

AN ANAGRAM ANNIVERSARY

JEZEBEL Q. XIXX

The nation is now observing the 200th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It behooves logologists to commemorate the occasion in their own, inimitable fashion: by exhibiting a collection of the finest anagrams ever devised on subjects surrounding the birth of the United States of America.

I have just finished a survey of much of past puzzle literature, selecting the 50 topical anagrams that seemed of the highest quality to me. They are presented below: a logological first.

First appeared in publications sponsored by what is today the National Puzzlers' League: A Key to Puzzledom (1906), Anagrammasia (1926), and the Enigma (many different dates). Of the 50 anagrams, 20 (or variations of them) have fairly recently been published in Palindromes and Anagrams (Dover Publications, 1973). That work also took them from National Puzzlers' League sources.

As is true in any other logological area, the outer limits have not yet been reached in the art of the anagram. As you examine the achievements of our predecessors, see whether you may not be able to improve on them. The potential is certainly there!

THE THIRTEEN ORIGINAL COLONIES

One coalition retireth English.

THE THIRTEEN ORIGINAL STATES

The great nation's title, eh, sir?

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Creed defined a continental hope.
Defial penned a conceited throne.
Plan once decided: free the nation!
Open hate dare lend it confidence.
A free clan then decided one point.
"Free a nation!", co-penned edict held.

SIGNING OUR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Thirteen colonies post defiance dead against future foreign dominance.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Ha! Our men incite a revolt!

Unite to revile a monarch!

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR
Heroic era: true, valiant army won.

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON
Granger gone to awe English.
Lone, engaging hero gets war,

WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE
A few, they all go on starving.
Galling woe at frosty haven.
Frosty vantage on leal Whig.

WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE
A hard, howling, tossing water scene.
He saw his ragged Continentals row.
The cold waters swashing on in rage.
A wet crew gain Hessian stronghold.
And so, this general watches rowing.
Haggard crew stole in Hessian town.

THE DELAWARE RIVER
Hail, revered water!

BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
Earth-built knob fell.

CAPTURE OF TICONDEROGA BY ETHAN ALLEN
Battle-hour glory cannot fade in peace.

THE TREACHERY OF BENEDICT ARNOLD
Lo! Chid, he betrayed fort entrance.

TREASON OF BENEDICT ARNOLD
A bold traitor's non-defence.

THE TREASON OF BENEDICT ARNOLD
Lo! None defend the scab traitor.
So, then, narrate bold defection!

THE RIDE OF PAUL REVERE
Rode there -- "Up! Fear evil!"

THE MIDNIGHT RIDE OF PAUL REVERE
Famed rider giveth hue in re plot.

THE SURRENDER OF GENERAL CORNWALLIS AT YORKTOWN
Courtly Washington ends all terror of keener war.

SURRENDER OF CORNWALLIS
War sure ends ill for "Corn"!

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A site for each destitute man.
 Attaineth its cause: freedom!
 It teaches us: "Attain freedom!"
 O Fate! Enthusiasm created it.
 That acme federation ties us.
 Thirteen cast die to fame -- U.S.A. !
 Item: the U.S.A. federation acts!
 I use a freedom that it enacts.
 "Freest astute domain", I teach.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

An acute strife made it so.

UNITED STATES

Tested as unit.

THE BANNER OF THE UNITED STATES

Beneath the star I found tenets.

THE PROUD STARS AND STRIPES

Support this standard, seer!

THE OLD STARS AND STRIPES

Their spotless standard!

RED, WHITE AND BLUE

Ah, we bled under it!

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Blest pennant has regard.