



# THE BIMETALLIC QUESTION

Box 883 Stock Exchange Tower  
Montreal, Canada H4Z 1K2

## Minutes of the Meeting of The Bimetallic Question April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Date of our next meeting:** Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the Westmount Public Library, Westmount Room, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, QC.

**The quiz at the next meeting:** *The Adventure of the Three Gables*, from *The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes*, prepared and presented by Paul Billette.

**Next meeting's toast presenters:** The Master: Karl J. Raudsepp; Dr. Watson: Elliott Newman; *The Woman*: Melodie Tardieu; Mrs. Hudson: Kristin Franseen; The Society: Chris Herten-Greaven.

**Minutes of the meeting of the Bimetallic Question** held on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Westmount Public Library, Westmount Room, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, QC.

**Present:** Paul Billette, Wilfrid de Freitas, David Dowse, Phil Ehrensaft, Kristin Franseen, Chris Herten-Greaven, Louise Halperin, Raf Jans, Miyako Matsuda-Pelletier, Elliott Newman, Arlene Scher, Melodie Tardieu, Karl J. Raudsepp, Heather Wileman-Brown, and Ronnie Zilman.

**Regrets:** Carol Abramson, Mark Altosaar, Maureen Anderson, Jack Anderson, Patrick Campbell, Louise Corda, Susan Fitch, Taya Ismail, Erica Penner, and Bruno Paul Stenson.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by our Sovereign, Raf Jans at 6:30 pm.

# ITEMS OF BUSINESS AND GENTLE TRANSACTION

## 1. Review of the Minutes from Our Last Meeting

Raf complimented David and Susan on the excellent quality of the minutes, giving praise for their exceptional work. He echoed the sentiment of all in attendance and marveled that to his memory, there was much more entertaining and informative material in the written and edited minutes than he was able to recall from the actual meeting. What a treat it was to read our minutes!!

Also, of interest to any retired colourmen out there, Wilfrid was able to enlighten Raf as to the colours of the coins in the original design of our Bimetallic Question logo, explaining that when first printed up it featured the Watson coin in silver ink and the Holmes coin in gold ink. Then as now, sharp eyes can spot the "hidden" question mark unfurling itself in the smoke from Holmes's pipe.

## 2. Toast to the Master by Kristin

For my toast to Watson last meeting, I thought about how Watson's interest in the then-new field of psychology might influence how he viewed Holmes and attempted to catalogue his friend's methods and eccentricities. As part of my most recent work on my dissertation, I've also been thinking a lot about biographies and archives, and what we do and don't know about different historical figures. In their *Love Among the Archives*, Helena Michie and Robyn Warhol examine the gaps in the archival record related to Sir George Scharf, Victorian bachelor, gourmand, and founding director of London's National Portrait Gallery. They write in their introduction about how attempts to pin down the private lives of public figures often devolve into lists of accomplishments that reveal little about the humanity of the subject.

It seems to me that a similar thing can be said about what we know (or don't know) of Holmes. Adaptations and pastiches often attempt to inject something more into their reading of Holmes-the-man, decisions that often end up telling us more about the people and context for the reinterpretations of Holmes than shedding new light on the Canon. In two recent pastiches I've read and enjoyed, Lyndsay Faye's *The Whole Art of Detection* and Brittany Cavallaro's *The Last of August*, the issue of what is known and unknown about Holmes takes center stage. In the short stories "An Empty House" and "The Willow Basket", Faye deals with Watson's unpublished notes from the Hiatus and has Lestrade confront Holmes for taking him for granted and leaving him out of the police investigation into Moriarty. Faye's Holmes consciously uses privacy as a way to protect those around him from danger. The repercussions of Holmes's private and public lives also feature in Cavallaro's most recent young adult novel, which has Holmes's twenty-first century descendants struggling with their family's public fame as heroic celebrities and private tensions, betrayals, criminal misdeeds.

Both present a sort of imagined Holmes family archive that presents a slightly different perspective on Holmes than that which Watson cleaned up for publication--Faye through fictional documents related to Watson's unpublished case notes and Cavallaro through the image of family trees and a modern-day Holmes family struggling (and largely failing) to live up to Sherlock's and Mycroft's heroics. While we may never agree on where Holmes went to university, whether or not he ever fell in love, when various cases occurred, and what exactly happened during the Hiatus, we nevertheless continue to think about how to locate the Master in what information we do possess. To the Master!

## *Show and Tell*

### 3. Great Minds Thought Alike

First Karl, then Paul, David and Melodie displayed their proudly purchased copies of Life Magazine's recent special issue homage to Sherlock Holmes. Rare photos, stunning images of London locations in the Canon, theatre and film shots of the numerous actors to play Holmes and Watson and so much more made this magazine a winner. Paul picked his up on the Internet for half price while the rest of us visited magazine stores for our copies. The game's afoot - try to get yours!

#### 4. Satisfy Your Curiosity

Raf pulled from a bag a similarly excellent find. *The Imagine Curious Minds* series from the U.K. brings us *The Sherlock Holmes Book: The Facts and Fiction Behind the World's Greatest Detective*. Here too is a treasure trove of images regarding everything to do with the Master, on stage, screen, and in print.

#### 5. Curiouser and Curiouser

Heather, possessing an ever eclectic eye, snatched up a book entitled, *Walter Potter's Curious World of Taxidermy*, compiled by Dr. Pat Morris with Joanna Ebenstein. The tableaux created by taxidermist Walter Potter (1835-1918) recorded in photographs here, feature animals and birds, all stuffed, with many shown costumed, and arranged in anthropomorphic situations and poses. The poignantly posed and elaborately garbed specimens include rats, squirrels, dogs, cats, pigs, rabbits and different bird species. Heather said that it is not that she is deeply interested in taxidermy itself, but that the whimsical aspect of the book just "struck her fancy" and she had to have it.

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/gallery/2013/sep/13/curious-world-walter-potter-pictures-taxidermist-victorian>



Victorian taxidermist Walter Potter

#### 6. Double-Good Adventure (and Profits)

With a request that we examine these treasures with care, Wilfrid gave us the quite rare and thrilling experience of seeing and holding two original Strand Magazines, from October and November 1893, containing this evening's quiz story *The Adventure of the Naval Treaty*. This being the longest of all the short stories, the publishers were "forced" to put it in two instalments. It naturally doubled their profits as the Sherlock Holmes-mad reading public feverishly awaited each new development in his career.

## 7. For the Sherlockian Who Has Everything

As you all know by now my two passions, besides my wife Guylaine and our two wonderful daughters, are Sherlock Holmes and fountain pens. On the back cover of the 2008 issue of the pen catalogue of the Fountain Pen Hospital is the advertisement for pen manufacturer Krone's Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Sherlock Holmes Limited Edition fountain pen. Crafted out of sterling silver, this intricately detailed over-sized model honours the work of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective. The interior of the cap top contains a piece of notebook paper from ACD's personal writing pad, and a special trap door on the side of the pen shows the iconic image of the struggle between Holmes and Moriarty at the Reichenbach Falls. Back in 2008, an example from the worldwide limited edition of only 50 of this truly exceptional pen sold for \$12,500.00 in U.S. currency. Unfortunately they were all snatched up long before I was able to raise sufficient funds to purchase this gem. My bad luck!!!




Detail from Krone's Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Sherlock Holmes limited edition fountain pen

## 7. The Pleasures of the Pressureless Parker Duofold

Another writing implement book was brought by my fellow member and fountain pen enthusiast Elliott; it is *The Parker Duofold* by David Shepherd and Dan Zazove. Contained therein are numerous vintage magazine advertisements featuring celebrities extolling the virtues of their Duofolds, including Puccini, Joan Crawford, and Edgar Wallace. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle used a Parker Duofold to write some of his Sherlock Holmes adventures and the Parker pen company used his popularity quite successfully to promote and sell their product. Ads proclaimed to the public how Doyle "escaped interference to thought" by writing using his "pressureless" Parker Duofold.

**Special note from Susan and Esmeralda:** For a relaxing evening at home, treat yourself to a bag of Bad Monkey popcorn and a can of Friskies and enjoy the 1944 film classic *Laura*, in which the ad agency clerk played by Gene Tierney secures a pen endorsement from the celebrity columnist played by Clifton Webb, and Dana Andrews plays the detective who falls in love investigating the aftermath.





Author of  
**"Sherlock Holmes"**  
 escaped interference to thought  
 by writing this Pressureless way

The late Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of "Sherlock Holmes," wrote teams of manuscripts—used all sorts of pens. Came the day, as it has to 26 million others, when he discovered the pressureless-writing Parker Duofold. Taking it in hand, he wrote to his friend, Lord Malesherbes: "I have at last met my affinity in pen."

Yet you don't have to be an author to gain great aid from this Pen that lets you write without strain, and think without irritation.

Indeed, this Pressureless-writing Parker is in the hands of more clever thinkers and real doers than any other pen. For example: Parker won 9 out of 12 vocations in an independent census of pen owners, audited by Arthur Anderson & Co., the nationally known certified public accountants.

Go to the nearest pen counter and try Parker Pressureless Tostich. But the first thing to look for in trying, or in buying, is this name—"Geo. S. Parker—DUOFOLD"—on the barrel. That means 17.4% more ink capacity than average, and *Guarantee the genuine Duofold for Life.*

The Parker Pen Company, Jenneville, Wis.

Practical to make them all.  
 \$2.50 to \$5.  
 Other Parker Pens,  
 \$1.75 and \$1.50

**Parker**  
**Duofold**

PEN GUARANTEED FOR LIFE • 15 • 17 • 110

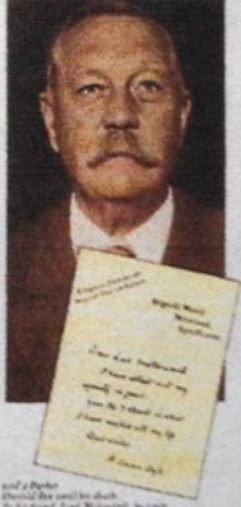
REMEMBER GIFTS AND PRIZES  
 10,000,000 Both from The World Above

An advanced pen sold widely by College Honor Societies indicated 17% more Parker in Colleges than any other pen.

As subconscious as breathing  
 when you merely direct the Pen  
**GUARANTEED for LIFE**

**THE SAME PEN TWO WAYS**  
 As a Parker Pen, converted for Desk  
 Only the Parker serves as two Pens in one with  
 one extra cost. Take from pocket, push down  
 flap, and you have a Desk Pen, or vice

Author of "Sherlock Holmes"  
**SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE**



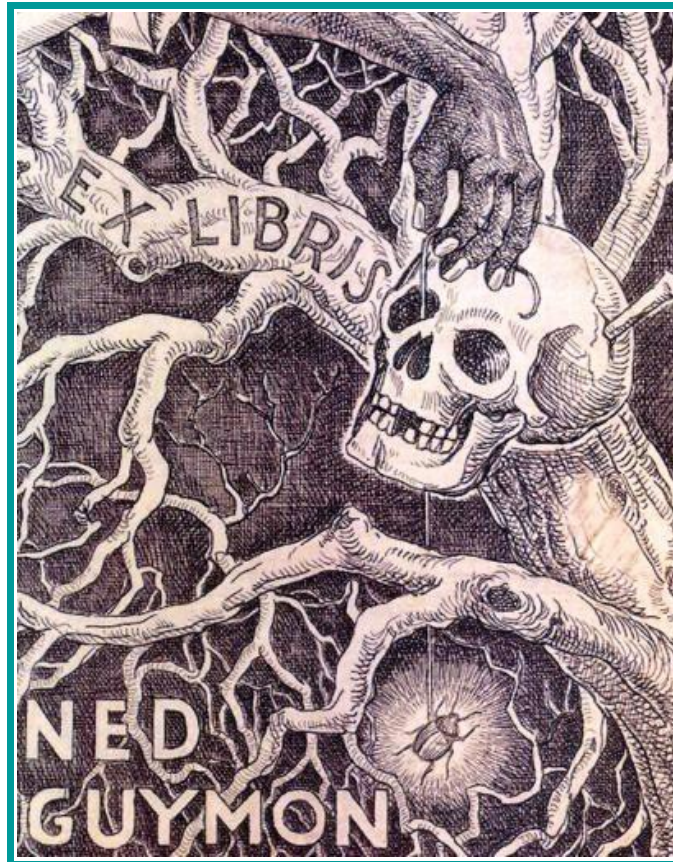
and a Parker  
 Duofold Pen used for death  
 by his friend Lord Malesherbes, in 1917  
 of 19. "I have at last met my affinity in pen  
 when I have met all my life  
 the same."

**8. Have You Hugged Your Tree Today?**

The Parker Pen Company originated in Jamesville, Wisconsin where, as it happens, our own Kristin went to university. She recalled for us how the town has a Sherlock Holmes society called, The Original Tree Worshipers of Rock County. <http://rocksherlockotw.blogspot.ca/>

**9. Wilfrid's Adventure at Occidental College**

Wilfrid, during one of his far-flung book fair jaunts to California, was conversing with a woman as she bought a first edition of *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*. A second woman present then mentioned that she worked at an institution which had an extensive and fine collection of all things Sherlockian, Occidental College, in its Ned Guymon collection. Trying to control his salivation, Wilfrid asked the lady if he might view the works. She graciously invited him to visit the college where he was awe-struck by one of the world's best, but least known, collections of Sherlock Holmes, along with other detective fiction published between 1740 to 1975. Multiple copies of dust jacketed first editions blew Wilfrid away and he will long dream of this encounter. <http://www.oxy.edu/events/whodunnit>



Occidental College Ned Guymon Collection Bookplate

### 10. Toast to Dr. Watson by Patrick, read by Wilfrid

Patrick cannot be here with us this evening and has done me the compliment of asking that I give his toast in his stead; remember, this is Patrick speaking:

I have been asked to prepare a toast for Doctor Watson, and I wish to begin with a quote, somewhat abridged, from the Bard himself...

Julius Caesar in an aside to Mark Antony in Act 1, Scene 2...

*...I fear him not; yet if my name were liable to fear, I do not know the man I should avoid so soon as that spare Cassius...*

*He is a great observer, and he looks quite through the deeds of men.*

*...Seldom he smiles; and smiles in such a sort as if he mocked himself, and scorned his spirit that could be moved to smile at anything. Such men...are...very dangerous.*

Now could that not be a description of Doctor Watson's view of Holmes...particularly the phrase, "He is a great observer, and he looks quite through the deeds of men."

Isn't that a definitive description of how Holmes is able to see in others what is not apparent to us? And could that be why Watson was the perfect person to be at the shoulder of Holmes in times of need?

### 11. Venito Adest !

New member Louise asked the origins of our Society motto, *Venatio Adest*. Wilfrid explained that as our co-founders back in 1979, he and David wanted our Society to have a suitable Latin motto. Wilfrid contacted fellow member Geoff Dowd who was then a master at Selwyn House school to ask their Latin master if he would give us a suitable translation of, "The game's afoot." He came up with *Venatio Adest* (lit. The Hunt Is On) which became our motto and has been part of our official logo on documents ever since.

## **12. Toast to *The Woman, Irene Adler* by Ron**

Ron gleaned his splendid toast to Irene Adler from the article about her featured on Wikipedia. While space limitations do not allow us to reproduce the entire toast here, we invite you to check out this excellent article online at this link: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irene\\_Adler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irene_Adler)

## **13. Development in a Long-Unsolved Mystery in the Air**

Chris regaled us once again with stories of real-life unsolved mysteries. Previously he delved into the disappearance of JonBenét Ramsey and how parents can be trapped into trying to save one child who has committed a terrible crime such as the murder of another child in the family. Parents are caught in the dilemma of trying to protect one child while justice is sought for the other who has been killed. Grave speculations have been raised publicly as to the culpability of JonBenét's brother in regard to her disappearance. It is still a mystery.

Tonight, concerning a different case, Chris brought before us news that searchers have found in the wilderness the disintegrating remnants of some of the money paid to the hijacker D.B. Cooper. You may recall the 1971 news story of Cooper's hijacking a plane and demanding \$200,000.00 in ransom before parachuting out of the plane into the unknown. He and the money had never been seen or heard of since, until now. This new evidence may lead to another mystery solved. Stay tuned for more!

## **14. On Recognizing Our Virtues Virtually**

David proposed that we consider recognizing individuals in our Society who, over the 38 years of our existence, have stepped up to the plate and accomplished great things, and has in mind a virtual, Bimetallic Question website Honour Role to pay tribute to our "doers". Candidates could be selected, perhaps by a committee, from our immediate memories and also from the archived official records of our activities. David feels the idea of a solid bronze plaque affixed to a wall (such as in the Westmount Library), tree, or slab of rock with the names of honoured members is not feasible due to the cost involved and the difficulty we have experienced in the past of finding a suitable location to accept it. This is at the early stages so there is a lot to consider but the consensus of all in attendance was that it is a worthy cause, and all members will be kept informed of developments in this initiative.

## **15. Solid Propositions**

On the topic of a "physical" Bimetallic Question commemorative plaque, the one created a little over a year ago to honour Patrick, and also the one we created in cooperation with the Reichenbach Irregulars, and had installed at the Reichenbach Falls in 1992 were both discussed. David asked for suggestions as to a public place where the idea of such a plaque would nowadays be accepted and its installation permitted. He wondered if the Toronto Public Library with its extensive Sherlock Holmes collection would have a place for it, and Wilfrid will look into this. Phil will inquire for us as well, at the Bibliothèque Nationale. Further suggestions were offered by Chris who proposed that either McGill's or Concordia's English Departments could be welcoming to such a physical tribute, or possibly an English private school such as Lower Canada College or The Priory.

## **16. Toast to Mrs. Hudson by Miyako**

This is my second opportunity to toast this fine lady, and last time I introduced you to a young 19 year-old Mrs. Hudson in a Japanese animated television adaption of the adventures. Of course the popular image of Mrs. Hudson among fans is a lady who's plump and old, like actress Irene Handl as an endearing Mrs. Hudson in *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes*. So, from 1881 to 1903, Watson shared lodgings with Holmes, except during the time of his marriage, and yet, Watson never described how she looked, in his chronicles. Why? We just don't know the answer. We don't even know her first name or her family background. In the Sherlock stories, villains came and went, as well as his clients. Times changed from Victorian to Edwardian to Georgian, until the end of the Canon. (The tone of the Canon and writing style also changed with time.) And yet, within the adventures, who is the most

stable and loving and reliable? You know the answer: Mrs. Hudson! She's indeed the true proprietress of 221B Baker Street. She can always be counted on, and Holmes and Watson relied upon her, because she offered continuity and familiarity. American anthropologist Margaret Mead once said, "Having someone wonder where you are when you don't come home at night is a very old human need." I'm almost certain that the boys of Baker Street appreciated her, and were happy to be part of the Baker Street lodgings family under her auspices for many years.

As you know, I like talking about food. Holmes says, "Her cuisine is a little limited but she has as good an idea of breakfast as a Scotch-woman." Maybe her menu wasn't like a great chef, but she always served a good breakfast for them to start a good day, and as a good Scotch-woman, I'm certain she would have served Scotch shortbread occasionally with the tea and coffee for her tenants. Here is a very simple recipe for Scotch shortbread from the Victorian era, if you are interested:

#### Ingredients

2 lbs. flour, 1 lb. butter, 1/4 lb. sugar, 1/2 ounce caraway seeds,  
1 oz. sweet almonds, and a few strips of candied orange peel.

#### Instructions

Beat the butter to a cream, gradually dredge in the flour, and add the sugar, caraway seeds, and sweet almonds, which should be blanched and cut into small pieces. Work the paste until it is quite smooth and divide it into six pieces. Put each cake on a separate piece of paper, roll the paste out into a square 1/4 of an inch thick, and pinch it upon all sides. Prick it well, and decorate with one or two strips of candied orange peel. Put the cakes into a good oven, and bake them for 25 to 30 minutes.

Voila! Have them with your tea or coffee.

I give you a toast to Mrs. Hudson for being such a good Scotch-woman!

### **17. Our Thanks Conveyed to Dan Fuchs**

Arlene Scher was asked to please convey the thanks of all present to Dan Fuchs for the generous number of photos and videos he took of our 2017 Sherlock Holmes Birthday Dinner (and many previous dinners) at the Atwater Club. Your efforts on our behalf are much appreciated, Dan!

### **18. Quiz on *The Adventure of the Naval Treaty***

**prepared by Carol Abramson and presented by Paul Billette**

Results:

1 <sup>st</sup> Raf	78/81
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wilfrid	69/81
3 <sup>rd</sup> Kristin	48/81

Comments on the adventure:

Elliott loved the use of actual historical events to make the story very relevant to Watson's readers. The reference to the Triple Alliance and the political intrigues of pre-World War I Europe certainly brought high tension to the story and characters. Watson and ACD were master storytellers in keeping us on the edge of our seats and keeping us guessing. Detective and mystery writers everywhere have much to be thankful to ACD for, in his crafting such fine adventures for us.

Miyako had fun writing her special reflections on the story for us [Please see the attachment accompanying the emailed edition of these minutes], just as Holmes had fun at Percy Phelps's expense when he uncovered the documents at breakfast. She, being a foodie, was inspired to delve into the history of curry .

What is somewhat unusual in this story is that we are introduced to someone from Watson's past, Percy Phelps; for if we except Stanton, then most of the past acquaintances are from Holmes's side.



## 19. Miyako's British Culture and Entertainment Report

Miyako once again brought us items of interest from Canada's unique publication, *Totally British* magazine, this time from the March and April 2017 issues.

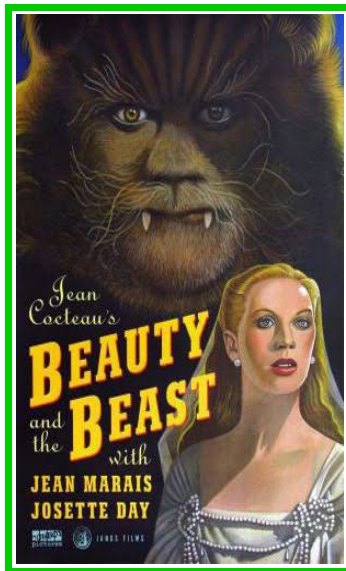
The March issue features the star of *Mr. Holmes*, Ian McKellen. From his humble childhood, losing his parents when he was young, to his enormous success as Gandalf in *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy, Sir Ian has portrayed countless characters. He has championed the rights of the homosexual community on the screen in the show *Vicious*, and in real life and has decided not to have his own traditional family or children. He is the owner of a pub in East London and now the voice of Cogsworth the clock in the animated feature, *Beauty and the Beast*. What a gifted actor!!

Conan Doyle's hometown of Edinburgh is to be the stage for *Trainspotting 2*, featuring *Elementary's* Jonny Lee Miller in this tale of youth culture and the drug scene in 1990s Scotland.

Finally, *Downton Abbey* fans can feast on the production of *Halcyon*, from *Downton* producer Chris Croucher. Set in the 1940s in London's high fashion hotel, the *Halcyon*, it recalls *Upstairs, Downstairs* as a drama, but with more World War II overtones.

The April issue of *Totally British* opens up with a review of the final season of *Ripper Street*. London of the 1890s, as well as being the world of Sherlock Holmes, is the world of the monstrous criminal, Jack the Ripper. Darkness and fear pervade the streets and alleys of the East End, as a serial killer is on the loose and corruption and cover-ups hinder the efforts of District Inspector Edmund Raid to bring this fiend to justice. Miyako wonders why Sherlock Holmes was never brought in to solve the cases and how he would have tackled the Whitechapel horror.

*Totally British's* April feature on *Beauty and the Beast* enchants and compels us all to go and see this new masterpiece from Disney. Emma Watson in her voice role as Belle and Dan Stevens voicing the Beast have their fine performances wrapped in memorable music, dazzling artwork, and fantastically coloured characters, costumes and sets in this treat for all ages. Last but not least to mention, the supporting cast of actors are perfect fits in their roles.



Miyako was partial to the 1945 version, *La Belle et la Bête* directed by Jean Cocteau, as she recalled that the rich visual imagery and lyrical expressive quality of this film were very popular in Japan.

Finally for all of our cat fanciers, she offered a book review of *Felix: The Railway Cat* by Kate Moore. Here Felix arrives as an adorable kitten, subsequently winning over staff and passengers, in this success story of treats, pigeons, and some quite extensive napping. Hearts of felines and their human friends will be warmed here, and meanwhile all railway enthusiasts will also be pleased to reminisce about the lovely era gone by when "station moggies" were not uncommon. Enjoy this purr-fect read! Many thanks to Miyako for this roundup of great tidbits that we might well be unaware of otherwise !!

## 20. Florin and Veteran Sovereign Pinch-Hitting for Raf

Raf announced that he will not be able to be with us at our next meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. However, it has come to our soft and velvety ears that Paul has agreed to step in and most ably take care of the Sovereigning duties for the evening. Thanks to you in advance, Paul !

## 21. Toast to the Society by David Dowse

I look back on the 38 years of our existence and see some dramatic changes to our society as a whole. The cell phone - iPad - Internet revolution brought with it an explosion of access to information, both real and false. It seems to me that this dramatic change also implanted the seeds of a decline in the truly face to face personal communications which we were so used to, and which enabled Holmes, in his day, to "read" his clients. Holmes had the pains takingly put together scrapbooks, his and brother Mycroft's encyclopaedic memories and "easy" access to the telegraph and later telephone. To me, today we no longer have need of a keen memory, we just type in a key word and search.

All around us the information and technological changes swirl, so like the London fog of old. Yet, the essence of the Bimetallic Question has remained intact: Our raison d'être, "to boldly go where no man has gone before" - oops that is something completely different - to pay homage to the world's first and greatest consulting detective, his city, his times and way of life. For us, it is always 1895.

I give you the Bimetallic Question.

## 22. Close of the Meeting

Raf adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Our dear friends, you would confer a great favour upon us by joining us at the next meeting of "THE BIMETALLIC QUESTION" which is being held on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

Our distinguished Sovereign/President Raf Jans can be contacted at: [raf.jans@hec.ca](mailto:raf.jans@hec.ca)

Have you detected any errors or omissions in these minutes? If so, please do not hesitate to report same to our Co-Founder and Scribe/Recording Secretary David Dowse at: [davidowse@hotmail.com](mailto:davidowse@hotmail.com)

New Bimetallic Question members are always welcome. Why not consider bringing a friend to our next meeting to share an amazing evening with us! Membership information details can be obtained from our Florin/Treasurer Paul Billette at: [pabillette@hotmail.fr](mailto:pabillette@hotmail.fr) or at [www.bimetallicquestion.org](http://www.bimetallicquestion.org)

A tip of the deerstalker hat to our Half-Crown/Sergeant-at-Arms Hudson, Chris Herten-Greaven, for making members and guests feel most welcome at all our meetings. [cwhertengreaven@videotron.ca](mailto:cwhertengreaven@videotron.ca)

Our Half-Sovereign/Secretary-Webmaster and Tin Box/Archivist duties are in the delicate but capable hands/paws of Susan Fitch and Esmeralda Fitch. Reach them both at: [susanruthfitch@yahoo.ca](mailto:susanruthfitch@yahoo.ca)

Editorial note from Susan and Esmeralda: As an expression of the congenial quality of Society meetings, members and guests are identified using their full names on the introductory page of these minutes, and thereafter (with rare exception) by first names only. But our toasters can rest assured that the full copyright of their original writing is secure in the event of requests for reprinting by any other entities.

Bimetallic Question minutes are typeset in Baskerville Old Face and Arial.

