

DEVONSHIRE  
DIALECT

PE  
1873  
P3  
1869



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DEVONSHIRE DIALECT.







RAB. What dost thee gook thee head vor : look up,  
wo't? What art tozing over the book vor?

BET. Turning out the dog's ears.

*Page 2.*



# DEVONSHIRE COURTSHIP,

IN FOUR PARTS.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A GLOSSARY.



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## P R E F A C E .

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THE rapid sale of the last Edition of this Work having called for another in a short period, the Publisher has only to repeat what has been said before respecting the *motive* which led to its first publication.

These Dialogues were originally written by Mrs. Palmer, of Great Torrington, a sister to Sir Joshua Reynolds.

From this lady's manuscript, which had been occasionally shewn to several friends, extracts were taken, and from time to time inserted in various publications, in many instances without connexion, and in most without any acknowledgement of the source whence derived; but a little work appeared under the title of "*A Dialogue in the Devonshire Dialect*," from a copy containing a *portion* only of the original, with an extensive Glossary of the provincial terms therein used. From these circumstances, Mrs. Gwatkin, a daughter of Mrs. Palmer, was induced to publish the *whole*, from the original manuscript in her possession.

It may also be briefly noticed, that no freedom has been used with the provincialisms in the text. They

appear as at first written. A trifling difference will be observed in the orthography of a few minor words, which are peculiar to country discourse, and therefore to be considered a difference from choice. In other instances, where a variation has occurred through the press, in orthography which should be preserved, or where an explanatory note has been omitted, full justice is done them in the Glossary, written, for the most part, by the late Rev. John Phillips, of Membury, Devon, and appended to the Work.

With respect to the tendency of the Book, judgement is left with the Reader. A few points appear to have been conspicuously kept in view, viz., a faithful *rural*, rather than *rustic* grouping, with skilful natural colour-

ing, and select disposition of light and shade; while the Reader's attention may be called to the excellent moral which pervades the whole.

# DEVONSHIRE DIALECT.

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## PART I.

### CHARACTERS:

JOHN HOGG,	<i>A Farmer.</i>
DAME,	<i>His Wife.</i>
BETTY,	<i>His Servant Maid.</i>
BAT,	<i>The Apprentice Boy.</i>
ROBIN,	<i>Betty's Lover.</i>

---

ROBIN, seeing his Sweetheart, BETTY, in a field, sprang over the stile to meet her.

RAB. Zo, Bet, how is't? How de try?<sup>1</sup> — Where hast a' be thicka way? Where dost come from?

BET. Gracious, Rab! you gush'd<sup>2</sup> me. I've a be up to vicarige, to vet<sup>3</sup> a book vor dame, and was looking to zee if there be any shows<sup>4</sup> in en, when you wisk'd over the stile and galled<sup>5</sup> me.

1 How do you do?

2 Scared.

3 Fetch.

4 Prints or Pictures.

5 Frightened.

RAB. And dost thee look so like a double-rose when thee art a 'galled, Bet? What dost thee gook<sup>1</sup> thee head vor; look up, wo't?

BET. Be quiet: let 'lone my hat, wol ye?

RAB. What art tozing<sup>2</sup> over the book vor?

BET. Turning out the dog's ears.

RAB. 'Ot is it—a story-book?

BET. I wish 'twas, I love story-books dearly; many nearts<sup>3</sup> I've a' zit up when all the volks have a' be a-bed, and a' rede till es have had a crick in the niddick,<sup>4</sup> or a' burn'd my cep.

RAB. And dost love to rede stories about spirits and witches?

BET. I'll tell thee. I was wan neart reding a story-book about spirits, that com'd and draw'd back the curtains at the bed's voot (and there was the ghastly pictures o'em). The clock had beat wan, when an owl screech'd 'pon the top o' the chimley, and made my blood rin cold. I zim'd<sup>5</sup> the cat zeed zum<sup>6</sup> 'ot: the door creaked, and the wind hulder'd<sup>7</sup> in the chimley like thunder. I prick'd up my ears, and presently zum 'ot, very hurrisome, went dump! dump! I would a' geed my life vor a varden.<sup>8</sup> Up I sprung, drow'd down my candle,

1 Hang down.

2 To pull or tumble.

3 Nights.

4 Back of the neck.

5 Thought.

6 Saw something.

7 The wind blowing with violence and impetuosity.

8 Farthing.



and douted<sup>1</sup> en; and hadn't a blunk<sup>2</sup> o' fire to teen<sup>3</sup> en again. What could es do? I was afear'd to budge. At last I took heart, and went up stears backward, that nort mert<sup>4</sup> catch me by the heels. I didn't unray<sup>5</sup> mysel vor the neart, nor teen'd<sup>6</sup> my eyes, but healed<sup>7</sup> up my head in the quilt, and my heart bump't zo, ye could hear en; and zo I lied panking<sup>8</sup> till peep o' day.

RAB. Poor Bet! why if a vlea had hopp'd into thy ear thee wot a' swoon'd.

BET. You may well enew laugh at me, but I can't help et, nor vorbear reding the books when I come athort 'em. But I'll tell thee: I've a' thort pon't zince, that the dump! dump! dump! that galled me zo, was nort else but our great dog diggin out his vleas against the dresser.

RAB. Like enew: I marvel that you, who ha zo much indel and oudel<sup>9</sup> work to do, can vend time vor reding; but then, it zeems, you rede when you ought to zleep.

BET. Why, you must know, Dame doesn't like I shu'd rede zich books; it be other lucker<sup>10</sup> books us ha' vrom the Pason; and

1 Extinguished.

2 Spark.

3 Light.

4 Nothing might.

5 Undress.

6 Closed.

7 Covered.

8 Panting.

9 In-doors and out-doors.

10 Sort, or like.

f. chairs  
 when us ha' done up our chewers,<sup>1</sup> and 'tis candle-tecming,<sup>2</sup> Measter takes hiszell to the alehouse, I take up my knitting, and Dame redes to me. Good now: es may ha' as many books vrom the Pason as us wol, he ne'er zaith her nay, and he hath a power<sup>3</sup> o' em, that a' hath.

RAB. O! Cryle,<sup>4</sup> Bet, I'd a' geed<sup>5</sup> ever zo much had thee a' zeed the Pason in the wood a leet<sup>6</sup> rather. Thee casn't think what items and anticks<sup>7</sup> a' had—noddling his head, blasting<sup>8</sup> up his ees, drowing out his hands, telling to hiszell, and then telling out hard.

: BET. Well; and 'ot did a' zay?

RAB. The goodger<sup>9</sup> knows what, vor nort could I make o'te. A squat down upon the mores<sup>10</sup> of a great oak, and look'd stark at some mose<sup>11</sup> a' had a' grabbl'd<sup>12</sup> vro the tree; and I zim a' zaid words to 't, before a yenn'd<sup>13</sup> it away, and zeem'd in a brown stiddy, poking his stick in the ground. I peep'd to zee if a' was making any zircles<sup>14</sup> or gallitraps, when up a' rak'd,<sup>15</sup> all to wance, and vetch'd a vege<sup>16</sup> to

1 Jobs.

2 Candle-light.

3 A great number.

4 An exclamation.

5 Given.

6 A little while ago.

7 Wild gesticulation.

8 Lifting up his eyes.

9 The Devil.

10 Roots.

11 Moss.

12 Grappled. ?

13 Threw.

14 Circles.

15 Rose up in a hurry.

16 To retire a few steps,  
 in order to rush on  
 with more violence.

thicka plashet<sup>1</sup>—where you and me zeed the Jackee Lanthern—and took a bard<sup>2</sup> out o' a springle, that zumbody had a' teel'd;<sup>3</sup> a' took en in his hand, and told to en, as thof a' had a'be telling to a Christian, and bid en do zum 'ot, I didn't hear what, and the poor fool whisk'd away wi' half his errand. Oh! (*with a shake of his head*) what a pity 'tis, vor he's an over good man.

BET. Zo, you zim he's maz'd, I'll warnes?<sup>4</sup>—No more, look y' d'ye zee, than you be:—maz'd! a kether.<sup>5</sup>

RAB. Na, dant'e be mift:<sup>6</sup> I zay no more than all the parish zaith, fegs! I'm sure I'd crope<sup>7</sup> upon my hands and knees to do en good, at midneart, as zoon as mid-day. Well, but what dost *thee* make o'te?

BET. Why, I be o' Dame's meend.<sup>8</sup> Her zaith, that wan o' his larning vends oceans o' things that gee en pleasure, that other volks see nort in; and zum that may gall<sup>9</sup> en, and put en out a' zorts, that other volks make nort o'—and when you zim he's telling to hiszell, a' may be zaying his prayers out a book.

RAB. Like enew, zure; but I was a' gest a' was going to conjure.

1 Quagmire.

2 Bird.

3 Set.

4 Warrant.

5 Forsooth.

6 Offended.

7 Creep.

8 Mind.

9 Vex.

BET. The dickins!<sup>1</sup> If I thort a' coud conjure, I'd beg en to conjure the evil spirit out o' my Measter into the Red Zea. Thee casn't think, Rab, what a ranticomscour<sup>2</sup> us ha' had to our houze to-day. If I'd a' vound the Pason at home, by now, I had a' be up, and told en all about it, fegs!

RAB. Prithee, what was the tantarra<sup>3</sup> about?

BET. Why, you must know, the puggin<sup>4</sup> end o' our linney,<sup>5</sup> next the pig's loose,<sup>6</sup> geed way, and was slew'ring<sup>7</sup> down: Measter was standing by the tallet,<sup>8</sup> when the cob wall<sup>9</sup> slewer'd<sup>10</sup> away, all to wance, and made such a stew'r,<sup>11</sup> that a' com'd in, heal'd with brist<sup>12</sup> and grute.<sup>13</sup> "Bet," zays a', "go, vet me the lattin<sup>14</sup> cup o' best drink, the pilm's<sup>15</sup> a' go down my droat, and I'm jist a' mickled.<sup>16</sup>"

RAB. Choak'en!—a' hath always zom pre-tence vor gulging<sup>17</sup> in a morning; if a' dothn't leve off, a' will soon turn up' his trotters—I'll tell en but that.

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1 An exclamation. | 12 Small dust or prickles of furze. Granulated earth.                        |
| 2 Uproar.         |  |
| 3 Disturbance.    | 13 The earth from a mud wall. <i>Grute</i> , from the French <i>crotte</i> . |
| 4 Gable end.      | 14 Tin cup.  |
| 5 A lean to.      | 15 Flying dust.  |
| 6 Pig's sty.      | 16 Choked.   |
| 7 Falling down.   | 17 Drinking.   |
| 8 Hay loft.       |  |
| 9 Mud wall.       |  |
| 10 Gave way.      |  |
| 11 Cloud of dust. |  |

BET. Dame was zot down to brextfast, and zaid to en: "You had better drink tey, Jahn Hogg." "Burn your tey," a' yerr'd<sup>1</sup> to her, "'tis the ruin o' the nation. If I was a king, I'd make et treason to drink ort but organ<sup>2</sup> tey." Then, looking about upon me: "Why dont'e budge?" "I thort," quoth I, "you was going to drink tey?" "You thort! Marry come up—I'm come to a fine pass indeed," a' zaid, "to be hamper'd and allowanc'd by Dame and you, what I shall eat, and what I shall drink. I'll be Measter, or turn the doors out to winders."<sup>3</sup> Wi' that, the witherly dolt<sup>4</sup> up wi' his voot, and yenn'd<sup>5</sup> over the tey-kittle, that was but jist hove<sup>6</sup> off the vire, and vlosh'd<sup>7</sup> the water over Dame—a' takes the teypot, and stram-bang<sup>8</sup> thicka<sup>9</sup> goes out o' the winder, and tore,<sup>10</sup> I don't know how many, quarrils<sup>11</sup> of glass.

RAB. All the better: let en pay for his *quarrels*.

BET. How smart you be!—Then he geed the tadle zich a jet,<sup>12</sup> that all the things was walving<sup>13</sup> over; and if I hadn't a' be quick and

1 Swore.

2 Pennyroyal.

3 Windows.

4 Clumsy person.

5 Threw.

6 Lifted.

7 Spilt.

8 To fling violently.

9 Thickee, this;

Thicka, that.

10 Broke.

11 Panes.

12 Push.

13 Rolling.

*quarrels*

ruged<sup>1</sup> it away, a' wid a' jet over the board, and a' torn it all to shords.<sup>2</sup> Charming good cream as thick as stodge, a' shod<sup>3</sup> and slotter'd<sup>4</sup> all about; and the bread and butter, that many a poor soul wid a' jumpt abew<sup>5</sup> ground vor, lied smeeching<sup>6</sup> and vrizzing in the vire. A' slat and scat<sup>7</sup> the things about as thof the goodger was in en. Wan wid a' thort a' was begayged.<sup>8</sup> Never was sich a stirridge<sup>9</sup> sit up for nort.

RAB. Rabbit<sup>10</sup> en! If I'd a' be Dame, I'd a claw'd the jolterhead<sup>11</sup> o' en. I'd zee and break the lowering<sup>12</sup> lubber of his fractious tricks. Good, now, what did her zay to et?

BET. Nort but sift<sup>13</sup> and look'd like wan quailing<sup>14</sup> away; and then a' call'd her a purting<sup>15</sup> glumpot, and out a' march'd, and slamm'd the door arter en, as thof a' wid a' torn down the dorns.<sup>16</sup>

RAB. Gemini! Wid any body, but a crowdling sokey,<sup>17</sup> take it, to be kerpt<sup>18</sup> over by zich a piggish looby? I didn't think Dame was

1 Put away hastily.

2 Sherds.

3 Spilt.

4 Slopped.

5 Above.

6 Making an offensive smell.

7 To throw things about with violence, in an ill temper.

8 Bewitched.

9 Commotion.

10 An oath.

11 Blockhead.

12 A down-looking fellow.

13 Sighed.

14 Fainting; being depressed.

15 A sulky person.

16 Door posts.

17 Timid creature.

18 Kept under.



zich a sart and fair tottle.<sup>1</sup> Why don't her take a good smart rad for en?

BET. Oh Cryle, Rab! her ban't the totle you zeem; but her thinks if her was to begin to hagg<sup>2</sup> wi'en there would be no ho<sup>3</sup>. Why, her ne'er so much as drows et vore to en. Dear me, that zich a vitty<sup>4</sup> tidy body should vall to his lot—wan so stewardly,<sup>5</sup> that can turn her hand to any kindest thing: and good now, though her looketh zo puny and pinikin,<sup>6</sup> her doth more than wan that zeems to lowster,<sup>7</sup> and work harder. Her be always clean, if it be but in a touser.<sup>8</sup> “Cleanliness,” her saith, “is next to Godliness.”

RAB. I'll tell thee what our Pason zaid—I was told it by wan who heard en speak the words—“Farmer Hogg's wife is a pattern; her and her houze be always in order. At zome places where I come, there's sich a wiping and righting, before wan can zit down, it's no comfort to call upon 'em.”

BET. Very true, zure. I was at a neighbour's, t'other day, whan the Pason call'd; and as zoon as her glimps'd en, her jumt up, and cried, “Gracious! here comes our Pason:” and

1 Soft and fair fool.

2 To argue.

3 End, stop.

4 Neat.

5 Managing.

6 Delicate.

7 Bustle about.

8 A coarse apron.

her whipp'd<sup>1</sup> aside to turn her apern—then her vell to sweeping, and clapping aside the things—and mit en, looking twenty ways to wance, wi': "Zure, Zir, you be come to a cruel<sup>2</sup> untidy houze."

RAB. Wan thing, your Dame is always at home: you ne'er zee her at any high-de-lows<sup>3</sup> or gapesnests<sup>4</sup> in the parish.

BET. Her hath no junketing<sup>5</sup> doings, nor ne'er go'th aneest<sup>6</sup> they that ha'; nor widn't care if her ne'er budg'd over the drekstool<sup>7</sup> from wan week to another:—a drap o' tey, and a book, is all the comfort her hath, poor soul! and that is wishee-washee stuff.

RAB. I've a' herd, her had a power of sweet-hearts where her com'd vro'. Hard to go thro' the wood, and take a crooked stick at last. Zure her couldn't lov' en?

BET. Lov' en? quotha! No, that's a zure thing.

RAB. Why did her ha' en then?

BET. Why? Because her coudn't say nay to her vather; the jail take the old curmudgeon,<sup>8</sup> zay I. I didn't care if the old tantarabobos<sup>9</sup> had en. A geed a good stub<sup>10</sup> wi' her, too.

1 Turned hastily aside.

2 Sad.

3 Feastings and merry makings.

4 Sights.

5 Private entertainments.

6 Nigh.

7 Threshold.

8 Covetous fellow.

9 The Devil.

10 Portion or sum of money.



RAB. A hugeous heave up,<sup>1</sup> truly, if her hadn't a varding, to marry zich a stingy hunks<sup>2</sup>—zich a swaggering, hectoring bragadocia.<sup>3</sup>

BET. Ah! me. Before her married, her was as peart<sup>4</sup> as a bard, and as cherry<sup>5</sup> as a crop o' fresh apple blooth;<sup>6</sup> but now, poor soul, her's like a daver'd<sup>7</sup> rose—sweet in the midst o'te.

RAB. Aye, the blue<sup>8</sup> o' the plum's ago, zure!

BET. I meend<sup>9</sup> when a' brought her home, how her was admir'd. Her mother com'd wi' her, and a comely, bowerly<sup>10</sup> 'oman her was, as wan should wish to zee—a notable, thorough-paced, stewardly body; and widn't turn her back to any wan for making squab-pies, and pot-and-puddings.

RAB. Volks zaid her was rather too high to instep;<sup>11</sup> a little graine<sup>12</sup>, or zo. The vather was a ghastly figure, wi' his bandy legs, and shewl-a-mouth<sup>13</sup> hatchet face:<sup>14</sup>—I couldn't abide en.

BET. He was sich a hen-huswife, wan coudn't

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 A great piece of good fortune. | 10 Handsome, of a certain size. <i>Buirdly</i> , |
| 2 Miser.                         | (Scottish,) stoutly                              |
| 3 Braggart.                      | 11 Haughty. [built.                              |
| 4 Lively.                        | 12 Proud, ill-tempered.                          |
| 5 Ruddy.                         | 13 Shovel-mouthed.                               |
| 6 Blossom.                       | 14 Ugly face; such as might be hewn out          |
| 7 Withered.                      | of a block by a                                  |
| 8 Bloom.                         | hatchet.— <i>Johnson</i> .                       |
| 9 Remember.                      |  |

turn a dish vor en—always something to zay: a' know'd how everything was to be do, better than any body else; but I don't know anything a' was good vor, but making a wassail<sup>1</sup> bowl.

RAB. Crymanias,<sup>2</sup> Bet! I wish instead of Dame the Measter had thicka stare-bason tugster,<sup>3</sup> Moll Teazy. Zich a riff-raff taterdemalion<sup>4</sup> was good enew vor en. Her's another gess<sup>5</sup> 'oman than Dame—none of your mealy-mouth wans; but, tit for tat, wid a' geed en as good as a' brought, and laff'd,<sup>6</sup> and tack'd her hands at en, when a' was in his vagaries. Thicka spitfire wid a' vitted en to a T.

BET. Aye, that her wid, with a sissarary.<sup>7</sup> But had he ever a simathin<sup>8</sup> vor thicka harumscarem solvegè?<sup>9</sup>

RAB. I's, zure, a' had a sneeking kindness vor her, that's a zure thing. It's much, how a' could like zich a yoky molekit<sup>10</sup>—zich an unsouterly malkin.<sup>11</sup> A' wanted *me* to be his gubs,<sup>12</sup> thank en; but his-uncle stat<sup>13</sup> the match. I'm mistake if a' hathn't a hankering arter her *now*.

1 A liquor made of  
apples, sugar,  
and ale.

2 Gracious.

3 Bold looking woman.

4 Ragged, dirty.

5 Sort.

6 Laughed.

7 *Certiorari*.

8 Liking, partiality.

9 A term of reproach.

10 A yellow, unhealthy  
looking person.

11 Wench, a dirty woman.

12 Go between.

13 Stopt.

BET. Oh! no, no, nort in that: rather at daggers drawing. Why, the mother and darter rag<sup>1</sup> and scan<sup>2</sup> en, whenever they come atwart en. I couldn't think what 'twas vor, they bally-ragg'd en zo bevore. It 'twas but last week that ever was, I was coming home vrom milking, and zeeing zo many volks in the Church-town, at their hatches<sup>3</sup> and winders, and about the alehouse door—Gracious, what's towards now, thort I.—When I com'd vore, what should it be but the old Mall trimming up my Measter, and yerring to en, “Haw you! haw you!” and he wringing up his vist to her, and swearing he would her bevore her betters, and trounce her, if there was any law in the land. Her bust<sup>4</sup> out a laffing, “What, for zaying, ‘Haw you?’ Why, I’ll zay, P goth vor *purse*, and vor *proud*, and vor *puppy*; now, make the most o’te:” and drawing out her voot and clapping her arms a kimbow (like a bobbing Joan), her defied he and his law. “I hate,” quoth the darter, “a hollow-hearted, black-liver’d rogue.” “Zay another word, Dem,<sup>5</sup>” zays a, “and I’le pull your poll.” “Do, if you dare; ye daren’t.”

RAB. Aye, the young one is the very daps<sup>6</sup> o’ her mother; another such a hauch-a-

1 Chide and Scold.

2 Scoff.

3 Half door of a cottage.

4 Burst.

5 Hussy.

6 Likeness.

mouth'd,<sup>1</sup> hagaging,<sup>2</sup> maundering<sup>3</sup> drab. Woe betide the man that hath her!

BET. Take 'em every way, I dan't think they have their peer.

RAB. For make-bates,<sup>4</sup> I'll warrant. It wasn't vor want o' a good will, the litter-legg'd trapes<sup>5</sup> hadn't a' blow'd a coal between you and me; if it hadn't been vor you, I'd a' made her cry *pecavi*—I'd a' made her eat her words, that I wid.

BET. I shou'd a' cry'd my eyes out, to a' be made the talk o' the parish, and rail'd<sup>6</sup> over by they that don't care what lies they tell.

RAB. Mall can speak truth zometimes. Her did, when her zaid, I lov'd Betty Berry's little vinger better than any 'oman on the vace o' the earth. Her might have zaid, I lov'd the very ground her went upon.

BET. Co, a fig's end<sup>7</sup>! Well, I must trudge home: I'm a' guess, I've a' be lack'd<sup>8</sup>

RAB. Why, stay a crume.<sup>9</sup> When I twitch'd ye by the gownd, yesterday, coming out o' church, why didn't ye look about? I wid a' treated ye with zome special buns and topping ale at the "Pigeons." How did I loss thee?

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 To speak with a broad accent is called in Devonshire, <i>hauching</i> . | 5 An idle, slatternly woman. |
| 2 Passionate.   | 6 Talked over.               |
| 3 Grumbling   | 7 Nonsense.                  |
| 4 Mischief makers.  | 8 Looked for.                |
|   | 9 A little bit.              |

BET. Dame and me didn't go the leach<sup>1</sup> way, but down along the lane, and over the vreath,<sup>2</sup> and made the best o' our way home. Good now, her can't abide zich may-games and high-de-lows<sup>3</sup> Sabbath days. Gracious! what a hurly-burly 'twas! How the volks veased<sup>4</sup> out o' church—higgeldy-piggeldy, helter-skelter: zich jitting,<sup>5</sup> driving, and dringing.<sup>6</sup> I thort no other, but I shou'd be squat<sup>7</sup> to death. I'll never go to church of a Rail Zinday again, I'll be bound vor't.

RAB. It was who shou'd get virst to the "Pigeons," to get a good place.

BET. Our zeat was zo full as it cou'd cram, when who shou'd come in but Joice Jollard and Ruth Rumpson, and wedg'd themselves in, panking and weezing, zo red 'as two roost cocks, tittering, and vanning wi' their hats, as thof 'twas cruel buldering,<sup>8</sup> quelstering<sup>9</sup> weather.

RAB. That was to show their high-peak'd loady<sup>10</sup> heads, wi' a wallage<sup>11</sup> o' hair, plaster'd with mort<sup>12</sup> and flour, bevore, and a thumping nug<sup>13</sup> behind, bedizzen'd with rory tory<sup>14</sup> rib-

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Common way.                    | 8 Sultry.                |
| 2 A low hedge.                   | 9 Hot.                   |
| 3 Feastings.                     | 10 High-dressed, loaded. |
| 4 Hurried, drove.                | 11 A lump.               |
| 5 Pushing against<br>each other. | 12 Lard.                 |
| 6 Squeezing.                     | 13 A bunch.              |
| 7 Squeezed, crushed.             | 14 Tawdry.               |

bons, like garters hang'd up in a vair, and thingembobs in their ears.

BET. Why, good now, that's the tip o'the mode. I'me told that they join vor a red-book that tells 'em the fashions: What dost think o' that?

RAB. Their bacon faces ban't vit to play tricks wi. I heard an old 'oman zay, her long'd to gee 'em a good scat in the chaps.<sup>1</sup>

BET. They never left edging and vedging<sup>2</sup> till they'd a' shoulder'd themselves up to me: I wish'd 'em to Jericho: I didn't know which way to look: I zim'd every body was gaping at es.

RAB. I was, vor wan. There, thot I, is the sweet lily of the valley, peeping under its 'leaves: and there is tansy<sup>3</sup> barefaced; or a rose and a poppy.

BET. I vound my colour rising, and zeeing you pat<sup>4</sup> another, and look at me, that made my vace burn: and the more I tried to help it, the worse 'twas; I could do nort<sup>4</sup> but keep my eyes on the ground. I heard 'em, whispering and tittering. I'le warnes they thort I was dash'd<sup>5</sup> to zee zich vine volks as they.

RAB. If you had but a zeed 'em, whan they com'd out o' church, colting<sup>6</sup> and giggling like

1 Slap in the face.

2 Sideling.

3 A strong-smelling plant.

4 Nothing.

5 Daunted.

6 Frolicking.

two hobby-horses, with their pie-pick'd,<sup>1</sup> skittering flimzy gownds, vagg<sup>2</sup>ing in the wind, or reeping<sup>3</sup> in the mux. "What!" zays wan, "is that Joice Jollard and Ruth Rumpson, zo taring<sup>4</sup> vine?"—"What a flash they cut," zays another; "if their mothers was to peep out o' their graves they widn't know their own children so transmogrified.<sup>5</sup> Their mothers wared<sup>6</sup> their hair vrapp'd<sup>7</sup> back with a vorehead cloth, and little baize rochets<sup>8</sup> and blue aperns.<sup>9</sup>" Well sose,<sup>10</sup> what will this world come to!

BET. Look zee! look! there they be, tramping away across the arish up to Rail! Aye, and there go'th<sup>11</sup> the crowder<sup>12</sup> and a gubby<sup>13</sup> wāy en, scouring along.

RAB. Well, Bet, you'll go to zee the wraxling<sup>14</sup>? Every body keeps holiday to day. Thee shall daunce vor the cep, and I'll warnes you'll git en.

BET. I can't, zure.

RAB. Well! very well!

BET. You be a' purt, now?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Of different colours,<br>as pie-balled. | 8 Little short cloaks, com-<br>monly made of blue<br>cloth.— <i>See Glossary.</i> |
| 2 Flapping.                               |   |
| 3 Trailing on the<br>ground.              | 9 Aprons.   |
| 4 Very.                                   | 10 Well-a-day.  |
| 5 Metamorphosed.                          | 11 Goes.  |
| 6 Wore.                                   | 12 Fiddler.   |
| 7 Drawn tight.                            | 13 A <i>posse</i> , a number.   |
|   | 14 Wrestling.   |



RAB. Fegs, Bet, I gess thee widn't<sup>1</sup> meend my purting: but tell me, then, why thee widn't go?

BET. Dant'e be pettish, and I wol. Why, I be gwain<sup>2</sup> to Thatchcot, to zee my old gaffer and gonmer.<sup>3</sup>

RAB. When wot go? How long virst?

BET. I can't tell: I've a good many chewers to do; and here I be, drilling<sup>4</sup> away my time.

RAB. Prithee, dant'e be long about 'em; I'll meet thee here a leet odds of two o'clock, and bring zome Rail buns in my pocket.

BET. Not vor me; I'me a glut<sup>5</sup> wāy em. wi'

1 Would not.

4 Dawdling.

2 Going.

5 Had more than enough,  
satiated.

3 Grandfather and  
grandmother.



# DEVONSHIRE DIALECT.

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## PART II.

ROBIN. I was a' gest thee widn't a' come, as et began to misslee.<sup>1</sup>

BETTY. I can't zay I like to walk in zich vady,<sup>2</sup> hazy weather: I zem es shall ha' a slottering<sup>3</sup> walk o'te.

RAB. This dribbling<sup>4</sup> rain will break up bam by.<sup>5</sup> Look'e, d'ye zee, there's blue enew in the sky to make thee a rochet.

BET. Po, your eyes mistree.<sup>6</sup>

RAB. I can zee, tho,' thee has a cruel pritty gownd on.

1 To rain in small drops,  
like a mist.

2 Damp.

3 Dirty, wet.

4 Small rain.

5 By and by.

6 Dim-sighted.

BET. I've a' waddl'd<sup>1</sup> en up vor vear of a scud,<sup>2</sup> vor if it's wet 'twill cockle.<sup>3</sup>

RAB. 'Tis an over modest colour, spick and span new,<sup>4</sup> is'n it? You must pay beverage,<sup>5</sup> Bet.

BET. I zay zo, too: why, I bot<sup>6</sup> en last Ridmas<sup>7</sup> come twelvemonth, of a runabout. Dame zaith, I was catch'd by the vinger. There's many scovy<sup>8</sup> places in en, it wan't wear well; I shall ha' more wit next. I'm very chary<sup>9</sup> over en; it never zees zin, but upon choice times. Come! pray dont'e clum<sup>10</sup> en zo.

RAB. What, musn't a body meel<sup>11</sup> way en? —'Tisn't a bit foust<sup>12</sup> nor a voul vinger upon en.—Dost know thee hast a' put on thy hat backsevore<sup>13</sup>?

BET. No: have es? Aye, and my cloak inzide out. Well, us shan't be pixy<sup>14</sup> led. I zem, Rab, es had better keep along the lane, it's cruel poaching<sup>15</sup> in the arish<sup>?</sup>: bezides, thicka bull looketh zo shug.<sup>16</sup>

1 Folded.

2 Shower.

3 Wrinkle.

4 Quite new, first worn.

5 A treat upon wearing  
a suit of new clothes.

6 Bought.

7 Roodmas—

8 Thin, uneven.

9 Careful.

10 Paw or handle.

11 Meddle.

12 Tumbled or soiled.

13 The hind part before.

14 Fairy-led.

15 Swampy.

*See Glossary.*

16 Sly, angry.

RAB. Dost think h'll bush<sup>1</sup> thee ?

BET. I wan't trust en ; I wan't go aneest en, vor ever zo much.

RAB. I'le go and veaze<sup>2</sup> en away.

BET. Oh ! no, dant'e ! vor vear he shou'd gee thee a poke.<sup>3</sup> Do, Rab, zee : dothn't he look vor all the world like my Measter ?

RAB. It isn't good your Measter heard you. Well, how go'th it at home : pritty vitty, or zo, zo ?

BET. Oh ! nort but jourcing<sup>4</sup> and maunder-nig<sup>5</sup> all day long : every thing went wee-wow.<sup>6</sup> Whan a' com'd home to dinner, the dog rin'd<sup>7</sup> out to meet en, tweedling<sup>8</sup> es tail. "Stand a war,<sup>9</sup> wo't?" zaid a,' and geed en a voot<sup>10</sup> that made en youl<sup>11</sup> again. If a' had sparables<sup>12</sup> in hes shoes, a' must a' lamst<sup>13</sup> en. Well, thort I, us shall ha' it bam bye, and zo es had, with a sissarary. I hove off the crock<sup>14</sup> and lade up the porridge ; a' was ranish<sup>15</sup> vor es dinner, and zo skimish<sup>16</sup> that nort wid please en. The

1 Toss.

2 Drive.

3 Gore, to pierce with  
a horn.

4 Scolding.

5 Grumbling.

6 Wrong.

7 Ran.

8 Wagging.

9 Out of the way.

10 Kick.

11 Howl.

12 Nails.

13 Lamed.

14 Pot.

15 Ravenous.

16 Squeamish.

meat was zamzau'd<sup>1</sup> and boil'd to jowds,<sup>2</sup> (and no marvel :) Why did a' lacky<sup>3</sup> zo long, and keep it zimmering in the crock ? The dumplins was claggy<sup>4</sup> and pindy<sup>5</sup> ; charming plum<sup>6</sup> bread, a' zaid, was a' clit<sup>7</sup> for want o' barm ; the cheeze was vinnied<sup>8</sup> and buck'd ; the cyder was keemy<sup>9</sup> and had a vinegar twang ;—

RAB. What next ?—

BET. Why, the small beer was a' jarr'd, and thick as puddle ; the ale was a' pirl'd,<sup>10</sup> and dead as dish-water—a'd as lief<sup>11</sup> drink the addle gutter—when, to be zure, the fob<sup>12</sup> was abew the cup. “Pray,” said a,' “haul et out in a glass, that a body may zee what 'tis ;—I want ha thicka glass, gee me t'other.” Howsomever, bad as 'twas, a' made shurt<sup>13</sup> to gulk<sup>14</sup> down a quart o'te, and eat a good sliver<sup>15</sup> of vlesh, and a swapping lunch<sup>16</sup> of pudding. “What,” quoth a' to Dame, “art glumping<sup>17</sup> ? I zeem you be a' purt<sup>18</sup> way your dinner, and ha' no stomach, make wise<sup>19</sup> ; but I'll eat vire if you

1 Overdone.

2 Rags.

3 Stay.

4 Glutinous, sticky.

5 Mouldy.

6 Light.

7 Heavy.

8 The green mould  
in cheese.

9 Not sound.

10 Flat.

11 As soon.

12 Froth.

13 Shift.

14 Swallow.

15 Slice.

16 Large piece.

17 Sullen.

18 Offended.

19 Make believe.

havn't a' vit zome vrozzy<sup>1</sup> or other, and this is your orts,<sup>2</sup> vried up for me: I'll ha' none of your cauch<sup>3</sup>: and he jet away the cow-heels off the board. I told en, ware<sup>4</sup> a' know d it or no, my Dame was above doing ort in a hugger-mugger<sup>5</sup> manner. "What then," zaid a,' "was all the hurry-scurry when I com'd home?" "To take up your dinner," zays I. "Aye, to be zure," says a.' "Here, Mrs. Prate-a-pace, I've a zom'ot to zay to *you*: I vind you be zich a blab, that there isn't the leastest thing ado in my house, but, by your tittle-tattle, it is blazed all over the parish. You must tell every body that I was bosky<sup>6</sup> and vall d<sup>7</sup> into the mud-pool."

RAB. What, did a' sure enew?

BET. Is zure, that a' did, and wid a' be buddl'd,<sup>8</sup> if Dame and I hadn't a' tugg'd hard to hawl en out; a' had no stroil<sup>9</sup> to help hiszell. "Why," quoth I, "you want offer to zay zo? I'm zure I ne'er squeak d<sup>10</sup> a word o'te to any living zoul."—"You tell a stramming<sup>11</sup> lie," zaid a': just then zomebody dump'd to the door,

1 Nice thing.

2 Fragments, refuse.

3 Mess, a nasty mixture.

4 Whether.

? 5 Clandestine.

6 Tipsy.

7 Fell.

8 Suffocated.

9 Strength.

10 Spoke.

11 Great.

and in stumpt<sup>1</sup> Gaffer What-ye-call-en, that kicketh<sup>2</sup> zo? I can't het es name?

RAB. Winkingham, that goeth about to catch wants<sup>3</sup>?

BET. The zame. "What," zays a' to the old man, "be you come sneving<sup>4</sup> vor a dinner, and to slock<sup>5</sup> my sarvant to gee<sup>6</sup> what isn't hers to gee?" "What me, Measter? You put hard upon an old man: my comfort is, not a living zoul will zay zo but yourzell: I be a' come to catch your *wants* to supply my *own*." Now, thort I, I'll be to mits<sup>7</sup> wi' you, Measter, to gap or to stile; zo I went right vore to the old man, "Good now, Gaffar, did I tell you that Measter was drunk, last Vriday, and valled into the mud-pool, and that Dame and I lugg'd en out?"

RAB. Bevore George! you was quits wi' en: you nick'd<sup>8</sup> en.

BET. The old man grizzl'd<sup>9</sup>: "No, zure, lovey, I ne'er heard the least inkling<sup>10</sup> o'te:" and away he turn'd to the winder: I cou'd zee vor what, by the juggling<sup>11</sup> o' his shoulders. It was jist upon the tip o' my tongue—"Shall

1 To press the foot  
hard.

2 Stammers.

3 Moles.

4 Sneaking.

5 To entice.

6 Give.

7 Even.

8 Caught him at a lucky  
moment.

9 Laughed.

10 Hint or information.

11 Shaking.

I ax<sup>1</sup> any body else?" but Dame geed me a look, and I was glad to get away.

RAB. I shuld a' bust<sup>2</sup> wi' laffing.

BET. It was no laffing sport for poor Bat; a' vetch'd out hes mad upon he, and clapper-claw'd<sup>3</sup> en vinely. A' heard Measter was in his tantarems,<sup>4</sup> and had a' be up in the chamber, looking down dro' the squinches<sup>5</sup> in the planching,<sup>6</sup> and was slinking<sup>7</sup> down, tiptoe, so gingerly,<sup>8</sup> shrumping<sup>9</sup> his shoulders, that he mist his vooting, and com'd down rouse,<sup>10</sup> stair arter stair, to the bottom. Measter glimps'd en, and vall'd aboard o'en like a bull-dog. "Here, you ragamuffin rabscallion,<sup>11</sup> where be you skulking to? 'Twas you, was it, trapping<sup>12</sup> over head? What did you there, michard<sup>13</sup>? Ods-wilderakins<sup>14</sup> speak! or I'll maul thy jaws:" and wi' that a' geed en zich a whister-clister,<sup>15</sup> as made es eyes strike vire.

RAB. The glittish<sup>16</sup> gorbelly<sup>17</sup> pig, I wish zomebody would maul he zoundly. I wish I'de

1 Ask.

2 Burst.

3 Tongue-beat, scolded.

4 Vagaries.

5 Chinks.

6 Floor.

7 Stealing, to creep silyly.

8 Softly.

9 Shrugging.

10 With a great noise.

11 Terms of reproach.

12 Walking.

13 Micher, a lazy loiterer.

14 An exclamation.

15 Box in the ear.

16 Cruel, savage.

17 Big-bellied.



the trimming o'en, the slouching lubber,<sup>1</sup> odds danget, I'de lerrick<sup>2</sup> en to the true ben.<sup>3</sup>

BET. Oh! Jaykle,<sup>4</sup> this was but a vlea bite, if you did but zee how a' will fulch<sup>5</sup> en and thump en about zometimes; and the leet windle<sup>6</sup> darent blubber or weeny,<sup>7</sup> but siffeth and look'th zo pittis,<sup>8</sup> 'tis enew to make a body's heart ache.

RAB. I'm zure it hath made my heart ache to zee the crisimore,<sup>9</sup> by peep o'day, in his leet scrimp<sup>10</sup> jerkin, like a bard that isn't flush,<sup>11</sup> trouncing<sup>12</sup> in the mux after the hosses, squash, squash, stratted<sup>13</sup> up to the huxens<sup>14</sup> in plid, the innocent vace o'en like basam,<sup>15</sup> and hes poor hands plim'd<sup>16</sup> up wi' chilbladders,<sup>17</sup> hez hair stivering<sup>18</sup> an end wi' the wind, and a drap hanging to the nose o'en like a conkable.<sup>19</sup>

BET. Aye, and when a' com'th home stiv'd<sup>20</sup> wi' the cold, a' can't come neest<sup>21</sup> a blunk o' vire, and may be, nort but a crab<sup>22</sup> o' dry bread vor hes supper.

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Clownish booby.      | 12 Floundering.          |
| 2 Chastise.            | 13 Splashed.             |
| 3 Truth of it.         | 14 Hocks, ankles.        |
| 4 Exclamation.         | 15 The red heath broom.  |
| 5 A blow or push.      | 16 Swelled.              |
| 6 <i>See Glossary.</i> | 17 Chilblains.           |
| 7 Cry.                 | 18 Standing.             |
| 8 Sorrowful.           | 19 Icicle.               |
| 9 Little creature.     | 20 Starved or shivering. |
| 10 Short.              | 21 Near.                 |
| 11 Feathered.          | 22 Crust.                |



RAB. No marvel he looketh so thirl,<sup>1</sup> poor boy. I met en at the mill, t'other day, and a' begg'd of all love they wid zend en away wi' his grist, or a' should be bang'd wan a' com'd home, vor staying; zo I let en ha' my steeming,<sup>2</sup> vor I was there bevore he. Well, sose! no body knows to whose take their poor children may come; hes mother doted upon en; a' was the nestle draft<sup>3</sup>; a' could but jist daggle<sup>4</sup> about when her died; a' was a poor puny thing, her had an ocean o' trouble way en: and her, poor zoul, took by upon the death o' her husband, and ne'er gooded<sup>5</sup> arter.

BET. I've made a shurt<sup>6</sup> to larn en his letters, and his prayers; and wan day a' was kneeling to my knees, zaying arter me, "Give es this day our daily bread," a' ream'd<sup>7</sup> up his neck, wi' his sweet begging eyes, and zaid, zart in my ear, "Mayn't es ax vor a crume<sup>8</sup> o' butter 'pon't?" I hugg'd en in, and zaid, "Be a good boy, and you wan't lack butter 'pon your bread."

RAB. Pretty zoul! a' made rare gammet<sup>9</sup> vor es at the "Pigeons" last neart, whan a' brought his Measter's great coat. Hogg was

- 1 Lean, thin, meagre.
- 2 My turn.
- 3 The last pig in a litter.
- 4 Trudge.
- 5 Prospered.

- 6 Shift.
- 7 Stretched.
- 8 Little bit.
- 9 Fun, sport.

then dwelling<sup>1</sup> and palavering away about religion, as a' always dith whan a' is half ago : "Come," zis a' to Bat, "stand vore,<sup>2</sup> put your hands behind your back, and zay the chief end o' man."

BET. A pritty time—in an alehouse. Good now, a' wager'd with Dame, that h'd teach en "The chief end o' man" zooner than her shou'd his catechise.

RAB. Zo a' went on : "Who made thee?"—"God," said Bat, and nodded his head. "What did God make thee vor?" The boy was at a stann.<sup>3</sup> "Speak, mumchance,<sup>4</sup> what dost stand digging the head, and shuckening,<sup>5</sup> as if thee was louzy : speak, mooncalf, 'Ot did God make thee vor?" Bat look'd up zo harmless, and zaid, "To carry dung to Crowbear.<sup>6</sup>" Bless es, what a hallaballoo<sup>7</sup> was set up ; es cried a' was right, hes Measter look'd brinded,<sup>8</sup> and the poor boy bost out a crying, when Hogg zaid, "You dunderheaded stunpole,<sup>9</sup> you drumble drone,<sup>10</sup> I wish I'de a good smart switch, I'de lerrick thee till I made thee twine<sup>11</sup> like an angle-twitch.<sup>12</sup>"

1 Talking tediously.

2 Stand forward.

3 At a stand still.

4 Silent person, or one  
resolved not to speak.

5 Shuffling.

6 A place near Tarring-

7 Noise.

8 Spoken of Animals ;  
fierce, like a bull.

9 A thick-headed, stupid  
fellow.

10 Humble bee, or drone.

11 Twist.

12 Blindworms.

[ton.

BET. If a' had a' be at home a' wid a' be wapp'd<sup>1</sup> and bang'd to zome tune.

RAB. A' dardn't do it now; a' might as good eat es nails. Es vingers itch'd to gee 'n a tuck, and vor what? Wasn't a' right? I' zure, I've a' zeed en mornings rare<sup>2</sup> and eve-lings<sup>3</sup> late, go to Crowbear a lade,<sup>4</sup> and back lary.<sup>5</sup>

BET. And zometimes a' rideth thicka lamming,<sup>6</sup> galaganting<sup>7</sup> hoss, that's enew to julk<sup>8</sup> en to death.

RAB. Jist bevore candle-teening, the Pason peep'd in upon es, to put us in meend 'twas Zinday neart; and Hogg began dwalling away about the wickedness o' the times, and rind on a long rigmarole<sup>9</sup> of grievances. The Pason clapt hes hand upon hes shoulder, and zaid: "He that mends himself mends every thing, zo far as concerns him." Hogg pouch'd<sup>10</sup> out hes mouth, look'd glum, and didn't know 'ot to make o'te; but keep'd spuddling<sup>11</sup> in the vire, and zoon arter shabb'd<sup>12</sup> off.

BET. I believe a' is a ragged and roasted amongst you well a' fine,<sup>13</sup> but es pay vort.

1 Slapped.

2 Early.

3 Evening.

4 Laden.

5 Empty or unladen.

6 Large.

7 Large and awkward.—*See Glossary.*

8 Shake.

9 Round-about story.

10 Poked.

11 Poking and raking.

12 Sheered or stole off.

13 To a good purpose.

Outel doors a' meets wi' hes match, but indel doors a' is like a thing untied. I'll gee thee a sample:— a Vriday I went to winding,<sup>1</sup> and took the boy wi' me, to cry turr,<sup>2</sup> and vease away the pigs from nuzzling in the corn; and if the wind be wanted, a' can whistle charming. It was a tingling<sup>3</sup> frost, quite a glidder<sup>4</sup> all down along the lane. The juggy-mire<sup>5</sup> was one clitch<sup>6</sup> o' ice; et blunk'd,<sup>7</sup> and the wind huff'd<sup>8</sup> and hulder'd it in wa's face. I was in a sad taking; no going to the lew zide you know; I must vace it, though my lips and nose was a' spray'd,<sup>9</sup> and my arms as spraged<sup>10</sup> as a longcripple.<sup>11</sup> Well, by the time us had ado, the wind was ago lye,<sup>12</sup> and 't had a' eved,<sup>13</sup> zo that I was a' stugg'd<sup>14</sup> in the mux. Cryle! I never was in zich a pickle bevore, my coats was a dugg'd<sup>15</sup> up, and my shoes healed in plid.<sup>16</sup> When es com'd home, Measter was a' ream'd out in the zittle,<sup>17</sup> routing<sup>18</sup> bevore a great

1 Winnowing.

9 Chapped.

2 An expression used  
in driving pigs.

10 Spotted.

11 Viper.

3 Sharp.

12 Gone down.

4 Water frozen on the  
ground.

13 Thawed.

14 Stuck.

5 Bog or quagmire.

15 Draggled.

6 Mass.

16 Mire.

7 Snowed.

17 A high-backed seat com-  
mon in farm houses.8 Wind not blowing  
steadily.

18 Snoring.

rouzing<sup>1</sup> vire, enew to swelter<sup>2</sup> en: Dame zitting by, upon a cricket,<sup>3</sup> knitting; and zeeing Bat a' shrumpt<sup>4</sup> up wi' the cold, her meaned and nodded to en a' should come by the vire: the little pixy went to dring<sup>5</sup> hiszell into the end o' the zittle, and was a' jamm'd, a' coudn't get back nor vore. Measter raked up<sup>6</sup> and glinted<sup>7</sup> upon en: "Hey!" zays a,' "marry come up, my dirty cousin, why dant'e come and zit down in the zittle at wance, cheek by jowl, hail fellow well met,—hey! tatterdemalion?" And, wi' that, a' geed en zich a wap<sup>8</sup> in the niddick, that a' hit es head against the clovel,<sup>9</sup> and made a bump in his brow. Dame coudn't help speaking.

RAB. I think her coudn't, zure enew. I wish I'de a' be there.

BET. A' snubb'd up Dame, with "None of your documentizing.<sup>10</sup> I was overlook'd" a' zaid, "when I took thicka spindle. You was virking<sup>11</sup> me to take en, when I meast a' had a good stugged<sup>12</sup> boy, vit vor zome ort, and this is vit vor nort." "'Tis a poor fatherless

1 Blazing.

2 Melt.

3 A three-legged stool.

4 Shrunk.

5 Squeeze.

6 Awoke from sleep.

7 Looked askance.

8 Blow.

9 A large beam across  
the chimney in  
farm houses.

10 Preaching or instruc-

11 Teazing. [tion.

12 Healthy, strong.

and motherless cheeld," I zaid. "Who bid you put in your oar?" a' zaid, "hold your wab,<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Tittlegoose, what d'ye mean by't, both of ye, to be always dinging<sup>2</sup> in my ears about thicka chat: ye uphold en, ye do zo: the dap I geed en widn't a' kill'd a vly; and here's a stirrege<sup>3</sup> set-up for nort."

RAB. A pize take en—who zat it up?

BET. Than a' fell a' walving and tossing, and turning from zide to zide, grunting and querking<sup>4</sup> wi' his kibby<sup>5</sup> heels: a' hath always zome glam<sup>6</sup> or t'other, and makes em worse by es pomstering<sup>7</sup>: a' is cruel a' troubled wi' pinswills<sup>8</sup> and nimpingangs.<sup>9</sup>

RAB. A' looketh a' loaded,<sup>10</sup> that's a sure thing; hes flesh is zo flabby and wangery.<sup>11</sup> A' turns off bevore Dame, zay I zaid zo.

BET. Oh that he meart! Arter a' had a' be dozing and zogging<sup>12</sup> zome time, a' called to Dame: "Come," zaith a', "knuckle down on your marrow bones, and hawl off my stocking, it's a clitch'd<sup>13</sup> to my heel." Dame rucked<sup>14</sup>

1 Tongue.

2 Harping, a corruption  
of din.

3 Tumultuous disorder,  
commotion.

4 Moaning, complaining.

5 Chaps on the heels, or  
chilblains.

6 Sore.

7 Quackery.

8 Whitlows.

9 Boils.

10 Bloated.

11 Soft.

12 The same as dozing.

13 Stuck.

14 Squatted.

down, and did but jist titch en, when a' scream'd out "Gingerly, gingerly: how unvitty and cat-handed<sup>1</sup> you go about it, you dough-cake,<sup>2</sup> git'e gone you sontross<sup>3</sup>;" and wi' that a' strode<sup>4</sup> out es leg and draw'd her all along.

*They come to Thatchcot.*

BET. Heyday! how is this? No christian zoul at home! Why where, in the name of goodness, can they be go to? I've a' trapsed here to a vine purpose. What be you smirking about?

RAB. Why, dant'e know the old zouls keep all holidays, and eat pancakes Shrove Tuesday, bacon and beans Mace Monday,<sup>5</sup> and rize to zee the zin dance Easter-day; and always go to Rail to spend their penny. Now, the wraxling is over by this time, and they be dancing away vor life.

BET. Well, zure, my thoughts was a wool-gathering,<sup>6</sup> or I hadn't a com'd zo far. Where's the fun ov bringing a body here vor nort? How cou'd ye do zo?

RAB. Is the having your company vore and back nort? Why, I wid stand in the Torridge,

1 Awkward.

2 Half-witted.

3 A term of reproach.

4 Threw.

5 See *Glossary*.

6 Bewildered.



up to the neck in water, vor an hour, to ha' thy company vor the next.

BET. Hey, sissa! what rodamantade be you telling? Well, I can't but zay—

RAB. Come, dant'e zet up thee back<sup>1</sup>; thee 'now'st I tell no fibs; thee 'now'st how dearly I love thee, and that I've a lack'd a long time to tell thee zo.

BET. Blindmares<sup>2</sup>!

RAB. I've always a' found, that as zoon as you halseny<sup>3</sup> I'm about to break my meend—whip sissa! you be ago, and then I code bite my tongue vor veasing you away.

BET. Than, why wol ye? Come, let's hear no more o'te.

RAB. There now: you'll be the death o' me, that's a zure thing.

BET. What whimzeys you ha': why do ye put yourzell in zich a pucker<sup>4</sup>? we ha' always a' be good friends, and prithe, Rab, let's bide zo, and let me hear no more o'te.

RAB. (*Taking her hand.*) But I zay you shall: I've a' began, and fegs I'll not let thee go till thee hast a' heard me out.

BET. I wol, I wol; but dont'e creem<sup>5</sup> my hands zo.

RAB. I don't know what I do, or what I zay, Oh! Bet, thee casn't think what a way I

1 Be angry.

2 Nonsense.

3 Guess or conjecture.

4 Fuss.

5 Squeeze.



be in ; many, many nearts I han't a' teen'd my eyes vor thinking o' thee. I can't live zo, 'tis ne'er the ne'er to tell o'te. I must make an end o'te zome way or t'other—I'm bent upon't, therevore no shilly shally ; but look there, thee zeest the zin yender, a' most a' healed by thicka hill : now, if thee dosn't zay thee wot ha' me bevore a'tis quite clean and sheer a'gone out o' sight, zure and zure, and double zure, I will ne'er ax thee again, but go a solger,<sup>1</sup> and ne'er zee thee more.

BET. Why thee wotten ? You only make wise. You want go a solger ? (*She drops her head and weeps.*)

RAB. Lock, lock, my precious ! what dost cry vor ?

BET. I'm a poor moody-hearted, timersome body, and you scare one zo. I'm in a strange quandary<sup>2</sup> If I'de no choice, I cou'd ha' no blame. If I zay iss I may be sorry, and if I zay no I may be sorry too ; but zure, Rab, you, who ne'er hurted man, woman, or cheeld in your born days, can't use me badly.

RAB. Use thee badly ! No, Bet, as zoon wid I claw out my own eyes : I must be mazed indeed.

BET. Come, pray now, dant'e make a game of a body, nor go on so vreach<sup>3</sup> ; but hear virst what I ha' to zay. You must know, Rab, that

1 Soldier.

2 Difficulty.

3 Violently.

the leet money I had a' croop'd<sup>1</sup> up, I've a be shirk'd<sup>2</sup> out o'; but it will ne'er goodee wi' they that did it—it will dwindle away. I'll tell thee how I was a' choused.

RAB. Good now, lovee, dant'e tell or think about it; us shall faggee well a' fine<sup>3</sup> without it. I can work, and I will work; all my cark-ing<sup>4</sup> and caring wol be vor thee, and vor thee I could spend my heart's blood; every thing shall be as thee wot ha' et.

BET. Co, co, Rab, how you tell! Why, dante think I'm sich a ninny-hammer to desire it. If it's ordain'd I shall ha' thee, I wol try to make thee a good wife. I dan't lack to be cocker'd. Hark! dan't I hear the bell lower-ing<sup>5</sup> for eight o'clock? 'Tis, as I live: I shall ha' et whan I come home.

RAB. If I let thee go now, wot meet me here to-morrow, in the dimmet.<sup>6</sup>

BET. No: to-morrow morning, arter milk-ing time, I wol.

RAB. Zure?

BET. Zure and zure: zo I wish thee a good neart.

RAB. Good neart, my sweeting; my dearee, good neart.

1 Saved up.

2 Tricked, cheated.

3 Do well in the end.

4 Care, anxious solicitude.

5 Tolling the Curfew.

6 Twilight.

# DEVONSHIRE DIALECT.

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## PART III.

### ROBIN *and* BETTY.

RAB. Where hast thee a' staid this longful time? I thort thee wid never come. I've a' be lolling 'pon the gate, and playing 'pon the Jewsharp, to drill away the time.

BET. I be vexed to the heart, Rab, to have made thee wait. Good now! Measter hath so many fiddle-faddles, 'tis enew to make a body crazy: so many lets, that 'tis well I be a' come now. 'Tis a good hour's work to zarve he and the pigs. Than a' is always twitting a body about wan's dress. I did but clap on a clean towser, and a' zaid, "Thee hast a' be in haste to go ever zo long, and it thee can stay to prink<sup>1</sup> theezell out."

<sup>1</sup> Bedeck.

RAB. Es ha' a fine day, and the zin blast hath a' bro't out the little creatures—Look ! zee the merry dancers !

BET. What dost mean ?

RAB. Why, dostn't zee them flies—how they hays, vigger in, cross over,<sup>1</sup> round tag,<sup>2</sup> and about they go. But what dost think of zeeing a butterfly, by now ?

BET. Zure you didn't, did 'e ?

RAB. Is zure ; and I'll tell thee the story of the butterfly and two little boys—

BET. That liv'd in a vinegar bottle ?

RAB. No, pixy, no ; but pass'd while I was lolling 'pon the gate. The least o' the boys catch'd a butterfly, when the Pason come by and geed en a penny vor't, and let en go. The great boy cried “Half parts ; open thy hand, Tommy ; let's zee, is it a new King George ?” “There's no C upon en,” zaid Tommy. “Come, Tommy, let es score<sup>3</sup> : I'll gee thee this great grammer's<sup>4</sup> pin, large enew to race<sup>5</sup> strawberries 'pon ; and I ha' at home a swinging<sup>6</sup> great apple, as yellow as gold, and so mealy, thee mayst brit<sup>7</sup> en—thee shall ha' the virst bite o' en.” “The virst bite o' en,” quoth Tommy, “who's a fool, then ?” “Why then,” zaid the

1 Terms in dances.

2 Children's play, all standing in a ring.

3 Exchange.

4 Large.

5 String.

6 Huge.

7 Bruise.

big boy, "I'll gee thee a loady-nut<sup>1</sup> to boot." "No, zure," zaid Tommy, "you shan't slock<sup>2</sup> away my penny, I'll carry en home to mammy." And away a' went; the t'other yenning and truckling stones arter en, crying, "Along, cross-pot,<sup>3</sup> along! Stand clear! I'll be to mits way ye, wan of these days, zee if I bant, and if I don't bang ye well and soundly." The butterfly hapt to come again and pitch: the boy catch'd en, jist as the Pason was coming back along; zo the brat takes es long grammer's pin, and spitted the poor thing, and carried en, bivering,<sup>4</sup> to the Pason. The Pason called en a barbarous chat,<sup>5</sup> and geed en a good fump<sup>6</sup> in the back, stapt<sup>7</sup> 'pon the butterfly, and went on. The boy stood still, digging his head: "Woundy<sup>8</sup> hard," a' zaid, "that wan should ha' a scute<sup>9</sup> vor what t'other should ha' a fump in the back vor."

BET. A' was sarv'd in hes kind: good enew vor'n.

RAB. But now to what I lack to tell about, my sweeting: shall us put in the banns next Zinday?

BET. I'm in a peck o' troubles about Dame.

1 Double Nut.

2 Entice.

3 Ill-natured brat.

4 Quivering.

5 Child.

6 A slap.

7 Stept.

8 Very.

9 Gift.

Zure, Rab, I can't think of leaving her, it awhile. Wan that's always ailing lacketh zome tender-hearted body about her. What will her do whan I be ago? Her's is a lonesome life.

RAB. I've a huge kindness vor Dame, as well as you; but think 'pon poor me too—Zimmeth<sup>1</sup> her breaketh apace?

BET. Lack-a-day! zo her hath, since the death of her leet boy. Her life was bound up in en. 'Twas a sweet boy. Whan a' was in arms a' was the prittiest chubby cheeld, and a' wid crow whan a' was chirpt to, and volks wid stop me to kiss en.

RAB. 'Cause 'twas in your arms.

BET. Is, to be zure!

RAB. Why, 'twas, now!

BET. Co! zo they did whan a' was avoot.—Well, 'twas a zweet babe, that 'twas; and 'twas enew to overzet her. Whan a' was bad, a' was zo handyfast,<sup>2</sup> that a' widn't suffer her out o' es sight neart nor day; and es constant cry was, "Mammy, mammy, where's mammy?" Whan a' zeed her wipe her eyes, a' zaid, "What doth mammy cry vor?" How it cut me to the heart to zee her whan a' died. "Sweet lamb," her zaid, "art thee dead? Wilt thee never open thee eyes again?" Than her drowd her-

1 It seems.

2 Holding fast.

sell upon her knees by the bedside, and vall'd upon her vace, with her arms stretch'd out. No belving<sup>1</sup> or hooting, nor did her make a preachment to the neighbours that com'd to zee her; better her had—I was a' gest her would pay for keeping it to herzell. Mercy, how her hath a' palled<sup>2</sup> when her hath come athort any of es playthings. Her hath had the grave freath'd<sup>3</sup> all round, and set in rosen and sweet harbs, and every trick and turn her steal-eth away to water 'em. I've a begg'd her, as if it was for an omes,<sup>4</sup> that her widn't do it.—“Ah! Bet,” her zaid, “this, and all my other cares, will zoon be over.”

RAB. My heart is up in my mouth. How canst thee bare to live in zo much wishness<sup>5</sup>? Dant'e stay in't longer than needs must. Hast ye zaid ort to Dame?

BET. I aim'd to bring et out in a round about way, but was so bewilder'd I hardly know'd what I zaid. Her look'd up on me so pittis: “And zo, Bet,” quoth her, “you be gwain to leave me?—I wish thee well to do, but I'll tell thee what, a married life is a life of trial, the best vend it so.” “I trust,” quoth I, “I shall ha' one that will ne'er curb me.” “And dost think,” her said, “it needeth no

1 Bellowing.

4 Alms.

2 Turned pale..

5 Melancholy.

3 Wattled.



care to keep on a sewent<sup>1</sup> pace in the right track, when the bridle is lereping<sup>2</sup> under voot?" Just then, in come Measter, looking zo gruff. He'd a' be eavesdropping, that's plain.—"Jhan Hogg," her zaid, "es be gwain to loss Bet." "Zo be like," a' zaid, "much good may do thicka that finds her. He'll ha' a bone to pick, zay I zaid zo. Her looketh as thof butter widn't melt in her mouth, but cheese want choak her. A good riddance, zay I. Let her pack fardle,<sup>3</sup> bag and baggage. I don't care how zoon her was a' routed out o' my houze. Her hath a' feather'd her nest, and burnish'd well a' fine since her com'd here. Now let her marry, and live out o' care, up to the knees in clover; but, my life vor't, her'll find the odds o'nt. Winter and wedlock tames man and beast: get into Lob's Pound<sup>4</sup>: marry in haste, and repent at leisure: begin with 'dearly beloved,' and end with amazement."

RAB. A son of a gun!

BET. I told en, "I hoped to make no more haste than good speed." "Hey," zays a, "how cock-a-hoop es be. Pray, Mrs. Dapper, dant'e reckon your chickens bevore they be hatch'd: many things happen between the cup and the lip, and thee may'st be left in the lurch, et, vor

1 Even, smooth.

2 Trailing.

3 Bundle.

4 A prison.—*See Johnson.*



all I know, and vor all thee art so keen upon et. What, because Rab's father hath no chick nor cheeld but he, and hath a' croop'd up a little money, you cast<sup>1</sup> to ha' what a' hath. A' hath a' work'd hard and a' fared hard, and, my life vor't, will look 'pon his money twice, bevore he'll part way et in his lifetime. He's a strong, hale, old fellow; and I trow thicka that looks vor dead men's shoes may go wet shod, if not bare voot."

RAB. God be thank'd, a' is strong and hale. Why, a mooncalf, if a' wid wish me a mischief, it wid be that my vather meart die. Money es may get, but not another vather.

BET. Why, good now: a' measures other volk's corn by es own peck. I can't think what's a' come to en; a' is more ill-condition'd and frumpish<sup>2</sup> than ever a' was—huffing and dinging all the day long.

RAB. I'll be hang'd if a' dothn't bear thee a bull's neck<sup>3</sup> vor what thee zaid to the old want-catcher.

BET. I do but think how a' wid trounce me, if a' cou'd ha' any hank<sup>4</sup> upon me. What'e think a' zaid? "That a couple o' brats, or a broken bone, wid make es as poor as church mees,<sup>5</sup> and bring es to the parish; that it was a

1 Look forward.

2 Brow beating.

3 A grudge.

4 Handle.

5 Mice.

urning shame the law should suffer such as es to marry, and bring a charge upon the parish, rise the poor rates, and make such as he help to maintain 'em."

RAB. What doth a' mean by't? I'll make en eat es words. He help to maintain es? I ha' no patience. Let me tell en, we come of a better havage<sup>1</sup> than he did; all our generations ware good livers, and justmen-holders,<sup>2</sup> and never beholding to the parish in their born days. Troth, I don't know, but they that live from hand to mouth, live more to their heart's content than he doth, a lubber, that's worth scores. Why, Bet, if es could ha' but a sheep's head and hange,<sup>3</sup> es should ha' the virst cut o'te. But how can'st take et?

BET. I dan't meend et a pin's point: vor-merly whan a' used to snap and sware at me, I used to cry like any thing; but now I told en, flat and plain, that I didn't meend his flouts and his jeers, and that if et wasn't vor Dame, I'de as lieve go to-morrow as stay. "Oh! is, to be zure, you clitch<sup>4</sup> to Dame like a cuckel-button,<sup>5</sup> and cruney<sup>6</sup> and crousley<sup>7</sup> way her, with your 'is zure,' and your 'no zure,' and

1 Family, breed.

2 Freeholders.

3 The pluck, the pur-  
tenance.

4 Stick.

5 The burr, the flower  
of the burdock.

6 Whine.

7 To court favour, to  
flatter.

zitting her up against me ; but I'll ha' thee to know, thou make-bate, pick-thank<sup>1</sup> hussy, that a man o' eight-and-twenty pounds a-year, every voot his own land, and that pays vor every thing 'pon the nail, may have, any day o' the week, a better sarvant than such a noizy, chuckling, make-strife as thee art ; but I'll oust thee bevore a week's to an end, or I'll zee why zo ; and then I dare thee put thee voot aneest *my* door." I told en, as to the matter o' that a' needn't put hiszell in zich a fuss—that I neer creept between the oak and the rind, or held with the hare and run with the hound, to curry favour ; vor, as I zaid bevore, I'd as lieve go as stay, if et wasn't vor poor Dame ; and that if a' led her zich a dogged life, and didn't turn over a new leaf, a' wid be zorry vor et whan et was too late.

RAB. 'Ot did a' zay to that ?

BET. Oh, a call'd me all that was to be call'd, but it went into one ear and out o' t'other.

RAB. A purse-proud fellow : I can tell en you was so well a' bore, and better a' reared than he was ; and had your vather and mother a' lived, hadn't a' come to be his drudge, to be hounded<sup>2</sup> and scan'd<sup>3</sup> like a dog, and live like a toad under a harrow. Why dost bare et ?

1 Tale-bearer or flat-  
terer.

2 To hunt, to pursue.

3 Scolded.

BET. Why, I thort to myzell, as a' was my Measter, I'de try to weather it out. 'Tis but a little while, and when I'm ago I shall ne'er hanker to zit my voot over the drekstool o' his door again, I'll warnes<sup>1</sup>; if et wasn't vor Dame I never wid, but vor her I could lie down my life.

RAB. But now, my deary, suppose thee lived near her, and could zee her every day: wan't that do? Hast ort else to vorbid the banns?

BET. Why, to be zure, wan shou'd stay till wan had a' got the whereway, and not go into a houze with your bare walls. 'Whan Poverty comes in to the doors,' they zay, 'Love fleeth out o' the winder.'

RAB. I'll tell thee, my precious, what I ha.' My gonmer left me a pritty plat o' taty<sup>2</sup> ground, and household goods enow, if they hadn't a' be condiddled<sup>3</sup> away, many that I ne'er saw, vel nor mark o'; they ha' left me a special good oaken zittle—

BET. The back o' a zittle is a choice thing to steel<sup>4</sup> clothes 'pon.

RAB. Let's zee: than I've a' got an iron porrige crock, a griddle,<sup>5</sup> a pair o' brandis,<sup>6</sup> a vire pan, a vender, a latin cup, zome cloming<sup>7</sup>

1 Warrant.

2 Potatoe.

3 Pilfered, taken sily  
away.

4 Iron.

5 Gridiron.

6 Three-cornered iron,  
to rest the kettle  
over the fire.

7 Earthenware.

porridge dishes, a gulamouth,<sup>1</sup> zome timber dishes,<sup>2</sup> a verkin, a trindle,<sup>3</sup> and zome very good knives, not a lipshod<sup>4</sup> in 'em. I've a good doust<sup>5</sup> bed-tye,<sup>6</sup> and a tester-bed, peel<sup>7</sup> and peel-bears,<sup>8</sup> a pair of canvas sheets—bran<sup>9</sup> new, and a pair a leet seary,<sup>10</sup> and a banging brass kittle, that es may swap<sup>11</sup> for what goods es may lack.

BET. My modicum is but forty shillings, coming to me vor wages, two silver 'postle<sup>12</sup> spoons, my mother's amber necklace, and toad-stone<sup>13</sup> ring. What clothing I ha,' es come honestly by, I han't a screed<sup>14</sup> to my back that isn't paid vor. I ne'er go to tick,<sup>15</sup> and 'ot I ha' will sarve for years, way a leet patching. Then, aunt Madge hath a' promis'd me a butt<sup>16</sup> o' bees, whan I married, vor house-warming.

RAB. Well, my chickabiddy, that's zome-thing. Many a little makes a mickle.

- |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Pitcher.                        | 11 Exchange.                         |
| 2 Trenchers.                      | 12 Spoons, the handles               |
| 3 A large tub to salt<br>meat in. | bearing the figure<br>of an apostle. |
| 4 Chip.                           | <i>See Glossary.</i>                 |
| 5 Chaff.                          | 13 A concretion, said to             |
| 6 Bedtick.                        | be found in the                      |
| 7 Pillows.                        | head of a toad.                      |
| 8 Pillow-cases.                   | 14 Scrip.                            |
| 9 Quite.                          | 15 In debt.                          |
| 10 Thin or worn.                  | 16 Hive.                             |

BET. And ef es cou'd but hold to keep a cow, *that* wid be zomething!

RAB. Vather zaith es tet ha'<sup>1</sup> a cow o' he, and a main good one 'tis.

BET. When tet ha' en<sup>2</sup>?

RAB. Es tet ha en<sup>3</sup> whan es marry.

BET. Oh, tetta<sup>4</sup>! Well than, we'll zee to raise the wind to buy a pig, if I score my 'postle spoons. Than the milk I can't zell, and the waste taties, and a leet draft and gruel, will be choice to pop en away<sup>5</sup> and make en plim.<sup>6</sup>

RAB. Aye, I'll leave thee to meend the mean chance.

BET. I shall try to keep the cart upon the wheels, and ha' an egg in the nist.

RAB. And now, my sweeting, I can tell thee of a houze ready cut and dried.

BET. What, Ridgeway's?

RAB. No, no: another lucker houze than that, where thee mayst yenn a stone to Dame's, and may'st zee her every day. What d'ye zay to Gonmer Munford's? Thicka houze is to be let.

BET. Oh, dear! what d'ye tell o'!—Zure enow? Well, that will be special. 'Tis but a stap, as a body may zay, to Dame's.

1 We shall.

2 Shall we have?

3 We shall have.

4 Shall we?

5 Feed it quickly.

6 Fat.

RAB. Come, we'll go and zee what plight the houze and garden be in.

BET. Not now : to-morrow I shall ha' more time. Dear me, how I'me rejoic'd to think es may ha' thicka houze. I know every crick and cornder of et, by tale and by token. I shan't sleep to neart vor thinking o't. The prittest houze in the parish, vor the bigness o'en ; but I can't stay longer to tell about en. Good bye.

RAB. Bye, bye, my sweeting.

END OF THE THIRD PART.



# DEVONSHIRE DIALECT.

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## PART IV.

### ROBIN *and* BETTY.

RAB. Here I be, looking hard vor thee ; gee me thee hand.

BET. I think I shu'd know the way if I was a' mop't.<sup>1</sup>

RAB. Aye, Bet, es have a' gon et many a time together ; dont'e meend when you and I went to schule to the old 'oman ? I'm zure I do ; and I zeem'd thee was the prittest maid in the schule. Ha' you forgot how I used to call upon thee in a morning, thoft 'twas out o' my way, and hand in hand es two leet things dug-gl'd<sup>2</sup> away wi' our dinner baskets ; and every

1 Blind-folded.

2 Trudged.



ripe blackberry or nut I zeed in the hedge, I scrambl'd arter vor thee?

BET. Aye, I do: and do you meend the lamb's dallybones<sup>1</sup> you geed me? I ha' them now this present time.

RAB. And I, Bet, the little ha'penny box you geed me! Look, zee, there 'tis. I always carry en about me.

BET. Do you meend how glad es used to be if es cou'd pick up a sang<sup>2</sup> o' corn for Gonmer's hen?

RAB. 'Twas a good zoul. I lov'd her dearly. I ne'er pass her grave without halting. If I'd a cheeld, I shou'd wish et to love me as I lov'd her. I often think of the stories her used to tell; and of a zinshiny day her wid let us go out under the great tree, and her zit in the shade in the midst o' es. As zoon as es had the word, es tack'd<sup>3</sup> our hands, all up in arms, away to go—rugging out the forms,<sup>4</sup> the toits,<sup>5</sup> and crickets, and half a score tugging along her two-bow'd chair,<sup>6</sup> and plimming<sup>7</sup> up the cushion. Than, whan her begun the story of "Whittington and his Cat," or "Little Red Riding Hood," or the "Children in the Wood," es was all a' gape. None squeak'd or budg'd.

1 Trotter bones.

2 A handful of ears  
of corn.

3 Clapped.

4 Long seats.

5 Hassocks.

6 Arm chair.

7 Making soft and smooth.

If you meend, all the good boys and girls come to good vortin at last, except poor Red Riding Hood, and the Children in the Wood. Ever zince, zimmeth, I've a kindness for poor robins. Her heard me ziffing, whan her was telling the story, and call'd me to her, took my vace between her hands, kiss'd my brow, and zaid I was her brave boy.

BET. What a pritty story her made of Joseph and hes Brothers: I cou'dn't help crying at et.

RAB. Aye, Bet, they be days I shall never forget. How happy was es, when es cou'd rise a ha'penny, to drink sugar and water at the shet<sup>1</sup> o' holidays.

BET. Aye, zure: and her, leaning over the hatch, look'd delighted to zee es, and wid always dole<sup>2</sup> out zomething—a tetty<sup>3</sup> o' rosen, or ripe deberries,<sup>4</sup> christlings,<sup>5</sup> or mazzards, or crumplings.<sup>6</sup> But zee what a wilderness her pritty garden 's a' come to! I mit her, full butt,<sup>7</sup> wan day, wi' a greep<sup>8</sup> o' white lilies, holding 'em out to arm's length: her zaid, "Solomon, in all his glory, was not array'd like one of these." Her had a power o' flowers, but I dan't zee head nor hair o' any now.

1 Running water.

2 Give.

3 Nosegay.

4 Gooseberries.

5 A small sort of plum.

6 Stunted apples.

7 Suddenly.

8 Bunch.

RAB. Her used to tell<sup>1</sup> to her flowers.

BET. The last time her was in her garden I hapt to come to zee her, vor Dame was always ready to let me; and a great loss Dame had when her died. Her was her bosom friend. But, as I was telling, I meet her here, and was struck all o' a heap<sup>2</sup> to zee her look zo pinikin and thirl, and her clothes hanging zo slaggit<sup>3</sup> about her. "Now Gonmer," I zaid, "you ha' been weeding and mouling<sup>4</sup> in the earth: it isn't good vor 'e; you don't look special; it isn't the thing; you shudn't mele way et." "If I am bereav'd o' my garden," quoth her, "I'm bereav'd o' the comfort o' my life. This is a delightful day: come, Bet, you shall go to my bank, under the honeysuckle, and zee my robin." Her took some gerts<sup>5</sup> out o' a little box, and the robin com'd and eat 'em out o' her hand. Her squat down upon the bank, and her put back her head, and made fast her eyes. "How delightful," her zaid, "is the soft wind that blows 'pon my vace through the honeysuckle; and the zinging o' the bards, how glad-some; the buzzing o' the vlies, and the humming o' the bees. Every thing seems alive. I think I couldn't kill a spider if a' was to come in my way."

1 Talk.

2 With surprise.

3 Loose.

4 Digging.

5 Groats.

RAB. Poor old zoul: I meend when it went against her to kill a muskel<sup>1</sup> or an oakweb.<sup>2</sup> "I can't afford," her zaid, "you should eat what I've a' took pains to rear;" and zo her yenn'd 'em over the hedge upon the common.

BET. The cat was a' com'd out arter her, purring and wiping hersell, to and vro, in her apern. Her smooth'd her down, and zaid, "Poor Tib, who will take care o' thee when I be ago? Thee hast ado all thy good deeds, and can't now shurt vor theezell. Will you, Bet, take care of old Tib?" "Is, that I wol," said I; and zo I have, and I gee a ha'penny a week, to this time, vor keeping her. "Well then," her zaid, "that's a' car'd vor. How glad I shu'd be if I cou'd leave thee my houze and garden: but, as that can't be, vor what I ha' dies wi' me, I can't help wishing zome tidy vitty body may live in en, that it meart'ent go to ruin. But why vor? I shan't know nort o'te."

RAB. Her made another gess place than her found; and made the most of every crick and cornder.

BET. Zo her zaid; and the flower mores that creas'd<sup>3</sup> too much, her zet in the field, and prick'd out the toppings of rosen and jasmine in the hedges.

1 Caterpillar.—See  
Glossary.

2 Cockchafer.  
3 Increased.

RAB. Her garden vound her in tea and physick, and her bees honey enew and to spare. Any body wanting honey, or stock-harbs, or peppermint-water, go to Gonmer Munford, you were sure to have et the virst words, as thof you did her a vavour in axing vor't.

BET. "Do but zee, Bet," her zaid, "what a garden I've a' made." "I hope," zaid I, "you'll ha' many years to come in't." "Oh! no, no Bet, I'm past the age of man; I've zeed the parish go bevore me; my time must come at last, and it wan't be long virst; 'tis a debt can't be put off: I vend I break apace." And zo I zeem'd, but didn't tell her zo; but zaid, "You ha' that comfort,—you ha' liv'd a good life; you've ado your best." "I can't boast," her zaid, "who can zay 'I've ado my best?' I've great hopes in my Saviour, and I'm not afeard to die." Her look'd very pinikin and hollow-eyed, and her nose was a' sharpen'd up. "Come, good now, Gonmer, do ye go in: I be cruel zorry to zee 'e in such a way." I had much ado to heave her up. Her had no stroil to help herzell. Her legs crickl'd<sup>1</sup> under her, and her was panking and weezing for breath. I didn't leave her till I'de a' got zomebody to be wi' her; but, good now, her didn't want attendance, it was who shu'd do most vor her.

1 Gave way.

RAB. Hadn't her no relations?

BET. Is, is: her had cousins, well to pass, up the country; but they ne'er troubled their meend to 'quire arter her. You've heard, no doubt, that her father was pason of this parish. He was an over good man, and liv'd to a great age.

RAB. Her must a' be call'd an old 'oman when he died: and where could her go better? Her lov'd the parish, and the parish lov'd her.

BET. Lov'd her? That they did. There wasn't a dry eye at her berrying. Zo, as I was zaying, I left her and went home; and thicka neart I'de a voretoken<sup>1</sup> o' her death. My noze bost out a' bleeding without being het,<sup>2</sup> and I heard the death-watch. I got up at peep o' day, and vound her weezing vor life. "Oh! Gonmer," I zaid, "I be cruel zorry to zee ye zo bad." Her creem'd my hand. "I believe, you, Bet, it's a time I've long expected." Her than told me to teel<sup>3</sup> yender her bible; and when her had deliver'd en to me: "This," quoth her, "is the most precious thing I own;—take en as my legacy. In it you'll vind the tittle-deed to a glorious estate, and how to make the estate your own." The neighbours whisper'd, "Poor zoul, her's out o' her parts<sup>4</sup>: her's telling

1 Warning.

2 Struck.

3 Give.

4 Senses.



dwale.<sup>1</sup> I staid wi' her till milking time, and then I begg'd Dame to let me stay up wi' her thicka neart. That was her last : her was restless, moaning and telling to herzell. I ax'd her if I could do ort vor her ? Her look'd upon me, and zaid her wid be patient,—“ My Saviour and Maker zees me ; a step or two more and I shall be home.” Then her turned, and snugg'd up her head in the piller : es zeem'd her was roating and zoggin, when, dear heart, her'd a' got the rattle.<sup>2</sup>

RAB. Come, dant'e zay no more about et, without thee casen't help crying zo. Think upon what's to come, and that thee mert be owner of the houze, the garden, the cat, and the great tree, which es hopes wan't be cut down in our time.

BET. I hope zo, too ; vor I shu'd like to bring out my knitting work, or my spinning-turn,<sup>3</sup> and zit there, and then I mert happen to zee thee when you be to work. Dear heart ! what strange things come to pass. When I used to think how happy any body mert live in such a sweet place, I could ne'er ha' thort it wid come to my take, every thing zo handy : a pritty cloming<sup>4</sup> oven, big enew to bake a batch o' bread ; water at the shet jest by ; the thorn

1 Incoherently.

3 Wheel.

2 Noise in the throat that precedes death.

4 Earthenware.

hedge and garden, and the great tree. Poor zoul, her used to zit there, summer yevlings, to zee the volks come fro' market, and take in her arrants,<sup>1</sup> her had a' zent by 'em. Whan I used to rede a story-book of a pritty place, I thort it must be like this.

RAB. A pritty place it was. I believe there wasn't a christian zoul went up and down the lane but stopt to look at et, and the garden and her winder deck'd out wi' pots o' rosen. I dare zay, Bet, you'll keep et as much in Pimlico<sup>2</sup> as her did.

BET I can't zay as to the matter o' that; but every thing shall be wholesome and clean. Good, now! What does et go to a year?

RAB. I've a proffer'd<sup>3</sup> vive-and twenty shillings, and they stand vor thirty, and zay they wan't vang<sup>4</sup> less. I'm a guess they wan't let et under; but, hang et, I wan't stand haggling and chaffering about et, but take et forthwith, and go about zitting in zome cole-plants and pot-harbs. There is two special stubberd<sup>5</sup> trees, vor making squab pies<sup>6</sup> and lamb's wool.<sup>7</sup> Why, Bet, us shall ha' every thing rise on the zame; and how comfortable 'twill be, arter es ha' been digging and delving all day, to be wel-

1 Errands.

2 *See Glossary.*

3 Offered.

4 Take.

5 An apple so called.

6 *See Glossary.*

7 A drink made of ale and roasted apples.



com'd home by thy sweet vace, to a chimbly cornder o' my own, and a houze as clean as a pick? A hulch<sup>1</sup> o' dry bread with my dear Bet will be as good as roast meat.

BET. Dry bread! Es hope es shan't be zo hard a drove as that comes to. No, no: I'll shurt vor zomething better vor thy supper, if I make but a scrimp dinner; and now and then es will ha' a viggv pudding on a Zinday.

RAB. My deary, take care I don't eat *thee*.

BET. Come, now, none of your high-ropes and rodomantades. Love me little and love me long, I zay.

RAB. Bodikins! Bet, I ween thee dostn't love me as I love thee.

BET. I'll tell thee what, Rab, vor more than this half year there hasn't a day gone over my head, that I havn't wish'd or avear'd to zee thee. I don't know how et was, zimeth I'de always a tremor or a clay<sup>2</sup> upon me; but now, vall back vall edge,<sup>3</sup> I'm fix'd, and I'm quite another thing.

RAB. And I'm ready to flee over the moon: and now I'll tell thee, I've a ventur'd within an inch of my life, that thee mert take notice o' me.

BET. Dear me, how than?

RAB. I can tell thee, by tale and by token:

1 Slice.

2 Shiver.

3 Come what will.

by riding thickee fractious horse, and taking thicka roguish bull by the horns, at the bull-baiting, when everybody was afear'd to go neest en.

BET. You make my blood rin cold ; I'm glad I wasn't there.

RAB. I thort thee was, tho' I couldn't zee thee. Than, whan the Torridge was a' vroke over, and thee was milking t'other zide, I vetch'd a vedge, forzooth, and away I zlide, and stram-bang down I come with a rouze.<sup>1</sup> The ice geed way with a crack, and flump<sup>2</sup> zous'd I into the water.

BET. I'm glad I didn't zee thee ; zo thee was finely douc'd.<sup>3</sup> How cou'd 'e be zo ventur-some ?

RAB. I only jarr'd my elbow, and scour'd<sup>4</sup> away home like a tail-pip'd dog. Well now, thanks be, these vagaries be over : and kappy is the wooing that isn't long a' doing. What doth zay, Bet, I must put in the banns next Zinday, shall I ?

BET. If it must, it must ; but why zo hurri-some ?

RAB. How shall I know if I be awake ?

BET. Come, gee me my bucket. I've had a good spell. I wish thee a good neart ; I wish

1 Force.

2 To fall suddenly.

3 Wetted.

4 Ran away.

thee well home. Prithee take care o' thyzell, and dont'e stay out late; pray now dont'e.

RAB. 'Ot dost mean—'ot is it?

BET. I don't know how to tell thee. I han't a' be myzell since I've a inkling a' geed me, that Measter was gwain to get thee prest.

RAB. Is that all? Thy measter may go whistle. A' shews his teeth, but a' can't bite—Curst cows ha' short horns. A' had as good eat his nails, as think to meel wi' me. I know a' can't abide me, and there's no love lost. Es havn't a' be cater cousins<sup>1</sup> since last hay-harvest.

BET. How zo, than? But, dear heart, I can't stay to hear. I shall be scour'd<sup>2</sup> whan I come home, vor staying zo long.

RAB. As good be hang'd vor an old sheep as vor a lamb. I'll tell thee how 'twas. Last hay-harvest, at drinking time, we was all zit-ting upon the hay-pokes, zinging the "Leather Bottle," when who shu'd pass by but an old fish jouter,<sup>3</sup> with a jackass and panniers. Hogg bawl'd out, "'Ot fish hath her got—do ye know—can ye tell—will ye ax? Rin zomebody, quick!" Away fagged I: "Here, you: you must come back; thickee man," pointing to Hogg, "lacketh zome vish; but he's very deeve,<sup>4</sup> and if you don't bawl en his ear, a'

1 Good friends.

3 Fish huckster.

2 Scolded.

4 Deaf.

can't hear what you zay." Back I rind to Hogg: "Her is as deeve as a haddock. Do try to make her hear, vor I can't." Away zat he to meet her: and the old trapes took her pipe out o' her mouth, nusled close up to his ear, and scream'd wi' all her might,—and zo he to her; zo it made 'em both jump.

BET. It must a' be rare fun.

RAB. "Wounds," cried Hogg, "the old toad hath crack'd the drum o' my ear—rat her!"—"A toad?" a' yerr'd to en: "I zay *toad*, indeed! Not zo much like one as thee art!"—"Get along," zays Hogg, "or I'll gee thee a dowse<sup>1</sup> in the chops." Her snatch'd the ass's halter, and away her went, maundering, calling es a pack o' low-lived lubbers, vor making game o' her; vor es all laff'd till es blak'd.<sup>2</sup>

BET. No marvel, now, he shu'd owe thee a grudge. No, no: he wan't vorget et vor one while, take my word vor't.

RAB. He may turn his buckle behind his back, vor Rab.

BET. I'm upon thorns; once more good neart.

RAB. Good neart, my sweeting, good neart!

1 Slap in the face.      2 Cried with laughter.

## GLOSSARY.

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### A.

*Abew.* Above

*Akether.* Forsooth

*Aneest.* Nigh

*Angle-twitch.* Blind-worm

*Antick.* Wild gesticulation

*Aperns.* Aprons

*Arrants.* Errands

*As.* Ask

*ple dram - wast*  
B.

*Backsevore.* The hind part  
before

*Bam by.* By and by

*Banged.* Beat soundly

*Bard.* Bird

*Basam.* The red heath  
broom

*Bed-tye.* Bed-tick

*Begayged.* Bewitched

*Belving.* Bellowing

*Ben.* Truth of it

*Beverage.* A forfeit upon  
wearing a suit of new  
clothes

*Bevering.* Quivering

*Blaked.* Cried with laugh-  
ter

*Blasting up his ees.* Lifting  
up his eyes

*Blind mares.* Nonsense

*Elooth.* Blossom

*Blue.* Bloom

*Blunk.* Spark

*Blunked.* Snowed

*Bosky.* Tipsy

*Bost.* Burst

*Bot.* Bought

*Lowerly.* Handsome; of a  
certain size. *Buirdly*—  
Scottish, for stoutly built.

*Braggadocia.* Braggart - E.

*Bran.* Quite  
*Brandis.* A three-cornered iron, to rest the kettle over the fire  
*Brinded.* Spoken of animals; fierce, like a bull  
*Brist.* Small dust, prickles of furze, granulated earth  
*Brit.* Bruise  
*Buddled.* Suffocated  
*Buldering.* Sultry  
*Bull's neck.* A grudge  
*Bush.* Toss  
*Butt.* Hive  
 ? *Butt.* Suddenly

## C.

£ *Candle teening.* Candle light  
*Carking.* Care, anxious solicitude  
*Cast.* Looked forward  
*Cat-handed.* Awkward  
*Cauch.* Mess, a nasty mixture  
 £ *Chary.* Careful  
 (hit *Chat.* Child  
 (kar *Cherry.* Ruddy  
*Chewers.* Jobs  
*Chilbladders.* Chilblains  
*Christling.* A small sort of plum  
 £ *Claggy.* Glutinous, sticky  
*Clapper-clawed.* Tongue-beat, scolded  
*Clay.* Shiver  
*Clit.* Heavy

*Clitch.* Mass; stuck  
<sup>6</sup>*Clom~~ing~~.* Earthenware  
*Clovel.* A large beam across the chimney in farm houses  
*Clum.* Paw or handle  
*Co, fig's end.* Poh! nonsense  
*Cob wall.* Mud wall  
*Cockle.* Wrinkle ε  
*Colting.* Frolicking  
*Condidled.* Pilfered, silyly taken away *Coushy left-hand*  
*Conkable.* Icicle  
*Creased.* Increased  
*Creem.* Squeeze  
*Cricket.* A three-legged stool  
*Crickled.* Gave way  
*Crisimore.* Little child  
*Crock.* Pot  
*Crooped.* Saved  
*Crope.* Creep  
*Cross-over.* Term in dances  
*Cross-pot.* Ill-natured brat  
*Crousley.* To court favour, to flatter  
*Crowbear.* A place near Torrington  
*Crowder.* Fiddler  
*Crowdling sokey.* Timid creature  
*Crub.* Crust  
*Cruel.* Sad  
*Crume.* A little bit crumb  
*Crumplings.* Stunted apples

Croney. Whine  
 Cryle. An exclamation  
 Crymanias. Gracious  
 Cuckle-button. The burr,  
 the flower of the burdock  
 Curmugeon. Covetous fellow

D

Dally-bones. Trotter bones  
 Daps. Likeness  
 Dashed. Daunted  
 Dãvered. Withered  
 Deberries. Gooseberries  
 Dem. Hussy  
 Dickins. An exclamation  
 Dimmet. Twilight  
 Dinging. Harping; a corruption of *din*  
 Documentizing. Preaching or instruction  
 Dole. Give  
 Dorns. Door-posts  
 Dough-cake. Half-witted  
 Doust. Chaff  
 Douted. Extinguished  
 Drekestool. Threshold  
 Dribbling rain. Small rain  
 Drilling. Dawdling  
 Dring. Squeeze  
 Drumble drone. Humble bee, or drone  
 Dugged. Draggled  
 Duggle. Trudge  
 Dump. A heavy sound  
 Dwale. Incoherently

Dwalling. Talking tediously

E.

Es tet ha' en. We shall have  
 Eved. Thawed  
 Evelings. Evenings

F.

Faggee well a fine. Do well in the end  
 Fardle. Bundle  
 Flimzy. Thin, mean  
 Floshed. Spilt  
 Flush. Feathered  
 Fob. Froth  
 Forms. Long seats  
 Foust. Tumbled or soiled  
 Fraped. Drawn tight  
 Freathed. Wattled  
 Frumpish. Brow beating  
 Fulch. Beat or push  
 Fump. A slap

fags

G.

Galaganting. Large and awkward. Query, if from *Garagantua*, in Rabelais?  
 Gall. Vex  
 Galled. Frightened  
 Gammet. Fun, sport  
 Gapenests. Sights  
 Gee. Give  
 Gerts. Groats  
 Gess. Sort  
 Gingerly. Softly

gallied?

E



- Glam.* Sore  
*Glidder.* Water frozen on the ground  
*Glinted.* Looked askance  
*Glittish.* Cruel, savage  
*Glumping.* Sullen  
*Glut.* Had more than enough; satiated.  
*Gooded.* Prospered  
*Goodger.* The devil  
*Gook.* Hang down  
*Gonmer.* Grandfather and grandmother; but used also for any aged persons  
*Gorbelly.* Big-bellied  
*Go'th.* Goes  
*Grabbed.* ~~Grappled~~  
*Grainee.* Proud, ill-tempered  
*Grammer's pin.* Large pin  
*Greep.* Bunch.  
*Griddle.* Gridiron  
*Grizzled.* Laughed  
*Grute.* The earth from a mud wall. Grute, from the French *crotte*  
*Gubby* A *posse*, number  
*Gubs.* Go between  
*Gulamouth.* Pitcher  
*Gulging.* Drinking  
*Gulk.* Swallow  
*Gushed.* Scared  
*Gwain.* Going  
  
H.  
*Hagaging.* Passionate  
*Haggy.* Argue  
  
*Hallabaloo.* Noise, uproar  
*Halseny.* Guess or conjecture  
*Handyfast.* Holding fast  
*Hank.* Handle  
*Hatch.* Half-door of a cottage.  
*Hatchet face.* Ugly face, such as might be hewn out of a block by a hatchet.—*Johnson*  
*Havage.* Family, breed  
*Hauch-a-mouth.* To speak with a broad accent is, in Devonshire, called *hauch-ing*  
*Head and henge.* The pluck, the purtenance  
*Healed.* Covered *G. Lehlen*  
*Het.* Struck  
*High-de-lows.* Feastings and merry-makings  
*High to instep.* Carried herself haughtily  
*Hoa.* End, stop  
*Hoss.* Horse  
*Hounded.* Hunted, scolded  
*Hove.* Lifted  
*Huffled.* Wind not blowing steadily  
*Hugeous heave up.* A great piece of good fortune  
*Hugger - mugger.* Clandestine  
*Hulch.* Slice  
*Huldered.* The wind blowing with violence and impetuosity, like thunder

*Hunks.* Miser  
*Huzens.* Hocks, ankles

## I.

*Indel and oudel.* In-doors  
 and out-doors

*Inkling.* Hint or information

*Jes-bay J. Jes*

*Jaykle.* An exclamation

*Jet.* Push

*Jolter head.* Blockhead

*Jouds.* Rags

*Jouring.* Scolding

*Juggling.* Shaking

*Juggy mire.* Bog or quag-  
 mire

*Julk.* Shake

*Junketing.* Private enter-  
 tainments

*Justmen-holders.* Free-  
 holders

## K.

*Keemy.* Having a white  
 creamy substance on it.

*Kerpt.* Kept under

*Kibby.* Chaps on the heels,  
 or chilblains

*Kicketh.* Stammers

## L.

*Lacked.* Looked for

*Lacky.* Stay

*Lade.* Laden

*Laffed.* Langued

*Lamb's wool.* Drink made  
 of ale and roasted apples

*Lamming.* Great

*Lamst.* Lamed

*Lary.* Empty or unladen

*Lattin cup.* Tin cup

*Leach.* Common way

*Leet rather.* A little while  
 ago

*Leet windle.* A little Red-  
 wing, called in Switzer-  
 land, *Wintzel.* *Lyte* is  
 used by Chaucer for *little*

*Lereping.* Trailing

*Lerrick.* Chastise

*Lief.* As soon

*Linney.* A shed attached  
 to another building

*Lip-shord (Lip-shod).* Chip

*Loaded.* Bloated

*Loady.* High-dressed

*Loady nut.* Double nut

*Lob's pound.* A prison.—  
*See Johnson*

*Longcripple.* Viper

*Lowering.* Tolling ; the  
 Curfew

*Lowster.* Bustle about

*Lucker.* Sort or like

*Lye.* Gone down

## M.

*Mace-Monday.* "The first  
 Monday after St. Anne's  
 (July 26th) a feast is held  
 at Newberry, in Berk-  
 shire, the principal dishes  
 being bacon and beans.  
 In the course of the day  
 a procession takes place ;

a cabbage is stuck on a pole, and carried instead of a *mace*, accompanied by similar substitutes for other emblems of civic dignity." Hence comes Mace-Monday.

*Every-Day Book.*

*Make-Bates.* Mischief makers

*Make wise.* Make believe

*Malkin.* Wench; a dirty woman

*Maundering.* Grumbling

*Meel.* Meddle

*Meend.* Mind, remember

*Mees.* Mice

*Mert, Meart, Meast.* Might

*Michard.* Micher; a lazy loiterer

*Mickled.* Choked

*Mift.* Offended

*Mislee.* To rain in small drops, like mist

*Mistree.* Dim-sighted

*Mits.* Even

*Mopt.* Blindfold

*Mores.* Roots

*Mort.* Lard

*Mose.* Moss

*Mouling.* Digging

*Mumchance.* A silent person, or one resolved not to speak

*Muskel.* Caterpillar. *Mask* is Swedish for this insect. It is remarkable that Linnæus calls caterpillars *larvæ*, that is *mask*

## N.

*Nearts.* Nights

*Neest.* Near

*Nestle draft.* The last pig in the litter

*Nick'd en.* Caught him at a lucky moment

*Niddick.* Back of the neck

*Nimpringangs.* Boils

*Nort.* Nothing

*Nort mert.* Nothing might

*Nug.* A bunch

## O.

*Oakweb.* Cockchaffer

*Odswinderakins.* An exclamation

*Omes.* Alms

*Organ.* Pennyroyal

*Orts.* Fragments, refuse

## P.

*Palled.* Turned pale

*Panking.* Panting

*Parts.* Senses

*Peart.* Lively

*Peel.* Pillow

*Peel-bears.* Pillow-cases

*Pick-thank.* Tale-bearer or flatterer

*Piepicked.* Of different colours, as pie-bald

*Pig's loose.* Pig's sty

*Pilm.* Dust

*Pimlico*. "An expression supposed to be confined to Devonshire. Why the place in London is called Pimlico, I have never heard, nor can guess why the word was used to mean what it does. There is something *quaint* and *mincing* in the sound, to which perhaps it owes its use."—*Rev. J. Phillipps*.

*Pindy*. Mouldy

*Pinikin*. Delicate

*Pinswills*. Whitlows

*Pirled*. Flat

*Pittis*. Sorrowful

*Pixy*. Fairy

*Planching*. Floor

*Plashet*. Quagmire

*Plid*. Mire

*Plimed*. Swelled

*Plum*. Light

*Plumming*. Making soft and smooth

*Poaching*. Swampy

*Poke*. Gore; to pierce with a horn

*Pomsterring*. Quackery

*Pop en away*. Feed it quickly

*Postle spoons*. Called Apostle spoons, because the figures of the Twelve Apostles were chased or carved on the handles.

*Poughed*. Poked

£ *Power*. A great number

*Plim*. Fat filled out

*Prilled*, or *a-prilled*. Spoken of beer, means somewhat sour; of a person, signifies a little offended or displeased

*Prink*. Bedeck

*Proffered*. Offered

*Puggin end*. Gable end

*Purt*. Offended

*Purting glumpot*. A sulky person

*Pucker*. Fuss

## Q.

*Quailing*. Fainting; being depressed

*Quandary*. Difficulty

*Quarrils*. Panes

*Quelstering*. Hot

*Querking*. Moaning; complaining

## R.

*Rabbit*. An oath

*Rabscallion*. A term of reproach

*Race*. String

*Ragamuffin*. A term of reproach

*Ragg'd*. Chided, scolded

*Railed*. Talked over

*Raked*. Rose up in a hurry

*Raked up*. Awoke from sleep

*Ranish*. Ravenous

*Ranticomscour*. Up roar

*Rare*. Early

*Rattles.* Noise in the throat that precedes death

*Reamed.* Stretched

*Reeping.* Trailing on the ground

*Ridmas.* Holy - cross, or Roodmas-day, 14th September. *Rood* means cross. "This festival had its beginning about the year 615. On this occasion, Cosroes, king of Persia, had made great ravages in the Christian world, by the success of his arms; and having plundered Jerusalem, took away a great piece of the cross, which Helena had left there; and at times of his mirth made sport of that and the Holy Trinity. Heracleus, the Emperor, giving him battle, defeated the enemy, and recovered the cross, bringing it back triumphantly to Jerusalem, when he found the gates shut against him, and heard a voice from heaven, which told him that the King of kings did not enter that city in so stately a manner, but meek and lowly, riding upon an ass: with that the Emperor dismounted, and went into the city not only on foot, but barefooted, carrying in the wood of the cross himself. This honor done to the cross gave rise to the festival."—*Nicholson on the Common Prayer.*

*Rind.* Ran.

*Rigmerole.* Round about story.

*Rory tory.* Tawdry

*Rochets.* Little blue cloth cloaks. "The rochet was an antient garment, used by bishops. In the barbarous Latinity it was called *rochet*, being derived from the German word *ruck*, which signifies the back, as being a covering for that part of the body."—*Nicholson on the Common Prayer.*

*Round tag.* Children's play, all standing in a ring

*Rouse.* With a great noise

*Routing.* Snoring

*Rouzing.* Blazing

*Rucked.* Squatted

*Ruged.* Put away hastily

## S.

*Sang.* Handful of ears of corn

*Sart and fair totle.* Soft and fair fool

*Scan.* Scoff

*Scaned.* Scolded

*Scorce.* Exchange

*Scovy.* Thin, uneven

*Screed.* Scrip

*Scrimp.* Short

*Scud.* Shower

*Scute.* A gift

*Seary.* Thin or worn

*Set up thee back.* Be angry

*Shabbed.* Sheered or stole off

*Shet.* Running water

*Shewl-a-mouth.* Shovel mouth

*Shirked.* Tricked, cheated

*Shod.* Spilt

*Shords.* Sherds

*Shows.* Prints or pictures

*Shrumping.* Shrugging

*Shrumpt.* Shrunk

*Shuckening.* Shuffling

*Shug.* Sly, angry

*Shurt.* Shift

*Sift.* Sighed

*Simathin.* Liking, partiality

*Sissarary.* *Certiorari*

*Skimish.* Squeamish

*Skulking.* To lurk in fear

*Slaggit.* Loose

*Slammed.* Shut with violence

*Slat and scat.* To throw things about in an ill temper, with violence. It means, also, to *split* and to give a *slap*: as to give 'a *slat in the chaks*,' is to give a smart blow in the face with the hand.—“When Haldon has a *slat*, Kenton beware of a *scat*.” Haldon is a hill near Exeter, and Kenton a place not far from it. The proverb means, that when the hill has its head enveloped in the clouds, the neighbourhood may soon expect a shower

*Slew'd away.* Gave way E

*Slinking.* Stealing; creep sily

*Sliver.* Slice

*Slock.* To entice

*Slottering.* Dirty, wet

*Smeeching.* Making an offensive smell in the fire

*Sneving.* Sneaking

*Solvege.* Term of reproach

*Sontross.* Term of reproach

*Sparables.* Nails

*Spick and span new.* Quite new; first worn

*Spraged.* Spotted

*Sprayed.* Chapped

*Spuddling.* Poking and raking

*Squab pie.* Made of apples, onions, mutton, pepper, salt, and sugar.—Receipt how to make it:—

“Phillis! lovely charmer, say  
Would'st thou know th' unerring  
way,  
And with heart unfailing wish  
Made by thee the Cornish dish?”

First, from bounteous Ceres' store,  
Walls erect of wheaten flour,  
Walls, of which the ample round  
Holds within a gulf profound;  
Then, in parts minutely nice,  
Soft and fragrant apples slice;  
With its dainty flesh, the sheep,  
Next must swell the luscious heap;  
Then the onion's sav'ry juice  
Sprinkle, not with hand profuse,  
Merely what may sting the eye,  
Not make charming Phillis cry.

These ingredients well disposed,  
And the summit fairly closed,  
Lives the epicure, whose heart  
Will not feel of love the smart?—  
If not for Phillis' self, at least,  
For Phillis' pie, and Phillis' paste!”

Davies Gilbert, Esq.



*Squat.* Squeezed  
*Squeaked.* Spoke  
*Squinches.* Chinks  
*Staged, Stugg'd.* Stuck  
*Stand a war.* Out of the way  
*Stann.* Stand still  
*Stapt.* Stepped  
*Stat.* Stopped  
*Steel.* To iron  
*Steeming.* Turn  
*Stewer.* Dust  
*Stewardly.* Managing  
*Stirridge.* Commotion  
*Stived.* Starved; shivering  
*Stivering.* Standing  
*Strambang.* Fling violently  
*Stramming.* Great  
*Stratted.* Splashed  
*Strode.* Threw  
*Stroil.* Strength  
*Struck all of a heap.* With surprise  
*Stub, Portion, or sum of money*  
*Stubberd.* Apple so called  
*Stubbed.* Healthy, strong  
*Stumpt.* Pressed the foot hard  
*Stunpole.* A thick-headed, stupid fellow  
*Suent.* Even, smooth  
*Sun dance.* "In some parts of Ireland the day before Easter-day is called 'Holy Saturday,' and about four o'clock the next day the

people rise to see the sun dance, in honor of the resurrection. This ignorant custom is not confined to the humble labourer and his family, but is scrupulously observed by many respectable and wealthy families, different members of whom I have heard assert positively, that they have seen the sun dance on Easter-day. The folly is kept up by the fact, that no one can view the sun steadily at any hour; and those who choose to look at its reflection in the water, see it apparently move, as they would on any other day."—*Mr. T. A. Every-Day Book.*

Brand points out an allusion to this vulgar notion, in an old ballad:

"But, Dick, she dances such a way,  
 No sun, upon an Easter-day,  
 Is half so fine a sight."  
*Every-Day Book.*

Scott, in the first canto of the 'Lady of the Lake,' has the same idea:

"The stag at eve had drank  
 his fill,  
 Where danced the moon on  
 Monan's rill."

*Swap.* Exchange

*Swapping lunch.* Large piece

*Swelter.* Melt

*Swinging.* Huge.

T.

*Tacked.* Clapped

*Tagster* Bold-looking woman



- Tallet.* Hay-loft
- ε *Tansy.* A strong-smelling plant
- Tantara.* Disturbance
- Tantarabobus.* The Devil
- ε *Tantarems.* Vagaries
- Taring.* Very
- ε *Taterdemalion.* A ragged dirty person
- Taty.* Potatoe
- Teel.* Give
- Teeled.* Set
- Tell.* Talk
- Teen'd.* Closed
- Teen en.* Light it
- Tet ha.* We shall have
- Tet ha'en?* Shall we have it?
- Tetta?* Shall we?
- Tetty.* Nosegay
- Thicka.* That
- Thickee.* This
- Thirl.* Lean, thin, meagre
- ε *Tick.* In debt
- Timber dishes.* Trenchers
- Tingling.* Sharp
- Toadstone.* A concretion said to be found in the head of a toad. Shakspeare has a comparison in the opening of Act II. (As you like it) which aptly offers in support of the common opinion :
- “Sweet are the uses of adversity ;  
Which, like the toad, ugly and  
venomous,  
Wears yet a precious jewel in his  
head.”
- Toits.* Hassocks
- Tore.* Broke
- Touser.* A coarse apron
- Tozing.* (To) pull or tumble
- Transmogrifed.* Metamorphosed ε
- Trapes.* An idle, slatternly woman
- Trapping.* Walking
- Trindle.* A large tub to salt meat in
- Trouncing.* Floundering? ε
- Try.* Do
- Tuck.* Slap
- Tugster.* (Tagster) *Tunger funnel*
- Turn.* Wheel
- Turr.* An expression used in driving pigs ε
- Twecdling.* Wagging
- Twine.* Twist
- Two-bowed chair.* Arm-chair
- U.
- Unray.* Undress
- V.
- Vady.* Damp
- Vagging.* Flapping
- Vall back vall edge.* Come what will
- Valled.* Fell
- Vang.* Take
- Varden.* Farthing
- Veased.* Hurried, drove
- Vedging.* Sideling

*Vet.* Fetch  
*Vetched a vege.* To retire a few steps, in order to rush on with more violence  
*Vinied.* The green mould in cheese  
*Virking.* Teazing  
*Vitty.* Neat  
*Voot.* Foot  
*Vore.* Stand forward  
*Voretoken.* Warning  
*Vraped.* Drawn tight  
*Vreach.* Violently  
*Vreath.* A low hedge  
*Vrozzy.* Nice thing

*Frauzy =*

## W.

*Wab.* Tongue  
*Waddled.* Folded  
*Wallage.* A lump  
*Walving.* Rolling  
*Wangery.* Soft  
*Wants.* Moles  
*Wap.* Blow  
*Wapped.* Slapped  
*Ware.* Whether  
*Wared.* Wore  
*Warnes.* Warrant  
*Wassail.* A liquor made of apples, sngar, and ale; figuratively, a drunken bout:

"The king does wake to-night  
 and take his rouse,  
 Keeps wassail, and the swag-  
 g'ring upspring reels."

*Shakspeare.*

*Weeny.* Cry  
*Wee-wow.* Wrong  
*Well a fine.* To a good purpose  
*Well sosse.* Well-a-day  
*Whipped aside.* Turned hastily aside  
*Whister-clister.* Box in the ear  
*Widn't.* Would not  
*Winders.* Windows  
*Winding.* Winnowing  
*Wishness.* Melancholy  
*Witherly dolt.* Clumsy person  
*Wool gathering.* Bewildered  
*Woundy.* Very  
*Wraxling.* Wrestling

## Y.

*Yened.* Threw  
*Yerred.* Swore  
*Yoky molekit.* A yellow, unhealthy-looking person  
*Youl.* Howl

## Z.

*Zamzawed.* Over-done  
*Zeed zom 'ot.* Saw something  
*Zeemed.* Thought  
*Zimmeth.* It seems  
*Zittle.* Settle; high-backed seat, common in farm houses  
*Zogging.* Same as dozing

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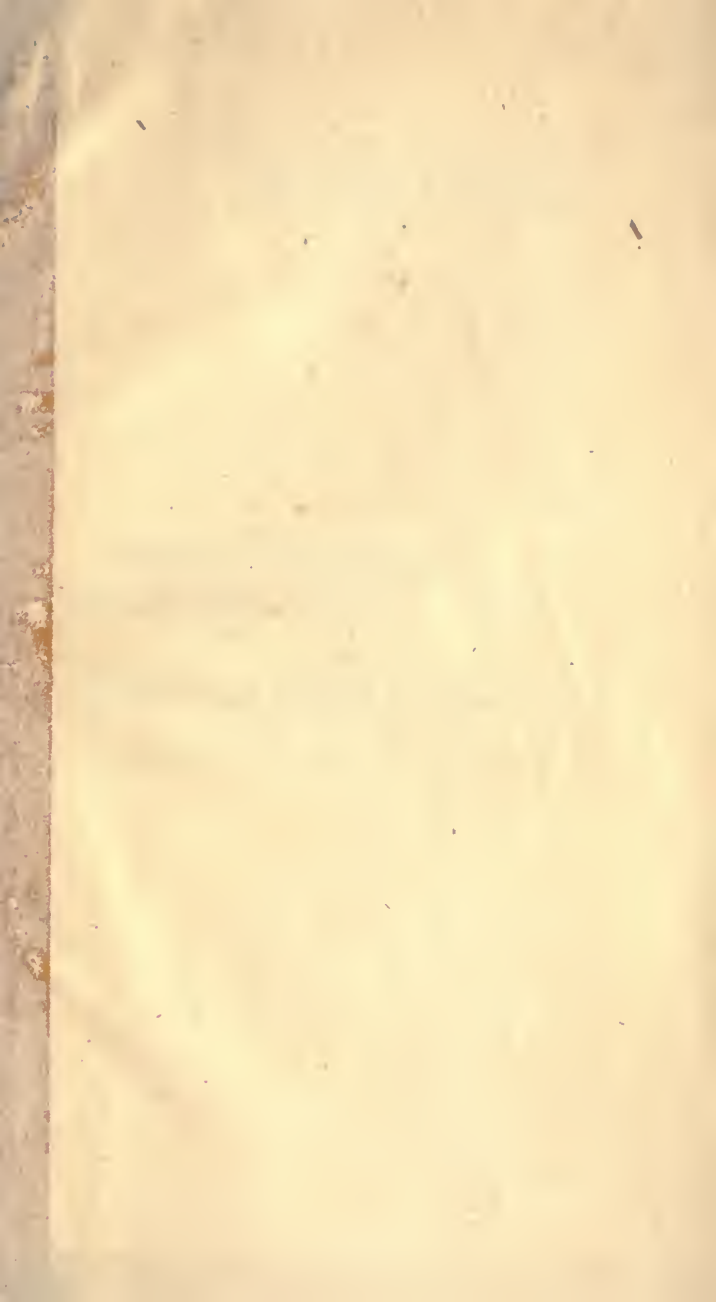
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