

The Compleat Collector

FINE PRINTING: CONDUCTED BY CARL PURINGTON ROLLINS

*In alternate weeks this Department is devoted to Rare Books
and is conducted by John T. Winterich*

Some Limited Issues

GEORGE BORROW: *Lavengro*. Introduction by Hugh Walpole. Illustrated by Barnett Freedman. New York: The Limited Editions Club. 1936.

THOREAU: *Walden*. Introduction by H. S. Canby. Illustrated by Edward Steichen. The same.

E. E. HALE: *The Man Without a Country*. Introduction by Carl Van Doren. Illustrated by E. A. Wilson. The same.

IN this group of three issues of the Limited Editions Club's books, there are two classics of literature, and one dubious classic of sentimentality. To dispose of the last, first, Hale's little story, once, at least, known to everybody, was a piece of polemical literature written during the heat of the Civil War. As a story it is preposterous, as polemics it neatly balances Dr. Johnson's much shorter story: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." This is a thin book, the pictures being stencilled after Mr. Wilson's drawings in color. The leather binding—well, the effort to make a book out of this short story is a bit too evident throughout.

But when we come to the other two titles, we find something to be kind to. Borrow and Thoreau: here are two names to conjure with, and the Curwen Press and the Merrymount Press, Freedman and Steichen, have conjured two good books. "Lavengro" is in two small octavo volumes, printed in a sharp, somewhat mannered, but very agreeable roman type, on pleasant paper, with conventional running heads and all the gadgets of a well-made book. The books are easily handled and easily read. Mr. Freedman's pictures—the lithographs in color—are also a bit too mannered to be good illustrations for the text, but they are pleasant in color and when he tries to tell a story he succeeds. The black-and-white pictures do not seem to me to add much to the book. The binding is a simple cloth one, and altogether the volumes are fit to put on the shelf of books reserved for reading.

"Walden" is a better printed book than the foregoing, even. There is a typographic finality about it characteristic of the best Merrymount printing, though its quarto shape is not the handiest form for reading. There is a neat economy of design about it which would have satisfied the pencil-maker, though I suspect he would have scorned the photographic illustrations as substitutes for first-hand observation. Yet nothing could have been better for the purpose of illustration. What could one do with "Walden"? If "Walden" is a "study of values realized in a Utopian life," as Mr. Canby says, only a transcendental imagination could illustrate it in picture: hence Mr. Steichen's superb photographs of Walden

Pond (which is still much as it was in Thoreau's day) and its fauna and flora, is a compromise too good to be called such. I doubt if a more satisfactory edition of "Walden" has appeared.

Curbing the Press

GOVERNMENT AND THE PRESS 1695-1763. By Laurence Hanson. London: Oxford Books on Bibliography. 1936.

If the story of the Imp and the Bottle needed a European locale it could be furnished by Mainz on the Rhine. John Gutenberg and his lead types started an innovation which has plagued Authority ever since. Church and State, both beneficiaries of printing, have vainly tried to curb the free use of the art, and while they have succeeded for the moment (even to burning the printer as well as his books) they have always failed in the long run. Mr. Hanson's book, while it covers a very short period of sixty-eight years in one country, reveals the futility of suppression of ideas in the England of the eighteenth century. The melancholy aspect of history stands out in the endeavor of the English Parliament, which had fought long and nobly for its own rights, to retain its own privileges in the matter of reports of proceedings. More ominous, the rise of Government publi-

cations—the *London Gazette*, Defoe's *Review*, Swift's *Examiner*, and Fielding's *Jacobites Journal*—is recorded: they were not journals of information so much as propaganda sheets. The book is an original contribution of great value, as it is based on sources hitherto unpublished. It appears in the splendid format of the Oxford Bibliographical Series, with a frontispiece and an index.

Miscellaneous

WALPOLEANA. Mr. Lewis's continuation of Horace Walpole's "Miscellaneous Antiquities" is enriched by a charming printing of an unpublished note by Walpole on "The Duchess of Portland's Museum," now issued for members of the Grolier Club and for Mr. Lewis's friends.

DR. FRANKLIN AND MR. JAY. A hitherto unpublished MS. of John J. Jay, written in Paris in 1783-84, has been published in limited edition by the Three Monks Press, New Haven. The format is attractive in grey paper and paper binding.

INJUNS! "Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail" is a further contribution by the Grabhorn Press to the Rare Americana Series. The printing is, as always, good, though the title-page is not so good. There are woodcuts printed in color, a map, and an introduction by Carl I. Wheat.

MORE ABOUT BR. George Hornby has issued from The Domesday Press, Providence, R. I., a carefully printed edition of an article which Paul Bennett wrote for the *Linotype News* in 1934. Bennett is an excellent reporter, and this edition of his interview with Rogers will be prized for its good and permanent form.

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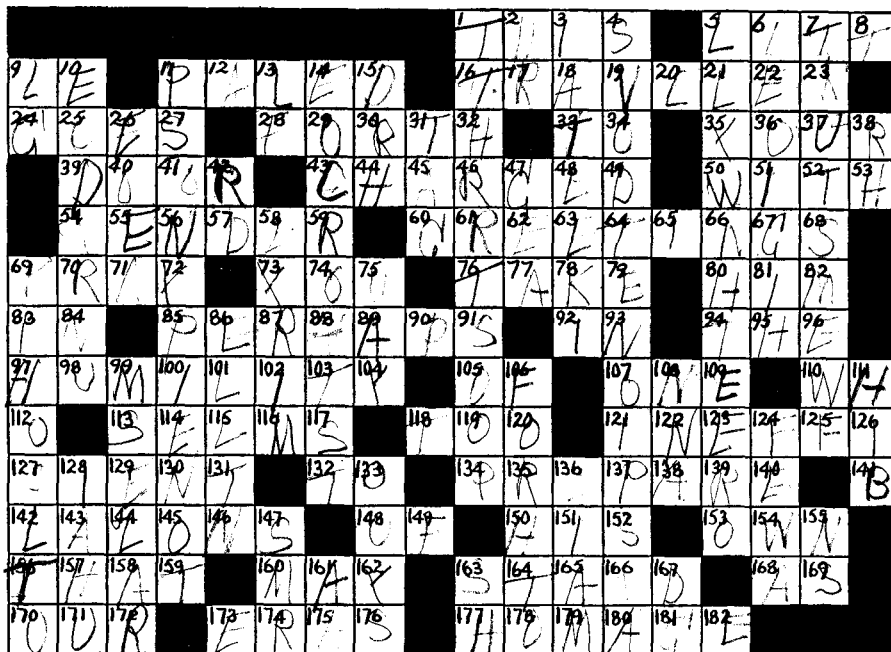
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Double-Crostics: No. 143

By ELIZABETH S. KINGSLEY



DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle, you must guess twenty-six words, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. The letters in each word to be guessed are numbered. These numbers appear under the dashes in the column headed WORDS. There is a dash for each letter in the required word. When you have guessed a word, fill it in on the dashes; then write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square on the puzzle diagram. When the squares are all filled in you will find (by reading from left to right) a quotation from a famous author. Reading up and down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate ends of words; therefore words do not necessarily end at the right side of the diagram.

When the column headed WORDS is filled in, the initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Authority for spelling and definitions is Webster's International Dictionary.

In Double-Crostic No. 143, the first two sentences in the completed diagram (including spaces from 1 to 84) are to be read in quotation marks.

The solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 18 of this issue.

DEFINITIONS

- I. Flattened; made level.
- II. Resemblance due to common ancestry.
- III. Any animal whose legs are used as oars.
- IV. Gilbert and Sullivan Opera.
- V. American novelist (1881—).
- VI. Rises to a great height.
- VII. A State of the U. S.
- VIII. Satiric paper by George William Curtis.
- IX. Progress.
- X. Heroine of one of the Idylls (Tennyson).
- XI. Almost indispensable (comp.).
- XII. Condition of living on only one kind of food.
- XIII. On the extreme external part.
- XIV. Rustum's horse (Matthew Arnold).
- XV. Subject of Pulitzer prize biography by D. S. Freeman.
- XVI. Epoch.
- XVII. Emperor of Japan (1912-1926).
- XVIII. Apostle of the Indies (1506-1552).
- XIX. A President of the U. S.
- XX. Consequences.
- XXI. State of bending with difficulty.
- XXII. Character in the "Beggar Maid" (Tennyson).
- XXIII. Goddess of infatuation (Gr.).
- XXIV. 16th century collars.
- XXV. Composer of "Lucia di Lammermoor."
- XXVI. To worry; fret (Colloq.).

WORDS

127 41 82 69 21 168 84 45 94 58
 95 74 174 170 13 88 72 142 35
 38 96 160 151 85 79 49
 83 119 101 71 166 64 157 22
 152 52 46 92 141 5 128 155 60
 118 29 154 129 135 176
 148 23 62 181 40 130
 137 105 159 100 11 177 18 61
 97 123 180 57 50 12 104
 109 156 33 89 42 140
 172 121 24 32 76 44 138 146 39
 116 34 93 112 90 53 165 67 73
 120 75 7 20 87 179 25 68 103
 30 171 78 91 150
 9 48 136
 115 17 143
 162 36 27 111 6 80 126 164 107
 173 77 19 51 26 15
 99 145 122 59 178 63
 161 106 132 86 70 81 66 47 4
 169 1 65 28 125 56 14 113 147
 43 133 134 2 55 16 37 175
 139 98 124 149 163
 167 153 108 102 144 10 131 31 3
 117 54 182 110

The New Books

(Continued from page 19)

America will follow their example. As literary embroidery her book possesses unusual merit, and with Mme. St. Hélier's "Bois Mort" and the works of Robert Francis may be said to constitute a new school of French fiction, seeking to apply some of Mme. de Ségur's technique to grown-up subjects. Certainly it is not a novel for general public consumption, but a throwback to the Ancien Régime, lathered with charm, and sometimes definitely boring.

T. P., JR.

Juvenile

THE KEYS TO THE CITY. By Lavinia Davis. Scribner's. 1936. \$2.

Frankie Stanton, compelled through depletion of the family budget, to spend a summer in New York, through the aid of Betty (a little German girl from Munich) shows her cousin from Jamaica, Forsythe Reynolds, various parts of New York City. They visit the German section in Yorkville, the Harlem Market, the U. S. Volunteer Life Saving Station, take a sick kitten to the S. P. C. A., go boating in Central Park, visit an ex-tug-boat in the Harlem River, and so on. The end-papers of the book, which are delightful maps, will give you an idea of its contents. There are discovery of a plot and adventure underground in the matter of Peter Carroll's antique shop. The story gives one an idea of the many fascinating aspects of New York that the average person misses. A good book for youngsters who wish to know more of their own city.

Brief Mention

This year's collection of "O. Henry Memorial Award Prize Stories of 1936" edited by Harry Hansen (Doubleday, Doran, \$2.50) contains stories by James Gould Cozzens, William March, Walter D. Edmonds, William Faulkner, and others, nineteen in all. Mr. Cozzens won the first prize this year, Sally Benson the second. * * * Carl Van Doren has edited "The Borzoi Reader" (Knopf, \$3.50), an omnibus of Borzoi books, essays and poetry, including Willa Cather's "My Mortal Enemy," Elinor Wylie's "The Venetian Glass Nephew," Thomas Mann's "Death in Venice," and contributions by Clarence Day, Joseph Hergesheimer, George Jean Nathan, H. L. Mencken, Max Beerbohm, and many others. It runs over a thousand pages. * * * Another omnibus is "The Theatre Guild Anthology" (Random House, \$3.50), containing the complete texts of fourteen Theatre Guild productions, from "John Ferguson" to "Rain from Heaven," and including "Saint Joan" and "Strange Interlude." * * * A disappointing little collection is "365 Days," edited by Kay Boyle, Laurence Vail, and Nina Conarain (Harcourt, Brace, \$3). This book consists of short short stories, one for each day of the year 1934, by over a hundred writers. Kay Boyle did most of the work and, although there are a few good pieces here and there, the general effect is coterie art at its worst.