

the Phoenix Nest

CARVING FROM A CHINESE TEMPLE

(Bought in Chinatown)

THE WESTERN world receded
when I paid,
Put it beneath my arm and
walked away—
Bearing the sum and substance of
Cathay,
Without a banner, without a caval-
cade.

The twilight opened like a lotus
flower,
And from it poured the scent of
sandalwood,
The dragon's flame, and Yangtze yel-
low flood.
Within the ambit of that dusky hour,
The sound of temple bells came faintly
pealing.
The coolies paced with lacquered
palanquins,
And from their cushions rose old man-
darins
With ivory faces calm and unre-
vealing.

What magic from this dusty frag-
ment springs?
For what atonement was the incense
burned
That penetrated this and heavenward
yearned
In supplicating fragrance that still
clings?

The bartered dragon's anaglyphic gaze
N answer and no evidence betrays.

IRENE WILDE.

* * *

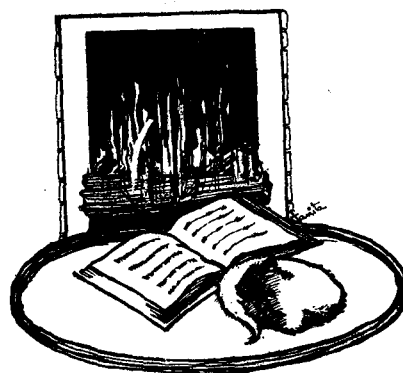
Notes on a few books: Some of the wisest and most humane writing is in Rebecca West's "The Meaning of Treason." What excellent writing it is! . . . Two books about local things that may not come your way are (1) "Willamette Landings" by Howard McKinley Corning, the notable Oregon poet. This is prose and tells of the ghost towns of one of the few American rivers of any volume flowing north. Binfords & Mort are the publishers, Graphic Arts Building, 108 N. W. Ninth Avenue, Portland 9, Ore. For lovers of valuable Americana. (2) The Georgia Historical Society presents in one volume (write them at Savannah, Ga.) the series "Savannah River Plantations," which began in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly* in 1938. Mary Granger, the distinguished writer, was editor of these monographs on the Savannah Writers' Project. Here again are settlements on an ancient river, source material for

the novelist and historian. . . . Rudolph Roesler de Villiers, of Park Avenue, this city, has had privately printed several hundred copies of a book called "Robert A. R. de Villiers: Christmas Eve, 1927: October 20th, 1944," as a memorial to his son. It contains primarily the writings of a youth who died before he was seventeen. He attended the Millbrook School, N. Y., where he would have been editor-in-chief of his school paper and chairman of the library committee. He had been in the West, and wrote when not yet fourteen an excellent paper on "The Sioux Nation"; he had spent some of his boyhood in Switzerland, and his essay on it, called "Hitler's Paradox," written when almost sixteen and a half, is unusually well informed for a youngster. There are many prose fragments, verses, pictures of the boy, who was apparently gay, charming, and affectionate. He and his parents were very close. It is sad to look through such a memorial and to think of the possible loss to the future; but his parents retain a golden memory. . . . "Poems of the Covered Wagons" is published by the Pacific Publishing House, illustrated by old drawings. It is like an old scrapbook of good, bad, and indifferent verse, but the feel of the early West is in it. The publishers' address is 638 Morgan Bldg., Portland 5, Ore.

* * *

MRS. WHITE

Young Mrs. White, a fond mother and wife,
Wants to create more than all else
in life.
Real masterpieces of humor and fic-
tion
Float through her brain-cells, adorned
with good diction.
Yet, as she hastens to put them on
paper,
Junior, aged one, needs a change of
di-à-per.



Once at the typewriter, grim visions
cramp her,
Visions of laundry that's still in the
hamper,
Buttons unsewed; an unvacuumed
rug;
Gripping more tight than a fictional
hug.
Washing the dishes is pleasure most
fleeing
Yet must be done if the family's
eating.
Lack of housekeeping starts spouses
complaining;
All those rejection-slips need some
explaining.
Still Mrs. White's a creator, with
urges
Not to be downed, whatsoever the
purges.
Thus, in a twelvemonth—no if and
no maybe!—
Young Mrs. White will give birth to
a baby.

JOSEPHINE MILLS REIS.

* * *

LINES TO BE WRITTEN ON THE BACK OF A REJECTION SLIP

Say not the struggle naught availeth,
Some gain is certain to accrue—
Those precious manuscripts you
maileth
Increase the postal revenue.

STEPHEN SCHLITZER.

* * *

The late Robert Neilson Stephens, an American writer of plays and of historical romances, looks, in the only picture I have seen of him, a little like Hamilton Fish Armstrong, one of our experts on foreign affairs. At the turn of the century his "A Gentleman Player" and "Captain Ravenshaw" were two novels much in demand. L. C. Page & Co. of Boston, Mass., were his publishers. When he was a boy he had lived on the Juniata River in Pennsylvania. In our time, Malcolm Cowley, the poet and critic, has called a volume of his poems "Blue Juniata" after the old song from that part of the country. Back in 1893, as well as agenting for some producers, Stephens wrote "melo's," one being "On the Bowery," in which the famous bridge-jumping Steve Brodie appeared. But three years later Stephens's play "An Enemy of the King" (laid in the days of Valois and Guise and the scandalous Henri III, as well as the valorous Henry of Navarre) had for its chief actor no less a "lead" than E. H. Sothern. Then the author turned it into the novel that began his success. An American historical novel of his, turned back into a play, later had in it William Faversham, the greatest matinée idol of his time. Stephens

defended his type of romantic fiction against the contemporary disparagement of William Dean Howells, in the preface to "Captain Ravenshaw." I am glad to possess both that and "A Gentleman Player." I hope to find more of Stephens in my peregrinations.

It is interesting to see the historical novel again in vogue, just as it was in the late Nineties and early 1900's. Taste in America hasn't changed so much after all. We have had our generation of harsh hard naturalism, and all the smoking entrails of life spilled out before us; we have recently even had a wave of outspoken books about sex and alcoholism (one of the best of the latter—warranted to prevent anyone from taking a drink for at least twenty-four hours—is "The Story of Mrs. Murphy"), but Tom Costain and the rest now take us back to the days of Stanley J. Weyman ("Under the Red Robe," "The House of the Wolf," etc.), F. Marion Crawford ("In the Palace of the King," etc.), Justin Huntly McCarthy ("If I Were King," "The Gorgeous Borgia," etc.) and many others. One of the best writers of such yarns was Marjorie Bowen, who afterward split her personality into four or five pen-names, the most familiar of which is "George Preedy"—I remember a month in London when I was one of several American scouts trying desperately to find out who "George Preedy" really was!—and started as a girl with "The Viper of Milan," (I have it!) brought out by S. S. McClure. In collecting such old "tushery," I have, incidentally, acquired a rather rare series of highwayman stories by H. B. Marriott Watson, called "Galloping Dick," as well as his very good "The Rebel," featuring the rising at Taunton, prior to the Duke of Monmouth's; and a curiosity called "Valentino" by the late William Waldorf Astor (Borgia again—of never-ending fascination!). W. W. Astor was grandson to the first John Jacob. He tried unsuccessfully to get into Congress but was our minister to Italy under President Arthur. He wrote, as well as "Valentino," "Sforza: A Story of Milan," and "Pharaoh's Daughter and Others." He removed to England, having competently proved that a multimillionaire can't write novels. There he became Baron Astor of Hever Castle, and later a viscount. Lady Astor is his daughter-in-law. Then "don't you remember sweet—" Amélie Rives Troubetskoy, the Virginian novelist who first married a Chanler — she wrote plays and poetry as well as novels, and I liked best of all her books her blank verse drama, "Augustine the Man." But I am now getting a little off the beam, and will softly retire.

WILLIAM ROSE BENÉT.

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(Continued from page 33)

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WANT TO DISCUSS THE GREAT BOOKS in weekly seminars at Town Hall, 125 West 43 St., N.Y.C. Phone for booklist—Murray Hill 7-0120.

WIDOW, 37, unencumbered, seeks sunny climate, permanent residence position (near Cosmopolitan City) reasonable salary. Excellent secretary-stenographer-companion, writing flair, experienced social service, theatre, radio, resort hotel. Hobbies: handicraft, kids, new ideas. Box 766-X.

INTERESTS diversified, metropolitan, progressive—(2) intelligent, non-sophisticate, would write individually to sincere gentleman of high standards. Box 691-X.

THIS GAY GIRL, maturish, believes life can be fun! Any gay kindred spirits agree? Box 767-X.

SPECTATOR—Since 1828 one of Great Britain's foremost weekly journals of opinion. Independent in ownership and outlook, and indispensable to watchers of world affairs. Per year, \$7.50, ordinary mail. By air express, overnight delivery, \$14. For specimen copy, free, write British Publications, Inc., 150 East 35 St., N.Y.C. 16.

VIVACIOUS GIRL desires congenial correspondence gentleman interested: music, theater, literature. Box 755-X.

REFINED LADY will exchange room and board for five hours child-sitting daily. References. Box 756-X.

PERSONALS

URBAN MALE would like to correspond with female who likes music and art in general. Box 757-X.

MATURE, educated woman, many interests, snow-bound, desires mature, male correspondence. Box 758-X.

LONELY GENTLEMAN, artist, would like to correspond with interesting lady. Box 759-X.

ARE THE FASHIONS OF YESTERYEAR COMING BACK? See for yourself in the pages of Godey's and Peterson's Magazines, beautifully-colored, many figured fashion plates 1850's, 1860's, contemporary illustrations; unique period reading; per volumes \$18.00; sample issue with colored plate \$2.50. Send for free list of costume books. Send list of your book wants in costumes or other subjects. Box 322-W.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO: Simple, informal atmosphere for vacation, creative work, convalescing in sunshine of New Mexico. \$40 to \$55 a week. Cool summers, sunny winters. Faith Wait, Route 1.

DISCOVER THE RARE APPETIZING SECRET of selected whole grain water ground by age-old millstone method. All of the natural minerals and vitamins are retained for healthful delicate flavor, texture, and richness. Make delicious pancakes, muffins, waffles, etc. Send \$1.00 for special introductory offer of 5 pounds Whole Wheat Flour, postpaid. The Great Valley Mills, RFD 5, Ivyland, Pa.

COUNTRY HOME FOR COUPLE, convalescent, or anyone wishing quiet. Excellent food. Connecticut River Valley, near mountain resorts. Mrs. M. C. Bernes, Monroe, N. H.

YOU CAN RE-LIVE THE CIVIL WAR in the pages of "Photographic History of the Civil War" by Brady and Miller, in actual photograph and text, 10 huge volumes for \$59.75; or Harper's Weekly, 1861-65, 5 years, over 250 issues, profusely illustrated, \$77.50 or the New York Tribune, 20 immense volumes, 1861-65, over 2000 daily issues, \$675; add volumes of Photographic History as above, \$7.50 each; add volumes of Harper's Weekly, \$17.50, single issues, \$1.50; add volumes N. Y. Tribune, \$37.50; single issues \$2.75. Box 326-W.

GENTLEMAN many miles from the legitimate theatre would correspond with other theatre addicts. Box 800-X.

MALE, cultured, sense of humor, disgusted with materialism, wriggling in cul-de-sac, invites female correspondence. Box 801-X.

UNDERSTANDING FEMALE, gay-spirited, intellectual interests, admires Wallace, welcomes correspondence from mature males. Box 802-X.

WRITER REQUIRES USE OF ROOM in New York 9 AM to 5 PM daily. Quiet, privacy, good light essential. Will pay reasonable weekly rate. Box 903-X.

SPRING IN BRUSSELS. Distinguished lady accepts paying guests in her charming home. Excellent cuisine, English spoken. Sightseeing. References exchanged. N.Y.C. TRafalgar 4-1865, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM.

RESOLVED: TO PLAY THAT PIANO AGAIN. You can do it. "Brush-Up", a piano refresher course planned by a Master of Music, teaches you how. Ten lessons. Ten weeks. Ten dollars. Forjedor Publishing Co., Box 103, College Park Station, Detroit 21, Michigan.

"TO SLEEP: Perchance to dream: Ay, there's the rub:" You were an optimist Bill Shakespeare. No radios, no honking auto horns and other modern sleep preventives in your time. Well, we do sleep and dream when using "Flents Anti-Noise Ear Stopples"—Soothers for Snoozers, on the market since 1927. Trial box 25c. Flents Products Co., Inc., Dept. SR-18, 103 Park Ave., N.Y.C. 17.

SINGLE, educated man, 24, wants position tutor companion, chauffeur, bodyguard. Box 904-X.

MATURE YOUNG MALE of many interests and interesting occupation, desires stimulating provocative correspondence with female of kindred spirit, equipped with wit and humor. Box 905-X.

WOMAN, mature judgement, good background, versatile, seeks interesting business opportunity. Box 906-X.

WHALING. Novelist seeking new material on American whalers, ashore and afloat. Log-books, diaries, letters, old newspaper clipping, personal reminiscences welcomed. Box 214-X.

SUPPLEMENT YOUR CULTURAL EDUCATION. Private instruction in piano and the essentials of music. Specialized methods for adult beginners. Juilliard trained. Lawrence Gorman, 552 Riverside Drive, N.Y.C. Riverside 9-7079.

PERSONALS

COMPOSER, very shy, extraordinarily talented; wants correspondence with shy young woman, any background, any subject. Box 907-X.

SINCERE, progressive, philosophical, young man of diverse interests desires somewhat similar feminine correspondent. Box 908-X.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR SALE, N.Y.C. Artistically furnished 4½ room, entire floor, Riverside Drive apartment. Private terrace, beautiful panoramic view of Hudson. Capehart deluxe, spinnet piano. Furniture must be purchased, \$8000. Required subject to O.H.E. approval. Box 909-X.

SIX ANTIQUE MUSIC BOX MELODIES. \$2. Custom Recordings, Box 1047, Hartford, Conn.

ATTRACTIVE WOMAN would like position where her five languages would be useful. Receptionist, interpreter, companion, etc. Box 909-X.

CALLING ALL VEGETARIANS! Also those wishing to follow in dietetic and ethical footsteps of Plato, Wagner, Voltaire, Thoreau, Gandhi, Shaw, Tolstoy, Aristotle. Free details. Box 220-X.

STOP! My pen and I, masculine welcome you. Abstract thinker. Box 910-X.

FOR VALENTINE or that special gift send a whole fruit loaf. A delicious and unusual confection made entirely of whole fruits and pecans. \$1.70 per pound plus postage in 1, 1½ or 2 lb. sizes. Speciality House, Frankfort, Ky.

YOUNG BOY, a model and an advanced musician desires position as companion. Box 910-X.

A JOB-GETTING RESUME is as important as ability. Send me your experience data to re-style. \$15. Write Matilda Rogers, Job Resume Specialist, 240 West 73 St., N.Y.C. 23.

NEW ENGLAND MEN'S COLLEGE seeks cultured man or woman with college background, 30-40, as assistant registrar and office manager, beginning March 1. \$2400-\$2800. Write fully enclosing non-returnable photograph. Box 795-X.

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS WOMAN desires 1½ room apartment near her 57th Street office. Furnished-unfurnished. Box 796-X.

FEMALE ARTIST will share comfortable studio apartment for working purposes with artist, architect, writer or business person. Man or woman. N.Y.C. TRafalgar 7-1216.

GENTLEMAN, cultured, lonesome, about to retire, wishes correspondence with woman, faced with same problem. Box 797-X.

SWAP NECKTIES! (Satisfied swappers everywhere). Mail us one-to-six ties you're sick of. You'll receive pronto same number of handsomely cleaned different ties we got the same way. Then you pay mailman \$1 plus postage. Far-away store labels wow demoiselles! Tieswap, Box 547, Wilmington, Del.

CONSULT OUR GROUP OF EUROPEAN TRANSLATIONS, literary and scientific research and manuscript typing. American Committee for Emigré Scholars, Writers and Artists, 66 Fifth Avenue, N.Y.C. GR 7-8464, ext. 6.

TWO GIRLS with college education, job experience and drivers' licenses desire to work their way from East to West Coast. Anyone any suggestions on how. Box 798-X.

RELIABLE YOUNG MAN going Italy, France, April will execute business or personal commissions. Speaks both languages. Box 799-X.

IF YOU WANT TO WEAN Junior away from those radio shocker-serials, buy him a volume of St. Nicholas magazine, perfect juvenile periodical of yesterday; re-live your own youth; \$7.50 per bound volume; sample issue \$2.00. Box 807-W.

IF YOU MISSED "The 'Little Men' of Literature" by Ben Lucien Burman, in the January 17 issue of SRL, you missed the finest of a series of articles diagnosing the literary sickness of the time. Send 15c in coin or stamps for each copy you want, for yourself and your friends. The Saturday Review, Readers' Service Division, 25 West 45 St., N.Y.C. 19.

ARE YOU A DEVOTEE OF THE THEATRE? We have early issues of Theatre Magazines, 1900-1935, with rare portraits of artists, play-scenes, reviews, etc. Single issues, \$2.50; 5 issues \$10; 10 issues, \$17.50 Box 813-W.

SURPRISE YOUR FRIENDS with ever-new and novel dishes. Send for our catalogue of old cook-books listing hundreds, all periods. Box 808-W.

WRITER, MALE requires use of apartment (East 60's-90's) in New York 9 AM to 6 PM daily. Quiet, privacy, good light essential. Will pay reasonable weekly rate. Sacramento 2-7254, evenings.

DOUBLE-CROSTIC NO. 723

Reg. U. S. Patent Office
By Elizabeth S. Kingsley

- DEFINITIONS**
- A. U. S. state name, meaning "red people" in Choctaw.
- B. Right of pre-emption (Moslem Law).
- C. English statesman, 1858-1923; prime minister, 1922-23 (full name).
- D. Act of molting or shedding an outer cuticular layer (Zool.).
- E. A situation in which one is hopelessly doomed.
- F. Comedy by Aristophanes, extant (B.C. 422; 2 wds.).
- G. Indicative of strength and vigor; as of the emotions (Psychol.).
- H. Secretly; as applied to cardinals appointed by the Pope but not in consistory (It.; 2 wds.).
- I. Goddess of fortune (Gr. Relig.).
- J. Edible tubers, so-called by the Indians of Oregon.
- K. Volcanic peak on Yellowstone River, Montana, 10,969 ft.
- L. Short editorial paragraph in a periodical (Eng.).

| WORDS |
|--------------------------------------|
| 180 58 83 17 90 27 172 143 |
| 8 52 171 115 10 25 |
| 138 24 135 7 76 142 36 118 |
| 111 163 70 87 5 9 63 |
| 35 105 51 97 158 137 18 |
| 121 133 22 12 173 183 157 104 |
| 102 23 110 13 165 43 85 |
| 95 33 176 71 149 161 168 |
| 72 89 16 65 145 |
| 169 40 141 107 109 69 |
| 114 28 45 31 153 159 124 108 |
| 139 15 154 146 175 42 125 131 106 79 |

| DEFINITIONS | WORDS |
|---|--|
| M. To thrash; chide roughly (slang). | 37 112 92 82 29 156 117 140 |
| N. Current American journalist and short-story writer ("Farewell to Sport," 1938.). | 166 62 86 2 93 144 56 |
| O. Strong, vigorous reproof or warning (2 wds.). | 39 98 181 55 77 132 6 |
| P. Cambridge home of James Russell Lowell. | 151 94 68 61 177 4 78 |
| Q. Shire of Burns's birthplace. | 47 122 26 |
| R. Mentally high-strung or strained. | 178 119 46 54 134 |
| S. Automatic in manner or procedure. | 88 34 41 179 75 30 130 155 19 164 57 |
| T. Sea, inlet of the Pacific west of Kuril Islands. | 123 129 167 99 170 59 182 |
| U. Hypostatization. | 14 53 103 116 11 160 101 127 49 73 148 |
| V. One of the chief islands of the Marquesas (Taiohae, its capital). | 50 66 174 81 150 60 21 96 |
| W. Marked by intolerance of delay. | 20 44 74 1 136 162 32 100 64 |
| X. Belief of some Mexican and C. A. Indians that tutelary spirits reside in animals or birds. | 120 128 113 91 126 48 84 67 3 |
| Y. A person of boorish manners (creation of Gelett Burgess). | 152 38 147 80 |

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-odd 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. The key letters in the squares are for convenience, indicating to which word in the definitions each letter in the diagram belongs. When you have guessed a word, fill it in on the dashes; then write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square of 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. Read up and down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate ends of words; 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 New International Dictionary (second edition).

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | 1 W | 2 N | 3 X | 4 P | 5 D | 6 O | | | 7 C | 8 B | | | 9 D | 10 B | | | |
| 11 U | | | 12 F | 13 G | 14 U | 15 L | | | 16 I | 17 A | 18 E | 19 S | 20 W | 21 V | 22 F | | | 23 G | 24 C | |
| | | 25 B | | | 26 Q | 27 A | 28 K | 29 M | 30 S | | | 31 K | 32 W | 33 H | 34 S | 35 E | 36 C | 37 M | | |
| 38 Y | 39 O | | | 40 J | | | 41 S | 42 L | 43 G | 44 W | 45 K | 46 R | 47 Q | 48 X | | | 49 U | 50 V | | |
| 51 E | 52 B | 53 U | | | 54 R | 55 O | 56 N | 57 S | 58 A | 59 T | | | 60 V | | | 61 P | 62 N | 63 D | | |
| 64 W | 65 I | 66 V | 67 X | | | | 68 P | 69 J | 70 D | 71 H | | | 72 I | 73 U | | | 74 W | 75 S | 76 C | 77 O |
| 78 P | 79 L | | | 80 Y | 81 V | 82 M | 83 A | 84 X | 85 G | 86 N | 87 D | | | 88 S | 89 I | | | 90 A | 91 X | |
| 92 M | 93 N | 94 P | 95 H | 96 V | 97 E | 98 O | 99 T | 100 W | | | | 101 U | 102 G | | | 103 U | | 104 F | 105 E | |
| 106 L | | | 107 J | 108 K | | | 109 J | 110 G | 111 D | | | 112 M | 113 X | 114 K | | | 115 B | 116 U | | 117 M |
| 118 C | 119 R | 120 X | 121 F | 122 Q | — | | 123 T | 124 K | 125 L | | | | 126 X | 127 U | | | 128 X | | 129 T | 130 S |
| 131 L | 132 O | 133 F | 134 R | 135 C | | | | 136 W | 137 E | 138 C | | 139 L | 140 M | | | 141 J | 142 C | 143 A | 144 N | 145 I |
| 146 L | | | 147 Y | 148 U | | | 149 H | 150 V | 151 P | | | 152 Y | 153 K | 154 L | 155 S | 156 M | | | 157 F | 158 E |
| 159 K | 160 U | 161 H | 162 W | 163 D | 164 S | 165 G | 166 N | | | | 167 T | 168 H | 169 J | | | | 170 T | 171 B | | 172 A |
| 173 F | 174 V | 175 L | | | 176 H | 177 P | 178 R | 179 S | 180 A | 181 O | 182 T | 183 F | | | | | | | | |

Solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 17 of this issue.