

THE MONTH
AT GOODSPEED'S BOOK SHOP
Boston, Massachusetts

VOL. II.



No. 5

A REVIEW published ten times each year, giving information concerning certain books, prints, and autographs which are now available. Norman L. Dodge, *Editor*

APPLE-PYE AND ELIZABETH

RICHARD STEELE'S attention must have been divided between his daughter and his ducats when he wrote the inscription we have reproduced, since the copy of Welstead's *Epistles*, et cetera, which he gave Elizabeth was published in 1724, whereas Steele has unmistakably written 1723 on the fly leaf. Of course, since the book contains a *Prologue* and *Epilogue* written by Mr. Welstead for Steele's *Conscious Lovers*, Steele may have received an advance copy. Yet, considering that the inscription was written in March and that till mid-eighteenth century the conservative Briton still reckoned that month as beginning the new year, it seems more probable that Steele was

BANK OF ENGLAND AS CAUSE OF THE
GREATEST FINANCIAL DISASTER OF
MODERN TIMES.

179 SOUTH SEA BUBBLE. (The Revengeful Treatment of Directors). A True State of the South Sea Scheme as it was first formed with the Several Alterations made in it before the Act of Parliament pass'd, and an Examination of the Conduct of the Directors in the Execution of that Act, with an Enquiry of the Causes of the Losses which have ensued, as also an Abstract of several Clauses of the Acts of Parliament made against those Directors and the Grounds of them. Pp. iv., 108, small 8vo., calf. g. e. VERY FINE COPY. RARE. £20 1732

This is the actual explanation given of the first great financial crash of modern times by one of the chief directors of the South Sea Bubble.

In it he claims that there was no evil design on the part of the directors; that Parliament itself altered the original scheme for the worse; and that the eagerness of the Bank of England to outdo the directors was a direct cause of the ultimate disaster.

The names of the 33 directors are given, with the value of their estates, the sums taken for creditors, and the amounts of the tag-ends left to them, including the treatment to the author (Sir John Blunt), who, out of £183,349, was left with £5,000.

There never had been any proof of the fabulous wealth of South America upon which the scheme was based, much less of the willingness of Spain to share what there was with England. But no one was unwilling to jump at the chance of getting enormously rich. What chances existed of any dealings with Spain grew gradually less, while shares went up ten-fold.

At last the directors sold out, and wild panic resulted. The rage of the public was unbounded. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was expelled the House and sent to the Tower, the Postmaster-General committed suicide, and the Secretary of the Treasury "died from anger" at the groundless charges brought against him.

Sir Robert Walpole took the matter in hand for all concerned, and the shareholders ultimately got a dividend of 33 per cent., and he laughed at those who blamed him for the little fortune he had himself made by buying at 100 and selling in time to get 1,000 out of public greed and timely warning.

to her father's play best of all. For godfathers Elizabeth had Joseph Addison and Wortley Montagu. When she was a month old, her father began his career as an essayist with the publication of *The Tatler*. Elizabeth was not interested. She put the years behind her with more success than did most of her father's short-lived periodicals, and having grown to be,

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Elizabeth Steele
Her Book
Given by Her Father
March 20th Richard Steele
1723

we suppose, a beautiful lady in a high wig and complicated clothes, married a Welsh judge, the third Lord Trevor of Bromham.

Welstead's inclusion of his curtain pieces to *The Conscious Lovers* is fortunate in view of Steele's association with our copy of the book. *The Conscious Lovers*, Steele's last comedy, said to contain the best of his ideas on life and character, was first played in November, 1722. Second to this prologue and epilogue in interest is *Apple-Pye, a Poem*, in mock heroics. We used to think that apple pie was exclusively a

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Yankee delicacy — certainly eating it for breakfast, with hasty pudding made according to Joel Barlow's recipe, is native enough. Yet Welstead's description of apple pie, if read by a Yankee in Timbuctoo, would fill his palate with memories and his heart with longing for granite hills, ragged coast, maple syrup, cotuits, and wooden nutmegs. Welstead's recipe is explicit —

Draw out your *Dough* elaborately thin,
And cease not to fatigue your *Rolling-Pin*.

Adorn the "polish'd *Brim*" with "*Crinkum-cranks*," do not forget the refinements of quince and brown sugar, pierce the lid with your bod-



THE EXPRESS TRAIN

CURRIER & IVES

Colored lithograph, small folio, \$65.00

*The switchmen knew by the engine's moans
That the man at the throttle was Casey Jones.*

kin "to give the kind imprison'd *Treasure* ^{AT}GOODSPEED'S
vent," and while baking do not let temptation
lead you "to lick the o'erflowing *Juice*, or bite
the *Crust*."

This book of Elizabeth Steele's is bound in old calf, one cover loose and part of the back strip lacking, but sound inside where it matters. Two portraits of Steele have been inserted. The price is two hundred dollars. The name "Eliza Steele" is written on the title page, and on the inside cover you find a note by a well-known Boston publisher — "London. June 27, 1859. I picked up this volume today in Fleet St. at a shop kept by Waller. James T. Fields."



WINTER, the reproduction on the front cover, is taken from an engraving colored by hand and published in New York about 1800. It measures about 10" x 12", the upper margin is cropped, and the price is fifty dollars. The verse below the winter scene is this —

*On blithesome frolics bent the youthful swains,
While every work of man is laid at rest,
Fond o'er the river crowd & as they sweep
On sounding skaites a thousand different ways,
In circling poise swift as the winds along,
The then gay land is madden'd all to joy.*

The poet succeeds in sending a shiver, though the artist may have failed.

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S^R. RICHARD STEELE KN^T.

From a mezzotint by John Faber, engraved in 1733 after the portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller. This portrait of Steele is one of forty-seven by the same engraver after Kneller's paintings of members of the Kit-Cat Club. These mezzotints were published by Jacob Tonson (a member of the Club) in 1735, accompanied by a leaf of dedication and an elaborately engraved title page. We have this great work