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Blends

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BLEND  
Their Relation to English.  
Word Formation

by

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Professor of the English Language  
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Heidelberg 1914

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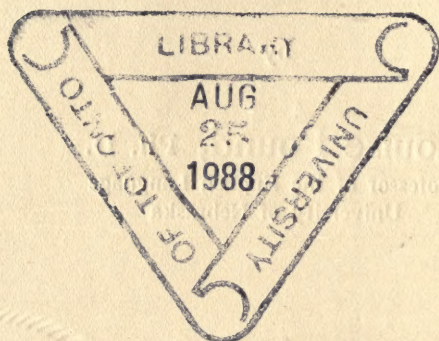
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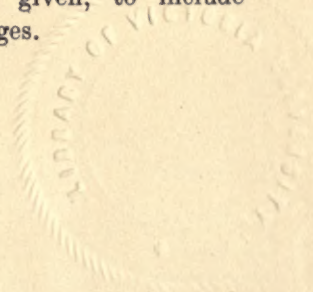


## Prefatory Note.

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The following pages grew, by gradual accretion, out of some chance notations of blends made from time to time by the author, or brought to her attention by others. The form into which the discussion shaped itself is due to the manner of its genesis, rather than to preliminary plan, or to any original intention on the part of the author to treat the subject. Of chief interest, probably, is the section dealing with the present-day vogue of blend formations. It seems time that specific attention be called to the contemporary popularity of blends, and to the freedom felt in their coinage, not only in the factitious creations of the lettered class, and in folk-forms, but in scientific nomenclature, in trade terms, and in arbitrarily made baptismal names and place-names. Since treatment is limited to English blends, no effort was made, where bibliographical citations are given, to include references to blends in other languages.

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## I.

### General Nature and Interest of Blend-Words.

Blend-words, amalgams, or fusions, may be defined as two or more words, often of cognate sense, telescoped as it were into one; as factitious conflations which retain, for a while at least, the suggestive power of their various elements. Probably they are best known to the general public, not through discussion by professional linguists, but through the "portmanteau words", i. e., "words into which two meanings are packed as in a portmanteau", of a passage in Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*. The term "portmanteau word", also several of Carroll's ingenious coinages of this nature, have found their way by this time into familiar usage<sup>1</sup>. Carroll was not the inventor of "portmanteau words" however, as a few seem to believe, but was tagging with an ingenious name which soon popularized itself a process recognized for some

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<sup>1</sup> *The Century Dictionary* includes in its supplement Carroll's *chortle* from *chuckle* and *snort*, and *snark* from *snake* and *shark*. *The New Webster International* adds *galumphing*, a welding of *galloping* and *triumphing*. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary* enters *chortle* and *galumph*. According to Farmer and Henley, *A Dictionary of Slang and Colloquial English*, 1905, p. 348, although the name "portmanteau word" was Carroll's, the method of word-formation was Bishop Samuel Wilberforce's.

The student of curious coinages may find it interesting to note that Mr. A. A. Vansittart, translating Carroll's poem *Jabberwocky* into Latin elegiacs in 1872 (printed at Oxford in 1881) coined on Carroll's model the Latin blends *cæesper* from *cæna* and *vesper*, *lubriciles* from *lubricus* and *graciles*, and others. See *The Life and Letters of Lewis Carroll* by S. D. Collingwood, N. Y., 1899.

time as an occasional mode of word formation. Those treating the life and growth of the English language have often made passing reference to coalescence or blending<sup>1</sup>; especially when dealing with slang or dialect speech; and lexicographers have noted for individual words their fusion origin. But blend-words have never been treated separately, i. e., for their own sake, at much length. Nor have they been examined sufficiently, for any one period, to make clear just what or how large a part they may play in word coinage; or what percentage, if any, ultimately wins its way into acceptance in the standard language; or, in general, just how important or unimportant they may be. Coalescence forms have had less attention for example than echoic or imitative formations, as *twitter*,

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<sup>1</sup> See Strong, Logeman, and Wheeler, *Introduction to the History of Language*, 1891, pp. 143—144; also Wheeler, *Analogy and the Scope of its Application in Language*, Ithaca, N.Y., 1887; H. Oertel, *Lectures on the Study of Language*, 1901, pp. 171 ff.; Greenough and Kittredge, *Words and Their Ways in English Speech*, 1901, p. 69; H. Bradley, *The Making of English*, 1904, p. 159; O. Jespersen, *Growth and Structure of the English Language*, 1905, p. 95 (French-English blends); T. G. Tucker, *The Natural History of Language*, 1908, p. 436; L. P. Smith, *The English Language*, 1912, pp. 105—106.

Treatment at some length is to be found in F. A. Wood's "Iteratives, Blends, and 'Streckformen'," *Modern Philology*, October, 1911. In this article Dr. Wood explains as blends many of H. Schröder's "Streckformen" (See *Streckformen, ein Beitrag zur Lehre von der Wortentstehung und der germ. Wortbetonung*, Heidelberg, 1906), and presents much illustrative material from English and other languages. See also the supplementary "Some English Blends" by Dr. Wood in *Modern Language Notes*, June, 1912. Especially valuable is G. A. Bergström's *On Blendings of Synonymous or Cognate Expressions in English: A Contribution to the Study of Contamination*, Lund, 1906. This deals chiefly with syntactical blendings, but treats of word-blendings, pp. 41—73, and contains suggestive bibliographical references. Other special works or articles bearing on the topics treated here are noted later.



*sizz, gurgle, kaflop, keswosh, glut-glut, to whit*, always so prolific a source of word creation; than iterative or reduplicative compounds showing ablaut or rime, like *dilly-dally, helter-skelter, razzle-dazzle, higgledy-piggledy*; than curtailments like *bus* from *omnibus*, *cab* from *cabriolet*, *van* from *caravan*; than folk-etymological and similar modifications like *sparrow-grass* for *asparagus*, *mush melon* for *musk melon*, *sheep's sour* for *sheep sorrel*; and they have had very little more attention than new words built from proper names, like *pasteurize, silhouette, mercerize, davenport*, and the like. Interest has been stronger in nearly all other folk-methods of word creation visible in the living speech, than it has been in fusion words or blendings. This is natural since the other methods enumerated probably affect more or more important words, or tracts of words, and hence impressed themselves earlier on the attention of linguistic students.

In general, abnormal forms, whether transitory or promising permanence, have seemed worthy of special examination only within comparatively recent times. Even now curious or unusual word-forms impress many students of language as negligible, if not actually repellent; their interest is limited to the standard. To scholars of this type, amalgam forms are likely to seem, for the most part, too grotesque or too whimsical to be taken seriously, even when interest centers on kinds and processes rather than on individual words.

## II.

### Relation to Standard or Literary Speech.

Blend-words have nevertheless a certain interest and importance. Some proportion of them undoubtedly win their way into acceptance in the standard language. The growth of new words in dialect or slang is really much

the same as that which has created language in the past and will in the future. Many of our standard terms have worked their way slowly upward from vulgar speech or provincial usage; what is objectionable in one century may be beyond reproach in the next. Further, as so often pointed out, part of the interest in the study of the living language lies in the circumstance that in language processes, as in so much else, the present is often the best guide to the interpretation of the past. More is often to be learned, as regards words and their ways, from dialect than from literary speech.

Some instances of factitious words, apparently or certainly of blend origin, which have found their way into dictionary recognition are:

*dumbfound*, from *dumb* and *confound*. *scurry*, perhaps from *skirr*, or *scour*, and *hurry*. *flaunt*, which may merge *fly*, *flout*, and *vaunt*. *squirm*, from *squir* merged with *swarm* and *warm*. *dang*, from *damn* and *hang*. *squawk*, built from *squeak* and *squall*. *electrolier*, from *electric* and *chandelier*. *lunch*, from *lump* crossed with *hunch* or *bunch*. *luncheon*, from *lunch* and the now obsolete *nuncheon*. *gerrymander*, from Elbridge Gerry and *salamander*. *electrocute*, built from *electric* and *execute*. *flurry*, perhaps from *fly*, or *flaw*, and *hurry*. *boost*, probably from *boom* and *hoist*. *whang*, from *whack* and *bang*. *foist*, perhaps from *fist* and *hoist*. *blurt*, from *blow*, or *blare*, and *spurt*. *flounder*, perhaps from *founder* and *blunder*. *runagate*, from *runaway* and *renegate*.

Most of these are additions to our vocabulary in recent or fairly recent times. It is to be expected that whimsicalities or conscious or unconscious fusions of this sort that caught the popular fancy, and in the course of time established themselves, will often prove difficult to trace. For the most part, fantastic or grotesque modifications,



or slang usages, seldom get into print, much less into dictionaries, till they have been in circulation so long that certain knowledge of their origin has been lost. In many cases, unless there is contemporary testimony establishing the elements of the coinage, amalgam words are peculiarly hard to identify. If it is often difficult to say whether contemporary or fairly contemporary words are really composites or not, it is sometimes almost impossible to do so when dealing with words now some centuries old. A few cases resolve themselves too obviously to be overlooked, like the often quoted Old French *oreste* from *orage* and *tempeste*, or German *unke* from older *uche* and *unc*, or Wiclif's *austerne* from *austere* and *stern*. But even forms so obvious as Rostand's *ridicoculise*<sup>1</sup> from *ridiculiser* and *cocu*, Kipling's *theosophilander*<sup>2</sup> from *theosophy* and *philander*, or the *gerrymander* cited above, might well perplex the etymologist, had they been established for many centuries and undergone changes in form and pronunciation, yet no trace been preserved of how they originated. Sometimes, too, the danger is the other way round; not that fusion words will fail to be recognized as such, but that words will be thought amalgam words which are not. For example, the now obsolete *alegar*, defined in Wright's *English Dialect Dictionary* as *vinegar* made from *ale*, malt vinegar, is not the blend of *vinegar* and *ale* that it looks to be, and so with *beeregar*. These are better classed as formations parallel with *vinegar*, or built on its model, than as hybrids with it.

It would then be a task doubtfully profitable, if not futile, to attempt to determine with approximate definiteness the number of fusion words which have found their way into the lexicon of the standard language in the past.

<sup>1</sup> *Cyrano de Bergerac*, II 4.   <sup>2</sup> "The Education of Otis Yeere", in *Under the Deodars*. In general for citations of the occurrence of the fusion forms mentioned here, see the alphabetical lists given at the close.

A more profitable task is to try to register what is going on at present. Similarly it is futile to try to fix any particular chronology for the advent of blend-words in English; though it is certain that they are not a new phenomenon<sup>1</sup>. They are probably as old in our language history as composites, or cross-forms, or contaminations of various kinds, in general. Wichf's *austerne* has already been cited. In Shakespeare occur *bubukle* from *bubo* and *carbuncle*, *rebuse* from *rebuke* and *abuse*, and *porpentine*, probably a merging of *porcypine* and *pourpoint*. Some stray examples of clever literary nonce words of the "portmanteau" type, drawn from literature older than the present, are:

*furicano*, from *hurricano* (the Elizabethan form) and *jury*. Nash. *condog*, from *concur* and *dog*. Lyly. *crazy-ologist*, from *craniologist* and *crazy*. Southey. *foolosopher*, from *philosopher* and *fool*. Howell. *lovertine*, from *lover* and *libertine*. From *A Patient Grissill* (1603). *comrogue*, from *comrade* and *rogue*. Ben Jonson, Swift. *futilitarian*, from *utilitarian* and *futile*. Southey.

Some present day coinages of similar pattern are *shamateur*, *alcoholiday*, *prevaricaterer*, *epicurate*.

Much grouping or discussion of forms is better postponed however until blending has been more exactly defined, in relation to kindred linguistic phenomena, and until the various classes of blends have been established.

### III.

#### Some Delimitations.

The distinction between fusion forms and related forms better classified otherwise is sometimes hard to draw.

<sup>1</sup> See F. A. Wood. *op. cit. supra*, (VI) for some instances of haplogenic blends from Sanskrit, Greek, Latin, and French. For examples of blends from modern European languages, see Bergström, p. 45, and bibliographical references *passim*.



Many words which might be classed by others as blends are excluded from the present discussion; for example analogical extensions or enlargements. In these cases the process seems rather that of extension by prefix or suffix than of amalgamation. The meaning remains that of the original, intensified perhaps, or slightly modified. *Judgmatical* has been called a blend<sup>1</sup>, but is less a welding of *judgment* with *dogmatical*, helped by *critical*, than an analogical extension of *judge* or *judgment*. The meaning of *dogmatical* or *critical* is not implied. So with *splendiferous*, *grandiferous*, *corporosity*, etc. The first has been called a blend of *splendid* and *auriferous*<sup>2</sup>; but it is rather an extension of *splendid* by the suffix of *vociferous*, *odoriferous*, etc. Compare the occasional *sonoriferous*<sup>3</sup> *angeliferous*<sup>4</sup>, and the like. *Commonsencical* is an extension of *commonsense* on the model of *nonsensical*, not a blend.

The test of intentionalness, as between analogical and blend formations, is sometimes but not always of value. Truly analogical forms, like the extensions first cited, are generally unintentional; blend forms are often conscious or intentional. At first, at least, the elements of the conflation keep their potency in meaning; indeed the welding is too obvious, unless in the case of monosyllables or dissyllables, to be missed; compare *happstance*, *scandiculous*, *bumbersoll*, *bumbershoot*, *sweatspiration*, *boldacious*. Often however, in the course of time, some of the original elements wear away, or consciousness of the mode of origin becomes quite lost; so *lunch*, *boost*, *scurry*, if these had their origin as conflations. Yet it

<sup>1</sup> By Wood, *op. cit. supra*.

<sup>2</sup> So Barrère and Leland, *Dictionary of Slang*. 1889.

<sup>3</sup> "Really fine writing and sonoriferous periods", F. Anstey, *Baboo Hurry Bungsho Jabberjee*, B. A. 1897.

<sup>4</sup> Farmer and Henley, *Dictionary of Slang and Colloquial English*. 1905.

cannot always be assumed that the original blend was conscious or intentional. An instance is the coinage of the Colorado ranchman's wife, who reported her fright at seeing "two despimentos ride by the house", merging it would seem *desperado* and *pimento*; or the creation of the colored woman who watched her neighbor's children "roamanting about the yard". The latter's verb was doubtless a nonce-word due to fluctuation between *roaming* and *gallivanting*, the second being a favorite term with her. Compare also folk forms like *squinch* and *squink*. Unconscious too are children's coinages as *snuddle* from *snuggle* and *huddle*, *numberous* from *numerous* and *number*, *curdle* from *curl* and *cuddle*, *smokolotive* from *locomotive* and *smoke*, *promptual* from *prompt* and *punctual*. Occasionally these quaint formations are adopted by older people and given neighborhood currency.

Not blends in spirit, but rather to be classified as whimsical folk-etymological perversions<sup>1</sup> are mongrels like *jawbacious* from *audacious* and *jaw*, *misluscious* for *malicious*, *screwomatics* for *rheumatics*, *interreuben* for *interurban*; or instances where two familiar words are superimposed on an unfamiliar polysyllabic original, as *hark-audience* for *accordion*, *picture-askew* for *picturesque*, *mucking togs* for *mackintosh*, *cowcattish* for *coquettish*. These forms are sometimes jocular in intention, sometimes the contrary. Yet the subjects of folk-etymology and blending do merge. The test of motive in origin is not always either a clear or a trustworthy guide. An instance in point is the rather widely diffused *animule*,

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<sup>1</sup> See on this subject A. S. Palmer, *Folk-Etymology, a Dictionary of Corrupted Words*, 1882; also *The Folk and Their Word-Lore*, 1904; Georg Schröder, *Über den Einfluß der Volksetymologie auf den Londoner Slang-Dialekt*, Rostock, 1893; Fr. Söhns, *Volksetymologische Plaudereien*, 1902; and Alfred Hasse, *Studien über englische Volksetymologie*, Strassburg, 1904.



which belongs properly enough under either classification, blending, or folk-etymological contamination. It is used by some whimsically; by others in ignorance of the proper form. Similarly with *screwomatics* for *rheumatics*. In some such way may have arisen *belfry* from ME. *berfry*, OF. *berfroi*, crossed with *bell*; or perhaps *female* from the older *femell* associated with *male*. To go yet farther back, *yawn* arose from OE. *gānian* crossed consciously or unconsciously with the related forms *geonian*, *ginian*, *gīnan*, having the same meaning.

Left out of account also in this discussion are agglutinative or elliptical forms, or contractions. By these are meant cases where words in persistent juxtaposition coalesce, as an adjective fused with its noun, a verb with a following preposition, and the like. Examples from the standard language are *doff* from *do off*, *don* from *do on*, *willy nilly*. These are undoubtedly blends or fusions; but the predominant motive in their formation was clearly elliptical. Inclusion of them here would lead us far afield<sup>1</sup>.

A few instances of agglutinations or contractions of contiguous words are:

*starkaragious*, English dialect merging of *stark outrageous*. *Samingo*, from *San Domingo*. Shakespeare. *tarnation*, from *eternal (eternal) damnation*. *drat*, from 'od rot. *tawdry*, from *St. Audrey* which is from *St. Etheldreda*. *Frisco* from *San Francisco*. *nickname*, from *an eke-name*. *nugget*, from *an ingot*.

Here also would belong Mr. Peggoty's *gormed* in *David Copperfield*, and many oaths once popular, like

<sup>1</sup> See especially Karl Sundén, *Contributions to the Study of Elliptical Words in Modern English*, Upsala 1904; also Scott, *Transactions of the American Philological Association*, 1892—94; and Palmer, *op. cit. supra*.

Bernhard Fehr's *Zur Agglutination in der englischen Sprache*, Zürich, 1910, I have not been able to see.

*zounds* from *God's wounds*, *zooks*. Here also would belong Carroll's *wabe*, arbitrarily made from *way before*, *behind*, and *beyond*; and the trade-coinage *Crudol*, "nature's hair tonic", from *crude oil*<sup>1</sup>; the girl's name *Adelloyd*, built from a friend's, Addie Lloyd; or *Awgwan* ("Aw, go on!"), the name given by Nebraska University students, in 1913, to their humorous college paper. Here also would belong the name of one of Arnold Bennett's heroes<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Another method, popular at present in coining trade names, is the formation of a new name from initials, as "Sebco" extension drills, made by the Star Expansion and Bolt Company; or "Pebeco" tooth powder, made by P. Beiersdorf and Company. Possibly this method may be viewed as blending in an extreme form.

Similar coinages are to be found in geographical nomenclature. The name of *Delmar*, Clinton County, Iowa, was made by using the names of certain six women who accompanied an excursion train that opened the railroad from Clinton Iowa to this point. A parallel case is afforded by *Le Mars* in the same state, the name of which was built from the initials of the Christian names of women who were excursionists (on the completion of the railroad to this point) from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Note also names like *Benld*, Macoupin County, Illinois, named when it was established in 1903, for Benjamin L. Dorsey of that county; *Cadams*, Nuckolls County, Nebraska, named in 1901 for C. Adams of Superior; also *Wascott*, Douglas County, Wisconsin, named after W. A. Scott, a railroad official. See *A History of Place-Names in Nine North-western States*. Compiled by the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. Chicago. 1908.

To these instances from geographical nomenclature may be added *Primghar*, O'Brien County, Iowa, "named by combining the initials of the persons present at laying the corner stone", and *Eleroy*, Stephenson County, Illinois, "named from E. Leroy, son of Hiram Jones, the first settler". See *The Origin of Certain Place-Names in the United States*, by Henry Gannett. Publications of the United States Geological Survey. Washington, 1905.

<sup>2</sup> *Denry the Audacious*, ch. II (1911). Published in England as *The Card*. Doubtless the mother's pronunciation was "Edward 'Enry".



"She saved a certain amount of time every day by addressing her son as *Denry*, instead of *Edward Henry*."

By the test of meaning, i. e., the retention of the force of both elements, some of these range themselves with blends proper; and so also by the test of form. But the tests of motive in origin, and of the relation of the parts of speech joined, usually make the distinction clear. Nevertheless of some words, as *tarnation*, or *Westralia* from *Western Australia*, it remains hard to say whether they group themselves more properly as agglutinations, ellipses, contractions, or as blends.

Also to be distinguished from blends are *obscured compounds*<sup>1</sup>. These, through age and much usage, have lost all traces of their independent elements and can no longer be called compounds proper but are felt as one word. So *auger*, from O. E. *nafu-gār*, nave-piercer, *barn*, from O. E. *bere-ærn*, barley-house, *lord*, from O. E. \**hlāf-weard*, loaf-ward, *daisy*, from O. E. *dæges-ēage*, day's-eye. The result is identical with that in certain types of disguised blends, namely a telescoping of two words into one, but it has been arrived at in another way.

Many genuine conflations are punning in nature. They may be either intentional or unintentional; though the true pun is of course intentional. Some are of ingenious literary coinage, some of folk origin, either whimsically meant or used seriously. A certain kind of pun depends on blending for its effect.

<i>bellcony</i>	<i>animule</i>	<i>kissletoe-vine</i>
<i>stuffocate</i>	<i>wegotism</i>	<i>stringlet</i>
<i>yellocute</i>	<i>foolosopher</i>	<i>versiflage</i>
<i>roaratory</i>	<i>debutchery</i>	<i>skittenish</i>
<i>helfophone</i>	<i>beautilitarian</i>	<i>carnibbleous</i>

<sup>1</sup> On this subject see especially E. Klein, *Die verdunkelten Wortzusammensetzungen im Neuenglischen*. Königsberg, 1911.

<i>Michigander</i>	<i>futilitarian</i>	<i>raviators</i>
<i>lovertine</i>	<i>mustylogical</i>	<i>anecdottage.</i>

Lastly the subject of blending sometimes crosses with onomatopœia, or imitation of natural sounds. Words of the type of *mýowl*, *squawk*, possibly Carroll's *burble* if from *murmur* and *bubble*, *squunch*, *splatter*, *flump*, i. e. *fall plump* (*thump*, *bump*, etc.) might fairly be styled echoic or onomatopoetic blends. As a class these are likely to be very effective words. They tend to have not only the force of the individual words entering into the amalgam, i. e., associative expressiveness, but to have peculiar phonetic expressiveness also.

## IV.

## Present-Day Vogue of Blend Formations.

There seems to be no doubt that, as word creation becomes a more conscious process, factitious amalgam forms are growing in favor. Their special vogue among the lettered class may well have been given some impetus by the widespread familiarity of the "portmanteau passage" in Carroll and the popularity of some of his own creations<sup>1</sup>. To

<sup>1</sup> Beside the well-known passage in Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*, I, IV (1871), the preface to his *Hunting of the Snark* (1876), reprinted in *Rhyme? and Reason?* (1883), contains a paragraph on "portmanteau words": —

For instance take the two words 'fuming' and 'furious'. Make up your mind that you will say both words, but leave it unsettled which you say first. Now open your mouth and speak. If your thoughts incline ever so little towards 'fuming', you will say 'fuming-furious'; if they turn even by a hair's breadth towards 'furious' you will say 'furious-fuming'; but if you have that rarest of gifts, a perfectly balanced mind, you will say 'frumious'.

Supposing that, when Pistol uttered the well-known words: 'Under which king, Bezonian? Speak or die!'

Justice Shallow had felt certain that it was either William or Richard, but had not been able to settle which, so that he could



this impetus one is inclined to ascribe the *imp*gels of John Habberton, the *whirlicane* of F. R. Stockton, the *insinuendo* of Miss Ruth Putnam and of Brander Matthews' anecdote; perhaps also the *soupspicion* of G. W. Cable, and the many forms like *wegotism*, *beautilitarian*, and *versiflage* of periodicals and newspapers<sup>1</sup>. Assuredly to this source may be attributed the name given to the leading character in Kipling's story in the volume entitled *A Day's Work*, a story to which the blend form gives its name.

"Where d' you live?" I demanded.

"Brugglesmith", was the answer.

"What's that?" I said to Dempsey, more skilled than I in the portmanteau words of early dawn.

"Brook Green, 'Ammersmith", Dempsey translated promptly.

The hero of one of Owen Wister's Western stories goes by a "portmanteau" name<sup>2</sup>:

"His name is Horace Pericles Byram. Well, the Agent wasn't going to call his assistant store-clerk all that, y'u know. . . . Couldn't spare the time. So everybody calls him Horacles now."

The author of a recent novel places the scene of her heroine's youth in a suppositious state, in the American union, to which she gives the name of *Ohianna*; this instead of endowing her with a birthplace within the confines either of Ohio or Indiana<sup>3</sup>. Similarly, note the not possibly say either name before the other, can it be doubted that, rather than die, he would have gasped out 'Rilchiam'!

<sup>1</sup> R. K. Munkittrick, *The Moon Prince and Other Nabobs*, wrote a story called "The Harrishoffer" in which he introduced a *shampoodle*, the *Kanga-rooster*, the *ipeactus* tree, etc; also in *A Day in Waxland*, the *wax dollphin*, the *Waxminster* palace. (Cited by L. Mead in *How Words Grow*, p. 100.) He mentions the *Cape Codger* in *The Slambangaree and Other Stories*, published by R. H. Russell.

<sup>2</sup> See "Happy-Teeth", in *Members of the Family*, 1901.

<sup>3</sup> *A Woman of Genius*, by Mary Austin, New York 1912.

name *Kaisertania* for a steamship, built from the names Kaiser Wilhelm, or Kaiserin Augusta, and Lusitania, or Mauritania<sup>1</sup>.

An extreme instance of partiality for these mongrel forms and ingenuity in coining them is found in the *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*<sup>2</sup> by Wallace Irwin, in which occur these examples among many others:

*umperor*, from *emperor* and *umpire*. *snubbed*, from *stubbed* and *snipped*. *frockaway coat*, from *cutaway* and *frock coat*. *silkpipe hat*, from *silk* and *stovepipe hat*. *loistering*, from *loitering* and *leisure*. *mustylogical*, from *mythological* and *musty*. *flimsical*, from *whimsical* and *flimsy*. *fidgited*, from *fidget* and *agitated*. *skittenish* from *skittish* and *kittenish*. *nightinglory bird*, from *nightingale* and *morning-glory*.

But Carroll's popular success with "portmanteau words" may perhaps itself be traced to the greater modern consciousness of, interest in, or relish for words, due among other causes to the study of language processes in the schools. Responsible also may be the modern love for realistic exploration of the remote or unfamiliar. The demand for "local color" of the realists has stimulated the unearthing or creation of whimsical forms that will bring novel or telling effects.

Others who have special liking for amalgam forms are newspaper writers and cartoonists. Some illustrations of coinages by the latter are:

*tremense*, from *tremendous* and *immense*. *donkophant*, an animal merging the characteristics of the *donkey* (democratic party) and the *elephant* (republican party). *Moosevelt*, from Bull *Moose* and *Roosevelt*. *Ulsteria*, from *Ulster* and *hysteria*. *raviators*, from

<sup>1</sup> "Captain Kidd in Wall Street", in *The World Today*, October 1912, p. 53.

<sup>2</sup> Published in *Collier's Weekly*, 1907—1908.

*ravers* and *aviators*. *Brabanditti*, name given the soldiers of General Brabant in the Boer war. *coronotions*, from *coronation* and *notion*. *Refereaders*, readers of the *Referee*. *versiflage*, from *persiflage* and *verse*. *Westralia*, from *West* and *Australia*.

The professional writing fraternity has no monopoly, however, on the creation of amalgam words; they are popular with various other classes also. A few years ago, in a town in the midwest of the United States, a church society, made up largely of young married couples, built for themselves the name *Yo-Mar-Co*, or *Yomarco* guild. In the same town, two physicians, Dr. Ramey and Dr. Metheny, called their hospital for a time the *Ramethenian*. When in doubt as to a name for their ranch, some Montana people, the parents of three children, Sol, Susan, and Leanna, coined for it the name *Solsuanna*. Well known are Luther Burbank's names for his horticultural novelties, the *potato*, created from the potato and the tomato, and the *plumcot*, created from the plum and the apricot. Other new hybrid fruits are the *citrango* and the *tangelo*. *Zebrass* and *zebrule* are names for certain hybrids of domestic animals with the *zebra*.

The following will show the popularity of blend forms, of recent years, in the creation of place-names in the midwest and south of the United States. The towns so named are mostly very new<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The name of *Marenisco*, Gogebic County, Michigan, was manufactured from that of Mary Relief Niles Scott, wife of the principal land owner in the vicinity. *Gerled*, Kossuth County, Iowa, was named from the first syllables of the townships on each side of it, viz: "Ger" from Germanic, and "led" from Ledyard. The name of *Miloma*, Jackson County, Minnesota, was made by taking the first syllable from the word Milwaukee of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad and the first two syllables of the word Omaha, from the title of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis,



*Ohiowa*, town in Nebraska named by early settlers, part of whom came from Ohio, part from Iowa. *Texarkana*, town in Arkansas near the Texas line. *Texico*, town in New Mexico near West Texas. *Mondak*, town in Dakota, near Montana. *Wyuta*, town in Utah near Wyoming. *Colwich*, town in Kansas, named with reference to the Colorado and Wichita Railroad. *Kanorado*, town in Kansas near the Colorado line. *Calexico*, town in California near Mexico. *Mexicalo*, town in Mexico near California. *Texhoma*, town in Texas near Oklahoma. *Uvada*, town in Utah near Nevada. *Calada*, town in California near Nevada.

An eastern town having a name of similar coinage is *Delmar*, on the border between Delaware and Maryland.

Still more popular are arbitrary amalgam formations as baptismal names, e. g., *Eldarema*, name given a child whose four grandparents were named respectively Elkanah, Daniel, Rebecca, and Mary. Other examples, nearly all drawn from the same town, are these:

*Adnelle*, built from the parents' names, Addison and Nelly. *Lunette*, from Luna and Nettie. *Maybeth*, from May and Elizabeth. *Leilabeth*, from Leila and Elizabeth. *Olouise*, from Olive and Louise. *Bethene*, from Elizabeth and Christine. *Olabelle*,

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and Omaha railroad. Set *The History of the Origin of Place-Names* connected with the Chicago and Northwestern railways, cited *supra*.

H. Gannett's *The Origin of Certain Place-Names in the United-States*, also cited *supra*, affords further instances, as: *Bucoda*, Thurston County, Washington, "named by taking the first part of the names of three men, Buckley, Collier, and Davis;" *Gilsum*, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, "named for the first proprietors, Gilbert and Sumner;" and *Paragould*, Greene County, Arkansas, a "compound of the names of two railroad men, W. J. Paramore and Jay Gould."

from Ola and Isabel. *Marjette*, from Marjorie and Henrietta. *Armina*, from Ardelia and Wilhelmina. *Charline*, from Charles and Caroline. *Romiette*, from Romeo and Juliette.

In the same town, the relatives and friends of twins named Fritz and Max, gave to either, in cases of uncertainty, the name "Frax", as "Here comes Frax".

In the latter half of the nineteenth century a serious attempt was made to introduce a new blend pronoun *thon*, coined by C. C. Converse in 1858 from *that one*<sup>1</sup>.

"A pronoun of the third person, common gender, a contracted and solidified form of *that one*, proposed as a substitute in cases where the use of a restrictive pronoun involves either inaccuracy or obscurity, or its non-employment necessitates awkward repetition. Examples: 'If Harry or his wife comes, I will be on hand to meet thon' (i. e., 'that one who comes'). Each pupil must learn thon's lesson (i. e. 'his or her own')."

Now more than a decade old is the term *Amerind*, introduced under the auspices of government anthropologists at Washington<sup>2</sup>:

*Amerind*, a word composed of the first syllables of American Indian suggested in 1899 by an American lexicographer as a substitute for the inappropriate terms used to designate the race of man inhabiting the New World before its occupancy by Europeans. The convenience of such derivatives as Amerindic, Amerindize, Amerindian, proto-Amerind, etc., argues in favor of the new word. . . . The name . . . has found its way into both scientific and popular literature.

Not differing in spirit or kind but in acceptance and permanence are the shortened composite forms used in the terminology of compounds in chemistry and other

<sup>1</sup> The passage quoted is from *The Standard Dictionary*. See also *The New Webster International*.

<sup>2</sup> The paragraph quoted is from the *Bureau of American Ethnology*, Part I, Washington 1907 (*Handbook of the American Indian*, edited by Frederick Webb). See also the citations under VI, *infra*.

sciences. These are fusions which have been reduced or solidified from the longer forms for pure convenience<sup>1</sup>.

*chloral*, from *chlorin* and *alcohol. formaldehyde*, from *formic* and *aldehyde. chlorazol*, from *chlorin*, *azo*, and *-ol. formacoll*, from *formaldehyde* and *Gk. kolla. chloracid*, from *chlorin* and *acid. aldehyde*, from *alcohol dehydrogenatus*, i. e., deprived of hydrogen. *chloroform*, from *chlorin* and *formyll. chlorsulphic*, from *chlorin*, *sulphur*, and *-ic. formamide*, from *formite* and *amide. dextrose*, from *dexter* and *glucose. zincode*, from *zinc* and *platinode. bromal*, from *bromide* and *alcohol. iodoform*, from *iodine* and *chloroform. resorcin*, from *resin* and *orcin*.

Blend-words also play a considerable part in the naming of modern articles in trade<sup>2</sup>. In general these words die out after a few years with the article which they name, though a few may last. Some random instances, many of which may be dead by the time that this study is published, are:

*electrolier*, for a *chandelier*-like support for *electric* lights. *Pneu-Vac*, for a certain type of vacuum cleaner. *Japalac*, a floor varnish named from *Japanese* and *lacquer. Colax*, from *colon laxative. Locomobile*, named from *automobile* and *locomotive*, or *locomotor. Adlake* cameras, made for a time by the firm of Adams and Westlake. *Cuticura* skin remedy, named from *cuticle* and *cure*.

<sup>1</sup> For excellent examples of a scientific nomenclature built up of factitious solidified forms, see the discussion of terms and the glossary cited under *petrography*, the description and systematic classification of rocks, in the *New Webster International Dictionary*, 1910. Specimen formations are *alferric*, designating a group of minerals (*aluminous ferromagnesian silicates* and *calcic silicates*), and the compounds with *do-* (from *dominant*) as *dotilic*, etc., or *pre-* (from *predominant*), as *precalcic*, etc.

<sup>2</sup> See a forthcoming article by the present author on *Word-Coinage and Modern Trade-Names* in *Dialect Notes*, 1914.



*Everlastic*, from *everlasting* and *elastic*. *Nabisco* wafers of the National Biscuit Company. *Sealpacker-chief*, name for a sealed package of pocket handkerchiefs. *Frolaset*, name coined for a certain make of front-laced corset. *Huppmobile*, automobile made by the Hupp motor car company. *AnSCO* photographic goods, made by a firm whose predecessors were the Anthony, and the Scoville and Adams Companies. *Lin-co-lac* varnish, named from the Lincoln Paint and Color Company, its makers, and *lacquer*. *Polpasta*, a polishing paste for manicurists. *Spendicator*, a device for indicating expenses, from *spend* and *indicator*.

A certain percentage of blends do, it will be seen from the foregoing, achieve a permanent place in the language; although by the time that this place is reached they are likely no longer to show their factitious origin nor its manner, but rather to have the effect of a single word. They are likely to be effective or telling words too, as *boost*, *scurry*, *squirm*, *blurt*, *foist*, *whang*, *chump*, *flounder*, if these are composites in origin; to be forceful words, not neutral. Characteristically they are not beautiful or agreeable; but they are likely to be expressive not only in their associative symbolism but phonetically.

## V.

### General Classes of Blend-Words.

A rough grouping of contemporary blend-words, based on manner of origin, or predominant motive in the coalescence, makes clear a number of different classes into which they fall. The two cited last, scientific names, as *chlorin*, and names for articles in trade, as *electrolier*, are those in best standing and are very prolific. Among the other classes, some words belonging to the first, i. e., clever coinages, as *chortle*, *anecdoteage*, and to the fifth, conscious

folk-formations, as *solemncholy*, *bumbersoll*, have a fair chance for survival. The mass of "portmanteau" forms, even of these groups, have had or will have transient vogue. Of whimsical nature, slang or dialect formations, heavily jocular folk forms, or the clever creations for some passing purpose of the lettered class, they serve the generation that created them and are succeeded by others in the next.

The general classes of blends to be distinguished are these:

I. Clever Literary Coinages, largely though not always humorous in intention, like those of Carroll, Kipling, Wallace Irwin, Habberton, etc: *galumphing*, *fidgited*, *Brugglesmith*, *Ohianna*, *impgels*, *sneakret*. Of this class but not humorous in intention was the proposed new pronoun *thon*, coined by C. C. Converse; and here also, unless under VIII, may be classed *Amerind* and *Eurasia*.

II. Political Terms; also the Coinages of Cartoonists, Editors, and other Newspaper Writers: *gerrymander*, *Prohiblibcan*, *Popocrat*, *Indocrat*, *Demopublican*, *Ulsteria*, *Moosevelt*; also *Refereaders*, *coronotions*, *donkophant*, *versiflage*, *scrawky*, *jay-seed*, *shamateur*, *alcoholiday*.

III. Nonce Blends, originating probably in a sort of aphasia; as when the mind, hesitating between *swindle* and *wheelde*, compromises on *sweedle*<sup>1</sup>. When the result pleases the coiners, it sometimes continues in family

<sup>1</sup> See Meringer and Mayer, *Versprechen und Verlesen: Eine psychologische-linguistische Studie*. Stuttgart, 1895; Krueger, *Die Übertragung im Sprachlichen Leben*, Leipzig, 1900; Thumb und Marbe, *Experimentelle Untersuchungen über die psychologische Grundlage der sprachlichen Analogiebildung*, 1901. Kussmaul, *Die Störungen der Sprache*, Leipzig, 1877, also Ballet, *Die innerliche Sprache und die verschiedenen Formen der Aphasie*, Leipzig, 1890, I have not been able to see.

use, as *sweedle* in the case of a Nebraska family. Other instances are *cruical*, *criticular*, *expugn*, *slickery*, *previnder*, *screen*, from *shrewd* and *keen*, *stretch*, when the speaker was hesitating between *stress* and *pitch*. Professor Weekley tells of a student in a college in the English midlands named Turpin who sat next a student named Constantine, and once heard himself startlingly addressed by a lecturer as Turpentine<sup>1</sup>.

IV. Children's Coinages, largely accidental also: *snuddle*, *smokolotive*, *snansh*, *snangle*, *numberous*, *tremense*, *canimal*, *promptual*, *surprisement*, *suppose*.

V. Conscious Folk Formations, whimsical or facetious in intention and usage: *solemncholy*, *sweat-spiration*, *bumbershoot*, *bumbersoll*, *scandiculous*, *slantendicular*, *animule*, *screwomatics*, *delishfully*.

VI. Unconscious Folk Formations, not jocular in intention but seriously meant: *diphtherobia*, *despimento*, *insinuendo*, *rasparated*, *imperence*, *needcessity*, *clearn*, *perzackly*, *pesterous*, *vexasparated*.

VII. Coined Place-Names; also Coined Personal-Names: *Texarkana*, *Ohiowa*, *Mexicalo*: also *Eldarema*, *Maybeth*, *Bethene*, *Leilabeth*, *Romiette*.

VIII. Scientific Names in the terminology of chemistry, medicine, and other sciences, as *chloroform*, *formaldehyde*, *chloral*, *dextrose*.

IX. Names for Articles of Merchandise, as *Nabisco* wafers, made by the *National Biscuit Company*, *Sealpackerchief*, the *Pneu-Vac* cleaner, *Locomobile*, *Everlastic*, *electrolier*.

Many blend-words may fairly be classified under several of the heads suggested at the same time. For example *tremense* as used by editors belongs under II; as a child's coinage under IV. *Insinuendo* has been used as a clever literary coinage (I), as an unconscious folk formation (VI),

<sup>1</sup> *The Romance of Words*, p. 121.



and as a nonce form (III). *Animule* and *screwomatics* may be grouped under both V and VI.

As regards form, no very definite grouping seems advisable. Sometimes the superimposed word, or syllable or syllables, affects the first syllable of the original word, as *boldacious*; sometimes the middle syllable, as *erumption*; sometimes it comes at the end, as *comroque*, *animule*. Sometimes it is hard to decide which word is superimposed upon which, as in *tremense*, *solemncholy*. The resulting formations may be monosyllabic, as *clearn*, *fruce*, *dang*, *squirm*, *trun* — these are the hardest always to solve; or they may be dissyllabic, as *expugn*, trisyllabic, as *perzackly*, or quadrisyllabic, as *abstemperous*. In *diphtherobia*, there are five syllables. Sometimes both elements are truncated, as *canimal*; sometimes the whole of one element is combined with part of another, as *fairation*<sup>1</sup>. Often the resulting form is etymologically hybrid<sup>2</sup>, as in *boldacious*, where a word from the vernacular is superimposed upon a romance word; or *popocrat*, which merges a Greek word with a Latin; or *soupspicion* which crosses French with English. According to Professor Weekley, a small boy who learnt English and German simultaneously evolved at the age of two, the word *spam*, a welding of *sponge* with the German *Schwamm*<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> An examination of a certain number of blends with a view to ascertaining tentatively the number of sound-syllables in the amalgams in relation to the number in the parent words is made by Bergström, p. 47.

<sup>2</sup> *Glaive* is a blending of Latin *gladius*, sword, French *glai*, with Gaulish *cladebo*; *battledore* is from Provençal *battedor* crossed with *beetle*. For some further instances of blend hybrids, French especially, see Professor E. Weekley's *The Romance of Words*, p. 122. Bergström, p. 31, suggests as hybrids created by the blendings of synonyms *besiege*, from O. E. *besittan* and Fr. *assiéger*, *betray*, from Eng. *bewray* and Fr. *trahir*, etc.  
p. 122. <sup>3</sup> Weekley, p. 121.

The accent of blends falls uniformly on a syllable having it in one of the parent elements.

Haplogy is a name given to syllable suppression due to repetition of sound. When two successive syllables have their prominent elements in common, syllable syncope is likely to ensue. Haplogenic blends would then be forms in which one part of the compound is eliminated because it occurs in another part. Some examples of haplogenic blends are<sup>1</sup>:

<i>swellegant,</i>	<i>pecurious,</i>	<i>coronations,</i>
<i>terrible,</i>	<i>versiflage,</i>	<i>raviators,</i>
<i>fidgitated,</i>	<i>skittenish,</i>	<i>Brabanditti,</i>
<i>anecdoteage,</i>	<i>yellocution,</i>	<i>Refereaders,</i>
<i>Ulsteria,</i>	<i>kissletoe-vine,</i>	<i>stringlet,</i>
<i>Michigander,</i>	<i>alcoholiday,</i>	<i>amorality,</i>
<i>shamateur,</i>	<i>prevaricaterer,</i>	<i>epicurate.</i>

In perhaps a majority of cases, the elements entering into the conflation are of cognate sense, even when not of the same part of speech; though it is usually true also that the elements are of the same part of speech. More exact specification as regards the nature of the words combined in blend forms will be found prefixed to the illustrative lists that follow. The part of speech

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<sup>1</sup> The "Bungal-Ode" of Burges Johnson, published in *Good Housekeeping*, February 1909, finds its main animus in a series of ingenious haplogenic blends with *bungalow*; so *bungaloated*, *bungaloping*, *bungaloathing*, *bungalogic*, *bungalonging*, *bungalocomotive*, *bungaloan*, *bungalotion*, *bungalobster*, etc. A specimen stanza is: —

For I oft get bungalonely  
 In the mingled human drove,  
 And I long for bungaloafing  
 In some bungalotus grove,  
 In a cooling bung'-location  
 Where no troubling trails intrude,  
 'Neath some bugalowly roof-tree  
 In east bungalongitude.

most favored for blends is the noun. Next come verbs and adjectives.

In most fusions, the elements entering into the coalescence are two, as in the examples cited hitherto; or in *happenchance*, *happenident*, *grandificent*, and the like. Sometimes there are three as in *compushity*, from *compulsion*, *push*, and *necessity*; *compushency*, from *compulsion*, *push*, and *urgency*; *boldrumpitious* from *bold*, *presumptuous*, and *rumpus*; or *flaunt*, if this be derived from *fly*, *flout*, and *vaunt*. If more than three words are associated with a given formation, it is no longer a blend proper, i. e., a fusion of two or three distinct elements. There are many words which seem to arise through a sort of eclectic conflation, not of two words or three but of many, not always clearly to be determined. Instances in point are the English dialectal *bash*, meaning strike, beat, smash, with which may be associated the group *beat*, *bang*, *mash*, *smash*, *crush*, etc; or *flaze*: flare up, blaze, with which may be associated *flare*, *flame*, *flash*, *blaze*. Such echoic composites or reminiscent amalgams, i. e. indefinite blends, may be treated to better advantage as a separate subject<sup>1</sup>. But, in distinguishing between kinds, too great emphasis should not be placed merely on the number of elements entering into the composites. Of more importance is the distinction that coinages of the type last noted are created in every case under the influence of indefinite rather than definite suggestion. Many words which are properly to be classed as indefinite composites rather than blends proper might depend on no more than two or three words vaguely present in the user's mind.

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<sup>1</sup> See the author's article, *Indefinite Composites and Word-Coinage*, *Modern Language Review*, 1913.



## VI.

**Illustrative List of English Blend-Forms.**

The following list of words is drawn mostly from contemporary, or fairly contemporary speech. No attempt has been made exhaustively to canvass older standard English for amalgam words which have become part of the accepted language. We may be sure that the number of such words in English is greater than might be recognized; or than etymological dictionaries would show<sup>1</sup>. But to attempt to detect them certainly, when not of contemporary origin, would mostly be futile. Contemporary fusion words generally solve themselves at first glance; but old formations, worn down by usage, or long familiar as distinct words, are likely to offer field for conjecture only. The majority of the words cited, it will be noted, are of ingenious literary or of whimsical folk origin, and their term of life will be or has been transient. But some, as *electrocute electrolier*, *Amerind*, *galumphing*, *chortle*, *citrange*, *potato*, *tangelo*, *zebrass*, *zebrule*, *catalo*, and various telling, vivid words, effective in dialogue and description, may in the future, as in the past, find their way into permanent acceptance. The list has purposely been kept conservative, i. e., little conjecture has been admitted; this because the author realizes that it is always a temptation, when examining language from the point of view of a certain hypothesis, to carry that hypothesis too far.

<sup>1</sup> Note, for illustration, the word *straddle*, meaning to take or be in an attitude with the legs wide apart; to stand or sit across, e. g., "cannot straddle his horse", "stood straddling the ditch". This is thought to come from a form *stridle*, *striddle*, frequentative of *stride*; but the meaning is better accounted for, as well as the phonetic form, if it be explained as a modification of *stride*, or *astride*, through association with *saddle*. The American *flunk*, fail utterly, of obscure origin, may well be a blend of *fail* and *junk*.

The list is as complete as I could make it, for present-day blend forms, but is no doubt far from exhaustive.

Those who are inclined to question the value of such a word-list, because of the transient nature of the larger portion of its elements, will no doubt be willing to admit that the individual words are often extremely interesting in themselves, many being curiously telling and effective, and that, taken together, they make a picturesque display. It is true also that there is something instructive about seeing them in mass<sup>1</sup>.

Words in scientific usage, i. e., names of chemical compounds and the like, have been left out of account, and the same is true of factitious names of articles of merchandise. Words of the former class have, beyond the general nature of their formation, little interest for the student of language. Words of the latter class will probably, as said elsewhere, many of them be obsolete before this study appears<sup>2</sup>. Also left out of account among the following blend forms are coined place and personal names.

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<sup>1</sup> Blending is responsible for some of the intrusive nasals in English dialect speech. See the present author's "Intrusive Nasals in Present-Day English", *Englische Studien*, 45, 1912. Some instances are *rumfle*, *sumple*, *erumption*, *trinkle*, noted in the lists at the close. Possibly the *n*'s in *chump*, and *jumper*, the garment, are to be explained in this way. Shakespeare's *marcantant*, *Taming of the Shrew*, IV, II, 63, is plainly a crossing of Italian *mercantante* with *merchant*. The mongrel *comontie*, *ib.*, Ind. II, 140, merges *common*, or *commons*, with *comedy*.

<sup>2</sup> The dictionaries or glossaries referred to most frequently in the following lists, with the abbreviations for them, are:

Wright, *The English Dialect Dictionary*. 1898. (*Wr. D. D.*) — Bartlett, *Dictionary of Americanisms*. 1896. (*Bart.*) — Thornton, *An American Glossary*. 1912. (*Thorn.*) — *The Century Dictionary*. 1895. (*Cent.*) — *The New Webster International*. 1910. (*New W. I.*) — *Concise Oxford Dictionary*. 1911. (*Con. Oxf. Dict.*) — Davies, *A Supplementary English Glossary*. 1881. (*Dav.*) —

### Nouns.

Most blend nouns are compounded of noun + noun, the two elements being of cognate meaning, as *needcessity imperence*, *slanguage*. Many have somewhat the nature of contractions, as *fruiice*, *Wafrica*; others involve word play, conscious or unconscious, as *bellcony*, *animule*. Compounded of three nouns are *compu(l)shency*, and its variant *compushity*. Half a dozen or more blend nouns are weldings of adjective + noun, *newelty*, *sanct-animity*, *vividity*, *wildnagerie*. Nearly the same number may be viewed as weldings of noun + verb, though some of these may be solved in other ways, as *yellocution*, *sneecret*, *omperlogies*, *embrangement*. One arises from blending a noun and a pronoun, *wegotism*; and one, *helloworld*, from blending a noun and an interjection.

• **alcoholiday.** "A holiday spent in absorbing intoxicating drinks". Coinage in the *Boston Transcript*, July 9, 1913. From *alcohol* + *holiday*.

**Amerind**, an individual of one of the native races of America; an American Indian or Eskimo. *New W. I.* From *American* + *Indian*. See *supra*, under IV, for various derivatives. According to the entry in Webb's *Handbook of the American Indians* (Bureau of American Ethnology, II, 1907) the introduction of *Amerind* was urged by the late Maj. J. W. Powell and it has the support of several anthropologists. A plea by

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Palmer, *Folk-Etymology: A Dictionary of Corrupted Words*. 1882. (*Palm.*) — Barrère and Leland, *A Dictionary of Slang, Jargon, and Cant*. 1889. (*B.-L.*) — Farmer and Henley, *A Dictionary of Slang and Colloquial English*. 1905. (*F.-H.*) — *Dialect Notes*. Publications of the American Dialect Society. Vols. I—III. (*D. N.*)

Other works made use of are referred to under special words.

For the collection of much of the material in these lists, the author is indebted to students at the University of Nebraska, interested in the processes of contemporary word formation.



Dr. W. J. McGee for its general adoption appeared in 1900 in the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain*. The use of the word at the International Congress of Americanists at New York, October 1902, precipitated a lively discussion; some denounced it as 'monstrous' and 'disgusting', while others defended it. See the account in *Science*, n. s. XVI, 892, 1902. The word has made headway in scientific and popular usage.

**amorality.** Sub-title of a dramatic satire, *Papa: an Amorality in Three Acts*, by Zoë Akins. New York, 1913. From *amorous* + *morality*.

**anecdoteage**, the reminiscent period of old age. Coined by Rupert Hughes (L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 104), and others. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* enters it as "facetious". *New W. I.* does not enter it in this sense. From *anecdote* + *dotage*.

**animule.** Widely used for animal, sometimes jocularly, sometimes through misconception. *D. N.* III, 286, etc. From *animal* + *mule*.

**argufication**, dispute, significance, import. "Of no argufication". *Wr. D. D.* From *argument* + *signification*.

**barsolistor.** "Once when I was engaged in sweeping out the office of some barsolistor". London, *Punch*, 1888, 73. Cited by Bergström. From *barrister* + *solicitor*.

**begincement**, beginning. Cited by Wheeler, *Analogy*, etc., 8. From *beginning* + *commencement*.

**beerocracy**, name for the brewing interest, a burlesque for *aristocracy*. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* From *aristocracy* + *beer*. Analogous formations are the American *cottonocracy*, *mobocracy*, *shamocracy*, etc. *Bart.*, *Thorn*.

**belkuppung**, hiccupping. *Wr. D. D.* From *belk*, *belch*, + *hiccupping*.

- bellicony**, bell-tower of a mill. *Wr. D. D.* From *balcony* + *bell*.
- binge**, a big drinking bout. According to *B.-L.*, "This word seems to be connected with *bung*, the orifice in the *bilge* of a cask, through which it is fitted."
- blaunders**, mucous blowings from the nose; a disease in horses, the glanders. *Wr. D. D.* From *blowings* + *glanders*.
- Brabanditti**, soldiers of General Brabant, English colonial officer in the Boer war. Cited by Sundén, 69. From *Brabant* + *banditti*.
- Brugglesmith**, title of a story by Rudyard Kipling in *A Day's Work* (1898). See quotation in IV, above. From *Brook Green*, *Hammersmith*.
- brunch**, a meal which takes the place of breakfast and lunch. Oxford university slang. See *Cent. Dict.* From *breakfast* + *lunch*.
- brunch-word**. blend-word, "portmanteau" word. From *brunch*. See *Cent. Dict.*
- bubukle**, a confusion of *bubo*, i. e., an inflamed abscess, and *carbuncle*. "His face, all bubukles and whelks and knobs." Shakespeare, *Henry V*, III, VI, 108.
- bumbershoot**, widely used for umbrella, chiefly by children, or facetiously by adults. *D. N.* I, 413; III, 60, 129, 295, 541 etc. From *umbrella* + *parachute*.
- bumbersoll**, meaning and usage same as for *bumbershoot*. *D. N.* II, 135; III, 541, etc. From *umbrella* + *parasol*.
- bungaloafer**. "One who dawdles around in a bungalow". Coinage in the *Boston Transcript*, July 9, 1913. See also under V, above. From *bungalow* + *loafer*.
- buzwig**, bigwig. "Whom the old Spanish buz-wigs doated on as models of all that could be looked for in the best." De Quincey, *Spanish Nun*. Cited by *Dav.* From *big-wig* + *buzz*.

- cablegram**, message by submarine cable. In standard usage. From *cable* + *telegram*.
- canimal**. "I have heard a child, on her first visit to the Zoo, express great eagerness to see the canimals, which by the way turned out to be giraffes." E. Weekley, *The Romance of Words*, 121. From *camel* + *animal*.
- catalo**. Hybrid between a native buffalo and a domestic cow. See the forthcoming edition of *The Standard Dictionary*. From *cattle* + *buffalo*.
- champeron**, a mushroom or toadstool. *Wr. D. D.* From *champignon* + *mushroom*.
- chemiloon**, a dress reform garment advocated by Dr. Mary Walker. *Bart.* From *chemise* + *pantaloon*.
- chump**, man as unintelligent as a block or chump (i. e., a short thick lump) of wood. Perhaps from *chop* + *lump*. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* Derivation from *chub* is suggested by *Cent.*, in which case it would still be a blend; so also if derived from *chunk*.
- circument**. From *circular* + *advertisement*. See *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170.
- citrange**, a citrous fruit produced by crossing the common sweet orange with the trifoliate orange. See the forthcoming edition of *The Standard Dictionary*. From *citric* + *orange*.
- clacket**, noise, racket. *Wr. D. D.* From *clack*, make a noise like a hen, chatter, + *racket*.
- combinize**, women's undergarment consisting of combined chemise and drawers. *Oxf. Dict.* See also *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170. From *combination* + *chemise*.
- comontie**. "Is not a comontie a Christmas gambold?" Sly's form in Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, Ind. II, 140. From *common*, or *commons*, + *comedy*.
- compu(l)shency**, compulsion, urgency. Used chiefly in the phrase, "A case of compu(l)shency". *D. N.* III, 61, etc. From *compulsion* + *push* + *urgency*.



- compushity, compush**, compulsion, necessity. "A case of compushity". *D. N.* III, 542, etc. From *compulsion* + *push* + *necessity*.
- comroque**, conscious modification by the Elizabethan dramatists of the word *comrade*. Used by Ben Jonson and Swift. *Palm*. From *comrade* + *rogue*.
- corgel**, accordion, or concertina. "Thee must have a little corgel to 'vert thy mind." *Wr. D. D.* From *accord* + M. E. *orgels*, for *organ*.
- crazyologist**, contemptuous corruption of *craniologist*. "Spurzheim and the crazyologists would have found out a bump on his head for its local habitation." Southey, *The Doctor*, xxxiv. *Dav*. From *craniologist* + *crazy*.
- cusnation**, damnation. "Don't you be took in by that cusnashun old rascal." *Wr. D. D.* From *cuss*, for *curse*, + *damnation*.
- Custalorum**, Shallow's form for *Custos Rotulorum*, keeper of the Rolls. Shakespeare, *Merry Wives*, I, I, 7.
- dastardice**, cowardice. "I was upbraided with ingratitude, dastardice, etc." Richardson, *Clarissa Harlowe*, vi. *Dav*. From *dastard* + *cowardice*.
- diphtherobia**, diphtheria. *D. N.* III, 542. From *diphtheria* + *hydrophobia*.
- disastrophe**, from *disaster* + *catastrophe*. *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170.
- doggery**, a low drinking place. Partial anagram of *groggery*. *B.-L.* "A sort of Dutch doggery, or sailor's hole", "It took only a few years to fill Jonesville with doggeries and loafers." *Thorn*. From *dog* + *groggery*.
- doldrums**, dulness, dumps, depression. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* suggests a derivation from *dull* + *tantrums*. *Cent.* associates it with *dolt*.
- donkophant**, name coined by the cartoonist of the *Minneapolis Tribune*, 1911, for an animal representing a cross

between the *donkey* (democratic party) and the *elephant* (republican party); this at a time when, on some issues, party members were indistinguishable.

• **electrocution.** "The barbarously constructed word 'electrocution' now in use in America to denote the new method of inflicting the death penalty in that country. The word *electric* is understood and so is the word *execution*: the barbarous new word is the effect of our previous comprehension of these two words." Strong, Logeman, and Wheeler, *Introduction to the History of Language*, 159. From *electric* + *execution*.

**embranglement**, embroilment, confusion. *Wr. D. D.* From *brangle*, to entangle, confuse, quarrel, + *embroilment*.

**epicurate.** "Rector — 'All my assistant clergy seem fond of dining out'. Rector's Wife — 'Yes, Mrs. Church Pillar refers to them as epicurates'." *Life*, 1913. From *epicure* + *curate*.

**erumption**, outburst, rumpus. "The eruption on the house riggin began, an' the din inside was something desperate." *Wr. D. D.* From *erruption*, ruction, + *rumpus*.

**fairation**, fair play, consideration. "We mun hev fairayshin furst", "Let's have fairation." *Wr. D. D.* From *fair* + *consideration*.

**flounge**, act of plunging or floundering in mire. *Wr. D. D.* From *floundering* + *plunge*.

**flurry**, sudden and brief commotion of the air; a light shower or snowfall accompanied by wind; spasmodic agitation, nervous commotion. From *flaw* + *hurry*. (L. P. Smith, *The English Language*, 105, after *Oxf. Dict.*)

• **foolosopher**, contemptuous corruption of *philosopher*. "Some of your philosophers (or foolosophers more properly) have had the faces to affirm, etc." Howell, *Parly of Beasts*. *Dav.* From *philosopher* + *fool*.

**forfaulture.** Cf. *forfaulted*, adj.

**fratority**, proposed name for an organization combining the features of a fraternity and of a sorority. "A well developed movement is on foot at Kansas university to establish a 'fratority' composed of married Greeks. This movement is expected to save a great deal of the household expenses of married couples in college." *Lincoln Nebraska State Journal*, March 2, 1913. From *fraternity* + *sorority*.

**frockaway coat.** "I make a very stylish appearance to my clothes, which include frockaway coat, derby hat, etc." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XLI. From *frock* + *cutaway*.

**Froudacity.** "The word 'Froudacity', invented by Mr. Darnell Davis in his able review of . . . *The Bow of Ulysses*, by Mr. T. A. Froude, reached the height of popularity in the Australasian colonies, where it was in everyday use, the author being accused of ignorance, misleading, and careless treatment in his book on the Australasian colonies." See also *Froudacious*, adj. *F.-H.* From *Froude* + *audacity*.

**fruce**, name used in many counties of Nebraska and elsewhere, about 1909, for a non-alcoholic drink served instead of punch. From *fruit* + *juice*.

**furicano**, jocular corruption of *hurricano*. "They were altogether in a plumpe on Christmas eve was two yere, when the great flood was, and there stird up such ternados and furicanos of tempests." Nashe, *Lenten Stuffe. Dav.* From *fury* + *hurricano*.

**futilitarian.** "As for the whole race of Political economists, our Malthusites, Benthamites, Utilitarians, or Futilitarians, they are to the government of this country such counsellors as the magicians were to Pharaoh." Southey, *The Doctor*, xxxv. From *utilitarian* + *futile*.



- galdragon**, a sorceress, witch. *Wr. D. D.* Explained as from Norw. dial. *galder*, witchcraft, + *kvinna*, a woman, associated with *dragon*.
- gasalier**, a certain type of gas lamp. From *gas* + *chandelier*.
- gustard**, a bustard. Old form explained by the *Oxf. Dict.* as arising from *ostarde* or *bustard* + *goose*.
- happenchance**, happening, accident. Common in facetious usage. *D. N.* III, 544, etc. From *happening* + *chance*.
- happenident**, happening, accident. *D. N.* III, 544, etc. From *happening* + *accident*.
- happenstance**, happening, circumstance. Very common. *D. N.* II, 141; III, 544, etc. From *happening* + *circumstance*.
- hellophone**, telephone. Occasional slang form. *F.-H.* From *telephone* + *hello*.
- idensity**. From *identity* + *intensity*. Wundt, *Völkerpsychologie*, Leipzig, 1900. Cited by Bergström, 58.
- imperence**, impertinence, impudence. Entered as vulgar or illiterate in *New W. I.* From *impertinence* + *impudence*.
- impgel**. Coined by John Habberton, when attempting to differentiate the children of certain families, as regarded by their parents and by other people. L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 84. From *angel* + *imp*.
- Indocrat**, an independent and a democrat, a little of each. Used by the late Senator Kyle of South Dakota, according to L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 204. The latter adds that at one time the establishment of an Indocratic party was seriously proposed but came to nothing. From *independent* + *democrat*.
- insinuendo**. "Could I not damn with faint praise and stab with sharp insinuendo — to use the labor-saving and much-needed word thoughtlessly invented by the sable legislator of South Carolina." Brander Matthews,

"The True Theory of the Preface", in *Pen and Ink* (1888). L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 102, cites *insinuendo* as coined in conversation by Miss Ruth Putnam. See also *insinuendo* as an original coinage in the *Boston Transcript*, July 9, 1913. Also *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170. From *insinuation* + *innuendo*.

**jayseed.** "I'm an old-fashioned jayseed". *Life*, June 26, 1913. From *jay* + *hayseed*.

**jump, jumper,** blouse, short coat. Perhaps from Fr. *juppe* associated with the verb and substantive *jump*. *Con. Oxf. Dict.*

**kissletoe-vine.** "Enemies must meet under kissletoe-vine for sweetheart conversation." W. Irwin, *Letters from a Japanese Schoolboy*, VI. From *mistletoe-vine* + *kiss*.

**Kleptoroumania.** Heading of a cartoon in the *London Punch*, 1913, on the attitude of Roumania toward Bulgaria in the Balkan war. From *kleptomania* + *Roumania*.

**Liverpudlian,** jocular name for an inhabitant of Liverpool. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* From *Liverpool* + *puddle*.

**lunch.** Originally a large lump or piece of bread. A variant of *lump*, as *hunch* of *hump*, *bunch* of *bump*. From *lump* + *hunch*.

**luncheon.** Analogical extension of *lunch* through the influence of *nuncheon*, now obsolete. From *lunch*, or *lump*, + *nuncheon*.

**marcantant.** "A marcantant or a pedant". Shakespeare, *Taming of the Shrew*, IV, II, 63. From Italian *mercantante* + *merchant* (*marchant*).

**metropolypus.** "A central diseased overgrowth which was quite the opinion my friend had of London". *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170. From *metropolis* + *polypus*.

**Michigander,** a citizen of Michigan. "I mean the military tail you Democrats are now engaged in dovetailing on to the great Michigander (General Cass)." Speech

- of Abraham Lincoln in House of Representatives, July 27, 1848. *Thorn*. From *Michigan* + *gander*.
- mobus**. London slang for *motor-car omnibus*. See the *Daily Chronicle*, September 2, 1905. Cited by Bergström, 58.
- Moosevelt**. "The Moosevelt candidate for governor", i. e., the candidate of the Progressive Party whose nominee for president was Theodore Roosevelt. *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, September 26, 1912. From *Roosevelt* + *Bull Moose*.
- needcessity**, necessity. "To help my poor sisters in this extremity of needcessity", Scott, *Midlothian* (1818), xxviii. *Wr. D. D.* Also *D. N.* II, 239; III, 233, 351, etc. From *necessity* + *need*.
- newelty**, novelty. "Coffee will be quite a newelty to me". *Wr. D. D.* Also Nares. From *novelty* + *new*.
- nicotunia**, Luther Burbank's name for a hybrid he once raised between a tobacco plant and a petunia. See H. de Vries, *Plant Breeding: Experiments of Nilsson and Burbank*, 1907, 219. From *nicotine* + *petunia*.
- nightinglory-bird**. "Songs which he could sang like the nightinglorybird." W. Irwin, *Letters from a Japanese Schoolboy*, VIII, XIX. From *nightingale* + *morning-glory*.
- noration**, report or rumor. Explained by Palmer as a misapprehension of *an oration*, like *nickname* from *an ekename*, etc. See also *noration*, announcement, *D. N.* III, 89, 148, 352, etc. Probably a blend of *oration* and *narration*.
- Omahog**, jocular newspaper name for an inhabitant of Omaha, Nebraska. From *Omaha* + *hog*.
- omperlogies**, apologies for not undertaking a work, difficulties urged in excuse. "I couldn't get on with him, he made so many omperlogies." *Wr. D. D.* From *apology* + *hamper*.



- Panglosaxonism.** "The book should be read and pondered by every one who has the true interests of 'Panglosaxonism' (to coin a portmanteau word) at heart." *Academy*, 1898, 291. Cited by Bergström, 66.
- pistolgraph**, apparatus for obtaining instantaneous photographs. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* From *pistol* + *photograph*.
- plumcot**, Luther Burbank's name for his hybrid between the plum and the apricot. "He (Burbank) took a wild American plum, a Japanese plum, and an apricot. He bred these three together and made a third, the plumcot, different in texture, color, and taste from any other fruit". W. S. Harwood, *New Creations in Plant Life*, 1907, 207. From *plum* + *apricot*.
- politichine.** "Sausage for the Politichine". Heading in students' comic paper, University of Nebraska, 1913. From *political* + *machine*.
- pomato**, Luther Burbank's name for his new creation from the potato and the tomato. "Looking to the common origin of the tomato and the potato, and considering the general appearance of the new fruit, he has happily combined the two names in designating this new creation." W. S. Harwood, *New Creations in Plant Life*, 1907, 99.
- Popocrat**, a democrat who supported the political ideas held by the populists. Term used in the campaigns of 1896 and 1900. From *democrat* + *populist*. See also *popocracy*, from *democracy* and *populism*. *New W. I.*
- porpentine**, porcupine. Used by Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, I, v. 20. From *porkepyne* + *porpoint*. (*Cent.*).
- prinister.** Nonce-word, from *prime minister*. Cited by Bergström, 65.
- prevaricaterer**, "A caterer who serves mock turtle as diamond-back terrapin". Coinage in the *Boston Transcript*, July 9, 1913. From *prevaricate* + *caterer*.

- pulmonia.** "Pulmonia complaint". *Life*, June 1913.  
From *pulmonary* + *pneumonia*.
- pushency, urgency.** Used chiefly in phrase, "A case of pushency". *D. N.* III, 64, 360, 402. From *push* + *urgency*.
- puppyrel,** name given by Nathan Haskell Dole to his verses read before the Boston Authors' Club in 1913, "because they were not quite doggerel". See the *Boston Transcript*, April 30, 1913. From *doggerel* + *puppy*.
- quag, quaking bog.** Perhaps derived from a telescoping of these words.
- quarteroon, quadroon.** "Your pale-white Creoles have their grievances: and your yellow Quarteroons?" Carlyle, *Fr. Rev.* II, v, iv. *Dav.*, also *Thorn*. From *quadroon* + *quarter*.
- raviators,** title of a cartoon in the *Chicago Record-Herald*, February 12, 1911, representing a group of persons gazing into the air. Wood. From *ravers* + *aviators*.
- Refereaders,** readers of the *Referee*, a newspaper. Sundén, 69. From *Referee* + *reader*.
- riffle,** a small "rapid"; a place where the current flows swiftly over submerged rocks or sandbars. "These places are called by the inhabitants 'Riffles', I suppose a corruption of the word ruffle, as the water is violently agitated in those parts", "You hear of the danger of 'riffles', meaning probably ripples". *Thorn*. From *ripple* + *ruffle*.
- roaratorio.** In occasional jocular use for *oratorio*. *F.-H.*  
So *roaratory*, from *oratory* + *roar*.
- rymbel.** Humorous coinage in the *Century Magazine*, August, 1913, in "What is a Rymbel?", with specimen verses, by R. O. Prendergast. "The Rymbel family is descended from many rhyming ancestors. Its father was a Jingle, its mother a Rondel. The result

of this marriage was a feeble-minded daughter, Symbol by name, and four 'wanting' sons, Rumble, (the eldest), Rondeau and Rhyme (the twins) and Jumble, the baby".

**sanctanimity**, holiness of mind. "A persuasion of the sanctanimity of its utterer." *Dav.* From *sanctimiousness* + *magnanimity*.

**screwomatics**, rheumatics. "'Wiper's Oil' is a reputed specific for screwomatics", "I had the screwmatic fever three times." *Wr. D. D.* From *rheumatic* + *screw*.

**shamateur**, "Professional in any sport who masks as an amateur". Coinage in the *Boston Transcript*, July 9, 1913. From *sham* + *amateur*.

**shamocrat**. "A fellow of great pretension to wealth and influence, with little of the latter and still less of the former. One who apes high rank without any real basis." *Bart.* From *aristocrat* + *sham*.

**shreech**. "With skreem, with shreech". W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XLIII. From *shriek* + *screech*.

**shuttance**, riddance, removal, especially in the phrase, "good shuttance of bad rubbish". *Wr. D. D.* From *shut* + *riddance* or *quittance*.

**silkpipe hat**, high silk hat. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *silk hat* + *stovepipe hat*.

**slamber**, slander. "You are a wrong Japanese to speak such slamber about my jobs." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XXIV. From *slander* + *slam*.

**slanguage**, slang language. "English slanguage as distinguished from Andrew Language". J. K. Bangs in *The Enchanted Typewriter*. L. Mead, 264. From *language* + *slang*.

**slank**, slang talk. ". . . it is not safe to go around in this



U. S. without sufficient slank words." "He say that elsewhere words of American mens is called 'Slank'." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, VII. Unvoiced form of *slang* through crossing with *talk*.

**smokolotive**, locomotive. Used occasionally by children; or jocularly by adults. From *locomotive* + *smoke*.

**snark**, "A name given in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* to an imaginary animal". *Cent.* Carroll's imaginary animal figures, not in *Alice's Adventures*, but in the separate poem, *The Hunting of the Snark*, reprinted in the volume *Rhyme? and Reason?* (1883). From *snake* + *shark*.

**sneakret**, **sneecret**, secret. Used sometimes jocularly, sometimes through misconception; or accidentally, as a nonce-formation. From *secret* + *sneak*.

**spindigo**, American coinage, "said of one who has come out badly at college, or a speculation of the stock exchange. Probably from the English army slang *spin*, to reject from an examination... To this some facetious person has probably added *indigo*, to give it sufficient blue tone." *B.-L.*

**squarson**. "A combination of 'squire' and 'parson' — a squire in holy orders who works his parish, or rural parson of means and position not overshadowed by resident squires." *B.-L. Cent.* enters, "squarson, said to have been invented by Bishop Wilberforce", and quotes A. Lang, "He held the sacrosanct position of squarson".

**squarsonage**, the residence of one who is at once squire and parson. "She left the gray old squarsonage and went to London", A. Lang. *Cent.* From *squire* + *parsonage*.

**squireshop**, a bishop who is also a landed proprietor. Also *squirshop*, *squishop*. *F.-H.* (Cited under "port-manteau word"). From *squire* + *bishop*.

- stencilhouette**, silhouette in stencil. *Good Housekeeping Magazine*, February, 1909. From *stencil* + *silhouette*.
- stonck**, skunk. "Thus the squnk or stonck... is an innocuous and sweet animal; but when pressed hard by dogs and men it can eject such a most pestilent and fetid smell and excrement that nothing can be more horrible". G. White, *Natural History of Selborne*, Letter 25. *Palm*. From *skunk* + *stink* or *stunk*.
- stringlet**, occasional slang or jocular usage for ringlet. From *ringlet* + *string*.
- swear-and-tear places**, .. "all such blots and waggly-letters with swear-and-tear places all over it". W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, VIII. From *wear-and-tear* + *swear*.
- sweatpiration**, perspiration. "All covered with sweat-piration". *D. N.* III, 160. From *perspiration* + *sweat*.
- surprisement**. Occasional unconscious coinage, heard from both children and adults. From *surprise* + *astonishment*, or *amazement*.
- tangelo**, a hybrid between the common *tangerine* and the *pomelo* (grape fruit). See the forthcoming edition of *The Standard Dictionary*. From *tangerine* + *pomelo*.
- testificate**, certificate, testimonial. "No other parish would admit strangers within its bounds without testificates of character from the one they left." *Wr. D. D.* From *testimonial* + *certificate*.
- tilge**, "a decoction of tea which has stood too long, whether warm or cold. Evidently suggested by bilge water, as in the bottom of a boat." L. Mead, 212. From *tea* + *bilge*.
- tosh**, a foot-bath, any bath. Used in public and military schools. Perhaps a corruption of *toe-wash*. *B.-L.* Also *tosh-bath*. *F.-H.*
- travelogue**, an entertainment given by a single speaker who exhibits and discusses moving pictures of scenes

of travel. "The pictures which will be exhibited by Mr. Roberson at the two sections of the Panama travelogue have been pronounced by President Taft to be the finest and most realistic of any taken in the canal zone." "The most remarkable of Mr. Roberson's travelogues", "If all the pictures were shown it would take three hours of continuous traveloguing." *Lincoln Nebraska State Journal*, March 2, 1913. From *monologue + travel*.

**triumphate, triumphery**, triumvirate, triumvir. Shakespeare, *Antony and Cleopatra*, III, VI, 28, *Loves' Labor Lost*, IV, III, 53, etc. From *triumvirate, triumvir* + *triumph*.

**Ulsteria**, depreciatory name for a political movement in the province of Ulster Ireland, in 1912. "But there is an argument . . . which is being used in the preparations in Ulster to keep up the 'Ulsteria' against Irish Home Rule and again in the doubling of the doubled fleets of dreadnoughts", *The Boston Transcript*, August 14, 1912. From *Ulster + hysteria*.

**umperor**, umpire. "Kill that Umperor", W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XIX; "What brutal Umperor to put oldy man outside", *ib.* XXXVII. From *umpire + emperor*.

**Vandemonianism**, rowdiness, i. e., "pertaining to Van Diemen's land, the old name of Tasmania, when a convict settlement, with a glance a demon." (1852.) See also *Vandemonian*, adj. *F.-H.* From *Van Diemen + demon*.

**versiflage**, "When is your new volume of versiflage to be published?" *Boston Evening Herald*, August 21, 1912. From *persiflage + verse*.

**vividity**, term coined by the musical critic James Huneker, as a combination of *avidity* and *vivid*, according to L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 87. The latter adds that



others have used the word and that it is to be found in dictionaries. But these enter it only in the sense of vividness, in which case it is not identical with Mr. Huneker's blend.

**vulgularity.** From *vulgarity* + *popularity*. Pegge, *Anecdotes of the English Language*. London, 1844.

**Wafrica**, see *Wafrican*, adj., and below under *Westralia*.

**wegotism**, the excessive use of *we* in journalistic writing. "The wegotism of the average editorial." *F.-H.* From *egotism* + *we*.

**Westralia.** "The spendthrift New South Wales minister, Owe' Sullivan, has just returned from Westralia", *Review of Reviews*, April 9, 1902. Cited by Sundén, p. 59. *F.-H.* quotes from Morris, "The word was coined to meet the necessities of the submarine cable regulations, which confine messages to words consisting of not more than ten letters". See also *Notes and Queries*, 1898, 491. From *West* + *Australia*.

**whirlricane**, coined by F. R. Stockton from *whirlwind* + *hurricane*. Cited by Oertel, *Lectures*, 171.

**wildnagerie**, menagerie. "To see the wildnagerie of beasts." *Wr. D. D.* From *menagerie* + *wild*.

**yellocution**, used jocularly for *elocution*, sometimes by children but oftener by adults. From *elecution* + *yell*, or *yellow*.

**zebrass**, hybrid between a zebra sire and a burro dam. See the forthcoming edition of *The Standard Dictionary*. From *zebra* + *ass*.

**zebrule**, hybrid between the male zebra and the mare. See the forthcoming edition of *The Standard Dictionary*. From *zebra* + *mule*.

### Adjectives.

Blend adjectives are usually weldings of adjective + adjective, as *pesterous*, *pecurious*, *promptual*. Generally

the two elements have related meanings, as in the foregoing examples; sometimes however this is not true, especially when the welding involves play on words, as *mustylogical*, *beautilitarian*, *terrible*. Half a dozen blend adjectives represent weldings of adjective + verb, as *carnibbleous*, *fidgitated*, *giverous*, *rasparated*. A few derive from noun + adjective, as *numberous*, *pupmatic*, and the contracted *cabarazy*. One, *forfaulted*, derives from noun + verb.

**abstemperous**. "Many heathens is abstemperous of stomach." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, X. From *abstemious* + *temperate*.

**anothergains**, of another gate; of another way, or kind. See Sidney's *Arcadia* (1580). *Oxf. Dict.*; also *Wr. D. D.* From *anotherkins* + *anothergates*. Cf. also *anothergains*, *anothergets*, *anotherguise*, etc., in *F.-H.*

**asiotic**, imbecile, foolish. Coined by John Habberton. See L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 85. From *asinine* + *idiotic*.

**austern**, austere. Used by Wiclif and other writers from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century. *Oxf. Dict.* From *austere* + *stern*.

**beautilitarian**. Used in the magazine *Good Housekeeping*, March, 1911, 281. Cited by Wood. From *beauty*, or *beautiful*, + *utilitarian*.

**bestraught**. A crossing of *distraught* and *beset*, according to Sweet, *New English Grammar*, § 1337.

**boldacious**, audacious, bold, brazen, impudent. "You bowldacious hussy." *Wr. D. D.* From *bold* + *audacious*.

**boldrumpious**, presumptuous. "That there upstandin' boldrumpious blousing gal of yours came blarin' down to our house." *Wr. D. D.* From *bold* + *rumpus* + *presumptuous*.

**cabarazy**, "You're stark, staring cabarazy". Coinage in

- the *New York Sun*, June 22, 1913. From *cabaret* + *crazy*.
- cantankerous**, perverse, contentious, cross-grained. *Oxf. Dict.*, *Wr. D. D.*, etc. From *cankerous* + *contentious*; or possibly a blending with the latter of the M. E. *contek*, *contak*, strife. From *cantankerous* + *rancorous* may come the Amer. dial. *rantankerous*, *D. N.* III, 362.
- earnibbleous**. "About them carnibbleous animals", W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XXXIV. From *carniverous* + *nibble*.
- clantastical**. From *clandestine* + *fantastical*. Pegge, *Anecdotes of the English Language*, London, 1844.
- Corellinthian**. "Florid Corellinthian adornments". *Academy*, 1900, 288. Cited by Bergström. From (Marie) *Corelli* + *Corinthian*.
- criticular**, critical, particular. "A criticular situation". *D. N.* III, 542. From *critical* + *particular*.
- crucial**, crucial, critical. "The crucial point of the discussion." *D. N.* III, 542. From *crucial* + *critical*.
- Demopublican**. "'Demopublican party is patriotic name for this', say Cousin Nogi." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XIII. From *democratic* + *republican*.
- drummure**, grave, serious, sad. *Wr. D. D.* From *drum*, melancholy (Jamieson) + *demure*. Cited by Wood.
- dwizzened**, wrinkled, agitated. *Wr. D. D.* From *dwindle* + *wizzened*. Cited by Wood.
- Eurasian**. Adjective and noun, having reference to persons of mixed European and Asiatic parentage. In good usage. From *European* + *Asian*. Note also *Eurasia*, *Eurasiatic*.
- figitated**, uneasy, agitated. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *agitated* + *fidget*.
- flimsical**, flighty, whimsical. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japa-*



- nese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *flighty* + *whimsical*.
- forfaulted**, attained, forfeited. "Forfaulted sall thou nevir be", Scott, *Minstrelsy* (1802). *Wr. D. D.* From *forfeited* + *fault*. See also *forfaulture*, noun, forfeiting.
- frabjous**, famous, rapturous. Coined by Lewis Carroll. "O frabjous day." See "Jabberwocky" in *Through the Looking Glass*. From *famous* + *rapturous*.
- Froudacious**, see *Froudacity*, noun. *F.-H.* From *Froude* + *audacious*.
- frumious**, fuming, furious. Coined by Lewis Carroll. See the passage quoted in note under IV, earlier. From *fuming* + *furious*.
- giverous**, generous. *Wr. D. D.* From *generous* + *give*.
- glumpish**, sulky. Popular usage. *B.-L.* Probably a composite of *glum* and *dumps* + *lumpish*.
- grandificent**, splendid, magnificent. "A grandificent time." *B.-L.* From *grand* + *magnificent*.
- imperent**, impudent, impertinent. Entered as "vulgar" or "illiterate" in *New W. I.* From *impertinent* + *impudent*.
- Indocratic**. See *Indocrat*, noun.
- jolly**. From *joyous* + *jolly*. Cited by Bergström, 58.
- kazzardly**, precarious, risky, uncertain. "It's a kazzardly onsartin loife we lead." *Wr. D. D.* From *cazzelty* (casualty) + *hazardous*.
- loistering**, loitering. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *loitering* + *leisure*.
- lovertine**, term used in *A Patient Grissill* (1603) v, II. "There are a number here that have beheld . . . these gentlemen lovertine, and myself a hater of love." *Palm*. From *libertine* + *love*.
- mimsy**, coinage by Lewis Carroll. See "All mimsy were the borogoves", in "Jabberwocky", in *Through the Looking Glass*. From *miserable* + *flimsy*.

- mouncing**, exulting. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *mounting* + *bouncing*.
- much**, great in quantity. This form may have lost the suffix of the O. E. *micel*, M. E. *muchel*, etc., through the influence of the Scandinavian. Cf. the Icelandic adverb *mjök*. From O. E. *micel* + Scand. *mjök*.
- mustylogical**. "I am reminded of a mustylogical legend of antique Japan." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XXXVIII. From *mythological* + *musty*.
- numerous**. Used occasionally by children. See also "Numerous Swedish persons was applying". W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XI, XV, XIX. From *numerous* + *number*.
- pecurious**, very minutely and scrupulously exact. *Wr. D. D.* From *peculiar* + *curious*. Compare *precurious* reported, in the same meaning, from Polk County, Nebraska.
- pelting**, paltry, contemptible, petty. Frequent in Shakespeare. Apparently a variant of *paltring*, *paltry*, through the influence of *petty*.
- pesterous**, pestering, mischievous. "He's a pesterous boy." *D. N.* III. 90. From *pestering* + *mischievous*.
- plumpendicular**, perpendicular, upright, straight. *Wr. D. D. Palm.* From *perpendicular* + *plump*.
- preet**, from *pretty* + *sweet*. "I have heard it in the conversation of Londoners", Bergström, 60.
- presbygational**, from *presbyterian* + *congregational*. Cited by Wheeler, *Analogy*, etc., p. 8.
- prohiblican**, from *prohibition* + *republican*. Cited by Wheeler, *Analogy*, etc., p. 8.
- promptual**, prompt, punctual. "I'll be promptual to the minute, teacher." Used by a Lincoln Nebraska High School student. From *punctual* + *prompt*.
- pupmatic**, dogmatic, in a puppyish manner. Cited by Wood. From *dogmatic* + *pup*.

- querious**, a dialect form of curious. "Ither nigs and naws sae querious, Wad ding philosopher delirious", Webster, *Rhymes* (1835). *Wr. D. D.* From *curious* + *queer*.
- rambust**, robust. *Wr. D. D.* From *ram*, a headstrong fellow, + *robust*. (Wood).
- rasparated**, exasperated. "I was that rasparated." *Wr. D. D.* From *exasperated* + *rasp*.
- rumbustious**, boisterous, uproarious. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* Probably from *rum*, strange, queer, + *robustious*.
- scandiculous**, scandalous, or ridiculous. Used by children; or jocularly by adults. "Now I call that scandiculous." *D. N.* III, 546. From *scandalous* + *ridiculous*.
- scaresome**, timid, fearful. *Bart.* From *fearsome*, or *timmersome*, + *scare*.
- scatterloping**, scattering. "A few scatterloping elms." Used occasionally in Nebraska. From *scattering* + *interloping*.
- skittenish**, skittish or kittenish. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. From *skittish* + *kittenish*.
- skrauky**, scrawny or gawky. "A skrauky long-legged thing in a white pinafore." *Chicago Record-Herald*, December 11, 1910. Cited by Wood. From *scrawny* + *gawky*.
- slantendicular**, slantin(g)dicular, in a slanting direction, indirect, aslant. "This is sorter a slantindickelar road, stranger" (1832). "He makes his bivouac under a slantindicular shed." (1835). *Thorn. F. H.* From *slanting* + *perpendicular*.
- slickery**, slippery or slick. "He's a pretty slickery customer." *D. N.* III, 547. From *slippery* + *slick*.
- smoggy**. "Smoggy November" (newspaper heading) etc. Cited by Bergström, 61. From *smoky* + *foggy*. See also *smog*, for London *smoke* and *fog*, etc.
- snecret**, secret. "I make snecret count inside my pocket."



W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XLI. From *secret* + *sneak*.

**snubbed**, snipped or stubbed. "... make joy-signal to me by snubbed tail." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XXXIX. From *snipped* + *stubbed*.

**solemncholy**, solemn, sober. "He's a very solemncholy youth." *Wr. D. D. D. N.* III, 373, 547. From *melancholy* + *solemn*.

**squalmish**, squeamish, "I felt squalmish when I went for a sail." *Wr. D. D. Amer. D. N.* I, 211. From (*s*)*qualm* + *squeamish*.

**striked**, striped or streaked. "Ring-streaked and striked." *D. N.* III, 363. From *striped* + *streaked*.

**sumple**, supple, pliant. "There isn't nort'll beat curriers 'dubbin' vor to make boots sumple." *Wr. D. D.* From *supple* + *limber*.

**superficious**. From *superficial* + *supercilious*. Pegge, *Anecdotes of the English Language*, London, 1844, p. 210.

**swellegant**. In occasional use beside *swellelegant*. American slang. From *swell* + *elegant*.

**torrible**, horrible, or horribly hot. In occasional facetious usage. *F.-H.*, under "portmanteau word". From *torrid* + *horrible*. Bergström, p. 63, suggests origin from *terrible* + *horrible*.

**tremense**, indefinitely large, horrible, or amusing. *Wr. D. D.* Used in the *London Daily Chronicle*, December 15, 1902. Coined occasionally by children also. From *tremendous* + *immense*.

**twee**. "A twee little bit". Reported from the north of England. According to Bergström, 63, it is sometimes heard from Londoners. From *tiny* + *wee*.

**universanimous**, being of one mind, unanimous. "They are universanimous, both as to its rusticity and its capacity of rising to the level of more elevated senti-

ments." Lowell, *Biglow Papers*. See also *New W. I.* From *universal* + *unanimous*.

**Wafrikan.** In plural generic for West African stocks and shares. *F.-H.* Cf. *Westralia*, noun, for origin and usage. From *West*, or *Western*, + *African*.

### Adverbs.

Blend adverbs are infrequent, and are coined usually from adverb + adverb, as *clearn*, *perzackly*. The occasional *plumpendicular*, *slantendicular* are from the blend adjectives of the same form. *Sneekretly* is built perhaps from the blend adjective *snecret*; or, more probably, from adverb + verb.

**baffably**, affably, pleasantly. W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*. Cited by Wood. Used also in *Life*, June 26, 1913. From *blandly* + *affably*.

**clearn.** "I can tell you I was disappointed clearn to my backbone." *The Youth's Companion*, 1911. Also *D. N. I*, 209. From *clear* + *clean*.

**delishfully**, jocular coinage from *deliciously* + *delightfully*.

**perzactly**, perfectly or precisely. "I don' perzackly know." F. B. Calhoun, *Miss Minerva and William Green Hill* (1909) p. 88. Also *prezackly*, *D. N. III*, 63, 356. From *perfectly*, or *precisely*, + *exactly*.

**plumpendicular**, see *plumpendicular*, the adjective. *Wr. D. D.*

**slantendicular**, **slantendicularly**. "He looked up at me slantendicular, and I looked down at him slantendicular." *Sketches of D. Crockett* (1833) p. 144. "I blazed away and sort a cut (the bear) slantindicularly through the hams." *Quarter Race in Kentucky*, etc. (1846) p. 137. *Thorn*. See *slantendicular*, adj. From *slanting* + *perpendicular*.

**sneekretly**, secretly. "...and are sneekretly carrying

around with you a letter," W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XXXVIII; also XXXIX. From *secretly* + *sneak*. Compare *snecret*, the adj.

### Pronoun.

**thon**, that one. New pronoun proposed by C. C. Converse in 1858. Built from *that one*. See *Standard Dictionary*, *New W. I.*, etc. For examples, see under IV, earlier.

**you**. The vowel sound may be due to a crossing of *ye*, from *gē*, the old plural, and *thou*, from *pū*, the old singular. See Sweet, *New English Grammar*, §§ 1076 ff.; Franz, *Shakespeare Grammatik*, § 141, etc.

### Preposition and Conjunction.

**besepts**. "I've got narra 'nother 'gin Zunday besepts this," Ackerman, *Tales* (1858); "Thay bean't content besepts thaay be Members o' Parlyment," Buckman, *Darke's Sojourn* (1890). *Wr. D. D.* From *except* + *besides*.

### Interjections.

**aroynt**. "Aroynt, thee, witch!", Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, I, III, 6; *Lear*, III, IV, 127. Origin obscure. Shakespeare's form may be a blend of the English dialectal *rynt*, see "Rynt you witch", recorded by Ray, 1693, and *avaunt*.

**blamenation!** Euphemism for *damnation*. *F.-H.* From *blame* + *damnation*.

**whoosh!** Used to horses. *Bart.* suggests its derivation from *whoa* + *hush*.

### Verbs.

Blend verbs are usually composites of cognate meaning, *interturb*, *smothercate*, *recollembler*, *previnder*. Half a dozen



or more are compounded of noun + verb, *canoodle*, *emblify*. *Dumbfound*, perhaps *stuffocate* also, is compounded of an adjective and verb; *flaunt* may be from three verbs. *Soupspicion* is a mongrel of a French verb and an English noun. *Gerrymander* is built from two nouns, one a proper name.

**aggrannoy.** "How very aggrannoying". Nonce-formation continued in jocular American usage. Given diffusion by its employment on the vaudeville stage, 1912. But see also *aggrannoying* in *Notes and Queries*, 1906, 170. From *aggravate* + *annoy*.

**argle**, to argue disputatiously, haggle, bandy words. *F.-H.* From *argue* + *haggle*.

**argufy**, to signify, be of weight, be an argument. "It duzn't argify what foäks says", "It don't argify much which way you do it." In general dialect use in England and America. *Wr. D. D.*, *Dav.*, *Halliwell*, *F.-H.*, *Am. D.N.*, III, 208, 287, etc. From *argue* + *signify*.

**baffound**, perplex. *Wr. D. D.* From *baffle* + *confound*.

**blarm**, a euphemism for bless, damn, blow, or blame. "I'm blarmed", "blarme me" are euphemistic oaths. *F.-H.* From *blame*, *darn*, etc., + *damn*.

**blash**, blaze, flash, flare up suddenly. "A fire into which some paraffin was thrown was said to blash up." *Wr. D. D.* Used also as a noun. From *blaze* + *flash*.

**bloviate.** Cited by *B.-L.* as "a made up or 'factitious' American word which has been used since 1850 and is perhaps older. It is irregularly used to signify verbosity, wandering from the subject, and idle or inflated oratory, or *blowing*, by which word it was probably suggested, being partially influenced by *deviate*."

**blunge**, term used in pottery. *Con. Oxf. Dict.* From *blend* + *plunge*.

- blurt**, burst out with, utter abruptly. *Con. Oxf. Dict.*  
From *blow*, or *blare*, + *spurt*.
- boost**, to lift or raise by pressure from below; to push up. "There is one poor fellow getting his comrade to boost him." *Yale Lit. Mag.* (1845). Also a noun, "You may give me a boost if you like." *Thorn*. Probably from *boom* + *hoist*. Tucker, *Natural History of Language*, 436.
- broodle**. Word coined by Mrs Caroline A. Mason, meaning to cuddle and soothe a little child. See L. Mead, *How Words Grow*, 88. From *brood* + *soothe* + *cuddle*.
- canoodle**, paddle a canoe. Oxford University slang. *F.-H.* From *canoe* + *paddle*.
- chortle**, exult. Coined by Lewis Carroll in "Jabberwocky" in *Through the Looking Glass*. *Cent.* From *chuckle* + *snort*.
- clacket**, to 'clack', make a noise like a hen; to chatter, make a noise, clatter. "All this here vools clacketting will not pay." *Wr. D. D.* See *clacket*, the noun. From *clack* + *racket*.
- condog**, an old humorous corruption of *concur*, as if *cur* here meant a worthless dog. See citations in *Palm*. From *concur* + *dog*.
- dang**. In general dialect use, as a euphemistic imprecation, in Scotland, England, and America. *Wr. D. D.* From *damn* + *hang*.
- darn**, euphemistic imprecation. Bergström, 54, suggests derivation from *damn* + *burn*.
- denay**, deny. Verb and noun, used by Spenser and Shakespeare. The old verb *denayen* arose apparently from *deny* + *nay*.
- dink**, to adorn, deck, dress out. "Too old to dink myself", "She dinks her out in a' her best." *Cent. New. W. I.*, *Wr. D. D.* From *deck* + *prink*.

- discombobbelate**, discompose, confuse. Explained by Wood as a blend of *discompose* + *cabobble*.
- disenvowel**. "It's a clear case where Spelling Reform ought to butt in and disenvowel it." O. Henry, *Rolling Stones*, 1912. From *disembowel* + *vowel*.
- dumbfound**, to strike dumb, to confuse with astonishment. From *dumb* + *confound*.
- electrocute**, to execute by electricity. See *electrocution*. From *electric* + *execute*.
- emblify**, typify. "But still they are to emblify hopeing-feel of new Lear". W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, VIII. From *emblem* + *typify*.
- expugn**, used in the sense of impugn, or expunge. "Was his testimony expugned?" *D. N.* III, 543. Unconscious, not jocular, coinage; nor a nonce-formation. From *expunge* + *impugn*.
- flaunt**, to wave or flutter showily, move ostentatiously. From *fly* + *flout* + *vaunt*. L. P. Smith, *The English Language*, 106, after *Oxf. Dict.*
- flounder**, struggle and plunge, make mistakes. Perhaps built from *founder* + *blunder*, etc. *Oxf. Dict.*
- flunge**. Used in Stanyhurst's *Aeneis*, 1583. *Oxf. Dict.* Probably from *fly* + *plunge*.
- flurry**. See *flurry*, noun. Probably from *flaw* + *hurry*.
- flush**. Verb and noun referring to rush of color to the face. Explained by *Oxf. Dict.* and *Cent.* as a formation to be associated with *flash*, *flare*, + *blush*.
- foist**, palm off, introduce surreptitiously. Perhaps from *fist* + *hoist*.
- fustle**, to make a fuss. *Oxf. Dict.* From *fuss* + *bustle*.
- galumphing**, coinage in Lewis Carroll's "Jabberwocky" in *Through the Looking Glass*. Entered in *Cent.* and in *New W. I.* From *gallop* + *triumph*.
- gerrymander**, to romance, to enlarge on or exaggerate, in English usage. *Wr. D. D.* But see also *Cent.*, *New W.*



*I.*, etc. In its American and original meaning the word signifies to arrange the electoral subdivisions of a state to the profit and advantage of a particular party. "The term, says Norton, is derived from the name of Governor Gerry, of Massachusetts, who in 1811 signed a bill readjusting the representative districts so to as favor the democrats and weaken the Federalists, although the last named party polled nearly two thirds of the votes cast. A fancied resemblance of a map of the districts thus treated led Stuart, the painter, to add a few lines with his pencil, and say to Mr. Russell, editor of the *Boston Sentinel*, 'That will do for a Salamander'. Russell glanced at it: 'Salamander', said he, 'call it a Gerrymander!' The epithet took at once, and became a Federalist war-cry, the caricature being published as a campaign document." *F.-H.* From *Gerry* + *salamander*.

**illify**, villify, slander, depreciate. "She illifies onnybody and evverybody." *Wr. D. D.* From *villify* + *ill*.

**interturb**, nonce-formation from *interrupt* + *disturb*. Cited by Meringer and Mayer, see *supra*, under V.

**mislest**. From *mislead*, *mistreat*, + *molest*. Pegge, *Anecdotes of the English Language*. London, 1844.

**mux**, to mix confusedly, put in disorder. Slang or provincial. "Stop muxin' that bread!... you've eaten enough fur twenty people. I shan't have you muxing and gauming up your victuals." *Bart., Thorn*. From *mix* + *muss*.

**myowl**, to meow, cry. "When the thing began to myowl he realised that it was a kitten — a wee white kitten." Kipling "The Sending of Dana Da," in *In Black and White*. From *meow* + *howl*, or *yowl*.

**previnder**. "Well, what is there to previnder?" Nonce-formation, coined when the speaker was hesitating between *prevent* and *hinder*.

- quitate.** In slang or facetious usage as a blend of *graduate* and *quit*. *D. N.* III, 152, 361, 546, etc.
- rasparate.** See *rasparated*, adj. and pp.
- rebutse.** "Is there any man has rebus'd your worship?" Grumio, in Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, I, II, 7. From *rebuke* + *abuse*.
- reckomand,** a corruption of reprimand. A. E. Baker, *Glossary of Northamptonshire Words and Phrases*, 1854. *Wr. D. D.* From *reprimand* + *recommend*.
- recollembur,** a negroism for recollect or remember. *Bart.* From *recollect* + *remember*.
- recommember,** occasional for remember. *D. N.* III, 546, 587. From *remember* + *recommend*.
- rumfle,** to ruffle, rumple. "E's rumfled 'is 'air." *Wr. D. D.* From *ruffle* + *rumple*.
- scance,** to glance at, scan. "Scancin' at my tuscan bonnet, that was gien me by my ain gudeman." *Wr. D. D.* From *glance* + *scan*.
- selimb,** a dialect form of climb. *Wr. D. D.* This might be explained as *climb* + prefixed analogical *s* often found in dialect forms; but probably it is a blend of *climb* + *scale*.
- scollage,** "Go to scollage". "Scollage opens today". In student and newspaper usage. From *scholar* + *college*.
- scrouge, scrooge,** to crush, crowd, or squeeze. Dialect English and American. Made familiar by Dickens' Ebenezer Scrooge. *B.-L.* From *gouge* or *crowd* + *squeeze* or *screw*.
- scrunch,** crush, crunch. "Common people will be scrunched by downtroddery." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XL. From *squeeze* + *crunch*.
- scrush,** crush. "Ladies must be oftenly scrushed to death beneath them awful lids." W. Irwin, *Letters of a Japanese Schoolboy*, XLII. From *crush* + *squeeze*.
- scurry,** to scour, to run briskly in pursuit, to hasten or

- scamper. *Cent.* From *scour*, older *skirr*, associated with *hurry*.
- smothercate**, smother, stifle. "I'm fair smothercated, thot's trewth." *Wr. D. D.* From *suffocate* + *smother*.
- snangle**. Child's coinage. From *snarl* + *tangle*.
- snansh**, snap, bite. *Wr. D. D.* From *snap* + *gnash*.
- soupspicion**, suspicion. "If I had thing — *mais* I did not soupspicion this from you, Posson Jone." From "Posson Jone", in G. W. Cable's *Old Creole Days*, 83 (1887). From *soupsçonner* + *suspicion*.
- splatter**, to spatter, splash, *Cent.*, etc. Probably a variant of *spatter* through crossing with *splash*.
- splutter**, to sputter. *Cent.*, etc. Probably a variant of *sputter* through crossing with *splatter*, *splash*.
- squawk**, to squeak or squall in a low harsh tone. Generally associated with the sounds uttered by poultry in rage, pain, or fear. *B.-L., Cent.* From *squeak* + *squall*, helped by *shriek*, *squeal*, etc.
- squench**, extinguish, allay thirst, etc. "Happen we may bring back watter enow o' grace for to squench our thirst." *Wr. D. D.* From *quench* + *squelch*.
- squiggle**, to wriggle, squirm. "For the fun o' seein' me squiggle" . . . "... squiggling about jest like an old eel", *Wr. D. D.* From *wriggle*, or *wiggle*, + *squirm*.
- squinch**, to squeeze or pinch. "I don't want to be a lady . . . they can't ever ride straddle nor climb a tree, and they got to squinch up their waists and toes." Frances Boyd Calhoun, *Miss Minerva and William Green Hill* (1909). From *squeeze* + *pinch*.
- squunch**, to stop, squeeze oneself into small compass. *Bart.* From *squeeze* + *crunch*.
- squash, squush**, to squeeze, crush. "If I went fust down th'ladder I could click hold on him and chuck him over my head, so as he should go squshin' down the shaft, breakin' his bones at ev'ry timberin' . . . Kip-



ling, "On Greenhow Hill", in *Soldiers Three and Military Tales*, I. D. N., III, 348, etc. From *squeeze* + *crush*.

**squish**, to make a peculiar gushing sound, to squirt, gush out. "The water squishes under our feet in the grass." *Wr. D. D.* From *squirt* + *swish*.

**stuffed**, suffocate. "Thinks I, I be drowneded an' stuffed for sure." *Wr. D. D.* From *suffocate* + *stuffy*, or *stuff*.

**suppose**. Child's coinage. From *suspect* + *suppose*.

**sweedle**, wheedle or swindle. Conscious coinage. *D. N.* III, 549. From *swindle* + *wheedle*.

**swizzle**, guzzle, imbibe noisily or rapidly. In slang and dialect use. From *swill* + *guzzle*.

**Theosophiler**, trifle with theosophy. 'You didn't join the Theosophists and kiss Buddha's big toe, did you?' .. 'No, I didn't Theosophiler'. Kipling, "The Education of Otis Yeere", in *Under the Deodars*. From *theosophy* + *philander*.

**thump**, beat with the fist. Perhaps from *thumb* + *bump*.

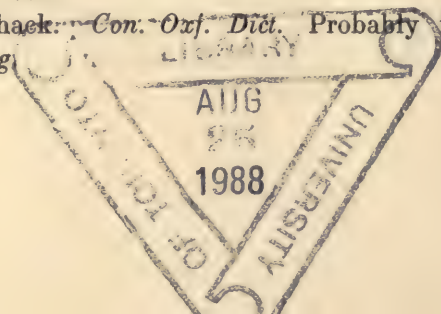
**thwack**, whack. Perhaps from *thrash* + *whack*.

**trinkle**. In occasional use by adults and children, especially in the phrase "trinkling tears". From *trickle* + *twinkle*.

**trun**, to pass anything at table. According to B. S. Monroe and O. F. Emerson, *D. N.* II, 400, it "seems to be a mongrel formation from *trudge* and *run*; is heard generally as intransitive, ("trun along") but also 'trun out the baby' etc. From *trudge* or *trundle* + *run*.

**vexasparate**, exasperate. "You mustn't vexasparate your father like that." Not a nonce-formation. Used consistently and with serious intention. From *exasperate* + *vex*.

**whang**, whack: *Con. Oxf. Dict.* Probably from *whack* + *bang*.



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mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der wichtigsten Eigennamen

von

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