

Slavonic Dances

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The Slavonic Dances are a series of works by noted composer Dvorak. This also happens to be the name of a well-known keyboard layout.

By translating between a qwerty keyboard and a dvorak keyboard, the first line comes out as:

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS AN CQCUMGSE WITH A RHINO
HELL IF I KNOW

This less-than-humorous joke is somewhat well known...the scrambled word above should obviously be elephant. This is a primer for the final section of letters which have been encoded with a monoalphabetic substitution cipher. Using the elephant=cqcumgse primer, we can begin the decryption sequence. Once those letters have been filled in, we see:

THE_____N_____P__E_THELA_____A_ETHE__ENT__

Attempting frequency analysis will show that most letters only appear once or twice, and every letter appears at least once. A well known phrase that contains every letter at least once is "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog". Realizing this allows the deciphering of the final phrase:

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG
NAME THE INVENTOR

Also, the cipher key used for decryption is determined to be:

QWERTYABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPSUVXZ

So the final question "Name the inventor" refers to the QWERTY keyboard.

And the final answer is Christopher Latham Sholes or simply **SHOLES**.