

# **Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem**

Investiture  
January 20, 2018

For obvious reasons, books hold a special place in the hearts and minds of Sherlockians of all ages. For older Sherlockians, libraries hold an equal place of honor and respect. For many, the discovery of Holmes and Watson may well have happened in a library among the huge stacks as the then young Sherlockians scoured the shelves for just the right volume for those mandatory book reports.

The London Library at St. James Square played a critical role in the “Adventure of the Illustrious Client”. This library, founded in 1841 by Thomas Carlyle, provided an alternative to the library at the British Museum.

“I am here to be used, Holmes.

Well, then, spend the next twenty-four hours in an intensive study of Chinese pottery.

He gave no explanations and I asked for none. By long experience I had learned the wisdom of obedience. But when I had left his room I walked down Baker Street, revolving in my head how on earth I was to carry out so strange an order. Finally I drove to the London Library in St. James’s Square, put the matter to my friend Lomax, the sublibrarian, and departed to my rooms with a goodly volume under my arm. ‘”

The Good Doctor Watson recognized the wealth of data which was stored inside the walls of the library and the information he gleaned from its holdings helped with one of the great canonical cases. We also know that Lomax diligently studied then shared his findings which proved pivotal for this adventure.

In our presence, we find a remarkable Scholar who parallels Lomax as a literary adventurer. His years of service to the Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County Library have been enrichment to all of the patrons who cross his library’s threshold. His desire to learn about the Great Detective has brought him to our table and we are blessed and honored by the loyalty of attendance.

So today, with great pleasure, I summon Reece Moorehead to be invested with the nom Lomax the Sub-librarian.

I challenge him to provide guidance and literary direction to all Scholars who come calling to him for Canonical assistance.