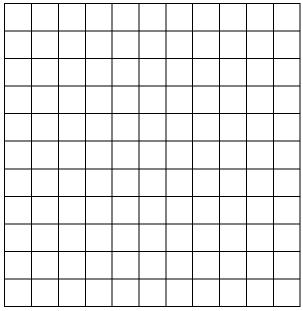
Puzzle #172 — September 2015 "Hubble"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to nine letters, one is foreign, another is a prefix, and two 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. Seven across words and eight 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 four-word phrase related to the title and the mystery entries. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

Across

- 1. Mystery entry
- 2. Attempt to restrict feed contract
- 3. Treachery's extent
- 4. Rest snugly in new framed steel
- 5. Ill-fated, violent splash drowns echo
- 6. Utopian gives up 500 for juicer
- 7. Ultimate shape
- 8. I will take Earl's place in course as winner
- 9. Most rye is ground after middle of harvest
- 10. Dancer fish carried by Paris rail line
- 11. Got a torn robe
- 12. Peg's talk about an edible root
- 13. Craftier twist of wire holding core of clip
- 14. Part of anecdote is not even in Latin
- 15. First empire collapsed after losing leader
- 16. Sheer fabric starts to shrink while in soapy
- 17. Tied after turning back the French soccer team, maybe
- 18. Mass inside circuit will generate light
- 19. Ms. Sarkisian embraces German theologian in square
- 20. Ripken and Player in Canadian city
- 21. Enthusiastic diva headed west
- 22. Sore feet treated with sulfur and essence of horseradish
- 23. Mystery entry



Down

- 1. Split tapes are trashed
- 2. Strike with sound
- 3. Lack of movement is a characteristic of municipal systems
- 4. Neat page border
- 5. Pleasing quality of good competition
- 6. Eliot about managed to get across
- 7. Repair track around center
- 8. Strict sire always has energy
- 9. Endless scenery obscured in film
- 10. Celine's strangely quiet
- 11. Marshal terrifyingly carrying a rope for hanging
- 12. Charlie's talk, a short selection
- 13. Returning party gets lift
- 14. Has a tendency to eat stuff
- 15. Baking recipes must be exact
- 16. Men in riot disturbed island
- 17. Women vied crazily to get married
- 18. Child's troubled realm turned more peaceful
- 19. Send payment in return for measuring
- 20. Start of full reading in old court lobby
- 21. Evil, once aroused, becomes physical force
- 22. Bottom part is damaged
- 23. Support one list of candidates to make laws