Acrostic Puzzle by John de Cuevas

Instructions: Write the words defined by the cryptic clues over the numbered dashes, then transfer the letters to the correspondingly numbered squares in the grid. When correctly filled in the grid will contain a quotation from a work whose title is given by the first letters of the answer words. I am grateful to Kevin Wald for help with the clues.

A. US, Can, etc., with no foundation, take 2000 lbs. of microscopic sea life	1 41 58 135 177 186 141 116 100 25 108 82
B. Dodgson sort of thought menu ended with French seafood	168 24 124 105 155 31
C. Endless game John played is a Chinese game	<u> 182 28 123 104 2 118 59 </u>
D. King, before lunch, has to fight Hector	66 51 161 111 167 27 170 3
E. English minister's first to take charge and get raise in relief	4 204 67 43 106 122
F. Sorry, unable to attend royal bird show's opening	-44 6 64 125 81 93 159
G. Back up in game	<u> 187 176 30 87 178 207 35 </u>
H. Scrap some fabric	92 115 179 36 32 107 8
I. Earth free in orbit for a long time to come	-26 68 7 91 193 199 79 117 174
J. Skill without chic is, finally, lamentable	<u></u>
K. Lumber treated with lac, mostly for protection	<u> 181 188 205 69 94 16 29 55 </u>
L. Turning back the fluid of life is retribution	127 17 46 154 62 164 194
M. For indirect expression in letter, sign off with "love"	70 133 171 144 206 160 45 11

N. Harshly condemn and excoriate a pet virtue

O. Cockney reportedly despises certain boats on the Thames

P. Check about sweetheart turning crimson in response

Q. Sweet canaries flying around court house

R. One fellow finishing off with excellent cut towards the center

S. Chaps showing egg-bearing fish

T. Fuss about English hide

U. A strange story about having no money to begin studying the stars

V. I, wearing tarnished crown, have started for East Anglian city

W. Finished drawing base line around male beetle

X. Importunate old city fellow

Y. All of a sudden running, Bart catches up

Z. Ailing host lying about like one risen from the grave

AA. Representative has to lose five for Jack to have fun

<u>5 198 109 203 152 61 95 47 73 156</u>

<u>151 200 9 74 169 40</u>

<u>139 189 103 23 57 165 114 183 153</u>

60 34 83 119 148 191 143 71

90 147 50 18 163 97 84

<u>145 96 19 131 37 202 85 53 172</u>

<u>157 112 38 101 65 197 137</u>

12 113 173 98 56 158

<u>185 33 77 86 13 149</u>

<u>166 129 14 192 136 140 49</u>

20 142 99 175 134

1	A	2	. (С	3	D	4	Е	5	N	6	F	7	I	8	Н	9	О	10	J	11	M	12	X	13	Y	14	Z	15	R	16	K	17	L	18	T	19	U	20	AA	21	W	22	Q	23	P
2	4 B	2	5	A	26	Ι	27	D	28	С	29	K	30	G	31	В	32	Н	33	Y	34	S	35	G	36	Н	37	U	38	V	39	W	40	О	41	A	42	W	43	Е	44	F	45	M	46	L
4	7 N	4	-8	Q	49	Z	50	Т	51	D	52	J	53	U	54	R	55	K	56	X	57	P	58	A	59	С	60	S	61	N	62	L	63	J	64	F	65	V	66	D	67	Е	68	Ι	69	K
7	0 M	7	'1	S	72	Q	73	N	74	О	75	J	76	W	77	Y	78	Q	79	I	80	J	81	F	82	A	83	S	84	T	85	U	86	Y	87	G	88	W	89	R	90	T	91	I	92	Н
9	3 F	9	4	K	95	N	96	U	97	T	98	X	99	AA	100	A	101	V	102	J	103	P	104	С	105	В	106	Е	107	Н	108	A	109	N	110	Q	111	D	112	V	113	X	114	P	115	Н
1	16 A	. 1	17	Ι	118	С	119	S	120) W	121	J	122	Е Е	123	С	124	В	125	F	126	J	127	L	128	Q	129	Z	130	W	131	U	132	Q	133	M	134	AA	135	Α	136	Z	137	V	138	R
1	39 P	1	40	Z	141	Α	142	2 AA	143	3 S	144	M	145	U	146	W	147	T	148	S	149	Y	150	R	151	О	152	N	153	P	154	L	155	В	156	N	157	V	158	X	159	F	160	M	161	D
1	62 R	. 1	63	T	164	L	165	5 P	166	5 Z	167	D	168	В	169	О	170	D	171	M	172	U	173	X	174	I	175	AA	176	G	177	A	178	G	179	Н	180	R	181	K	182	С	183	P	184	· Q
1	85 Y	1	86	A	187	G G	188	8 K	189) P	190	R	191	S	192	Z	193	I	194	L	195	J	196	Q	197	V	198	N	199	Ι	200	0	201	Q	202	U	203	N	204	E	205	K	206	M	207	G