

The Play of the Weather

Based on John Heywood's Comedy

THE PLAYERS' NAMES

JUPITER, king of the gods

MERRY REPORT, servant of

Jupiter

THE GENTLEMAN

THE MERCHANT

THE WIND-MILLER

THE WATER-MILLER

THE GENTLEWOMAN

THE BOY

TIME: Long ago

PLACE: The Palace of Jupiter

Before the time when the play opens, the ordering of the weather had been left to the gods of the sun and wind and rain, and the other gods who ruled the forces of the world.

But it so happened that whenever Apollo wanted sunshine, Aeolus wanted to have a storm, or the rain god wanted to send rain to the earth. Such trouble and quarreling arose, and the weather got into such a state that the gods were all forced to give up the management.

Jupiter was a kind and thoughtful ruler and wished in all things to please the people. He sent his servant, Merry Report, to tell them that he would be glad to receive their advice and complaints so that he might order the weather to please them.

At the opening of the play, Jupiter is seated on his throne. The people who have come to complain and advise about the weather are waiting outside. Merry Report stands ready to greet them.

I

A horn is heard outside and the Gentleman enters.

MERRY REPORT: Sir, be ye welcome. But first tell me your business.

GENTLEMAN: Good friend, I am a gentleman. I come to make a plea to the great god Jupiter, according to his command.

MERRY REPORT: Well, good master Horner, come this way then.

GENTLEMAN: I am no horner, boy, and I'll have you know it.

MERRY REPORT: Well, well, I thought you were surely a horner, from the way you blew your horn. But never mind. Come before the great god Jupiter and make your plea.

GENTLEMAN: Most mighty Jupiter, may it please you to hear me. I come not for myself alone, but for all noble folk. Such little time as we have free from our labors, we desire to spend in hunting. We desire pleasant weather, cool and dry, with a calm and still wind, so that we may chase the deer at our pleasure.

JUPITER: We shall not forget your request. Set your heart at rest. We intend to hear each man in turn and then order the weather in such a way that all shall be satisfied.

GENTLEMAN: In heaven and earth, honored be the name of Jupiter. I have no doubt that each man will have his desire. But first of all, I am sure Jupiter will provide for us nobles and gentlemen, in order that we may hunt in peace.

The Gentleman goes out as the Merchant enters.

MERRY REPORT: Welcome, master Merchant. I pray you, how are you, and how is your wife?

MERCHANT: Sir, be done with your light and foolish talk. I wish to speak to Jupiter.

MERRY REPORT: Well, there is nothing to prevent. Speak on.

MERCHANT: Most mighty prince and lord of all, your merchants throughout the land ask you to consider how much we do for the world. Consider how we travel over the seas, carrying from home whatever things are plenty there, and bringing back the things we lack. We ask your highness to order the weather so that we may pass safely from one place to another; and moreover, we would like to have the winds turn east, west, north, and south as we need them.

JUPITER: You have spoken well, and I promise you that you shall be answered before you go. Only wait till I have heard all the petitions, in order that I may neglect no one.

MERCHANT: I thank your highness.

The Merchant goes out.

II

Jupiter closes the curtains of his throne, so that he cannot be seen.

The Water-miller enters.

WATER-MILLER: Well, well, well. I'd like to know what difference it would make if we were all dumb. We talk and talk and cry for rain, and never a drop comes. The wind is blowing all the time so that the rain can't fall. There's no water to turn our wheels; our mills are empty, and we ourselves are beggared!

I will go up boldly to Jupiter and ask him to grant us rain, for truly this is a matter that concerns all men.

The Wind-miller enters.

WIND-MILLER: How now! Is all the weather gone? In the name of mercy, let us have a little wind. It does nothing but rain, rain, rain, from one day's end to another. As soon as it stops, it begins again.

And what is to become of us poor wind-millers? You know we are all good men who grind the corn and make the meal so that all may be fed.



MERRY REPORT: By my faith, here's a nice state of affairs. Here's one wants wind and no rain, and the other will have nothing but rain and no wind. Well, settle it between you. It is plain to me that Jupiter should not be troubled with such foolishness.

WIND-MILLER: If you have any sense at all, it's easy to see that we could do much better without rain than without wind. How do you think ships would go from port to port without the winds?

WATER-MILLER: A foolish reason! Anyone knows that no matter how hard the wind blows, a ship can't sail except on water.

WIND-MILLER: If you don't like these reasons, there are plenty of others. Consider the highways. You know full well that they are ruined by rain. Who wouldn't rather have them covered with dust than with mud? And consider the crops. Did you ever hear of the corn being ruined in a dry season? But look at the way the rain has ruined it these seven years.

WATER-MILLER: Anyone knows that it's not the wind we have to thank for good crops. They'd do little without water. Why, we need water for everything — washing, cooking, eating, drinking. We couldn't live without water.

WIND-MILLER: Well, say what you will, of the two kinds of mill, mine's the best, and that's all there is to it.

MERRY REPORT: Stop, stop, foolish fellows. You have talked long enough. Can't you see that there is a place for both your mills? Now I have two mills, and neither lacks for wind nor water. Get you hence, and I'll lay your cases before Jupiter.

They go out.

If I had my way you'd both go head over heels into the river, and we'd be rid of two useless fellows at once. Such foolishness!

III

The Gentlewoman enters.

GENTLEWOMAN: Sir, I wish to speak to Jupiter.

MERRY REPORT: Now, by my faith, his lordship is busy with a piece of work that must be done. He is even now making a new moon,

for the old moon is quite worn out and leaky. However, if you will tell me your errand, I'll see that it is attended to.

GENTLEWOMAN: Well, then, it is this. As you see, I am a fair woman, and I want to keep fair. But, alas, it is very difficult, for in the winter the harsh winds spoil my complexion and in the summer the hot sun burns it. So I ask Jupiter to grant us a milder climate, in order that I may walk with no cold wind to chill me and no hot sun to burn me.

MERRY REPORT: Alas, good madam, how can I refuse such proper needs as yours? Of all the petitions today, I have had none that equals yours. I am sure that Jupiter will quickly see how serious it is.

The Gentlewoman goes out. The Boy comes in.

BOY: Sir, I pray you, are you Jupiter?

MERRY REPORT: No, son, but if you have any word for Jupiter, tell it to me, and I will see that he hears it.

BOY: I have come to ask my godfather Jupiter to send us more snow for snowballs. I have heard that he has come to earth this night to hear all manner of complaints about the weather. A hundred boys have sent me to ask him to give us more snow.

I pray that you will tell Jupiter how much we desire it. And if he will not give it to us, do you think he might not sell us some?

MERRY REPORT: I cannot say, my son. I have not been able to bargain for or borrow any snow this night. But what I can do, I will do.

BOY: I thank you, sir. Good night.

The Boy goes out.

IV

Jupiter draws back the curtains of his throne.

MERRY REPORT: In truth, good master, here's work for you that is beyond my brains. Such a lot of fools! Each one for himself, with no thought of others. One wants rain, and one will have none of it.

One is all for a mild and soft climate, one for a cool and dry climate, and one wants snow and ice, and so on with them all. How it's to be settled, I cannot see.

JUPITER: Peace, Merry Report. Depart quickly and bid them all return, and you shall straightway see how I will decide it. Rest assured, I have a remedy for all.

Merry Report goes out and returns with the Gentleman, the Merchant, the Water-miller, the Wind-miller, the Gentlewoman, and the Boy.

JUPITER: We have heard all your petitions and have weighed them carefully. And now we have bidden you come before us to hear our pleasure. Ye shall draw near and receive your answers, each in order.

The Gentleman shall often have the weather he desires for his hunting — clear and cool with little wind.

But often, too, upon the sea, the wind shall blow briskly, bringing the merchant's ships safely to port. East and west, north and south, it shall range in its season.

Likewise, the wind shall often rattle down the valleys, turning the windmill wheels to grind the Miller's corn.

But there shall be no lack of rain at times, so that the Water-miller's wheels shall not stand idle.

The Gentlewoman shall be able often to walk outside without being burned by the hot sun or chilled by the wind.

And yet the Boy shall not lack in the winter time for snow and ice, so that he may make snowballs to his heart's content.

You will see that we have planned for you much better than you could have thought or desired. For no one may have his full desire in this world without hurt to others. We shall from time to time serve each one of you. And we bid you, whatever weather we send, to make the best of it, remembering that it is our desire to serve you all.

GENTLEMAN: Never man before heard so good a judgment. You have indeed won the hearts of all gentlefolk.

MERCHANT: And likewise of all merchants. We shall praise the name of Jupiter without end.

WATER-MILLER: Every water-mill shall turn to your honor.

WIND-MILLER: And every windmill likewise.

GENTLEWOMAN: Your highness shall live forever in the hearts of all such as I am.

BOY: Dear godfather Jupiter, I will do something for you sometime. I promise you that when the snow comes, you shall have a snowball or two.

MERRY REPORT: So we are all happy. And now, praise Jupiter, we'll have our weather just the way we've always had it.



WORDS TO WATCH

Jupiter
Aeolus
plea

merchant
petitions
neglect

beggared
complexion
climate

bargain
remedy
lack
gentlefolk

QUESTIONS

1. How was it possible for Jupiter to grant all the wishes of all the people?
2. Why did the Water-miller want rain?
3. What was Jupiter doing when the Gentlewoman came in to see him?
4. Where did this play take place?
5. What kind of weather would *you* wish for? Why?



Pippi Longstocking

Astrid Lindgren

Way out at the end of a tiny little town was an old overgrown garden, and in the garden was an old house, and in the house lived Pippi Longstocking. She was nine years old, and she lived there all alone. She had no mother and no father, and that was of course very nice because there was no one to tell her to go to bed just when she was having the most fun, and no one who could make her take cod liver oil when she much preferred caramel candy.

Once upon a time Pippi had had a father of whom she was extremely fond. Naturally she had had a mother too, but that was so long ago that Pippi didn't remember her at all. Her mother had died when Pippi was just a tiny baby and lay in a cradle and howled so that nobody could go anywhere near her. Pippi was sure that her mother was now up in Heaven, watching her little girl through a peephole in the sky, and Pippi often waved up at her and called, "Don't you worry about me. I'll always come out on top."

Her father Pippi had not forgotten. He was a sea captain who sailed on the great ocean, and Pippi had sailed with him in his ship until one day her father blew overboard in a storm and disappeared. But Pippi

was absolutely certain that he would come back. She would never believe that he had drowned; she was sure he had floated until he landed on an island inhabited by cannibals. And she thought he had become the king of all the cannibals and went around with a golden crown on his head all day long.

Her father had bought the old house in the garden many years ago. He thought he would live there with Pippi when he grew old and couldn't sail the seas any longer. And then this annoying thing had to happen, that he blew into the ocean, and while Pippi was waiting for him to come back, she went straight home to Villa Villekulla. That was the name of the house. It stood there ready and waiting for her. One lovely summer evening she had said good-bye to all the sailors on her father's boat. They were all so fond of Pippi, and she of them.

"So long, boys," she said and kissed each one on the forehead. "Don't you worry about me. I'll always come out on top."

Two things she took with her from the ship: a little monkey whose name was Mr. Nilsson—he was a present from her father—and a big suitcase full of gold pieces. The sailors stood up on the deck and watched as long as they could see her. She walked straight ahead without looking back at all, with Mr. Nilsson on her shoulder and her suitcase in her hand.

"A remarkable child," said one of the sailors as Pippi disappeared in the distance.

He was right. Pippi was indeed a remarkable child. The most remarkable thing about her was that she was so strong. She was so very strong that in the whole wide world there was not a single police officer who was as strong as she. Why, she could lift a whole horse if she wanted to! And she wanted to. She had a horse of her own that she had bought with one of her many gold pieces the day she came home to Villa Villekulla. She had always longed for a horse, and now here he was living on the porch. When Pippi wanted to drink her afternoon coffee there, she simply lifted him down into the garden.

One lovely summer evening when Pippi for the first time stepped over the threshold of Villa Villekulla, Tommy and Annika, the two

neighbor children, were not home. They had gone to visit their grandmother for a week, and so they had no idea that anybody had moved into the house next door. On the first day after they came home again they stood by the gate, looking out onto the street, and even then they didn't know that there actually was a playmate so near. Just as they were standing there, wondering whether anything exciting was likely to happen or whether it was going to be one of those dull days when they couldn't think of anything to play—just then the gate of Villa Villekulla opened and a little girl stepped out. She was the most remarkable girl Tommy and Annika had ever seen. She was Miss Pippi Longstocking out for her morning promenade. This is the way she looked:

Her hair, the color of a carrot, was braided in two tight braids that stuck straight out. Her nose was the shape of a very small potato and was dotted all over with freckles. It must be admitted that the mouth under this nose was a very wide one, with strong white teeth. Her dress was rather unusual. Pippi herself had made it. She had meant it to be blue, but *there wasn't quite enough blue cloth, so Pippi* had sewed little red pieces on it here and there. On her long thin legs she wore a pair of long stockings, one brown and the other black; and she had on a pair of black shoes that were exactly twice as long as her feet. These shoes her father had bought for her in South America so that Pippi should have something to grow into, and she never wanted to wear any others.

But the thing that made Tommy and Annika open their eyes widest of all was the monkey sitting on the strange girl's shoulder. It was a little monkey, dressed in blue pants, yellow jacket, and a white straw hat.

Pippi walked along the street with one foot on the sidewalk and the other in the gutter. Tommy and Annika watched as long as they could see her. In a little while she came back, and now she was walking backward. That was because she didn't want to turn around to get home. When she reached Tommy's and Annika's gate she stopped.

The children looked at each other in silence. At last Tommy spoke. "Why did you walk backward?"

"Why did I walk backward?" said Pippi. "Isn't this a free country? Can't a person walk any way he wants to? For that matter, let me tell you that in Egypt everybody walks that way, and nobody thinks it's the least bit strange."

"How do you know?" asked Tommy. "You've never been in Egypt, have you?"

"I've never been in Egypt? Indeed I have. That's one thing you can be sure of. I have been all over the world and seen many things stranger than people walking backward. I wonder what you would have said if I had come along walking on my hands the way they do in Farthest India."

"Now you must be lying," said Tommy.

Pippi thought a moment. "You're right," she said sadly, "I am lying."

"It's wicked to lie," said Annika, who had at last gathered up enough courage to speak.

"Yes, it's very wicked to lie," said Pippi even more sadly. "But I forget it now and then. And how can you expect a little child whose mother is an angel and whose father is king of a cannibal island and who herself has sailed on the ocean all her life—how can you expect her to tell the truth always? We can be friends anyway, can't we?"

"Oh, sure," said Tommy and realized suddenly that this was not going to be one of those dull days.

"By the way, why couldn't you come and have breakfast with me?" asked Pippi.

"Why not?" said Tommy. "Come on, let's go."

"Oh, yes, let's," said Annika.

"But first I must introduce you to Mr. Nilsson," said Pippi, and the little monkey took off his cap and bowed politely.

Then they all went in through Villa Villekulla's tumbledown garden gate, along the gravel path, bordered with old moss-covered trees—really good climbing trees they seemed to be—up to the house, and on to the porch. There stood the horse, munching oats out of a soup bowl.

"Why do you have a horse on the porch?" asked Tommy. All horses he knew lived in stables.

"Well," said Pippi thoughtfully, "he'd be in the way in the kitchen, and he doesn't like the parlor."

Tommy and Annika patted the horse and then went on into the house. It had a kitchen, a parlor, and a bedroom. But it certainly looked as if Pippi had forgotten to do her Friday cleaning that week. Tommy and Annika looked around cautiously just in case the King of the Cannibal Isles might be sitting in a corner somewhere. They had never seen a cannibal king in all their lives. But there was no father to be seen, nor any mother either.

Annika said anxiously, "Do you live here all alone?"

"Of course not!" said Pippi. "Mr. Nilsson and the horse live here too."

"Yes, but I mean, don't you have any mother or father here?"

"No, not the least little tiny bit of a one," said Pippi happily.

"But who tells you when to go to bed at night and things like that?" asked Annika.

"I tell myself," said Pippi. "First I tell myself in a nice friendly way; and then, if I don't mind, I tell myself again more sharply; and if I still don't mind, then I'm in for a spanking—see?"

Tommy and Annika didn't see at all, but they thought maybe it was a good way. Meanwhile they had come out into the kitchen and Pippi took three eggs and threw them up in the air. One fell down on her head and broke so that the yolk ran into her eyes, but the others she caught skillfully in a bowl, where they smashed to pieces.

"I always did hear that egg yolk was good for the hair," said Pippi, wiping her eyes. "You wait and see— mine will soon begin to grow so fast it crackles. As a matter of fact, in Brazil all the people go about with eggs in their hair. And there are no bald-headed people. Only once was there a man who was so foolish that he ate his eggs instead of rubbing them on his hair. He became completely bald-headed, and when he showed himself on the street, there was such a riot that the radio police were called out."

While she was speaking Pippi had neatly picked the eggshells out of the bowl with her fingers. Now she took a bath brush that hung on the wall and began to beat the pancake batter so hard that it splashed all over the walls. At last she poured what was left onto a griddle that stood on the stove.

When the pancake was brown on one side, she tossed it halfway up to the ceiling, so that it turned right around in the air, and then she caught it on the griddle again. And when it was ready, she threw it straight across the kitchen right onto a plate that stood on the table.

"Eat!" she cried. "Eat before it gets cold!"

And Tommy and Annika ate and thought it a very good pancake.

Afterward Pippi invited them to step into the parlor. There was only one piece of furniture in there. It was a huge chest with many tiny drawers. Pippi opened the drawers and showed Tommy and Annika all the treasures she kept there. There were wonderful birds' eggs, strange shells and stones, pretty little boxes, lovely silver mirrors, pearl necklaces, and many other things that Pippi and her father had bought on their journeys around the world. Pippi gave each of her new playmates a little gift to remember her by. Tommy got a dagger with a shimmering mother-of-pearl handle, and Annika a little box with a cover decorated with pink shells. In the box there was a ring with a green stone.

"Suppose you go home now," said Pippi, "so that you can come back tomorrow. Because if you can't go home, you can't come back, and that would be a shame."

Tommy and Annika agreed that it would indeed. So they went home—past the horse, who had now eaten up all the oats, and out through the gate of Villa Villekulla. Mr. Nilsson waved his hat at them as they left.

QUESTION

Why did Pippi say, "I'll always come out on top"?

A Talk with Young Observers

John Burroughs

Teaching young people or old people how to observe nature is a good deal like trying to teach them how to eat their dinner. The first thing necessary in the latter case is a good appetite. If that is there, the rest follows very easily. And in observing nature, unless you have the appetite, the love, the spontaneous desire, you will get little satisfaction.

It is the heart that sees more than the mind. To love nature is the first step in observing it. If a boy had to learn fishing as a task, what slow progress he would make! But when his heart is in it, he will soon become a good fisherman.

The eye sees quickly and easily those things in which we are interested. A man interested in horses sees every fine horse in the country he passes through. The dairyman notes the cattle; the bee culturist observes the bees; the sheep grower notes the flocks. Is it any effort for the ladies to note the new hats and dresses upon the street? We all see and observe easily in the line of our business, our tasks, our desires.

If one is a lover of birds, he sees birds everywhere, plenty of them. I think I seldom miss a bird in my walk if he is within eye or earshot even though my mind may not be intent on that subject. The mind of an observer is like a gun with a hair trigger — it goes at a touch, while the minds of most persons require a hard push.

You must take the hint and take it quickly if you want to get close to nature. Above all, don't jump to conclusions; verify your observation. Be sure the crow is pulling corn, and not probing for grubs, before you kill him. Be sure it is the oriole stealing your grapes, and not the sparrow, before you declare him your enemy.

I one day saw hummingbirds apparently investigating the ripe yellow cheeks of my finest peaches. But I was not certain till I saw a bird hovering over a particular peach. When I mounted a ladder and

examined it, sure enough, the golden cheek was full of pin-holes. The orioles destroy many of my earliest pears, but it required much watching to catch them in the very act.

I once saw a phoebe bird swoop down on a raspberry bush and carry a berry to a rail on a near fence, but I did not jump to the conclusion that the phoebe was a berry eater. What it wanted was the worm in the berry. How do I know? Because I saw it extract something from the berry and fly away.

A French missionary, said to have been a good naturalist, wrote in this country in 1634, and made this curious statement about our humming bird:

"This bird, as one might say, dies, or, to speak more correctly, puts itself to sleep in the month of October. It lives fastened to some little branchlet of a tree by the feet, and wakes up in the month of April when the flowers are in abundance, and sometimes later, and for that cause it is called in the Mexican tongue the 'Revived.' "

How could the good missionary ever have been led to make such a statement? The actual finding of the bird wintering that way would have been the proof science demands, and nothing short of that.



Shore Lark

A boy wrote to me the other day that, while in the field looking for Indian arrowheads, he had seen a brown and gray bird with a black mark running through the eye, and that the bird walked instead of hopped. He said it had a high, shrill whistle and flew like a meadow lark. This boy is a natural observer; he noted that the bird was a walker. Most of the birds hop or jump, keeping both feet together.

This boy heard his bird afterward in the evening, and "followed it quite a ways, but could not get a glimpse of it." He had failed to note the crest on its head, and the black spot on its breast, for doubtless this

strange bird was the shore lark, a northern bird, that comes to us in flocks in the late fall or early winter, and in recent years has become a permanent resident of certain parts of New York State.

WORDS TO WATCH

appetite	probing	hummingbirds	raspberry
spontaneous	grubs	hovering	crest
culturist	oriole	phoebe bird	shore lark

QUESTIONS

1. What is the first step in observing nature?
2. How did the author know that a boy who had written him a letter was a natural observer?
3. Before you kill a crow, what should you make sure of?
4. Did you ever observe nature very carefully? What did you find?

Go forth under the open sky and list to nature's teachings.

Bryant

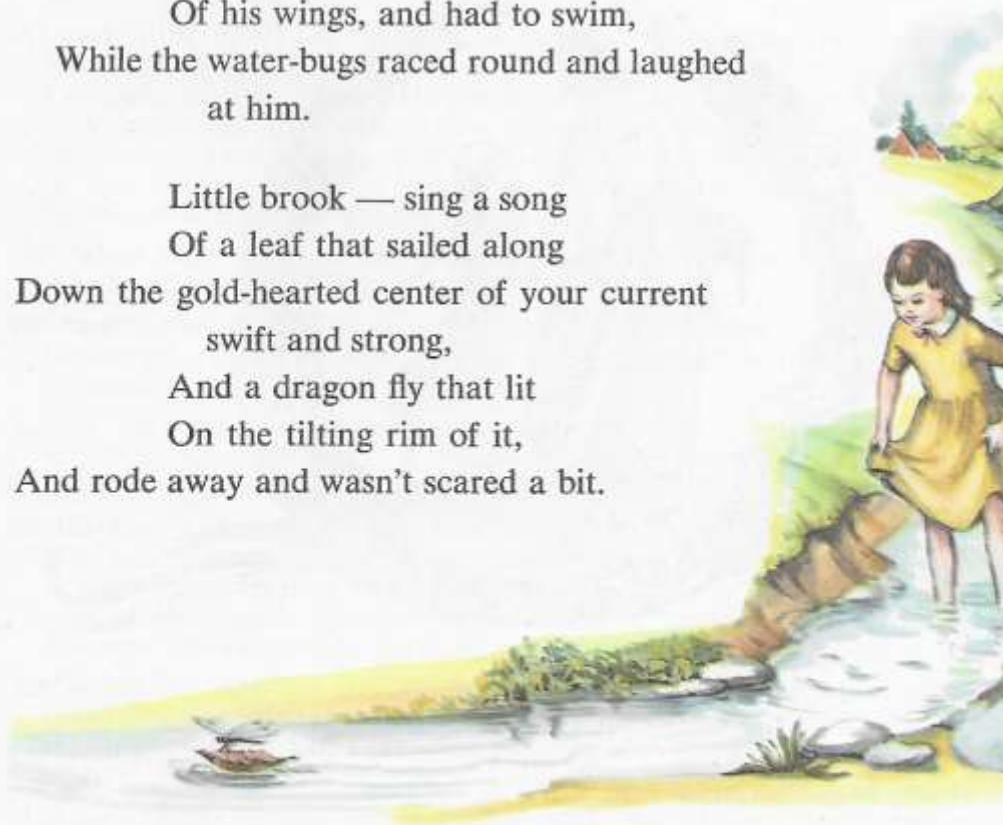
The Brook Song

James Whitcomb Riley

Little brook! Little brook!
You have such a happy look —
Such a very merry manner, as you swerve and
curve and crook —
And your ripples, one by one,
Reach each other's hands and run
Like laughing little children in the sun!

Little brook, sing to me!
Sing about a bumblebee
That tumbled from a lily-bell and grumbled
mumblingly,
Because he wet the film
Of his wings, and had to swim,
While the water-bugs raced round and laughed
at him.

Little brook — sing a song
Of a leaf that sailed along
Down the gold-hearted center of your current
swift and strong,
And a dragon fly that lit
On the tilting rim of it,
And rode away and wasn't scared a bit.



A Farewell

Charles Kingsley

My fairest child, I have no song to give you;
No lark could pipe to skies so dull and gray;
Yet, ere we part, one lesson I can leave you
For every day.

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever,
Do noble things, not dream them, all day long;
And so make life, death, and that vast forever
One grand, sweet song.



Glossary

A

- ác-quain/tánce** *n.* 1. Knowledge of things gained through personal experience or study. 2. Knowledge of a person through slight contact. 3. A person known only casually, less intimately than a friend.
- Aē'sóp** or **Aē'sop** (about 620- about 560 B.C.) Greek fable writer.
- áf·flic'tiôn** [LATIN *afflictur* = struck down] *n.* 1. A condition of pain or distress. 2. A cause of suffering or trouble; misery; misfortune.
- Af'ghân hound** *n.* A hunting hound originally from Afghanistan, having long silky hair, a long narrow head, and drooping ears.
- al/bà·trôss** [(altered) SPANISH *alcatros* = pelican] *n.* A large, web-footed sea bird with long, narrow wings and a hooked beak. It is found chiefly in the South Seas and is capable of flying great distances.
- al'chè·mist** [ARABIC *al-kimiya* = transmutation of metals.] *n.* The chemist of the Middle Ages, concerned mainly with the search for a means of changing or transmuting baser metals into gold and for a substance to cure all ills and bring eternal youth.
- Al'ex·an'der the Great** (356-323 B.C.) King of Macedon (336-323), conquered and ruled the great Persian Empire.
- Al·gêr'y·á** A country in northwest Africa, once under French rule; 919,352 sq. mi.; pop. 10.9 million; capital Algiers.
- Al·goñ'quin** *n.* 1. A member of certain Indian tribes who originally inhabited the region near the north of the Ottawa River, north of the St. Lawrence River. (See **Ottawa River**). 2. The family of approximately fifty languages spoken by these tribes from Hudson Bay in the north to North Carolina and Tennessee in the south and from the Atlantic Coast to the northern plains, including Arapaho, Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Cree, Ojibwa, Micmac, Delaware, and Massachusetts.
- Am'ster·dam** One of the capitals of the Netherlands, on the Zuider Zee. The other capital is The Hague.
- an·tag'ô·nist** [GREEK *anti* = against + *agonizesthai* = to struggle] *n.* A person who fights against, opposes or competes with another; an opponent; an enemy.
- â·non'** [OLD ENGLISH *on ān* = in one, straightway, together] *adv.* 1. *Archaic & poetic:* Immediately. 2. In a little while; soon. 3. Again; at another time.
- är·bü'tus** [LATIN *arbutus* = wild strawberry tree] *n.* 1. A trailing plant that has clusters of fragrant pink or white flowers early in the spring. It is also called trailing arbutus or Mayflower. 2. An evergreen, shrub or tree of the heath family with clusters of white or pinkish flowers and crimson strawberrylike berries.
- Är'is·tot'le** (384-322 B.C.) A Greek philosopher who collected and analyzed the knowledge of his time and devised the deductive method of reasoning; student of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great.
- as'ter** [GREEK *aster* = star] *n.* A plant of a large family of plants (genus *Aster*) whose flowers are daisylike with star-shaped heads and radiating

petals in purple, blue, pink or white, often occurring with thicker, fluffier heads resembling chrysanthemums.

at·tain [LATIN *ad* = to + *tangere* = touch] *v.t.* 1. To arrive at; to reach: *He attained old age with good health.* 2. To accomplish by exertion of the body or mind; to gain; to achieve: *After many weeks of training the boy attained his goal of winning the 100 yard dash.*

avail [OLD FRENCH *a* = to + *valoir* = value] *v.i. & v.t.* 1. To be of value or worth. 2. To be of use; to profit; to benefit: *Force alone will avail us nothing.* — **To avail oneself of**: *I must avail myself of this opportunity = I must take advantage of this opportunity.*

—*n.* use; help; advantage: *Our struggles were of no avail.*

B

Bag'dad The capital of Iraq on the Tigris River in western Asia.

bâr/rén [OLD FRENCH *baraigne* = fruitless] 1. Unable to produce anything: *barren soil in a sandy desert.* 2. Unable to bear offspring. 3. Unprofitable; fruitless; empty.

bas'il [LATIN *basilicum* = basil] *n.* A plant of the mint family (genus *Ocimum*); a fragrant herb used in cooking.

bed/fel'lōw *n.* 1. A person who shares one's bed; a bedmate. 2. A companion; an associate: *Politics sometimes makes strange bedfellows.*

bé·wil'dered *adj.* Puzzled; confused.

bight [OLD ENGLISH *byht* = bend] *n.* 1. A bend or a loop in a rope; the slack in a rope between the fastened ends. 2. A bend in a shoreline or river, forming a bay. 3. A bay formed by a bend in a shoreline or river.

bil'lōw [OLD NORSE *bylgja* = belly] *n.* 1. A great wave or swell of the sea. 2. A puffing out in rolls, as **billows** of clouds or smoke.

—*v.t.* To roll or rise in bulging waves, as the sea; to surge; to swell.

Bō·hē'mĭ·á Once part of Czech province of Czechoslovakia, in east central Europe; abolished as a separate region in 1949.

bond *n.* 1. Anything that holds or ties. 2. A contract or agreement in which a person promises to pay a sum to another, or to do certain things.

¹bōre [OLD ENGLISH *borian* = to drill a hole] *v.t.* 1. To make a hole by drilling in or through. 2. To make a hole or passage by pushing through or digging: *A mole bored tunnels in the lawn.* 3. To weary by being dull, monotonous, or tiresome.

—*v.i.* 1. To make a hole. 2. To force one's way forward: *The football player bored through the line.*

²bōre [OLD NORSE *bora* = a hole] *n.* 1. A tiresome person or thing. 2. A hole made by a drill. 3. A hollow space inside a gun, pipe, or tube.

³bōre [SCANDINAVIAN *bara* = wave] *n.* A sudden, high crested wave caused by the rush of a flood tide into a channel of water.

bough [OLD ENGLISH *bog* = arm or shoulder] *n.* A large limb or branch of a tree.

Braille or **braille** [after Louis Braille (1809-1852), a French educator who invented the system of raised point writing that enabled the blind to read and write] *n.* 1. A system of reading or writing for the blind. Raised

dots form letters or symbols which are read by touching them with the fingertips. Braille is written by using a metal ruler with evenly spaced holes and punching a pointed tool into special Braille paper, which allows the dots to be pushed up on the other side of the paper. 2. The symbols used in the Braille system.

¹**brake** [OLD DUTCH *braeke* = flax brake] *n.* 1. A device for stopping or slowing a wheel, vehicle, or motor, usually by friction. 2. A tool used to separate the fiber of flax or hemp by crushing.

—*v.t.* 1. To use a brake on, to slow the speed of. 2. To bruise or crush flax or hemp.

—*v.i.* To use a brake or brakes.

²**brake** *n.* A high, four-wheeled carriage or small wagon.

³**brake** [MIDDLE ENGLISH *braken* = fern] *n.* Bracken, a kind of fern.

⁴**brake** [MIDDLE LOW GERMAN *brake* = stumps, broken branches] *n.* A thicket; a clump of brushwood, briars, and brambles.

bram'ble [OLD ENGLISH *brom* = broom] *n.* 1. Any prickly bush or shrub. 2. Any of a large number of prickly related plants of the rose family, especially the English blackberry and raspberry.

brawn'y [OLD FRENCH *braon* = slice of flesh] *adj.* Strong, having large muscles.

Burns, Robert (1759-1796) A Scottish poet.

C

cal'i-cō [AMERICAN ENGLISH *calico* = cotton cloth originally imported from and named after *Calicut*, India] *n.* A cotton cloth that usually is printed with figured or flowered patterns on one side.

—*adj.* 1. Made of a cotton cloth that is printed with figured or flowered patterns: *a calico dress*. 2. Spotted or streaked in colors: *a calico cat*.

can'ni-bál [SPANISH *canibal* = a savage, changed from *Caribal*, a native Indian of the Caribbean] *n.* 1. A human being who eats human flesh. 2. An animal that eats its own kind.

Can'ter-bur'y *n.* A town in Kent, England; its cathedral is the seat of the archbishop who is highest prelate of Church of England; pop. 39,376.

cap'stán [LATIN *capere* = to hold] *n.* *Nautical.* A drumlike apparatus for lifting and pulling that revolves on a spindle and may be turned by steam or by levers: *He turned the capstan to hoist the anchor.*

câr'à-mèl [OLD FRENCH *calamele* = sugar cane] *n.* 1. A chewy candy made of sugar, butter and milk. 2. Burnt sugar used as a flavoring or coloring in foods.

câr'ól [GREEK *choros* = dance + *aulos* = flute] *n.* A song of joy or praise, especially a Christmas song.

—*v.i.* To sing, especially in joy or praise: *The children carol at Christmas.*

—*v.t.* 1. To sing: *The children caroled several songs.* 2. To praise or celebrate in song.

Cey-lon' An island in the Indian Ocean, south of India, about 270 mi. long and 140 mi. wide; called "Pearl of the Orient"; a Dominion in the British Commonwealth of Nations; rich in tropical vegetation; chief products: tea, rubber, coconuts, pearls.

- chain rē·ac'tiōn** *n.* 1. A series of reactions, each of which develops out of the reaction before it; the first reaction may be started by light, an electric spark, sodium vapor, or bombardment with alpha particles from radium. (See **radium**). 2. *Physics.* The self-sustaining fission (splitting apart) of atomic nuclei whereby the neutrons released by one fission cause another splitting up in neighboring nuclei, as in an atomic bomb or nuclear reaction.
- cham'pī·ōn** [LATE LATIN *campio* = fighter from LATIN *campus* = a field, place for games] *n.* 1. A person who has defeated or excelled all others in a competition, especially in sports. 2. A fighter, defender, or protector of others; a supporter of a cause: *Patrick Henry was a champion of liberty.* —*v.t.* To fight for; defend; support.
- chant** [LATIN *cantus* = song] *n.* 1. A song, especially a psalm or canticle in which several syllables are sung on one tone. 2. A singsong way of speaking. —*v.t.* 1. To sing. 2. To sing a chant. 3. To recite musically in the manner of a chant; to intone.
- cheese' mōn'ger** [MIDDLE ENGLISH *chese* + *mongere* = to trade cheese] *n.* A person who sells cheese; a cheese dealer.
- col'um·bine** [LATIN *columbinus* = dovelike] *n.* A plant of the crowfoot family (genus *Aquilegia*), so named because the flower is thought to resemble a flock of pigeons, being spurred with five petals and of various colors.
- cōmb'er** *n.* 1. A person or thing that combs; especially a worker or machine that combs wool, flax. 2. A large wave that tumbles over and breaks on the beach.
- cōm·mū 'ni·cā'tiōn** [LATIN *communicare* = to share] *n.* 1. A transmitting or passing along; a transfer. 2. A sharing of information by talking, gesturing, or writing. 3. Sending or receiving messages by talking, gesturing, or writing. 4. Means of moving from one place to another; a passageway; a connection.
- cōm·mū 'ni·cā'tiōns** *n. pl.* A system of communicating by radio, telephone, telegraph, etc.
- com'pē·tēt** [LATIN *competentis* = being fit] *adj.* 1. Having sufficient ability; being fit; able; capable. 2. *Law.* Legally qualified; admissible; fit.
- Cōn'gō**, also **Kōn' gō**, 1. A river in west central Africa, between 2500 and 3000 miles long, one of the largest rivers in the world. 2. The Republic of the Congo, formerly Belgian Congo.
- con'stel·lā'tiōn** [LATIN *com* = together + *stella* = star] *n.* A group of stars named after mythological beings or objects which the outline of the grouping seems to resemble, for example Aquarius, Leo, Taurus, and Ursa Major and Ursa Minor (the Big Bear and the Little Bear). The last two are also called the Big Dipper and the Little Dipper.
- cōn·trive'** [OLD FRENCH *contriver* = to find] *v.t.* 1. To find a clever means; to devise; to plan. 2. To plot; to scheme. 3. To design; to invent. 4. To manage by some device or scheme.
- Cō'pen·hā'gēn** or **Cō'pen·hā'gēn** The capital city of Denmark.
- cop'per** [LATIN *cuprum* = copper; a shortened form from *Cyprium aes* =

- brass from Cyprus, where the best copper was produced in ancient times]
- n.** 1. A metallic element (symbol Cu), reddish-brown in color, easily molded and wired, used as an alloy in bronze and brass, one of the best conductors of heat and electricity. 2. A copper or bronze coin. 3. The color of copper. 4. A large vessel or pot made of copper used for boiling clothes or cooking.
- adj.** 1. Made of copper; like copper. 2. Having the color of copper.
- cōr'āl** [GREEK *korallion* = red coral] **n.** 1. A stony substance made up of the skeletons of small sea animals living in colonies, deposited in the sea, often forming reefs and islands, and occurring in various forms (mushrooms, bud, brain, reef coral) and colors (orangish-red, pink, white). 2. One of the sea animals that produce their skeletons. 3. The red color of coral. 4. A piece of coral, especially that used in ornaments and jewelry.
- adj.** 1. Made of coral. 2. Coral red.
- cōur'āge** [LATIN *cor* = heart] **n.** The characteristic of dealing with danger, difficulty, pain, or opposition instead of withdrawing from it; bravery; fearlessness; boldness.
- cōur'tī-er** [OLD FRENCH *cortoyer* = to be at court] 1. An attendant at a royal court. 2. A person who seeks favor by flattery.
- cō'zy** [SCANDINAVIAN *koze* = comfortable] **adj.** Snug; comfortable.
- n.** A padded cloth cover for a teapot to keep it hot: *tea cozy*.
- crick'ēt** [OLD FRENCH *criquet* from *criquer* = to creak; the name of the insect coming from the sound it makes] **n.** A large leaping insect (genus *Gryllidae*) similar to the locust and grasshopper, but having long antennae; the males produce a chirping noise by rubbing parts of the forewings together.
- crim'sōn** [ARABIC *qirmiz* = the kermes insect (from which a red dye was made)] **n.** A deep-red color.
- adj.** Deep red.
- v.t. & v.i.** To make or become deep red.
- crock'er-y** [OLD ENGLISH *crocc* = earthen jar] **n.** Bowls and jars made of baked clay; earthenware.
- crȳs'tāl** [GREEK *krystallos* = clear ice] **n.** 1. A clear, transparent quartz that looks like ice. 2. *Physics.* A regularly shaped piece with flat surfaces meeting at angles. 3. A fine, clear glass, used especially in tableware. 4. A glass or plastic over the face of a watch. 5. A piece of clear, transparent quartz cut in the form of an ornament.
- adj.** 1. Composed of crystal: a **crystal necklace**. 2. Clear and transparent like crystal.

D

- dañ'gle**, *v.i.* 1. To suspend loosely, to swing back and forth. 2. To follow or stay close to someone.
- v.t.** To hold in a way to swing freely.
- dē-vice'** [LATIN *divisus* = divided] **n.** 1. An apparatus or mechanical invention used for a specific purpose. 2. A scheme or plan, especially a tricky one; a plot. 3. An ornamental pattern or design; an emblem in a coat of arms. 4. A motto.
- to leave to one's own devices** To leave one do as he wishes or thinks best.

dil'i-gént [LATIN *diligens* = attentive] *adj.* Careful, constant, industrious.

dröll [DUTCH *drol* = jolly, short, stout man] *adj.* Charmingly amusing; humorously odd; laughable.

—*n.* A droll person; a clown; a prankster; a jester.

—*v.i.* To clown; to jest.

E

ēaves'drop'ping [OLD ENGLISH *efes* = eaves + *dropping* = the water that drops from the eaves] *n.* Listening secretly to the private conversation of others (from the original sense of standing under the eaves to overhear through a window).

em'is-sâr-y [LATIN *e* = out + *mittere* = to send] *n.* A person sent to accomplish a task, particularly for his government; an agent or spy.

em'pire [LATIN *imperium* = rule, authority] *n.* 1. Territory under one sovereign power; the dominion of an emperor or empress; a state uniting many territories and peoples under one ruler. 2. The period of such a rule. 3. Dominion; supreme power; imperial rule.

ere [OLD ENGLISH *æer* = earlier, before] *prep.* Poetic. Before.

—*conj.* Poetic. Before; sooner than; rather than.

ē-ter'ni-ty [LATIN *aeternitas* = eternity] *n.* 1. Time without beginning or end; endless duration; everlasting time. 2. Existence without end; life after death. 3. A long period of time that seems endless.

Eū-phrā'tēs A river 1700 miles long in southwest Asia, arising in Turkey, flowing across Syria and Iraq to unite with the Tigris and continue to the Persian Gulf; in ancient times the civilization of Babylonia, Assyria, and Chaldea flourished in its valley made fertile by irrigation.

ex-ag'ger-ā'tjōn [LATIN *ex* = out + *aggerare* = to heap] *n.* 1. Enlarging beyond fact or reason; an overstatement. 2. Making something greater in size, proportion or intensity than would be normal or expected.

ex-cur'siōn [LATIN *ex* = out + *currere* = to run] 1. A short trip taken for recreation or health with the intention of returning soon to the place of departure. 2. A group tour; or the persons on the tour.

ex-pēr'i-ēnce [LATIN *ex* = out + *periri* = to try] *n.* 1. Something that has actually been tried out, personally observed, understood, or lived through. 2. Everything that has happened to a person or that he has seen or done. 3. Activity that includes training, observation, and personal participation; the knowledge or skill resulting from this: **Experience is the best teacher.**

—*v.t.* To feel, undergo; to have experience of.

ex-tiñct' [LATIN *ex(s)tinguere* = to quench, extinguish, destroy, wipe out] *adj.* 1. Having died down; no longer active: *an extinct volcano.* 2. Having died out; no longer existing; having no living descendants: *an extinct species; the carrier pigeon is extinct; the bald eagle and the golden eagle are in danger of becoming extinct in America.*

F

fā'ble [LATIN *fabula* = story] *n.* 1. A fictitious story meant to teach a lesson, usually with animals talking and acting like human beings. 2. A foolish untrue story; a falsehood.

—*v.t.* & *v.i.* To tell or make up (fables or stories).

fag'gót or **fag'ót** [OLD FRENCH *fagot* = a bundle] *n.* A bundle of sticks, twigs, or branches used for fuel.

fam'ine [LATIN *fames* = hunger] *n.* 1. An extreme scarcity of food in a widespread area; starvation. 2. An extreme shortage of anything: *a rice famine.*

fam'ish [LATIN *fames* = hunger] *v.i.* 1. To suffer or die from extreme hunger; to starve. 2. To be very hungry; to weaken with hunger.
—*v.t.* To cause suffering or death with extreme hunger.

fire'fly *n.* A winged beetle (the North American genera *Photinus* and *Photuris*) flying at night and giving forth a phosphorescent light from the abdomen; the larvae and wingless females are called glowworms.

flat'ter-y [OLD FRENCH *flater* = to fawn] *n.* 1. Excessive; insincere, or untrue praise. 2. The act of flattering.

flaunt [15th & 16th c. ENGLISH DIALECT *flant* = to strut about, show off] *v.i.* 1. To make a gaudy display; to show off in an impudent or defiant way. 2. To wave freely.
—*v.t.* To show something in a proud or defiant way.

¹flaw *n.* A break, crack; a weak spot; a fault; a defect; a blemish.

²flaw [OLD NORSE *flaga* = a sudden gust] *n.* A sudden and brief gust of wind, often with rain; a squall.

flip'per-ling [*flipper* + suffix *-ling* = small; compare *yearling*, *duckling*] *n.* Little animal with flippers; a baby seal.

fol'ly [OLD FRENCH *fol* = foolish] *n.* 1. Unwise behavior; lack of sense; foolishness. 2. A foolish idea or action.

frag'ile [LATIN *frangere* = to break] *adj.* Easily broken or damaged; delicate: *a fragile dish.*

frā'grānt [LATIN *fragrare* = to smell sweet] *adj.* Having a pleasing odor; sweet-smelling.

Frañk'lin, Benjamin (1706-1790) An American statesman, scientist, inventor, and writer; a signer of the American Declaration of Independence.

freck'le [OLD NORSE *freknur* = freckles] *n.* A small brownish spot on the skin.

—*v.t.* To mark with freckles.

—*v.i.* To become marked with freckles.

G

gait [OLD NORSE *gata* = way] *n.* 1. A particular manner of walking or running: *a lame gait.* 2. One of the particular ways in which a horse steps or runs: *A canter is one of the gaits.*

gay [OLD FRENCH *gai* = gay] *adj.* 1. Happy; merry; joyous; lively. 2. Brightly colorful.

gen'er-ā'tjōn [LATIN *generare* = to produce] *n.* 1. Producing of offspring. 2. A single stage in the line of descendants: *grandfather, father, and son represent three generations.* 3. The average time between such successive stages, about 30 years for humans. 4. All the people born at about the

same time or living in the same period of time: *The younger generation is often criticized by the older generation.* 5. Production or origination by any means: *the generation of power.*

ġen/tiān [LATIN *Genrius* = Illyrian king who discovered the medical properties of the gentian flower] *n.* 1. Any of a group of flowering herbs with blue, white, yellow, or red flowers. 2. The root of the yellow gentian used for digestive troubles.

ġe.rā/nī.um [GREEK *geranos* = crane] *n.* 1. A plant (genus *Geranium*) with pink, purple, or red flowers; also called cranebill. 2. The typical red color of its flower.

Ġi.brā/tār Town and fortress on the Rock of Gibraltar; a British colony in southern Spain since 1713.

—**Rock of Ġi.brā/tār** A peninsula of southern Spain, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles long by $\frac{3}{4}$ miles wide, situated at the eastern end of the Strait of Gibraltar, since 1940 separated from the mainland by a canal; highest point 1396 ft.; one of the Pillars of Hercules in Greek myth and legend.

—**Strait (or Straits) of Ġi.brā/tār** A passage 32 miles long, 8 miles wide at narrowest point between Spain and Africa connecting the Mediterranean Sea with the Atlantic Ocean; at its eastern end the two Pillars of Hercules: Rock of Gibraltar (ancient Calpe) to the north on the European side and Jebel Musa (ancient Abila) at Ceuta on the southern or African side.

gleam [OLD ENGLISH *glæm* = brightness] *n.* 1. A flash or brief beam of light. 2. A soft glow of reflected light; a soft radiance: *The gleam of polished floors.* 3. Something resembling a flash of light: *a gleam of hope.* —*v.i.* 1. To flash or briefly beam with light. 2. To shine with rays of light: *The candles gleamed.*

ġōr/gōn *n.* A terrifying or hideously ugly woman.

—**Ġōr/gōn** *Greek mythology.* One of the three sisters Stheno, Euryale, and Medusa having serpents for hair, the sight of them turning the onlooker to stone.

grain [LATIN *granum* = seed, kernel] *n.* 1. A small hard seed or kernel from any of the cereal plants, such as wheat, oats, barley, corn, rye, rice. 2. The harvested seeds of these plants taken collectively. 3. A tiny hard kernel or particle, as a **grain** of salt or sand. 4. A tiny bit or tiny amount: *They don't have a grain of sense.* 5. The smallest unit of weight (originally determined by the weight of a grain of wheat) in the British and American system, equals 0.0648 gram: *one pound avoirdupois equals 7000 grains.* 6. The pattern formed by the direction and arrangement of fibers in wood, leather; the size and texture of markings in marble. —**against the grain** Contrary to a person's natural temperament or inclination, therefore displeasing.

grass/hop'per *n.* A leaping insect (family *Acridiidae* and *Locustidae*) with two pairs of wings and powerful hind legs; many species are destructive to crops and vegetation.

Greāt Lakes A chain of five large lakes on the border between Canada and the United States; the largest group of fresh water lakes in the world. They are Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

Greece A kingdom in the southern Balkan peninsula, southeast Europe; 50,547 sq. mi. pop. 8,350,000; capital Athens.

Grimm, The Brothers German brothers famous for their collections of fairy tales.

—**Ja·cob** (Yä'kób) (1785-1863) A German scholar who collected and wrote fairy tales with his brother, Wilhelm.

—**Wil·helm** (vil'helm) (1786-1859). A German scholar who collected and wrote fairy tales with his brother, Jacob.

H

här/vést [OLD ENGLISH *harfest* = autumn] 1. A reaping or gathering in of a ripened crop of grain and other foods. 2. One season's yield of a grain or other foods; a crop. 3. The season of the year when crops are gathered in, usually late summer or autumn. 4. The result; the consequences; the reward: **reaping a harvest of one's mistakes**.

—*v.t.* To reap or gather in a crop: to **harvest wheat**.

haunch [OLD FRENCH *hanche* = hip] *n.* 1. The part of the body of man or animal around the hip and buttocks; the hind quarter. 2. The leg and loin of an animal, taken together as meat, especially a joint of venison or mutton.

hem/lock *n.* 1. A tree of the pine family (genus *Tsuga*) found in North America and Asia, whose wood yields a tanning material and is used for wood pulp in making paper. 2. A biennial herb (*Conium maculatum*) of the carrot family, yielding the poison coniine. 3. The poison from this herb.

hè·pat'i·cà [LATIN *hepaticus* = of the liver] *n.* A small perennial herb (genus *Hepatica*) with three-lobed leaves and delicate flowers of various colors, also called the liverleaf or liverwort (so named because its leaves were thought to resemble the liver).

Her'cū·lēś [GREEK *Herakles* = glory of Hera] Hero in mythology, son of Zeus and Alcmena, noted for twelve labors Hera made him do.

hew [OLD ENGLISH *hēawan* = to hew] *v.i.* & *v.t.* To cut or strike as with an ax; to chop; to hack.

Hī'ā·wath'ā A mythical person who was believed to have lived among the North American Indian tribes of the Algonquin to teach them the arts of hunting and of peace. Longfellow used these legends in his poem *The Song of Hiawatha*.

Hol'lánd or **Thé Neth'er·lánds** [DUTCH *holt* = wood + *lant* = land] A small country in northwestern Europe, west of Germany and north of Belgium. Capitals: Amsterdam and The Hague.

hol'lōw [OLD ENGLISH *holh* = hollow] *adj.* 1. Having a hole, an empty space, or only air inside; in contrast to solid. 2. Having a depressed place lower than the surrounding surface, as by scooping out; concave, like a bowl. 3. Sunken or fallen in; deeply set; **hollow cheeks**; **hollow-eyed**. 4. Having a deep and muffled sound as if echoing from an empty vessel or space. 5. Empty of meaning; not sincere: **hollow promises**.

—*n.* 1. A deep opening or sunken place; a cavity; a hole. 2. A valley: *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

home'ly [MIDDLE ENGLISH *homli* = of the home] *adj.* 1. Suitable for home life; familiar; simple. 2. *United States*. Not attractive; ugly; plain. 3. Lacking in manners; crude; unpolished.

Hō'pī [AMERICAN INDIAN (HOPI) *hópitu* = peaceful ones] A member of a tribe of North American Pueblo Indians of Shoshonean stock, generally living in stone-built towns in northeastern Arizona.

Hūr'ón, Lake A lake on the boundary between the U. S. and Canada; second largest of the five Great Lakes; the northwest end connects with Lake Michigan and Lake Superior at the Straits of Mackinac, the southwest end connects with Lake Erie.

hȳ'dró-gèn per-ox'ide A chemical compound (H_2O_2), a colorless, unstable, syrupy liquid, used for bleaching, in antiseptics, and for rocket fuel.

I

i'dle [OLD ENGLISH *idel* = empty] *adj.* 1. Having no power; worthless; useless; vain; empty; futile: *idle wishes*; of little value; trifling; frivolous: *idle chatter*. 2. Having no basis in fact: *idle gossip*. 3. Not busy; unemployed; inactive: *Both men and machines stood idle*. 4. Inactive so as to produce leisure: *idle hours*. 5. Lazy.

—*v.i.* & *v.t.* 1. To spend time doing nothing; to waste time: *He idled away his youth*. 2. To run slowly, without transmitting power, said of machinery and motors: *The motor is idling; he idled his motor*.

ig'nór-ánt [LATIN *ignorantis* = not knowing] *adj.* 1. Without knowledge; uninformed. 2. Caused by lack of knowledge; unaware. 3. Indicating lack of knowledge, education, or experience.

im-mac'ū-lâte [LATIN *in* = not + *maculatus* = spotted] *adj.* 1. Without a spot of stain; unsoiled; completely clean. 2. Perfectly correct; without a fault, error, or blemish. 3. Pure, innocent; without sin.

in'dus-try [LATIN *industrius* = diligent] *n.* 1. The habit of working steadily and earnestly; diligence; constant and purposeful application to a task. 2. The manufacture of goods in contrast to agriculture, finance, or commerce; a branch of trade, business, production, or manufacture, as the steel **industry**; the motion-picture **industry**.

in-fin'i-ty [LATIN *infinitas* = infinity] *n.* 1. Unlimited time or space; boundlessness; endlessness. 2. Number, quantity, or amount beyond measure.

Ir'ving, Washington (1783-1859) An American author, essayist, and humorist.

Is'a-bel'lá, Queen (1451-1504) The Spanish queen who encouraged and gave help to Columbus in making the expedition on which he discovered America; queen of Castile, wife of Henry V of Aragon.

It'á-ly A republic in southern Europe; 116,286 sq. mi.; pop. 50,463; capital Rome.

i'vó-ry [LATIN *ebur* = ivory] *n.* 1. The hard, white, smooth-textured substance forming the tusks of elephants, walruses, etc. 2. A creamy white color. 3. Any substance resembling ivory.

—*adj.* 1. Made of ivory or like ivory. 2. Creamy-white.

—**i'vó-ries** *n. pl.* 1. *Slang.* a. Piano keys. b. Teeth. c. Billiard balls. d. Dice.

J

- jest** *n.* 1. An act intended to cause laughter. 2. A comment intended to be funny, not serious: *he spoke in jest*.
 —*v.i.* To talk or to act in a way not serious; to joke.
- Jōhn, King** (1167?-1216) King of England (1199-1216); called John Lackland.
- joy** [OLD FRENCH *joie* = joy from LATIN *gaudium* = joy] *n.* The feeling of gladness; delight; happiness; great pleasure.
- Jū'pi-ter** The principal god in Roman mythology, husband of Juno; identified with Zeus of Greek mythology.

K

- keen**, *adj.* 1. Sharp; cutting. 2. Sensitive. 3. Intelligent; acute. 4. Strongly enthusiastic; eager. 5. *Slang.* Good; excellent.
- Kel'ler, Helen** (1880-1963) An American writer and lecturer. Blind and deaf from babyhood, she was taught to read and speak.
- ketch** [MIDDLE ENGLISH *cachen* = to catch, as in hunting] *n.* A small fore-and-aft rigged, two-masted sailing ship, originally used as a pursuit boat.
- kin'dle** [OLD NORSE *kynda* = to set on fire] *v.t.* 1. To set on fire. 2. To arouse; to excite; to stir up: *The story kindled his imagination*. 3. To light up; to make bright.
 —*v.i.* 1. To begin to burn; to catch on fire. 2. To become aroused, excited, or stirred up. 3. To become lighted up, bright, or glowing: *His face kindled as he told the story*.
- kin'nī-kin-nick'** or **kin'nī-kin-nic'**, **kin'nī-ki-nic'** **kil'li'kin-nic'** [AMERICAN INDIAN (ALGONQUIN) = *mixed*] *n.* A mixture of dried sumac leaves and bark smoked by certain Algonquin Indian tribes.
- Kip'ling, (Joseph) Rudyard** (1865-1936) British writer, novelist, and poet, born in India, traveled widely in Japan, China, Africa, Australia, and America; his works contain much of the flavor of these faraway places; he won the Nobel Prize in literature in 1907.

L

- Lä Fon-taine', Jean de** (1621-1695). French fable writer.
- lēad** [OLD ENGLISH *lead* = lead] *n.* 1. A dull gray metallic chemical element (symbol Pb), heavy, soft; found usually in the mineral galena. 2. A weight for sounding the depths of the sea; a plumb. 3. The thin stick of graphite in a pencil. 4. Bullets.
- liēge** [GERMANIC *let* = serf] *adj.* 1. In Middle Ages **a.** Entitled to service from a dependent, or **b.** Bound to give service. 2. Loyal, faithful.
 —*n.* 1. A lord or king. 2. A vassal, subject, or dependent.
- lin'dèn** [OLD ENGLISH *lind* = lime tree] *n.* A tree (genus *Tilia*) having soft, white wood, heart-shaped leaves, and fragrant yellow flowers; the American **linden** also called basswood; the European **linden** also called lime tree.
- lodge** [OLD FRENCH *loge* = summerhouse, hut] *n.* 1. A small house, used especially for a servant: *the caretaker's lodge*; a rustic cabin used in a special season, for vacation and as quarters for outdoor activities: *skiing*

lodge; hunting lodge. 2. The meeting place of special groups, usually secret societies and fraternal organizations. 3. The den of a wild animal, particularly that of the beaver. 4. The dwelling of an American Indian. —*v.t.* 1. To provide shelter; to house; to rent rooms. 2. To place in storage; to deposit for safekeeping. 3. To place firmly by thrusting or inserting.

—*v.i.* To come to rest and remain firmly fixed: *The arrow lodged in the tree.*

Lông/fel-lōw, Henry Wadsworth (1807-1882) American poet.

¹**lōom** [OLD ENGLISH *geloma* = tool] *n.* A machine or an apparatus for weaving cloth.

²**lōom** [SCANDINAVIAN *loma* = to move slowly toward] *v.i.* 1. To come into view in an enlarged and distinct form. 2. To appear in a vague or threatening way: *The danger of war loomed ahead.*

lul/lā·bȳ [SWEDISH *lulla* = to sing to sleep] *n.* A song to lull a baby to sleep.

¹**lū'pine** [LATIN *lupus* = wolf] *adj.* Wolflike; fierce; ravenous.

²**lū'pine** *n.* A plant of the pea family (genus *Lupinus*) bearing blue, white, or purple flowers, and pods containing beanlike seeds which are used as food.

lūre [OLD FRENCH *leurre* = bait] *n.* 1. Anything that attracts with the hope of pleasure or advantage: *the lure of the wild; the lure of adventure.* 2. Artificial attraction used to bait animals, as feathers, cork, plastic insects used in fishing; a decoy, as in duck hunting; feathers and bait used in falconry to call the hawk.

—*v.t.* 1. To attract; to entice; to tempt. 2. Specifically, to recall a falcon.

M

māre [OLD ENGLISH *miere* = female horse] A female horse, donkey, or other equine animal.

max'im [LATIN *maxima* (*propositio*) = greatest (*propositio*)] *n.* A short statement of a general principle, truth, or rule of conduct: "*Let honesty and industry be thy constant companions*" is a **maxim** written by Benjamin Franklin.

meek [OLD NORSE *miukr* = gentle] *adj.* 1. Mild and gentle in temper; patient. 2. Too spiritless; submissive; easily imposed on.

mer'cū·ry [because this metallic element is a liquid which flows freely, it was named after Mercury, the fleet-footed messenger of the Gods in Roman mythology] *n.* 1. A heavy, silver-white metallic element, noted for its fluidity at ordinary temperatures (symbol Hg). 2. The mercury in a thermometer or barometer.

mirth [OLD ENGLISH *myrgh* = pleasure] *n.* Merriment; gaiety; spirited joyfulness, especially in social gatherings where there is laughter and jesting.

mis·sion (mi'sjōn) [LATIN *mittere* = to send] *n.* 1. The act of sending someone or a group to carry out a duty, to teach, or to preach. 2. A group of persons sent out. 3. The special duty or purpose of those sent. 4. The main end or work of one's life.

Mis'sis·sip'pī Riv'er The largest river in North America, flowing south through central United States from northern Minnesota into the Gulf of Mexico.

mist [OLD ENGLISH *mist* = gloom] *n.* 1. A cloud of moisture condensed in fine droplets of water at or near the earth's surface, similar to fog but less dense. 2. Anything that dims, blurs, or clouds: *a mist of tears.*

—*v.i.* To rain in fine droplets.

—*v.t.* To make dim; to blur; to cloud: *Tears misted his eyes.*

Mō/by Dick 1. A novel written by Herman Melville. 2. The main character in the novel of the same name.

Mont Blañc [FRENCH *Mont Blanc* = white mountain] The highest mountain in the Alps, on the French-Italian border, 15,781 feet.

¹**môr'târ** [LATIN *mortarium* = vessel in which things are pounded and mixed] *n.* 1. A bowl-shaped vessel in which substances are crushed or pounded to a powder with a pestle. 2. A mixture of cement with sand and water for holding bricks or stones together; a mixture used in plastering.

—*v.t.* To plaster; to bind bricks or stones together with mortar.

²**môr'târ** [FRENCH *mortier* = cannon] *n.* A short cannon used for shooting shells or fireworks short distances.

môss [OLD ENGLISH *mos* = swamp] *n.* A small spore-bearing plant (class *Musci*) that grows in clusters, the leaves forming a dense velvety mat or tuft, found especially on damp ground, trees, and rocks.

mug *n.* 1. A drinking cup made of clay or metal, usually cylindrical. 2. *Slang.* The face; a person with a rough face and bad manners.

mul'ti-tūde [LATIN *multitudo* = crowd] *n.* 1. A great number; many: *a multitude of sins.* 2. A large number of persons, especially when gathered together; a throng; a crowd.

—**the multitude** The common people.

N

New Ôr'lē·âns or **New Ôr'lēans** City in southeastern Louisiana; between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain; ceded to the U. S. by Napoleon in 1803; greatest U. S. market for cotton, cottonseed oil, and rice.

New'tôn, Sir Isaac (1642-1727) An English scientist and mathematician who discovered the law of gravitation.

Nile Longest river in the world, flowing northward from East Africa into the Mediterranean Sea, 4150 miles; its remotest headwaters in northwest Tanzania drain into Lake Victoria, from there the river flows northward through Uganda, Republic of Sudan, and the United Arab Republic (Egypt) and empties into the Mediterranean with a delta 120 miles wide, its largest mouths being at Rosetta (east of Alexandria) on the western edge and at Damietta (just west of Port Said) on the eastern edge.

nōōk *n.* 1. A corner of a room. 2. A small secluded place.

Nō·vem'ber [LATIN *Novembris* = ninth month of the old Roman calendar] *n.* The eleventh month of the year, having 30 days, abbr. **Nov.**

nÿmph [GREEK *nymphē* = nymph] *n.* 1. *Greek and Roman mythology.* A minor nature goddess, depicted as a beautiful maiden dwelling in forests, the sea, rivers, or fountains: *sea-nymph.* 2. *Poetic.* Any lovely young woman; maiden.

O

O·den·se (ō'then·sé) A seaport in southern Denmark; the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen.

ô·pin'·i·on [LATIN *opinari* = to think] *n.* 1. What one thinks about a subject without having positive knowledge; a belief; a judgment. 2. An impression; an estimation: *What is your opinion of the new student?* 3. A formal judgment of an expert; professional advice.

op'ti·mist [LATIN *optimus* = best] *n.* A person who looks on the bright or best side of things; a person who believes that everything that happens is for the best.

Ot'tá·wá Riv'er A river 685 miles long in southeastern Canada in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, emptying into the St. Lawrence River; first explored by Champlain 1613 and long used as a transportation route for explorers, missionaries, and traders.

P

pane [LATIN *pannus* = piece of cloth] *n.* 1. A single section of a window or door, filled with glass. 2. A flat side or face of something that has more than one side. 3. A piece of something, particularly if it is flat and rectangular.

pan'ni·kin [LATIN *patina* = pan] *n.* A small metal pan or cup.

pâr'â·lÿze [FRENCH *paralyser* = paralyze] *v.t.* 1. To cause to lose the power of motion or feeling in some part of the body. 2. To cripple so as to make inactive and helpless: *The sight of the hideous monster paralyzed me with fright.*

pârch [MIDDLE ENGLISH *parchen* = to sear] *v.t.* 1. To make extremely dry; to shrivel with extreme heat. 2. To make dry and thirsty. 3. To roast slightly; to dry by heating: *to parch corn.*

—*v.i.* 1. To become dry; to become shriveled with heat. 2. To become dry and thirsty.

pâr'tridge [GREEK *perdix* = partridge] *n.* 1. Any of various kinds of small, plump game birds resembling domestic fowl belonging to the same group as the quail, pheasant, and grouse. 2. *United States.* The ruffed grouse, bobwhite, or quail.

pat'ent [LATIN *patentis* = lying open] *n.* 1. A government grant protecting an inventor's exclusive right to make, use, or sell an invention for a certain number of years. 2. An invention that is patented. 3. An official document securing a right or privilege.

—*adj.* 1. Protected by patent. 2. Sometimes pronounced **pā'tént** evident; plain. *The teacher's interest in her students is patent.* 3. Open.

—*v.t.* To get a patent for: *The inventor patented his new invention.*

peep'hole *n.* A small hole to peep through; also a small window in a door.

Penn, William (1644-1718) An English Quaker who founded Pennsylvania.

pep'per·mint *n.* 1. An herb (*Mentha piperita*) of the mint family, grown for its pungent, aromatic oil used in medicine and in flavoring. 2. An oil made from the peppermint herb. 3. A candy flavored with the oil made from the peppermint herb.

per/má-nént [LATIN *permanere* = to stay to the end] *adj.* 1. Lasting indefinitely, in contrast to temporary. 2. Fixed; durable.

Per/siá Old name for Iran, a kingdom in southeast Asia; 63,000 sq. mi.; pop. est. 20,678,000; capital Teheran.

pes/si-mist [LATIN *pessimus* = worst] *n.* A person who looks on the gloomy or worst side of things; a person who tends to see the disadvantages and difficulties in everything that happens; a person who believes that life and the world are essentially evil.

Pē/ter, the Great (1672-1725) Czar (Tsar) of Russia (1682-1725).

pick/er-él [MIDDLE ENGLISH *pykerel* = fish with sharp-pointed snout from OLD ENGLISH *pic* = point] *n.* A kind of fresh-water fish of the pike family, especially a small variety with a sharp-pointed snout.

Pie-ta (Pyā-tä') [LATIN *pietas* = piety] *n.* *Fine arts.* A representation of Mary, the Mother of God, mourning over the body of Christ in her arms after the Crucifixion.

pil/grim [LATIN *peregrinus* = traveler from foreign parts] *n.* A wanderer; a wayfarer; especially a person who journeys to some sacred place or shrine for religious reasons.

—**Pil/grim** A member of the band of English Puritans who founded Plymouth Colony in 1620.

piñk *n.* 1. A garden plant (genus *Dianthus*) with narrow leaves and fragrant, pale-red flowers of five petals. 2. The pale red color of these flowers.

—*adj.* Pale-red.

¹**pitch** [LATIN *pix* = pitch] *n.* 1. A black sticky substance formed from coal tar and petroleum; asphalt. 2. A resin found in certain evergreen trees.

—*adj.* Pitch-black: *It was as dark as pitch* in the mine.

²**pitch** *v.t.* 1. To throw, cast, or hurl: *to pitch a ball*, *to pitch hay*. 2. To set up; to erect: *to pitch a tent*; *to pitch camp*.

—*v.i.* 1. To encamp. 2. To fall or plunge headlong; to lurch forward; to stagger as when off balance.

—*n.* 1. A throw; a fling; a toss. 2. A forward plunge, especially the rise and fall of the bow and stern of a ship in a rough sea. 3. The degree of slope or inclination. 4. The point or degree reached: *The excitement was at high pitch*. 5. *Music.* The quality of tone determined by the frequency of vibration: *the greater the frequency the higher the pitch*.

pluck [OLD ENGLISH *pluccian* = to pick out] *v.t.* 1. To pick; to pull off: *to pluck flowers*. 2. To pick or gather: *to pluck grapes*. 3. To pull or pick off feathers: *to pluck a chicken*. 4. To pull or pick the strings (of a musical instrument): *to pluck a guitar*.

—**to pluck up** To summon or gather up (one's courage).

—*v.i.* To give a sudden pull; to tug.

—*n.* 1. Confidence and spirit in difficulty or danger; courage. 2. A sudden pull; a tug.

plūme [LATIN *pluma* = downy part of a feather] *n.* 1. A long feather; especially a large, wavy one used as an ornament on a helmet. 2. A mark of distinction; a prize.

plunge *v.t. & v.i.* 1. To thrust, dive, or throw downward or into: *He plunged his head into the water; he plunged into the battle.* 2. To force into adverse circumstances: *The high expenditures plunged the nation into debt.* 3. To rush, push, or force suddenly. 4. To move violently downward and forward; to pitch, as a horse or ship. 5. To slope abruptly downward, as a road or cliff.

¹**pot/ter** [MIDDLE ENGLISH *pottare* = maker of pots] *n.* A person who makes dishes, vases, and other vessels out of clay.

²**pot/ter** [OLD ENGLISH *potian* = to push] *v.i.* To keep busy in a rather useless or aimless way.

prel/ate [LATIN *praelatur* = person given a position of honor or authority] *n.* A church official of high position, as a bishop.

pret-zel (pret 'sèl) *n.* A hard, glazed, salted biscuit, shaped like a figure 8 or like a stick.

prism [GREEK *prisma* = a thing sawed] *n.* 1. A solid figure with sides that have two or more pairs of parallel edges and with parallel ends that have the same size and shape. 2. A transparent, three-sided, solid prism usually made of glass which bends a ray of sunlight into the colors of the spectrum or the colors seen in a rainbow.

prog/ress [LATIN *progressus* = going forward] *n.* 1. An advance; a growth; a development. 2. A moving forward; an advancement: *making progress in your work.*

—*v.i.* **prò·grèss'** 1. To advance toward completion or greater development. 2. To move forward; to go ahead.

prom 'è·nāde' [LATIN *prominare* = to drive cattle] *n.* 1. A leisurely walk taken for pleasure, usually to show off finery. 2. The place for walking or parading, as an avenue, the deck of a ship. 3. The march opening of a formal ball; the march between the figures of a square dance.

—*v.i. & v.t.* To take a walk for show; to display; to parade.

prông [MIDDLE LOW GERMAN *prange* = a pointed stick] *n.* 1. The pointed end of an instrument, as the tine of a fork. 2. Any sharp, projecting part, as the **prongs** of antlers.

prov/erb [LATIN *pro* = before + *verbum* = a word] *n.* 1. A widely used expression stating a general truth or belief: *the early bird gets the worm.* 2. A Biblical story or saying giving a deep truth.

Q

quill [MIDDLE ENGLISH *quil* = hollow stalk] *n.* 1. A large, stiff feather. 2. The hollow stern of a feather. 3. A pen made from a feather. 4. A large, sharp hair or spine on the back of a porcupine.

quilt [LATIN *culcita* = bed, mattress] *n.* A bedcover made of two pieces of cloth with a soft substance between them, usually stitched together with ornamental patterns of diagonal lines.

—*v.t.* To stitch together with ornamental patterns or diagonal lines, usually two pieces of material with a soft substance between them.

—*v.i.* To make a quilt: *The ladies of the sewing circle quilted all day.*

R

rā/dī·um [LATIN *radius* = ray] *n.* A metallic chemical element (symbol Ra), powerfully radioactive, obtained chiefly as a disintegration product

of the uranium series. Its half life is about 1600 years, during which its atoms undergo spontaneous disintegration emitting alpha and beta particles and gamma rays in successive stages, finally becoming a stable isotope of lead. First discovered by Pierre and Marie Curie in 1898.

rěalm *n.* A kingdom or a region.

rě·gret' [OLD FRENCH *regreter* = to weep for the dead] *v.t.* 1. To feel sorrow for a person or thing gone or lost. 2. To be sorry for what has happened.

—*n.* Sorrow or remorse.

rev'er·ěnt [LATIN *reverentis* = feeling awe of] *adj.* Feeling or showing respect and affection mingled with awe; respectful.

rhine'stone' [FRENCH *caillou du Rhin* = pebble of the Rhine; so called because the rhinestone was originally made at Strasbourg near the Rhine River] *n.* An artificial gem made of paste or glass, frequently cut to imitate a diamond.

Rich'ard I (1157-1199) King of England (1189-99); called *Coeur de Lion*, French for Lion Heart.

Rōo'sě·velt', Theodore (1858-1919) An army officer and the 26th president of the United States from 1901 to 1909.

¹rūe [OLD ENGLISH *hrēowan* = to be sorry] *v.t.* To be sorry for; to regret. —*n.* Sorrow; regret.

²rūe [LATIN *ruta* = an herb family] *n.* A strongly scented herb with yellow flowers and bitter-tasting leaves formerly used in medicine.

rush [OLD ENGLISH *rysce* = to twist or plait] *n.* A grasslike plant (family *Juncaceae*) growing in marshy ground, having hollow, pliant, leafless stems used in weaving mats, seats for chairs, baskets, etc.

rus'sět [LATIN *russus* = red] *n.* 1. A brownish red, reddish or yellowish brown color. 2. A reddish brown or brownish cloth made by country people; coarse homespun.

—*adj.* Reddish brown.

S

sanc·tu·ar·y (sañc'chū·âr·y) [LATIN *sanctus* = sacred] *n.* 1. A holy place, as a church. 2. A place of protection, usually within a church.

Sand'burg, Carl (1878-1967) An American poet and biographer.

sap'phire [SANSKRIT *sanipriya* = dear to Saturn] *n.* 1. A bright, deep-blue precious stone that is hard and clear. 2. A deep-blue color.

—*adj.* Deep blue.

sär'sà·pà·ril'là (or sas'pà·ril'la) [SPANISH *zarzaparrila* = bramble vine] *n.* 1. A climbing, tropical American vine, the root of which is used as a tonic and for flavoring. 2. A beverage flavored with extract of sarsaparilla.

sav'age·ry [OLD FRENCH *sauvage* = savage from LATIN *salvaticus* = of the wood] *n.* 1. An uncivilized, primitive condition of life. 2. Cruel, brutal behavior; barbarity.

Schwei'tzer (Shwei'tser), **Albert** (1875-1965) Alsatian theologian, musician, and medical missionary at Lambaréné, French Equatorial Africa. He received the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize.

sedge *n.* Any of a group of grassy plants growing in tufts in wet ground.

sen/nit *n.* 1. A flat, braided material formed by plaiting from three to nine strands of rope yarn or other fiber. 2. Plaited grass or straw used in making hats.

Sew/èll, Anna (1820-1878) English writer of prose and verse for children; most popular book was *Black Beauty*, which was translated into several European languages.

Shake/spêare, William (1564-1616) English playwright and poet.

shiv'er [MIDDLE ENGLISH *cheveren* = shiver] *v.i.* To shake, tremble, or quiver from fear or cold.

—*n.* A trembling; a quiver.

shiv'er *v.t. & v.i.* To break into splinters; to shatter.

—*n.* A fragment or splinter of something broken, as glass; a sliver.

shrill [LATE GERMAN *schrell* = having a sharp tone] *adj.* Having a sharp and piercing tone; having a high pitch.

—*v.i.* To make a sharp and piercing sound.

—*v.t.* To utter sharply and piercingly.

shriv'el *v.t. & v.i.* 1. To curl or dry up forming wrinkles; to shrink and wither: often with **up**. 2. To make or become useless or helpless.

Sic/i-ly An island belonging to Italy, in Mediterranean; 9,831 sq. mi.; pop. est. 4,500,000; regional capital Palermo.

sig'nál [LATIN *signum* = sign] *n.* 1. A sign agreed upon and understood for transmitting a command, a warning, or information. 2. A sign given by a gesture, mechanical device, or in code to convey messages: *The Indians used smoke signals*. 3. Anything that brings about action.

—*adj.* 1. Used as a signal. 2. Not average or ordinary; remarkable; notable.

—*v.t. & v.i.* To make signals; to communicate by signals.

sin'ew [OLD ENGLISH *seono* = sinew] *n.* 1. A tough cord-like tissue binding muscle to bone; a tendon. 2. Muscular strength; anything supplying power or force.

skȳ'scrāp'er *n.* A high, towering building; literally one that scrapes the sky; a high-rise building.

sliv'er [MIDDLE ENGLISH *sliven* = to cut or split] *v.t. & v.i.* To cut into splinters, usually by tearing or splitting lengthwise into slender pieces.

—*n.* 1. A slender piece torn or cut off lengthwise; a splinter. 2. A thin, sharp or pointed fragment of wood, glass, etc.

Smith, Captain John (1580-1631) An English explorer and early settler of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in America.

sôar [OLD FRENCH *essorer* = to expose wings to the air] *v.i.* 1. To rise high into the air; to fly, sail, or glide high in the air. 2. To rise above the usual level; *prices soared*.

sod [MIDDLE DUTCH *sode* = piece of turf] *n.* 1. Ground covered with grass. 2. A layer or piece of grass-covered soil held together by the matted roots of the grass; turf.

—*v.t.* To cover with sod.

sor'rōw [OLD ENGLISH *sorg* = sorrow] *n.* 1. Mental pain or distress caused

by loss, suffering, or misfortune. 2. Cause of grief, sadness, or regret; trouble.

—*v.i.* To feel sorrow; to grieve.

South A-mêr'i-cà The southern continent in the Western Hemisphere; about 7,035,357 square miles (4th largest of the world); population 148 million (1961 estimate).

¹sōw [OLD ENGLISH *sāwan* = to plant seed] *v.t.* & *v.i.* 1. To scatter seed for growing crops and plants; to strew or plant seed on or in the earth, the ground, a field. 2. To cause to grow or spread; to broadcast; to implant: *Never sow the seeds of hate and discord.*

²sow [OLD ENGLISH *sū* = pig] *n.* An adult female pig.

space/craft *n.* Any vehicle, manned or unmanned, used for exploration beyond the earth's atmosphere.

spā'cious *adj.* 1. Having ample space or room; roomy; large. 2. Vast; extensive; expansive; not confined or limited.

splin'ter [MIDDLE DUTCH *splinte* = a splint] *n.* A thin, sharp fragment of wood, glass, or metal, etc. torn or split off lengthwise; a sliver; a shiver.

—*v.t.* & *v.i.* To split into thin, sharp pieces; to shiver.

—*adj.* Broken away from the main organization, as in church groups or political parties: a **splinter party**; a **splinter sect**.

sprig *n.* 1. A small twig or spray. 2. A small boy.

sprite [LATIN *spiritus* = life] *n.* An elf, fairy, or goblin.

Spy-ri (Shpy'rī), **Johanna** (1829-1901) A Swiss writer, author of *Heidi*.

Stan'dish, Miles (1584?-1656) An English colonist and military leader of the Pilgrims in Plymouth Colony.

¹stern [OLD ENGLISH *styrne* = stiff, rigid] *adj.* 1. Severe; strict; harsh; unyielding. 2. Grim; repellent. 3. Inspiring fear; awesome. 4. Resolute; firm: A **stern** New Year's resolution.

Stē'vèn-sôn, Robert Louis (1850-1894) British novelist and writer, whose stories of adventure and romance won him great fame, especially his *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped*; exhibited versatility and talent also as a children's poet and an essayist. He died on the island of Upolu in Western Samoa.

stôrk [OLD ENGLISH *storc* = stiff: the bird was probably named for its stiff-legged walk] *n.* A large, long-legged wading bird with a long neck and bill, related to the heron.

stōw [OLD ENGLISH *stow* = a place] *v.t.* 1. To pack or fill a space in a compact and orderly manner; to store away. 2. To have room for; to hold: *The trunk stows many curious objects.*

—**to stow away** 1. To put or hide away for safekeeping. 2. To be a stowaway.

strife [OLD FRENCH *estriver* = to quarrel] *n.* 1. A quarrel; angry striving or vying with others for superiority or advantage; rivalry; unpleasant competition. 2. Struggle; conflict; hostilities.

suc-cès'sôr [LATIN *sub* = under + *cedere* = to go] *n.* A person or thing that comes after another.

sum'môn [LATIN *sub* = under, secretly + *monere* = to advise, warn] *v.t.*

1. To call together a group. 2. To command someone to come or be present. 3. To arouse, gather, as **summon up strength**.
- sūit'ôr** [LATIN *secutor* = petitioner] *n.* 1. A person who follows up a request or makes an entreaty: especially in a case before the law, as in a lawsuit; a person who sues at law. 2. A man who sues for a woman's hand in marriage; a man who courts a woman; a wooer.
- sur'gi-cál** [GREEK *cheirourgia* = a working with the hands, skill] *adj.* Used in or connected with surgery, as in treating disease, injury, or deformity by operations with the hands with or without instruments.
- Sut'ter's Fôrt** The western terminal for wagon trains of the early pioneers, located near Sacramento, California; the center of mining activities during the gold rush following the discovery of gold in 1848 at Sutter's Mill owned by John Augustus Sutter.
- swan** *n.* 1. A large water bird with a long, slender, curving neck and, usually, pure white feathers, noted for its grace on water. 2. A poet or sweet singer (from the myth that swans sing sweetly just before they die).
- swerve** [OLD ENGLISH *sweorfan* = to file away] *v.i.* & *v.t.* To turn aside or cause to turn away from a straight line or course.
- n.* A sudden turning aside; an abrupt turn to the side.

T

- tal'ènt** [GREEK *talanton* = a balance or the thing weighed] *n.* 1. A particular natural ability; a specific aptitude for a special activity. 2. Persons who have talent. 3. An ancient unit of weight or money.
- Tal'mud** [HEBREW *talmūdh* = instruction] *n.* The collection of writings containing the Jewish civil and religious laws with related commentaries.
- ¹tañ'gle** *v.t.* 1. To twist into a confused mass; to snarl or make a knot of twine, thread, yarn, etc. 2. To catch as in a net; to snare; to enmesh.
- v.i.* To get entangled; to become involved in a situation not easily resolved.
- n.* 1. A confused mass of intertwining hairs, branches, string, etc.; a snarl; a jumble; a jumbled mess. 2. A muddled condition; a perplexed and bewildered state of affairs.
- ²tañ'gle** [OLD NORSE *thöngull* = seaweed] *n.* An edible seaweed (genus *Laminaria*).
- ¹tat·tōo'** [TAHITIAN *tatu* = a mark] *n.* A mark or design made by puncturing the skin and rubbing indelible colors into the punctures.
- v.t.* To mark or make a design by puncturing the skin and rubbing indelible colors into the punctures.
- ²tat·tōo'** [DUTCH *tap toe* = to shut the tap in a public taproom] *n.* 1. A signal on a bugle or drum to call soldiers or sailors to their quarters. 2. A continuous rapping, tapping, strumming, or drumming.
- tel'è-graph** [GREEK *tēle* = far + *graphein* = to write] *n.* An apparatus or system for sending and receiving messages at a distance by means of electricity.
- v.t.* To send (a message) by telegraph.
- ¹ten'der** [LATIN *tener* = delicate] *adj.* 1. Delicate; not strong and hardy: **tender, young plant**. 2. Soft; easily cut or chewed: **tender meat**. 3.

Easily injured; sensitive: **tender skin**. 4. Gentle; kind; affectionate: **tender words**. 5. Young; immature: **tender age**.

²**ten/der** [LATIN *tendere* = to extend] *v.t.* 1. To extend or offer for acceptance: *to tender a resignation*. 2. *Law*. To offer (money or goods) in payment of debt or other obligation.

—*n.* 1. An offer, bid, or proposal. 2. Something offered in payment, usually money.

³**ten/der** [LATIN *attendere* = to give heed to] *n.* 1. A person who attends to or takes care of. 2. A small boat used for carrying supplies and passengers to and from a ship. 3. The railroad car containing fuel and water attached behind a locomotive.

Times Squäre The entertainment district of New York City formed by the intersection of the two streets Broadway and Seventh Avenue, and extending north and south from 42nd to 45th street.

toil [OLD FRENCH *toeillier* = to pull about] *v.i.* 1. To work hard; to labor. 2. To move with difficulty, pain, or weariness; to plod.

—*n.* Work or effort that is fatiguing; exhausting labor.

Töl'stoy or **Tol-stoi'**, **Count Leo Nikolaevich** (1828-1910) A Russian novelist, short story writer, and philosopher.

tòuch/hole' *n.* The hole in old-fashioned cannon or firearms through which the charge was touched off or ignited.

¹**tract** [LATIN *tractus* = a drawing out, extent] *n.* 1. An extended area of land or water. 2. *Poetic*. A period of time. 3. *Anatomy*. An extensive area of the body, consisting of a system of related parts or organs having a special function: *digestive tract*.

²**tract** [LATIN *tractatus* = treatise] *n.* A pamphlet, usually on a moral or religious subject; a short treatise.

tri/dént [LATIN *tri* = three + *dens* = tooth] *n.* A three-pronged fork; especially the emblem of the god of the sea, Neptune (Poseidon).

Twain, Mark (1835-1910) The pen name of Samuel Langhorne Clemens, an American humorist and writer who wrote *Tom Sawyer* and *Huckleberry Finn*.

U

Ū'ni-ver'si-ty of (òv) Chi-cä'gō An institution of higher learning in Chicago, Illinois; founded in 1891; endowed by the Rockefeller Foundation. It was here that the first nuclear chain reaction was successfully carried out.

Ur-bī'nō A city in Italy noted for its pottery.

V

vain *adj.* 1. Worthless, empty. 2. Having too much regard for oneself; thinking too highly of one's looks, ability, possessions.

vast [LATIN *vastis* = empty, waste] *adj.* 1. Of great size; huge. 2. Of great extent; far-reaching; extensive. 3. Of great number or quantity; exceedingly many or much. 4. Great in degree, importance, or intensity. —*n.* *Poetic*. Boundless space; immensity.

veg'è-tā'tiōn [LATIN *vegetare* = to enliven] *n.* 1. Plant life; growing plants in general. 2. The process of growing; the growth of plants.

ven/i-són [LATIN *venari* = to hunt] *n.* The flesh of deer used for meat.

W

wâre [OLD ENGLISH *waru* = merchandise] *n.* 1. Anything that a store, merchant, or peddler has to sell; anything made to sell. 2. Merchandise of the same general kind, usually classified collectively in compound words: *hardware*, *glassware*, *earthenware*, *tableware*. 3. Pottery; dishes made of baked and glazed clay; any special kind or make of pottery, dishes, or pots and pans.

—**wâres** 1. Things for sale, taken collectively; goods; manufactured products.

web [OLD ENGLISH *webb* = web] *n.* 1. A length of cloth being woven on a loom; a woven fabric. 2. The network of fine threads spun by a spider or the larvae of other insects; a cobweb. 3. A carefully woven trap or snare. 4. A complicated work of the mind: *a web of lies*; any complex network: *a web of highways*; the interwoven paths and interlaced strands of the destinies of life: *What a tangled web we weave!* 5. The thin membrane of skin between the toes of many water birds and water animals.

whirl/wind ' [OLD NORSE *hvirfilvindr* = to turn wind about] *n.* 1. A current of air turning violently round and round in the form of a spiral; a whirling windstorm. 2. Anything resembling a whirlwind.

Whit/tī-er, John Greenleaf (1809-1892) An American poet.

wick/éd [MIDDLE ENGLISH *wikke* = evil] *adj.* Having a bad moral character; evil; sinful. 2. Generally painful and bad, but without any moral considerations: *a wicked wound*. 3. Mischievous or naughty in a playful way. 4. *Informal*. Done with great skill: *He plays a wicked game of chess*.

wind/mill ' *n.* A mill driven by the action of the wind on adjustable slats, shafts, or sails attached to a revolving horizontal axis, used as a cheap source of power for pumping water, grinding grain, etc.

wis/dòm [OLD ENGLISH *wisdom* = learning] *n.* 1. The ability to make sound judgments and to act to achieve the most desirable end. 2. Learning; knowledge.

wit *n.* 1. The ability to know; good sense; intelligence. 2. The ability to make clever and comical remarks in a short form. 3. A person with this ability. 4. Clever, ironic, comical remarks.

—**wits** The faculties of understanding: *Keep your wits about you. He is out of his wits*.

wòn/der·mént *n.* 1. The feeling caused by something strange or surprising; amazement. 2. Something wonderful; a marvel.

Words/wórch, William (1770-1850) English poet, who traveled much on the Continent and in Scotland, and filled his poems with simple truth, warmth of feeling, and love of nature, which did much toward the revival of English poetry at the beginning of the nineteenth century; poet laureate (1843-1850); with S. T. Coleridge, began the Romantic period of English poetry.

Y

Yū/mà 1. A member of a North American Indian tribe of Yuman stock, formerly living in southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. 2. A city in southwestern Arizona.

OPEN COURT PRONUNCIATION KEY

a, ă	sat, tan	ġ	gem, giant	p	pay, put
ā	radio, table	gh	though, taught (silent)	ph	phone, elephant
â	alone, Donna	h	hat	qu	quick, queen
ă	care, air	i, ī	it, sit	r	ram, road
ā	father, wand	ī	pilot	s	send, sun
a	all, ball	ī	babies, machine	s	toes, hose
a_e	bake, ape	i_e	bite, pile	s	vision, confusion
ai	mail, sail	igh	light, bright	sh	shall, show
ār	calendar	ir	fir, bird	t	tall, tale
ār	car, park	j	jam	th	thick, three
au	Paul	k	kite	th	this, them
aw	saw, raw	kn	knife	tch	itch, patch
ay	say, day	l	lamp	ti	nation, station
b	bat, boy	le	table	u, ū	up, us, bus
c	cat, cot, cut	m	man	ū	use, cute
ce	cent, ace	mb	lamb, comb	ū	true, blue
ch	chest, church	n	no, nice	ū	nature
ch	chorus	n	uncle, anger	u	pull, full
ch	chute	n	bon (French nasal sound)	ū	uben (German)
ci	cinder	ng	sing, ring	ū	rue (French)
ci	special	o, ō	hot, pot	ur	fur, urge
ck	tack, sick	ō	go, no	ūr	cure, pure
cy	icy	ó	come, wagon	v	voice, save
d	dad	ō	horse, long	w	will, wash
dge	edge, judge	ō	schön (German)	wh	white, what
e, ē	pet, hen	oa	soap, roam	wr	write
ē	he, me	oe	bone, mole	x	extra, ax
é	moment, loaded	oi	oil, boil	x	exist, example
ē	here, dear	oo	book, nook	y	yes, yet
ea	eat, leap	oo	boot, zoo	y	baby, happy
ēa	head, bread	or	motor, doctor	y	(when it is the only vowel in the final syllable)
ee	see, eel	ou	out, ouch	ŷ	bicycle
er	father, her	ow	owl, cow	ŷ	cry, sky
ew	few, blew	ow	low, throw	ŷ	zephyr, martyr
f	far, fast	oy	boy, toy	z	zoo, zebra
g	gas, get				

1. THE PRONUNCIATION KEY: This Pronunciation Key includes all of the common sounds (phonemes) and all of the common spellings (graphemes) in the English language and a few from foreign languages. Each sound is illustrated with a sample word. Whenever two letters are listed together, they have a sound or sounds occurring in the illustrative word, rather than their normal individual sounds. For instance, *ea* is pronounced ē, not ē and ā; *er* is pronounced r, not ē and r; *ūr* is pronounced yōōr, not ū and r.
2. STRESS: The primary accent in a word is indicated by a heavy stress mark (ˈ) after the accented syllable (ġiˈant). A lighter mark (ˈ) shows a secondary stress on a syllable within the same word (windˈmillˈ).
3. SYLLABICATION: When a word has more than one syllable, the syllables are separated by a dot (.) between syllables that are not stressed (ex·amˈple).
4. ENDINGS: If a word ends in a silent *e* as in *face*, the silent *e* is not marked. If the last syllable of a word is *ture* pronounced *chur* as in *naˈture*, the only marking for the syllable is a dot placed over the *u*. If a word ends in *ed* pronounced *t* as in *baked* or *d* as in *stayed*, no mark is needed. If the ending *ed* forms a separate syllable pronounced *ed* as in *loadˈed*, the *e* has a dot. If a word ends in *ior* pronounced *yer*, as in *sāvˈTior*, the *i* has two dots and the *o* has one dot.
5. PRONUNCIATION OF VOWEL COMBINATIONS: If there are two or three vowels within the same syllable, only the one that is appropriate has been marked, as in *beauˈty*, *friēnd*, or *breāk*. All other vowels within the syllable are considered to be silent.
6. PRONUNCIATION WITHOUT RESPELLING: The Open Court diacritical marks in the Pronunciation Key make it possible to indicate the pronunciation of most unfamiliar words without respelling.