Crossword 15,856 Set by Mudd

ACROSS
1 Idea not supposed to impress supervisors, alluded to previously (14)
10 Slowly travel east of Clare, avoiding the outskirts (5)
11 Dip a tea plant, mile off, into liquid glue (9)
12 Bit of a nag dies slowly (7)
13 Couple run around naked at first, on ship (7)
14 Animal found in the water butt (5)
16 Splash of red, almost a work of art (3,6)
19 So deep in sleep in centre of bed without short trousers? (9)
20 Setter is back in hole (5)
22 Apple, little one underwater? (7)
25 Regard muscle during period of relaxation (7)
27 Happy about nothing, no good going further (9)
28 Link every second part in turn, and tie in knots (5)
29 In a storm at sea, plebs screening rank drama (8,6)

DOWN
2 Evergreen nation welcoming male officer on ship (5,4)
3 River, perfect river (5)
4 Massive outlet feeding biodome, gas to release (9)
5 Straight over brow of hill, Welsh town (5)
6 Behind upstanding king and queen, pair listening? (2,7)
7 Circular loop, end of rope just round the corner pulled up (5)
8 One putting things on sideboard (7)
9 One found in bed perhaps, flies originally down (6)
15 Dim recollection in desire for something else (9)
17 It is hidden under plate – bloody shame (9)
18 Soften mood finally during rite seen as grotesque (9)
19 Noble knight mostly on the game (7)
21 Model, one rarely missed? (6)
23 Sink blocked at the bottom, rubbish coming up (5)
24 Criticise access (3,2)
26 Little bird seemingly quite upset, attacking bunting initially (5)

Solution 15,855

Solution 15,844

Copies of *How to Sound Clever* by Hubert van den Bergh and *The Superior Person's Book of Words* by Peter Bowler, published by A&C Black and Bloomsbury, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday May 23. Entries marked Crossword 15,856 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on May 26