## ACROSS

1 Rabble return before slob's paid off for defusing work $(4,8)$
8 Creature to march and charge endlessly (6)
9 One expense high up (8)
10 Hostile to paper contrast (10)
11 Spoils the planet (4)
12 More revolting gruel I prepared (6)
14 Remaining double after another rise (8)
16 Ornate shrines round top of cathedral, showing opulence (8)
19 Label inside the Spanish coat (6)
21 Animal entering most aggressively (4)
22 Deign to let the prisoner go down (10)
24 Non-amateur to pass conventions (8)
25 One sliding on ice is fish, right? (6)
26 Be quick to skip a payment again $(4,2,6)$

## DOWN

1 Some lamb, raw, needs muscle (5)
2 Boy needs one drink (7)
3 Old penny is price for release (9)
4 Corrupt son involved in games curtailed fund (7)
5 Deliveries of love poetry, mostly (5)
6 Humbled by tree above a sea (7)
7 Like a poet with incredible aura - elite, not I! (8)
13 Try gel, it could be sparkly (8)
15 Novelist destroyed sonnets about wartime victory (9)

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17 Late afternoon meal I hate thrown around good hospital $(4,3)$
18 One-time garment (7)
20 Sun god lifted brace to bright light (3,4)
22 Place to hide money, it's said (5)
23 Wanting river to rise in New York (5)

