

“And right you re. You do the way we do
In reading, don’t you Bill? - at every line end
Pick up your eyes and carry them back idle
Across the page to where we started from.
The other way of reading back and forth,
Known as boustrophedon, was found too awkward.”

Pike grunted rather grimly with misgiving
As being thus expounded to himself
And made of by a boy; then having reached
The river bank, quit work defiantly,
As if he didn’t care who understood him,
And started his march back again discoursing:
“A man has got to keep his extrication.
The important thing is not to get bogged down
In what he has to do to earn a living.
What’s more, I hate to keep afflicting weeds.
I like to give my enemies a truce.”

“Be careful how you use your influence
If I decided to become a doctor.
You’d be to blame for furnishing the reasons.”

“I though you meant to be an Indian Chief -
You said the second coming of Tecumseh.
Remember how you envied General Sherman*.
William Tecumseh Sherman. Why Tecumseh?”
(He tried to imitate Dick’s tone of voice.)
“You wished your middle name had been Tecumseh.”

“I think I’ll change my mind.”

“You’re saying that
To bother me by siding with the Doctor.
You’ve got no social conscience, as they say,
Or you’d feel differently about the classes.
You can’t claim you’re a social visionary.”