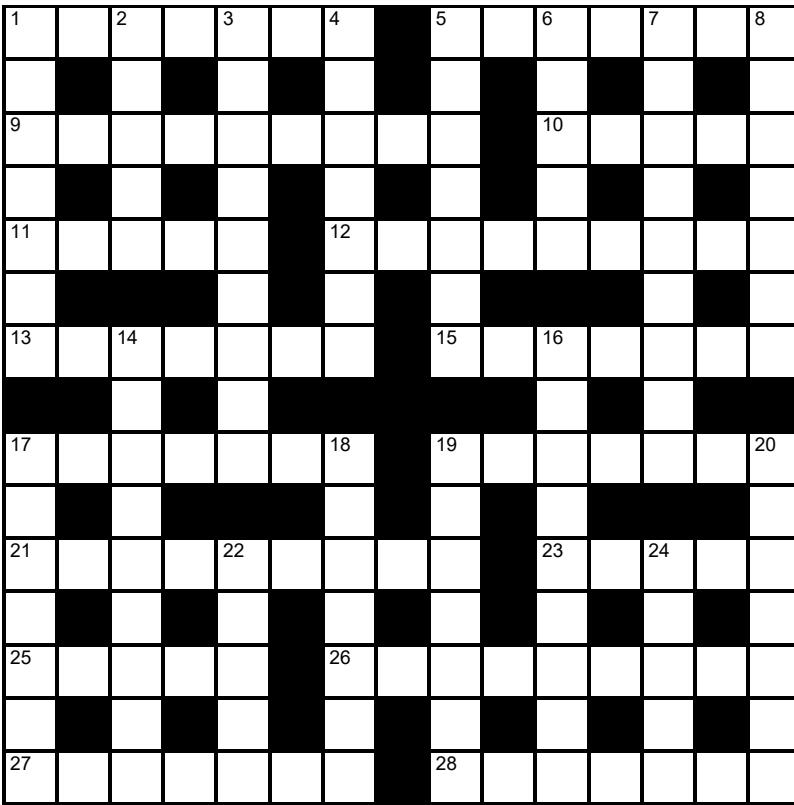


CROSSWORD No 17,785 by SOLOMON



Solution 17,784



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ACROSS

- 1 Like a slim and wiry bare bum (7)
- 5 Mistake seen in second-rate Turner? (7)
- 9 One who bloomed following a period of self-reflection (9)
- 10 Add dash symbol (5)
- 11 Old Greek building's highest floor? (5)
- 12 Covid-19? In a manner of speaking, there isn't any left (9)
- 13 You, say, or I, say, abandoning the Church of England (7)
- 15 Toilet queue overwhelms a gutless turnstile-operator (7)
- 17 During chat, the other half of cake is put in sauce (7)
- 19 Edit photo of exotic bird, erasing an expression that conveys urgency (5,2)
- 21 On board, I impress drunk mates with golf club (5,4)
- 23 Wheels, what they do, and what they carry? (5)
- 25 State in Mexico had isthmuses facing west (5)
- 26 Ruins lie set back beside the French port (9)
- 27 Celebratory occasion included the man who found the Holy Grail (7)
- 28 One minute ahead, Charlie ushers in a black taxi (7)

DOWN

- 1 Tanner's belt put underneath newspaper (7)
- 2 One who sets puzzles beginning to reconsider the object's value (5)
- 3 Lion with tummy trouble pursued by idiot husband in Tarzan outfit (9)
- 4 Chekhov, for instance, starts to rewrite unpublished short stories including *Ariadne* and *Neighbours* (7)
- 5 Diminutive miner's boron powder left around flue, oddly (7)
- 6 Work with jerk that's full of spirit (5)
- 7 Spirited fighting over hospital's lab equipment (5,4)
- 8 Date with whipped cream on (7)
- 14 Acutely aware of concerning article written by degree students (2,3,4)
- 16 Club secretaries essentially switch sides at the start of meal (9)
- 17 Making amorous advances, former US politician overlooks old queen (7)
- 18 Where a fire is prematurely extinguished in the middle of ancient structure (7)
- 19 Beat time on drum, topless, causing hysterics (7)
- 20 Spin around book and say 'don't judge it by its cover' (7)
- 22 Loiter about among low rugby goal posts (5)
- 24 Fly discovered in boiled rice becomes a memento (5)

JOTTER PAD