YET MORE FABLED PHRASES

PETER NEWBY Chesterfield, Derbyshire, England

Fable Seven: Enlightenment

The Lord Buddha asked one of the Chinese astrological animals to supply names for various of the Earth's seas. A colorful creature, her suggestions for such as Red Sea, Black Sea and White Sea were readily accepted but The Enlightened One demurred when it came to the ovine beast's concept of the Light Brown Sea, on the basis that no one knew the volume of water contained in that particular arm of the ocean so none could say if it was 'light' or 'heavy'. "Why?" enquired the sheep. To which Buddha replied with the sage advice "Ewe must weigh Tan Sea".

Fable Eight: Bushwhacked

Dolly Parton was introduced to General Norman Schwarzkopf on her trip to entertain the allied troops involved in the Gulf War. She arrived in Kuwait shortly after the allies had won the celebrated 'mother of all battles' and were all set to finish Saddam Hussein once and for all. "If you don't beat that mad dastard", said the patriotic Miss Parton, "I'll eat my bra". To which the gallant general replied "If we don't get to Baghdad before the end of the month, I'll eat your bra". However, for political reasons, the President called a half to any further military activity with the result that, by eating his words, the great general gave rise to the army newspaper's ironic headling STORMIN' ATE E CUP.

Fable Nine: York Shyer

David J. Morice writes for many periodicals using a variety of pseudonyms, most of which incorporate his Christian name. We who delight in his Kickshaws column know him as Dave Morice, but for the Iowa City Bugle he has a very different nom de plume, which he first used last Christmas after they published his interview with the lascivious erstwhile wife of HRH the Duke of York. So impressed was Dave at the spirited defense by Fergie of her claimed 'solitary transgression' that he despatched his report to the Bugle under the heading ONE-SIN ROYAL: David Sitty.