

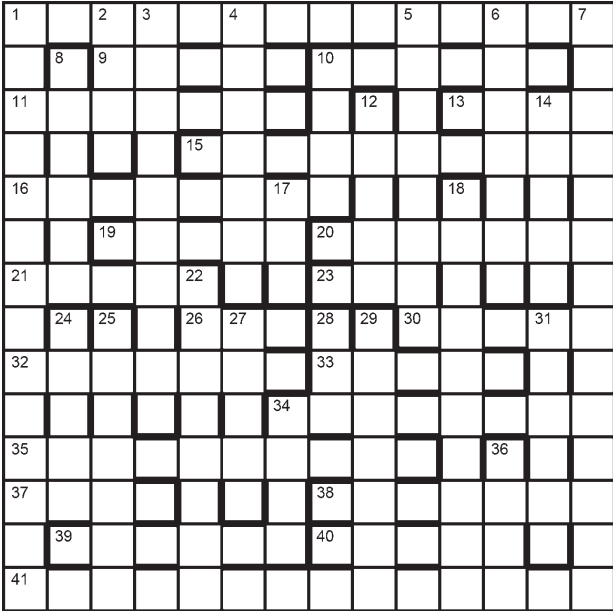
Crossword

2690:

Resignation

by La Jerezana

A quotation (in the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*) runs clockwise around the perimeter of the grid, beginning with the last letter of 20. The apostrophe has to be included where it appears. Five unclued lights are of a kind; one is directly linked to the quotation, the others indirectly.



Across

- 9 Dangerous atmosphere in outskirts of Hackney (5)
- 10 Criticise extremely burdensome tariff (6)
- 11 Careless ironworker losing wok by mistake (2,5)
- 13 Auntie putting end of thumb on buzzer (4)
- 15 Idiot and old spies regularly billed as 'potentially connected' (10)
- 16 Reportedly joined model, 33, in bath? (8)
- 20 Footballing great from Lazio once collared by detective (7)
- 21 Hard work exhausted industrious Native Americans (5)
- 26 Start to put axes in box (3)
- 30 Authorisation of e.g. standing order (3-2)
- 32 Thief in cathedral grubbing about (7)
- 33 Dismal English music genre (5)
- 34 I'm rated 'fantastic' as hotel manager (6,2)
- 35 Enthusiastically start distributing inoculant around hospital (6,4)
- 37 Stimulant leaves couple of codgers agitated at first (4)
- 38 Secure information about drying hay (7)
- 39 Convert put to death in church (6)
- 40 'Goodbye', said advisor, oddly dismissed (5)

Down

- 2 Ex-PM ignoring that US singer (4)
- 3 Rockets unfortunately scaring pet (10)
- 4 Dull experts are initially in charge (7)
- 5 Tsarinas desperate for skilled workers (8)
- 6 Old malaria drug consumed by Google's co-founder (7)
- 8 Blue diamonds concealed by Jones the Architect (6)
- 12 Quantity of mescal affects part of inner ear (5)
- 14 Antelope dash over middle of meadows (5)
- 17 Musicians briefly run Post Office (3)
- 18 Old-fashioned broadcaster acting as mediator (5,5)
- 22 Last of lackadaisical dons perking up and marrying (8)
- 24 Puny half-cut Asian making Indian scoff (5)
- 28 Naked heathen military commander (3)
- 29 Iodine and deuterium found in common compound (7)

- 31 Appeal for help interrupted by total losers (6)
- 34 One's upset about Slough (4)
- 36 Communist cobblers holding up introduction of technology (4)

A first prize of a £30 John Lewis voucher and two runners-up prizes of £20 vouchers for the first correct solutions opened on 3 March. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to crosswords@spectator.co.uk, or post to: Crossword 2690, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP.

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