

play of review, one cannot help observing that the big review media seem to employ extremely unexact and optimistic men and women. There is even the suspicion abroad that a reviewer is dropped like a hot potato should he consistently "pan" the books he is sent. (The sourpuss! Some poor devil has to sell these things.)

Mr. Wagner goes on to point out how this process cannot help but corrupt the reading tastes of the masses. He then cites two instances of double-standard reviewing that fascinate me in their implications:

Readers have seen "Marjorie Morningstar" reviewed on the front pages of *The New York Times Book Review* in a friendly notice by Maxwell Geismar, only to be followed by his sharp "criticism" of the same book in the pages of the *Nation*. Readers are also able to compare, if they wish, Edgar Johnson's kid-gloves review of Gordon Ray's recent book on Thackeray in *The New York Times Book Review* with his distinctly less cordial approach to Ray in *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America* for last March.

I think I need hardly argue that the state of things Mr. Wagner describes is real, and dangerous to the standing of good literature in our society. I would add one further charge against the American book reviewer: he has destroyed his own vocabulary. Our review media use the same terms for discussing the junk produced along

the Spillane-Wouk axis as they do for the efforts—good or bad but at least seriously undertaken as living art—produced along the Hemingway-Thomas Mann axis. The publishers and their jacket-blurbing tradition are certainly partners in this guilt. (One of these days I mean to do a survey of book-jacket prose and let the chips and advertising contracts fall where they may.) Between them and the natural laziness of all sentimentality, book reviewing has confused even its own inner standards. Lacking any true sense of good and bad writing, lacking any standard by which they may feel justified in damning bad writing, the reviewers have tended to settle for gentle, meaningless, polite noises. They have become readers without conviction. As reviewers their immoral (what else can I call it?) trimming to all winds has helped to pollute all reading tastes.

I damned "The Unicorn," first, for the reasons stated in the review itself—because the poetry struck me as miserable stuff and because I am not willing to concede that personal distinction can compensate for slovenly performance. (Had Mrs. Lindbergh's performance been on Broadway instead of in the bookshops, imagine what the drama critics would have done to her.) I did so, more importantly however, because her book was bound to have a wide circulation and to receive many vague accolades. I cite a single example: in *SR* Dec. 22 (my review had already been written and was awaiting publication) *SR* undertook its annual "critics'" poll of the best books of the year. "The Unicorn and Other Poems" was tied for second place with three votes. You may be sure that the votes Mrs. Lindbergh received were all from "newspaper critics" and included none from the panel of experts who had been polled (That distinction between "newspaper-critics" and "experts" is not accidental.)

I submit that when a book I believe to be as certainly meritless as "The Unicorn" comes that close to winning even an informal national poll as the best book of verse of the year, then I conceive myself to have a duty to state my objection to this sort of stuff with no apology to the author or to the traditions of the Genteel. Should I wait till it wins the Pulitzer? I think it is time, rather, to cry Hellfire. Or there is no pulpit.

The principles on which I reviewed "The Unicorn" are the principles on which I hope to see all *SR* poetry reviews based, and I urge those same principles on all the nation's review media. With the exception of the "notice" (which is not a review really, but simply a basic statement that the

book exists, with one or two personal comments by the reviewer) I shall hope that reviews in these pages conform to the following principles. I cannot, of course, control what the reviewer writes. I can and will "kill" reviews that ignore these principles, and I can and will call more and more upon the reviewers who observe them.

1. The reader deserves an honest opinion. If he doesn't deserve it give it to him anyhow.

2. No one who offers a book for sale is sacrosanct. By the act of publication and promotion, the citizen-human-being forfeits his privileges as a non-competitor. Having willingly subjected himself to judgment he must accept either blame or praise as it follows. If in doubt, assume that the book is signed by Anonymous.

3. Evaluation must be by stated principle. The reviewer's opinion is only as good as his methods.

4. A review without reference to the text is worthless.

5. Quotation without analysis of the material quoted is suspect.

6. If you cannot document a charge, pro or con, do not make it.

7. Poetry is more important than any one poet. Serve poetry.

8. Limitations of space often make it difficult and sometimes impossible to apply these principles as carefully as one would wish. No space limitation, however, is reason enough for forgetting that these principles exist.

#### LITERARY I. Q. ANSWERS

Column One should read: 17, 11, 14, 8, 1, 6, 3, 18, 4, 16, 13, 2, 7, 10, 9, 12, 5, 20, 15, 19. Column Two should read: 15, 14, 7, 19, 8, 4, 9, 12, 16, 10, 6, 3, 13, 5, 17, 2, 1, 18, 20, 11. Or in extenso: 1. Thomas Bailey Aldrich and Bret Harte—1836. 2. Sherwood Anderson and Willa Cather—1876. 3. Eugene Field and Lafcadio Hearn—1850. 4. Hamlin Garland and Bliss Perry—1860. 5. Ernest Hemingway and Stephen Vincent Benét—1898. 6. William D. Howells and Edward Eggleston—1837. 7. Sinclair Lewis and Ring Lardner—1885. 8. Herman Melville and Walt Whitman—1819. 9. Edna St. Vincent Millay and Elmer Rice—1892. 10. Eugene O'Neill and T. S. Eliot—1888. 11. Edgar Allen Poe and Abraham Lincoln—1809. 12. Robert Sherwood and Louis Bromfield—1896. 13. Gertrude Stein and Zona Gale—1874. 14. Harriet Beecher Stowe and Horace Greeley—1811. 15. Eudora Welty and Richard Wright—1909. 16. Edith Wharton and O. Henry—1862. 17. John Greenleaf Whittier and Henry W. Longfellow—1807. 18. Kate Douglas Wiggin and Elbert Hubbard—1856. 19. Tennessee Williams and John Hershey—1914. 20. Thomas Wolfe and Mari Sandoz—1900.

#### FRASER YOUNG'S LITERARY CRYPT NO. 712

A cryptogram is writing in cipher. Every letter is part of a code that remains constant throughout the puzzle. Answer No. 712 will be found in the next issue.

GQ L WLJ RWVFGRA OGA

VHPAR GJFY OGA ORLE, JY

YJR DLJ FLSR GF QPYW

OGW.

—QPLJSKGJ.

Answer to Literary Crypt No. 711

If misery loves company, misery has company enough.

H. D. THOREAU.

# Lincoln and Csokonay

Continued from page 13

the signal for widespread demonstrations in behalf of Hungarian freedom. On January 2, 1852, another public meeting was called in Springfield, and again "Abraham Lincoln of Sangamon" was prominent in the proceedings. He addressed the gathering to explain its purpose, and was again chosen to head a committee to report back the next day with a suitable resolution.

The sentiments which the meeting subsequently approved might be expressed in all essentials by any similar American meeting today:

Whereas, in the opinion of this meeting, the arrival of Kossuth in our country, in connection with the recent events in Hungary, and with the appeal he is now making in behalf of his country, presents an occasion upon which we, the American people, cannot remain silent, without justifying an inference against our continued devotion to the principles of our free institutions, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That it is the right of any people, sufficiently numerous for national independence, to throw off, to revolutionize, their existing form of government, and to establish such other in its stead as they may choose.

2. That it is the duty of our government to neither foment, nor assist, such revolutions in other governments.

3. That, as we may not legally or warrantably interfere abroad, *to aid*, so no other government may interfere abroad, *to suppress* such revolutions; and that we should at once, announce to the world, our determination to insist upon this mutuality of nonintervention, as a sacred principle of the international law.

4. That the late interference of Russia in the Hungarian struggle was, in our opinion, such illegal and unwarrantable interference.

5. That to have resisted Russia in that case, or to resist any power in a like case, would be no violation of our own cherished principles of non-intervention, but on the contrary, would be ever meritorious, in us, or any independent nation.

6. That whether we will, in fact, interfere in such a case, is purely a question of policy, to be decided when the exigencies arise.

7. That we recognize in the Governor of Hungary [Kossuth] the most worthy and distinguished representative of the cause of civil and religious liberty on the Continent of Europe, a cause for which

he and his nation struggled until they were overwhelmed by the armed intervention of a foreign despot, in violation of the more sacred principles of the laws of nature and of nations—principles held dear by the friends of freedom everywhere, and more especially by the people of these United States . . ."

It was voted to send copies of the resolution to Kossuth and to each Illinois Congressman. The meeting adjourned "with three hearty cheers for Kossuth and Hungary."

Kossuth himself was invited to Washington, where Daniel Webster sat on the dais with him at a Congressional banquet in the National Hotel. He met President Fillmore at the White House, and said: "I stand before Your Excellency a living protestation against the violence of foreign interference oppressing the sovereign right of nations to regulate their own domestic concerns." He paid a visit to the dying Henry Clay, and there was a touching exchange of respect between the fiery Hungarian and the enfeebled Great Pacifist who gave Kossuth his blessing and prayed for Hungary's liberation.

The spiritual kinship between the Hungarian revolution, which failed, and the American revolution, which succeeded, was emphasized repeatedly throughout Kossuth's tour of America, but nowhere more poignantly than during his visit to New England. He was taken to meet Jonathan Harrington who, at the age of ninety-four, was the last survivor of the Minute Men who fought at Lexington. Afterwards Kossuth was escorted to the Common where a sign had been erected reading: "WELCOME TO THE BIRTHPLACE OF AMERICAN LIBERTY."

Kossuth had learned English during his years in prison by reading the Bible and Shakespeare, and his speeches enthralled his American listeners. What he said to Americans 100



Kossuth: "a danger to despotism."

years ago, and what they said to him, remains almost uncannily applicable to the events of today.

On April 23, 1852, New Haven rang its bells and shot off its cannon to greet the Governor of Hungary, and an "immense multitude of both sexes" turned out to hear him speak from the south porch of the State House. Mayor Aaron N. Skinner welcomed him by saying:

"We watched with almost breathless interest the tide and ebb of your battle; we rejoiced in your success, we triumphed in your triumphs and our hearts swelled with joy and hope when you drove back your vanquished oppressors. And, finally, what a pang of deep and bitter sorrow and despair smote our hearts when we found that all your valor, your sacrifices, your heroic devotion to your country had been in vain, and that brave, chivalric Hungary had fallen in disastrous but not inglorious battle!"

And Kossuth replied:

"I know that there is one sun in the sky which gives light to all the world. As there is unity in God, and unity in the light, so is there unity in the principles of freedom. Wherever it is broken, wherever a shadow falls across the face of liberty's sun, there is always danger for free principles everywhere in the world.

"Hungary was crushed because our example was considered a danger to despotism. I ask you if they [the Russians] can possibly conceive of an example more dangerous than that of the United States with its freedom, prosperity, and power . . . ?"

Not long after his New Haven speech Kossuth returned to England, where he continued his efforts for Hungarian freedom. He worked at a plan for forming a Hungarian Legion to invade Dalmatia, but nothing came of it. With the passing of time he was offered an amnesty by the Hapsburgs but refused to accept a pardon for committing no crime but loving his country. In 1867 he was elected to the Hungarian Diet, but declined to accept his seat. He spent the rest of his life in exile, and on his death in Turin his body was brought to Budapest for burial.

Meanwhile, his visit to the United States had a colorful, if minor, aftermath. The Kossuth hat was introduced into the American army, and troops under President Abraham Lincoln wore it into battle during the Civil War.

Though the name of Kossuth never faded from Hungarian memory—streets, parks, bridges, memorials were named for him everywhere—it flared to new life and significance when the revolution of October 1956 broke out. "People for Kossuth, March

Forward Hand In Hand" was one of the slogans with which young workers and students took to the streets when the demonstrations against the Communist government began. They sang the Kossuth hymn, along with the Marseillaise, and when it seemed that the people had at last thrown off the foreign yoke, they demanded that the Kossuth arms be restored as a national emblem, and that March 15, the date of the uprising he led, be once again declared a national holiday. Red Radio Budapest became Radio Free Kossuth during the brief day of the anti-Soviet regime.

Among the young students who sang the Kossuth hymn, and among their elders, there were those who also knew the words to another paean to freedom: the Gettysburg Address. For generations, in Hungarian high schools and universities, the figure of Lincoln has captured the imagination of idealists who have dreamed of freedom for their own country. The Gettysburg Address has been studied and memorized, in Hungarian and in English, both as a literary masterpiece and as a supreme tribute to the idea of a free society. Hungarians who may know little or nothing of the text of our Declaration of Independence are often acquainted with the writings of Lincoln, who more warmly and immediately symbolizes the dignity and compassion inseparable from the concept that all men are created equal. And so it is not altogether surprising that the words of "Hon. A. Lincoln," who once composed resolutions in behalf of Hungarian freedom in Springfield, Illinois, should be broadcast a century later on Radio Csokoray from somewhere in the heart of Hungary. For his speech, now as then, gives undying worth and meaning to the sacrifice of all who die for freedom, in Hungary today as at Gettysburg long ago—

... "that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

And if Lincoln's words were worthy of being repeated by modern Hungarians in the hour of their national agony, the words of Lajos Kossuth 100 years ago deserve to be recalled by free Americans:

"Hungary, by the peculiar operation of Divine Providence, may be the turning point of liberty . . .

"If Hungary is not protected, how is the world to be redeemed?"

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(Continued on page 58)



## CLASSIFIED

(Continued from page 57)

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ESCORTED EUROPEAN SUMMER TOURS. Limited vacancies: Grand, 18 countries, \$1,195; May 31-August 23, June 8-August 26, July 6-September 23, Standard, 13 countries, \$1,028; June 10-August 13, July 6-September 4, Central, 11 countries, \$888; June 26-August 13, Steamship passage included. Air tours: Grand, June 11-August 13, \$1,295. Standard, July 8-August 19, \$1,095. All itineraries with Italy, Scandinavia, Britain. Prices truly inclusive. Luxury motor-coaches, excellent meals, hotels. Sightseeing, entertainment. Similar spring, fall tours. MIDWEST TOURS, Reidar Dittmann, Northfield, Minnesota.

EUROPEAN TOUR AND ALPINE CAMP. Coed, teens, children 9-12. One month travel, two months French Alps Camp, 32nd year. Arranged-supervised by College President and wife. All inclusive fee \$1,190. Few vacancies mature counselors. Box A-650.

EUROPEAN FESTIVAL AND SCENIC TOURS for small groups of congenial companions. May-October, \$695 per month in Europe. Music, art, scenery, native customs. MAY-JUNE: London, Paris, Bergen, Stockholm, Helsinki (Sibelius Festival), Swiss Alps; JULY: Prades (Casals' 80th Birthday Festival), Aix-en-Provence, Italy, Yugoslavia; AUGUST-SEPTEMBER: Tyrolean and Bavarian Alps, Salzburg, Bayreuth, Edinburgh (Gathering of Clans.) Douglas A. MacKinnon ("Opera News" writer), 304 East 83 St., NYC 28.

EUROPE, CONDUCTED TOURS. 14 countries, 8 weeks. Round-trip by air. \$1,283 all-inclusive. Italy and Scandinavia included. Departures: June 7, 14, 21. KNIGHT TOURS—SR, Prof. Loring Knecht (Fitch Dept. St. Olaf College), Box 350, Northfield, Minn.

ANDEAN SUMMER. Two-Ten weeks, \$265-\$785. Leisurely, economical travel-study; Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia. Visit UNESCO projects. River, lake trips. Wisconsin State College, Eau Claire, Wisc.

## VACATIONS

MIAMI, FLORIDA, FEDERAL HOTEL. Home atmosphere, centrally located, \$1.50 to \$4 day, weekly rates. 37 North West First St.

WINTER AND SPRING on farms and hotels welcoming children. Call Lorraine 8-0700 (NYC).

WHERE—BUT IN MONTANA so many marvels in one vacation? Glacier, Yellowstone Parks—And so much more. Write Advertising Director, Dept. 57-16, Highway Commission, Helena, Montana.

BLUEBERRY HILL KEY. Dinner by reservation. Lucullan! Turquoise waters. The Mastertons, Islamorada, Florida.

COLONIAL CHARM midst wooded Litchfield Hills. Trout stream. Casual, intimate; luscious food. Swimming pool—horses, golf, lakes nearby. Country auctions, summer theatre. LEWIS & MARY FISHER, Bantam, Conn.

GREEN SHADOWS, Old Lyme, Connecticut. Quiet informal country life, good food, comfortable beds.

# KINGSLEY DOUBLE-CROSTIC NO. 1195

Reg. U.S. Patent Office  
By Doris Nash Wortman

## DEFINITIONS

- A. Guards, esp. of buildings at night.  
B. Constant, uniform.  
C. In an orderly fashion.  
D. Initiate.  
E. Subject.  
F. Pinpointing the time of an occurrence within 24 hours (3 wds.).  
G. Prussian industrial city, ancient Roman camp, taken by Allies, March 2, 1945.  
H. Kiddled.  
I. Admonition by the man with the gun (2 wds.).  
J. Specifying the "sin against the Holy Ghost."  
K. Amer. writer, esp. biographer, dau. of Julia Ward Howe (1850-1943).  
L. King of Media who, with Nabopolassar, destroyed Nineveh, 612 B.C.  
M. Most active or interesting; warmest.  
N. Firmly established or obstinately persisted in.  
O. Malicious and abusive satire directed against an individual.

## WORDS

69 193 184 147 79 54 86 13  
176 187 152 39 95 35 161 82 160 80  
91 23 117 15 181 2  
51 171 121 168 19  
123 44 32 81 197  
63 29 1 70 37 74 105 130  
5 104 94 18 61  
22 172 26 174 107 146 57  
114 4 12 195 143 75 100  
148 118 106 175 33 90 158 135 48 192 97  
113  
76 151 10 145 17 3 163 125  
40 46 92 21 11 137 128 102  
119 109 111 188 52 157 64  
140 73 127 45 93 186 133 153 62 101  
36 167 110 182 14 28 162

## DEFINITIONS

- P. Belgian organist with great European reputation as teacher (1823-81).  
Q. An even chance.  
R. Amer. painter and etcher, regarded as foremost exponent of expressionism in U.S. (1859-1935).  
S. Certain letters of the alphabet.  
T. Operator of a machine to weave tire netting.  
U. Momentous; notable for what happens.  
V. Important port of entry on Ohio River, former capital of Word W.  
W. See Word V.  
X. Understood an utterance beyond the range of the speaker's voice.  
Y. Vice-president of the new AFL-CIO, with virtually the same responsibilities held before the merger.  
Z. River of forgetfulness.  
Z'. Great industrialist Amer. family, whose progenitor in this country was twice an emigré of France (1739-1817).

## WORDS

103 20 196 116 77 56 31  
78 99 67 50 190 132  
189 124 60 42 183 27  
173 170 9 47 131  
198 53 177 43 55 122  
126 141 120 194 154 179 83 58  
166 178 72 142 149 134 85 30  
87 155 191 144 139 159 49 136 185 89 7  
96  
71 34 59 108 98 68 88 38 169  
129 8 115 150 65 138 164  
16 41 25 112 165  
156 180 24 66 6 84

## DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle you must guess twenty-odd WORDS, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. Alongside each definition, there is a row of dashes—one for each letter in the required word. When you have guessed a word, write it on the dashes, and also write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square of the puzzle diagram. . . . When the squares are all filled in, you will find that you have completed a quotation from some published work. If read up and down, the letters in the diagram have no meaning. . . . Black squares indicate ends of words; if there is no black square at the right side of the diagram, the word carries over to the next line. . . . When all the WORDS are filled in, their initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Of great help to the solver are this acrostic feature and the relative shapes of words in the diagram as they develop. Authority for spellings and definitions is Webster's New International Dictionary, Second Edition.

	1	F	2	C	3	K	4	I	5	G	6	Z'	7	W	8	Y	9	S		10	K	11	L	12	I	13	A	14	O	15	G		
	16	Z	17	K	18	G	19	D			20	P	21	L	22	H	23	C	24	Z'	25	Z		26	H	27	R	28	O	29	F		
30	V		31	P	32	E	33	J	34	X	35	B	36	O	37	F			38	X	39	B	40	L	41	Z	42	R		43	T		
44	E	45	N		46	L	47	S	48	J	49	W	50	Q		51	D	52	M	53	T	54	A		55	T	56	P	57	H			
58	U	59	X	60	R	61	G			62	N	63	F			64	M	65	Y	66	Z'	67	Q	68	X		69	A	70	F	71	X	
	72	V	73	N	74	F	75	I	76	K	77	P			78	Q	79	A	80	B	81	E		82	B	83	U	84	Z'				
85	V	86	A	87	W			88	X	89	W	90	J			91	C	92	L	93	N	94	G	95	B	96	W	97	J		98	X	
99	Q	100	I	101	N	102	L			103	P	104	G	105	F	106	J			107	H	108	X	109	M	110	O			111	M	112	Z
113	J		114	I	115	Y	116	P	117	C	118	J			119	M	120	U	121	D	122	T	123	E		124	R	125	K				
126	U	127	N	128	L	129	Y	130	F			131	S	132	Q	133	N	134	V	135	J	136	W		137	L	138	Y	139	W	140	N	
141	U	142	V	143	I			144	W	145	K	146	H			147	A	148	J	149	V	150	Y	151	K	152	B	153	N	154	U	155	W
156	Z'		157	M	158	J	159	W	160	B			161	B	162	O	163	K			164	Y	165	Z	166	V	167	O	168	D	169	X	
170	S		171	D	172	H	173	S			174	H	175	J	176	B	177	T	178	V	179	U	180	Z'	181	C			182	O	183	R	
184	A	185	W	186	N	187	B	188	M			189	R	190	Q	191	W	192	J	193	A	194	U	195	I	196	P	197	E	198	T		

Solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 8 of this issue.