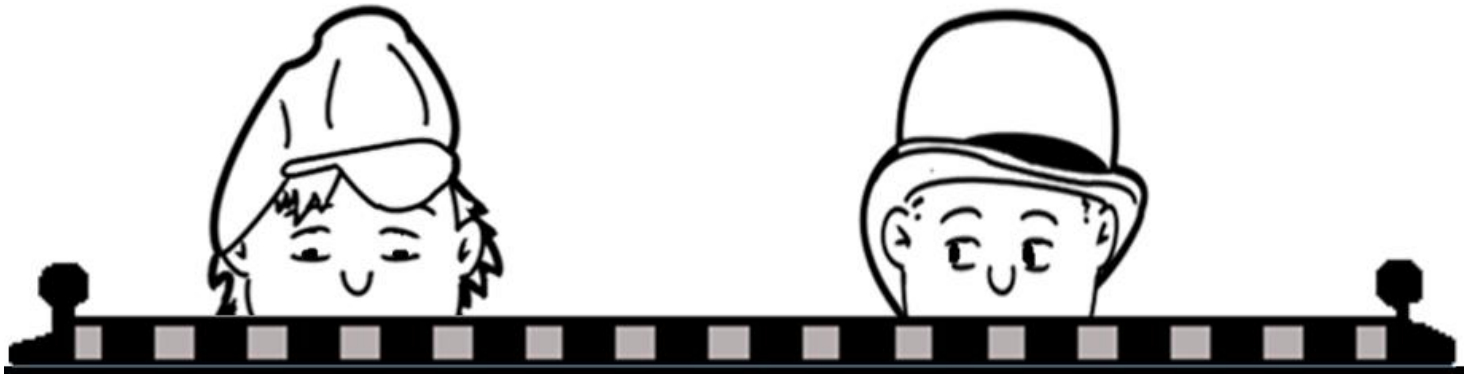


LET'S SEE WATSON'S
BEDSIDE MANNER AT
WORK...

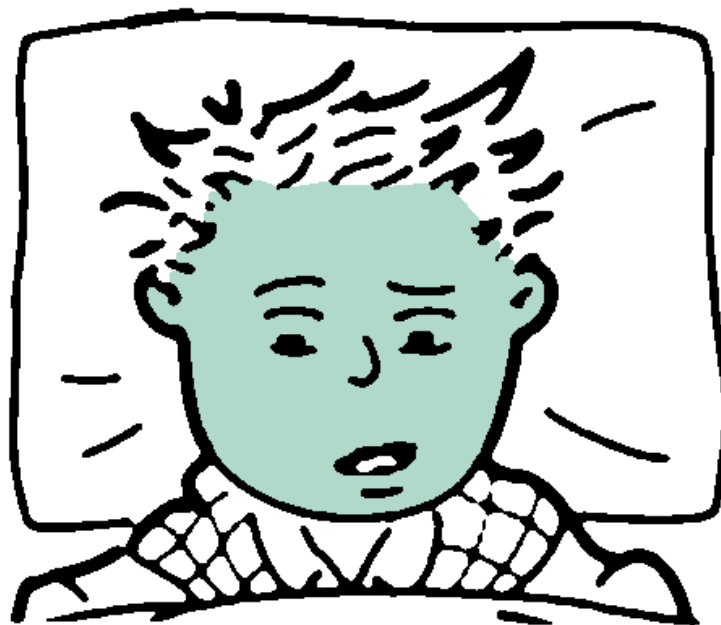
SHERLOCK, YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!

TRY SAYING SOMETHING NICE.

*YOUR FACE HAS BECOME A
LOVELY SHADE OF GREEN.*

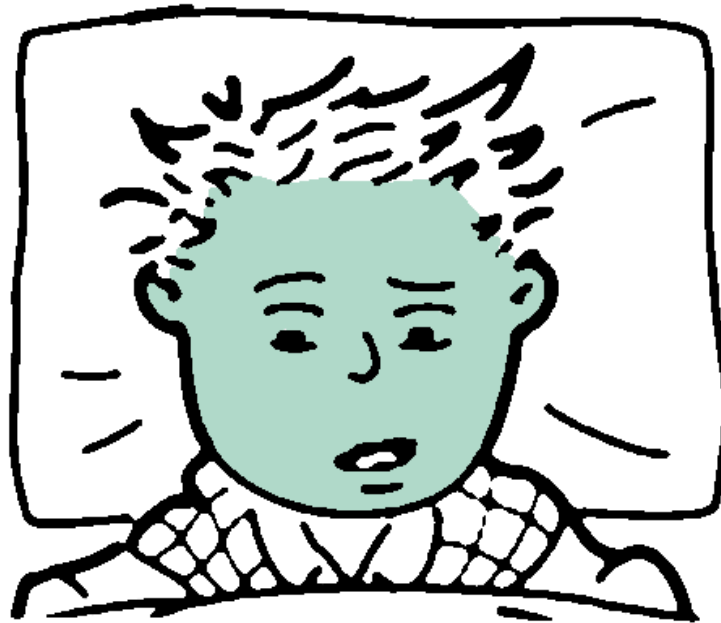


WELL, WE SEEM TO HAVE FALLEN UPON EVIL DAYS.

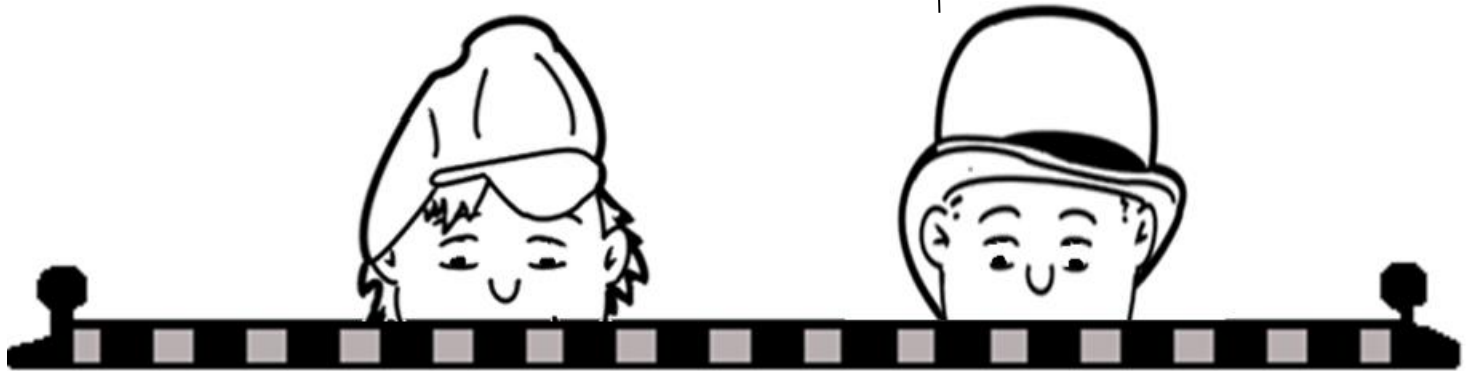


NOT NECESSARILY ALL OF US.

*JUST STAY AT THE END OF THE BED... IF YOU TRY TO
APPROACH ME, I SHALL ORDER YOU OUT OF THE ROOM.*



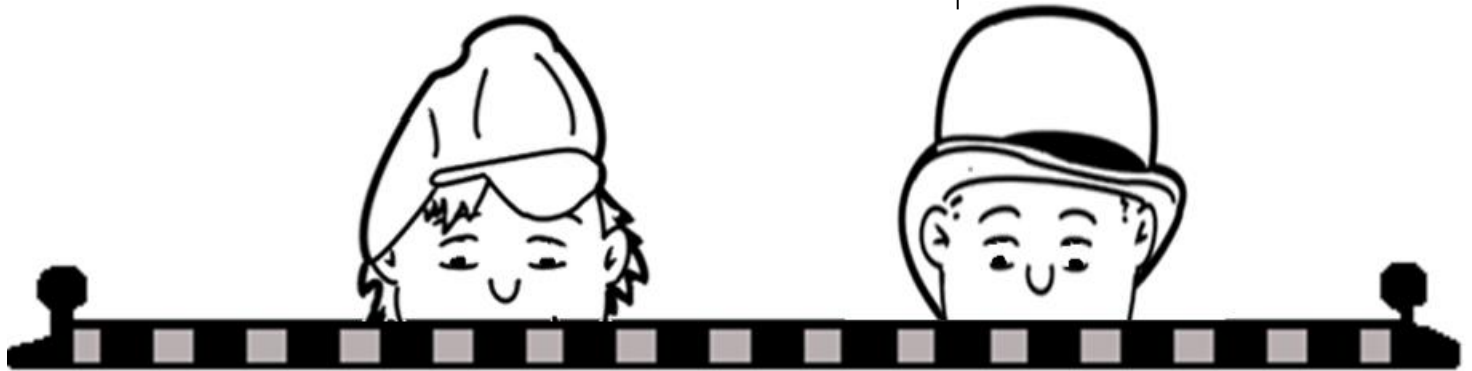
*NOT SURE YOU'RE IN ANY SHAPE TO DO ANY
ORDERING... BY WHY THE DISTANCE?*



BECAUSE IT IS MY DESIRE... IS THAT NOT ENOUGH?

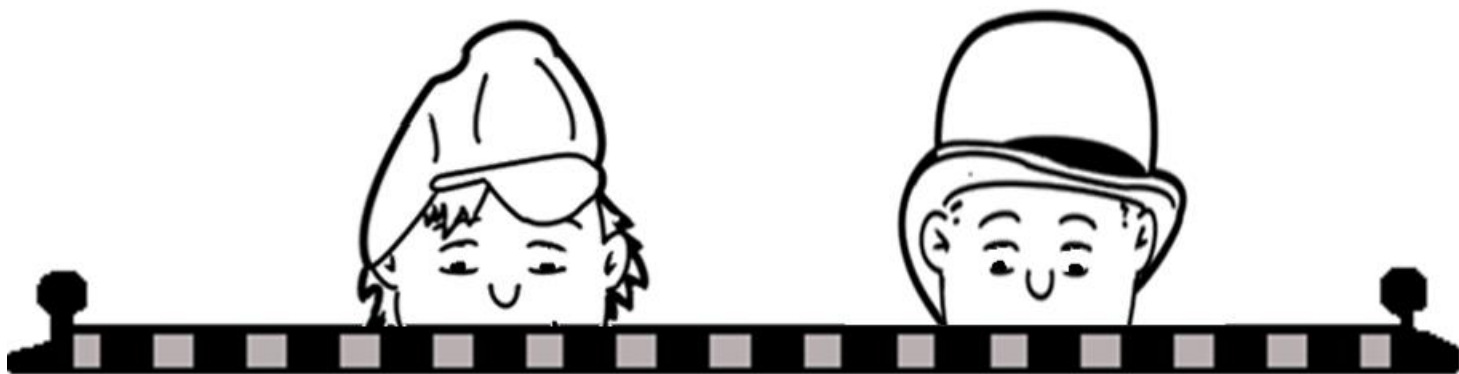
HONESTLY, NO.

SEEMS A LITTLE SHAKY TO ME, ALSO.



*WE CAME AT YOUR REQUEST, BUT ALSO TO SEE
IF THERE IS ANY WAY WE CAN HELP.*

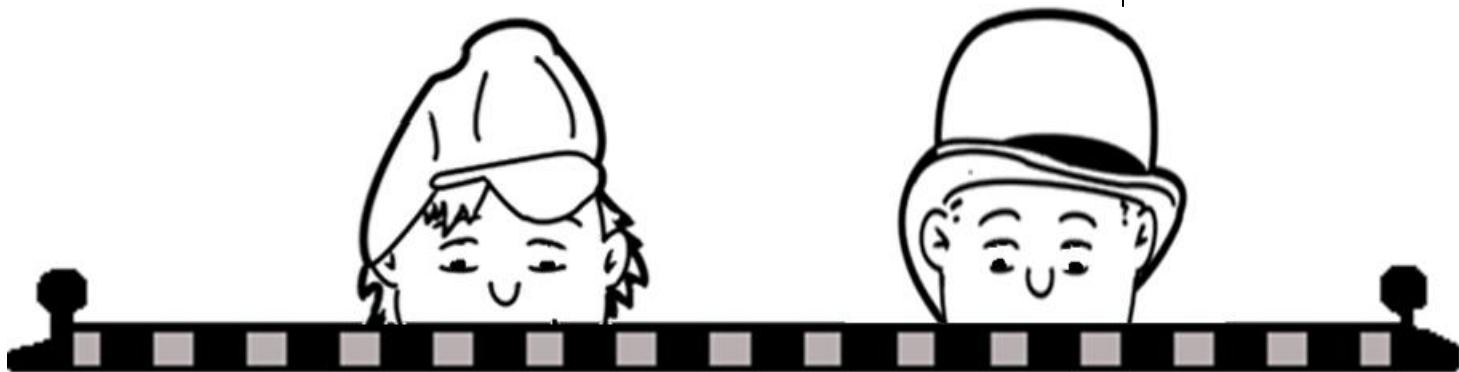
OR NOT.



*EXACTLY... YOU WILL HELP BEST BY
DOING WHAT YOU ARE TOLD.*

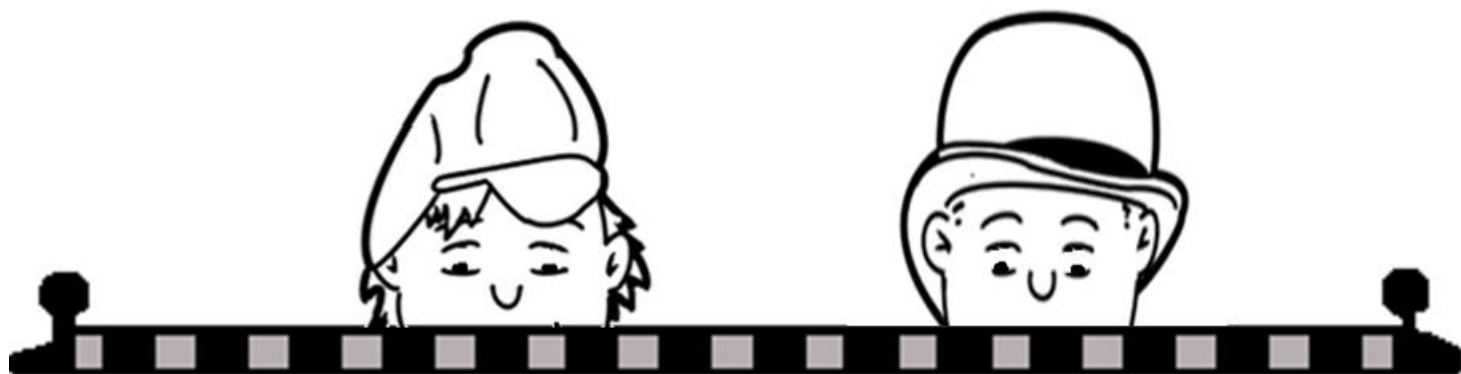
HE SOUNDS JUST LIKE MY MOTHER.

WE'LL DO WHAT YOU ASK,
HOLMES, WITHIN REASON.



I HOPE YOU ARE NOT ANGRY WITH ME.

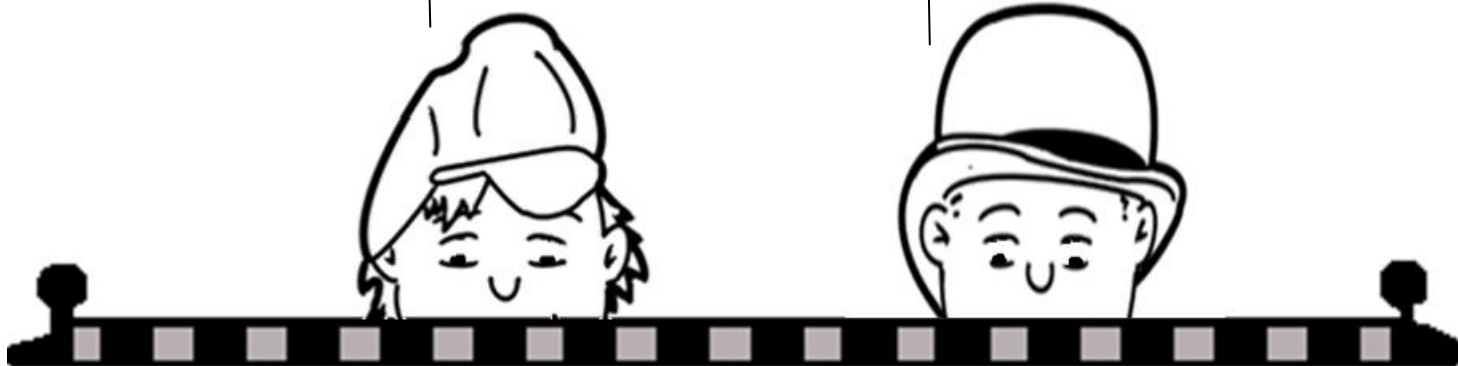
WHY SHOULD WE BE ANGRY, JUST BECAUSE WE HAVE HAD TO SLEEP ON THE FLOOR THE LAST THREE NIGHTS WITH 4 GUYS WHO ALL SNORE AND PASS AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF GAS?



*THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, WATSON,
TO MAKE SURE BOTH OF YOU STAY SAFE.*

**I WON'T EVEN MENTION THE CONDITION OF THE
THUNDER POTS IN THE OTHER ROOM.**

**FOR OUR SAKE? NOT SURE I NEED
THIS TYPE OF CARE.**



**I KNOW WHAT AILS ME... AS YOU ARE AWARE, I
HAVE A CERTAIN AFFINITY TO CHOCOLATE... YOU
MAY SAY I HAVE BECOME A CONNOISSEUR.**

OF COURSE, CHOCOLATE IS
MADE FROM COCOA, WHICH
ORIGINATES FROM THE
CACAO SEEDS, WHICH ARE
FERMENTED TO REMOVE
THE BITTER TASTE OF HIGH
LEVELS OF TANNINS.



THERE ARE 3 MAIN
VARIETIES OF CACAO BEANS
USED IN THIS PRODUCTION...
CRIOLLO, FORASTERO, AND
TRINITARIO.

WEST END HOUSE:
22, REGENT STREET,
S.W.

ELKINGTON & CO^{LTD}

LONDON · LIVERPOOL · MANCHESTER · BIRMINGHAM

CITY HOUSE:
THE OLD MANSION HOUSE,
73, CHEAPSIDE,
E.C.



020082
Enriched Oak "Tartarus" Spirit Frame, with
Nickel Plated Mounts, and two Car Hotel
Quart Bottles, £5 0 0



020082
Sterling Silver
Cigarette Case,
18i.



Flask, Gold Frame,
in Sterling Silver,
£4 0 0



017018
One quart Kettle and Stand,
Handsomely Plated and
Engraved, in Electro-Plate,
£4 4 0



020007
Chamber Candlestick,
Electro-plated, 12/6



020070 B
Sterling Silver Cigar Case,
Lined with Gold, Concave,
£3 2 0



011944
The "Hasting" Breakfast
Cup, in Electro-Plate,
£1 16 0



019224
Sterling Silver Inlaid, "Golf,"
£6 10 0

019224
Corinthian Table Lamp, with
Handsomely Cut Crystal
Glass Container,
in Electro-Plate, £8 8 0



015259
Egg Frame, with 4 Eggs and Spoon,
Electro plate, £2 17 0



019215
Firm Fluted Lamp, with
Shade complete, £2 2 0

019201
Egg Lamp,
Chased Wedgwood, in
Electro-Plate, £2 0 0

LIVERPOOL
25, CHURCH STREET.

BIRMINGHAM
NEWHALL STREET.

GLASGOW
159, BUCHANAN STREET.

MANCHESTER
ST. ANN'S SQUARE.

HOWEVER, THE
FERMENTATION PROCESS,
WHILE BREAKING DOWN THE
TANNING, CREATES LARGE
LEVELS OF BACTERIA... THUS,
THE COCOA MUST BE COOKED
TO KILL THE BACTERIA.



THERE IS A SMALL
POPULATION THAT BELIEVE
EATING THE RAW,
UNCOOKED COCOA IS
HEALTHY FOR YOU.

THE BACTERIA, THOUGH,
CAUSES A HOST OF NON-
BENEFICIAL SYMPTOMS, ONE
OF THEM... DIARRHEA.



ONCE THE BACTERIA IS
INTRODUCED INTO YOUR BODY,
IT IS A VERY LONG, LABORIOUS
PROCESS TO REMOVE IT.

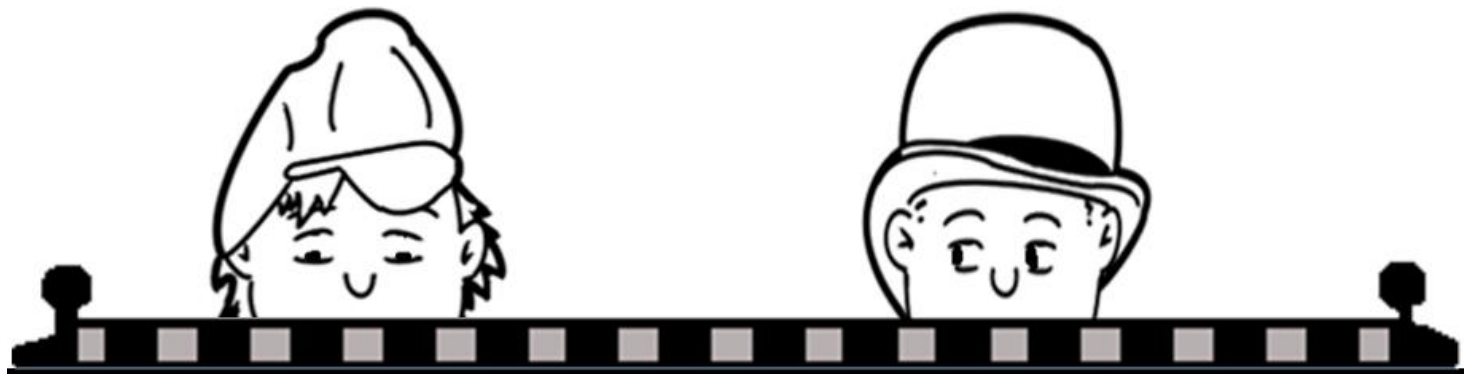
*MANY SIMPLY HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT FOR THE
REST OF THEIR LIVES, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY
MEANS SPENDING A LOT OF TIME 'ON THE POT'.*



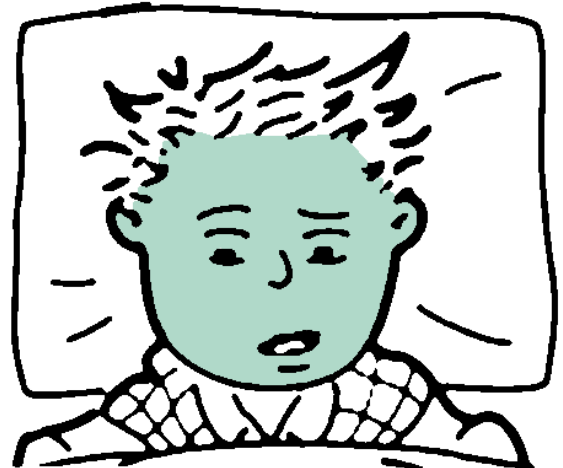
WOW, I COULD 'CLEAN UP' JUST SELLING
YOU 'CHAMBER POT PAPER'.

WHAT'S THAT?

OH, JUST AN IDEA TO
BECOME RICH IN THE FUTURE.

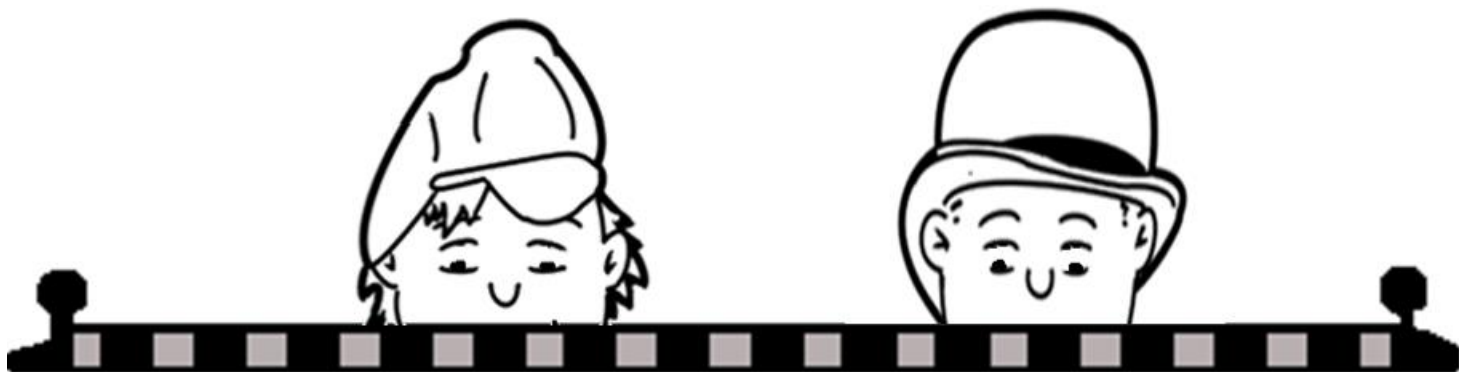


SCIENTISTS ARE STILL UNCERTAIN IF IT IS HORRIBLY
CONTAGIOUS OR NOT, PARTICULARLY BY TOUCH WATSON... THAT'S
IT, BY TOUCH... KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, AND ALL WILL BE WELL.



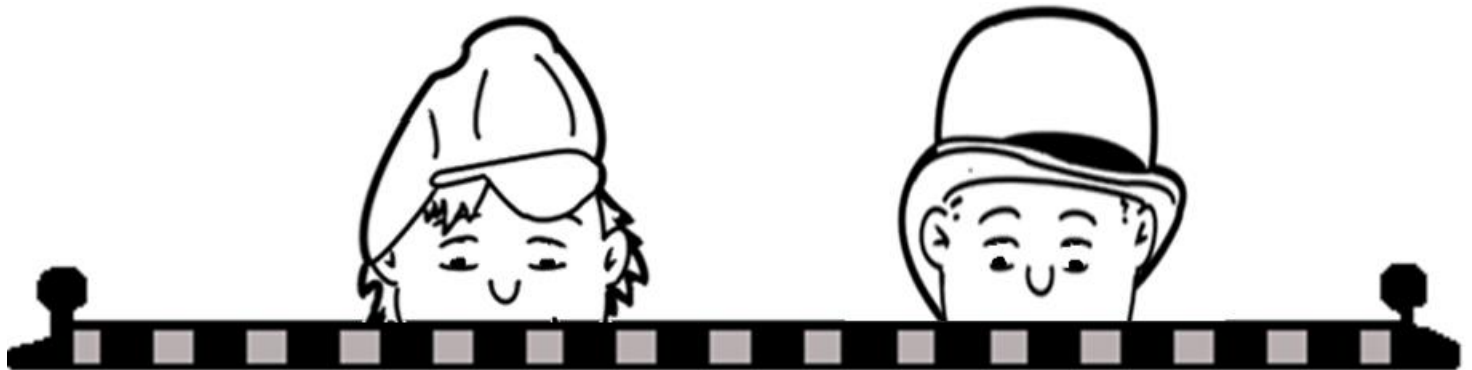
*I'VE NEVER BEEN A TOUCHY-FEELY TYPE OF
PERSON, SO NO WORRIES HERE.*

*HOLMES, DO YOU SUPPOSE SUCH
A CONSIDERATION WEIGHS
WITH ME FOR AN INSTANT?*

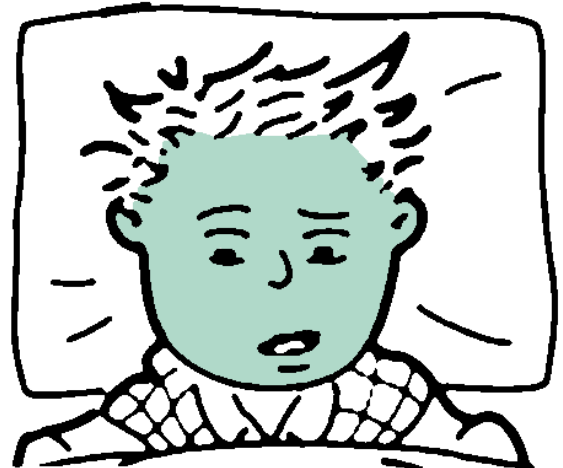


*YOU ARE MY BEST FRIEND, AND I
WANT TO MINISTER TO YOU.*

*THE WAY HE LOOKS, MAYBE WE
SHOULD CALL IN A MINISTER.*

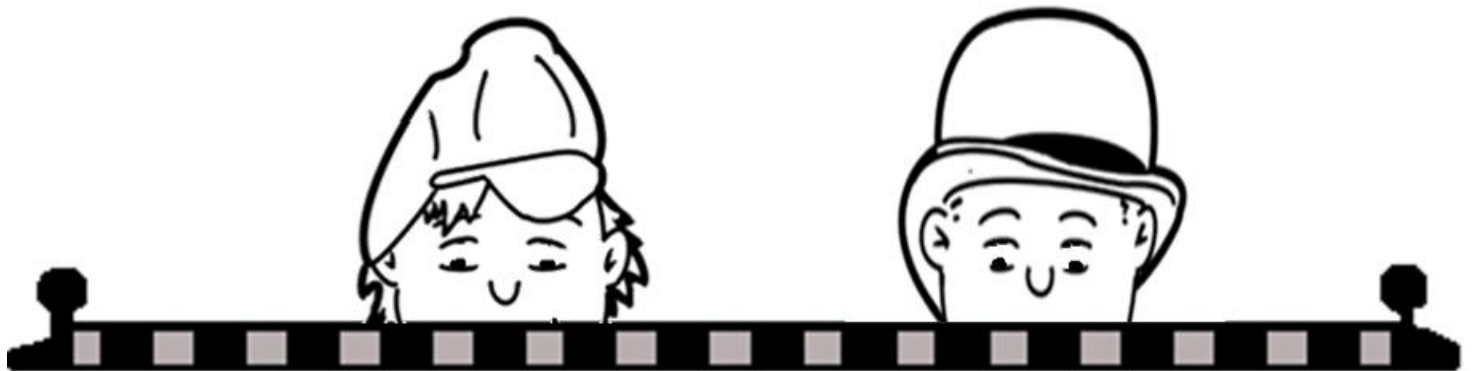


*IF YOU WILL STAND THERE, I WILL TALK... IF YOU
APPROACH ANY CLOSER, YOU MUST LEAVE THE ROOM.*



HOLMES, YOU ARE NOT YOURSELF.

*I DON'T KNOW... STILL LOOKS
SORTA LIKE SHERLOCK TO ME.*



WARNER'S **SAFE CURE** ALMANAC
1891

The illustration shows a central box of Warner's Safe Cure, held by hands from various countries. The box is labeled "THE SIMPLE, OF COURSE, ONE-FOURTH SIZE." and "WARNER'S **SAFE CURE**". It features a picture of a safe and lists ailments: "KIDNEY AND LIVER, BRUISE'S DISEASE, URINARY COMPLAINTS, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, GENERAL DEBILITY, MALARIA, AND ALL OTHERS CAUSED BY RHEUMATISM, GOUT, AND LIVER." The box also mentions "H. N. WARNER & CO. LONDON, ENGLAND; TORONTO, CANADA." and "PRICE 2/6 PER BOTTLE".

Hands holding the box are labeled with city names: "PARIS, FRANCE", "MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA", "RANGOON", "LONDON", "NEW YORK", and "HONG KONG".

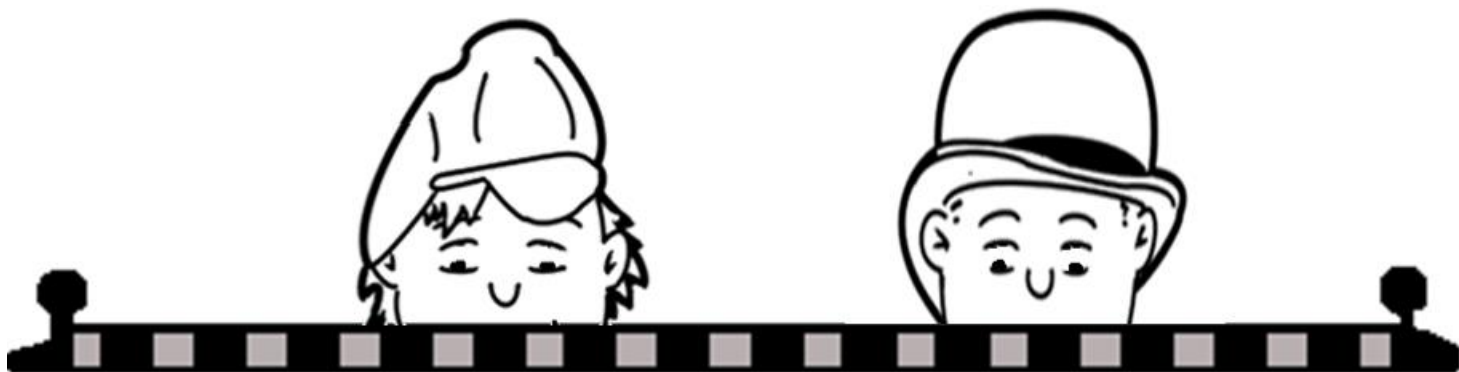
At the top, two circular emblems show the Imperial Austrian and Prussian crowns. At the bottom, two circular emblems show the Royal Coat of Arms and the United States shield.

A banner across the globe reads "BELTS THE GLOBE".

Below the globe, the text "CENSUS STATISTICS" is prominently displayed.

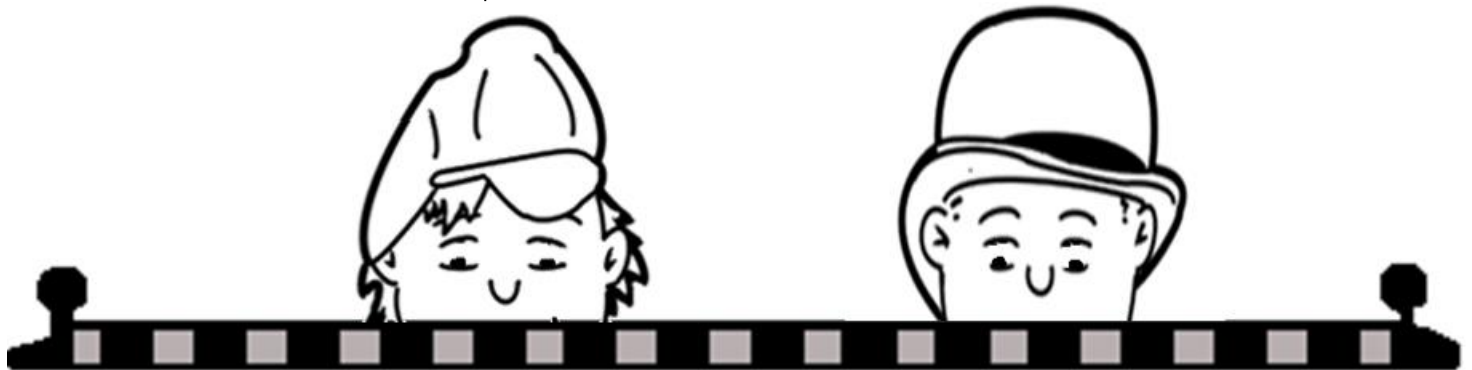
At the very bottom, the text "© Science Photo Library" is visible.

*A SICK CHILD IS STILL BUT A CHILD... WAIT,
THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE... I WILL DESIGN A
FOOL-PROOF TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR YOU.*

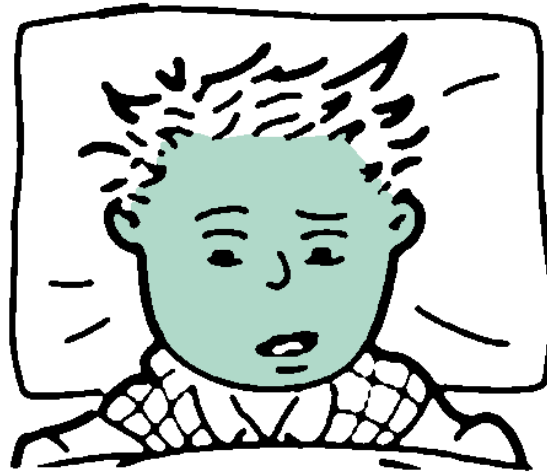


*LIKE IT OR NOT, I WILL EXAMINE YOUR SYMPTOMS
AND DETERMINE HOW TO ALLEVIATE THEM... IT
WILL BE GOOD PRACTICE FOR MY FUTURE CAREER.*

ARE YOU EXPECTING TO BE AN 'UNDERTAKER'?

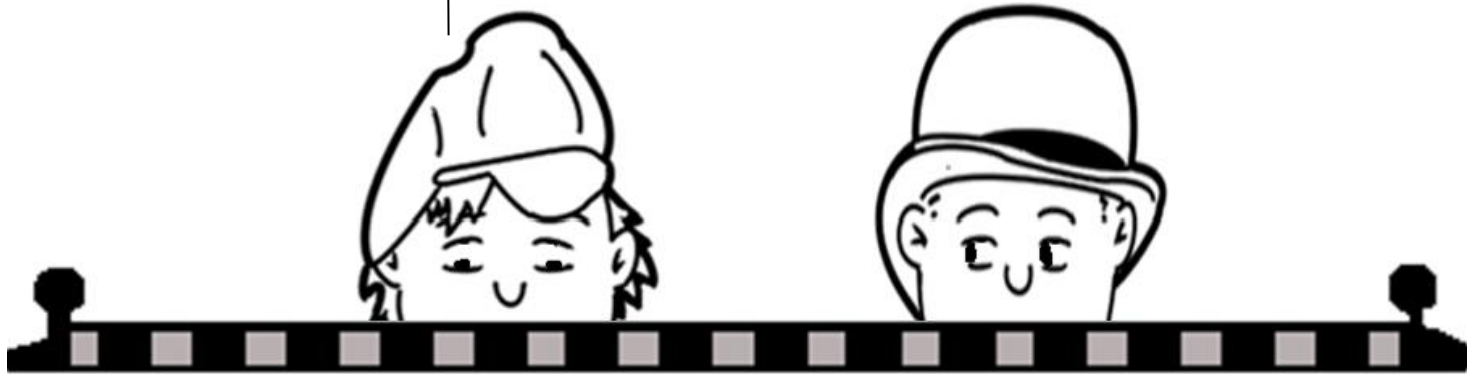


IF I AM TO HAVE A STUDENT PLAYING DOCTOR, LET ME AT
LEAST HAVE SOMEONE IN WHICH I HAVE CONFIDENCE.



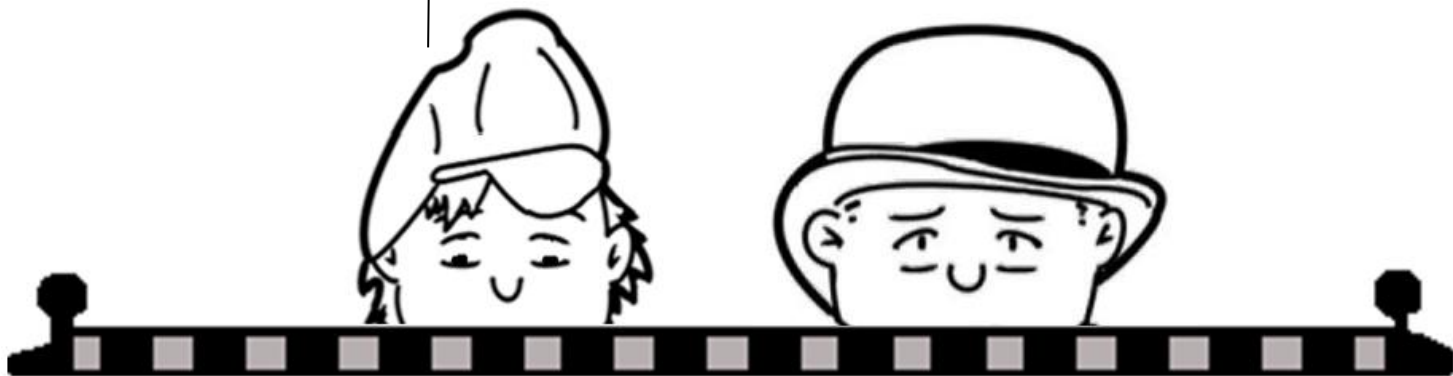
THEN YOU HAVE NONE IN ME?

THAT'S PRETTY HARSH.



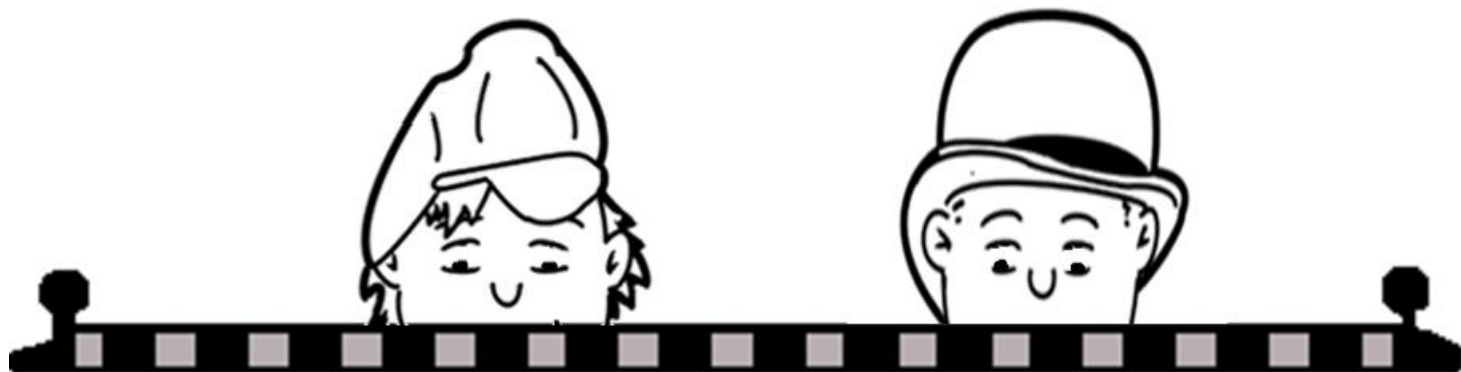
*WATSON UNDERSTANDS, IN OUR FRIENDSHIP, CERTAINLY... BUT
FACTS ARE FACTS, HIS STUDIES TO THIS POINT ARE LIMITED
AND LEAVE HIM WITH ONLY MEDIOCRE QUALIFICATIONS.*

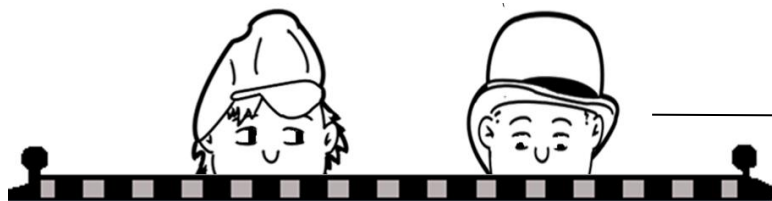
*I DID NOT KNOW WATSON HAD ANY
QUALIFICATIONS AT THIS AGE.*



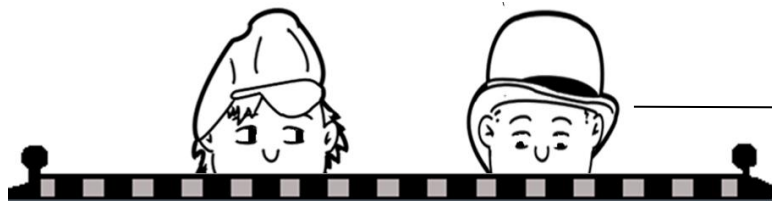
*IT IS PAINFUL TO HAVE TO SAY THESE
THINGS, BUT WATSON LEAVES NO CHOICE.*

*SUCH A REMARK IS UNWORTHY OF YOU HOLMES... BUT IF YOU HAVE
NO CONFIDENCE IN ME, I WILL NOT INTRUDE MY SERVICES.*



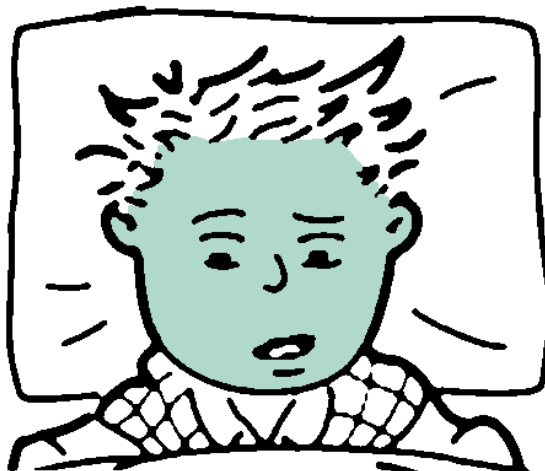


**BUT SOMEONE YOU MUST
HAVE, AND THAT IS FINAL...
IF YOU THINK I AM NOT
GOING TO STAND HERE AND
SEE YOU WASTE AWAY...**

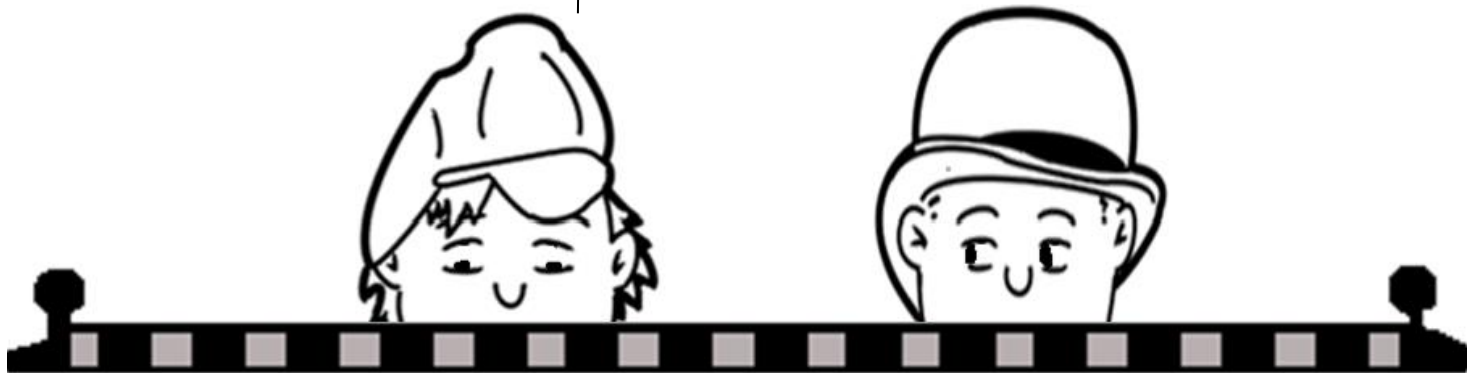


**...WITHOUT EITHER HELPING OR
BRINGING ANYONE ELSE TO
HELP YOU, THEN YOU HAVE
MISTAKEN YOUR FRIEND.**

I KNOW YOU TWO MEAN WELL! BUT SHALL I HAVE
TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR IGNORANCE? WHAT DO
YOU KNOW, PRAY TELL, OF TAPANULI FEVER?

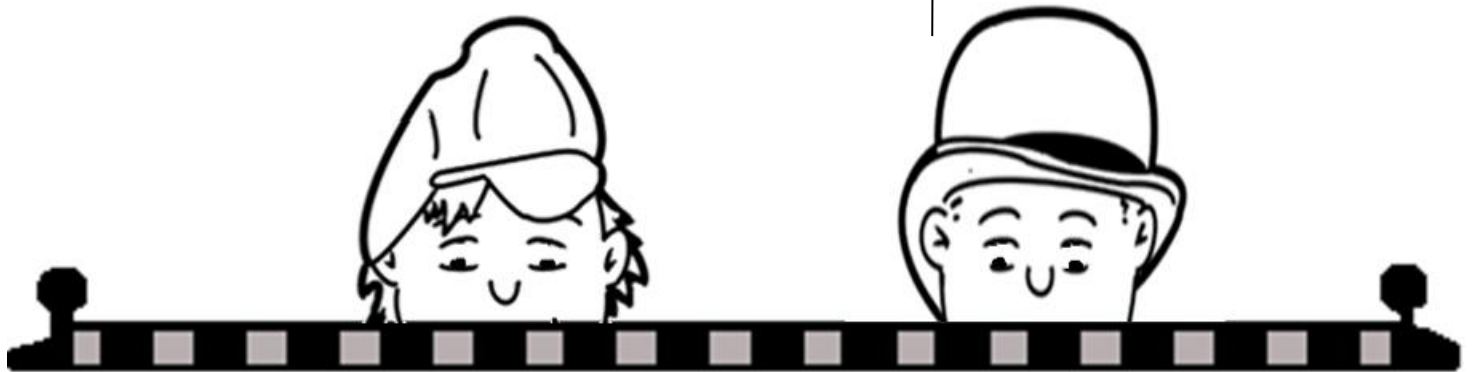


AGAIN, WITH THE PRAYING?



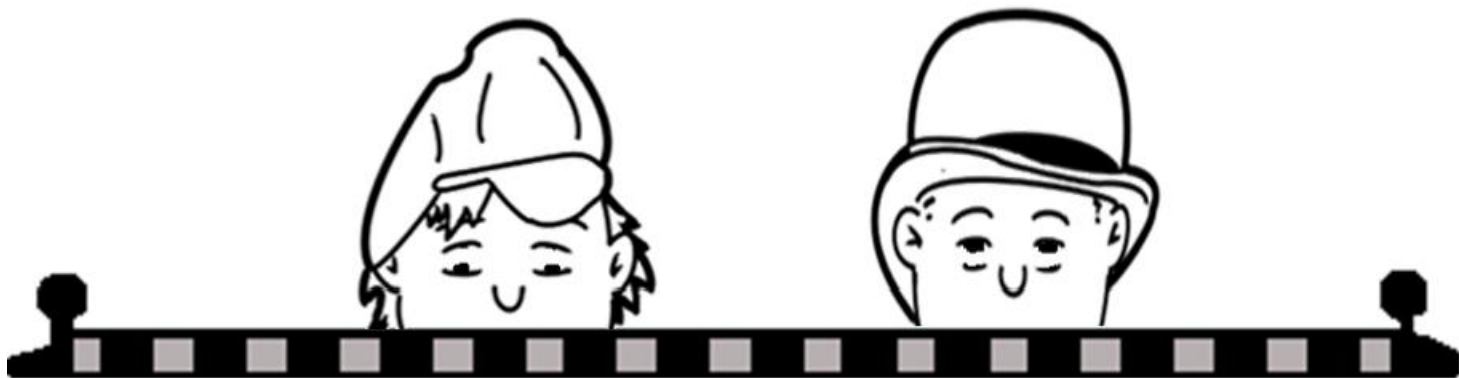
OR THE BLACK FORMOSA CORRUPTION?

**SERIOUSLY? WE'RE TALKING CHOCOLATE... NOT
SURGERY... NO, I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF EITHER.**



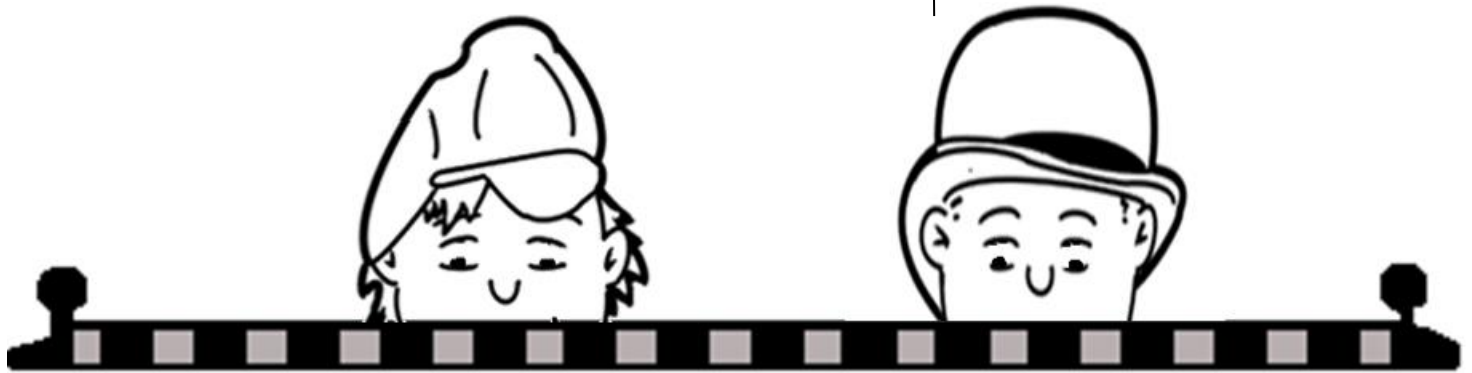
**THERE ARE MANY PROBLEMS OF DISEASE, MANY
STRANGE PATHOLOGICAL POSSIBILITIES IN THE EAST.**

*I'VE HEARD THE EAST END OF LONDON IS A LITTLE IFFY, BUT
I THOUGHT THE CACAO BEANS CAME FROM SOUTH AMERICA?*



*DON'T CONFUSE A GOOD TIRADE WITH DETAILS... I HAVE
LEARNED MUCH DURING SOME RECENT RESEARCHES... IT WAS IN
THE COURSE OF THEM I HAVE CONTRACTED THIS COMPLAINT.*

*I THOUGHT IT WAS FROM JUST
EATING SOME BAD CHOCOLATE?*



WELL, THAT TOO... THE POINT IS, YOU CAN DO NOTHING.

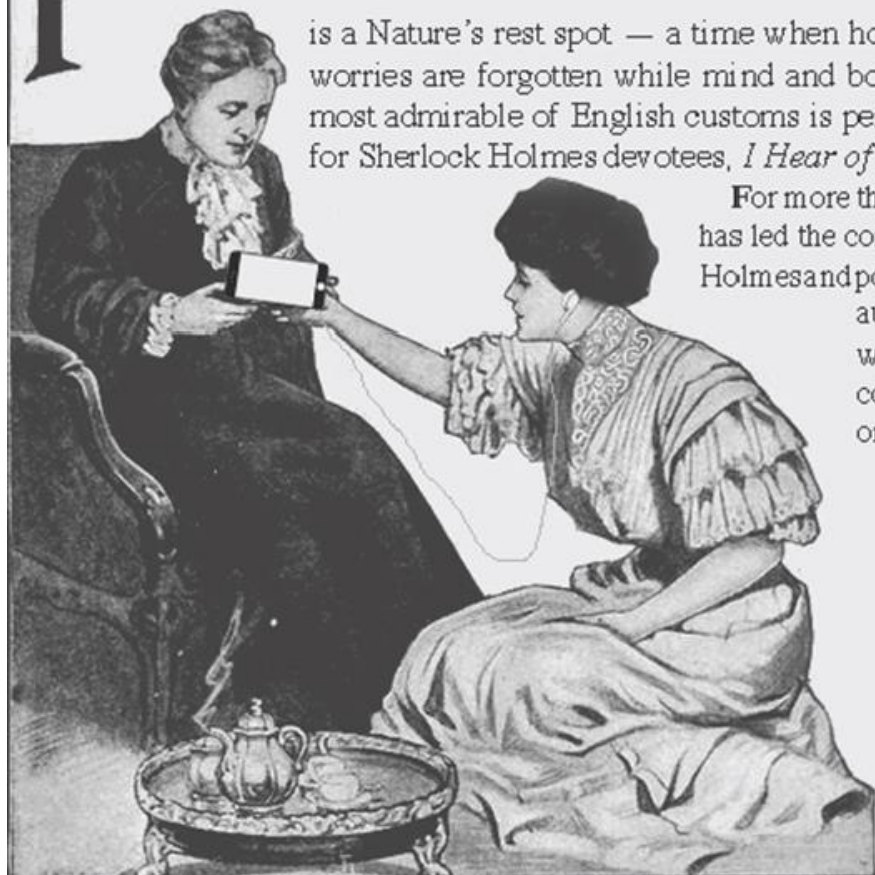
Four O'clock Tea

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 feature 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.

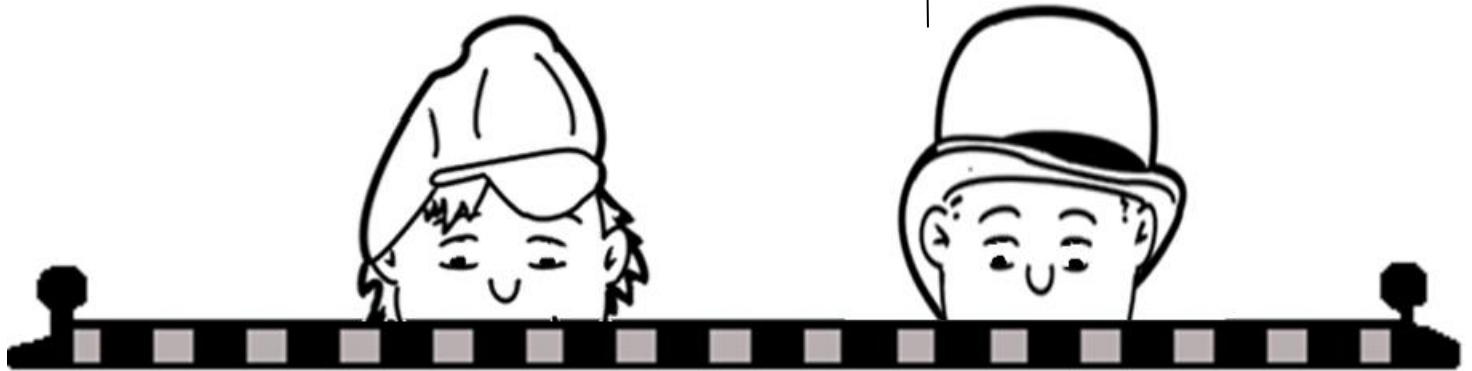


POSSIBLY NOT... BUT I KNOW MARY SUTHERLAND, WHO HELPED
IN THE CASE I CHRONICLED AS 'A CASE OF IDENTITY'.

ACTUALLY, YOU CALLED IT
'IPSEITY'... SOMETHING ABOUT
'COPYRIGHTS' WHATEVER THAT IS.

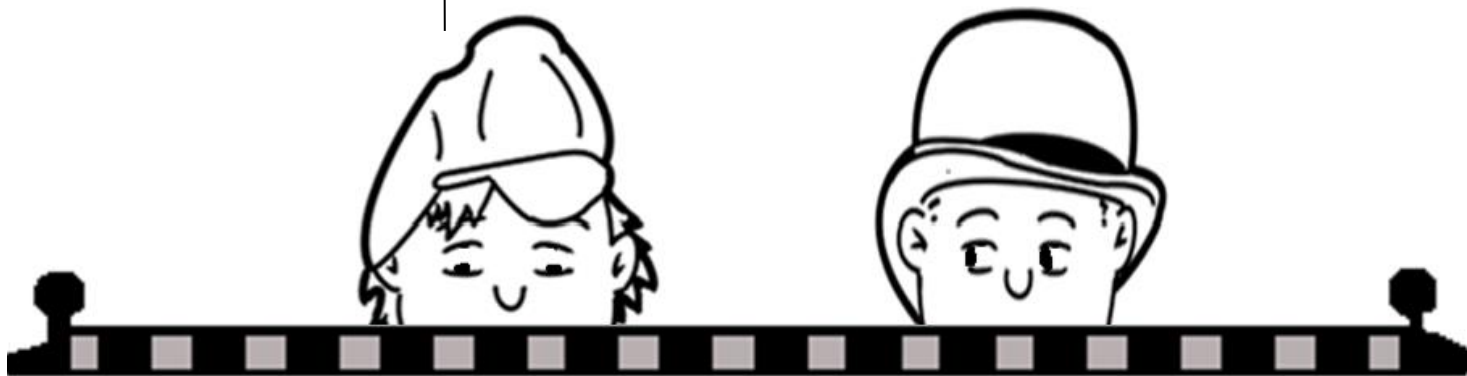


TRUE... ANYWAY, HER FAMILY MEMBERS, 'CADBURY',
ARE THE GREATEST LIVING AUTHORITIES ON
CHOCOLATE IN LONDON... I AM GOING TO FETCH HER.



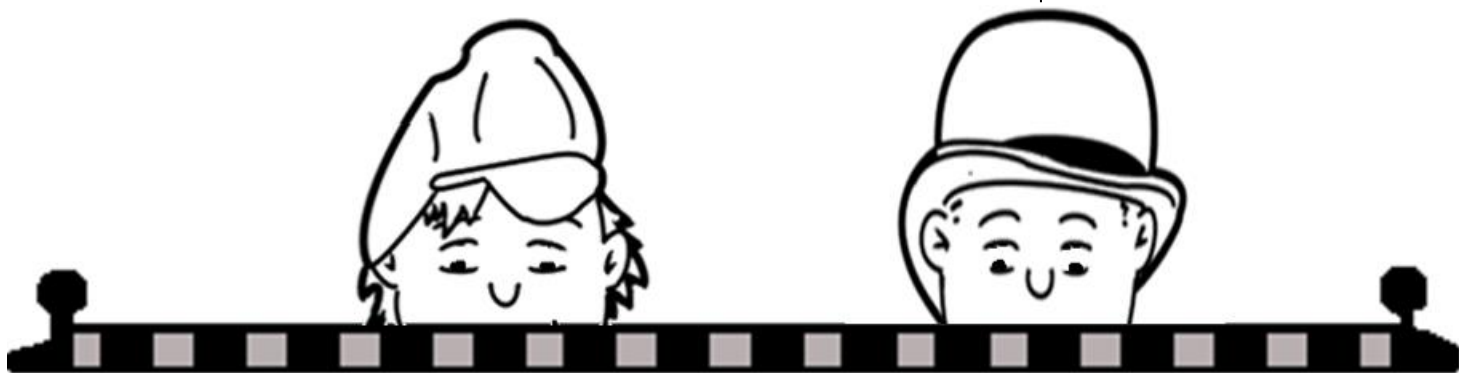
YOU WILL NOT LEAVE THIS ROOM, UNTIL
I WILL DIRECT YOU OTHERWISE.

uhhh... HOW DO YOU PROPOSE TO STOP US? YOU DON'T APPEAR TO BE WELL ENOUGH TO EVEN LEAVE THE BED.



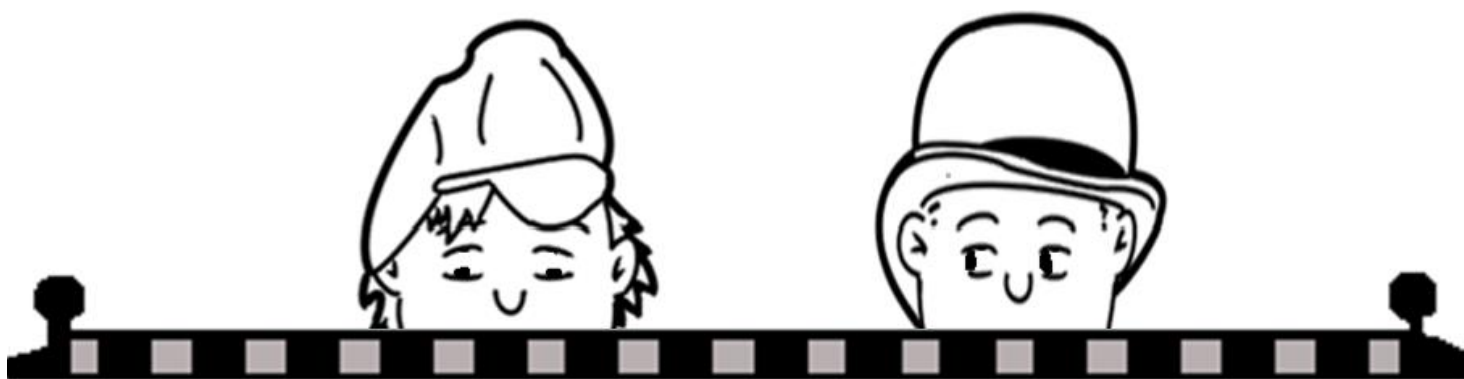
IF YOU ATTEMPT TO LEAVE, I WILL INDEED GET OUT OF MY BED... I AM NOT MASTER OF MY OWN BOWELS... I CANNOT GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF YOUR PERSONAL EFFECTS.

THIS IS INSANITY, HOLMES.



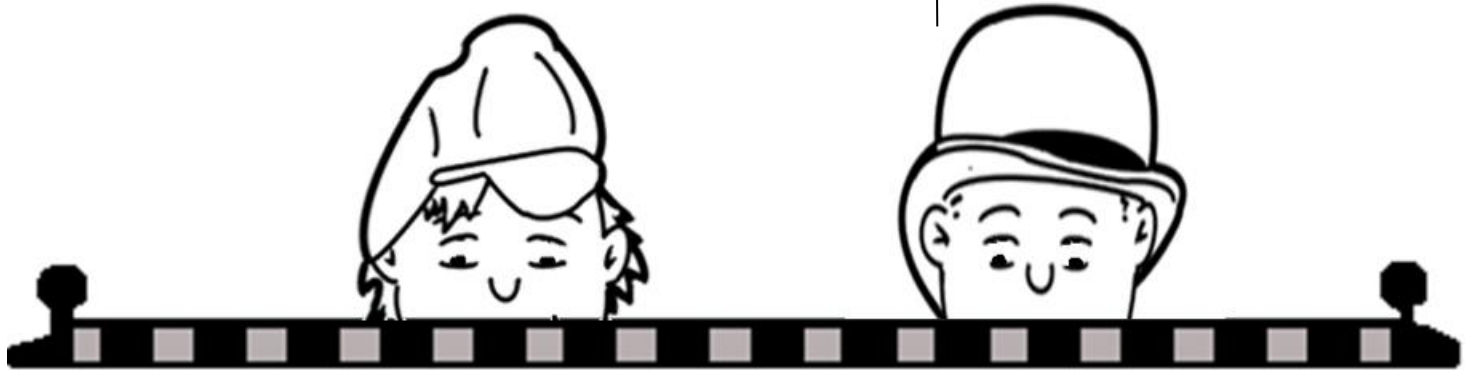
*I'VE GOT YOU, MY FRIENDS... BUT I'LL HUMOUR YOU... IT'S 4
O'CLOCK... AT 6, YOU CAN GO... ONLY 2 HOURS... I PROMISE
YOU CAN GO AT 6... ARE YOU CONTENT TO WAIT?*

WE SEEM TO HAVE NO CHOICE.



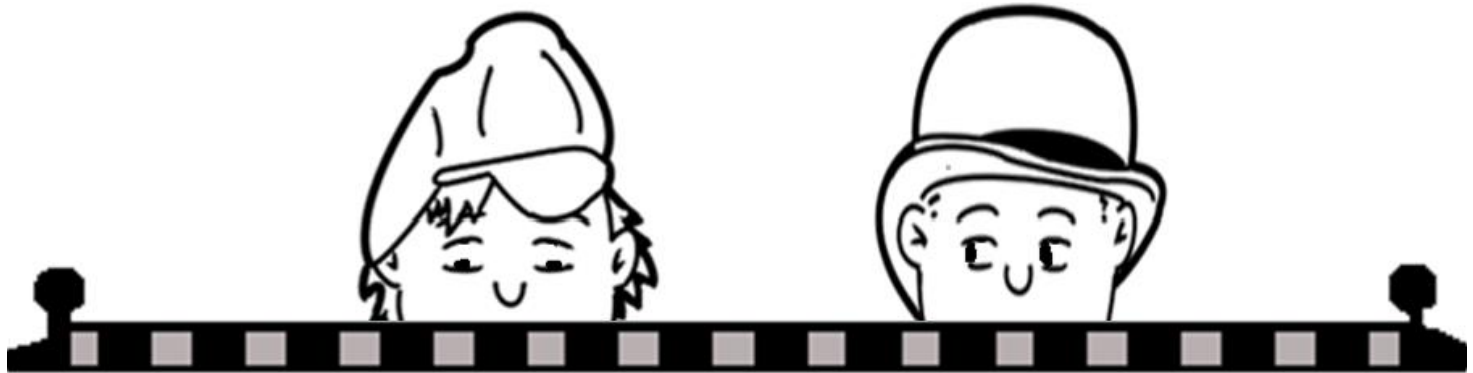
*NONE IN THE WORLD... YOU WILL KEEP YOUR DISTANCE...
I DO ASK THAT YOU SEEK HELP... NOT FROM THE GIRL
YOU MENTIONED, BUT FROM THE ONE I CHOOSE.*

BY ALL MEANS.



*THE FIRST 3 SENSIBLE WORDS YOU HAVE
UTTERED SINCE YOU ENTERED THIS ROOM.*

LIKE YOU'RE A GREAT JUDGE OF SENSIBILITY RIGHT NOW.



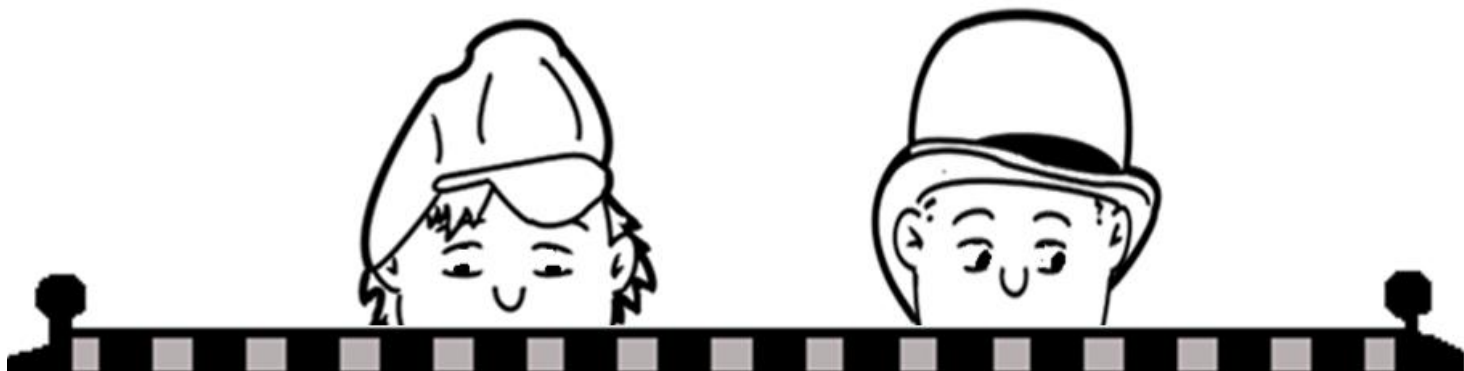
*YOU MAY HUMOUR YOURSELVES WITH YOUR
STUDIES FOR THE NEXT 2 HOURS.*

*I AM SOMEWHAT EXHAUSTED... I WONDER HOW A BATTERY
FEELS WHEN IT POURS ELECTRICITY INTO A NON-CONDUCTOR.*



NOT VERY POSITIVE, I ASSUME.

WHAT IS IN THE SMALL IVORY
BOX ON YOUR NIGHTSTAND?



AUUGHH! PUT IT
DOWN! DOWN, THIS
INSTANT, WATSON, THIS
INSTANT, I SAY! I HATE TO
HAVE MY THINGS TOUCHED!

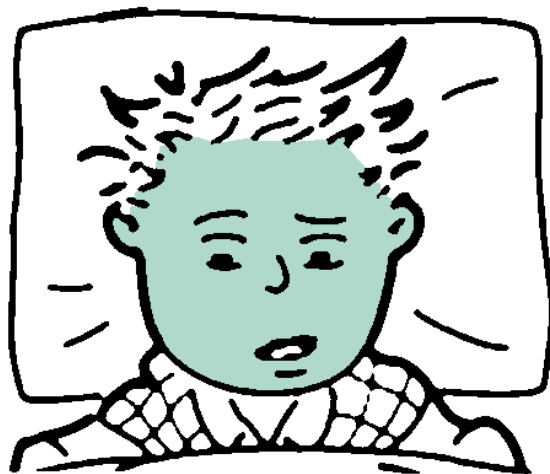


YOU FIDGET ME BEYOND
ENDURANCE... YOU ARE
ENOUGH TO DRIVE A
PATIENT INTO AN ASYLUM...
LET ME HAVE MY REST!

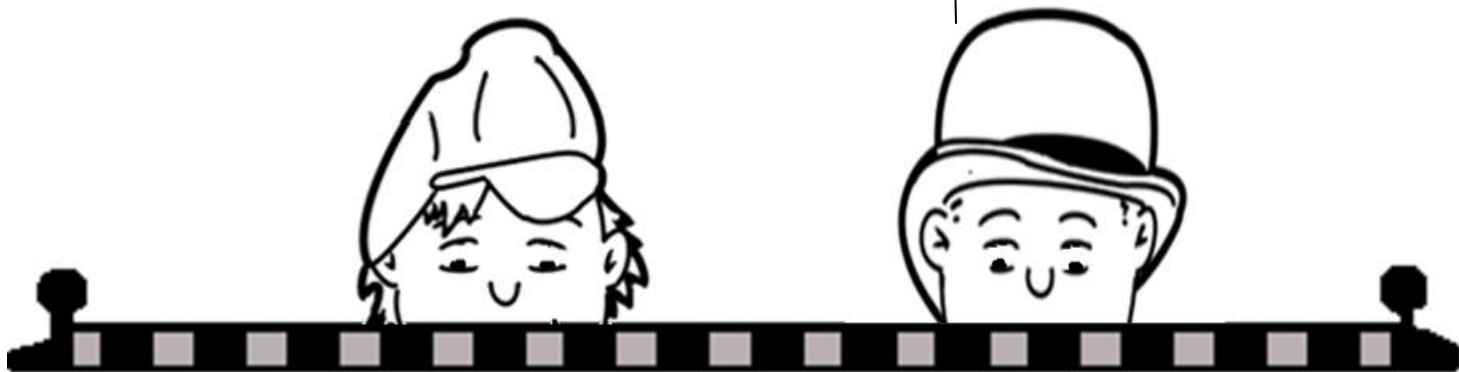




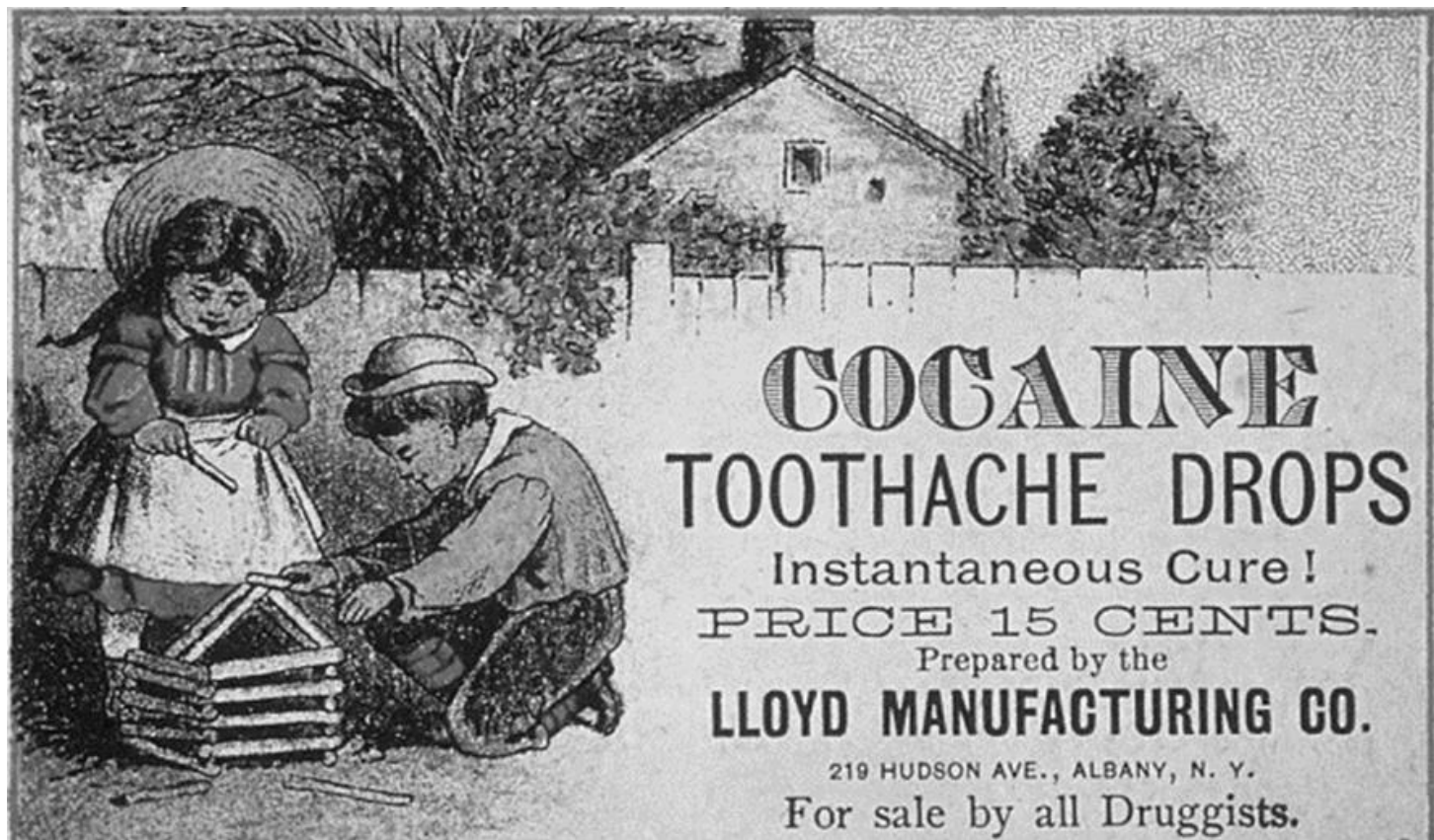
**NOW, WATSON, HAVE YOU ANY
CHANGE IN YOUR POCKET?**



YES, I HAVE SEVERAL BUTTONS... LARGE AND SMALL.



*PLEASE PUT AN EQUAL AMOUNT LARGE AND SMALL
BUTTONS IN YOUR TROUSER POCKETS... IT WILL BALANCE
YOU SO MUCH BETTER LIKE THAT.*



COCAINE TOOTHACHE DROPS

Instantaneous Cure!

PRICE 15 CENTS.

Prepared by the

LLOYD MANUFACTURING CO.

219 HUDSON AVE., ALBANY, N. Y.

For sale by all Druggists.

*I WOULD SUGGEST SOMETHING ELSE IN THIS
ROOM IS VERY OUT OF BALANCE...*

*...OR THE WICK IS
COMPLETELY BURNT OUT.*

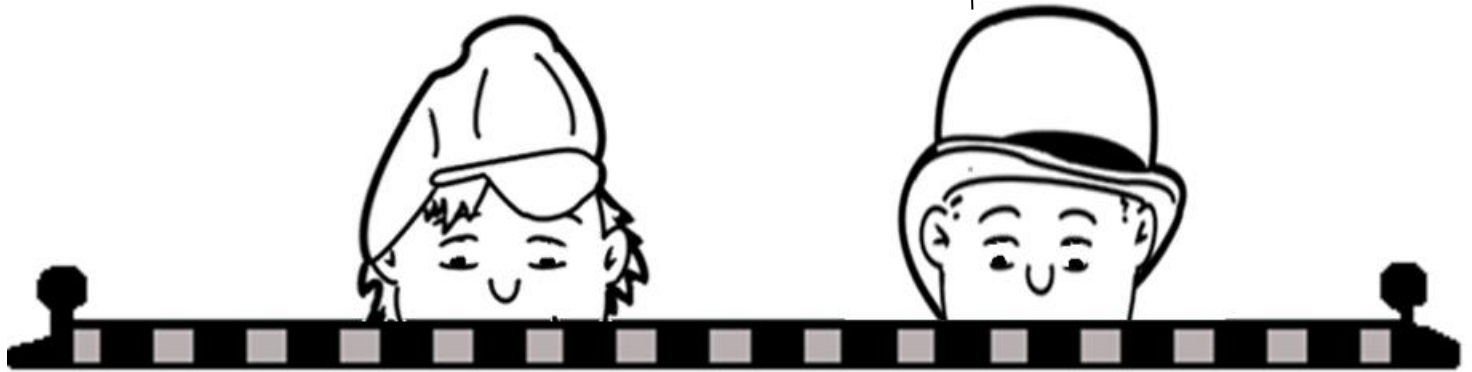


PLEASE LIGHT ONE
CANDLE NOW. NO MORE,
NO LESS. GOOD JOB...
DO NOT DRAW THE
BLIND.



GOOD... YOU TWO CAN NOW
GO AND FETCH MASTER
CULVERTON SMITH FOR ME...
HE TAKES A LATER DINNER,
SO YOU SHALL FIND HIM IN
THE DINING HALL.

I HAVE NEVER HEARD HIS NAME.



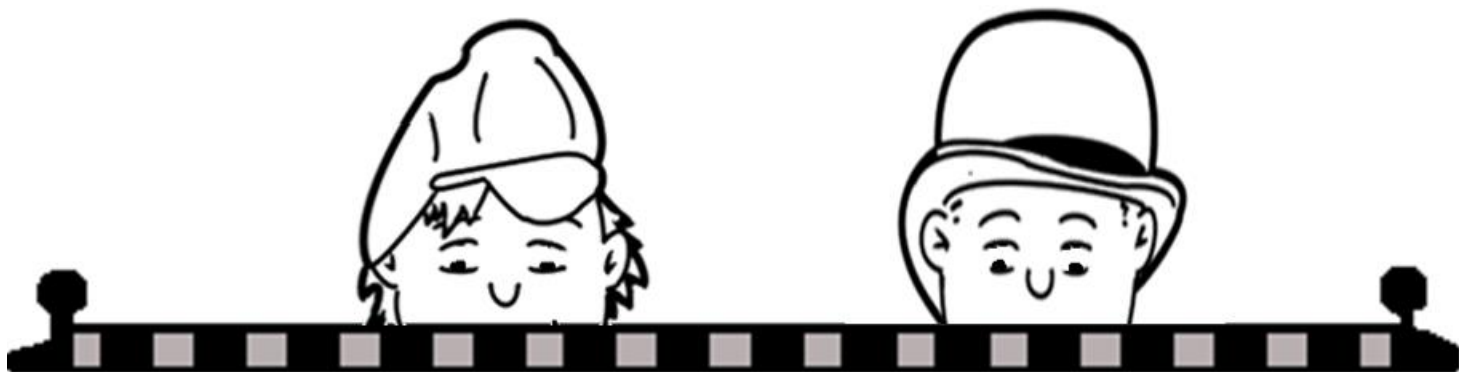
PROBABLY NOT, BUT HE IS WELL-VERSED IN THIS CONDITION, AS HIS FAMILY OWNS MANY CACAO FARMS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

I KNOW HIS FAMILY HAS
DEALT WITH THIS
CONDITION THROUGH THE
YEARS.

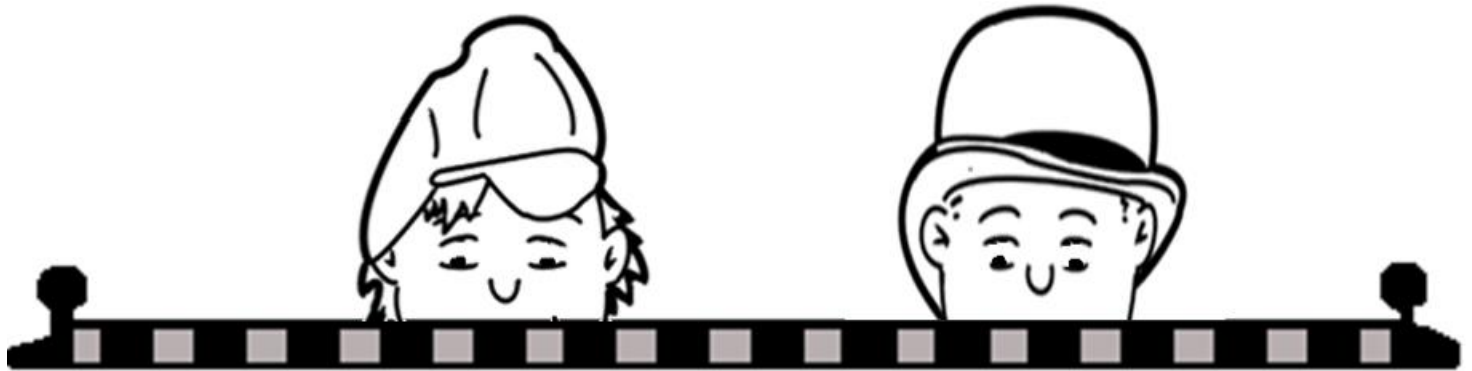


IF YOU COULD PERSUADE HIM
TO COME HERE AND GIVE US
THE BENEFIT OF HIS FAMILY'S
UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF THIS
CONDITION, I CANNOT DOUBT
HE COULD HELP ME.

YOU SEEM TO BE GETTING WORSE AS THE HOURS WEAR ON.

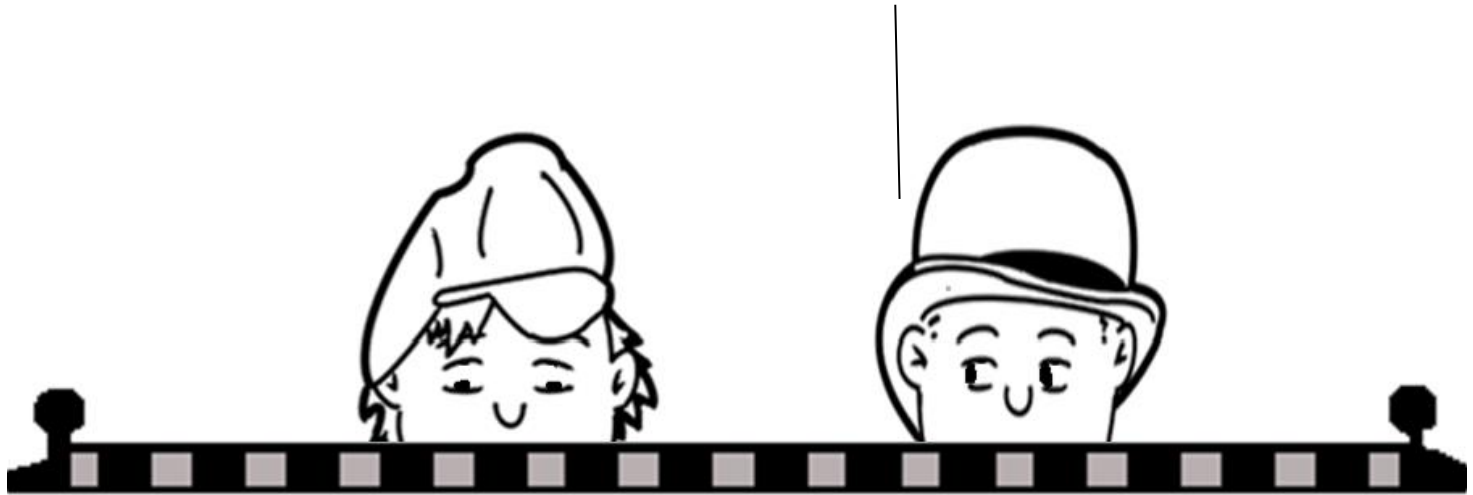


*YOU WILL TELL HIM EXACTLY HOW YOU HAVE LEFT
ME... A VERY SICK STUDENT... SICK AND DELIRIOUS.*



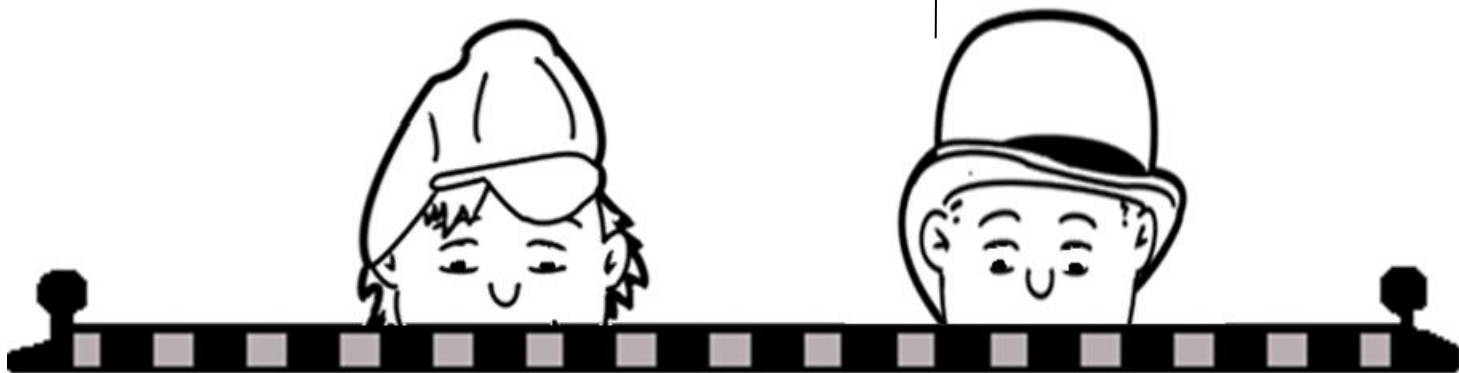
*INDEED, I CANNOT THINK WHY THE WHOLE BED OF THE
OCEAN IS NOT ONE SOLID MASS OF OYSTERS, SO
PROLIFIC THE CREATURES SEEM.*

*MAYBE THEY HAVE NOT LEARNED TO USE
THEIR PEARLS OF WISDOM YET.*



*NEVERTHELESS, I AM WANDERING... STRANGE HOW THE BRAIN
CONTROLS THE BRAIN... WHAT WAS I SAYING, WATSON?*

**YOU WERE SAYING HOW TRYING YOU CAN BE AT TIMES...
AND MY DIRECTIONS FOR MASTER SMITH?**



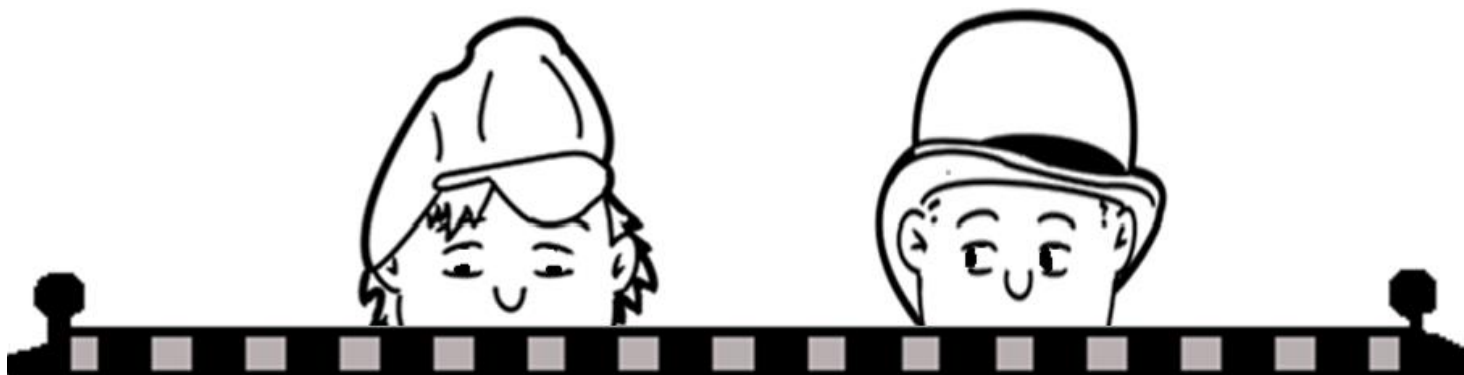
**AH YES, MY ABILITY TO STAY IN SCHOOL DEPENDS UPON IT...
PLEAD WITH HIM... THERE IS NO GOOD FEELING BETWEEN US.**

HIS COUSIN... I HAD
SUSPICIONS OF FOUL PLAY AND
I ALLOWED HIM TO SEE IT... THE
BOY LEFT SCHOOL THROUGH AN
EMBARASSING SITUATION...
MASTER SMITH HAS A GRUDGE
AGAINST ME.



YOU WILL SOFTEN HIM,
WATSON... BEG HIM, PRAY HIM...
LEAVE IT ALONE STAMFORD!
GET HIM HERE BY ANY MEANS...
HE CAN SAVE ME... ONLY HE.

WE WILL BRING HIM HERE... IF WE HAVE TO CARRY HIM DOWN.



*YOU WILL DO NOTHING OF THE SORT... YOU
WILL PERSUADE HIM TO COME.*

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.



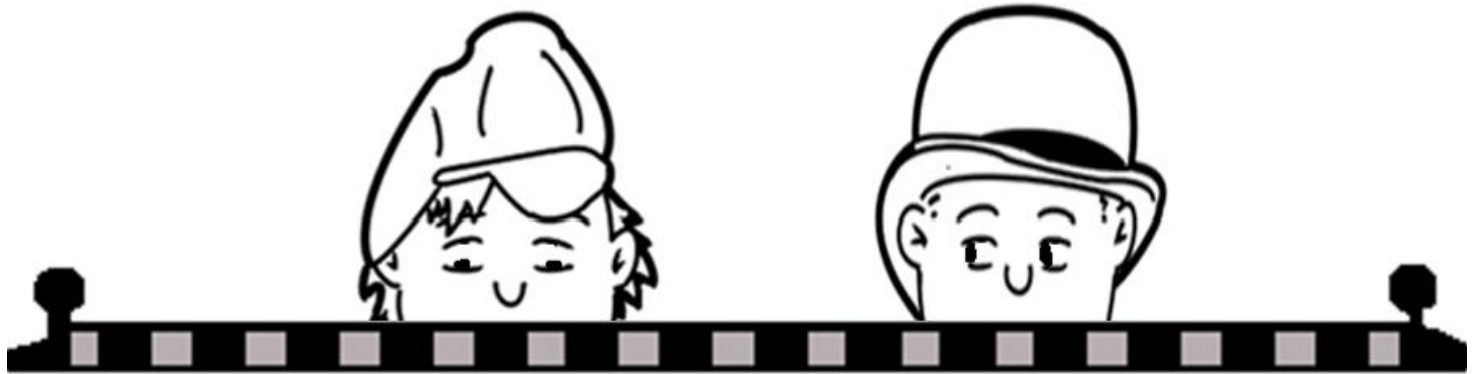
*As an added bonus, you
keep up with all the
current events in the
Sherlockian World.*

THEN YOU TWO WILL RETURN
IN FRONT OF HIM... TELL HIM
TO FINISH HIS DINNER, AND
THEN TO MAKE IT TO OUR
ROOM HERE.



DON'T FORGET... YOU WON'T
FAIL ME... YOU NEVER DO... NO
DOUBT THERE ARE NATURAL
ENEMIES WHICH LIMIT THE
INCREASE OF THE CREATURES.

uh-oh! THE MOUSE HAS FALLEN OFF THE WHEEL AGAIN.



*WE HAVE DONE OUR PART... SHALL THE WORLD THEN
BE OVERRUN BY OYSTERS? NO, NO, HORRIBLE!
YOU'LL CONVEY ALL THAT IS IN YOUR MIND.*

ON THE WAY TO THE
DINING HALL...

HOW IS MASTER HOLMES?

HE IS VERY ILL, LESTRADE... HOW
GOES THE 'PREFECT' WORK?

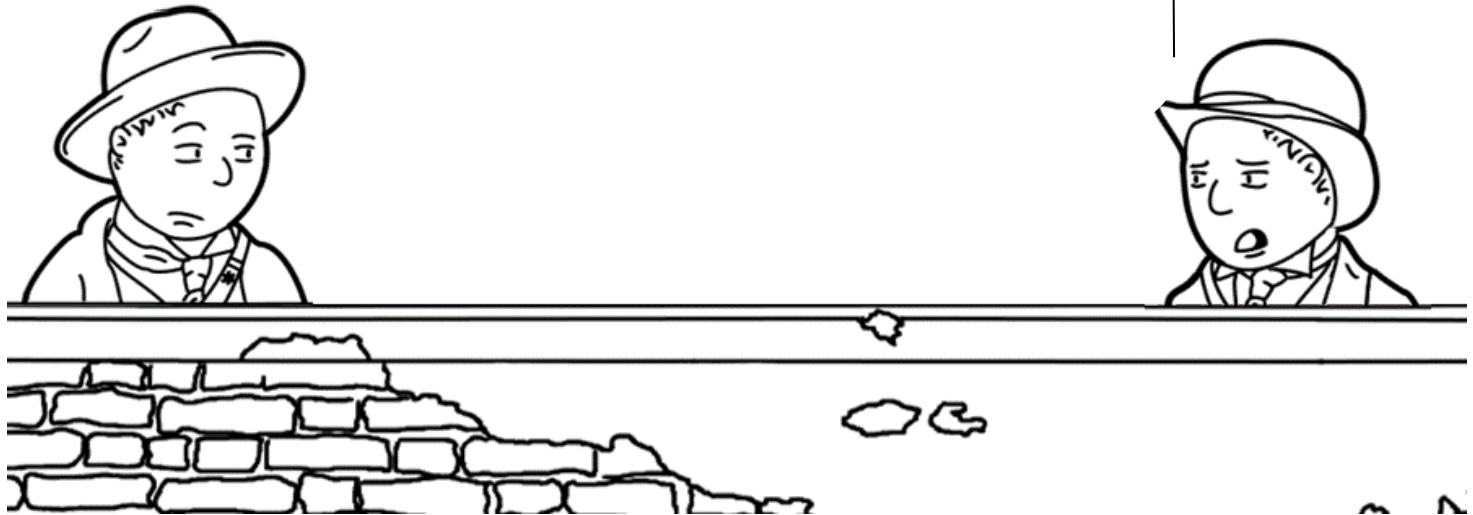


KEEPS GREGSON AND I VERY BUSY, FINISHING UP
AFTER HOLMES COMPLETES AN INVESTIGATION.

I WOULD LOVE TO STAY, BUT WE ARE ON AN
IMPORTANT MISSION... WE WILL SEE YOU LATER.

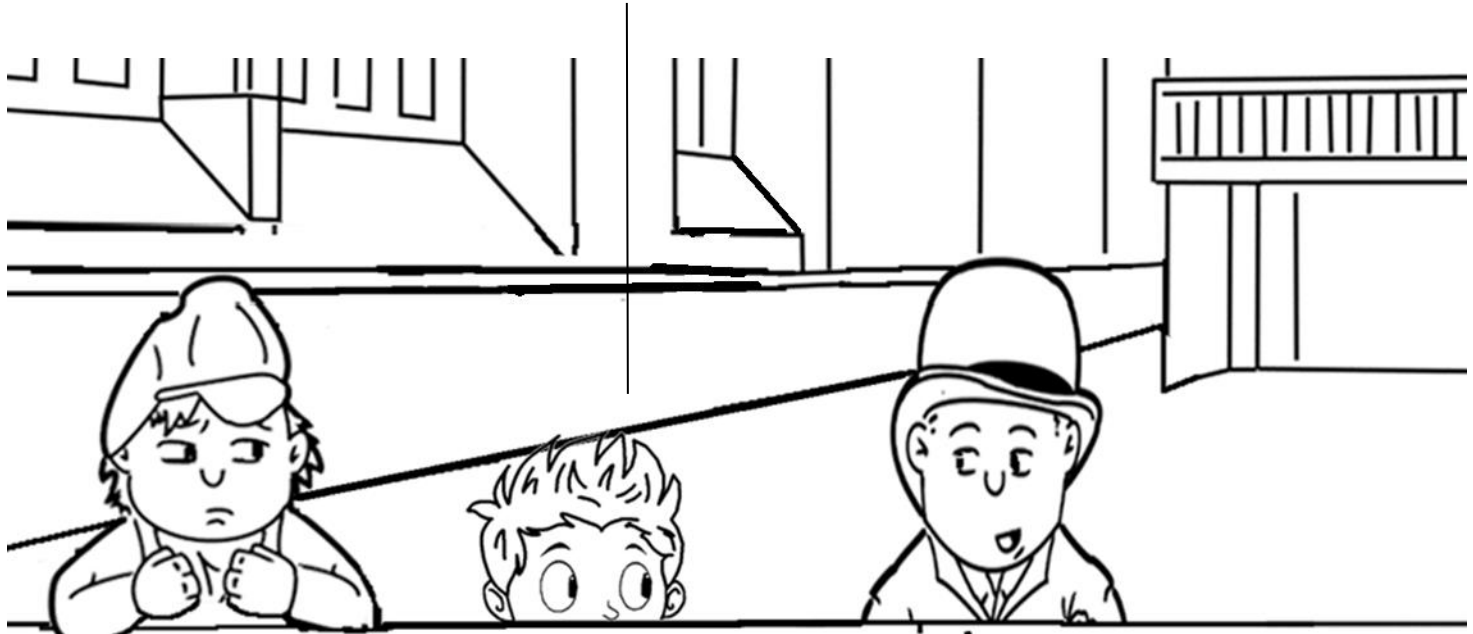


SERIOUSLY, 3 PANELS IN THE ENTIRE ADVENTURE?
THIS IS ALL WE RATE? WE MIGHT AS WELL RENT
OURSELVES OUT TO ANOTHER COMIC STRIP.



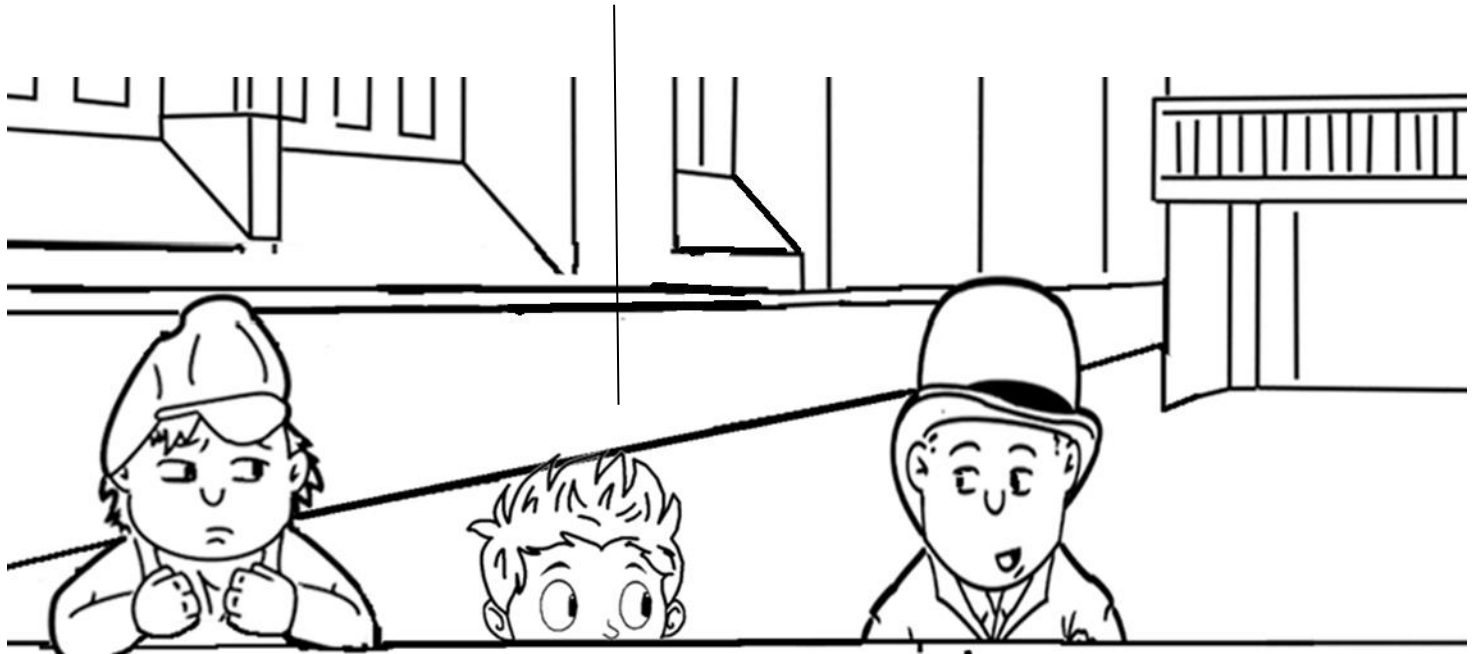
BACK TO WHERE
THIS ALL STARTED...

**HOW DARE YOU INTERRUPT MY DINNER PERIOD, MY
ONE TIME A DAY FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION?**



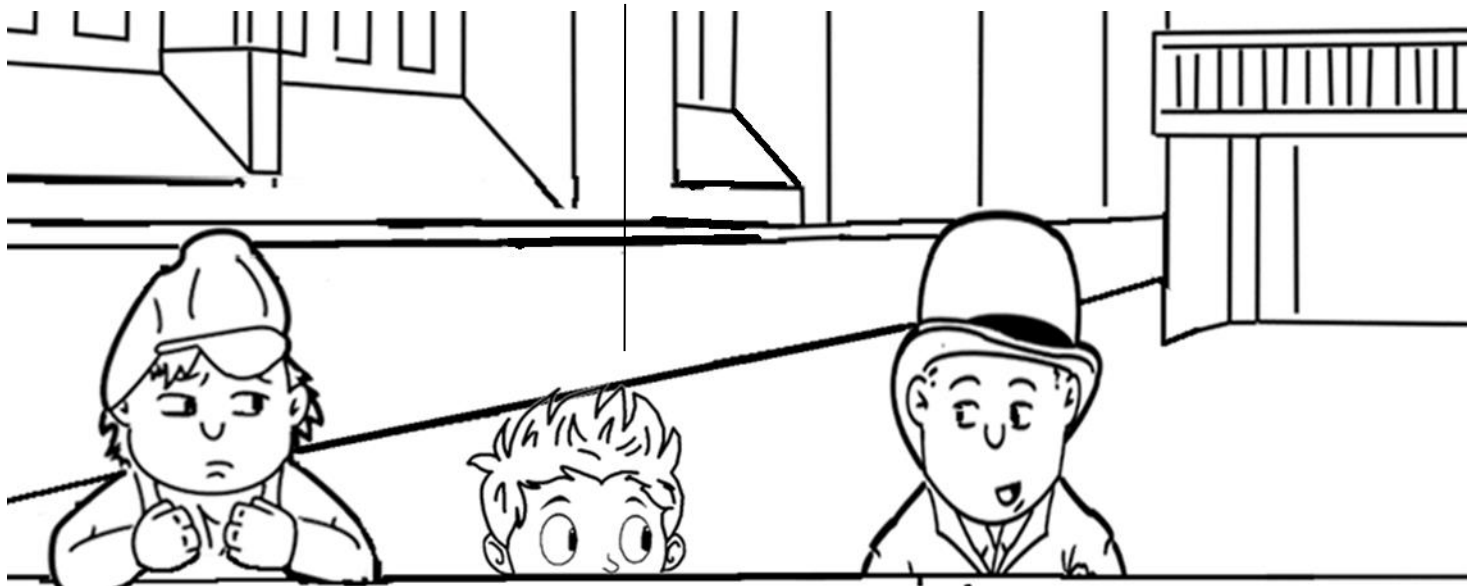
**I AM SORRY FOR THE INTRUSION, BUT THE MATTER
CANNOT BE DELAYED... MASTER HOLMES...**

HAVE YOU COME FROM HOLMES?



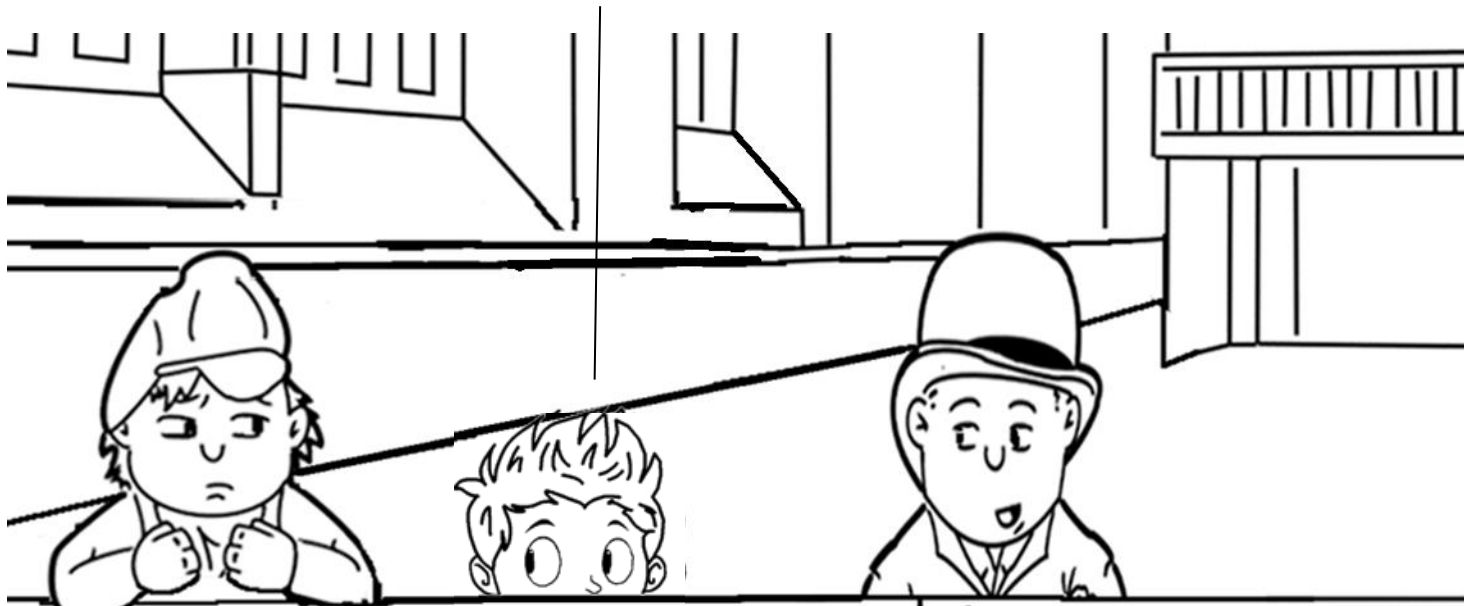
WE HAVE JUST LEFT HIM.

WHAT ABOUT HOLMES? HOW IS HE?



HE IS DESPERATELY ILL... THAT IS WHY WE HAVE COME.

COULD NOT JUST ONE OF YOU HAVE COME ON HIS BEHALF?

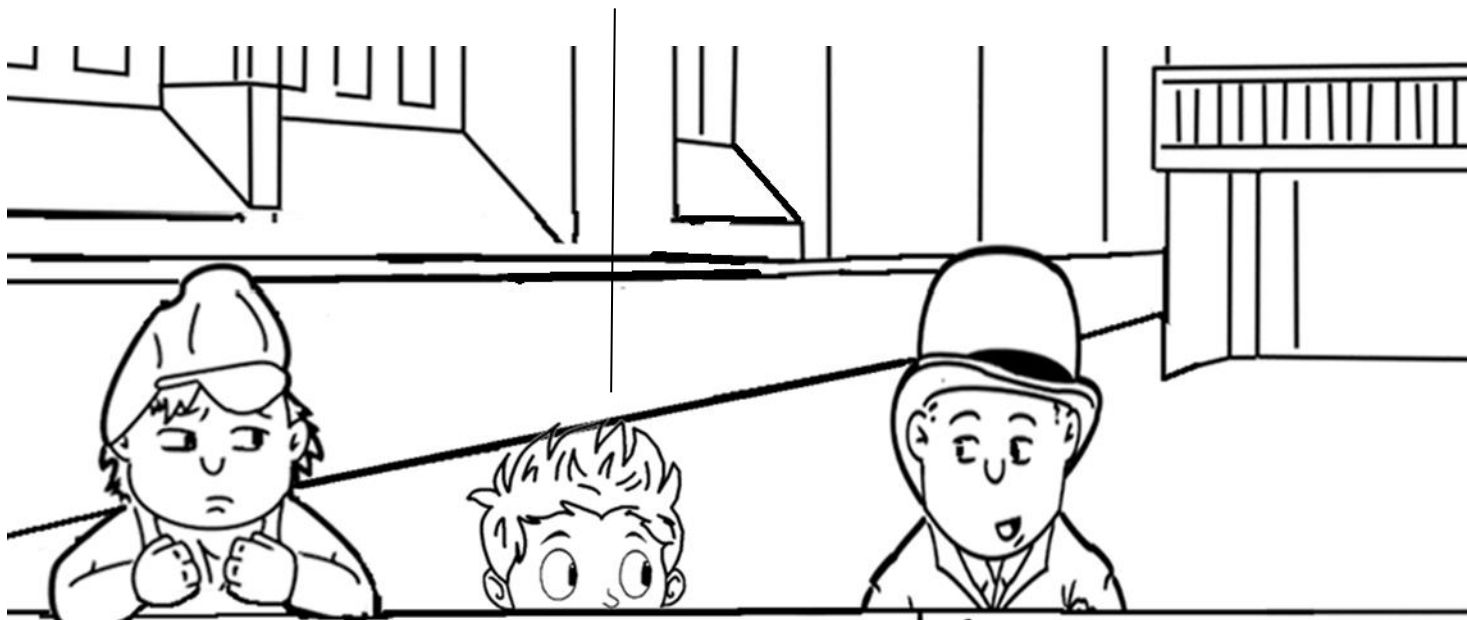


I THINK STAMFORD MUST GET PAID BY THE SCENE.

**I AM SORRY TO HEAR THE NEWS... I ONLY KNOW MASTER HOLMES
THROUGH SOME BUSINESS DEALINGS WHICH WE HAD, BUT I HAVE
RESPECT FOR HIS TALENTS AND HIS CHARACTER.**

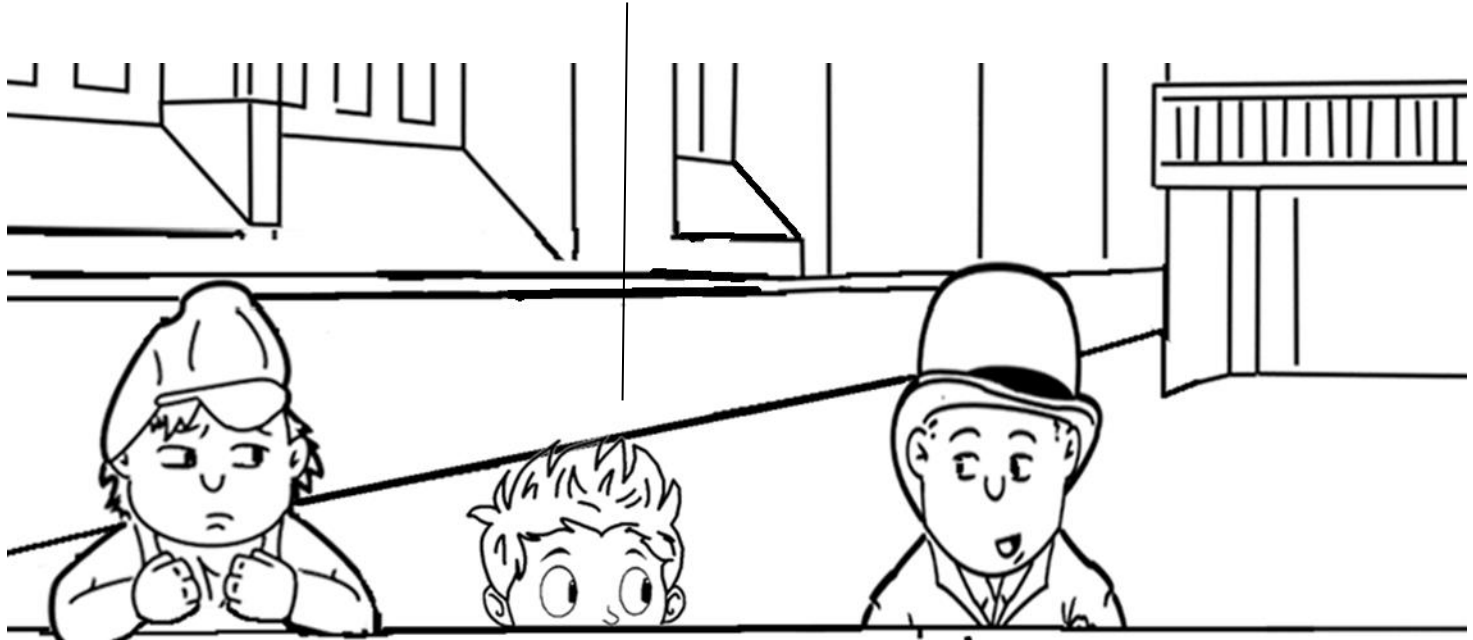


HE IS AN AMATEUR OF CRIME, AS I AM OF CHOCOLATE... FOR HIM, THE VILLIAN, FOR ME, THE COCAO BEAN.



YES, IT WAS ON ACCOUNT OF YOUR SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE HOLMES DESIRED TO SEE YOU... HE HAS A HIGH OPINION OF YOU AND BELIEVE YOU TO BE THE ONE STUDENT WHO COULD HELP HIM.

**WHY? WHY SHOULD MASTER HOLMES THINK
I COULD HELP HIM IN THIS TROUBLE?**



**BECAUSE OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF A PECULIAR
CONDITION CAUSED BY UNCOOKED COCAO BEANS.**

The London Warming & Ventilating Co.

32, HENRIETTA STREET,
COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

(Removed from 23, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.)



GURNEY STOVES.

These Stoves are used in the Offices of the DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART, in ST. PAUL'S, YORK MINSTER, LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL, ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR, and twenty other CATHEDRAIS; besides more than FIVE THOUSAND CHURCHES, GOVERNMENT and other PUBLIC and PRIVATE BUILDINGS in England alone.

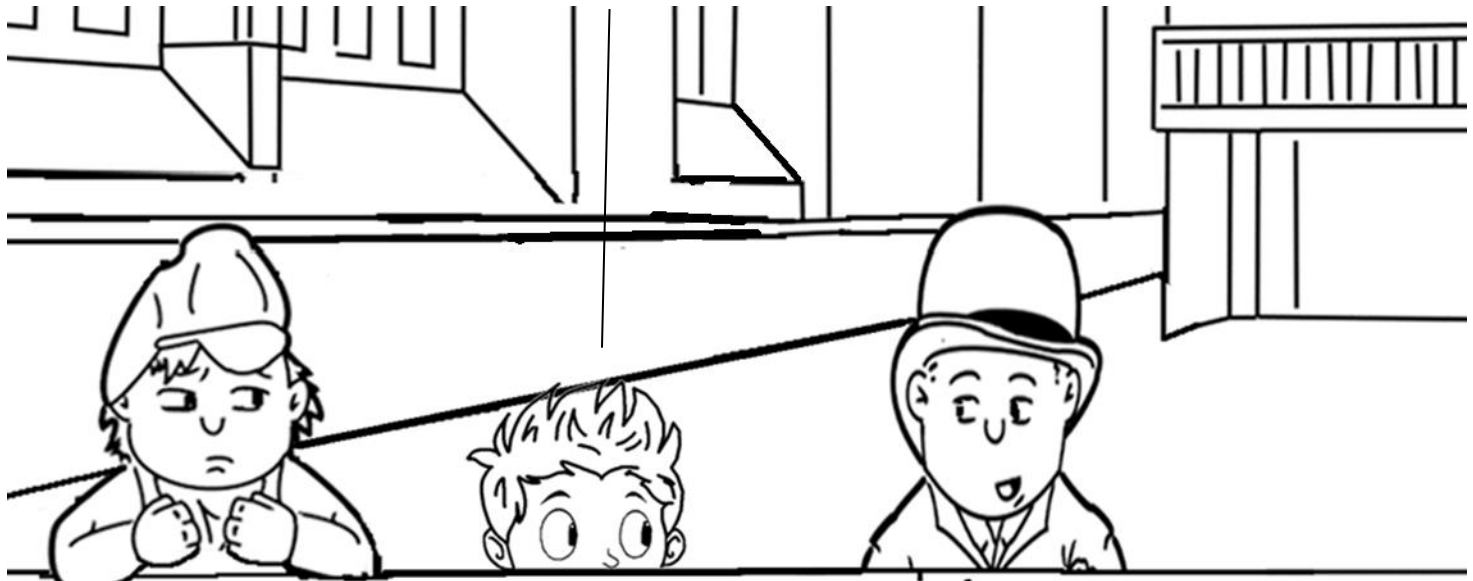
SPECIAL STOVES FOR SCHOOLROOMS, HALLS, &c.

Particulars and Estimates Free.

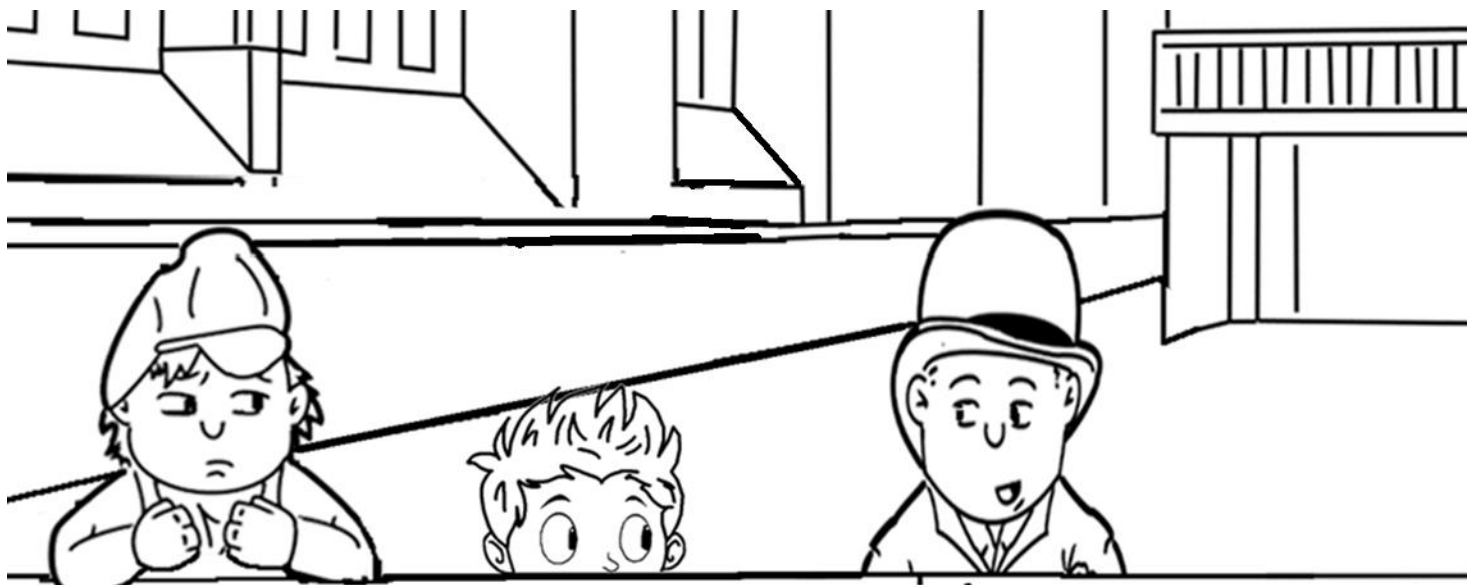
PRIZE MEDALS AWARDED.

LONDON, 1862; PARIS, 1867; DUBLIN, 1859; BEAUVAIS, 1869.

**WHY SHOULD HE THINK THIS CONDITION HE HAS
CONTRACTED HAS TO DO WITH COCAO BEANS?**

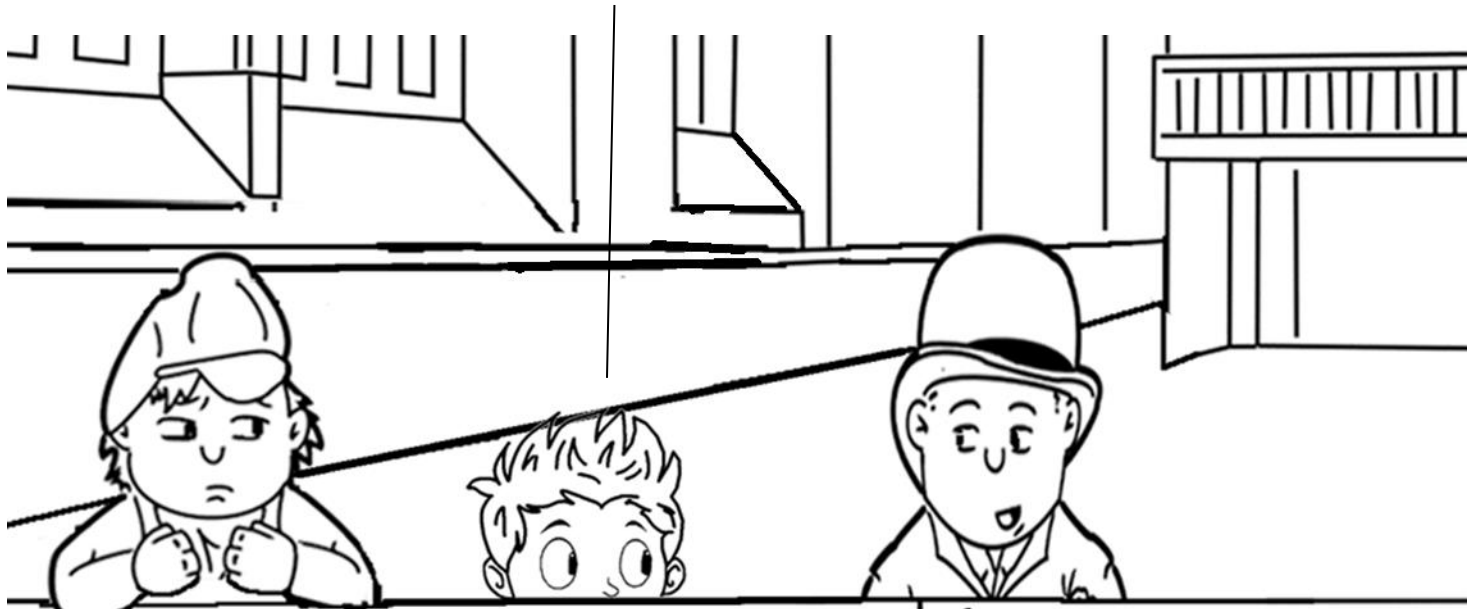


**BECAUSE IN SOME INVESTIGATIVE INQUIRY
HE HAS BEEN WORKING, WHICH HAD TO DO
WITH MISSING SCHOOL SUPPLIES.**



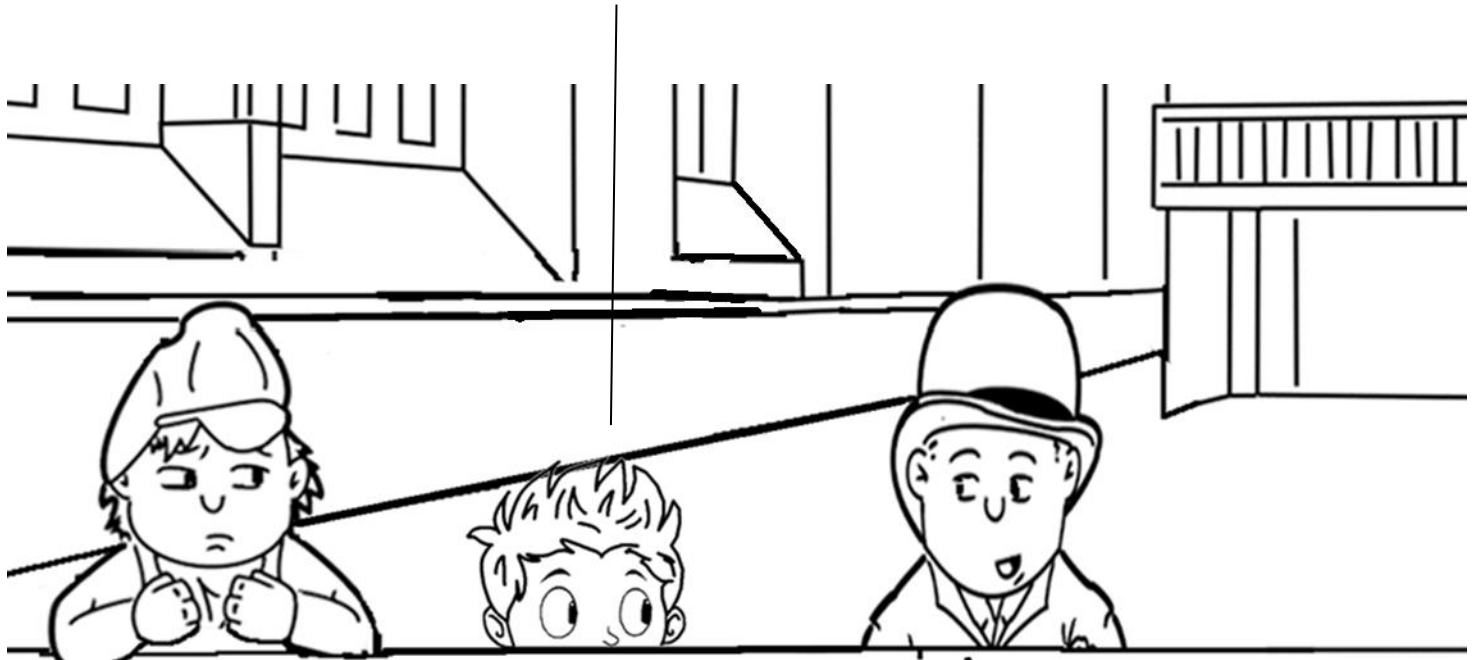
***I BELIEVE COCAO BEANS ARE SOMEHOW
RELATED, BUT HOLMES DID NOT TELL US HOW.***

OH, THAT'S IT, IS IT? I TRUST THE MATTER IS NOT SO GRAVE, AS YOU SUPPOSE. HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN ILL?



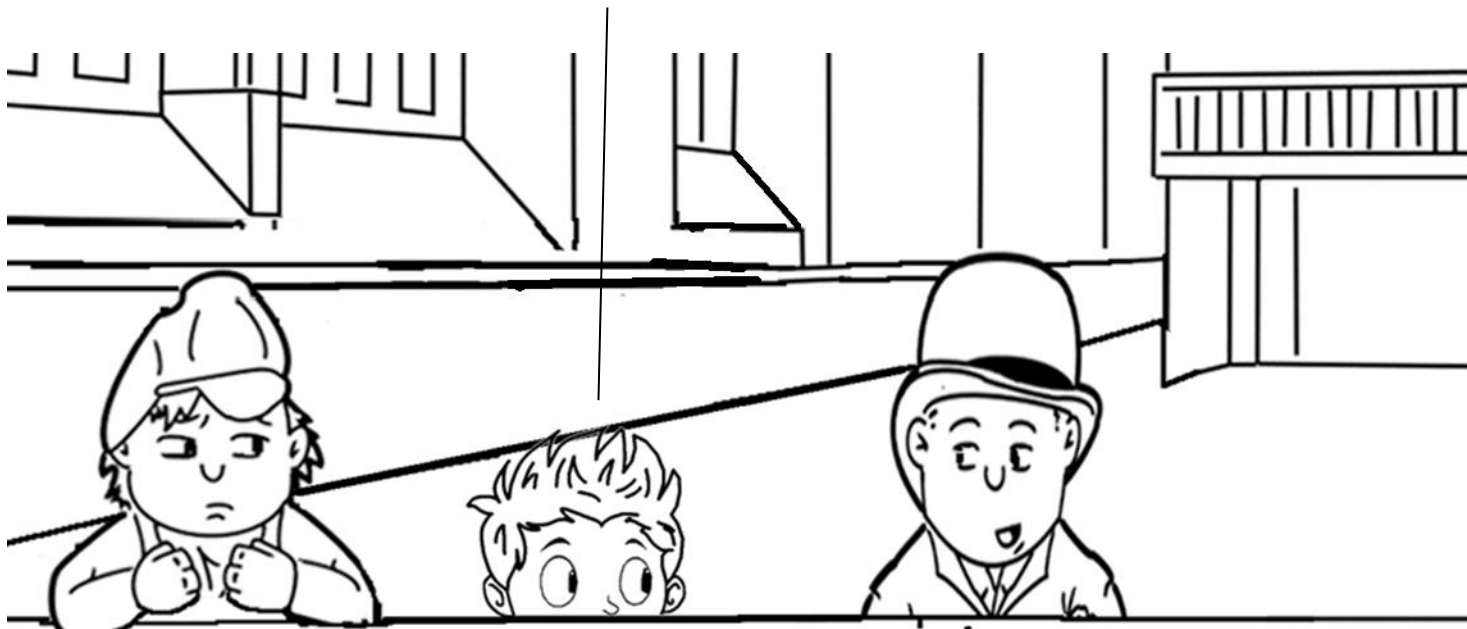
ABOUT 3 DAYS.

IS HE DELIRIOUS?



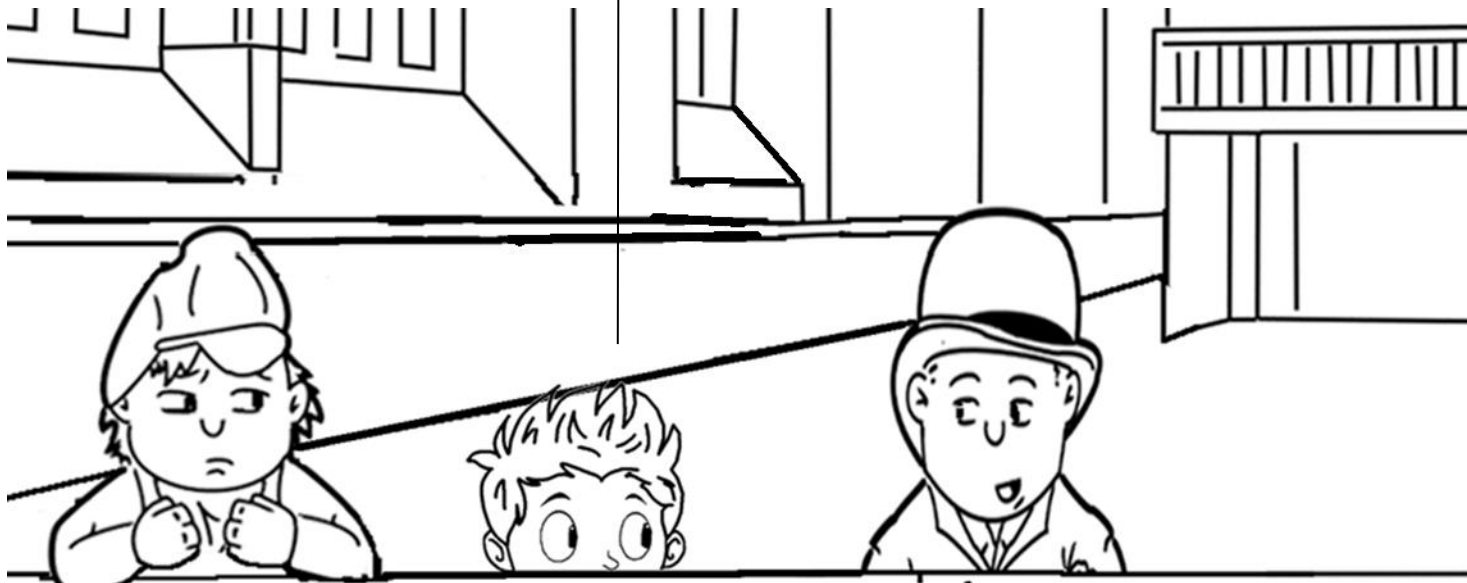
IF YOU COUNT WEIRD RAMBLINGS ABOUT OYSTERS, YES, HE IS.

TUT ! TUT! THIS SOUNDS SERIOUS... IT WOULD BE INHUMAN TO NOT ANSWER HIS CALL... I WILL COME WITH YOU AT ONCE.



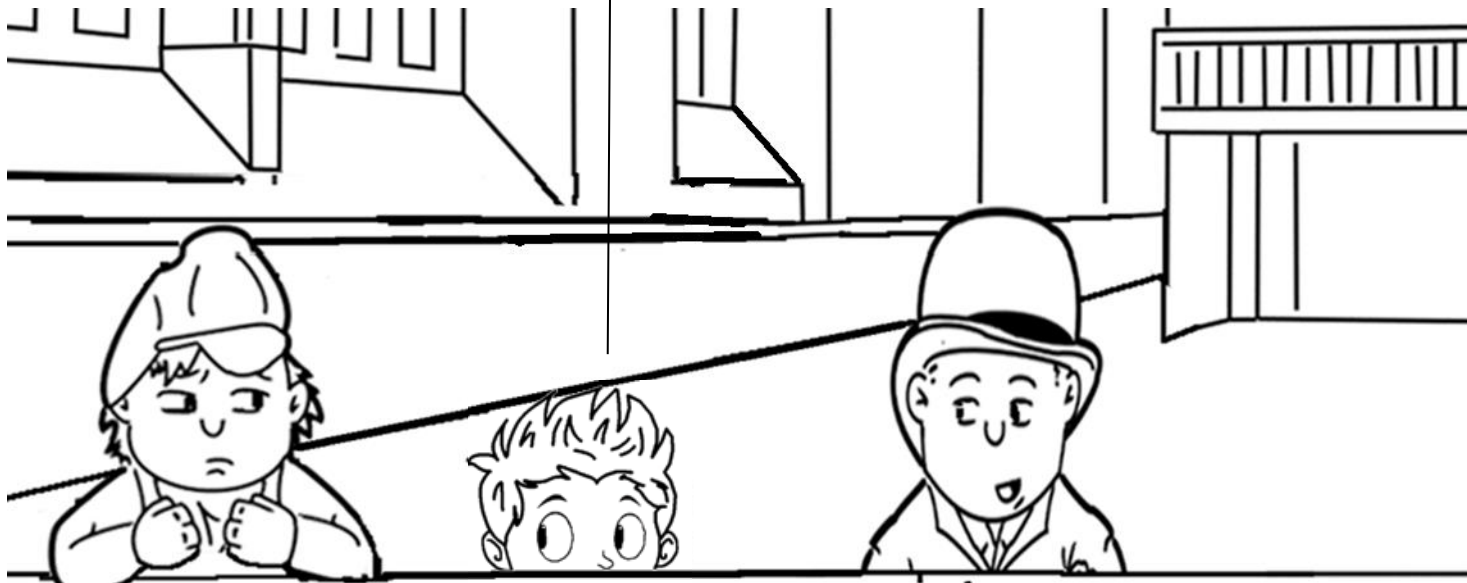
NO, PLEASE FETCH YOUR DINNER, AND THEN YOU MAY PROCEED TO HOLMES' ROOM... WE MUST MAKE A RUN TO THE LOCAL CHEMIST.

**VERY GOOD... I WILL GO ALONE... YOU CAN RELY UPON
ME BEING THERE WITHIN HALF AN HOUR AT MOST.**



HOLMES WILL BE MOST HONOURED AND THANKFUL.

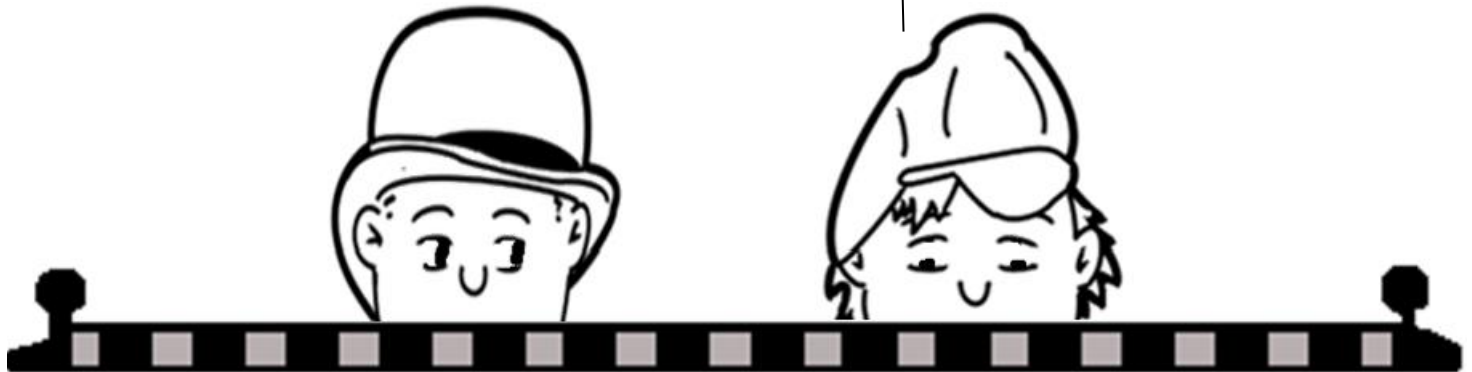
YOU REALLY DON'T SAY MUCH, DO YOU?



*IF WE PAID HIM BY THE WORD, WE
PROBABLY WOULDN'T GET HIM TO SHUT UP.*

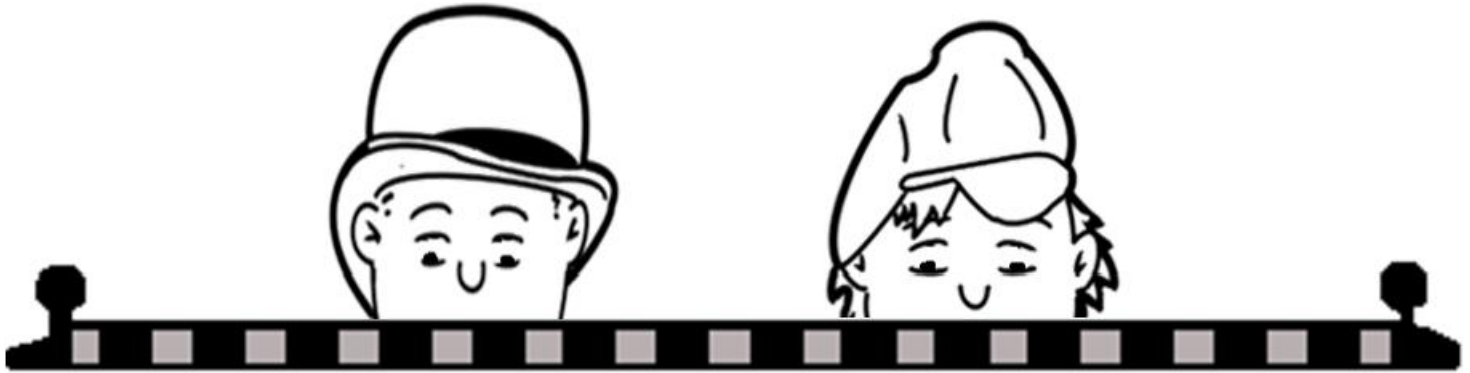
LET'S SEE HOW
HOLMES IS DOING...

WELL, HE APPEARS TO BE STILL
BREATHING... THAT'S A GOOD SIGN.



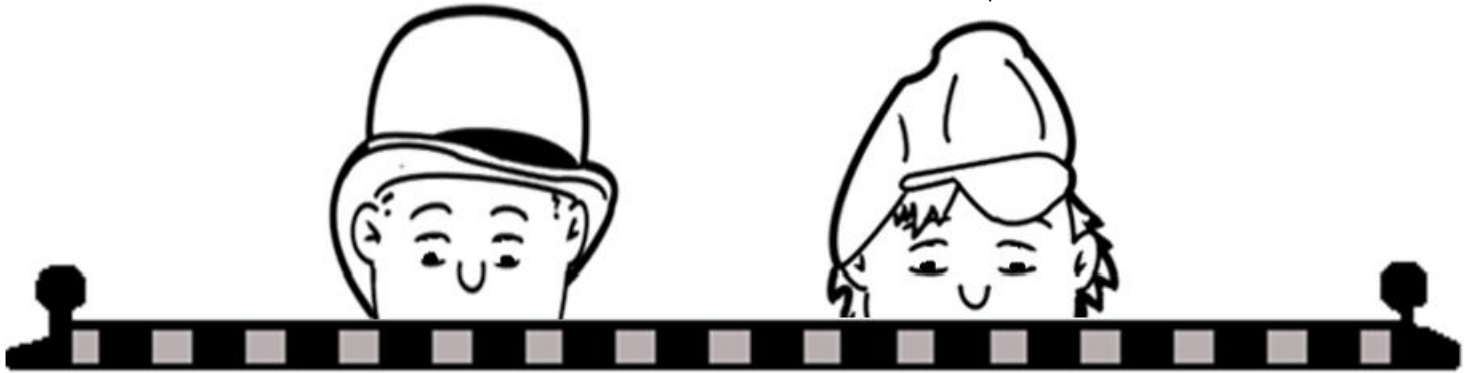
WELL, DID YOU SEE CULVERTON SMITH?

YES, HE IS COMING.



ADMIRABLE... YOU TWO ARE THE BEST OF MESSENGERS,
EVEN IF YOU APPEAR TO BE UNBALANCED AGAIN...
WATSON, WEREN'T YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE BEFORE?

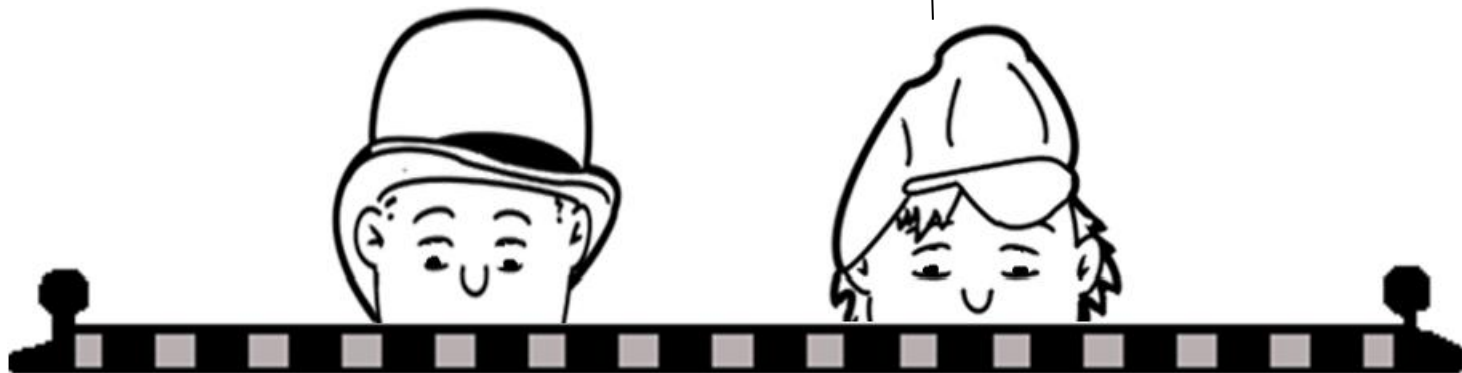
HE WISHED TO RETURN WITH US.



THAT WOULD NEVER DO... IT WOULD BE OBVIOUSLY
IMPOSSIBLE... DID HE ASK WHAT AILED ME?

*I DID TELL HIM ABOUT THE
POTENTIAL COCAO CONNECTION.*

*I BET HE GETS BETTER MEALS
THAT WE DO... SPOILED RICH KID.*



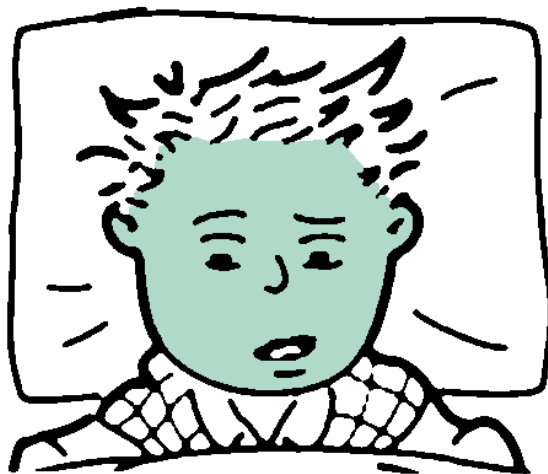
*EXCELLENT... WELL, YOU HAVE DONE ALL THAT GOOD FRIENDS
COULD... YOU MUST NOW DISAPPEAR FROM THE SCENE.*

HE GETS LEFTOVERS, JUST AS WE DO... I MUST WAIT
AND HEAR MASTER SMITH'S OPINION, HOLMES.



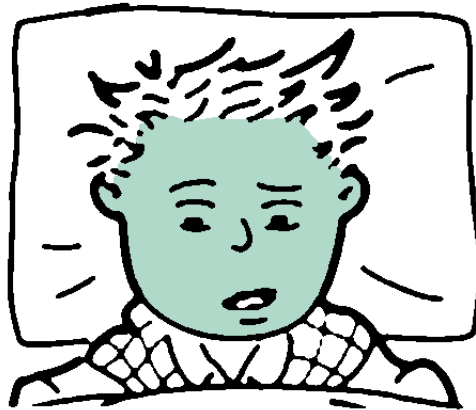
OF COURSE, YOU MUST... BUT I HAVE REASONS TO SUPPOSE
THIS OPINION WOULD BE MORE FRANK AND VALUABLE, IF
HE IMAGINES WE ARE ALONE.

THERE IS JUST ROOM BEHIND THE HEAD OF
MY BED FOR THE TWO OF YOU.



HOLMES!! I PROTEST!

I FEAR THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE... THE ROOM DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO CONCEALMENT, WHICH IS AS WELL, AS IT IS THE LESS LIKELY TO AROUSE SUSPICION.



WE COULD HIDE UNDER OUR OWN BEDS!

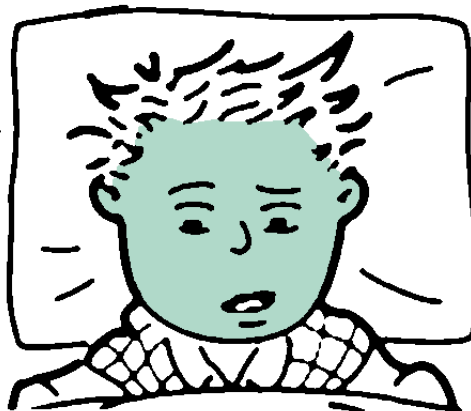
EXACTLY WHERE HE WOULD
LOOK FIRST... THAT'S HIS
KNOCK ON THE DOOR... NOW
HUSH! QUICK, BEHIND MY BED!



DON'T BUDGE, WHATEVER YOU
HEAR! DON'T MOVE! JUST
LISTEN WITH ALL YOUR EARS.

HUSH!!

*Get your foot out
of my face!!!*



*Eek! There's
cobwebs under here!*

OH, GOOD GRIEF!!

*I think I found one
of my missing toys.*



I have to pee!

THANKFULLY, THE
DOOR OPENS...

HOLMES... CAN'T YOU HEAR ME, HOLMES?



*IS THAT YOU, MASTER SMITH? I HARDLY
DARED HOPE YOU WOULD COME.*

*I SHOULD IMAGINE NOT... AND YET, YOU SEE... I AM
HERE... COALS OF FIRE HOLMES... COALS OF FIRE!*



*IT IS VERY GOOD OF YOU... VERY NOBLE OF YOU TO BE
HERE... I APPRECIATE YOUR SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE.*

*YOU DO? YOU ARE PROBABLY THE ONLY
STUDENT IN THIS SCHOOL WHO DOES. DO YOU
KNOW WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH YOU?*



THE SAME.

ULTIMA NOVEDAD EN PERFUMES INGLESSES
CRAB APPLE BLOSSOMS.
(Flor de manzana silvestre—Extracción concentrada.)



CRAB APPLE
BLOSSOM
PERFUME
AND
SOAP.

From the
CROWN
PERFUMERY
CO.
LONDON.

SOLD EVERYWHERE

Primero entre los perfumes en moda en la actual temporada tenemos el Crab Apple Blossoms, que es de una calidad y fragancia como nadie. *London Correspondent* (Gaceta de la Corte de Londres).
CORONA, compañía de Perfumería.

THE CROWN PERFUMERY CO.
177, NEW BOND STREET, LONDRES.
Se vende en todas las Perfumerías.

Invariablemente se considera como más delicada y más deliciosa que el perfume Crab Apple Blossoms, que prepara la Crown Perfumery Co., de Londres. Tiene el aroma de la primavera, aunque se le usara toda la vida, nunca se cansaría de él. —*New York Observer*.

AH, YOU RECOGNIZE THE SYMPTOMS?



ONLY TOO WELL.



WELL, I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED... I
SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF IT WERE
THE SAME... POOR VICTOR WAS A SHELL
OF HIMSELF BY THE FOURTH DAY... A
STRONG HEALTHY YOUNG FELLOW.

IT WAS CERTAINLY, AS YOU SAID,
VERY SURPRISING HE SHOULD HAVE
CONTRACTED AN OUT OF THE WAY
SOUTH AMERICAN CONDITION IN
THE HEART OF LONDON... A
CONDITION OF WHICH I HAVE MADE
A VERY SPECIAL STUDY.



*SINGULAR COINCIDENCE, HOLMES... VERY SMART OF
YOU TO NOTICE IT, BUT RATHER UNCHARITABLE
TO SUGGEST IT WAS CAUSE AND EFFECT.*



*I KNEW YOU DID IT... aaughh... WOULD YOU QUIT MOVING BACK
AND FORTH? I AM DIZZY ENOUGH AS IS!*



OH, YOU DID, DID YOU? WELL,
YOU COULDN'T PROVE IT
ANYHOW.

BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK OF
YOURSELF SPREADING REPORTS
ABOUT ME LIKE THAT, AND THEN
CRAWLING TO ME FOR HELP THE
MOMENT YOU ARE IN TROUBLE?



WHAT SORT OF A GAME IS THAT... eh??



*DO WHAT YOU CAN FOR ME... LET BYGONES BE
BYGONES... I'LL PUT THE WORDS OUT OF MY HEAD...
I SWEAR! CURE ME AND I'LL FORGET IT.*

FORGET WHAT?



*WELL, ABOUT VICTOR SAVAGE'S CONDITION... YOU AS GOOD AS
ADMITTED JUST NOW YOU HAD DONE IT... I'LL FORGET IT.*



YOU CAN FORGET IT, OR
REMEMBER IT, JUST AS YOU
LIKE... I DON'T SEE YOU IN THE
WITNESS BOX.

IT MATTERS NOTHING TO ME YOU
SHOULD KNOW HOW MY COUSIN
LEFT THIS SCHOOL LAST TERM.



IT'S NOT HIM WE ARE TALKING ABOUT... IT'S YOU.



YES, YES.

THE FELLOW WHO CAME FOR ME... I FORGET THEIR NAMES... IS
THAT YOU SNICKERING?... SAID YOU OBTAINED THIS CONDITION
WHILE POKING AROUND THE BACK ALLEY OF THE SCHOOL.



INTERESTING... I DON'T BELIEVE THEY
MENTIONED AN ALLEY TO YOU... NEVER
MIND... I COULD ONLY ACCOUNT FOR IT SO.

*YOU ARE PROUD OF YOUR BRAINS, HOLMES, ARE
YOU NOT? THINK YOURSELF SMART... YOU CAME
ACROSS SOMEONE WHO WAS SMARTER THIS TIME.*



*NOW CAST YOUR MIND BACK, HOLMES... CAN YOU THINK
OF NO OTHER WAY YOU COULD HAVE GOT THIS THING?*



*I CAN'T THINK! MY MIND IS GONE... FOR
HEAVEN'S SAKE, HELP ME!*

SEASIDE AT HOME.

THE

"NIAGARA"

WAVE & ROCKING
BATH
(PATENT)



A TREAT never experienced before.

Gives the **FULLEST ILLUSION** of a Sea or River Bath.

ABSOLUTELY no water splashing in the room.

ONLY 3 pails of hot or cold water required.

Keeps the blood in **ACTIVE** circulation.

STRONGLY made of tinned steel, and **ARTISTICALLY** enamelled.

Will last a lifetime.

SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED

for Invalids, Delicate People and Children.

Price **£3 10s.** Complete.

5 per cent. discount for Cash if you mention this paper when writing.

The "Jersey" Co., Ltd., Patentees & Sole Mfrs., Inchbrook, nr. Stroud, Gloucestershire.

*YES, I WILL HELP YOU... I'LL HELP YOU TO UNDERSTAND
WHERE YOU ARE, AND HOW YOU GOT THERE... I'D LIKE YOU TO
KNOW BEFORE YOU MUST LEAVE THIS SCHOOL IN SHAME.*



PRAY, GIVE ME SOMETHING TO EASE MY PAIN!

THERE'S THAT SNICKERING AGAIN... PAINFUL, IS IT?



YES, THE LABOURERES USED TO DO SOME SQUEALING
WHEN THE CONDITION WAS AT ITS WORST... NO
SNICKERING THOUGH... TAKES YOU AS A CRAMP, I FANCY.



YES, YES, IT IS A CRAMP.

WELL, YOU CAN HEAR WHAT I SAY ANYHOW... LISTEN NOW...
CAN YOU REMEMBER ANY UNUSUAL INCIDENT IN YOUR LIFE
JUST ABOUT THE TIME YOUR SYMPTOMS BEGAN?



NO, NO, NOTHING... I'M TOO ILL TO THINK!

WELL, THEN... I'LL HELP YOU... DID ONE OF YOUR LITTLE HELPERS,
THE YOUNG'UNS, HAPPEN TO GIVE YOU A SMALL GIFT?



A GIFT? I'M FAINTING... I CAN'T CONTINUE THIS.

**LISTEN HOLMES! YOU MUST HEAR ME... YOU SHALL HEAR ME...
DO YOU REMEMBER A BOX, AN IVORY BOX? IT CAME ON
WEDNESDAY... YOU OPENED IT... DO YOU REMEMBER?**



**YES... IT WAS FROM MY MOTHER... I OPENED IT...
THERE WAS CHOCOLATE... MY FAVORITE CANDY...
IT WAS A CARE PACKAGE FROM MY PARENTS.**

*IT WAS NO CARE PACKAGE... YOU FOOL, YOU WOULD HAVE IT
AND YOU HAVE GOT IT! WHO ASKED YOU TO CROSS MY PATH?
IF YOU HAD LEFT ME ALONE, I WOULD NOT HAVE HURT YOU!*



BUT IT WAS PLAIN CHOCOLATE... I DON'T UNDERSTAND.



IT'S EASY... I HAVE MADE A STUDY OF THE
COCAO BEAN... I HAVE DISCOVERED A
PROCESS TO CREATE THE SWEET CHOCOLATE
WITHOUT COOKING THE BEANS, THUS
ALLOWING THE BACTERIA TO THRIVE.

YOU HAVE THE TRUTH NOW, HOLMES,
AND YOU CAN LEAVE THE SCHOOL WITH
THE KNOWLEDGE I CAUSED YOUR
CONDITION... YOU KNEW TOO MUCH OF
THE FATE OF POOR VICTOR.



THE SAME CHOCOLATE WITH THE BACTERIA INTACT, CAUSED VICTOR TO HAVE SUCH A CHRONIC CASE OF DIARRHEA, HE WAS FORCED TO LEAVE WITHOUT A CLUE OF WHAT CAUSED IT.



SIMPLY INGENIOUS AND FIENDISH AT THE SAME TIME.



***I WILL SIT WITH YOU AND WATCH
YOU SLOWLY WASTE AWAY WITH THE
SAME CHRONIC CONDITION.***

***BY TOMORROW, I BELIEVE THE
SCHOOL WILL DETERMINE THE
ONLY COURSE IS TO REMOVE
YOU TO A HOSPITAL.***





AND WONDERFULLY, NO ONE WILL
BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU SAY, DUE TO THE
DELIRIUM CAUSED BY THE DEHYDRATION.

WHAT IS THAT? YOU WANT
ME TO LIGHT THE OTHER
CANDLES NEAR THE WINDOW?



YES, I WILL DO THAT, THAT I MAY SEE YOU BETTER... IS THERE ANY OTHER LITTLE SERVICE I CAN DO FOR YOU, MY FRIEND?



I WOULD FAVOUR A PIECE OF CHOCOLATE FROM THE IVORY BOX.



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

ASH-NYC.COM

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.



*OH, I DON'T THINK YOU NEED ANYMORE...
IT HAS ALREADY BEEN DOING ITS DEED.*





OH, I BELIEVE I CAN CHANCE IT... THE
BEST WAY OF SUCCESSFULLY ACTING
A PART IS TO BE IT... I GIVE YOU MY
WORD FOR THREE DAYS I HAVE
TASTED NEITHER FOOD, NOR DRINK.

mmm... IT IS THE CHOCOLATE
WHICH I FIND MOST
IRKSOME... THANKS SO MUCH
FOR LIGHTING THE CANDLES.



THAT IS VERY MUCH BETTER... HELLO LESTRADE...
ALL IS IN ORDER AND HERE IS YOUR BOY.



*ON BEHALF OF THE HEADMASTER, I TAKE YOU INTO
CUSTODY FOR THE ASSAULT OF ONE VICTOR SAVAGE.*



*AND YOU MIGHT ADD THE ATTEMPTED
ASSAULT OF ONE SHERLOCK HOLMES.*

TO SAVE AN INVALID
TROUBLE, MASTER SMITH WAS
GOOD ENOUGH TO GIVE OUR
SIGNAL BY LIGHTING THE
ADDITIONAL CANDLES.

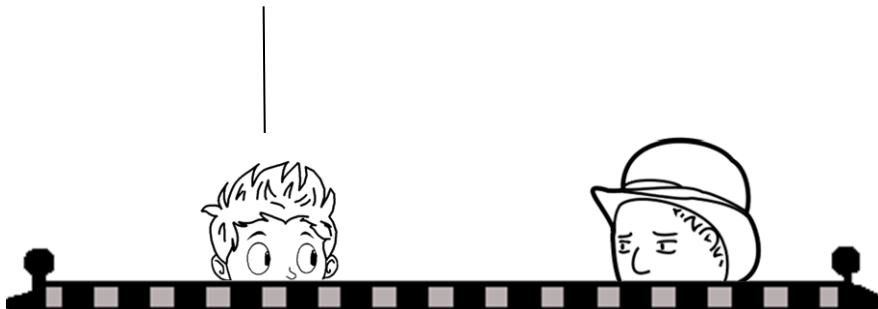


BY THE SAY, YOUR
PRISONER HAS A SMALL
BOX IN HIS RIGHT TROUSER
POCKET WHICH HE REMOVED
OFF OF MY TABLE.

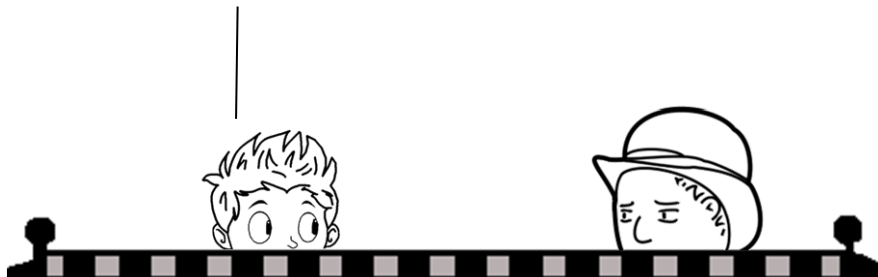
IT WOULD BE WELL TO REMOVE. THANK YOU! IT MAY
PLAY ITS PART IN HIS SCHOOL REMOVAL.



**YOU WILL BE THE ONE TAKEN FROM THIS SCHOOL...
HE ASKED ME TO COME HERE TO CURE HIS
CONDITION... I WAS SORRY FOR HIM AND I CAME.**



**NOW HE WILL PRETEND, NO DOUBT, I HAVE SAID
SOMETHING WHICH HE MAY INVENT, WHICH WILL
CORROBORATE HIS INSANE SUSPICIONS.**



*YOU CAN LIE AS YOU LIKE, HOLMES... MY
WORD IS ALWAYS AS GOOD AS YOURS.*



*GOOD HEAVENS... I HAD TOTALLY FORGOTTEN THEM... MY DEAR
WATSON, STAMFORD, I OWE YOU A THOUSAND APOLOGIES.*

TO THINK I SHOULD HAVE OVERLOOKED YOU... I NEED NOT
INTRODUCE YOU TO MASTER SMITH, SINCE I UNDERSTAND YOU
MET EARLIER THIS EVENING... YOU TWO LOOK A LITTLE PEAKED.



*YOU MIGHT HAVE WARNED US YOU STORED YOUR
CHAMBER POT BEHIND THE HEADBOARD.*



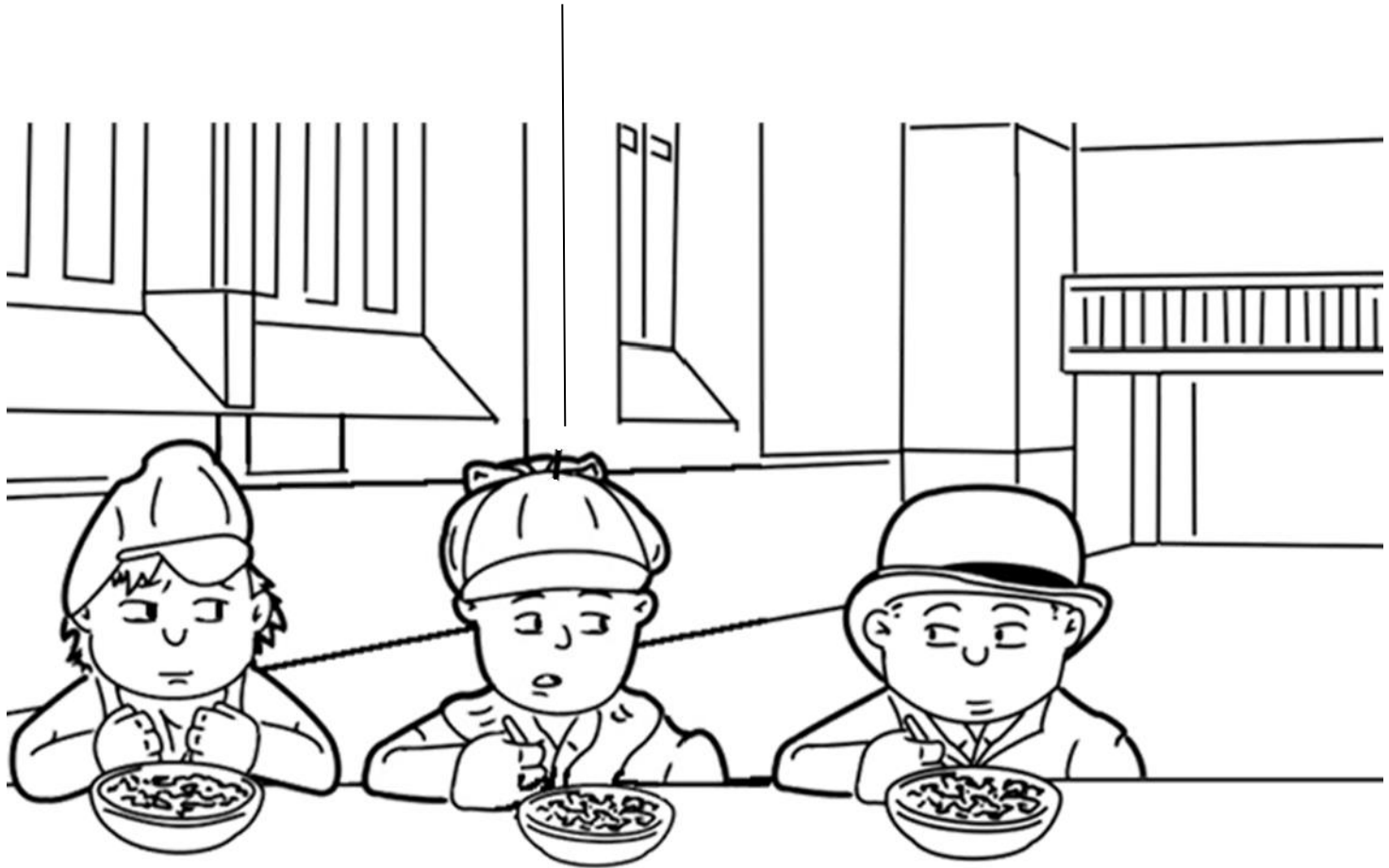
ONE MORE TRIP TO
THE DINING HALL...

PETER PARLEY'S ANNUAL

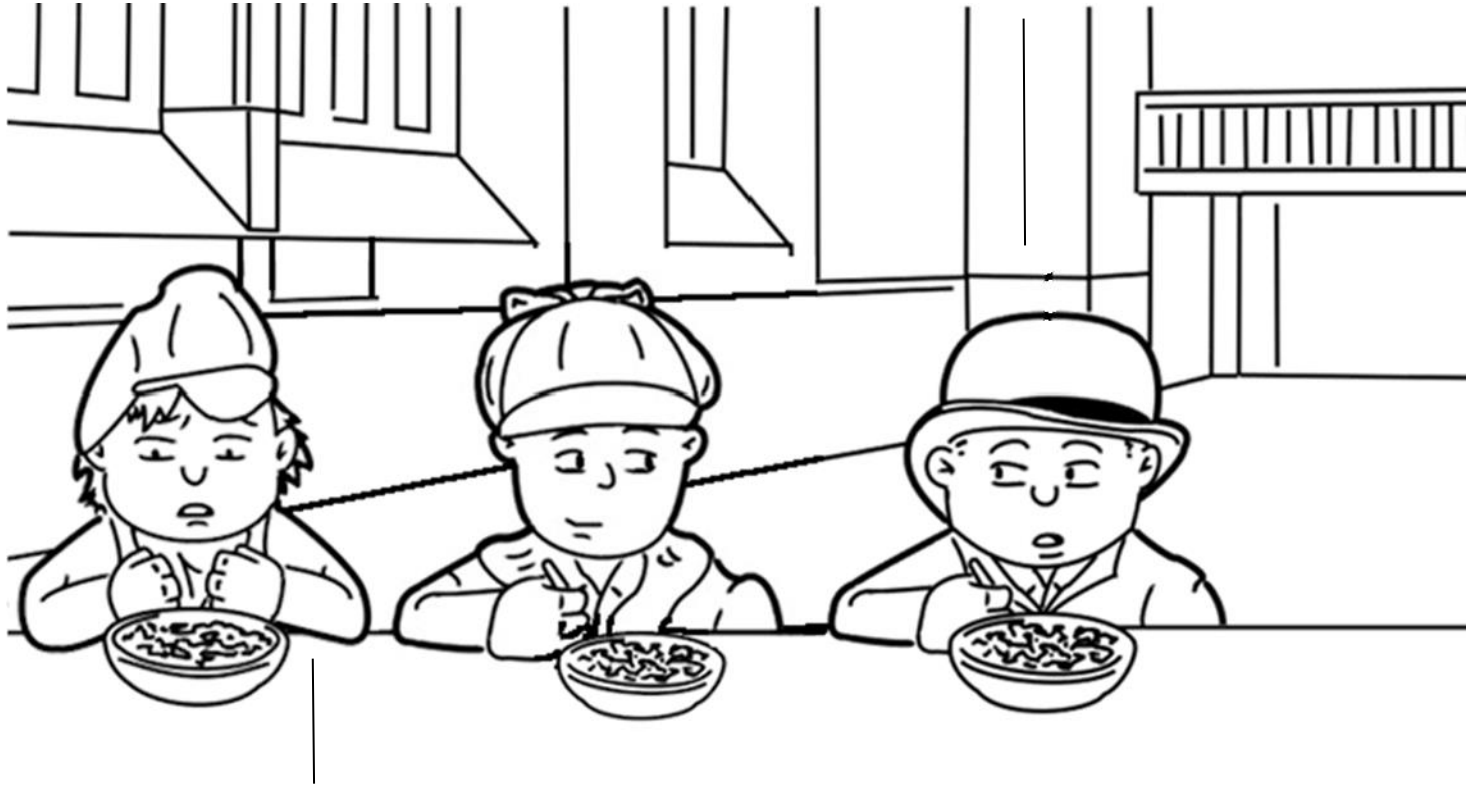


DARTON & CO.,
HOLBORN HILL
LONDON.

I NEVER NEEDED SUSTENANCE MORE... HOWEVER, AS YOU
KNOW, MY HABITS ARE IRREGULAR, AND SUCH A FEAT MEANS
LESS TO ME THAN TO MOST PEOPLE.

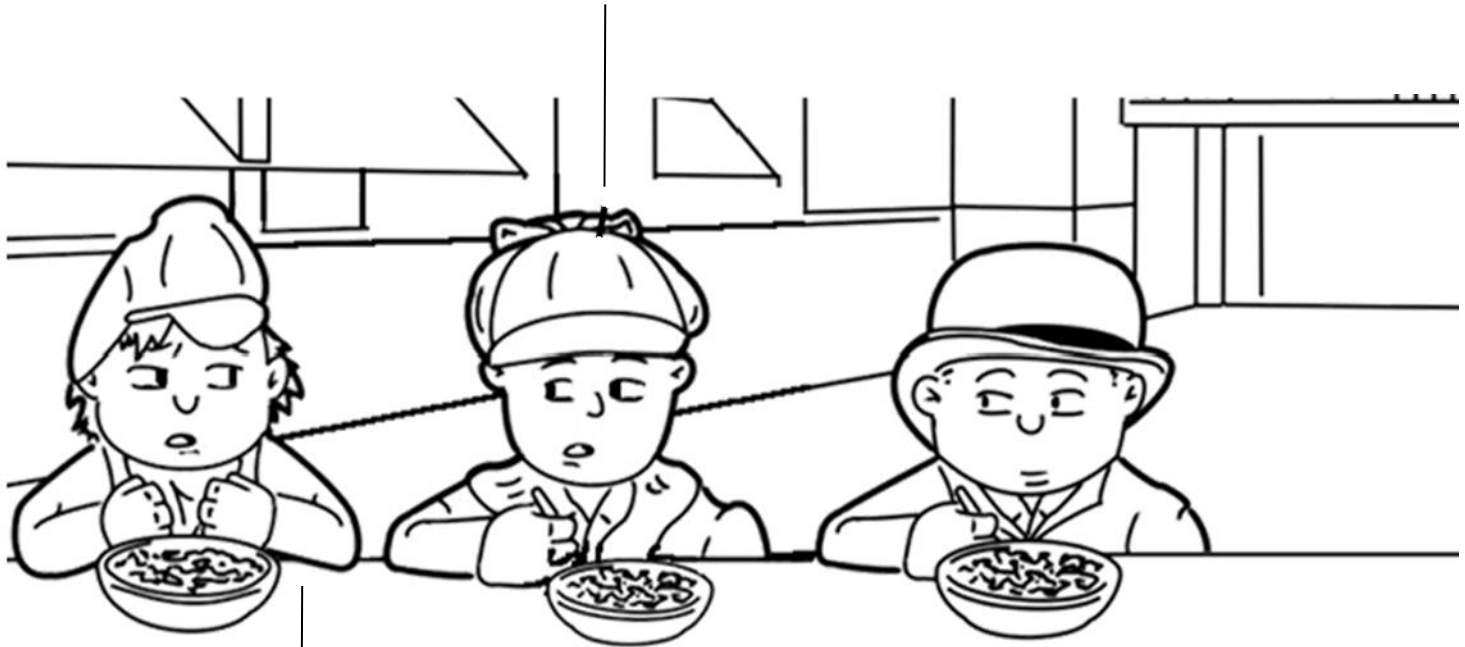


IT WAS NICE OF MRS. HUDSON TO
MAKE US A MIDNIGHT SNACK.



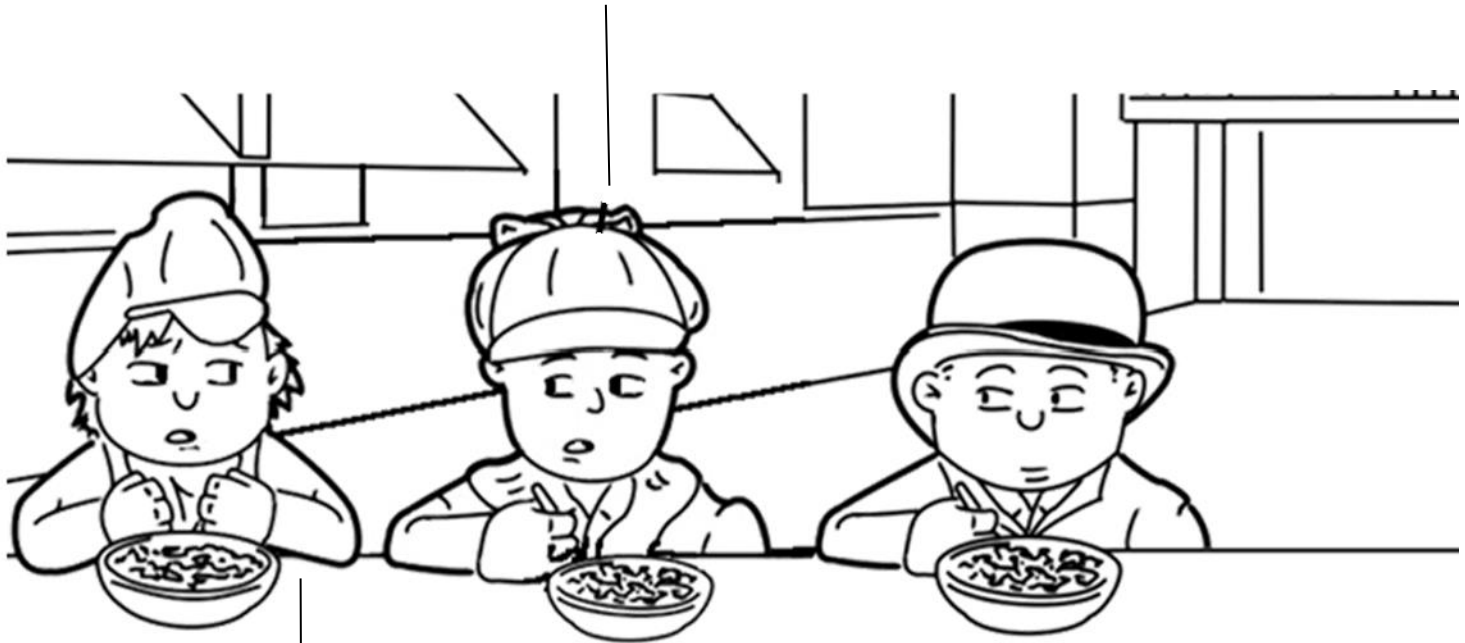
IT LOOKS JUST LIKE LUNCH AND SUPPER DID.

IT WAS VERY ESSENTIAL I SHOULD IMPRESS MRS. HUDSON
WITH THE REALITY OF MY CONDITION, SINCE SHE WAS TO
CONVEY IT TO YOU TWO, AND YOU IN TURN, TO SMITH.



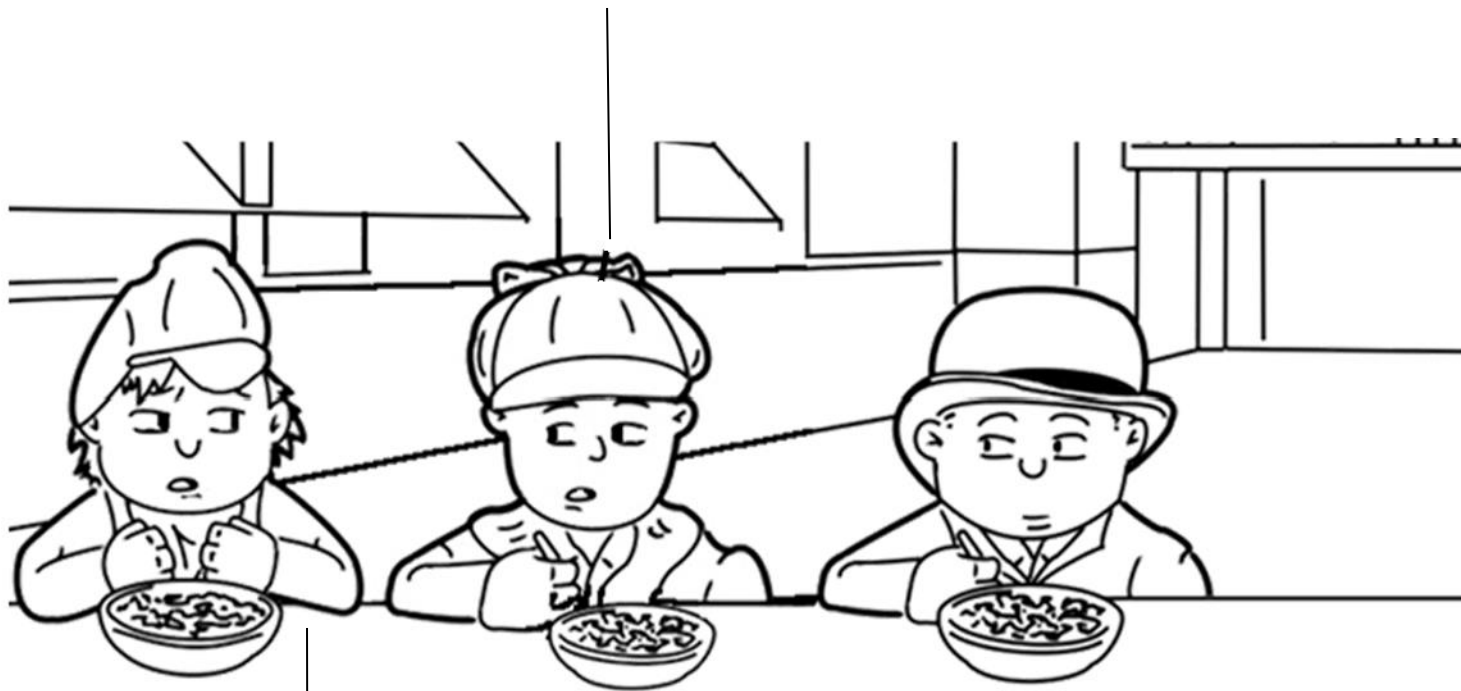
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN,
LUNCH, DINNER, AND SUPPER TO ME?

HOLD THAT QUESTION UNTIL OUR NEXT ADVENTURE.



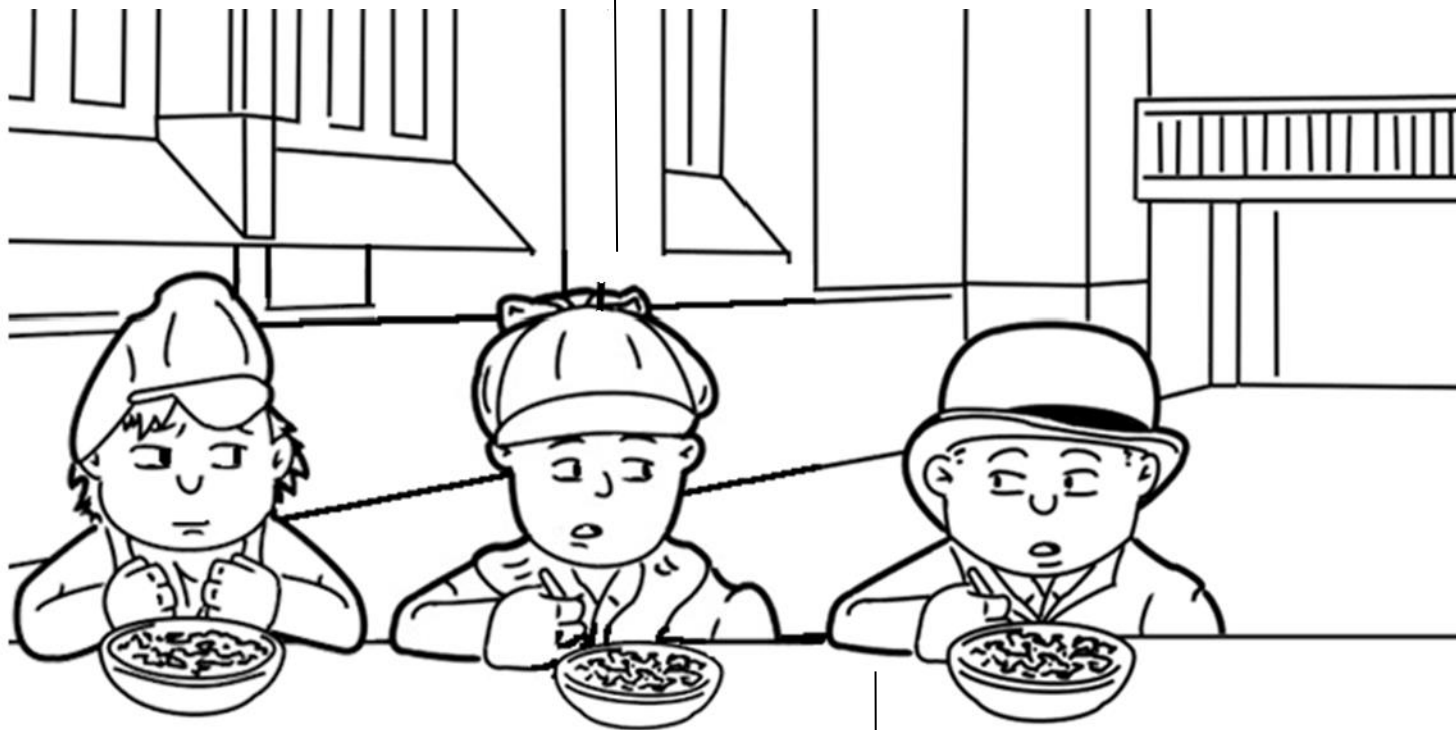
THEN, WHY DID MASTER SMITH ATTACK HIS COUSIN, VICTOR?

MASTER SAVAGE, BEING AN HONOURABLE STUDENT, HAD LEARNED OF MASTER SMITH'S NATURE, AND THAT SMITH WAS STEALING SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND SELLING THEM ON A BLACK MARKET.



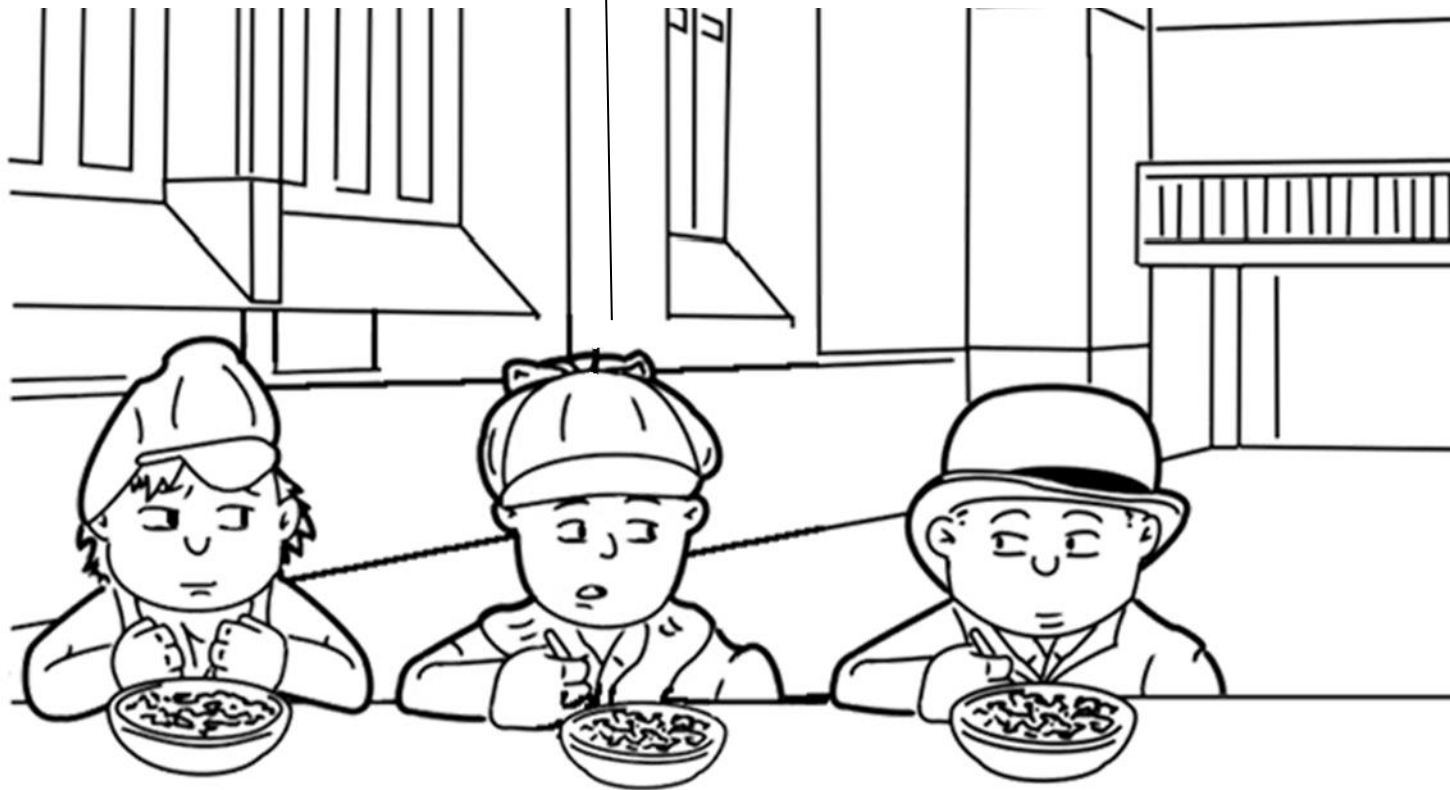
IS THE BLACK MARKET WORSE THAN THE WHITE MARKET? I KNOW, NEXT ADVENTURE.

HIS ONLY CHOICE WAS TO ELIMINATE VICTOR FROM OUR SCHOOL... THUS HIS CREATION OF THE SPECIAL CHOCOLATES.

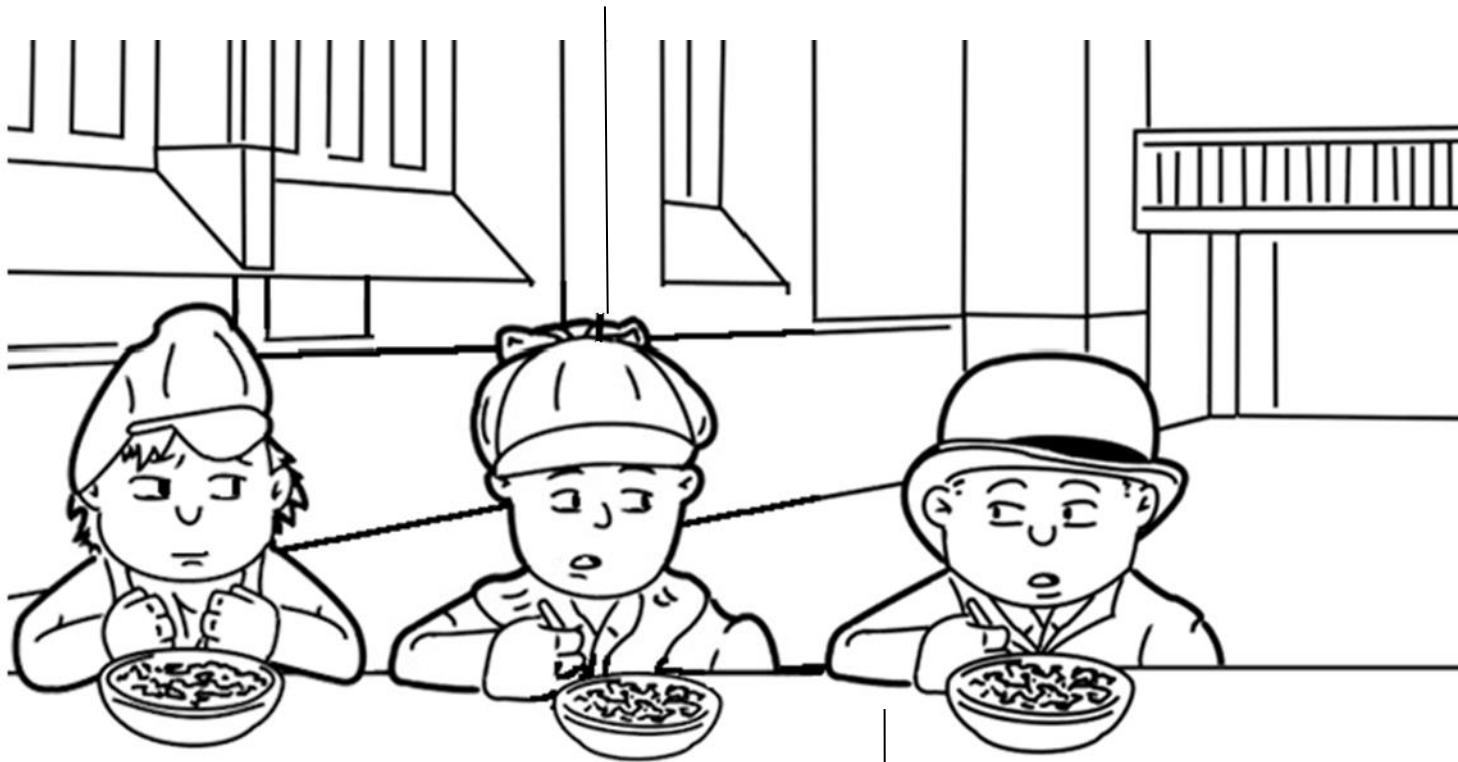


**I STILL DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY YOU
COULD NOT LET ME IN ON YOUR SCHEME.**

**YOU WON'T BE OFFENDED, WATSON, YOU REALIZE IF YOU HAD
SHARED MY SECRET, YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
IMPRESS SMITH WITH THE URGENT NECESSITY OF HIS PRESENCE.**

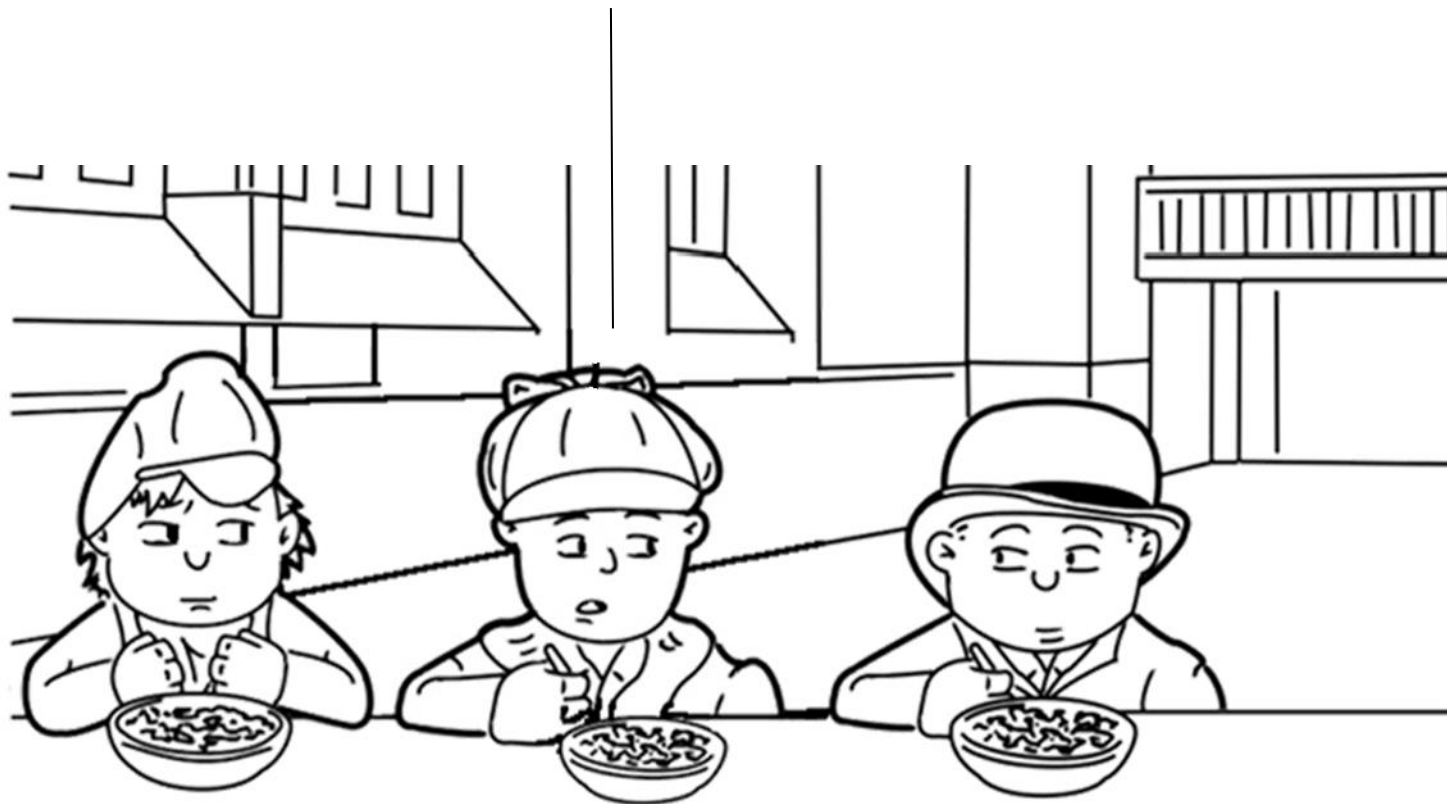


KNOWING HIS VINDICTIVE NATURE, I WAS PERFECTLY CERTAIN HE WOULD COME TO LOOK UPON HIS HANDIWORK.

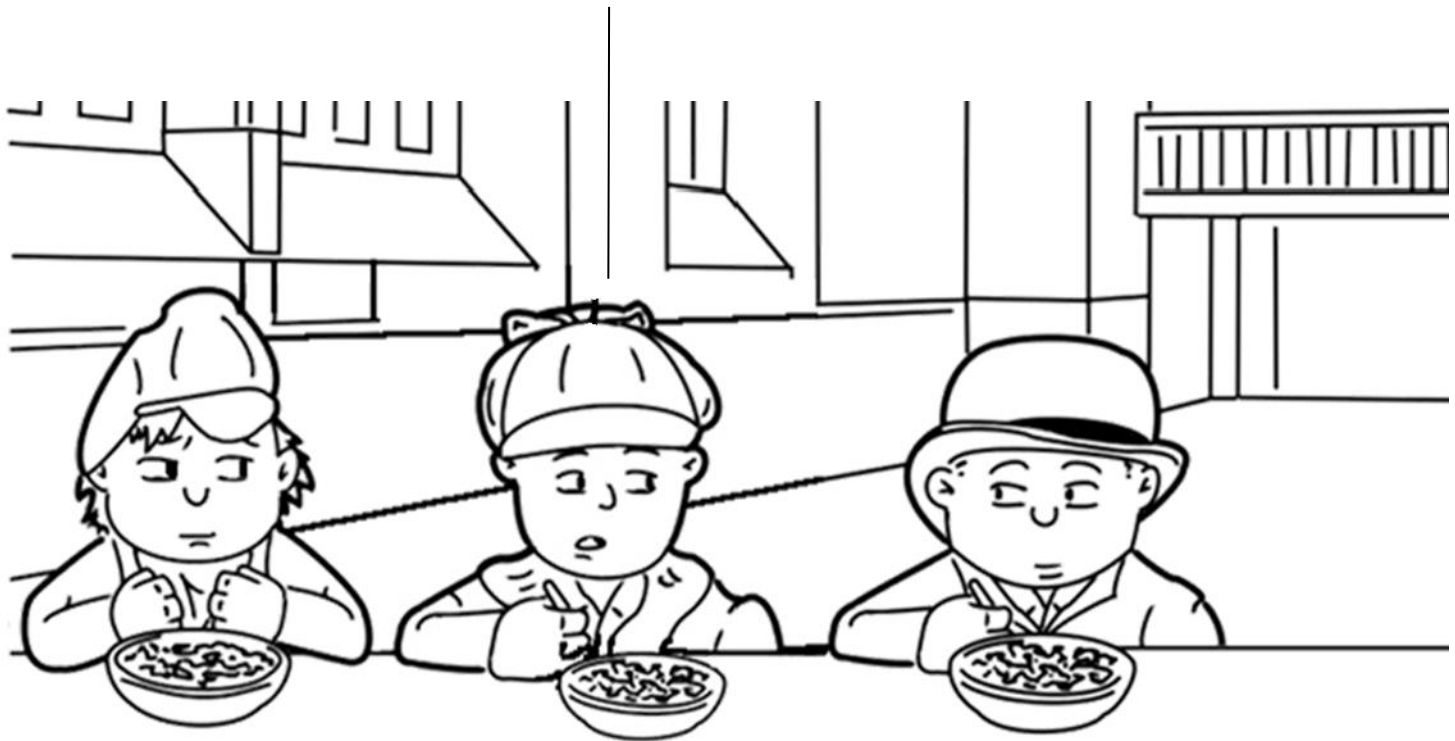


BUT YOUR APPEARANCE, HOLMES... YOUR GHASTLY FACE?

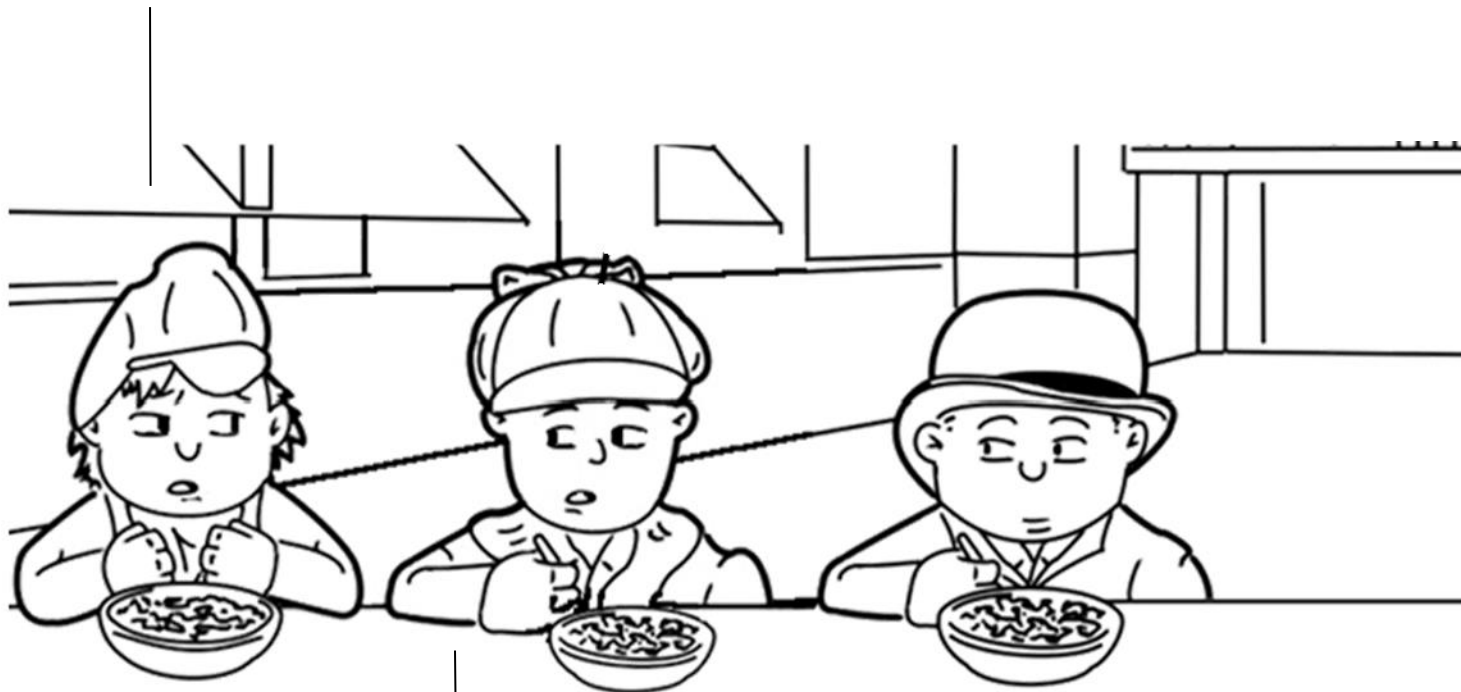
*THREE DAYS OF ABSOLUTE FAST DOES NOT IMPROVE ONE'S BEAUTY...
FOR THE REST, THERE IS NOTHING A SPONGE DID NOT CURE.*



*BELLADONNA IN ONE'S EYES, ROUGE OVER THE
CHEEK-BONES, AND BEESWAX AROUND THE LIPS.*



*DISCUSSING BUTTONS, OYSTERS, AND OTHER EXTRANEIOUS
SUBJECTS DIDN'T HURT IN CONVINCING US EITHER.*



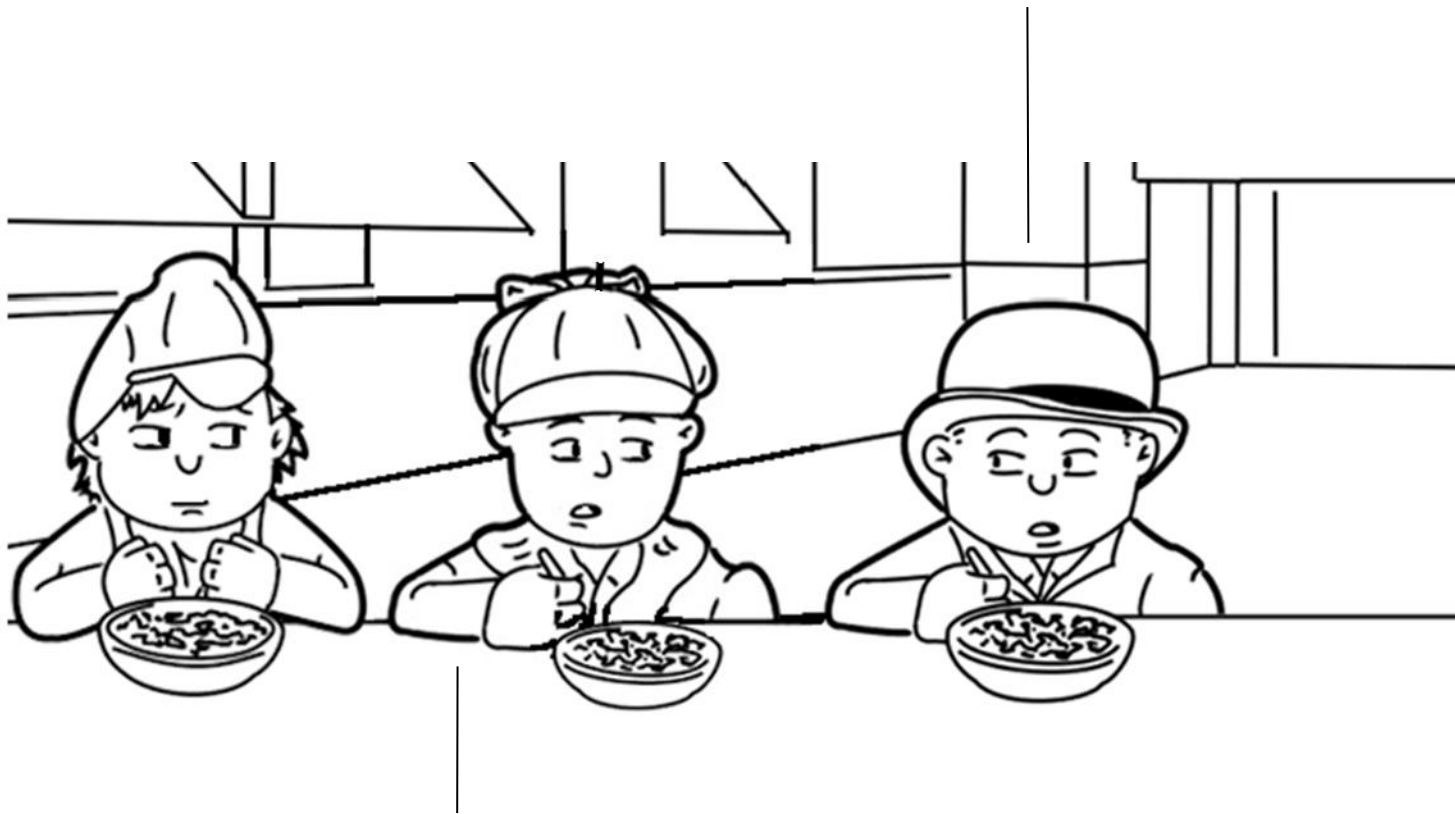
I AM NOT SURE WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT... OYSTERS?

**SERIOUSLY... YOU TALKED LIKE A CRAZY PERSON... I
CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DON'T REMEMBER YOUR RANTS.**



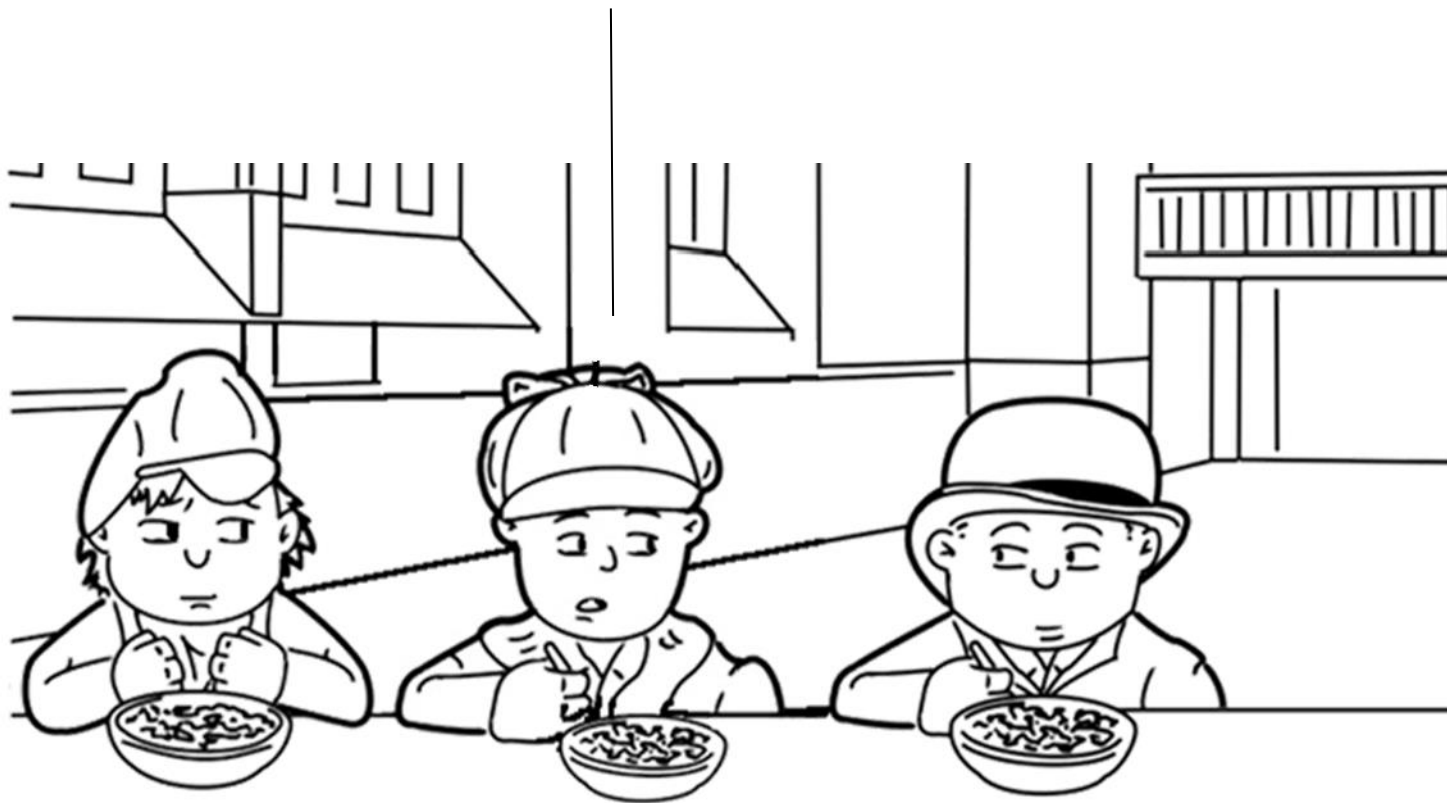
JUST KIDDING... I WANTED TO SEE YOUR EXPRESSIONS.

*BUT WHY WOULD YOU NOT LET ME NEAR YOU, SINCE
THERE WAS IN TRUTH NO INFECTION?*

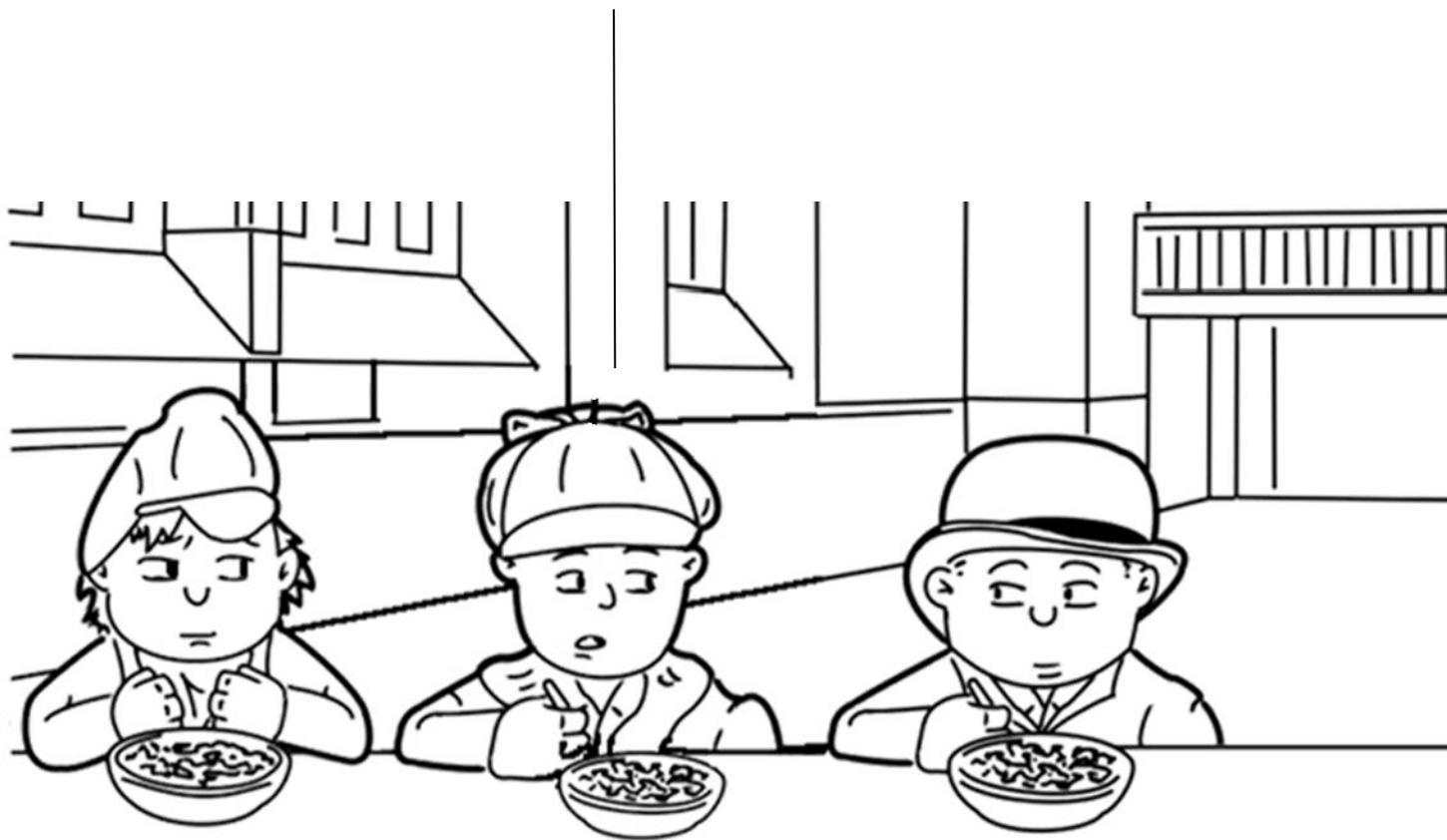


CAN YOU ASK, MY DEAR WATSON?

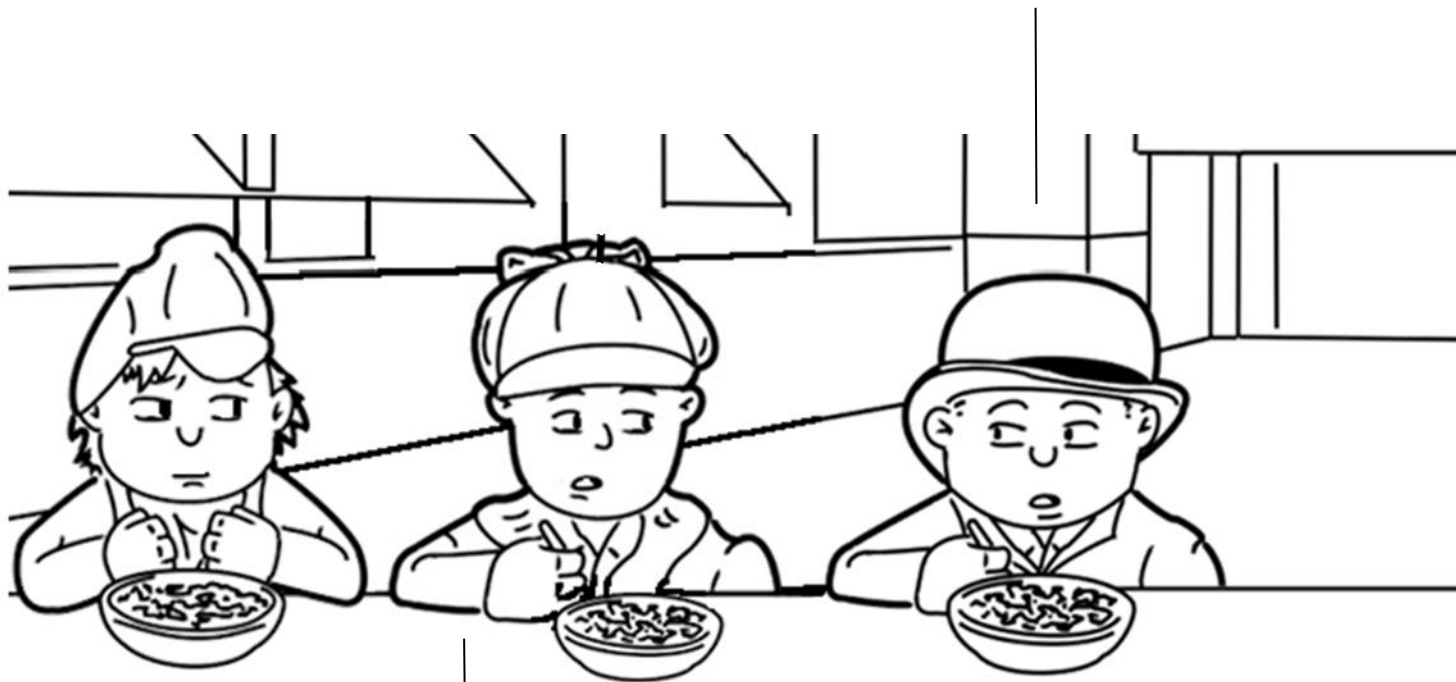
**DO YOU IMAGINE THAT I HAVE NO RESPECT
FOR YOUR BLOSSOMING MEDICAL TALENTS?**



AT THE END OF A BED, I COULD DECEIVE YOU. IF I FAILED TO
DO SO, WHO WOULD BRING MY SMITH WITHIN MY GRASP?

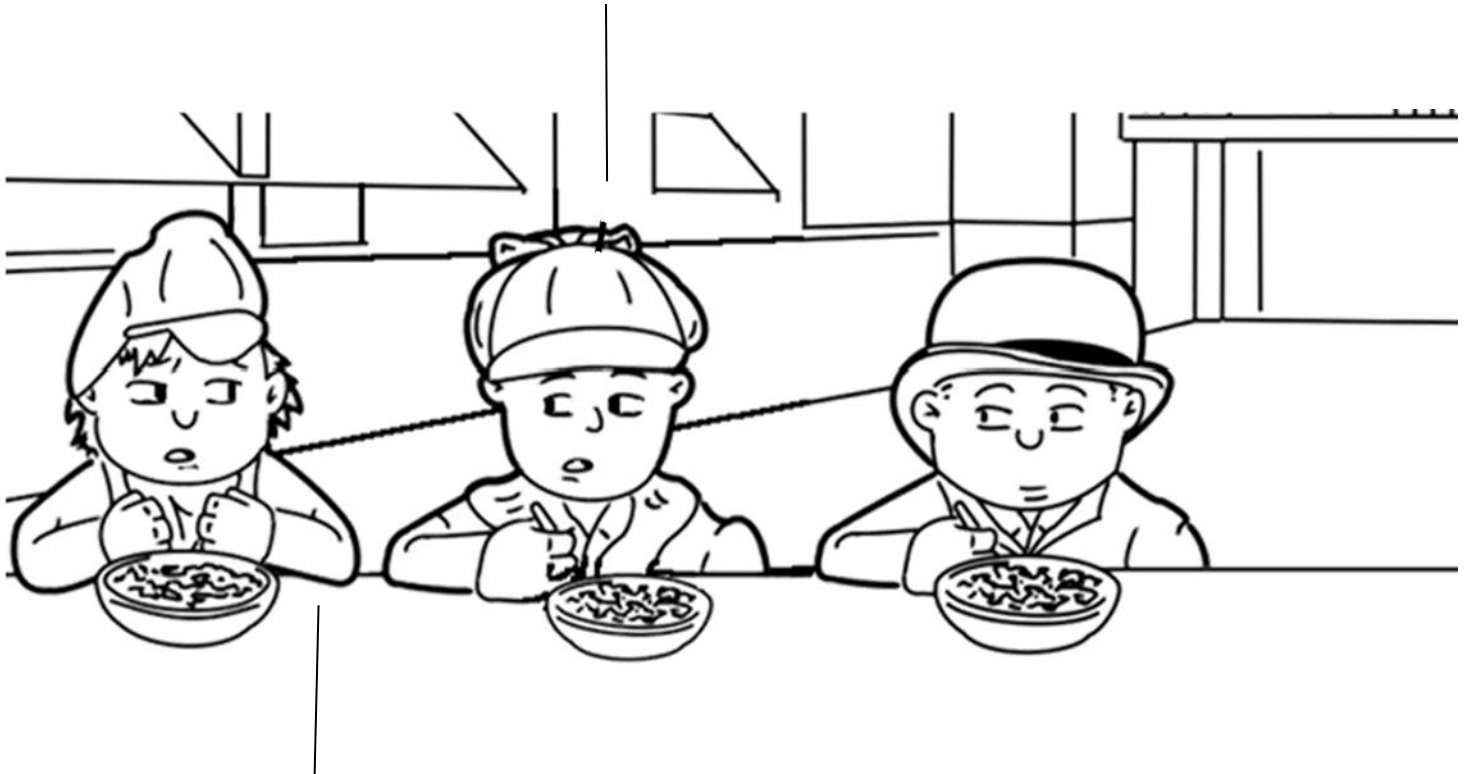


HOW DID YOU KNOW THE CHOCOLARE WAS TAINTED?



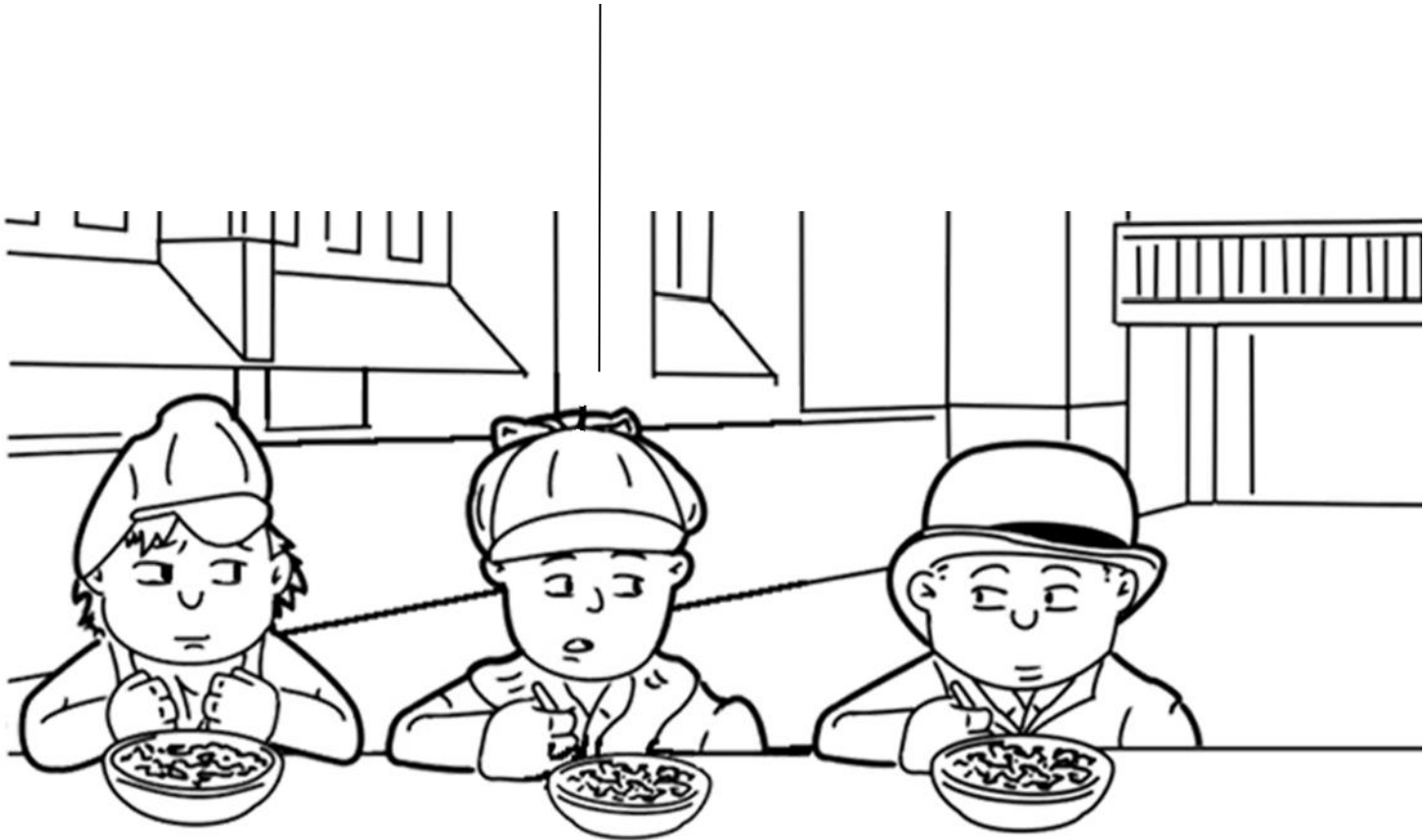
MY PARENTS WOULD NEVER SEND CHOCOLATE TO ME THROUGH THE POST, AS MY MOTHER BELIEVES I AM ALREADY SPOILED.

ANY OTHER POINT I MAY CLEAR UP FOR YOU?

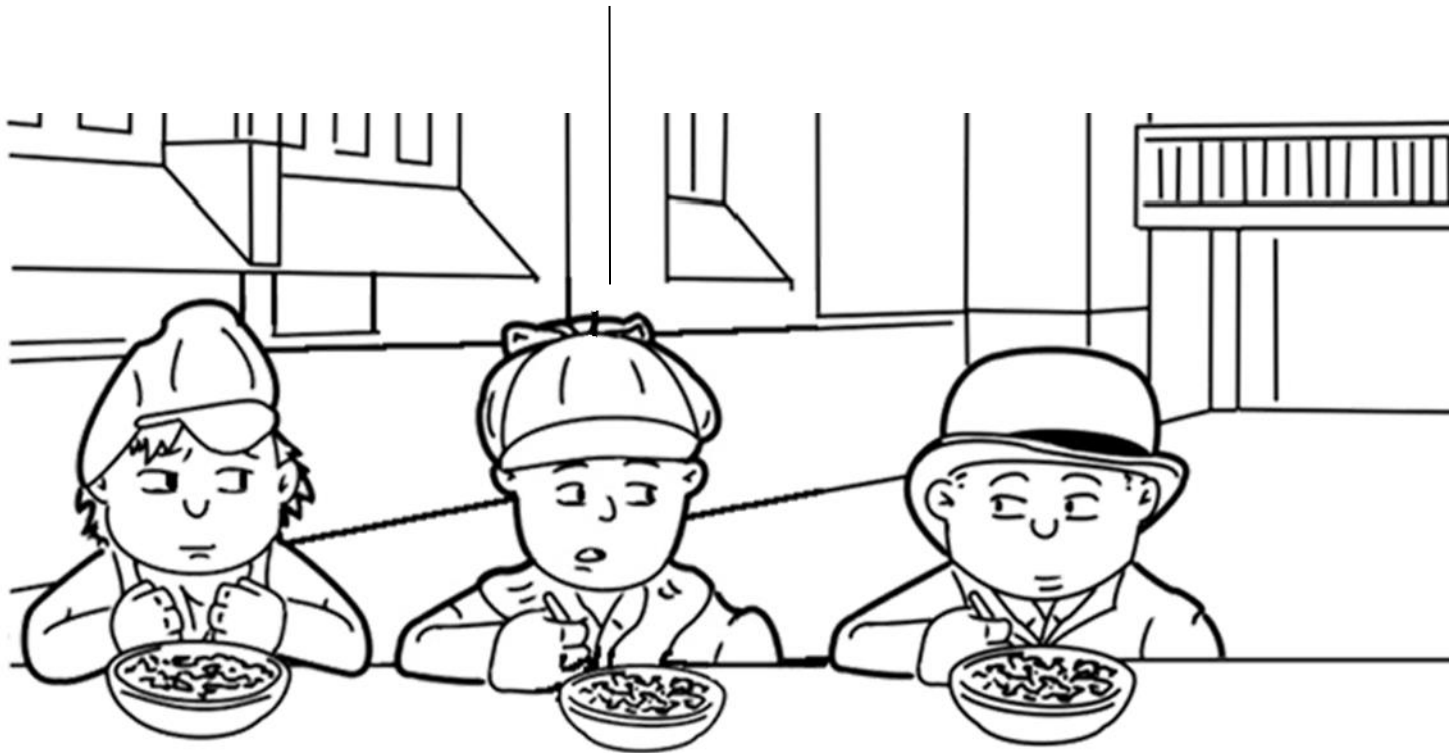


*I AM AFRAID TO ASK, BUT IF YOU WERE NOT EATING ANYTHING
FOR 3 DAYS, HOW DID YOU PRODUCE SUCH AN ENORMOUS VOLUME
IN THE CHAMBER POT SEVERAL TIMES A DAY?*

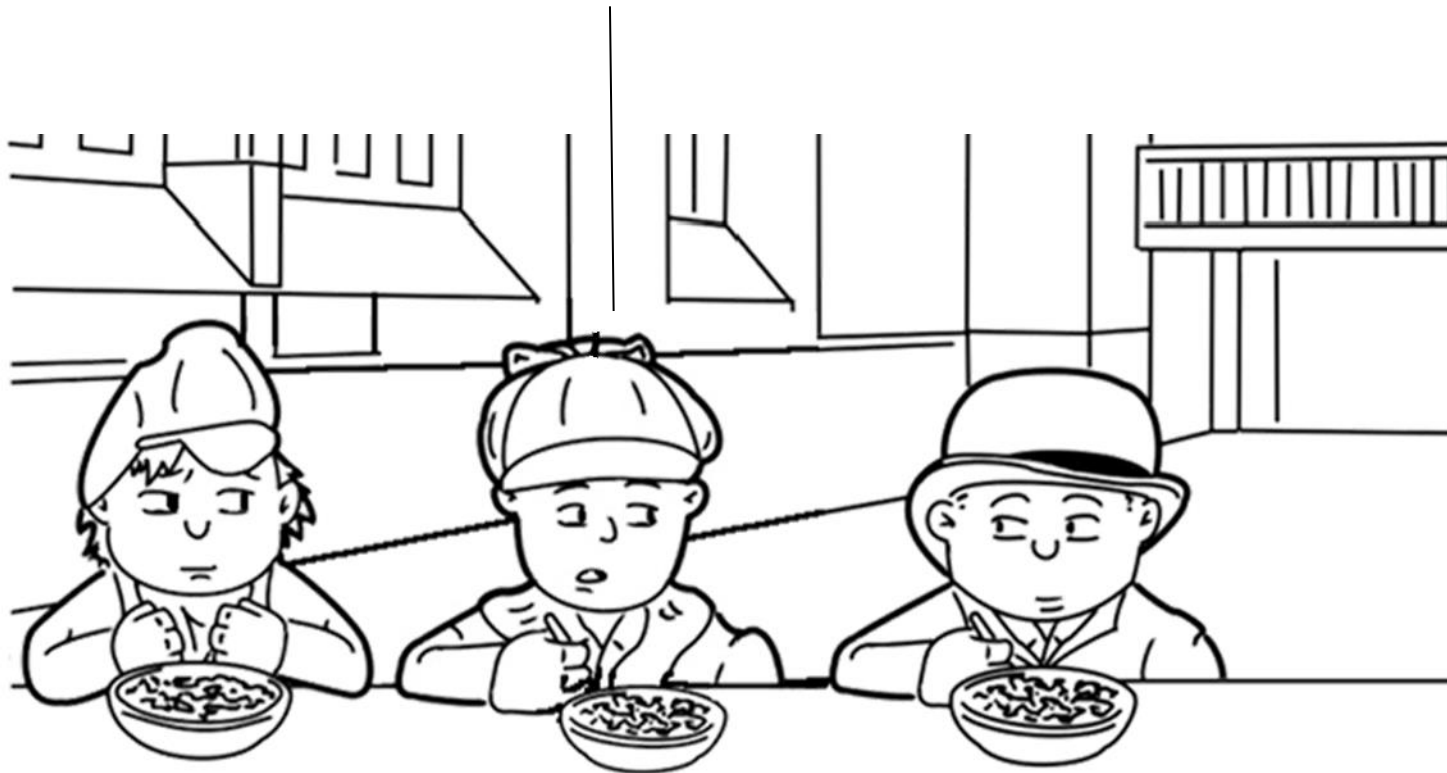
***THIS DOES NOT PAINT A PRETTY PICTURE, BUT
EACH MORNING BEFORE STUDENTS AROSE...***



*...I TRAVELED THE HALLWAY COLLECTING THE REMNANTS
OF THE PREVIOUS EVENING'S DINNER OR SUPPER.*



*NOW PLEASE, LET ME FINISH THIS VERY LATE
SUPPER, SO MY STOMACH WILL STOP GROWLING.*





www.dfw-sherlock.org

