

From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

Who is this Man?

Now and then, in the pages of the *Clarion*, I run a biographical quiz, under the heading of "Who Is This Man?" For instance...

"He was one of the earliest lovers in American history...

"And yet he was too shy to court a woman outright...

"He came to the New World on the Mayflower...

"A cooper to repair the beer barrels accompanying the Pilgrims...

"Who is this man?"

I thought that everybody was

stumped. But not Ma Hoskins, who returned the clipping to me with "John Alden" on it. She recognized all the clues—including that reference to "beer" and "cooper."

For Ma—who's read her history, knows that beer as the beverage of moderation, is as old in this land of ours as the never-ending American search for tolerance which brought the Pilgrims over to this country in the first place.

Joe Marsh