

Puzzle #150 — November 2013 "Dead or Alive"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to nine letters, and four are capitalized) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Eight across words and seven down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those fifteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a two-word phrase related to the puzzle's title. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

Across

1. Knowing what's going to happen now about continuous integration
2. Respect greets Earl going west
3. GI tavern entrance broken in without right
4. Mother Moses holding a flask
5. Played bad today after making one error
6. Rod in a desert weakened and stopped
7. Towel tied around mark on skin
8. Drunken priest gains energy after losing it in binge
9. Start to close swinging door, trapping new bird
10. Court proceeding involves time and money
11. Automaton to rummage around barn
12. Fool put last of beer in satellite
13. Tending unwell peon around end of September
14. Rambling prose about beginning of European peace
15. Write a sentence about peace
16. Signs of animals deprived of range
17. Free in movement and free of faults
18. Sudden impulse to grab cloth
19. Conveyance returning at 11
20. Frightful, essentially unrelenting dirt
21. Pad covering ring in ditch
22. Walked, ending at bar
23. Prison breakout featured in this French plot

Down

1. Ripe, green, outlandish, and errant
2. Beyond limits without meter adjustment
3. Tailored a peer's apparel
4. Burning wood at end of line
5. Place for travelers to rest in remote land
6. Chameleon character managed to get lost
7. Instance of comic as everyman
8. One who goes over is more irritable
9. Force of wind in tornado
10. Lorna's finished with love
11. Last of old rocks and bones
12. Village wife has put on weight
13. Social event includes bass singer
14. Warring yeomen died wealthy
15. Spell *nectar* incorrectly
16. Small wooden peg left to harden
17. Last of home games
18. Threaten demon child with death
19. Figurative language poet misused when embracing end of war
20. Chamois treated to keep wet
21. Riotous roast for a Houston player
22. Spectator holding shirt for pitcher, maybe
23. Lying speech about true informer