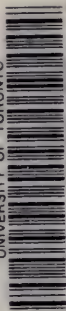


Akerman, John Yonge

A glossary of provincial  
words and phrases in use in  
Wiltshire

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A GLOSSARY  
OF  
PROVINCIAL WORDS AND PHRASES  
IN USE IN  
WILTSHIRE.

It is the intention of the compiler to add the profits which may accrue from the publication of this work, to the fund now collecting to defray the expenses of building a school-house for the children of labouring persons in the parish of Broad Blunsdon, in Wiltshire.

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# A GLOSSARY

OF

PROVINCIAL WORDS AND PHRASES

IN USE IN

# WILTSHIRE.

BY

JOHN YONGE AKERMAN,

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JOHN RUSSELL SMITH,

OLD COMPTON STREET, SOHO.

M. DCCC. XLII.



" Our sparkfull youth laugh at their great grandfathers' English, who had more care to do well, than to speak minion like, and left more glory to us by their exploiting of great acts than we shall do by our forging anew words and uncuth phrases.

" Great, verily, was the glory of our tongue before the Norman Conquest, in this, that the Old English could express most aptly all the conceits of the mind in their own tongue without borrowing from any."—*Camden's Remaines*, p. 25, edit. 1636.

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## P R E F A C E.

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“THE etymologist,” says Cornelius Agrippa in the preface to his remarkable work on “The vanity of the arts and sciences,” in which he anticipates the resentment of their various professors—“*the etymologist will derive my name from the gout!*”\*

Bearing this bitter sarcasm in lively remembrance, I trust I have not gone too far for derivations in the list of provincial words which follows, and that my anxiety to prove them will not provoke the censure or the ridicule of the critic and the scholar.

Having, in my boyhood, resided in a district of North Wiltshire remote from large towns, I became acquainted with many—I may say nearly all—the provincialisms in use by the rural population; and the cares and anxieties

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\* Etymologiis suis Agrippa nomen indent podagricum.

of later life have not been sufficient to efface them from my memory : but, great was my astonishment and delight, when, on my first acquaintance with Anglo-Saxon literature, I discovered that what for many generations past has been considered a barbarous and vulgar jargon, was once the language of Bede, of Alfred, and of Aelfric !

This will scarcely be credited by persons less familiar than myself with these provincialisms ; but, I am persuaded that any doubt they may entertain, will be dispelled on comparing the words in the list with those of similar signification in the Anglo-Saxon language. Some of these derivations are palpable and indisputable, while many words are retained to this hour as they originally existed.

Every educated man knows that the basis of our language is the Anglo-Saxon ; but, it may be questioned whether many persons are aware of the existence of so many primitive Anglo-Saxon words in the dialects of the West of England.

The phrase "Dialects of the West of England," will be well understood by those who have made provincialisms their study. They

will not require to be told, that this dialect, with its modifications, prevails among the rural population of the counties of Devon, Dorset, Somerset, Hants, Wilts, Berks, Hereford, part of Warwick, and even Surrey, Sussex, and Kent; and that there are a few words which alone will suffice to identify a *native* of those counties, and distinguish him from a native of the more Northern provinces. The title, *master*, will suffice. In the West this word is pronounced *measter*, or *maester*; but in the North *maister*, *mūster* or *mūsther*. On the other hand, there are certain words which are *occasionally* pronounced the same, in nearly every part of England. Among these are

Coom	for	Come.
Lang	—	Long.
Fram	—	From.
Mon	—	Man.
Crud	—	Curd.

The only difference is, that in the *north* of England these words are *invariably* thus pronounced, while in the *west*, the pronunciation differs sometimes even in the same village.

Similar variations may be discovered in Saxon writings, where in the same page *come*

is spelt *cym*, *cum*, and *cûm*, an irregularity which leads to the inference that the word was pronounced differently, and that the scribe was perplexed by it.

There is another fact which denotes the common origin of the English Language, much as the dialects differ in many respects. This consists in the transposition of vowel and consonant, or rather in the retention of the ancient orthography. Thus we find in the West of England,

Hapse for Hasp.  
 Wapse — Wasp.  
 Thurgh — Through.  
 Girt — Great.  
 Claps — Clasp.

While in the North of England we have

Crud for Curd.  
 Brid — Bird.

and several others.

There is a peculiarity in the dialects of the West of England, which deserves especial notice: this is the sound of the diphthong *oi* as *wi*. Thus *spwile*, for *spoil*. The *w* is also often sounded before a vowel, as *stwone*, for *stone*; *twoad* for *toad*, &c.: while the *o* is

frequently converted into *a*, as *shart* for short, *fark* for fork, &c. These peculiarities may be traced wherever the West-country dialect is spoken, and distinguish it in a marked manner from the dialects of the North of England. With regard to the sound of the vowel *a*, it has been observed that it is invariably like *a* in *hall* or *fall*; but this is not always the case; many, and especially the *old people*, give it the sound of *ae* or *ea*, and such was doubtless the pronunciation of the Saxon *Æl*, *all*.

“If the consonants, those natural sinews of words and language,” says Mr. Bosworth, “suffer such changes, it may safely be presumed that those flexible and yielding symbols—the vowels—should be exposed to still greater confusion;—a confusion almost sufficient to induce one to imagine that they are of no weight or authority in Anglo-Saxon orthography.”\* These remarks on the Anglo-Saxon language, apply to the pronunciation of the dialects of the West of England, in which we find all sorts of liberties taken with the vowels.

The list which follows might be greatly enlarged, if mere corruptions and vulgarisms

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\* Elements of Anglo-Saxon Grammar, 8vo. p. 51.

were admitted as in some glossaries which have been published during the last ten years, and which serve to swell the number of words without adding one jot of philological information: nevertheless, if I had not aimed at conciseness, I should have inserted many words of well known meaning, which are to this day pronounced in Wiltshire precisely as we may suppose they were pronounced among the Anglo-Saxons. Among these are Sheawe, Sceape, *show*; Sheame, Sceame, or Sceome, *shame*; Neowe, Neop, *new*; Navvel, Nafel, *navel*; Niddle, Næðl, *needle*; and many others.

It is evident that several compilers of works of this description, have set down to their task in utter ignorance of the Anglo-Saxon language; and, consequently, not being aware of the irregularities in the orthography of that language, have looked in vain for the derivations of words which otherwise might have been readily illustrated.\* In saying this I do not pretend to a critical knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon tongue; and, I trust, these remarks will not be taken in ill part, but rather

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\* This remark applies only to *some* of these glossaries, but to mention their titles would be invidious.

have the effect of stimulating to further inquiry those who are desirous of illustrating the provincial dialect of their native county. A little more care, and one half of the industry they have manifested, will, if directed to the proper source, amply reward them for their trouble: they will find that, instead of our primitive words being derived from foreign languages, they are, in nearly every instance, of decided Anglo-Saxon origin, thus justifying the remark of Camden, that "the Old English could express most aptly, all the conceits of the mind in their own tongue, without borrowing from any."

In conclusion, I fear that I may have overlooked some words which ought to have found a place in this vocabulary. Should this be discovered by those into whose hands it may fall, I entreat that I may be favoured with a communication; and if the work should ever reach a second edition, due acknowledgment shall be made, and proper attention paid to such additions and emendations as may be required.

J. Y. AKERMAN.

LEWISHAM, KENT,

*26th April, 1842.*

For the convenience of those who are unacquainted with Anglo-Saxon, the alphabet is here given.

Æ	a	a	O	o	o
B	b	b	P	p	p
Ĉ	c	c*	R	ƿ	r
D	ð	d	S	ſ	s
E	Ʒ	e	T	ƿ	t
F	ƿ	f	Ð	þ ð	th
G	g	g†	U	u	u
H	h	h	Ƶ	Ƶ	w
I	i	i	X	x	x
L	l	l	Y	y	y
M	ƿ	m	Z	z	z
N	n	n			

\* C before a vowel is frequently sounded as *Ch*.

† G in the middle of a word is often liquid, and sometimes is suppressed altogether.



## A GLOSSARY,

&c.

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### A.

A f e a r d, A v e a r d. Afraid. This and some of the following words may be found in Chaucer and other early English writers.

A f t e r m a t h. A.S. *Æfter*, *after*; and *Mað*, *math*, a mowing. See also *L a t t e r m a t h*.

A g g. To hack, to cut clumsily.

A l l a h ó h. All on one side. A.S. *Aph*.

A l l a m a n g. All among, mingled; as when two flocks of sheep are driven together.

A l l u s. Always:

All in a charm. "They are all in a charm,"  
they are all talking aloud. See Charm.

All in a muggle. All in a litter.

Amwoast. Almost.

Anan. 'Nan. What do you say?

Anchor. The chape of a buckle.

Aneust, or Aneoust. Much the same,  
"neoust of a neoustness," nearly alike.

Anightst. Near to.

Anont, Anunt. Against, opposite.

Apast. Past, after, beyond.

Archet. An orchard.

Arra-one. Ever a one.

Athert. Athwart.

Athin. Within.

Athout. Without.

Attery. Irascible, choleric.

Atwo. Divided, separated.

Avore, Afore. Before.

Awverdraw. To overthrow, to upset.

**A x.** To ask, to enquire. A.S. *Acrian*, to ask.  
**Ax** occurs frequently in Chaucer, and other old writers of a later period than that poet.

**A x e n.** Ashes. A.S. *Axan*.

## B.

**Bachelor's Buttons.** The wild *scabious*.

**Backside.** The back yard or court of a house; "Backside and appurtenances" is yet used in legal instruments.

**Backsword.** The game of single-stick. This does not appear to be an early term; it was probably adopted at the time of the introduction of the *rapier* in England; the backsword, or sword with a back, being a cutting, and not a thrusting weapon.

**Bad, Bod.** To take off the husks of walnuts.

**Badger.** A corn-dealer. I am at a loss for the etymology of this word. It is evidently a corruption;—the first syllable, perhaps, from *Bepe*, barley; the other from *Лепера*, a reeve or bailiff.

- B a g.** The udder of a cow.
- B a n e.** To afflict with mortal disease. A.S. Bana, destruction.
- B a n n i s, B a n t i c l e, B a n n i s t i c k l e.** The fish called the Stickleback. A.S. Ban, a bone; and Sticel, a prick or sting.
- B a n n u t.** A walnut. Could this fruit have received its name from the bone-like appearance of the shell? Somner says Wal-hnut, signifies a *foreign* nut.
- B a r k e n.** An enclosed place, as a rick-barken, a rick-yard; but the proper name is evidently *Barten*, from Bepe, barley; and tun, an enclosure.
- B a r m.** Yeast. A.S. Beopma. This is the usual term for *yeast* in Wiltshire; though the Anglo-Saxon word,  $\text{Lij}\tau$ , is used as well as Beopma.
- B a s t e.** To beat. This word is clearly from the Norman French Bastonner.
- B a v i n.** A faggot untrimmed.

**Beet.** To replenish fire with fuel. A.S.

Betan, to make better, to improve, to restore. "When joined with *þyp*, *fire*," observes Mr. Bosworth, "it signifies to mend or repair a fire."

**Bellock.** To cry out or roar when beaten, or frightened; a corruption of Bellow.

**Bennets, Bents.** The seed-stalks of grass. They have an old rhyme in Wiltshire—

"Pigeons never know no woe,  
Till they a *bennetting* do go;"

meaning that pigeons at this time are compelled to feed on the seed of the bent, the stubbles being cleared and the crops not being ripe.

**Besom.** A.S. *Bejom*. A birch-broom.

**Betwit.** To taunt, to upbraid.

**Bibble.** To tipple.

**Bibbler.** Corruption of *bibber*, a tippler. A.S. *Beþp*, a cup.

**Bide.** "I shall be glad to see 'e where I do bide." A.S. *Byan*, to dwell; *Bye*, a dwelling.

**Bide, v. n.** To stay, to remain.

Bill. A bill-hook.

Bird-batting. The catching of birds by night with a net known as the bat folding net.

Bist. *art.* A.S. þu biŕt, thou art.

Bittle. A beetle. A.S. Bitel, Becl.

Blatch. Black, sooty.

Blather. A bladder.

Bleeding-heart. The wall-flower.

Blink. A spark of fire: glimmering or intermittent light. A.S. Blin, ceasing, rest, intermission. Ben Jonson in his *Sad Shepherd*, Act 2, Scene 6, uses the words "withouten blin." Butan Blinne, is used in Saxon MSS. in the same sense.

Blissey. A blaze. A.S. Blyŕa, a torch; Blŕep, an incendiary.

Blobbs. Water blobs, water lillies.

Bloody Warrior. The dark coloured wall-flower.

Bloomy. Hot. "Bloomy hot."

Blowings. Blossoms.

**Bobbant, Bochant.** A romping forward girl.

**Bobbish.** "Purty bobbish, thank'e," pretty well.

**Boistins.** The first milk of a cow after calving. A.S. Beort, Byrt, Byrtinȝ.

**Bolderstones.** Large insulated stones found on the Downs and sometimes in the vallies. The word is now used in geology for a stone which has been rolled in an antediluvian torrent.

**Boy's love.** The herb southern wood.

**Bran new.** They have also *vire new*. These terms may have been originally applied to things *fresh from the forge*.

**Brave.** In good health, hearty.

**Brevet about.** To heat about, as a dog for game.

**Brow. Brittle.** I am at a loss for the etymology of this word : there is the Saxon Brip, a fragment.

**Bucking.** A washing.

**Bunt.** To strike with the head, as a young animal pushes the udder of its dam.

**Bur.** The sweetbread of a calf or lamb.

**Burrow, oftener Bur'.** A rabbit burrow, a place of shelter. Come into the bur', means come on the leward side of a hedge out of the wind. The Anglo-Saxon *Buph*, used for a town, meant originally a place of shelter.

**Buttry.** A cottage pantry. Skinner derives the word *Buttery* from the French *Bouter*, a place where provisions are laid up.

## C.

**Caddle.** A dispute, noise, contention, confusion. "Don't caddle me," don't tease me. A cadlin person, means a troublesome or annoying one.

**Callow-Wablin.** A callow unfledged bird. A.S. *Calo*, bald, without hair. *Wabble*, to walk in a floundering and unsteady manner.



**C a n k e r.** A fungus, a toadstool. "Toad's cheese."

**C a n t a n k e r o u s.** Contentious, quarrelsome.

**C a r r i a g e.** A drain, water carriage.

**C a s s ' n.** Canst not.

**C a t s ' c r a d l e.** A child's game played with a piece of string, "scratch cradle."

**C h a m.** To chew, champ.

**C h a r m.** "They are all in a charm," they are all talking loud. A.S. Cýpm, a noise, shout, clamour: rýnnigra cýpm, uproar of sinners.—*Cædmon*, xxxiv. 17.

**C h a w m.** A chasm, a crack in the ground.

**C h i l v e r.** An ewe lamb. A.S. Cılþeplamb. *Thwaites' Hept. Leviticus* v. 6.

**C h i m l e y.** A chimney.

**C h i s m.** To germinate. See the succeeding word.

**C h i t.** To bud, or germinate. A.S. Cıð. The tender shoot of a herb from the root upwards; hence the term "little chit" applied to a child. "The whate be chitting a'ter thease rains."

**Chitterlings.** The entrails. The entrails of a pig cleaned and boiled, are a common dish in Wiltshire. The word is also applied to an old-fashioned frill in the west of England, as—"here comes old Warder wi' his chitterlin vrill."

**Choor, Char.** To do household work in the absence of a domestic servant, as a char-woman. In Wiltshire they say, "one good *choor* deserves another," instead of one good *turn*, &c.

**Chop.** To exchange, to barter. A.S. Cope-man, a merchant, a dealer. It may safely be conjectured that in primitive times almost all dealings were a system of barter, and that Cho-pe-man was as often applied to a dealer as Cheap-man.

**Chump.** A log of wood.

**Clane.** Clean. A.S. Clane or Clæn.

**Claps.** A clasp.

**Clat.** A cowclat, cow dung. A.S. Cluz?

**Claut.** The Marsh Ranunculus. "As yellow as a claut."

**Clav y.** A mantel-piece. Mr. Jennings thinks that this word, which is used in Somersetshire, is derived from the practice of hanging or keeping keys on the shelf above the fire place, which seems highly probable; though I am inclined to think that the word is not derived from the Latin *Clavis*, but rather from the French, *Clavier*, a chain on which keys are strung.

**Cleet.** A patch. A.S. Cleot, a clout. Hence the white patch in the Target was called "the clout."

**Cleet, to.** To mend with a patch.

**Clim.** To climb. The i is sounded in this word as in *hinge*.

**Clout.** A box on the ear.

**Clum.** To handle roughly or clumsily. A.S. Clom, a band, bond, bandage, chain, &c. Clumian, to keep close, press, &c.

**Clyten.** An unhealthy appearance, especially in children.

**Clytenish.** Sickly, pale, unhealthy looking.

**Clytes.** The herb *aparine*. A.S. Clæte, a burr. This weed is considered excellent food for goslings, who are very fond of it.

**Cobnut.** A child's game with nuts. In the Isle of Wight a cob-nut is a *large* nut.

**Cock-sqwoilin.** The barbarous practice of throwing at cocks, formerly a custom at Shrove-tide. This unmanly pastime is, I fear, not entirely abolished in some parts of England. I have seen the poor unfledged nestlings of small birds stuck upon a gate post and thrown at by countrymen. Query if the word *Sqwoilin*, is from Cpellan, to kill? Sqwoilin is also used for throwing.

**Colley.** The soot on a kettle. Shakspeare uses the word *Collied*, and the word Collier comes from the Anglo-Saxon Col, Coal.

**Coom hedder!** Addressed to horses in a team. A.S. Eūm, *come*; Hīdep, *hither*. See "G ā oot!"

**Craisey.** The butter-cup. Supposed corruption of crows-eye.

**Craup.** *pret.* of to creep.

**Crāw.** The bosom, the crop of a bird: "a spelt th' drenk down's crāw!" he spilt the drink down his bosom.

**Creeny.** Small, diminutive.

**Crim.** A small quantity. Dutch, Kruim, a crumb, a fragment.

**Crock.** A pot; more commonly applied to an earthen pot; hence "crockerie ware."  
A.S. Crocka, a pot or pitcher.

"——— that shent all the browet,  
And cast adoun the *Crokk* the colys amyd."

*Deposition of Richard II.* p. 10, v. 3.

**Cross-grained.** Ill tempered, peevish, irritable.

**Crowner.** A Coroner. This officer is so called by Shakspeare and other writers of the Elizabethan age.

**Crusty.** Surly.

**Cubby-hole.** A snug place.

**Cue.** The shoe of an ox.

**Cull.** Tom Cull—the fish called "Miller's Thumb."

Cusnation. An expletive compounded of *curse* and *nation*.

Cute. Acute. This supposed mutilation of the word has been carried across the Atlantic! but its original is, perhaps, the A.S. *Cuðe*, expert, able.

## D.

Dabster. A proficient.

Daddick. Rotten wood.

Daddicky. Decayed, rotten.

Daglets. Icicles. A.S. *Daaz*, *Dağ*, anything hanging or dangling.

Dain. Noisome, or infectious effluvia.

Da'us, Day'us, Deyhus. A dairy. The word is always pronounced as the Anglo-Saxon *Hur*, thus *Brewhus*, *Woodhus*, &c.

Deaw. Dew. A.S. *Deap*.

Deawbit. A breakfast, a meal taken while the dew is on the grass. A.S. *Deap*, *dew*, and *Bite*, a *bite* or *bit*.

**D e a w b i t t e r.** A dewbeater; one who has large feet or who turns his toes out, so that he brushes the dew off the grass in walking.

**D e a w - c l ā w.** A dewclaw.

**D e s p e r d.** Desperate.

**D e w s i e r s.** The valves of a pig's heart. Grose says this is a corruption of Jews' ears.

**D i s h w a s h e r.** The wagtail. In the north of Wiltshire this name is often given to the yellow wagtail only; but in other parts of the county it is given to both descriptions of wagtail, doubtless from the constant sweeping motion of its tail.

**D o c k.** The common mallow, to which great medicinal virtues are attributed by the country people. A decoction of dock-root called "dock-root tea," is considered an excellent purifier of the blood; and the leaf is supposed to be good for the sting of a nettle. When a child is stung, he plucks a dock-leaf, and, laying it on the part affected, sings—

“ Out 'ettle,  
 In Dock,  
 Dock zhall ha'  
 A new smock ;  
 'Ettle zhant  
 Ha' narrun !”

In Chaucer's "Troilus and Cressida," the expression "Nettle in Docke out," has much puzzled the glossarists.

**D o f f.** To do off, to doff the coat or hat.

**D o g g e d.** Very, excessive, as *dogged cute*, always pronounced as two syllables,—dog-ged.

**D o n.** To put on, to do on.

**D o n n i n g s.** Clothes, apparel.

**D o u t.** To extinguish, to put out.

**D o v v e l.** The devil. A.S. Deoƿol.

**D o w n a r g.** To contradict, to argue in an overbearing manner.

**D o w s e.** A blow. "A Dowse in th' chops."

**D o w s t y.** Dusty.

**D r a t t l e.** A corruption of a profane oath, "God throttle," but not thus understood now.



**D r a w t.** The throat.

**D r o u t h.** Thirst. A.S. Dpuzaðe, or Dpuzoðe.

**D r o u t h y.** Thirsty, dry.

**D r o w d.** Thrown.

**D r o w n i n g - b r i d g e.** A sluice-gate.

**D u b b e d.** Blunt, without point.

**D u b b i n o' d r e n k.** A mug of beer.

**D u d d e r, o r D u t h e r.** To confuse, deafen, confound with noise.

**D u d g e.** A barrell; "peg the dudge"—tap the barrel.

**D u m b l e d o r e.** The humble bee. Dumble, dull or stupid; and Dopa, a drone.

**D u m b l e, D u m m e l l, o r D o m e l l.** Stupid, dull.

**D u m p y.** Short, stunted. Now generally used.

**D u n c h.** Deaf. "Dunch as a bittle," deaf as a beetle.

**D u n c h - d u m p l i n g.** A hard dumpling, made of flour and water.

## E.

**E a r n e s t.** See "Yernest," deposit money given to bind a bargain.

**E a t h, or Y e a t h.** Earth.

**E e z.** Yes. The Anglo-Saxon response *Lýre*, must have had the exact sound of this word, the *g* being but slightly sounded, or, perhaps, sometimes not sounded at all: thus *Leclypode*, under the Normans, became *yclyped*, and the *Le* prefixed to so many Saxon words, made room for *y*.

**E l d e r n.** An elder tree, anything made of elder.

**E l m i n.** Made of elm, "an elmin tree."

**E m p t.** To empty, to pour out.

**E o w.** An ewe. A.S. *Eap*, or *Eopa*.

**E t h e r E d d e r.** A hedge; also the twisted wands with which a "stake hedge" is made. They have a rhyme in Wiltshire on the formation of a "stake and ether hedge"—

“An *eldern* stake and *black-thorn ether*,  
Will make a hedge to last for ever.”

They say that an elder stake will last in the ground longer than an iron bar of the same size. Both these words are from the Anglo-Saxon, Eðer and Eðop.

E t t l e. A nettle.

E v e t, or E f f e t. An e f t. A.S. Eƿeta,  
Eƿete.

## F.

F a g g o t. A *trimmed* bundle of fire wood. A word generally known, derived from the French *Fagot*. See B a v i n.

F a g s. I'fags. Indeed! truly! I'faith.

F a n g. To strangle, to bind a wounded limb and stop the flow of blood. The Anglo-Saxon *Fang*, signifies a taking; but it is probable that it was also used for *binding*; the *binding* of a thief must have been included in the old manorial rights of *infangetheofe* and *outfangetheofe*.

**F a s h i o n.** A corruption of *Farcey*, a disease in horses. An old Wiltshire farmer, when his grand-daughters appeared before him with any new piece of finery, would ask what it all meant. The girls would reply, "*fashion*, gran'váther!" when the old man would rejoin, "Ha! many a good horse has died o' th' fashion!"

**F e a t i s h.** Fair, tolerable, middling. "How be 'e?" "Featish, thank'e."—"There's a featish crop o' grass yander!" Chaucer says of the prioress—

"And Frenche she spake ful fayre and fetisly."

*Prol. to Cant. Tales.*

**F e n d.** A term used by boys at play by way of interdiction. French *Defendre?*

**F i t t e n.** A pretence.

**F l e m.** A farrier's lancet for bleeding cattle.

**F l e m - s t i c k.** The small staff used to strike the flem into the vein.

**F l i c k, or V l i c k.** The fat of a pig before it is melted down into lard.

**F l i t c h.** Impertinently busy, lively. A.S. *Flitan?* to strive, contend, dispute, rebel, &c.

**Fluke, or Flook.** A *hydatid* worm found in the livers of rotten sheep; so called, probably, from its resemblance to the plaice, A.S. *Floc*.

**Flump.** To fall down heavily, "to come down flump like a twoad from roost."

**Flush.** Fledged.

**Footy.** Paltry, trifling, valueless.

**Fot, or Vot.** *pret.* of to fetch.

**Fractionous.** Quarrelsome, fretful.

**Fresh liquor.** Unsalted hogs' fat.

**Froar.** Frozen.

**Frum.** Fresh, juicy; applied to corn, grass, vegetables, &c. *Fpum* in Anglo-Saxon, signifies *original, primitive, first*. *Fpum-cyn*, is *seed*. But the word may be from *Fpom*, *strong, stout*.

**Fusty.** Thirsty.

**Fuz.** Furze.

## G.

**G a b b e r n.** Large, comfortless, illcontrived rooms or houses are called Gabbern. The first syllable of this word seems to have some relation to the one which follows; the second is evidently from the A.S. Eþn, a house, or place.

**G a b y.** A stupid or silly fellow.

**G a l l e r e d.** Gallowed, frightened.

**G a l l e y c r o w.** A scare crow in a garden, called in the Isle of Wight "a galley baggar." These words appear to be formed from the Anglo-Saxon Lælan, to frighten, terrify.

**G a l l y.** To frighten.

**G a m b r e l.** An iron or wooden splinter used in hanging up a pig, sheep, &c., by the tendons of the hock.

**G ā o o t.** A.S. Lā ute, go outwards! Addressed to horses in a team. See C o o m h e d d e r.

- G a r n e. A garden.
- G a w n e y. A simpleton.
- G e a r. The harness of horses, &c.
- G e a t. A gate. A.S. *Leaτ*. See also *Y a t e*  
and *Y e a t*.
- G e e. To agree, to go on well together.
- G i e. To give.
- G i r t. Great.
- G i x. The dry stalks of hemlock. See *K e c k s*.
- G l o x. The sound of liquids when shaken in  
a barrel.
- G l u t c h. To swallow.
- G r a i n e d. Dirty. Shakspeare uses the words,  
“black and *grained* spots.”—*Hamlet*,  
Act. iii. Scene 4.
- G r a m f e r. Grandfather.
- G r a m m e r. Grandmother.
- G r i p. A grip of wheat is the handful grasped  
in reaping. A.S. *Ʒrip*, a *gripe* or grasp.
- G r i s t, G r i z. To gnash and shew the teeth  
angrily. A.S. *Ʒriτ*, a grinding.  
pæp byð pop and toþa Ʒriτbitung.  
*Matt. xxv. 30.*

**G r o m.** A forked stick used by thatchers for carrying bundles of straw.

**G u b b a r n.** A foul, filthy place, a gutter, a drain.

**G u l e.** *v.* to laugh, to sneer, to make mouths.  
This word appears to be of Norman French origin, and to be analogous to our term "making mouths" or grinning.

**G u m p t i o n.** Ingenuity, common sense.

**G u r g e o n s.** Pollard, coarse flour.

**G u s s.** The girth of a saddle.

**G u z z l e.** A filthy drain.

**G u z z l e.** To drink voraciously.

## H.

**H a c k l e.** The straw cover of a bee-hive, the straw covering of the apex of a rick. The Anglo-Saxon Hæcla, signifies a cloak or mantle.

**H a c k l e.** *v.* to agree together.

**H a c k l e.** The mane of a hog.



**Hain.** A field of grass preserved for mowing.

**Hakker.** To tremble with passion. A.S. Acol.

ƿophƿ ȝ ácol, afraid and trembling.

*Cædmon*, p. 117, v. 18.

**Hames.** The pieces of wood attached to the collar of a horse in drawing.

**Hander.** The second to a pugilist.

**Handy.** Skilful, clever.

**Handy.** Near to.

**Haps.** A hasp. A.S. Hæpp.

**Harl.** Entangled, knotted.

**Harnen.** Made of horn. A.S. Hynnēn.

**Harrest.** Harvest.

**Harvest-row.** The shrew mouse. A.S.

Hæpeƿeƿt, harvest; and Scneapa, a shrew.

Somner says that this little animal, by biting cattle, so envenoms them that they die. Mr. Bosworth, in his valuable dictionary of the Anglo-Saxon language, observes, that this is a fable, and that the term *shrew* was, in consequence of the belief in it, applied to a woman of viru-

lent tongue. Dr. Johnson also repudiates the belief in the poisonous qualities of the shrew-mouse; but there seem to be *some* grounds for the popular notion in country districts. During my walks of a summer's evening, I have often found a dead shrew-mouse lying in my path with half-a-dozen blue-bottles buzzing its requiem, and have been much puzzled to discover the cause of its death. After repeated examinations, I have failed to discern the slightest puncture by which blood had been drawn. I have always supposed that these creatures were the vanquished in single combats between the males, and that a very minute wound, though not sufficient to produce blood, was capable of inflicting death. I shall mention one more circumstance, and then leave the habits of this curious animal to be studied by our naturalists. I have often seen cats bring the shrew-mouse into the house and kill it, but *they never ate it!*

H a s h. Harsh, rough, severe. A.S. Harpe. harpe hepe-γτηæτα, rugged army roads.—*Cædmon* 157, 29.

**Hatch.** A half door. The buttery hatch, in old halls, was a half door with a ledge on the top. A.S. Hæca.

**Haulm, Helm, Ham.** The stalks of pease, &c.; as pease-haulm. A.S. Healm.

**Hazon.** To scold. A.S. Hircan?

**Hecth.** Height. The village of Higham in Kent is in Domesday Book called *Hecham*.

**Heft.** Weight. "Heft un"—feel the weight of it. Hæftan, to take; Hæfe, to heave.

**Hele.** To pour out of one vessel into another.

**Hence.** Hence.

**Hereright.** Hence. On the spot.

**Hidlock.** To be in concealment.

**Hike off.** To move away hastily, to decamp.

**Hilt.** A young sow kept for breeding.

**Hinge.** The heart, liver and lungs of a sheep. A.S. Ingeþife.

**Hire.** To hear. A.S. Hypan.

Lehýpe þe ðe eapan hæbbe.—*Luke*, viii. 8.

**Hit.** A good crop. "The apples hit well t' year." Query, from Hætan, to promise?

- H o b - l a n t e r n.** A Will-o'-the-wisp, a Jack-o'-lantern.
- H o c k s.** To cut in a haggling unworkmanlike manner.
- H o l t.** Hold! stop!
- H o o p.** A bull-finch.
- H o s s t e n g e r.** Horse stinger—the dragon fly.
- H o u s e n.** Plural of house.
- H o w e d f o r.** Provided for.
- H u c k m u c k.** A strainer used in brewing.
- H u d.** *v.* to hide.
- H u d g y.** Thick, clumsy.
- H u d m e d u d.** The same as Galley crow.
- H u f f.** Strong beer.
- H u f f e d.** Offended.
- H u n k e d.** See U n k e d.
- H y n.** *pron.* HIM, but more frequently IT, *ex. gr.* “poor zowl on *hyn!*”—poor sowl of him. “I cānt aupen *hyn*, maester”—I can't open it, master. I am not aware that this retention of the Anglo-Saxon pronoun, Hine or Hyne, has been hitherto noticed. See the remarks under U n.

## I.

**I n n e r d s.** Inwards. "Pigs innerds," entrails,  
see **C h i t t e r l i n g s.** A.S. *Innepærðe.*

**I n o n.** An onion.

**I r e.** Iron.

**I z z a r d.** The letter Z.

## J.

**J a c k o' L a n t e r n.** The same as **H o b -**  
**l a n t e r n.**

**J a n.** John.

**J a n d e r s.** The jaundice.

**J i f f y.** A moment of time, a very short space.

**J o b b e t t.** A small load. "A mere jobbett."

**J o d.** The letter J.

## K.

**Keatch, Ketch.** To congeal.

**Keck.** *v.* to reach as if sick.

**Kecker.** The wind pipe.

**Keeks, Keeksy.** The dry stalks of hemlock. "As dry as keeks." Used in some of the more northern counties.

**Keep.** Growing food for horses or cattle.

**Kerf.** A layer of hay or turf.

**Keys.** The seed vessels of the sycamore and ash.

**Kibble.** *v.* to clip a stone roughly.

**Kit.** The entire quantity. "The whole kit."

**Kiver.** A cover, a cooler used in brewing.

## L.

**Lady's night-cap.** A wild flower, a species of bind weed.

**Lannock.** A long narrow piece of land.

**L a t t e r - m a t h.** The same as **A f t e r m a t h.**

**L a w.** When a fox, hare, or any animal is suffered to start before the hounds are set on, it is said to have *law*. The *lawing* of dogs in old times was the cutting off some of the claws of their fore-feet, so as to deprive them of their fleetness.

**L e a r** or **L e e r.** Empty, the craving of an empty stomach. "I feel quite leer"—I am faint with hunger. A.S. *Læpner*, emptiness.

**L e ā s e.** *v. a.* to glean. A.S. *Leran*, to gather, to collect, to glean.

**L e ā s i n g.** Gleaning after the reapers. This word is found wherever the west country dialect is spoken. That it is used in Hampshire will be seen from the following anecdote :—When Cobbett lived at Botley, he on one occasion forbade the poor people to come gleaning in his corn-fields. A day or two afterwards, as he rode through the village, he saw written on a wall in huge uncial letters—

"We will go a leasin in spite of old Cob!"

Cobbett got off his horse, and rubbing out

the word *leasin*, substituted *thieving*, and so left it.

**L e m f e g.** A fig, an Elleme fig. Query, were the first figs introduced into England, brought from Elleme in Turkey ?

**L e n t, L e n g t h.** The loan of a thing.

**L e w.** To "get into the Lew," means to get into a place sheltered from the wind. A.S. Hleop, shelter, asylum. Sometimes written Hleo.

ᵱ hīȝ peceber hleop, and his dwelling's shelter.—*Cædmon*, 112.

On þīȝȝer holȝer hleo, within this grove's shade.—*Ibid.* 39.

**L e w t h.** Warmth. A.S. Hleopð.

**L i d e.** The month of March, Līð-Monað, now obsolete. "The vulgar in the West of England," says Aubrey, "doe call the moneth of March, *Lide*. A proverbial rythm—

"Eate leeks in Lide, and ramsins in May,  
And all the year after physicians may play."

See *Anecdotes and Traditions* Printed by the Camden Society, p. 83, No. cxlviii.



- Lief, Liefer. Rather.
- Lill. To loll out the tongue.
- Limber. Limp, flaccid.
- Lissom. Nimble, *Lithesome*.
- Lock. A small quantity of hay. Used as "a lock of hair" or "lock of wool."
- Longful. Long, tedious, "A longful time."
- Lords and Ladies. The common *Arum*.
- Lowle. A lowle eared pig; a long eared pig.
- Lug. A pole on which fowls roost, or on which clothes are hung.
- Lug. A pole. A pole in land measure,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  yards.
- Lummakin. Awkward, ungain, clumsy, heavy.

## M.

- Magotty. Frisky, playful.
- Main. Very. "Main sprack," very sprack or lively; "main good," very good.

**M a m m e r e d.** Perplexed. I cannot find the original of this word : there is the A.S. *Mamepung*, a sleeping or slumbering.

**M a n d y.** Saucy, impudent, frolicksome.

**M a u n d e r.** To talk menacingly and vaguely.

**M a u t h e r n.** The ox-eyed daisy.

**M a w k i n.** A coarse piece of sacking, attached to a stick, with which the charcoal sticks are swept from the oven previous to putting in the batch.

**M a y.** The hawthorn blossom.

**M a y - b e.** Perhaps, possibly.

**M a y - b i t t l e.** The may beetle. The cockchafer. See *Bittle*.

**M a z z a r d.** The head. I have not been able to trace the etymology of this word, which is also used in Gloucestershire.

**M e a s t e r.** Master. Sometimes *Maester* ; but the former is nearer the Anglo-Saxon *Mægeŕceŕ*, in which the *ŕ* was, probably suppressed ; thus giving the exact sound of *measter*.

**Mickle.** Much. A.S. *Micel*. "Many a little makes a mickle."

**Miff.** Offence. "He's in a miff" — he's offended.

**Millard.** A miller.

**Millard.** The white moth which flies at twilight.

**Mint.** A mite. A corruption; the word *mite* being Anglo-Saxon.

**Minty.** Full of mites.

**Mixeu, Muxen.** A dung heap. A.S. *Myxen*.

**Moocher.** A truant; "a blackberry moucher"—a boy who plays truant to pick blackberries. The word is in some counties pronounced differently: Shakspeare uses it thus:—

"Shall the blessed sun of heaven prove a *micher* and eat *blackberries*."—Part I. Hen. IV. Act ii. Sc. 4.

**Moots.** The roots of trees left in the ground.  
See **Stowls**.

**Mop.** A statue fair for hiring servants.

**More.** A root: "a strawberry more." In Anglo-Saxon *Mop-beam*, is a mulberry tree; *peal-moja*, is a parsnip.

**M o s t i n d e a l.** Ordinarily, generally, "Where do you live?" "Most in deal at the 'Vise," (at Devizes).

**M o t h e r y.** Thick, mouldy, as beer or vinegar when stale.

**M o u g h t.** Might.

**M o u s t e r.** *v.* To muster.

**M u d d l e, M u g g l e.** Confusion. "A muddle-headed fellow." "Muddle-headed," tipsy.

**M u g g y.** Warm moist weather.

**M u l l o c k.** Rubbish, a confused heap. Used by Chaucer and other old writers.

**M u n.** Probably a corruption of *man*; as "Does't kneow that, mun?" But the word is now applied to man, woman, or child, and sometimes to a horse, dog, or other animal.

**M u x e n.** A dunghill, See **M i x e n.**

**M w o i l e.** *v.* "To get into the mwoile," to get into the mud.

## N.

N a g h t. Naught. A.S. Naht.

N a i l - p a s s e r. A gimlet. I do not find this implement thus mentioned in any book, but the name has a primitive sound.

N a r r a o n e. Never a one. Often clipped—nar'n.

N a s h o r N e s h. Tender, chilly. A.S. Nærc.

N a s h u n, N a t i o n. Very, extremely. "Nation strange," "nation queer," "nation dark."

N a t. Not. A.S. Nat.

N i e s t. Nearest. A.S. Nyht.

N i r e, N i g h e r. Nearer. A.S. Nyp.

N i t. Not yet.

N i t c h. A burthen of hay, straw, wood, &c. "He's got a nitch"—he is drunk.

N o t - c o w. A cow without horns. A.S. Hnot, shorn or clipped. This term seems to be applied as Chaucer uses it in describing the yeoman:—

“A not-hed hadde he with a broune visage.”

*Prol. to Cant. Tales.*

That is to say a head with the hair clipped short, or denuded of its usual covering.

**N u m m e t.** A luncheon. A.S. Non-meȝe, noon-meat.

**N u n c h e o n, N u n c h i n, i. e. N o o n c h y n e.**

The noon cut or slice. In old accounts we find the entries—“paid viii. men for their noonchyne”—but we never see among the same entries the word *dinner*, which appears to be of Norman French introduction. The little bags in which ploughmen and plough-boys take out their meals into the fields, are called “*nunchin-bags*.”

**N u n c l e.** An uncle. Shakspeare makes the fool address Lear as “nuncle.”

## O.

**O n g a i n l y.** Corrupted from ungainly.

**O n, O n m i s t a k e.** For *in* mistake; a palpable retention of the A.S. *on* for *in*. “I run agen hyn *on* th’ street.”

O n p o s s i b l e. A corruption of impossible.

O r g a n y. The herb penny royal. A.S. O r g a n e.

## P.

P a s m e t s. Parsnips.

P e a r t. Pert, impertinent.

P e a z e n. Plural of pease. A.S. P i o r a n.

P e e l. A pillow on which lace is made. A.S.

P i l e, a pillow.

P e g. A pig.

P e l t. A passion, rage, ire. "A come in, in  
such a *pelt*."

P e w i t. The lapwing.

P i c k. A hay-fork, a prong.

P i g - a l l, P i g h a w. The white thorn berry.

P i p. A small seed.

P i s h ! P i s h t y ! A cry or call to a dog.

P i t c h i n. Used in distinction to paving; the  
latter being performed with flat even  
stones, the former with small uneven

ones, like those in the carriage roads in London.

**Plash.** *v.* To partially cut off the branches of a hedge, and entwine them with those left upright.

**Plim.** To swell.

**Pon** or **Pan-shard.** A fragment of broken earthenware. A.S. Scæpð or Sceapð. Eal þa sceapð, all the pieces.

**Powlt.** A blow with a stick.

**Prinit.** Take it. French, *Prenez.*

**Pue.** The udder of a cow or sheep. A.S. Puje a purse, a small bag.

**Pure, Purely.** In good health, "quite purely," quite well; **Pup,** sound.

**Purley.** Weak sighted.

**Pwint.** A pint.



## Q.

Quamp. Still, quiet.

Quanked. Overpowered by fatigue. A.S.  
Cpanian, to be weary or faint; Cpencan,  
to quench.

Quar. A quarry.

Quar, *to*. To work in a quarry.

Quarrel. A square of window glass. French  
*Quarrè*.

Quavin-gog. A quagmire.

Quest. A wood-pigeon, a strange person.  
“Thee bist a queer quest.” The vulgar  
explanation of this phrase is, that a half-  
witted fellow got up a tree to rob what he  
supposed was a wood-quest’s nest, when  
he discovered it was the nest of an owl  
full of young ones, who, when the fellow  
attempted to take one of them, manifested  
their indignation at the intrusion by hissing  
and pecking, upon which he exclaimed,

“Thee bist a queer quist!” It seems, however, more probable that it originated in the remark *pu epyrτ*, *thou sayest*, addressed to a person who talked strangely or incoherently.

Quid. To suck.

Quilt. To swallow.

Quiskin'. Complaining.

Quist. A wood pigeon. See Quest.

Quop. To throb.

Qwat. To squat.

## R.

Race. Calves' race. The heart liver and lungs of a calf. A.S. Raca, the throat. The *wind-pipe* is always a conspicuous object in this collection.

Rack. A rude narrow path, like the track of a small animal. This may assist the Glossarists in their interpretation of the word “rack” in Shakspeare's xxxiii. Sonnet.

R a f t y. Rancid.

R a m s h a c k e l. Loose, untidy, ungainly.

R a t h e. Early, soon, quickly. "Rathe ripe;"  
early ripe. A.S. Hpaðe, Ræðe, or Rað,  
quickly, soon, early.

ƿite hpaðe, and ƿƿit ƿiƿtiƿ.—*Luke* xvi. 7.

Dō paðe ƿæt ƿu ðon ƿylt.—*John* xiii. 28.

The word is also used by the old English  
poets—

"An set them ther to, both *rathe* and sone."

*How the goode wif thought her doughter.*

"Bring the *rathe* primrose which forsaken dies.

*Milton, Lycidas.*

Hence our "*rather* do this" for "*sooner* do  
this." Spenser uses it in several places.

R a u g h t. *pret.* of to reach.

R e e r. Raw, underdone. A.S. Hƿeƿe, under-  
done.

R e v e l. A parochial festival.

R i d d l e. A coarse sieve. A.S. Riððel.

R o m m e l i n. Anything rank and overgrown.  
A corruption probably of the A. S.  
Rumeðlice, abundantly, fully.

R o n g. The step of a ladder.

R o w n e y or R a w n y. Thin, uneven, like  
badly manufactured cloth.

R u b b l e. Rubbish.

R u d d e r i s h. Hasty, passionate.

R u d d l e. A red ochreous composition with  
which sheep are marked.

R u m p l e d - s k e i n. Anything in confusion,  
a disagreement.

R u s t y. Restive.

R y e m o u s e. A bat. A.S. Hpepe-mus.

## S.

S a a c e. Saucyness, impertinence.

S a l l y - w i t h y. A willow. This is a curious  
compound, both Sahl and  $\text{p}\ddot{\text{a}}\text{r}\ddot{\text{z}}$  signifying  
in Anglo-Saxon, a willow. Ps. cxxxvi. 2.

S a r s e n s. Bolderstones.

Saw l. Soul. A.S. Sapl; sometimes Sapul, which is still more like the provincial sound.

Scaut. *v.* To strain with the foot in supporting or pushing anything.

Scaut. The pole attached to the axle of a waggon, and let down to prevent its running back while ascending a hill. This is doubtless an Anglo-Saxon word.

Scran. A bag. A.S. Scpin.

Sume penðon, ƿonþam Iubar hæƿðe scpin, &c.

*John* xiii. 29.

Screech. The Missel thrush. A.S. Scpic.

Scrouge. To squeeze.

Scrow. Cross. "Main scrow," very cross.

Scrunch. To crunch.

Sewent, Shewent, Suity. Even, regular.

Shard. A gap in a hedge.

Sharp. The shaft of a cart.

Shim. It seems. "He's a fine fellow, shim."  
He's a fine fellow it seems.

Shirk off. To decamp, to retreat in a cowardly manner.

Shogg off. The same as shirk off.

Showl. A shovel.

Shrammed. Chilled.

Skiel. A beer cooler used in brewing.

Skillin. A penthouse. A.S. Scylban, to protect or defend. In old German *Schillen* signifies to cover.

Slan. A sloe. A.S. Slan. Prunum sylvestris.—*Lye*.

Slat. A slate. A.S. Slat, *p.* of Slitan.

Slat. To split or crack.

He plat r̄tan.—*Psalm* lxxvii. 18.

Sleezy. Of thin texture, as bad cloth.

Slink, *to*. The same as “shirk off” or “shog off.” A.S. Shncan.

Slize. To look sly.

Sloop. To change.

Slox. To waste or pilfer.

Sluggard's - guise. A sluggardly habit.

“Sluggard's guise  
Loth to bed  
And loth to rise.”

**S m i c k e t.** A smock, a shift.

**S n e a d.** The pole of a scythe. A.S. *Snæð*.

The two handles are called the *nibs*, the rings that fasten the handles are called the *quinnets*, and the ring which secures the blade is called the *pole-ring*. The word *Snead* is used in neighbouring counties, and in Derbyshire according to Mr. Bosworth.

**S o w l e g r o v e.** The month of February; now obsolete. Aubrey says, "The shepherds and vulgar people in South Wilts, call Februarie '*Sowlegrove*' and have this proverb of it:—viz. '*Soulgrove sil lew*,'—February is seldome warme—*sil pro seld, seldome*." — *Anecdotes and Traditions*. Printed by the Camden Society, p. 83, No. cxlvii.

**S p a d e.** The gum of the eye. A.S. *Speð*?

**S p a n k y.** Shewy.

**S p r a c k.** Lively, active, inteligent. "A sprack un," a lively one. This word is not applied merely to the talkative, or it might be supposed to be derived from *Spræc*.

S p r a w i n g. A sweetheart.

S p r e a t h. Active, able.

S p r e a z e d. Chapped by cold.

S p u d d l e. To stir about.

S q u a b. The youngest or weakest pig of the litter, or the weakest bird of the brood.

S q u e l c h. To fall down heavily, "a vell down squelch" he fell down heavily.

S q w o i l. To throw. See "Cock-sqwoilling."

S t a d d l e. The pillars on which a corn or hay rick stands.

S t a l e. The handle of a prong, rake, &c.  
A.S. Sæl.

S t a r k y. Stiff, dry. A.S. Steapc.

S t e a n i n. A road made with small stones.  
A.S. Stænen, stony.

S t e m. A period of time. *Ex.* "We have had a stem o' dry weather." A.S. Stemn.

Hie hæfðon hiora stemn ȝeretenne,  
they had their time set.—*Ingr. Sax. Chron.* p. 116.



**Stinge.** (The *g* soft). A sting. A.S. *Stincz*.

**Stout.** The Gad-fly. A.S. *Stuz*. Aubrey says that when the gad-fly stung the cattle belonging to Simon Brunsdon, the parish clerk of Winterton Basset, they would run over that champaign country, and their master would follow them, crying out "Good St. Katharine of Winterbourne, stay my oxen!" I have often seen cattle thus run when attacked by their tormentor the *Stout*, and can imagine the vexation of the honest clerk in the days when there were no enclosures. This anecdote will be found in the volume of "*Anecdotes and Traditions*, Published by the Camden Society, No. cliv.

**Stowls.** The roots of large trees left after they are cut down. See also *Moots*.

**Strommelling.** Awkward, ungainly, unruly.

**Stuck.** A spike. A.S. *Stic*.

**Stwon-dead.** Stone dead—dead as a stone.

**Stwon-en.** Made of stone. A.S. *Stænen*.

**Sultedge.** A coarse apron.

Swankey. Swaggering, strutting. A. S.  
Spanzettan?

Swap or Swop. To barter, or exchange.  
The same as Chop.

Swath. The grass as it lies after being cut  
down by the mower. A.S. Spaðe.

Swig. To suck.

Swilter. To consume slowly, without burst-  
ing into a flame. A.S. Spole? Spylt?

Swingeing. Great, violent. "A swingeing  
blow"—"a swingeing price."

Swittle. To cut a stick; "to cut and  
swittle," to cut and leave the pieces about  
the room.

Swyrd. A sword. A.S. Spypð.

Sythe. To sigh.

## T.

Tack. A shelf, a mantel-piece. "Up on th'  
Tack."

Tack. Pasture for cattle.

Tackle. Instruments of agriculture.

Tackle. Food and drink. "This be capital  
tackle."

Tailings, Tail-ends. Refuse corn not saleable at market, but kept by the farmers for their own use.

Tallot or Tallet. A hay-loft over the stable.

Tang. *v.* To *tang* the bell is to pull it. Mr. Bosworth observes that it is probable the Anglo-Saxon Tanȝ, which signifies *tongs*, or *forceps*, is derived from the idea of *holding* or *pulling*, a conjecture which this Wiltshire word seems to confirm.

Tang. *v.* To make a noise with a key and a shovel at the time of the swarming of a hive, not, as is supposed, to induce them to settle, but to give notice of the rising of the swarm, which could not be followed if they went on a neighbour's premises, unless this warning was given; so that this rude kind of music was called *tanging*, it being an imitation of a bell.

Tarblish. Tolerable. "Tarblish middlin' thankee."

Tear. Sharp, painfully tender, as a wound.  
A.S. Teapτ.

**T e e l.** To place any thing in a leaning position against a wall, &c. A.S. On talle, in a fixed station. See Bosworth's Dict. Voce *Tille*.

**T e f t, H e f t.** To try the weight of anything with the hand.

**T h e e.** *pron.* You; but as frequently the pronoun *your* or *thy*. Ex. "What's *thee* name?" It occurs in the Anglo-Saxon version of the Gospels thus, when the Jews question John the Baptist:—Hƿæc reȝƿ pu be þe ȝylfum?—*John* i. 22.

**T h e e s u m.** These. Often "theesum here."

**T h e m m i n.** Those.

**T h e r e - r i g h t!** Addressed to horses at plough, when required to go *straight forward*. A.S. þæppihƿe, directly. In our version of the New Testament *straightway* is used where we find the A.S. *there-right*.

**T h i c.** This.

**T h i s s u m.** This. A.S. þiȝum, to this, to these.

**T h u c k.** That.

**Tid.** Childish, silly. When a child affects simplicity they say "Coom, coom dwont 'e be *tid*." A.S. *Tiddr*, weak, imbecile. *Tiddern*, a child.

**Tiddle, to.** To bring up by hand the young of a creature which has died or been removed from it. *Tiddrian* to nourish, feed, &c.

**Tiddlin.** A tiddlin' lamb, is a lamb brought up by hand.

**Timersome.** Timorous.

**Tine.** To divide a field with a hedge. A.S. *Tynan*, to hedge in, enclose, to shut.

*re plantode pín-geapð, and betynðe hyne.*

*Matt. xxi. 33.*

This line illustrates the close affinity of the Wiltshire dialect, with the Anglo-Saxon. A countryman would describe the same thing in these words:—"He planted a vineyard and tyned un." To *tine* a stake hedge, is to put in the top or enclosing band.

**Tine.** To light; to *tine* a candle. A.S. *Tendan*, to inflame, to set on fire.

**Tiney.** Diminutive, very small. Now not peculiar.

**Tit.** A teat. A.S. *Tīτ, Tyτ, Tyττ.*

**Todge.** Any thick spoon meat, as gruel. A.S. *To-gepeorðe.* A taking to food, a refreshing. Mr. Bosworth finds this word in a MS. in the Cottonian Library, entitled, "*Guthlaci Monachi vita et Miracula,*" Vesp. D. 21. In some counties the word *Stodge* is used, which shews that it is not a mere vulgarism. Doubtless the principal food of the humbler ranks in Saxon times was of the description called "Todge." Though the *fork* is an older implement than some suppose, the *knife* and the *spoon* were the only ones in general use—hence "he who eats with the devil must have a long spoon."

**To do.** A fuss, to make a fuss.

**Tom Cull.** The fish called Miller's Thumb.

**Tongue.** The tongue of a buckle.

**Tramp.** A vagabond, a pedlar.

**Trounce.** To punish by legal process.

**Tump.** A hillock. Welsh, *Twmp.*

T u m p y. Uneven, covered with hillocks.

T u n. A chimney. "Up th' tun"—up the chimney. Among many other things to which the Anglo-Saxons gave the name of Tun, was *Tower*, which a chimney resembles; and the chimnies of early days were built in the form of towers.

T w i r e. To look wistfully.

T w i t. To reproach.

T w o a d. A toad.

T' y e a r. i.e. this-year, a form of expression retained in "to-morrow," "to-day," &c.

## U.

U n. Him, it. A.S. Hine, Hyne, accusative of He. "I put un in my pocket"—I put it in my pocket. "Gie th' prong to un"—Give the prong to him. There cannot be a doubt that *Un* is the accusative of the Anglo-Saxon pronoun hine, and that *Um* is also the plural Hym *them*. We find in the most popular writers of the end of the

seventeenth century, the word *them* written thus [’em]. Here are examples of the use of *hine* or *hyne* :

Ða ƿluzon ealle þa leorning-cnyhtas,  
and ƿopleton hyne.—*Matt.* xxvi. 57.

Ða beƿenðe he hine and ciððe Petre,  
&c.—*Mark* viii. 33.

And this of hym.

Ða cƿæð he to hym : Farað.—*Matt.*  
viii. 32.

Unked or Hunked. Lonely. Mr. Bosworth says this word is from Un-cƿyð, without speech, solitary.

Uppin’-stock. A horse-block.

## V.

Vamplets. Rude gaiters to defend the legs from wet.

Vaught. Fot, *pret.* of to fetch.

Vet. The feet. A.S. Fet.

Vinney. Mouldy. A.S. Finne.

Vriz. Frozen.

Vuddled. Fuddled, drunk.

Vuddles. A spoilt child.



## W.

W a p s e. A wasp. A.S. *pæpp*. It is singular that the *Platt-Deutsch*, or old Saxon word for this insect, is *papp*, while in Dutch and German it is *Wesp*. There is a very common story in Wiltshire of a woman who wished to shew off her lubberly boy as "a sprack un," and, accordingly, called him in to say his letters in the hearing of some old dames who came to drink tea with her. The hornbook was produced, and Tommy was asked the name of the first letter. "I dwont kneow un, mother," said the child, scratching his head, "You must tell m' th' vust." His mother then helped his forgetfulness, and moved the point of her scissors to the next letter. "What be thuck un, Tommy?" "I dwont kneow," replied the boy, "I kneows un by *zite*, but I caant call un by's neäme." "What's thuck thing as vlies over the gearden, Tommy?" The child considered a moment and then replied with a grin, "Wapse!"

'W a r. Beware, take care. A.S. *ƿar*, aware.

W a r. *pret.* of the verb *to be*. "*I war, he war, she war, &c.*" This "vulgarism" is even heard within the walls of London; but it is Anglo-Saxon.

þ sappa mín  
 ƿeoƿtop ƿæpe.  
 That Sarah my  
 Sister *were*.

*Cædmon* 128, 26, 27.

W a r n d. Warrant. "You'll get un, I warnd."

W a s s a i l. A drinking song.

W a s s e t m a n. A scare crow.

W e e t h. Tough and pliable; a *with*. A.S.  
*ƿeðel*, a swaddling band.

W e i g h - j o l t. A see saw.

W e t c h e d. Wetshod.

W i c. A week. A.S. *ƿic*.

W i n n e y. To utter a subdued neigh like a horse.

W i t h. A twisted willow wand, with which faggots are bound. A.S. *ƿiððe*, a willow band.

Withwind. The wild convolvulus. A.S. *ƿið-pinde*, *bind-weed*.

Withy. The willow tree. A.S. *ƿiðiz*. They say in Wiltshire, in reference to the very rapid growth of the willow, that "a withy tree will buy a horse before an oak will buy a bridle and saddle." The willow will often grow twelve feet in a season.

Wizzened. Shrivelled, withered. As "a wizzened apple," "a wizzened-faced woman." A.S. *ƿeran*, to soak. The hands if soaked in water would have the appearance called "Wizzened."

Woc. Awoke. *ƿoc*. *pret.* of *ƿæcan*.

Wosbird. A term of reproach; the meaning of which appears to be unknown to those who use it. It is evidently a corruption of *whore's-bird*.

## Y.

Yacker. An acre.

Yat, Yeat. A gate. A.S. *Leat*. The *g* in Anglo-Saxon was, as before observed,

often sounded like *y*; as *ðagaŕ*, days; *geap*, year; and *geapð*, yard; which in Wiltshire is always pronounced *yeård*.

“Sparre the yate fast for fear of fraude.”

*Spenser's Shepherd's Calendar. May.*

**Yeldin.** A hilding.

**Yeomath, Youmath.** An after crop of grass. See **Lattermath** and **Aftermath**.

**Yeppurn.** An apron.

**Yerriwig.** An earwig.

**Yirth.** Earth. A.S. *Ypð*.

**Yuckel.** A wood pecker.

## Z.

**Zaat.** Soft.

**Zart.** Sort, kind. “That’s yer zart.”

**Zartin.** Certain.

**Zoap.** Soap.

**Zooner.** Rather, sooner.

**Zound.** To swoon.





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