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SALOPIA ANTIQUA,  
OR  
AN ENQUIRY FROM PERSONAL SURVEY  
INTO THE  
'DRUIDICAL', MILITARY, AND OTHER EARLY REMAINS  
IN  
SHROPSHIRE AND THE NORTH WELSH BORDERS;  
WITH  
OBSERVATIONS UPON THE NAMES OF PLACES,  
AND  
A GLOSSARY OF WORDS  
USED IN THE COUNTY OF SALOP.

BY THE  
REV. CHARLES HENRY HARTSHORNE, M.A. F.S.A.



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TO HIS GRACE  
**THE DUKE AND EARL OF SUTHERLAND,**  
BY WHOSE KINDNESS  
THE PRESENT WORK HAS BEEN SANCTIONED AND ENCOURAGED,  
IT IS WITH MUCH GRATITUDE  
INSCRIBED  
BY HIS OBEDIENT AND FAITHFUL SERVANT,  
THE AUTHOR.



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## INTRODUCTION.



YEARS having elapsed since a great portion of the present work was written, it becomes necessary for me to advert to the circumstance by way of explaining a seeming incongruity of dates that frequently occurs in the following pages. During this interval of four or five years, nearly two of which the volume has been in the press, a few additional illustrations of the earlier portion have occurred to me, and they will not unsuitably find their place in a preface.

As applied in its fullest and generally received meaning, objection may justly be urged against the term 'Druidical.' So far as the word conveys an idea of the remains with which it is associated belonging to a particular age, it is as correct as any other that could be substituted, and as it has been restricted to this signification, I have retained it. At the same time, I must confess that with the current opinions regarding Druidical Remains, and with the theories which would refer all existing vestiges of this epoch to sacrificial and religious rites, I have but little sympathy or concurrence. There are undoubtedly sufficient reasons for believing that the

Druidic Priesthood were accustomed to immolate human beings, and that they practised savage and barbarous rites that humanity shudders to describe. We are assured of this by Cæsar, whose veracity as an historian is unimpeachable, and if he had further informed us that those kinds of monuments still existing, some of which are probably anterior to the time he wrote, were used by the Druids as 'altars' whereon they bound their victims, and put them to a cruel and lingering death, we should readily give credit to his testimony. But on this matter he is silent, and we are left to seek out their true intention in any way we are most able. The tables of stone which still remain known to us under the name of Cromlechs, can in reality be regarded as nothing else than Sepulchres. Some excavations that have recently been conducted have set their intention completely out of doubt, and arguments that would strive to invest them with a different character, must rest solely upon conjecture for their support. In addition to facts alluded to in their proper place in the following pages, many others of a highly interesting kind have lately been communicated to me by a friend, who has taken considerable pains to investigate this class of monument in the Channel Islands where they abound, and his observations have increased the conviction, that the object of all existing Cromlechs was simply Sepulchral. They may belong to various times, and there may be great difference in the quality of the persons who are interred beneath them, but there cannot be much dispute, one would think, about the nature or intention of the monuments themselves. Reasoning by induction, it appears more than probable that the whole

series of 'Druidical' monuments now existing throughout England and Wales, Enclosures of stones, stone Valla (like the stupendous ones on Abdon Burf and the adjacent Clee Hills,) and Circles of upright stones, (like those on the summit of Pen Maen Mawr) are all of the same period, and certainly erected with similar intentions. The larger Circles or 'Temples' as they would commonly be designated, such as Stone Henge, Avebury, Mitchell's Fold, &c. might have been used for devotional purposes; imagination would at all events lead us to indulge in such an opinion, as it seems not unlikely that the great fields of burial surrounding these remarkable monuments, should have had some building or temple that was used for religious purposes, contiguous to them. It is not unreasonable to suppose that these remains were originally appropriated to sacred uses, in connexion with funeral rites. It is known however, because the spade which is an incontrovertible discloser of the secrets of the charnel house has revealed it, that they were at all events used as Cemeteries. There is no difficulty whatever in proving that all of the foregoing monuments referred to, had a Sepulchral character, but that their intention was also devotional, must mainly depend upon conjecture.

There has been a great deal of useless research wasted, and much ingenuity thrown away, in endeavouring to shew that the Druids left a number of monuments behind them, that evinced their knowledge of science, and especially of astronomy; we read, for instance, of Druidical Gnomons and Rock Basins! Rocking Stones, cradles for baby antiquaries, are adduced, to show their skill in mechanics! all of which are merely natural productions,

as a careful examination will sufficiently prove. In the same way we find their burial places denoted Bardic circles! and any accidental hole or mark that the overlying slab of a Cromlech has received through a series of ages, is magnified into some magical perforation through which the officiating Priest listened to the cries of the dying and drew from them his auguries; or if the mark be on the surface it is immediately interpreted to be a groove or channel down which the blood of the sufferer flowed. It is really tedious to read such fanciful opinions, and painful to know that these errors are still upheld. A little toil with the spade will readily controvert such views, and serve I think to shew that there is nothing now existing of a 'Druidical' period, but what resolves itself into a remain of an essentially Sepulchral kind.

The Channel Islands, as a group, are perhaps richer and more interesting in ancient stone monuments than any other space of ground of the same superficial extent. Each island contains many specimens of these rude structures, or as they are termed by the Islanders, *Pou-quelays*; a term manifestly allusive to the superstitious feeling with which they are regarded by the common people, who are fearful of passing them after nightfall, under the apprehension that they are the abode of an evil Spirit. (Isl. *puki*; C. Brit. *pwca*, malus dæmon. Isl. *leg*, sepulchrum. C. Brit. *leoh*, a hiding-place. S. Goth. *puk*, diabolus. The *Pug* and *Puck* of Ben Jonson and Shakspeare, and the *Powks* of the Metrical Romancers. See Glossary, p. 534.) Several of the Cromlechs in these Islands have been opened by Mr Lukis, and from a communication that he has been kind enough to make to me

on the subject, I am enabled to lay a brief account of them before the reader.

The first that was opened is called the "Grand Autel," or "L' Autel des Vardes," and stands on the summit of a small sandy hill on L'ancrese common in the Vale Parish, about half a mile from the sea, in the Island of Guernsey. It consists of five ponderous Cap-stones resting on supports of a considerable size. The whole length of the interior is about forty feet, and the breadth about fourteen, which gradually diminishes towards the east end. After digging through drift-sand to the depth of about five feet, the labourers came to a stratum of burnt human bones and coarse unbaked pottery. All the bodies appeared to have been deposited originally with some degree of order and care. The surface of the natural soil was rudely paved with flat beach stones; on this pavement was a stratum of rolled pebbles, on which were placed the human ashes and pottery. Above the burnt bones were flat stones similar to those forming the pavement, and over these a thick stratum of limpet shells. In some cases the urns when nearly perfect, contained the bones; but generally the fragments of urns were scattered about, and mixed up with the bones. Mullers, stone amulets, clay beads, &c. were the chief articles found. The Cromlech is surrounded by a Circle of stones. The entrance into it is at the east end, which is much lower than the west. That this monument was a place of Sepulture, is sufficiently evident from these facts.

The next Cromlech opened by Mr Lukis, is called "L' autel du Tus," or "Dehus," or "L' autel du Grand Sarazin," near Paradis, about two miles from

the "Grand Autel," and within view of it, on the east side of the same island. Here too we may discern, in the appellation, "Dehus," the same superstitious reference as is observable in the general title of *Pouquelays* that all of the Cromlechs have obtained. For "Dehus" or "Tehus" etymologically signifies a dæmon or vanishing spirit, from the Celtic and Latin *Dusius*, which means a spectre. (See Glossary, under DEUCE.) This Cromlech is irregularly constructed, and appears to have had additions made to it at different periods. It is remarkable for a distinct chamber added to the north side of the entrance, which is at the east end. The whole length of the Cromlech measures about thirty-eight feet, and like the other is surrounded by a Circle of stones. The operation of digging commenced under the large western Cap-stone. The earth was found much disturbed, and nothing turned up to reward the labour, but on working eastward, where the soil had been undisturbed for centuries, the results were different. As in the "Grand Autel" great order was observable in the disposition of the bodies, although the strata were not so well defined. Limpet shells were found, however, in greater abundance. The nature and shape of the urns were different from those found in the "Grand Autel," perhaps indicating another age. Other Cromlechs and Kistvaens were successively opened, and all of them, more or less, exhibited proofs of having been devoted to the same purposes.

In the year 1785, a very interesting monument was discovered on Mont de la Ville. It consisted of a single pillar and a Trilithon in alternate succession

enclosing a circular space. The number of Trilithons was six, that at the west end being the largest. At the east the entrance was formed like a Cromlech, having four large Cap-stones. Perhaps there is not any monument existing like it. There are several Circles of Trilithons mentioned by Sjöborg in his valuable work on Swedish and Norwegian antiquities, which resemble it in this particular, though they are not separated by pillars. One of these Circles consists of seven Trilithons placed at equal intervals, and another of ten, in the centre of which stands a pillar. When the stones were removed, and the summit of the Mont de la Ville levelled, burnt human bones, coarse unbaked pottery, and stone celts were discovered, all of them relics shewing that the area had been used as a place of Sepulture.

This very remarkable monument formerly existed in the island of Jersey, but it may be seen now at Henley in Oxfordshire, where it remains destined perhaps to point out to posterity the Vandalism and false liberality that once benighted the islanders of Jersey. They presented it to General Conway, who erected it in his park. The taste that prompted such a desecration, is happily now unknown, and we may hope that many a venerable and crumbling vestige of antiquity which a few years back was misunderstood and neglected, is by the present generation better appreciated, and will be better preserved.

A Cromlech in the parish of Auneville was explored by the owner of the property where it stands, in the summer of 1839. A representation of it is given in



the *Archæologia*, Vol. xxviii., from which it appears to consist of a single Cap-stone, measuring about fifteen feet and a half in length, and thirteen in breadth. It contained, like those opened by Mr Lukis, in Guernsey, burnt human bones, coarse rude pottery, and stone celts: and the entrance also was at the east end.

Another Cromlech may be seen on a promontory called the Couperon, which is of a different kind to those existing in Jersey, or any of the adjacent islands. It consists of five Cap-stones and sixteen supports; the whole length of the interior being about thirty feet and the width two feet and a half. The Cromlech is surrounded, not by a circle, as in the other cases, but by a parallelogram of stones; the only instance of this form at present discovered in the Channel Islands. It has not yet been opened.

There are several Cromlechs in the island of Alderney, some of which were opened by the brother of Mr Lukis in the year 1838, and found to contain burnt human bones and pottery.

In the island of Herm there are several stone Circles, lying near together, and composed of not more than twelve stones. In the centre of each Circle is a stone lying prostrate, which may formerly have stood erect. Two of these Circles have been partially opened by miners in the island, and were found to contain burnt human bones, coarse pottery, and celts.

The larger Cromlechs opened by Mr Lukis, contained bones of men, women, and children, and he inclines to consider them as appropriated to a tribe or family. Burnt bones of horses and oxen, and also boars' tusks,

were found mixed up with the human remains. The general character of the pottery was of a ruder kind than that figured in Sir Richard Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire. The clay with which some of the urns was formed, was extremely coarse. The forms were various; those urns composed of the finer clay being the most elegant in shape. They appeared to have been sun-dried, and not baked by fire, although some were partially blackened and coated with ashes, as if they had been placed with bodies on the funeral pile. A few were ornamented near the rim, the zigzag being the most prevalent pattern. The scored lines forming the ornament appeared to have been made with a pointed instrument, like those found near Wiesbaden (see p. 107); and as pointed bone instruments were found with them, they may have served that purpose.

Excepting in one instance no metal was discovered in these Cromlechs of the Channel Islands. But in that one, called "La Roche qui Sonne," and to which more than ordinary superstition is attached by the country people, a small brass ring like a spring bracelet was found. Of this Cromlech, which is said to have been the largest in the island of Guernsey, only one small Cap-stone, resting on two supports, now remains. The pottery which it contained was of a finer description than that discovered in the other Cromlechs.

From the funeral remains of this early period, to which it would be hazardous to assign any date, I come to the next division of the volume, or that called the BRITISH PERIOD. The age which may be assigned to the Military Remains here described, varies from the

invasion of the country by the Romans in the year 55, B. C. to their final subjugation of it under Agricola in the year 79, A. D. Thus this portion comprises an attempt to elucidate the art of castrametation and the principles of defence which the Britons adopted during this interval of nearly a hundred and forty years, the time they were struggling to maintain their independence. Several of these works lie in secluded districts, they are positions taken up on mountainous and nearly inaccessible places, and as they are described from personal examination for the first time, the investigation may perhaps contribute in some degree to a more accurate knowledge of the means of resistance, and of the strategical skill of the Britons than we have hitherto possessed. However much I may have been mistaken in the conclusions that have been drawn on this subject, the reader will, I trust, find no cause to censure my observations, when they are confined to an account of these respective strongholds as they actually exist. With the Ordnance Surveys of the districts in which they lie, with a sketch book, a compass, and a measuring tape, I have successively inspected nearly every camp in Shropshire and the Welsh Borders, and from subsequently comparing them with each other, and pursuing an analogical examination of the whole, I have been induced to fix their formation during the epochs under which they are ranged. It was this plan of personal examination which led to the first discovery of the extraordinary remains on the summit of the Clee Hills, and to the subsequent disclosure that they were of a Sepulchral character. For when we have to en-

quire into the nature of antiquities that lie out of the reach of history and records, it can only be by means of induction that we shall obtain the least insight into their intention. Etymology may occasionally impart a slight ray of light to dispel the obscurity that overshadows them. This is valuable, in union with inferences drawn from analogy and actual surveys, but not of much use without them. When the names of things and places are critically investigated, and when tradition is placed by the side of subjects enveloped in darkness, a spark may perchance be struck out that will tend to illumine a path of uncertainty: but if we add to it a careful scrutiny of the object itself, a diligent comparison of it with things that bear some resemblance, if we measure them carefully, and analyse them by scale, their real conformity will become apparent, and though after all we may still be unable to affix the theta of exact date, yet we may doubtlessly classify them with some approximation to correctness. It can however only be from obtaining a greater number of Personal Surveys, from possessing more results of individual toil, that we shall be enabled to arrange, I may almost say, under their proper years, the Earthworks and Ante-Norman Fortresses of Great Britain. Nor is it a vain hope, that leads us to expect that accurate planning of the remaining works and an inspection of the surrounding districts may effect it.

I have examined nearly all of the Camps in Warwickshire and the north of Gloucestershire, but they appear to have had little, if indeed any connexion, with the great chain constructed during the campaign of

Ostorius. Those I have investigated lie on the summit of the Cotswold, which are a broken range of Hills dividing the borders of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Gloucestershire, into a series of vallies. All of these fortified positions are placed on the projecting or most prominent point of the respective heights, and in just such positions as are most favorable to repel assailants, as well as to command a view of the curving hills on which they are erected. This independant line of fortresses may be said to commence with Meon Hill in the north, six miles south of Stratford upon Avon, and to terminate with Kimsbury Castle, near Painswick. If the eminences on which they stand were one long undivided range, they would form a succession of Camps extending twenty-five miles in a straight line; but the hills gradually grow lower at the northern and southern ends, till they entirely merge into the plains. If the bearing of these different heights was produced, they would become, to a certain degree, parallel with each other. For simplification, I class them according to the respective ranges on which they are found.

At the northern extremity is a camp on Meon Hill, an important detached post at the end of the Cotswold Hills. It is separated by a plain from the Broadway Hills, and seven miles from Farmcombe, a large irregular camp near Saintbury, and the first on that range. South-east, at Seven Wells Farm, in Camp Field, are slight vestiges of two small quadrangular works recently pointed out to me by their proprietor Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart. I believe these had no connexion with the works already and hereafter to be mentioned, but

that they were of a later time, and constructed when the Icknield Street was formed, which runs close by them, bearing here the name of the Saltway. Between Weston Subedge and Church Honey-bourn, the same road is called Buckle Street; from hence to Alcester, the Icknield Street; thence northwards to Studley, the Hayden Way, and then the Icknield Way as far as King's Norton: between Birmingham and Lichfield it bears the name of the Icknield Street again. In the south it joins the Fosse at Bourton on the water, or Stow in the Wold. To resume, however, the subject of the Camps on this first line. South of Farmcombe, on Shenborough or Shunborough Hill near Stanton, is a large semi-elliptical camp with double valla (unnoticed in the Ordnance Survey, No. XLIV.). A little more to the south, above Hayles wood, is a small outpost, forming the last upon this line of entrenchments.

An isolated eminence, so important as Bredon Hill, was of course converted into a strong hold. There are two large concentric valla at the north end like those at Shenborough and on Cleeve Cloud. It is highly improbable that the Romans should have formed the first, and not less so that they should have constructed the others.

On Oxenton Hill, south of Bredon, and separated from it by the vale of Evesham, is the first fortress of the second line of camps. It is an important one, being the key to the fertile valley just mentioned, and also to that of Dumbleton, more to the east. It is in immediate connexion with Dixton Hill, Nottingham Hill, and Cleeve Cloud. The works on the four hills constitute the second

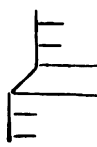
series, and they are placed on a lofty barrier that is distinct from the Broadway Chain or former one. They have all double walls, and in form are semi-elliptical. On Cleeve Cloud there are also three or four circular epaulements on the side and summit of the hill, which present some anomalies deserving attention.

The camps in the third series commence at Leekhampton Hill, and include one on its summit, one on Crickley Hill; that of Kimsbury Castle, where it is stated Roman coins have been found, and a small but very strong outpost on Ring Hill near Harefield, on the extreme south west angle of this extensive line. The country then becomes more varied in its aspect, and no intervening position occurs for nearly ten miles southward, when the great Roman encampment of Uley Bury forms the first link of that chain of fortresses which for reasons given in the following pages are attributable to the campaign of Ostorius.

The entire absence of rectilinear vallation in the three former lines of fortresses, and their wanting also that circularity of outline which marked some of the fortifications constructed under the later dominion of the Romans, lead me to think that none of the Military Works in either of these ranges can be safely considered to have been constructed by the Romans. Nor does it appear probable that the Metatores who laid out the right-lined encampments in the south should so uniformly have departed from this custom in all the fortifications in the north.

As the spade has been shewn to be a faithful interpreter of the hidden meaning of Cromlechs and stone

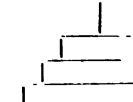
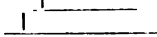
Circles, it has likewise been found equally valuable in proving the exact conformity that the foundations of Roman buildings in Great Britain bear towards each other. If it were more diligently used in examining early ecclesiastical architecture, the same valuable results would no doubt reward the enquirer for his trouble. It has been observed, for instance, that the substructure of Roman buildings in this country is universally the same, wherever they are. The foundation of the city walls of London, and those of several Stationary Camps or Fortresses, such as Richborough, &c., shew that the first operation was to dig a trench the intended width of the wall, about eighteen inches or two feet deep; this was filled with dry sand, or gravel, or loose stones; the first course of stone was laid on this mass dry also; but above, the work went on in regular courses of masonry with mortar as usual. At a distance of about two feet, the thickness of the wall was diminished two or three inches by a course being bevelled or chamfered thus



and then carried up vertically. The earth was raised several feet at the back of the wall, on the inside, higher than the external level, as Vegetius describes. And as the Romans never departed from fixed principles of construction in their buildings, they as scrupulously adhered to them in the formation of their Roads. An attention to these simple facts may do much towards ascertaining the precise age to which buildings belong where Roman tile are used.

Having mentioned this much about the nature of Roman foundations, I will briefly describe those that are Norman, as observable in the very interesting Church



of Barrow in Shropshire. Here the foundation is of three stages or steps, one receding about six inches behind the other, thus  from the uppermost of which the wall rises vertically. An examination of the  early English portion of Cooknoe Church in Northamptonshire has also shewn me that the foundations of that age were made with rough, unhewn materials, set together in dry work, for a height of five feet, when, from the top of an earth table of hewn stone that was slightly bevelled inwards, the walls rose vertically like the others.

After the earlier portion of the present volume was printed, some Roman coins were found on the Wild Moors near Kynnersley, the estate of his Grace the Duke and Earl of Sutherland, by whose kindness the knowledge of their discovery was communicated to me, but too late to find an insertion in its appropriate place; I therefore allude to it here. Should any thing of a Roman character be discovered hereafter in the same locality, it may tend to shew that the circumvallation of Wall has connexion with an earlier period than that to which I have already assigned it. The coins in question belong to the lower empire, and are of that kind so commonly found in Great Britain. They belong to the reign of Constantine. Some of them have on the reverse two soldiers with standards, and the superscription of "GLORIA EXERCITV̄S." Others belonging to the same reign, have on the reverse a figure of Victory with a shield and standard; on the exergue r. r. s.: and a third kind bear on the reverse a wolf and representation of Romulus and Remus.

In the same manner the existence of GRAY DITCH and St ANDERBOURGHES DYCHE became known to me, after that division of the volume was printed, in which an account of them would most properly have appeared. The former, like the rest that I have examined, seems most likely to have been a boundary line. It begins at Rebellion Knoll near Bradwell in Westmoreland, and is cut through by the Roman road that goes from Lancaster through Kirkby Stephen to Brough, a little before it reaches the latter place. Its course is north west, and it is only distinguishable from the foot of Micklow Hill near Edentree to Rebellion Knoll, a distance of something more than half a mile. There are no decided remains of a Fosse, though appearances of one are perceptible on the north side.

The vicinity of Brough abounds with vestiges of Roman occupation, and well deserves careful examination, both for the camp in its vicinity, on Mam Tor, the vallation round Castleton and that at Brough itself, as well as with reference to the present state of a branch of the Watling Street that leads over Stainmoor Forest by Maiden Castle, from Bowes to Brough and thence to Brougham Castle; DOCTOR'S GATE also seems to be a Roman Road, which goes deviously over Glossop Moor, beginning near Hurst Mill, where it leaves a Cold Harbour a mile to the south west, and another Cold Harbour two miles in the same direction, and then runs for ten or twelve miles to Brough. BATHAM GATE likewise, which traverses Tidswell Moor to Brough, appears to be a Roman thoroughfare.

But lest any evidence should be wanting to shew that

Dykes were intended for division and not for defensive lines, the fact of St Adboroughes Dyche forming the boundary of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, is expressly to the point. St Adborough or Edburga was the Tutelary Saint of the Abbey of Pershore, and in a decree relating to Broadway in Worcestershire, temp. Henry VI. we find this Dyke alluded to as an ancient boundary in these words. "Et jacent super Cotteswold, ex parte occidentali cujusdam antiqui fossi, sive fossati, vocati SEYNT ADBOROUGHES DYCHE, alias MERE DYCHE." The passage is repeated in the same decree, and sufficiently indicates by the alias of *Meredyche* (see p. 221. following) that it was then, as it is now, a boundary ditch. The Dyke itself lies about a mile east of Middle Hill on Seven Wells farm, it is much depressed, and partially hidden by a wall being built nearly all along its crest. The length varies from a quarter to half a mile. I am indebted to Sir Thomas Phillipps for making me aware of its existence, and pointing out the exact course it takes.

With the **ANGLO SAXON PERIOD** the first part of the volume terminates. Whether my researches will hereafter be carried lower than the Domesday Survey is at present uncertain. What has been attempted may be said to embrace the History of Shropshire to the time of the Conquest. Ample materials have been collected by Mr Lloyd, which are a good foundation to work upon for a Manorial History of the County, and these, if they were published by themselves, would be a most valuable contribution to our national topography.

The **GLOSSARIAL** part of the volume was the root from

which the rest of it sprung. In arranging this portion for the press, I laboured under difficulties that have probably been experienced by others who have undertaken a similar work. It was doubtful what words ought to be excluded, and what ought to be admitted. Some were current among us that were used with the same application in other counties; and hence the objection immediately occurred that they were not entitled to insertion. Where the same word had different meanings under the same sound, this argument did not apply, but when a word for instance was used by us in a sense like to that which it possessed among the Brigantes and Iceni, it was difficult to decide whether it ought to find a place among the rest. I thought, however, that if Salopians had not as much right to call it theirs, as the inhabitants of Craven or Norfolk, that at all events, one use of a Provincial Glossary was to shew to what distance words had been carried from the North of Europe, and under what modifications they still existed. For we should bear in mind that these etymological affinities are something like Erratic Blocks in geology, they serve to shew how far the tide of northern languages has flowed.

It is not the least remarkable feature in the Dialect of Shropshire, that it should have borrowed scarcely any words directly from the contiguous territory of Wales, and I think this fact may serve to prove that the English language as spoken by Salopians in an agricultural district is marked by extreme accuracy and purity. Wales seems to have presented an insurmountable barrier. Totally dissimilar in all its form of speech, and in its terminations, the Welsh has never incorporated

itself in the least degree with our provincialisms. Even in that part of the county round Oswestry, where an intercourse with the Principality is greatest, and there is no natural line of demarcation to cut off the admixture of the two languages, they have in no way merged into or corrupted each other. There is nothing like a Cambro-British patois, or an Anglo-Welsh idiom observable. The English here is quite as free from Welsh expressions as it is in the centre of the kingdom. There is however very perceptible a Welsh accent, and this strongly characterises the speech of the whole of that part of the county which touches on Montgomeryshire, Flintshire, and Denbighshire. It is perhaps rather the peculiarity of the natives of Wales than of those whose progenitors have been fixed in Shropshire. This accent is perceptible from Chirk and Ellesmere in the north, to Melverly and Montford Bridge. The Severn probably checked its further diffusion.

The English spoken in the great valley, as it may be called, that extends from Shrewsbury to Clun, bounded on the east by Lyth Hill, Ponsert Hill, and the Stiperstones, and on the west by Montgomeryshire, is marked by a sharpness of pronunciation so very decided, that a second dialect, or Bishop's Castle dialect, may without hesitation be assigned to this district.

The high recitative with which the natives of the Church Stretton valley terminate their sentences, fixes a third dialect in that division of Shropshire, which commencing also at Shrewsbury, and terminating at Ludlow, is bounded by the before-mentioned hills on

the west, and Condover, the Lawley, Caer Caradoc, and Norton Camp on the east.

A fourth difference is observable in Corve Dale: commencing at Wenlock, and gradually merging into the last before it reaches Ludlow. The three Clee Hills on the south-east, and the extensive limestone range of Wenlock Edge, form its boundaries. The early words used in this department, and the distinct enunciation of all their vowels, so that each letter has its proper sound, lead me to consider this as the Attic of the Shropshire dialect.

In the valley from Ludlow to Bridgenorth, bounded by the Clee Burfs to the north, and the Titterstone to the south, a thick and drawling method of speaking prevails, and continues until it finally degenerates into the suppressed articulation that is apparent in Worcestershire.

A sixth dialect exists, quite dissimilar to all of the foregoing, which belongs to the mining district round Broseley and Wellington. This is very copious and variable; each parish nearly has its peculiar intonation; the cadences of Madeley Wood differ from those at Jackfield, and the notes of a Dawley Collier are readily distinguishable from those of a forgerman at Lilleshall.

To these remarks it may be added, that there are not any words introduced in the present Glossary, which the Author has not heard used in the senses in which they are explained.

In justice to his own feelings, as well as an acknowledgment of services whilst the volume has been in the Press, he cannot finally dismiss it, without cordially thanking his friends LIEUTENANT COLONEL COLBY, of the Ord-

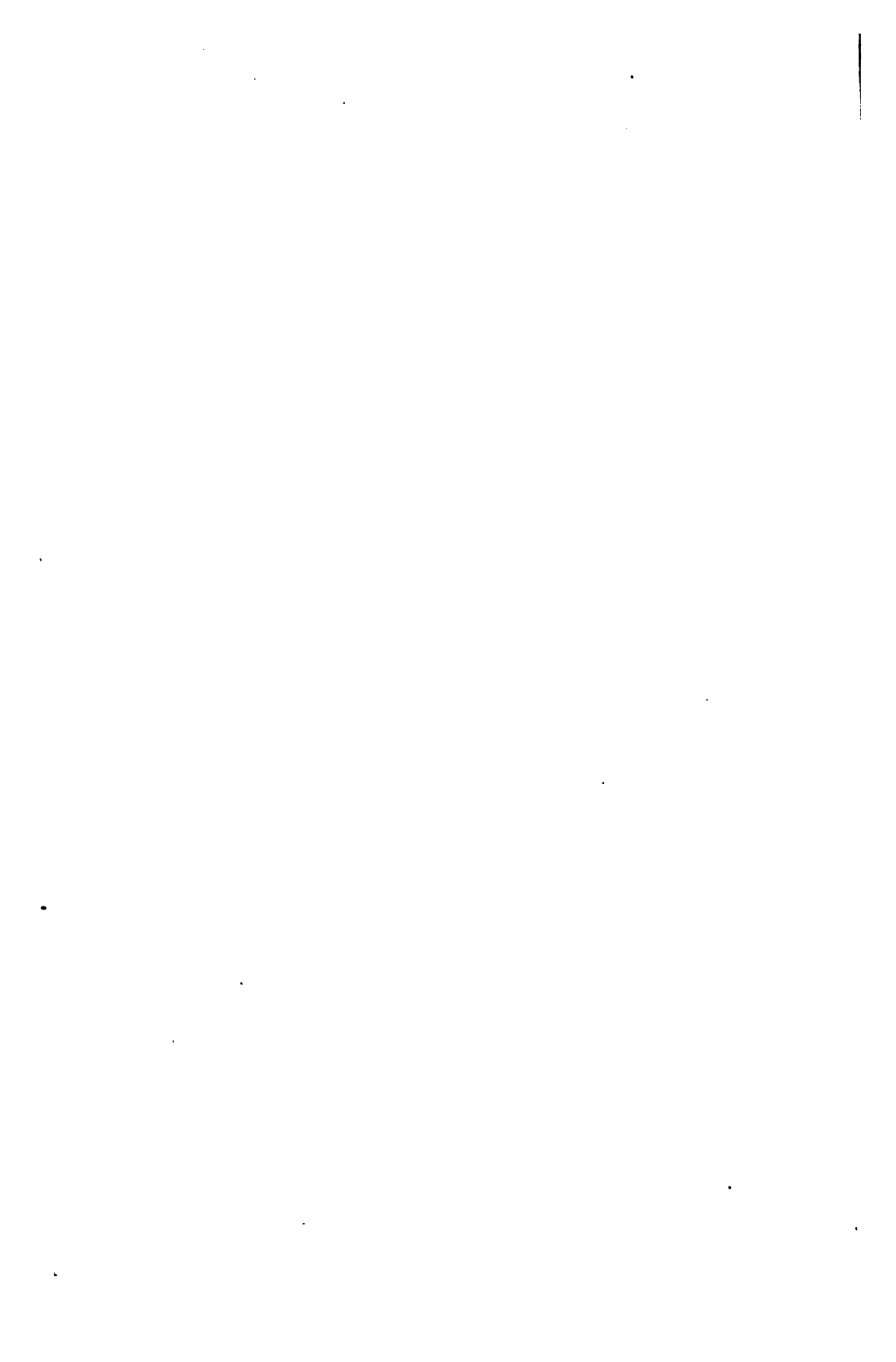
nance Map Office, SIR SAMUEL MEYRIK, of Goodrich Court, ALBERT WAY, Esq., SIR THOMAS PHILLIPPS, BART., and SIR HENRY DRYDEN, BART., for their prompt and kind assistance whenever he required it.

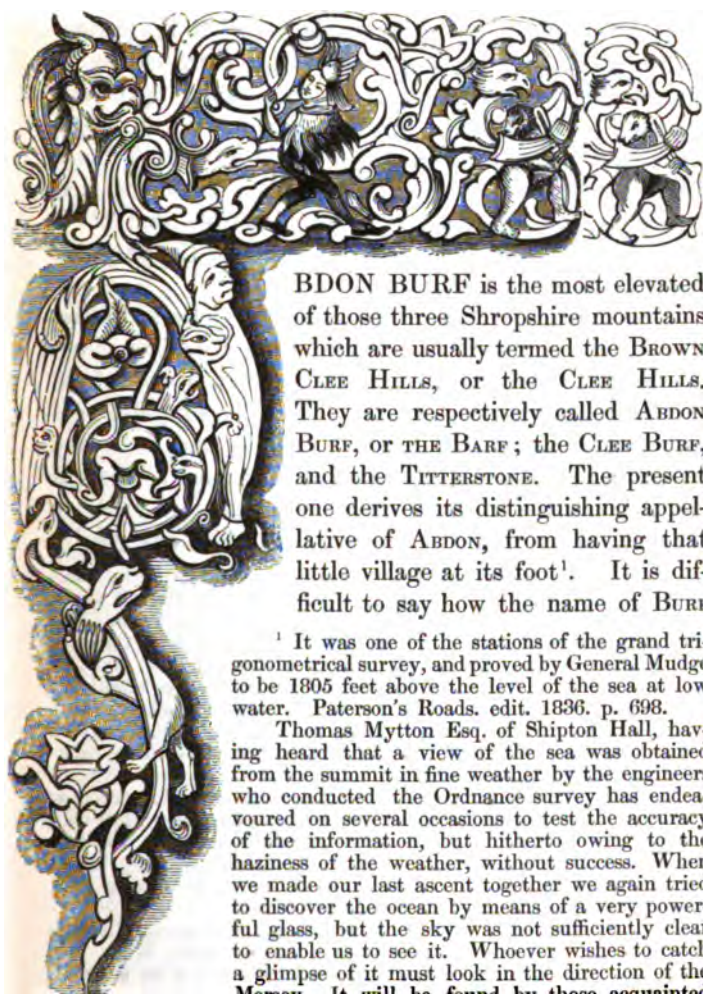


**Uncertain Period.**









BDON BURF is the most elevated of those three Shropshire mountains which are usually termed the BROWN CLEE HILLS, or the CLEE HILLS. They are respectively called ABDON BURF, or THE BARF; the CLEE BURF, and the TITTERSTONE. The present one derives its distinguishing appellation of ABDON, from having that little village at its foot<sup>1</sup>. It is difficult to say how the name of BURF

<sup>1</sup> It was one of the stations of the grand trigonometrical survey, and proved by General Mudge to be 1805 feet above the level of the sea at low water. Paterson's Roads. edit. 1836. p. 698.

Thomas Mytton Esq. of Shipton Hall, having heard that a view of the sea was obtained from the summit in fine weather by the engineers who conducted the Ordnance survey has endeavoured on several occasions to test the accuracy of the information, but hitherto owing to the haziness of the weather, without success. When we made our last ascent together we again tried to discover the ocean by means of a very powerful glass, but the sky was not sufficiently clear to enable us to see it. Whoever wishes to catch a glimpse of it must look in the direction of the Mersey. It will be found by those acquainted.

or BARF, as the lower orders call it, originated. I am inclined to think that it was acquired in consequence of the vast wall of stones which surrounds its summit; in the same way as the *Olee Burf* takes its title, from the C. Brit. *Buarth*, an enclosure<sup>1</sup>. *Bar*, in C. Brit. Ir. Corn. and Gael. signifies a summit, or the top, but the former derivation seems the better, as applying more closely to the extraordinary remains which are found upon this eminence. On the same principle the remains on *Stapeley Hill*, hereafter mentioned, are called MITCHELL'S FOLD. They are of such remote antiquity, so extensive, and possessing such a high degree of interest, that it is surprising they should hitherto have escaped the attention of the topographer and antiquarian.

The summit of ABDON BURF is encircled by a *Vallum* of *dâ* stone, as Basalt is termed by the Salopians, from the C. Brit. Gael. Arm. *dâ, niger*<sup>2</sup>, which encloses from twenty to thirty acres. This Vallum is sixty-five feet wide at its base on the South East side, and is beyond all dispute an artificial construction, inasmuch as there is not a stone visible larger than a man would be able to lift. Across its crest it is eight feet wide, and twelve with the nature of the intervening country, that this is the most likely quarter to find it. For the Welsh mountains to the left would render it impossible for any one to see it on the Welsh coast. The Gloucestershire Hills would impede a view of the Bristol Channel. But no land of any considerable eminence obstructs the view on the Cheshire side. And according to the evidence of an intelligent old man who had assisted the engineers employed to make the survey, it was in this quarter that the sea was observed. He described to us that in the direction of Liverpool, he saw the ships sailing backwards and forwards very distinctly.

<sup>1</sup> There are two fortresses of the Anglo-Saxon period one near *Baschurch*, the other just on the outside of Shropshire near *Mere* called the *BERTH*, haply in allusion to their being enclosed. An eminence two miles South of *Stourport* is called the *BURF*. *BURVA BANK*, a large encampment close to *Knill*, co. Radn. *BIRTH Hill*, east of *GADBURY BANKS* in Gloucestershire.

<sup>2</sup> The derivation of this word may be considered sound although Mr Murchison tells me that *dâ* stone is not *invariably* black, as a *white* basalt exists near *Cleobury Mortimer*. We call it *dâ* stone all over this range of Shropshire because it is a *black* stone.

feet high above the interior level of the hill. In some parts externally it falls as much as fifty feet, and excepting where a modern entrance has been made, and made too, with considerable trouble, it is even now a barrier arduous to surmount. The enclosed area is of an oval form, measuring from North to South one thousand three hundred and seventeen feet, and at the widest point from East to West six hundred and sixty feet. A modern wall has been built along part of the North East side, as a boundary of property, and a few pits have been sunk at different times within the great enclosure for the sake of getting coal.

At the North West point a **CARNEDD** rises eight feet above the level of the hill, standing upon a base that is sixty feet in diameter. There is an appearance of a **CARNEDD** on the East side where a road terminates that crosses the enclosure. But as the Vallum was here at least the thickness of sixty feet at its base, probably the stones have been removed for the purposes of making the present road, and whether it was originally a Carnedd or not, it is now difficult to ascertain. The appearance is evidently unnatural, but from what causes we can only say from conjecture: there are marks of another Carnedd below the Vallum on the same side. The whole of the surface of the South end of Abdon Burf is covered with blocks of basalt, generally of a small size near the road, with one exception which will be alluded to hereafter, but as we get nearer to the Southern edge of the Vallum they are more ponderous, and lie scattered in greater disorder and confusion. These things cannot be accounted for satisfactorily by Geologists, although the same marks are visible upon the two other Clee Hills; it is manifest that all these enclosures are artificial, and that however much volcanic agency was exerted at a remote time, it had nothing to do with the present appearance of the Vallum around each, nor with the **CIRCLES** which are

contained in their area. Perhaps, it is needless to say thus much, but the idea has been suggested by the belief that some people knowing the geological features of the hills, without having seen the remarkable monuments existing upon their surface, would refer them at once to natural causes, and would conclude that the art and labor of man had had nothing to do with their collocation.

The earliest account we possess of the religious rites of the ancient Britons states that their worship was "DRUIDICAL." Every thing we positively know about their ceremonies is derived from Cæsar<sup>1</sup>, and from his description we gather that the art and learning of the Druids all the world over had its origin in this country. In his time those who wished to attain perfect knowledge of the Druidical discipline, and learning in general, travelled hither to acquire it. The Druids expounded religion, and ordered all the ceremonies of public and private sacrifices. They were entrusted with the education of youth; they decided all controversies and disputes. They punished the guilty; rewarded the virtuous, and excommunicated from a share in the rites of religion, even princes, or nobles who disobeyed their mandates. It is said that they learned many verses, and continued their studies for twenty years. As their chief doctrine, they taught the immortality of the soul. They instructed youth in the motions of the stars and heavenly bodies, the magnitude of the earth, the nature of the world, and the dignity and power of the gods. In speaking of Gaul, Cæsar further says, that they assembled at a particular spot at a certain period of the year, and sat there in a *sacred place*, and all people who had suits or controversies resorted thither to have them decided. Such is the account which Cæsar has transmitted to us of the Druids. We learn from it that they were idolaters; and there is every reason for believing that their objects

<sup>1</sup> De Bello Gallico. lib. vi. c. 13—23.

of worship, were identical with those of the followers of BAAL. Like them they were addicted to the study of the heavens, and in the same way they offered up human victims to *Baal, Bel, Belus, Belinus, Apollo* or the *Sun*. After the Romans had conquered Britain they erected several altars to *Baal*, which have at different times been discovered. The connexion of Druidism with the name of *Baal* is well known in the lines of Ausonius, himself a Druid, who writes

Tu Baiocassis Stirpe Druidum satus  
Si fama non fallit fidem  
Beleni sacratum ducis e templo genus.

Druidism and idolatry are in fact one and the same thing, as will appear from the following summary.

HU in Welsh is an epithet which is applied to the deity from its power of pervading all things<sup>1</sup>. Thus HU Gadarn is the same as *Apollo, the Sun, or Baal*. In the sacred writings HE or the Hebrew article HUA, as Lowth says on Jerem. xiv. 22. is often equivalent to the true and eternal God<sup>2</sup>; the τὸ Αὐτὸ of Plato<sup>3</sup> when he speaks of the first being, the Self-existent Being: the αὐτός of the Septuagint. In mythology HU and BAAL are one and the same. They are identical with OSIRIS, or the governor of the earth<sup>4</sup>. Osiris was a symbol of the sun<sup>5</sup>. Cæsar says the Gauls worshipped Apollo. The Gauls were followers of the Druidic rites according to the same author. Upon some of the coins of Cunobelin, Apollo, or Belus is represented playing a lyre. According to Hesychius the Cretans called Apollo the *Sun*, or Ἀβελίως. Hence Ausonius in his address to *Phœbicius* one of the teachers at Bourdeaux says

Non reticebo, senem  
Nomine *Phœbicum*:

<sup>1</sup> Davies Celt. Researches, p. 164. Owen's Welsh Dict. under *Hu*.

<sup>2</sup> Parkhurst's Heb. Lex. p. 155, 6.

<sup>3</sup> Higgins Celt. Druids, p. 180.

<sup>4</sup> Histoire du Ciel, t. i. p. 174. Ib. p. 67.

<sup>5</sup> Puffendorf Religio Gentium Arcana, p. 21.

Qui Beleni sedituus  
 Nil opis inde tulit.  
 Sed tamen, ut placitum,  
 Stirpe satus *Druidum*  
 Gentis Armoricæ  
 Burdigale Cathedram  
 Nati opera obtinuit.

Commemor. Prof. Burdigal. X.

HELIOGABALUS, or as it is more commonly found in inscriptions, ALAGABALUS was a deity recognised as the Sun. SOLI ALAGABALO JULIUS BALBILLUS AQUILA, as an ancient monument preserves the name<sup>1</sup>. In Hebrew this is *Ahgal Baal*, or *Deus Rotundus*, the Orbicular God, for *Ahgal*, means round. (Hence the A. Saxon *hæwogul* and *hæwöl*, a *wheel*, *hail*, &c.<sup>2</sup>) And what does Herodian say? that his image was a *stone* of immense magnitude, with a *circular* base, terminating in a cone. Surely these things sufficiently prove the intimate connexion of Druidism with the worship of Baal or the Sun, and will serve to explain the frequent recurrence of CIRCLES where we find vestiges of a nature that can be referred to a period before Christianity was introduced into Great Britain.

In the remains upon Abdon Burf numerous indications are discernible of the foregoing nature. And first of all let us examine the *situation*.

It was the practice of the Druids to choose for their places of worship, woods, which stood upon the tops of hills, and mountains, as more becoming the dignity and sublime offices of their devotions, and being nearer as they supposed, to the habitation of their Gods. Thus we find that the devotions and sacrifices of Balaam among the Moabites, the idolatrous rites of the Canaanites, and of the ancient Gentiles in general, were performed in *High Places*. In Scripture the High Places are perpetually mentioned as devotional, at least when they are not so

<sup>1</sup> Selden de Dis Syriis, p. 146. 149.

<sup>2</sup> Parkhurst, Heb. Lex. p. 513, 514. No fewer than nine inscriptions in honour of Belatucader have been found in Britain. Archæol. v. x. p. 118. Belatucader has been generally thought identical with Mars. (See Baxter's Gloss. sub voce.)

in consequence of the true God being worshipped there, they are spoken of as spots chosen for the observance of profane and idolatrous practices. In the former instance we read of Abram building an altar to the Lord on a *mountain*, east of Bethel<sup>1</sup>: of Moses commanding the people to set up stones on Mount Ebal, when they had passed over Jordan<sup>2</sup>: of God appearing to Solomon when he sacrificed at Gibeon<sup>3</sup>: nay even of Christ himself ascending a mountain to pray<sup>4</sup>: which is supposed to have been a *Proseucha*, like that mentioned in the Old Testament under the designation of a High Place. For these High Places are not always condemned, but then only, when they were made use of for idolatrous worship, or in a perverse way, by erecting altars on them, in opposition to that which was in the place which God had chosen. Thus it has been supposed that that was a *Proseucha* in which Joshua set up a pillar under an oak in Sechem<sup>5</sup>. Again, High Places were the scene of gross superstition and idolatry, as we gather from the heavy denunciations uttered against the wandering Israelites if they frequented them. They were commanded to destroy every vestige of the kind: "Ye shall utterly destroy all the *places* wherein the nations which ye shall possess served their Gods, upon the *high mountains* and upon the *hills*, and under every *green tree*: ye shall overthrow their altars, and break their *pillars*, and burn their *groves* with fire<sup>6</sup>." When Solomon built an High Place for Chemosh, who is conjectured by some to be Saturn, "he did evil in the sight of the Lord;" and we find it enjoined upon the faithful after the building of the Temple of Jerusalem not to "sacrifice upon the *tops* of the

<sup>1</sup> Genesis xii. 8.

<sup>2</sup> Deut. xxvii. 4.

<sup>3</sup> 1 Kings iii. 4.

<sup>4</sup> Luke vi. 12.

<sup>5</sup> Josh. xxiv. 26.

<sup>6</sup> Deut. xii. 23.

\* Higgins in quoting this chapter copies Borlase in inferring that the name of *Gilgal* was derived from the Hebrew *gal*, a roundish heap of stones, and that the twelve stones here mentioned were disposed in a circular form. (See Celtic Druids, p. 233. 4.) Hence, says he, comes the compound *KU* in the names of the parishes of *Kildare*, *Kilkenney*, *Kilpatrick*: in almost all of those places beginning with *KU* are traditions relating to the Druids. (See Parkhurst, Hebrew Lexicon, p. 106. edit. 1811. Borlase Antiq. of Cornwall, p. 196.)



mountains, nor to burn incense upon the *hills*, under *oaks* and poplars and elms<sup>1</sup>." Such passages as these sufficiently indicate the prevalence and antiquity of erecting *stones, and pillars, and altars on high places.*

The next feature in the remains upon Abdon Burf, which favors the opinion of their being devoted to Idolatrous or Druidical purposes, is the extensive Basaltic *Vallum surrounding its summit.*

It was the custom of the Druids to enclose their sacred places, sometimes with a fence of pallisades, and sometimes with a mound of earth, or stones to keep off the profane, and to prevent all irreverent intrusion upon their mysteries. Hermoldus in his *Chronicon de Rebus Sclaviæ*, says that the Sclavonians prevented all access to their groves and fountains, which they considered would become desecrated by the entrance of Christians: that they worshipped oaks which they surrounded by a fence of wicker work<sup>2</sup>. Tacitus in the *Germania* relates that it was the custom of the early Germans to consider their woods and groves as sacred; that those spots were consecrated to pious uses, and the holy recess took the name of the divinity who filled the place, which sanctuary was never permitted to be seen but with reverence and awe<sup>3</sup>. Agreeable to this was the practice of the earlier inhabitants of Britain, who, according to the same historian, used similar customs with the Germans<sup>4</sup>. They both worship-

<sup>1</sup> Hosea iv. 13.

<sup>2</sup> Hermoldi et Arnoldi *Chronica Slavorum*, in quibus res Sclaviæ, fere a tempore Caroli Magni, usque ad Ottonem iv. seu ad annum Christi 1219 exponuntur. Lubecæ. 1659, 4to. As quoted by Borlase from the *Variorum notes to Tacit. de Morib. Germ.*

<sup>3</sup> *Lucos et nemora consecrant, Deorumque nominibus appellant secretum illud, quod sola reverentia vident. Germania, c. ix.*

<sup>4</sup> *Angli et Varini et Eudoses et Suardones, et Nuithones fluminibus aut sylvis muniuntur; nec quicquam notabili in singulis, nisi quod in commune Hertham, id est, Terram matrem, colunt, eamque intervenire rebus hominum, inveni populis, arbitrantur. Est in insula Oceani Castum nemus, dicatumque in eo vehiculum, veste contactum: attingere, uni sacerdote concessum. Ib. c. xl.*

ped the Goddess Hertha. A sacred grove on the island of Rugen was dedicated to her. There stood her sacred chariot covered with a vestment, which was only allowed to be touched by the priest; and when the ceremony of her worship was over, the chariot with the sacred mantle, and if we may believe report, the goddess herself, were purified in a sacred lake. In this act of ablution certain slaves officiated, and instantly perished in the water. Hence the terrors of superstition became more widely diffused; a religious horror seized every mind, and all were content to venerate the awful mystery, which no man could see and live<sup>1</sup>. Similar enclosures are observable upon *Craig y dinas* and *Castell Dinas Cortin* in *Merionethshire*<sup>2</sup>; upon *Pen Maen Mawr*<sup>3</sup>; at *Karn Bre*, in *Cornwall*; at the *Arbelows* in *Derbyshire*<sup>4</sup>, and also at *Trer Dryc* in *Anglesea*. Rowlands states that *Trer Dryc* is surrounded by an immense agger of earth and stones, evidently brought from other places, there not being any indication of their being taken from the spot. It has only a single entrance, and has been supposed to have been the grand consistory of the Druidical administration<sup>5</sup>. The fences at *Karn Bre*<sup>6</sup> clearly show that the work was not originally designed for military purposes, because they are low; they must therefore have been intended to separate the sacred groves from violation, to prohibit not only cattle, but strangers, and all persons profane, on all other but holy days, and on holy purposes, from entering the consecrated ground. There is also a mound of the same kind round the stone circles at *Abury*. The like caution was observed, though for much better

<sup>1</sup> Servi ministrant; quos statim idem lacus haurit. Arcanus hinc terror sanctaque ignorantia, quid sit illud, quod tantum perituri vident. *Ib.*

<sup>2</sup> Pennant's *Wales*, v. ii. p. 121.

<sup>3</sup> *Archæol.* v. iii. p. 350.

<sup>4</sup> *Ib.* v. vii. p. 131.

<sup>5</sup> Rowland's *Mona Antiqua*, p. 92.

<sup>6</sup> Borlase, *Antiq. of Cornwall*, p. 117.

reasons, at Mount Sinai. "Thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed unto yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it; whosoever toucheth the mount shall surely be put to death. Set bounds unto the mount and sanctify it<sup>1</sup>." Lucan, in the following lines, testifies to the reverential and devout manner with which the Druids regarded their places of worship. They kept their woods inviolate,

Lucus erat longo nunquam violatus ab ævo.

And having glanced at the horrid rites which were celebrated in those silent and gloomy recesses where the light of heaven could with difficulty penetrate, he finishes his fine description by saying,

Non illum cultu populi propiore frequentant,  
Sed cessere deis. Pharsal. iii. 400.

Thus it seems that the stream of all authorities, to which we can refer concerning this people, runs clearly in stating that their rites were performed with mysterious solemnity. It is in exact conformity with their customs, and with vestiges of hill worship still remaining in part, that the *High Place* on Abdon Burf should be screened from observation and access by a mound of stone, which would serve at the same time to enclose and protect their sacred temples and seats of judgement.

The next characteristic feature of Abdon Burf having been the scite of Druidic worship is *the internal appearance of its enclosure*.

Upon entering it we immediately observe several *Circles* of stones: some of these stand two or three feet above the present surface. They are of three kinds, are ranged from North to South in eight parallel rows, and are found in a higher or lower degree of perfection. The *Circles* most frequent are those composed of single stones. Of this kind there are still discernible

<sup>1</sup> Exod. xix. 12.

about twenty, which again may be, secondly, subdivided into single stone circles having concentric ones of the same kind, and sometimes having more than one concentric circle. None of these stones lie more than a foot below the present surface, neither are they generally fixed and imbedded very firmly in the soil, for a slight blow with our workmen's mattocks stirred them, and we turned them over by an easy degree of leverage. The third class of circles are composed of stones thrown together in double ridges. Of this kind were nearly one half of the number. Yet here again was observable a difference in another respect, as they wanted the concentric circles which the single stone circles contained. The average width of the whole of these circles is 30 feet. Occasionally they are connected with each other by a row of single stones, sometimes they touch, and in one or two instances cut each other. For further insight the reader is referred to the accompanying plan which may serve to make this description more intelligible.

These vestiges of a remote age greatly resemble the works which Borlase describes as existing upon KARN BRE hill in the parish of *Illogan, Cornwall*, with this difference, however, that the circles upon the BURF, are much more numerous, and there is, moreover, every reason for thinking that those were at no time so extensive as these in Shropshire. The remains at KARN BRE are surrounded, as these are, by a mound of stones, and as they are similar to the instances already quoted as existing in *Merionethshire, Carnarvonshire, Anglesea* and *Derbyshire*, no doubt can exist but that the original intention of each, whatever that might have been, was precisely the same.

There are FORTY FOUR CIRCLES now apparent<sup>1</sup> on the

<sup>1</sup> An old man who has lived close to the Burf all his life informed me that these circles were nothing like so perfect now as he recollected them to have been.

North side of the road which traverses Abdon Burf. These are not equally entire; but the radius of most of them is discernible. One cannot help thinking whilst viewing such conformity, that they must all belong to the same period. Such an uniform arrangement is evidently intentional, and we know from other examples yet existing, that this methodical disposition was usual. Thus in the hundred of *Penrith, Cornwall* there are four circles which have an equal number of stones, nineteen, in each: and in the majority of instances of stone monuments in the same county, Borlase says there is a surprising similarity.

When we endeavour to seek out the object of these singular monuments, we enter upon an investigation full of difficulty. There is in truth little beyond hypothesis from which conclusions may be drawn. The generally received opinion is that all CIRCULAR MONUMENTS were originally intended for devotional purposes. The circular form was best adapted of any for the bystanders to see and hear, and if need were, to participate in parts of the sacrificial rites. This figure accords best with the magical practices to which the Druids are supposed to have been addicted; and, moreover, as there was always a *Symbol* of the Deities which the heathens worshipped, expressive in some degree of their attributes, such a symbol would naturally be seen in their temples. Thus that of Vesta was the earth; and for the same reason the temple of the Goddess HERTHA who was worshipped by the Druids, would take the like form, the two Goddesses being identical.<sup>1</sup> A *Circle*, which would also be a figure of the Sun, being a symbol extremely simple, would also more easily represent the power and universal influence which pervades all space. So among the Egyptians, we see this

<sup>1</sup> Vestæ Herthæ Germanorum eo convenit, quod Terra putatur esse et turritam coronam gerit. Pufendorf, *Religio Gentium Arcana*, p. 318.

figure, or a serpent continually used<sup>1</sup>. It is not improbable, though in the absence of direct evidence, it must be very uncertain, whether SERPENT-WORSHIP constituted part of the Druidical ceremonial. If, however, it did, their temples would assume a Serpentine, or Circular form. Setting aside this, which it must be confessed is a speculation more fanciful than substantial, it may be inferred from the preceding facts, that circular monuments are divisible into two kinds. The first of these consists of large upright stones, which are several feet above the surface. Of this kind are the monuments at STONE HENGE; ABURY; the ROWLWRIGHT; the HURLERS; STANTON DREW; LONG MEG and her Daughters; MITCHELL'S FOLD, &c. There is every reason to consider this kind *de-votional*. The second, which is usually found with the first, though sometimes distinct from it, I consider to be *wholly sepulchral*.

This has been proved on several occasions in Ireland when these circles have been opened. At *Killimille*, near *Dungannon*, Ireland, within a circle of stones on the top of the hill, were found Urns<sup>2</sup>. Borlase quotes Wright's *Louthiana* which gives an account of Urns being found in the interior of similar circles in the county of *Tyrone*. In a recent volume of the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy<sup>3</sup> is an account of a very remarkable collection of stone circles and cairns situated in the townland of *Carroonmore*, in the parish of *Kilmacowen*, and about two miles from the town of *Sligo*. They are of the class popularly called Druidical temples, and have, in every instance, one or more Cromlechs or Kistvaen within them. In some instances the circle consists of a single range of stones, in others of two concentric ranges, and in a few instances of three

<sup>1</sup> Histoire du Ciel ou l'on recherche l'origine de l'idolatrie, t. i. p. 63.

<sup>2</sup> Philos. Trans. 1713, p. 254.

<sup>3</sup> Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, 1838, p. 140, 2.

such ranges; and nearly the whole are clustered together in an irregularly circular manner, around a great *cairn* or conical heap of stones, which forms the centre of the group. The circles vary much in diameter, number and height of stones, and other particulars; and the Cromlechs also are of various forms and sizes. Many of these monuments are greatly dilapidated; but there are still existing vestiges of about sixty circles with Cromlechs, and as it is known that a vast number has been totally destroyed by the peasantry, there is reason to believe that the collection could not have been originally much less than double that number. They are all formed of granite boulders, except the covering stone and another of the Cromlechs in the great cairn, which are of lime stone.

In all the circles, which have been wholly or in part destroyed, human bones, earthen urns, &c. have been invariably found, and one circular enclosure, outside the group, and of far greater extent than any of the others, but evidently of cotemporaneous construction, is filled with bones of men and animals.

Mr Petrie, who describes them states, that this is the largest collection of monuments of the kind in the British islands, and probably with the exception of those at Carnach in Brittany, the most remarkable in the world.

From the design observable in their arrangement, and uniformity of construction, he considers them all of cotemporaneous age; and from the human remains found in all of them, he concludes that they are wholly of sepulchral origin, and erected as monuments to men of various degrees of rank slain in battle, the great central cairn being the sepulchre of the chief, and the great enclosure outside the group, the burial place of the inferior class. Such monuments, he observes, are found on all the battle fields recorded in Irish history, as the scenes of contest between the *Belgian* or *Fir-*

*volg* and the Tuatha de Danann colonies, and he considers these monuments to be the tombs of the Belgians, who, after their defeat in the battle of the Southern Moy-Turey, had retreated to Cuil-Jorra, and were there again defeated, and their king, Eochy, slain in crossing the strand of Ballysadare Bay, on which a cairn, rising above high water, still marks the spot on which he fell.

As monuments of this class are found not only in most countries of Europe, but also in the East, Mr Petrie thinks their investigation will form an important accessory to the history of the Indo European race, and also that such an investigation will probably destroy the popular theories of their having been temples and altars of the Druids.

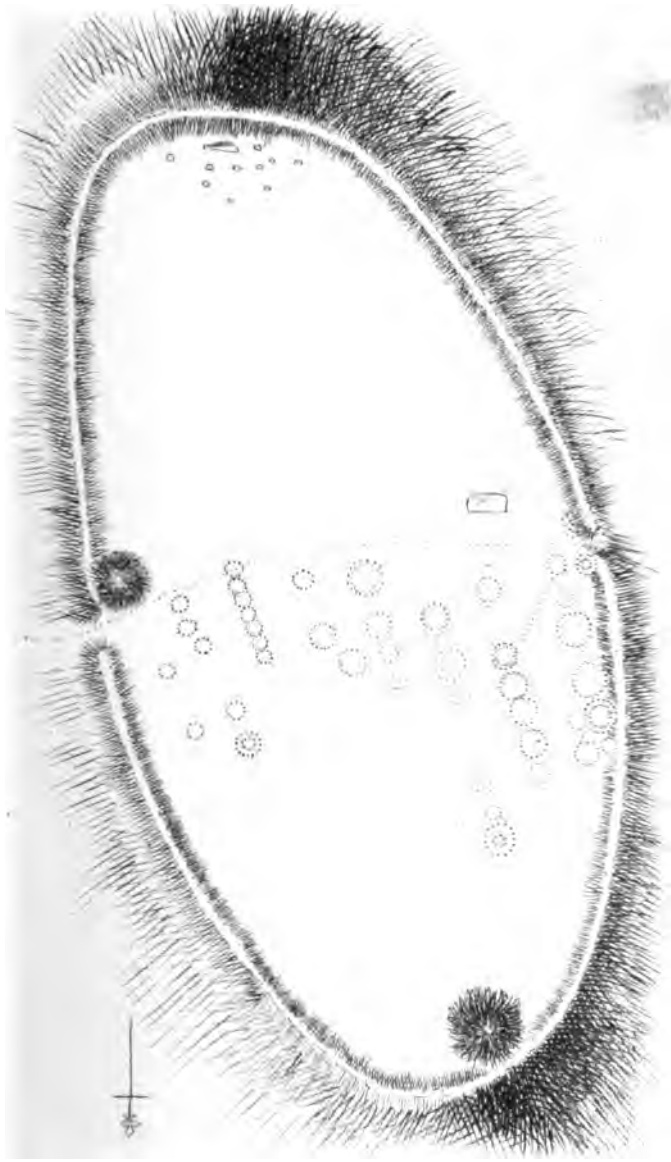
And I am still further led to consider these circles of stones as *sepulchral* from the fact of their existing in Sweden, where they are accompanied with proofs of this nature that can leave no doubt upon the mind of the most sceptical. A glance even at the plates in that extremely curious book of Sjöborg's on Northern Antiquities<sup>1</sup> will shew that such monuments could scarcely have had any other intention. We see here a collection of every variety of them, the chief part, circular. Sometimes, however, there is a square enclosure of upright stones with a conical barrow in the centre, which has its base surrounded with upright stones; midway between this and the summit, the circumference is marked with a second ring of upright stones; close at the summit, a third belt of upright stones encircles it; and the crest of the barrow is capped by a cromlech. Another variety, has a circle of upright stones round the base of a Carnedd. A third variety, has a circular belt of upright

<sup>1</sup> Samlingar För Nordens Fornälakare, innehallande Inskrifter, Figurer, Ruiner, Verktyg, Hogar och Stensattningar i Sverige och Norrige. af N. H. Sjöborg. 2 vol. 4to. with 43 plates, Stockholm, 1822.



stones round a conical barrow which is surmounted by a single long upright stone. A fourth variety, consists of a simple circle of upright stones, having two opposite each other much taller than the rest. A fifth variety, consists of a circle of not more than ten stones, placed merely on the surface, sometimes they have a small avenue of approach to them of four stones on each side. A sixth variety, is a large circle chiefly formed of stones placed loosely on the surface, every sixth being larger and set deeper into the ground, whilst those two North and South are much loftier than the rest. A seventh variety, is triangular, with a high stone at each corner, and another in the centre. An eighth variety, is square. And a ninth, triangular, having the three sides curving inward, but without any upright stones at the angles. These monuments are met with under every circumstance favorable to sepulture. They are frequently surrounded by Valla and enclosures, and are seen contiguous to, and even forming part of, Tumuli.

Upon examining the Southern end of Abdon Burf the surface is found to be partially covered with large blocks of Basalt, which would be ascribable to natural causes, did we not observe among the confusion, traces of three or four circles like those on the other side of the road. The first object of importance that meets the eye, is a huge block of dû stone, measuring six feet four inches long, four feet six inches across, and three feet high. From its great size the men who "work on the hill" call it the *Burf Tricking*. It is not improbable that this word is derived from the S. Goth. *dryg*, or *tryg*, ingens, gravis. (Verel. in Indic.) *driugr*, plus quam potuit: that is, a mass so ponderous that with the utmost difficulty it could be moved. In any other locality, or unaccompanied by the appearances already adverted to, it would not be considered remarkable, un-



55. ULCHIKAI, REMAINS ON ABDON BURF.



less it were for its magnitude. But finding it here, fancy immediately leads us to think that it was placed in its present situation for some object or other. The most likely use for it was the top stone of a cromlech: yet to shew how perfectly valueless are mere conjectures, I will state that this has been entirely disproved by my own operations. The first time I saw the stone in question, I felt disposed to think it formed part of a cromlech; I conceived it might be such, though I was not so wedded to my imagination as to pronounce that it actually belonged to that class. The labor of a couple of workmen for an hour or two last autumn, undeceived me, and have left us still to seek out what was its real use, if it ever had any. For having undermined the stone, they came upon such a foundation as clearly shewed that it could at no time have been supported by upright stones at its angles, as such sepulchral monuments usually are.

The whole of the South Western side of the hill presents marks of disorder and destruction: the stones which are much larger here, than at the other end, seem to have tumbled down, rather than to lie scattered by the influence of natural causes, while there is a certain degree of order visible amid the confusion. At the extreme point, in a slight hollow, an unhewn stone lies prostrate which bears the name of the GIANT'S SHAFT. It is eight feet ten inches long, two feet four inches square at the base, gradually diminishing to one foot eight inches. As has been already remarked, the whole of the Southern end of the hill has its surface much disturbed. Two or three CIRCLES may be distinctly traced, but besides them, every thing is overthrown and disarranged. Yet amid the catastrophe, it is not I think assuming too much, if we express our conviction that this unhewn stone, or *Maen hir* was formerly placed upright, and that it served an intention similar to the

one at *Cwm Buchan*, a small village lying betwixt *Bar-mouth* and *Harlech*, close by the road side; or like those seen figured by Borlase<sup>1</sup> and Coxe<sup>2</sup>, as existing in *Cornwall*, and *Monmouthshire*. The purpose of these it is imagined was devotional. Jacob at Bethel,<sup>3</sup> Joshua at Gilgal;<sup>4</sup> and the Israelites<sup>5</sup> beyond Jordan, raised one on the banks of that river, as a testimony that they had constituted but one nation with their brethren on the other side. Rough and unformed stones were considered more pure, and fit for sacred uses than those which were hewn. Moses directed an altar to be raised to the Lord, of *rough* stones; not of *hewn* stones, which he declared to be polluted. Stone pillars were also erected to mark the place of peculiar sanctity and honor<sup>6</sup>: thus Abimelech was made king by the plain of the pillar that was in Sechem<sup>7</sup>. Adonijah by the stone of Zoheleth<sup>8</sup>. Jehoash was "crowned king standing by a pillar, as the manner was"<sup>9</sup>: and Josiah "stood by a pillar" when he was making a solemn covenant with God. Again, pillars of stone were set up as *memorials of the dead*. Jacob erected one as a monument upon the grave of Rachael<sup>10</sup>; and Absalom in his life time took and reared up for himself a *pillar*, for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance; and he called the pillar after his own name; and it is called unto this day, Absalom's Place<sup>11</sup>.

That the MONOLITHS which now remain were connected with objects partly devotional, and partly *sepulchral* seems the most probable conjecture. The evidence furnished by classical writers tends to establish such an

<sup>1</sup> Antiq. of Cornwall, p. 164.    <sup>2</sup> Tour in Monmouthshire, v. ii. p. 323.

<sup>3</sup> Genesis, xxxi. 46.    <sup>4</sup> Josh. iv. 5—7.    <sup>5</sup> Ib. xxii. 10.

<sup>6</sup> Exod. xx. 25.    Deut. xxvii. 5.    Josh. viii. 31, 32. which command was not given by Moses to Noah as Mr Moore in his History of Ireland intimates, p. 38, but to the children of Israel.

<sup>7</sup> Josh. xxiv. 26.

<sup>8</sup> I. Kings i. 9.

<sup>9</sup> II. Kings xi. 14.    Ib. xxiii. 3.

<sup>10</sup> Genesis, xxxv. 20.

<sup>11</sup> II. Saml. xviii. 18.

opinion, whilst the researches that have been made in Cornwall and Ireland upon the spots where they stand, give additional weight to the assumption.



The neighbouring mountain known under the name of the **Clee Burf** bears most evident signs of having been appropriated to the same purposes as **ABDON BURF**, and the **TITTERSTONE**. They are all surrounded with a Vallum of stones, though in the cases of the **TITTERSTONE** and the **Clee Burf**, the mound is not by any means so high, or formidable, nor are the circles so numerous, and distinct. The Vallum runs tolerably clearly round the North side of the **Clee Burf**, though it is much depressed, and there may still be discerned two, or more circles in the enclosure, although coal pits have greatly defaced its original character. The works upon these three eminences are without doubt ascribable to the same period, and I believe the like causes gave them existence. They must be considered entirely *devotional* and *sepulchral* in their object.

It is probable that these places, at a very remote period, were of considerable fame, and forming as they do, the highest, and the first elevations that occur in

journeying from the Eastern side of the kingdom to the West, they marked the district with a character of peculiar sanctity. Such vast monuments of Hill worship must naturally have tended to invest the region in which they are with a peculiar degree of religious celebrity. And if there be any value in Etymology, as a subsidiary proof, it may be inferred that the inhabitants of this part of England were in consequence called CORNAVII, or dwellers in the *Sacred country*, from the Phœnician, *cor* a district, and *naom* holy, pronounced *Cornav*; the country belonging to the Priesthood, the holy or consecrated country. In the same manner as the people who occupied the North and West of *Cornwall*, were called CARNABII<sup>1</sup>, and the inhabitants of Caithness<sup>2</sup> CORNAVII, from the circumstance of these counties being the seat of Druidic worship.

<sup>1</sup> And these hills seem formerly to have traditionally been considered sacred: for Leland says, "Cle Hills be holy in Shropshire. Tende River dividethe them from sume part of Worcestershire, but from Shropshire by the more parte of the Ripe.

No great plenty of wood in Cle Hills, yet ther is sufficient Brushe Wood. Plenty of Cole Yerth Stone nether exceeding good for Lyme, whereof there they make muche and serve the contre about. Cle Hills cum within a 3 good myles of Ludlow. The Village of Clebyri standythe in the Rootes by Est of Cle Hills 7 myles from Ludlow in the way to Beudeley. There was a castle in Cleberie nighe the church by North. The Plote is yet cawled The Castell Dike. There be no Market Townes in Cle Hills.

The Highest Parte of Cle Hills is cawlyd Tyderstone. In it is a fayre playne grene, and a fountayne in it. There is another Hill a 3 miles distant from it cawlyd The Browne Cle. There is a Chace for Deare. There is another cawlyd Caderton's Clee, and ther be many Hethe Cokks and a Broket cawlyd Mille Brokchet springethe in it, and aftar goithe into a Broket called Rhe, and Rhe into Tende by neth Tende Bridge. There be some Blo Shoppes to make Yren upon the Ripes or Bankes of Mylbroke, comynge out of Caderton Cle or Casset Wood." Leland's Itinerary, vol. viii. fol. 89. b.

<sup>2</sup> See the description of a Druidic temple in the parish of *Far*, county of *Caithness*, in Appendix to the first volume of Pennant's *Tour in Scotland*, p. 347.

## The Titterstone.



**W**HILST wandering over this mountain in the Autumn of 1837 in search of Druidical remains, my attention was drawn to the remarkable position and shape of one of the numerous large stones which lie confusedly scattered on the North Western side of its surface.

Upon looking more carefully at the stone in question, suspicions gradually arose that one of so singular a configuration must belong to the order of such as are usually known under the title of **ROCKING STONES**, and impressed with the idea, I almost unconsciously endeavoured to shake it. Having, however, given it a closer inspection, I found that to do this, would, under existing circumstances be impossible, for several huge masses of rock had by time become so closely wedged in betwixt its base, and the surrounding blocks, that until they were removed, all such efforts would be ineffectual. In an over anxiety to start early in the morning to visit this elevated spot, I had unfortunately left behind, the necessary accompaniments to a field antiquary, tape and sketch book, so that I was prevented from doing any thing more than merely inserting these conjectures among my memoranda. As I slowly descended from the summit, fancy constantly represented to me the plausibility of the conjecture, and in the direct ratio to my increasing distance from the object of speculation, the conviction grew stronger that it really must be a **ROCKING**



STONE. But the period had arrived when it was necessary for me to leave this part of the country, and with feelings in which regret and pleasure were curiously mingled together, I was compelled to cast a lingering look only, upon the peak where so unexpected an object of interest had presented itself.

The idea of a ROCKING STONE hitherto unknown was continually uppermost, but I knew it would be in vain to seek for any account that would tend to confirm these views, as all our early remains in Shropshire have singularly escaped the attention of antiquarian enquirers. It was only from looking at the subject in connexion with its etymological bearing, that I could hope to adduce any confirmation of my views. Upon my return home I found, or at least I fancied I found, in the first volume consulted, a proof that the supposition might be sustained. For it appeared that the TITTERSTONE itself had derived its name from the Icelandic *TITRA* which signifies to *tremble*, and there was no longer any room left for doubting that this stone, or at least some other upon the same eminence, had been the means of distinguishing the mountain itself<sup>1</sup>. At all events it had such speciousness in the interpretation, that I at once determined to revisit the spot at the earliest opportunity, and place in its original position the TITTERSTONE properly so called.

Another season advanced, and I hastened to fulfil the resolution. By the kindness of a gentleman who resided at no great distance from the base of the mountain, I was supplied with some strong labourers, who having furnished themselves with mattocks, crow bars and shovels, were willing under my directions to restore THE TITTERSTONE to its original balance.

<sup>1</sup> Hence the words *titter* to shake with laughter, and *totter*. On *Strine's Moor* three miles from *Bradfield* in *Derbyshire* is a rocking stone called the *Tottering Stone*.



Scorpion, *Scorpio*, from the *Phyllophaga* group.

THE SCORPION



We made a cheerful ascent; and the conversation held with my simple companions, tended in more than one instance to enrich the glossarial part of the present volume. Passing along the top of HOAR EDGE, (Salopicè dictum *Whar Idge*) I cast a hurried look at the four remarkable CARNEDDS that dignify its summit. The columnar form which the rocks assume on the Western side were not left unobserved. Looking, then, in vain, for the ancient MERE STONE on the borders of *Wilmore Pool*, and finally clambering over the rugged and irregular barrier encircling the crest of the mountain, we found ourselves before the object of my—theory. But how disheartening a thing is it, to stare reality in the face, after the imagination has been left to itself, and conjured up its facts and shapes!

“Nature wants stuff  
To vie strange forms with fancy”

I straightway thought with the poet, and I went so far, as to doubt after all, whether this *could be* a TREMBLING STONE. Such misgivings it must be confessed were unworthy of the occasion, and can only be accounted for now, by the belief that they were brought on through the first fatigue of the ascent, aided by the fear lest success should not ultimately crown the expedition. For having surveyed the stone a few minutes, and laid out the plan of operations which was to be carried on, taking care, too, to secure the stone, lest in our zeal to shake, it should be overthrown, and rolled down the craggy sides of the mountain: having adopted these precautions, the labor commenced of breaking away all those fragments which had from time to time become detached from the surrounding columns of *Dæ* Stone, and destroyed its powers of motion.

After two hours hard toil these exertions were repaid, by having the satisfaction of making this huge

mass which measures seven feet six by five feet nine, easily rock, by the slightest imposition of the hand.

It will be seen from the accompanying representation that there is but little space betwixt the adjacent boulders and the TITTERSTONE, (for by this title must the trembling stone be called hereafter), but it must be borne in mind that the TITTERSTONE rocks in a different direction, not between them, for there is no room for it, but from East to West. As I had been informed between my two visits, that there existed a traditionary account of a *former Rocking Stone* on this eminence, which was overthrown by the wilfulness of some wretched idlers, I was induced to turn the TITTERSTONE round from its balancing centre, and make its side rest against the point nearest to it,

Ne cuiquam glebam, saxumve impune movere  
Uli sit licitum.

This, though unavoidably disturbing for a time its powers of equipoise and oscillation, is however, the means of preserving it for the inspection of the curious hereafter. A very gentle degree of leverage, bearing round to the South, will again restore it to a proper position and perfect state of equilibrium; at present it is immoveable.

Having narrated, perhaps rather too circumstantially, my impressions regarding the TITTERSTONE, it remains for me to disabuse the minds of my readers of any erroneous notions they may have upon the subject of Rocking Stones in general. They have been called *artificial*, and fabled to have been placed in their state of equipoise by incredible skill and labor. But of all the fallacies which dreaming antiquaries have echoed from age to age to mislead their followers this is among the greatest. They have been called *Druidical Monuments*. The Druidic Priesthood might possibly have made use of them to deceive in some way or other the vulgar, just as the celebrated GYGONIAN STONE mentioned by

Ptolemy Hephestion<sup>1</sup> was employed, which might have been stirred by the stalk of an Asphodel yet not removed by any force whatever from its position, but that they ever placed them as they now stand, is in the highest degree improbable. That they made them subservient to purposes of imposition, as a means of cheating the vulgar, is more than likely; the actual position of the Stones themselves I believe to be purely *natural*. And this will readily appear when we examine with carefulness the geological structure of the Titterstone and the surrounding blocks.

The Hill which has taken its name from this adventitious circumstance is a formation of Basalt, and in Basalt perhaps more than in any other rock, there is a disposition to disintegrate from exposure to the effects of atmosphere. There is round the North Western side of this hill, and also along the greater length of the *Hoar Edge*, a series of fine columnar Rocks, having their Prisms unusually large. THE GIANT'S CHAIR, for instance, has its pillars fifteen, or sixteen feet high, and intervening lengths of four, five, and six feet between the joints. As the extremities of these were more exposed to the action of the air, they gradually became loosened at the joints, so that in time they were eaten away by the influence of atmospheric agency, and either rested for their support on a very small point, or became detached from the parent column altogether. It is thus that the TITTERSTONE MOUNTAIN first took its name. Nature placed the stone in its state of equilibrium, and the art and craft of a designing Priesthood, made use of its singular position to further their designs. Or as is the case with the TITTERSTONE itself, one of the nodules through disintegration became detached from the

<sup>1</sup> Lib. iii. c. 3. Stukeley says (*Stonehenge Restored*, p. 50) "It seems this word *Gygonius* is purely Celtic, for *Gwingog* signifies *motitans*, the rocking stone; and *gogon* is what the boys with us call a jig, or little top." Owen's Welsh Dict. has *gwing* a motion.

pillar, and accidentally falling upon one of its angles, it was immediately endowed with the power of *rocking*, and afterwards became of sufficient celebrity to give name to the eminence on which it stands.

The summit of the TITTERSTONE is encircled by an agger of loose stones heaped up artificially like those upon the other two *Cles Hills*. The enclosure here is by far the largest of the three, but the Vallum is inferior to that round ABDON BURF in height, as well as breadth. It measures from North to South five hundred and sixty yards, and from East to West rather more than double the distance, about half a mile. Where it is most perfect, which is on the South West side, the internal height of the vallum is not more than six feet, and the external fifteen. At the East North East it is much depressed for the distance of a hundred paces. It then disappears for a short distance. When we again come to it, it is still lowered, but twenty feet across it. The *original entrance* is twenty feet wide, and lies on the South South East side of the hill.

The object of the works upon these three eminences was the same; for though there are but few indications of CIRCLES upon the present spot, yet what actually exists gives sufficient evidence to lead us to this conclusion. I do not see any reason against supposing that these remains, and all similar ones, such as enclosures upon mountains where CARNES, and CIRCLES, and CROMLECHS are found, had a twofold intention. They were partly devoted to *religious*, and partly to *sepulchral* uses. If we look at the present condition of our places of worship, we observe both these objects united, and a temple used for sacred purposes is generally accompanied by a spot consecrated for the sepulture of the worshippers. The same custom in all probability prevailed at the remotest period, and though we have no proofs that all these re-

mains were alike devoted to religious ends, yet both CROMLECHS and CARNES whenever thoroughly examined, have indicated a funereal occupation. To what precise object the CIRCLES were destined, it is difficult to say. All that we can positively tell about them is, that they abound wherever we meet with the two other kinds of monuments, so that let their purpose have been what it might the three cannot be separated. It seems most natural to think that these CIRCLES had either a religious or a sepulchral application, or both united. Within the enclosure under notice there is additional illustration afforded to strengthen such an hypothesis. We see for instance, a large CARNE at the South East point, and another still larger and higher at the West, whilst we recognise the broken circumferences of three or four CIRCLES, composed of single stones, and nearly forty feet in diameter, in their immediate contiguity. There is also a singular mound two yards high and fifty in breadth, nearly upon the loftiest part of the hill. It is not unlike *Caer Brân Castle* in *Sancred*, figured in *Borlase's Natural History of Cornwall*, p. 346, though without the internal circle of stones. Originally there must have been a vast many other objects of the same nature upon the TITTERSTONE, which are now covered, and it is to be feared that in the course of a few years even all these remains will be effaced by an accumulation of turf.





## Mitchell's Fold.



IMMEDIATELY at the South Eastern foot of *Corndon* (a lofty mountain on the borders of Shropshire) are three remarkable monuments at no great distance asunder, whose erection must be ascribed to the most remote antiquity. Two of these are in our own county, the slight remains of the third, are a few paces out of it, and consequently stand in *Montgomeryshire*. In the relative position of these monuments to each other there is something very singular, and it would lead an imaginative person to consider them **DRACONTIC**.

If we take the remains near the *Marsh Pool* first, which have erroneously obtained the designation of *Hoar Stones*, but which for the sake of correctness I shall discontinue, and term the **MARSH POOL CIRCLE**, if we begin here, at the North West, and go over *Stapeley Hill*, through **MITCHELL'S FOLD**, and thence descend to the **WHETSTONES** which lie at the base of the mountain before mentioned, we shall have proceeded in a curved or sinuous line for the distance of two miles. In our course we have the three monuments in question; at one extremity a **CIRCLE** consisting of thirty two upright stones ranged round its circumference; at the other extremity, the mutilated fragments called the **WHETSTONES**, and upon the intervening elevated ground, the larger works of **MITCHELL'S FOLD** which are rather more than midway along the curve. Now in this there is a de-

gree of resemblance to what exists at STANTON DREW, and ABURY. At the latter place, in fact, the curvature of the avenue of approach to the great temples is precisely similar, whilst the two circles there, are surrounded, as this is, with a *callum* of earth, having its *fosse* within. It is true that here we no longer see the stones on each side forming an avenue of communication with *the Body of the Serpent*, or the two temples upon the high ground, but knowing the tendency of stones to become obliterated by moss, to sink into the soil, or their chances of destruction from the wicked spirit which has always prevailed among ignorant cultivators of the land, who look upon them with no higher feelings than utility would inspire, and who recklessly make them subservient to the purposes of building some miserable dwelling, we shall not be at a loss in accounting for their deficiency.

Whether this was ever when in its most complete state an *Ophite hierogram*, must continue unknown to ourselves and succeeding ages. That it was designed with a religious intention, will not admit of a doubt: though the precise nature of the solemnities, and the objects of adoration the worshippers had before them must still remain veiled in perpetual darkness. We know that the hierogram of the Sun was a *Circle*; the temples of the Sun were *Circular*. The Arkites adored the personified ark of Noah; their temples were built in the form of a *Ship*. The Ophites adored a Serpent deity; their temples assumed the form of a *Serpent*. And to come more home to our own times and feelings, the Christian retains a remnant of the same idea when he builds his Churches in the form of a *Cross*; the *Cross* being at once the symbol of his creed, and the hierogram of his God<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Observations on Dracontia, by the Rev. John Bathurst Deane, *Archæol.* vol. xxv. p. 191.

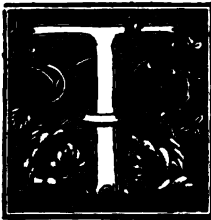
That the monuments upon *Stapeley Hill* were devoted to *Serpent worship* is an idea that must rest *purely upon conjecture*. And after the most diligent sifting, and careful consideration of this question, we are in possession of little beyond it to offer. To a certain degree these remains are conformable to those temples which Stukeley a century ago, and Mr Deane at the present day, have with much erudition and ingenuity pronounced to be of a *Dracontian* nature. Yet, admitting them to be of this kind, we are still unable to fill up the Serpent's form entirely. We have only remaining its *Head*, the *WHETSTONES*; its *Tail*, the *MARSH POOL CIRCLE*; and a portion of its *Body*, *MITCHELL'S FOLD*, to supply the hieroglyph. The *Vertebrae*, or *AVENUE* is wanting. If with such a deficiency, the enquirer can recognise *DRACONTIA*, he will be well repaid for a visit to the dreary and impressive region where these mysterious objects are scattered. Indulging the reflections of so pleasant a theory, he will tread with lighter steps the treacherous surface, and be enabled to bear the want of more substantial nourishment than that which "chewing the cud of sweet or bitter fancies" supplies. Should he, while seeking for these highly interesting memorials, see a sufficient degree of plausibility in this hypothesis to enlist credulity in its favour,

(Turpe nec est tali credulitate capi)

it will tend materially to lessen the distance of a long and tedious journey, and beguile his wanderings over a district that is unusually wild and desolate; while the novel and pleasing impressions, which such scenery and thoughts stamp upon the imagination, will requite him for the endurance of toil and hunger.

It is the *Soul* that sees; the outward eyes  
Present the object, but the *Mind* describes!

## The Whetstones.



THE WHETSTONES, or head of this *presumed* OPITAL TEMPLE (for I need scarcely say that I can only regard such theories in the light of agreeable fancies), lie at the foot of *Corn-don*, upon the Shropshire side. They are so close upon the borders of this county as almost to be in it. These three stones were formerly placed upright though they now lean, owing to the soft and boggy nature of the soil. They stand equidistant and assume a circular position. Originally they evidently formed part of a *circle*, for they stand too far apart to have ever been supporters of a *Cromlech*, even if their actual bearing with regard to each other did not forbid the supposition. The highest of these is four feet above the surface; one foot six inches in thickness, and three feet in width. Vulgar tradition has given them their present title, though without any apparent reason, for as they are all of basalt, they would be ill adapted to the use the common acceptance of their name implies. Can this title refer to any thing sacrificial? and be derived from the C. Brit. *gwael vaen*, or *blood-stone*? It is all supposition, and the utmost insight we can obtain is slight and insignificant. Our facts are so few, that we are compelled to draw upon the imagination, which though it be the most captivating, is in proportion the most unsafe antiquarian guide. Let us see, however, how far etymology will serve us in

throwing light upon the objects of our enquiry, that is, upon these and such as are in their immediate vicinity.

STAPELEY HILL seems properly to derive its name from the Islandic *Stapi*, Scopulus prominens. In low Latin *Staphus* means a tomb; the Salique law uses the word thus, "Si quis aristatonem, id est, *Staplum* supra hominem mortuum coapulaverit;" this definition points to something *sepulchral*: and thus we have *Stapleton*, in *Salop*, where a large Tumulus was opened a few years ago. Another signification would render it a spot where merchandize is pitched, a public place; in the Ripuarian laws, ordinances governing the inhabitants on the shores of the Rhine ten centuries ago at least, *Stafel* denotes a citadel or royal seat; with what stringency these derivations bear upon the existing remains, the reader must judge. As for MITCHELL'S FOLD, two surmises may be offered. The first would dissolve the word into the A. Sax. *middel-fold* quasi *Mitchel-fold*, or the fold lying betwixt the WHETSTONES and MARSH POOL CIRCLE; the other would connect it with the C. Brit. *mid*, an enclosure. *Corndon*, in C. Brit. simply signifies a dark projection; in Celt. it signifies the crowned mountain, from *Corn* a crown, and *don* a mountain, or *Corn* from *Carn*, a heap of stones, and *Don*, on high: alluding to the six CARNEDDS on its summit. The name of DYSGWYLFA underneath it, denotes a look-out place. Such is the feeble light which etymology throws upon the different objects around. With what insuperable difficulties then is the subject beset. Let us turn from these vain and unsatisfactory speculations and describe what we can really see in another quarter.





KITCHEN'S FOLD.



At the present day MITCHELL'S FOLD consists of fourteen stones; ten of which are more or less upright, and four of them lying flat. They are disposed at unequal distances in an irregular circle, which is ninety feet from North to South and eighty-five from East to West. When the brief description of it was written, that is found in the *Addenda to Camden's Britannia*<sup>1</sup>, none of these stones were prostrate. One at the Eastern point only is mentioned as inclining: since that period it has fallen. Though there be two or three accidental omissions of distance between some of the stones, the following measures may be received on the whole as conveying an adequate notion of their relative position. If we allow three feet for the average width of each stone at its base, and place them according to the intervening distance between the eleventh and twelfth, five feet apart, it will make the complete circle consist of thirty stones. There was formerly an entrance on the Eastern side, where the stone of greatest altitude now remains<sup>2</sup>. The adjacent one on the Western side,

<sup>1</sup> This account is as follows. "The greatest diameter is ninety-one feet and a half, the shorter eighty-six feet and a half." (These measures must have been taken from exterior to exterior. Mine which were carefully taken with a hundred foot tape, with the aid of an assistant, vary a little from these dimensions.) "There are fourteen stones remaining, and the vacancies require thirteen or fourteen more. *a* is six feet high; *o* is as high but leans. These two stones are six feet distant." (These refer to the eighth and ninth stone in my plan.) "The next in size is *i*": (this is the fourth stone in my plan); "from whence is a prospect westward between two sloping hills to the cultivated part of the Long mountains, which prospect would have been lost in any other situation of the circle." "*x* is a stone eighty yards distant." (See this marked in the plan of the second circle.) "This way is high land of *Corn Atton Forest*." Camden's *Britan.* p. 534. Unfortunately the editor does not say when or from whom he received this communication. The legend on the spot was the same then as it is at present.

<sup>2</sup> In a letter from James Ducarel, Esq. to his brother, dated *Shrewsbury*, May 11, 1752, and published in Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes*, I find the first mention of these antiquities. He says, "One Mr Whitfield, an eminent Surgeon, and a good scholar, who is a man of good fortune in this town, has told me that he had given a friend of his a rough draft that he himself took of *Medgley's*



now flat, was leaning when Gough received his account of it, but when Mr Ducarel's informant saw it, the two served as sides to a Portal of Entrance, and even had one lying across the top. These losses, and most likely more important ones unrecorded, have happened to MITCHELL'S FOLD within the last eighty-six years, when the spot was first described. The decay seems to have been gradual, and we are happily spared the pain of noticing that it has suffered through ignorant and wilful despoilers. A *Vallum* originally enclosed the whole, evident marks of which may be seen on the North West-ern side.

If we commence on the Western side of the circle the existing portions of it appear as follow :

- No. 1 is three feet high and four wide: distant from 2nd twenty-one feet.
- 2 is five feet high : distant from 3rd forty feet.
- 3 is leaning, but still three feet above surface, and ten feet from 4th.
- 4 is flat.
- 5 is flat.
- 6 is four feet above surface.
- 7 is much depressed : nine feet from 8th.
- 8 is five feet ten inches high, formed Northern

*Fold* above two years ago. As he came home one night, he fell in amongst the stones by chance, and thinking it a Druid temple, returned there the next day to view it, when he was confirmed in his opinion; and took the above draft, which he gave to a friend to do out neatly. He has promised me a copy of it, if his friend, who is a Lawyer, has not thrown it away. I told you in a former letter that Kynaston and I are to take a ride to see it when he has a little leisure, as we must lie out when we go." *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. iv. p. 621.

Again, in June the 8th of the same year, he says "We shall go to *Medgley's Fold* shortly. Whitfield says, your upright is pretty true. What you call a *Portal* he calls a *Tribunal*, says there was a stone across your two Portals, like those of Stone Henge, and that the stone at eighty yards distance was the altar. Some of the little stones on the East are almost overgrown with moss and grass." *Ib.* p. 623.

side of Portal, is foursided, measures two feet two inches on two sides, eight inches, and one foot seven inches on other two sides. It is six feet from 9th.

No. 9 was other side of Portal: is prostrate: is thirty feet from 10th.

10 is two feet above surface: is thirty-four feet from 11th.

11 is two feet above surface: is five feet from 12th.

12 is one foot high.

13 is large and prostrate: there are marks of one having stood between the 13th and 14th stone: from 13th stone to 14th is twelve feet.

14 is two feet above ground, and fifteen feet from the first stone.

There is a SECOND CIRCLE a little elevated, and having its centre highest, about seventy paces to the South South East of the great one. This measures seventy-two feet from North to South, and has seven stones that vary from two feet to one foot in height, and are four feet asunder, which distances make it to contain thirty stones like the other. On the Eastern verge of this circle is a very large stone two feet above the surface. This must be that figured in the Addenda to Camden, I imagine. Faint indications appear of a THIRD CIRCLE to the North East of this, but the marks are so slight that nothing satisfactory can be made out.

The whole of this ground is traversed in several places by *mounds*, which have every appearance of being constructed at a remote period, and seem to be coeval with these remains. One Vallum, for instance, runs for half a mile from North West to South East; it is four feet high, and has a ditch upon *each side of it*. Were there no other reasons for ascribing these monuments to a period of the highest antiquity and connecting them

with services of a religious character, this simple fact would of itself tend to shew that these stones were erected for a sacred purpose. Thus we find at AVEBURY the *fosse* is within the *Vallum*. And I was informed by the late Sir Richard Hoare that from observations he had made upon several British works in *Wiltshire*, the *fosse* within the *Vallum* invariably distinguished a religious work from one that was military. At the *Arbour Lows* in *Derbyshire*, the *fosse* is within the *Vallum*<sup>1</sup>.

A curious tradition has prevailed for nearly a century, and we know not how much earlier, respecting MITCHELL'S FOLD. It is fabled that in this enclosure "the Giant used to milk his cow, who is represented as being unusually productive, giving as much as was demanded, until at length an old crone tried to milk her in a riddle, when indignant at the attempt, she ceased to yield her usual supply, and wandered, as the story goes, into *Warwickshire*, where her subsequent life and actions are identified as those of the DUN COW."

<sup>1</sup> V. Pegge on the Arbour Lows, *Archæol.* vol. vii. p. 147.



## Circle near Shelbe.



WE may consider the CIRCLE near Shelbe as the Northern approach to the more important remains on *Stapeley Hill*. It lies in a *bog* about half a mile to the North West of the new turn-pike road leading from *Minsterley* to *Bishop's Castle*. The nearest place to this dreary spot that bears a name is the *Marsh Pool*. The stones of this CIRCLE are so low that it is difficult to see them until you approach within a hundred yards of the place where they are situated. They have obtained a wrong title in the Ordnance Survey, (No. LX.) being called HOAR STONE, which is a remnant of early ages totally different. When I saw them in the year 1838 there were thirty-two single stones remaining, which averaged from one foot to two in height above the ground, were placed five asunder, and disposed in circular order, round a ring measuring from East to West seventy-three feet, from North to South seventy-five. Nearly in the centre stood a stone considerably larger than the surrounding ones, being seven feet in circumference and four feet high. Originally the circle contained at least four more stones; the intelligent old farmer upon whose land they are, whilst assisting me to measure, supposed the circle when perfect to have consisted of forty stones. I could not, however, bring them up to more than thirty-six<sup>1</sup>. Beginning due

<sup>1</sup> If there were forty stones at first, the number will correspond with the number in the circle near *Keswick*, and the second circle

North, we find the first five stones equidistant. Between the fifth stone and the seventh a blank occurs of twelve feet. This will allow room for the seventh stone. In like manner the *ninth*, *fifteenth*, and *thirtieth* are deficient. All of these stones are not exactly of the same size. The sixteenth, seventeenth, twentieth, twenty-first, twenty-third and twenty-fourth are larger than the rest, being four feet across their base, and two feet above the surface. The Northern stone, No. 1, is a foot high, the others with the foregoing exceptions, vary from this height above the soil, to a few inches.

at *Stone Henge*. Stukeley, Wood and Waltire make the inner parabola of *Stone Henge* to consist of nineteen stones. Four circles in the Hundred of Penwith, *Cornwall*, contain also nineteen stones each: to mark as has been *imagined* the two principal divisions of the year, the twelve months, and seven days. (See Borlase, p. 191. Higgins' *Celtic Druids*, p. 240.)



**British Period.**



## Caractacus.



**I**t is a fact, pretty generally understood, that the whole of that part of England, bordering upon the Principality, was the chief seat of conflict between the Britons and the Romans: though it is not so universally known that the most prominent eminences throughout this district were fortified. There were frequent hostilities between the Welsh and the Anglo Saxons, but their defensive works are usually small, mere epaulements of a circular form, single ditched; they are chiefly known under the name of Rings, whilst on the other hand, those belonging to an earlier period are invariably adapted to the nature of the eminence, usually isolated, or detached, upon which they are found. By far the greater number of these are referable to a much earlier period than the foregoing, and must be assigned to the Roman era. A great similarity prevails between all of them. The most striking feature is the double agger of stones surrounding the area of the camp. This system grew out of circumstances. The places where we meet with such a kind of fortress are chiefly on rocky or stony heights, where the materials for its construction were at hand. The Romans, on the contrary, whose troops were better disciplined than those of the people they invaded, kept in the valleys as much as possible; they naturally preferred the plain from a fear of being entangled in the mountains. There was there an absence

of the material which the Britons rendered available for the purposes of shelter and protection on the heights above: and consequently, while they formed rampires of stones, the Romans in turn built theirs of earth. This is particularly shewn in the entrenchments at NORDY BANK; NORTON CAMP; BRANDON CAMP, &c., &c. And the reverse is to be seen on the WREKIN; the two CAER CARADOC; the DITCHES; TONGLEY HILL; BURROUGH HILL; HEN DINAS, &c., &c.

By far the larger number of these fortifications are to be found on those sides of *Shropshire*, and *Herefordshire*, which trench upon Wales; and this fact serves to confirm the account left us by the most impartial of Roman Historians, that his countrymen in the Conquest of Great Britain, met with the greatest resistance in this quarter.

The transactions of the period have attracted the notice of several writers, so that it would be but mere repetition to pass them in review again. The subject has excited the attention of Antiquaries and Poets, and received almost every degree of illustration, recondite and fanciful, of which it is capable, and therefore I shall not enter into a detailed account of this portion of British History. As bearing upon Shropshire particularly, it will be sufficient to notice that nearly a century after Julius Cæsar first landed on the English Coast, Aulus Plautius and Vespasian were occupied in reducing the country south of the *Thames*, for although Cæsar nominally conquered Britain, he, in reality, left it only with the reputation of having first shewn it to his countrymen. These two generals were employed seven years in bringing this district into subjection. And they had no sooner succeeded, than during a temporary absence the adjacent tribes overran the newly conquered country.

When OSTORIUS SCAPULA, their successor, was appointed Proprætor he found things in great disorder.



The unsubdued tribes had made war on those in alliance with Rome, not supposing that the new general would come out against them at the very moment of his arrival, at the beginning of winter, and with a body of troops to which he was but recently appointed. Such, however, was the case: for he displayed the greatest promptitude and decision, marching at once with such an army as he had, cutting to pieces all those who opposed him, pursuing the fugitives, and effectually preventing their reassembling. Suspicious of the people among whom he was acting, he was unwilling to trust to a dangerous and uncertain peace; and feeling convinced that whilst this would allow rest to the enemy, and enable them to recruit their forces, he should be less able to contend with them afterwards, he prepared to disarm the nations whom there was reason to distrust, and to draw round them a line of Camps between the AVON and the SEVERN.

Those nations who fluctuated between war and peace were immediately awed by his defeating the ICENI. He next turned his arms against the CANGI, whose territories he completely ravaged. This brought his army close upon the sea; but before he could pursue his conquests Southwards he was recalled by a revolt among the BRIGANTES. After the slaughter of a few who had taken up arms against the Roman power, this tribe pusillanimously submitted to servitude. But neither severity or conciliation had any effect upon the SILURES, a warlike race, who dwelt in the South Western district of the Principality, against whom his next operations were directed. This tribe, exasperated at the threat of Claudius that he would utterly exterminate them, as he had already done the Sicambri, fought with a degree of bravery and determination that checked for a lengthened period the progress of the Roman arms. Besides trusting to their peculiar ferocity, they reposed great con-

confidence in the valour of CARADOG, or CARACTACUS, their chief. Prudently availing himself of his knowledge of the country so as to make up by this means the undisciplined state of his troops, he transferred the war into the country of the ORDOVICÆ, where being joined by those who mistrusted the Roman alliance, he at once brought matters to a crisis<sup>1</sup>. He posted himself upon

<sup>1</sup> As the passage in Tacitus that refers to these events is of importance, I shall place it before the reader. He will immediately see that I have not attempted a literal translation, my object having been to confine myself as much as possible to a use of the facts which it embodies.

At in Britannia P. Ostorium proprætores turbidæ res exceperunt, effusis in agrum sociorum hostibus, eo violentius, quod novum ducem exercitu ignoto, et cepta hieme, iturum obviam non rebantur. Ille gnarus primis eventibus metum aut fiduciam gigni, citas cohortes rapit: et cæsis qui restiterunt, disiectos consecutus, ne rursus conglobarentur, infensaque et infida pax non duci non militi requiem permitteret; detrahens arma suspectis, cinctosque castris Antonam et Sabrinam fluvios cohibere parat. Quod primi Icenæ abnuere, valida gens, nec proeliis contusi, quia societatem nostram volentes accesserant, hisque auctoribus circumjectæ nationes locum pugnæ delegere septum agresti aggere et aditu angusto, ne pervius equiti foret. Ea munimenta dux Romanus, quamquam sine robore legionum sociales copias ducebat, perumpere aggreditur, et distributis cohortibus, turmas quoque, peditum ad munia accingit. Tunc dato signo perfringunt aggerem, suisque claustris impeditos turbant. Atque illi conscientia rebellionis, et obseptis effugiis, multa et clara facinora fecere. Quæ pugna filius legati M. Ostorius servati civis decus meruit. Ceterum clade Icenorum compositi qui bellum inter et pacem dubitabant: et ductus in Cangos exercitus. Vastati agri, prædæ passim actæ; non ausis aciem hostibus, vel si ex occulto carpere agmen tentarent, puni dolo. Jamque ventum haud procul mari, quod Hiberniam insulam aspectat; cum ortæ apud Brigantes discordiæ retraxere ducem, destinationis certum, ne nova moliretur, nisi prioribus firmatis. Et Brigantes quidem, paucis qui arma ceptabant interfectis, in reliquos data venia, residere. Silurum gens bellum exerceret, castrisque legionum premenda foret. Id quo promptius veniret, colonia Camalodunum valida veteranorum manu deducitur in agros captivos, subsidium adversus rebelles, et imbuendis sociis ad officia legum. Itum inde in Siluras, super propriam ferociam, Caractaci viribus confisos: quem multa ambigua, multa prospera extulerant, ut ceteros Britannorum imperatores præmineret. Sed tum astu locorum fraude prior, vi militum inferior, transfert bellum in Ordovices, additisque qui pacem nostram metuebant, novissimum casum experitur; sumpto ad prælium loco, ut aditus, abscessus, cuncta nobis importuna, et suis in melius essent. Tunc montibus arduis, et si qua clementer accedi poterant, in modum valli saxa præstruit: et præfuebat amnis vado

a spot, to which the approach, and from which the retreat were as advantageous to himself, as unfavourable to the enemy. The more accessible parts of the eminence were surrounded with a rampart of stones, and at the base flowed a river with a shifting ford. The leaders went round to animate and encourage their troops before the onset, diminishing their fears, magnifying their hopes, and using such incitements as the occasion prompted. Caractacus himself passed rapidly from one to another along the ranks stationed upon the works, urging them to remember that the actions of that day would be to them either the commencement of recovered liberty, or of eternal servitude. He recalled to them the names of their forefathers who had expelled the Dictator Cæsar, and by whose valour their own lives had been preserved from the axe and from tribute, and their wives and children from pollution. This speech of the British Chieftain was answered by an universal ac-

incerto, catervaque majorum pro munimentis constiterant. Ad hoc gentium ductores circumire, hortari, firmare animos, minuendo metu, accendenda spe, aliisque belli incitamentis. Enimvero Caractacus huc illuc volitans, *illum diem, illam aciem testabatur aut recipendam libertatis, aut servitutis æternæ initium fore*: vocabatque nomina majorum, qui dictatorem Cæsarem populissent: *quorum virtute vacui a securibus et tributis, intemerata conjugum et liberorum corpora retinerent*. Hæc atque talia dicenti, adstrepere vulgus; gentili quisque religione obstringi, *non telis, non vulneribus cessuros*. Obstupefecit ea alacritas ducem Romanum: simul objectus amnis, additum vallum, imminetia juga, nihil nisi atrox et propugnatoribus frequens, terrebat. Sed miles proelium poscere, *cuncta virtute expugnabilia* clamitare, præfectique ac tribuni paria differentes, ardorem exercitus incendebant. Tum Ostorius, circumspectis quæ impenetrabilia, quæque pervia, ducit infensos, amnemque haud difficulter evadit. Ubi ventum ad aggerem, dum missilibus certabatur, plus vulnerum in nos, et pleræque cædes oriebantur. Posteaquam facta testudine, rudes et informes saxorum compages distractæ, parque cominus acies, decedere Barbari in juga montium. Sed eo quoque irrupere ferentarius gravisque miles: illi telis assultantes; hi conferto gradu, turbatis contra Britannorum ordinibus, apud quos nulla loricarum galearumve tegmina: et si auxiliariis resisterent, gladiis ac pilis legionariorum; si huc verterent, spathis et hastis auxiliorum sternebantur: clara ea victoria fuit, captaque uxore et filia Caractaci, fratres quoque in deditionem accepti. Tacit. Ann. xii. 30—5.

clamation from the soldiery, who bound themselves by the most solemn forms of their religion never to yield to wounds or weapons. Such determined alacrity struck the Roman general with astonishment; whilst the river before him, with the rampart and the heights above bristled with warriors, presented a fearful scene to encounter. His troops became impatient for the assault, crying out that "every thing may be overcome by valour," whilst the prefects and tribunes uttering the same sentiments increased the enthusiasm of the ranks.

Ostorius having reconnoitered the ground to ascertain which parts were inaccessible, and which pervious, led on his troops, and without difficulty forded the river. When they reached the rampart, and only threw their darts at a distance, the Romans had great disadvantage, but after they had closed their ranks, and placed their shields over their heads so as to protect them whilst scaling the rough agger of stones, tearing down the rampart, and fighting hand to hand with the enemy, they obliged them to seek for safety by flying to the tops of the adjoining mountains. The light and heavy armed soldiers pursued them thither, the former attacking them with their spears, the latter in a body, till at last the Britons, without armour or helmets to protect them, were thrown into disorder. If they resisted the auxiliaries, they were cut to pieces by the swords and spears of the legionaries; and if they turned against them, they were hewn down by the broadswords or pierced by the javelins of the auxiliaries. The wife and daughter of Caractacus were captured, but the valiant chief himself, who had so long been a terror to the Romans, escaped to the Brigantes, hoping to find protection under their queen, Cartismandua. This wretched woman, however, immediately put him in fetters and basely delivered him up to their mutual enemy. We are told that the same magnanimity that signalised him in prosperity, was

equally conspicuous in his misfortunes, shewing that a truly great man knows both how to resist and to submit. His subsequent fate, and undaunted conduct when brought before his conquerors in the capitol, are events identified not merely with the history of Great Britain, but associated with every feeling which is noble and exalted in human nature. His name is transmitted to posterity without a stain; and the greenest wreath of glory that can encircle the brows of any Patriot, will seem but withered in the eyes of an impartial enquirer when he contrasts it with that bestowed by history upon CARACTACUS.



THE SUPPOSED SCENE OF ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN  
THE TWO ARMIES.



SEVERAL places have been mentioned by authors as the scene of Caractacus' final defeat: but some of them, from not having seen the spot they fix upon, and others from being led away by a name, have, I think, perpetuated a mistake concerning its true position.

Before presenting the reader with my own views, I shall endeavour to weigh fairly those of preceding writers, by which means he will better be able to form a correct judgement of what has been advanced. Camden<sup>1</sup>, who had never seen CAER CARADOC, a strongly entrenched fort betwixt *Knighton* and *Clun*, draws his information from Humfry Lhuyd, a learned antiquary and Welsh scholar of his own time, who had visited it. The latter writer narrates in what he modestly entitles a Fragment of a little Commentary descriptive of Britain<sup>2</sup>, that whilst he was travelling in the retinue of his patron, the Earl of Arundel, on the borders of Shropshire, where he had extensive possessions, he came upon a place strongly fortified by nature and art; it was situated upon the table

<sup>1</sup> It is reported in the Principality that Camden never penetrated further into North Wales than *Corwen*, where being taken for a spy, he was so insulted by the Welsh, that it put a stop to his travels. *York's Royal Tribes of Wales*, p. 102.

<sup>2</sup> *Commentarioli Britannicæ descriptionis Fragmentum*. Auctore Humfredo Lhuyd, Denbyghienſe, Cambro Britanno. 12mo. Coloniae Agrippinæ 1572, p. 28. This valuable little work seems to have been published after the author's decease.

land of a lofty mountain, and surrounded with a triple vallum and very deep ditches : there were three corresponding gates of entrance placed obliquely towards each other, precipices on three, and rivers on two sides ; it was bounded on the left by the *Clun*, on the right by the *Teme*, and accessible only on one part. The inhabitants informed him that the place was called CAER CARADOC, that is, the CITY OF CARADOC, and that formerly great battles had been fought there against a certain king named Caractacus, who at last was conquered and taken by his enemies. When, therefore, continues my author, I behold this place on the borders of the Silures and Ordovices, for it is scarcely two miles distant from the castle of *Clun*, and moreover find it agreeing most exactly with the description of Tacitus, I am bold enough to affirm that nothing is wanting to complete the proof that this must be the identical spot where Ostorius contended with Caractacus, and defeated him.

There is so much appearance of probability in this account, that any one who had never seen the locality, would naturally believe this must be the very spot. Added to which, there seems an undesigned plausibility in the tradition itself, deserving notice, inasmuch as it existed at a period when knowledge derived from the dead languages was far less widely spread than it is at the present day : printing had scarcely been invented a century before Lhuyd published his book, and in the wild and remote district where he gathered his information, the peasantry must have learned the story traditionally. It was a point of history upon which it cannot be supposed men had then been taught to speculate. A certain degree of credibility may be attached to this legend, and it must be confessed that it ought to have some weight in influencing the conclusions that are drawn. For the fact of there being camps at two

other places that bear the same name does not tend to disprove the pretensions of the one before us, unless it can be shewn that similar traditions existed there at the same early period<sup>1</sup>. That it was a British entrenchment, and one of those occupied by the brave defender of his country, there is not the slightest reason for doubting. Whether its claims, however, are as prominent as they have been represented will appear upon investigating the actual topography. And, when we travel through the wild and picturesque scenery with which this part of the country is diversified, we cannot help expressing our surprise that the learned Cambrian should have committed so many errors. For so striking a discrepancy exists between the real and the recorded state of the situation, that we are driven to conclude either that Tacitus has exaggerated the importance of the river he speaks of as presenting a formidable obstruction to the Roman forces, confounding it perhaps with the *Severn*, fourteen miles distant, or else that our author has not seen the precise place the historian mentions.

In the first place, then; it may be noted that the account of what Lhuyd actually saw is not strictly correct. The distance from CAER CARADOC to *Olan* is double that at which he sets it, and there are two, not three gates of entrance into the irregularly oval area of the camp. The ascent to it can scarcely be deemed precipitous, because by the absence of craggy rocks and rolling stones, it partakes more of the character of an extremely elevated down, than of such a rugged and inaccessible eminence as that described. It is certainly a very fine and commanding position, standing as a centre of communication for all these BORDER FORTRESSES; and though pent in among mountains, yet it raises its fortified head far above the neighbouring summits.

<sup>1</sup> *Caer Caradoc*, near Church Stretton, and *Caer Caradoc* near Sel-lack, Herefordshire, (*Craddock*) in the Ordnance Survey.



The Eastern side of the camp is that most difficult of approach, and accordingly on this side less labour has been employed to make it defensible. From the North and North Western sides three different fosses and valla die away to the others. The entrances were at the North Eastern and Western sides. The *Clun* mentioned by Lhuyd, is a small brook three miles distant from the base of the mountain, too far off, and too insignificant to attract notice; whilst the *Teme* which runs through *Knighton* at nearly the same distance is also too inconsiderable a stream to present the least obstruction to an invading army.

Thus then the case stands with regard to CAER CARADOC. We see in it an undisputed example of British castrametation. Unquestionably it bears the name of the British chief, and is associated traditionally with his exploits. But beyond this there is no further evidence to support its pretensions. The absence of the river at its base seems to me quite decisive that it is not a spot which can be at all reconciled with the Latin historian's account of the scene of engagement.

Aubrey, I believe, was the first individual who spoke of COXWALL<sup>1</sup> KNOLL in connexion with the campaign of Ostorius. Bishop Gibson must have derived his knowledge of the place either from Aubrey's *Monumenta Britannica*, or from Dugdale's *Visitation of Shropshire* in 1663<sup>2</sup>. It is first alluded to by these writers, though they all so strangely confound it with CAER CARADOC, that it is rather doubtful whether any of them could have seen either of the places. At all events, what they state, and the whole that can be gathered from the latest edition of Camden, do not put the subject in any new or valuable light.

<sup>1</sup> There is a *Coxwall Wood* in *Wiltshire*. The present name is derived I conceive from the C. Brit. *yegod*, sylva, and *gwai*, vallum. (See Remarks under СОСХЕНУТ.)

<sup>2</sup> Camden *Britannia*, edit Gough, vol. iii. p. 13.

General Roy had compiled the greater portion of his elaborate work on the Military Antiquities of the Romans in Great Britain, before he heard of the existence of these two hill fortresses. It is to be regretted he did not penetrate further into the country when he visited it in the summer of 1772, for being dissatisfied with the claims of both of these positions, his knowledge of military tactics, and his scholarlike attainments would have enabled him to decide where the true one lay. He considered that *Caer Caradoc* in no respect suited the relation of the Roman Historian, and that *Coxwall Knoll* only corresponded with it in some points<sup>1</sup>. In the autumn of 1837 I visited them both, and the result of my investigation tends to the same conclusion. They are both British works of defence, but beyond this circumstance, their claims are highly problematical.

COXWALL KNOLL is not in itself so commanding and important a position as the Britons usually chose; neither is it marked by the acclivities and precipitous descents with which they are generally characterised. It is an oblong eminence, containing about twenty acres, of no very great altitude above the surrounding plain, girt by double mounds and ditches, which, according to constant custom, follow the natural outline and fall of the hill. However, there is one peculiarity that makes this work remarkable, and totally unlike any other example of castrametation in the whole chain of these BORDER FORTS<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Roy, p. 171.

<sup>2</sup> The same feature is observable, in the large encampment of HAMILTON HILL, which is not much unlike the present one in shape, though very considerably larger, being in fact the most extensive specimen of castrametation in England. It lies a little more than six miles South of *Shaftesbury*. It is surrounded by five ditches and is betwixt five and six furlongs from North to South. HOD HILL is about a mile from the former, the whole camp is defended by three ditches, having the highest point, which is quadrilateral, enclosed by four other valla. They are two very magnificent and remarkable examples of early fortification.

Here it may not be out of place to remark, that the common principle of laying out entrenchments was extremely simple. A situation having been fixed upon, most commonly very elevated, insulated, and naturally advantageous to its possessors, the ground was then encircled with double fosses and valla. These were invariably adapted to the precise nature of the situation, and as often dispensed with, as the locality offered any defence in itself. Yet here, we find a sort of double camp, as though one part had grown out of the other. Thus the East end is of an irregular semicircular form, partly in consequence of the devious outline of the hill on its Eastern and Northern sides: the West end, or larger part, is a well proportioned ellipse, separated from the other by a fosse of great depth, which seems like a natural ravine. It serves now as a boundary line betwixt *Herefordshire* and *Shropshire*. The summit of the eminence having been planted for several years, it has become difficult to trace the works with satisfaction and accuracy. As far as I could make them out, double ditches went from the Southern to the Northern side of the first mentioned division; whilst its Western side had the natural fall to which allusion has already been made. The second division had a double ditch on the Southern, and a treble ditch on the Northern side. A purling rivulet which precedes the traveller with its music, and continually sparkles before his eyes, as he passes down the narrow and secluded valley underneath the Western base of the GAER, runs three quarters of a mile from the foot of COXWALL KNOLL; but it is here a mere brook undeserving of notice. The *Teme*, which flows nearly the like distance under the opposite banks, is little larger; it is, in fact, so shallow and inconsiderable a stream, that, unless in times of flood, it could never have presented the least barrier to marching troops. It hurries over a gravelly or stony bottom, in which there

are not a dozen places to be found in the course of a mile, below the overhanging encampment, where it would be impracticable to ford, whilst these places are merely holes worn into the bed of the river by the action of some extraordinary rush of water.

We will now examine the military advantages of the fort. And as respects these little more need be said: for it has already been proved by two writers, who have had practical experience in the science of war, to possess but few<sup>1</sup>. Tacitus expressly states that the position occupied by the Britons was every way favorable to them, and disadvantageous to the Romans<sup>2</sup>. The spot under notice will, therefore, hardly suit his description, being perfectly insulated, which would render it impracticable for the Britons to secure a retreat. And had they been surrounded here by victorious Romans, as is suggested by one of the foregoing authorities, they could not have escaped into the mountains. Yet we know they did so; for although their valiant chief was subsequently betrayed through the treachery of a depraved woman who ruled over the Brigantes, his subjects prosecuted the war for a considerable time afterwards.

On the other hand, COXWALL KNOLL is but three miles from BRANDON CAMP, which is evidently a work of Roman construction. If it were built at the same period, it is not improbable that Ostorius having penetrated thus far into the territory of the Silures would entrench himself in this latter position, from whence he could best watch the motions of the enemy, and press as closely as possible upon their rear. Allowing this to have its full weight in the argument, it only proves that the one is a Roman and the other a British work, which

<sup>1</sup> General Roy and Mr Murchison.

<sup>2</sup> *Sumpto ad prælium loco, ut aditus abcessus, cuncta nobis importuna, et suis in melius essent.*

no one who has ever examined these two kinds of fortifications will be disposed to deny.

There is a circumstance, however, of a different kind, not undeserving attention, which serves to shew that the camp of COXWALL KNOLL had suffered from assault at sometime. An intelligent farmer, who cultivated land a few years ago nearly adjoining the place, shewed to a friend of the author's several round stones that had been found in the ditches of the encampment. They were quite of a different geological character to any in the neighbourhood, and therefore decisive as to the point that the attacking party brought them with them, and did not find them on the spot. Some of them are stated to have had a groove round them, as if they had been thrown from a mangonel or balista, but these my informant did not actually see<sup>1</sup>. It does not appear to me that this fact is of itself sufficient to reconcile the topographical difference existing between the situation of the Camp, and the narrative of Tacitus. And so long as this discrepancy continues we must seek farther, and fix the engagement at another place<sup>2</sup>.

Accordingly, when Mr Murchison was gathering from the geology of this district those new and valuable facts<sup>3</sup> with which he has since enlightened the scientific world, his attention became naturally drawn to the subject, and he immediately perceived the unsuitableness of COXWALL KNOLL for Caractacus to fix upon it as his chief position. He thence argues, that if the battle were fought on the North bank of the *Teme*, as has hitherto been re-

<sup>1</sup> I feel a pleasure in again recording here a sense of my obligations to the Rev. John Rocke, who furnished me with these facts.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Thomas Duncumb, in his *History of Herefordshire* persists in advocating the claims of *Coxwall Knoll*, although so much argument had been brought against it by General Roy. Could this be because part of it lay in the county he was describing? See p. 12—16.

<sup>3</sup> These are embodied in a very magnificent work in two quarto volumes, under the title of "The Silurian System," that are an enduring monument of his perseverance and talent.

puted, it may have commenced at HOLLOWAY ROCKS, two miles below *Knighton* in *Radnorshire*, from which place the Britons were ultimately driven to CAER CARADOC, where their leader was captured. The opinion of a gentleman who is better acquainted with the whole of this region than any one living, in consequence of having personally examined it from one extremity to the other, must be deserving of great attention.

Yet it may be remarked, that if the *Teme* at COXWALL KNOLL was not thought of sufficient importance to attract the historian's notice, it would present still fewer claims two miles higher up, where five tributary streams that flow into it in the intervening distance have not joined their waters, and consequently it must there be a much shallower brook. Nor does it seem, in my judgement, very probable that the Romans would choose just such a place as this to make their attack. They would hardly fix themselves under precipitous rocks, (upon which by the way there are no vestiges of fortification) when a quarter of a mile higher up the current, where *Stow Mill* at present stands, they would have to contend against fewer difficulties, by marching their troops up a valley. A second objection, applying in an equal degree to all of the foregoing positions, may be urged against the *Geography*.

We are, it is true, in very great uncertainty about the exact divisions of territory at this early period. There are but few places that can be positively identified throughout the country with the Itineraries, and it is quite impossible to define the precise limits of the various tribes of the CORNAVII, SILURES and ORDOVICES with accuracy. All we really know is, that DEVA and URIOCONIUM are mentioned by Ptolemy as the chief cities of the CORNAVII, the former of which is *Chester*, the latter *Wroxeter*. The kingdom of SILURIA is supposed by Cellarius to have contained within it the whole West-

ern angle of *South Wales*, stretching from the *Irish Sea* to the *Severn*<sup>1</sup>. It was again subdivided betwixt the SILUKES and the DEMETÆ, or inhabitants of *Caermarthen-shire* and *Pembroke*. The cities of the former are said, on the rather doubtful authority of Richard of Cirencester, to have been ARICONIUM, (*Ross*, according to Fosbrooke, or *Hereford*, Camden); MAGNA (*Kenchester*); ISCA SILURUM (*Caerleon*); GOBANNIUM (*Abergavenny*); and VENTA SILURUM (*Caerwent*), their capital. To these have been added by Antoninus, BURRIUM (*Usk*); and BOVIUM (*Boverton*). Ptolemy mentions BULLEUM (*Castell Curt Llochrhyd*), near *Builth*. The same writer places BRANOGENIUM, or the BRAVONIUM and BRAVINIUM of Antoninus among the CORNAVII, and as there can be no doubt of this being BRANDON CAMP, because it exactly agrees with the alledged distances in the Itinerary, it would bring the seat of war among the CORNAVII, and remove it altogether, both from the SILURES and the ORDOVICES.

The utmost insight obtainable into the Roman Geography of this period, that shall be at the same time devoid of speculation, is that SILURIA comprises the district where *Ross*, *Kenchester*, *Abergavenny*, *Caerwent*, *Caerleon*, and *Builth*, are situated, and that it extended from these places to *Cardigan* and *St Bride's Bay*<sup>2</sup>. The Eastern boundary of the province is solely conjectural, only what the fancy of any writer chooses to imagine. We have not the least intimation in the authorities of the period what constituted the line of demarcation between the SILURES and the CORNAVII, we know not whether it was fluvial or mountainous. The former idea is perhaps the more preferable, for this reason, that although the *Tems* be but an insignificant river, especially above *Ludlow*, yet the forenamed places all respectively lie on

<sup>1</sup> Cellarii Notitiæ Orbis antiquæ : edit. Schwartz, 4to, 1773. tom. i. p. 341, 2, 3.

<sup>2</sup> Plinii Nat. Hist. lib. iv. c. 16.

the Western side of it. If the *Wye* be fixed on, *Kentchester* will not be comprehended within the country where Richard of Cirencester places it. Let the question of these boundaries be settled how it may, it will still be difficult to prove that COXWALL KNOLL or CAER CARADOC, lies among the ORDOVICÆ, and consequently neither of these spots can be reconciled with the historian's narrative.

Under the assumption then, that none of the arguments adduced by preceding writers bear with sufficient force upon the account left us by Tacitus, and that not any of his commentators on this transaction have brought the Roman General far enough into the country to reach the ORDOVICÆ, we must press onwards to the North, under a hope of finding the true site of the battle there, premising, however, that the Britons had been driven from the district we are now leaving. And that it had been debated as it were inch by inch, and most severely contested, may be inferred from the numerous camps and tumuli which still mark its surface throughout. We follow these brave warriors from height to height, and see them no sooner expelled from one stronghold than defending another; we behold them retreating, disorganised, disabled; with wounds still fresh and bleeding from recent combat, yet bearing in their bosoms a devoted love of country which neither disasters or defeats could subdue. The fortune of war is adverse; the place of action is changed, but the same courage continues to animate the besieged.

But where must the scene then of this celebrated action be fixed? The question is a difficult one to settle, and whoever attempts its solution must exercise caution. After three different visits into the country already mentioned, I felt convinced, for the reasons already given, that the pretensions of these camps could not be maintained, and deeming it with General Roy, not improbable that the true locality might be found above



the banks of the *Severn*, I examined them at the close of last autumn with this object specially in view.

The fortifications which then appeared to be most entitled to attention were those on THE BREIDDEN. The *Severn* rolls within a quarter of a mile from the North Western base of this magnificent range of hills, and upon three of them vestiges of fortifications may be still distinctly traced. The one upon which *Rodney's Pillar* is erected is nearest to the river; this is the loftiest, and the works upon it are also the strongest. There are entrenchments upon two others, CEFYN Y CASTELL, and BAUSLEY HILL, which will demand notice as being connected with these, but their description shall be deferred to a later paragraph.

My journey hither from *Oswestry* lay through a country replete with memorials of its early history. The first place that attracted notice was the picturesquely situated little village of *Llanymynech*, which has been supposed to signify the *Village of Miners*<sup>1</sup>, to which appellation it has not perhaps forfeited its claims since the days of the Romans. As the traveller journeys along this beautiful part of the WELSH BORDERS he will be much struck with the bold escarpment of Limestone rock overhanging the little hamlet below him, diversified as it is by neat white dwellings, and with the richness of the empurpled plain that stretches towards the BREIDDEN on his left. It is in truth a country singularly lovely, possessing every feature that can constitute

<sup>1</sup> The *Oco*, or Cave at *Llanymynech*, was a mine worked by the Romans. About 1755, a few miners, in search of copper ore, found several skeletons within it. There were culinary utensils, and a number of Roman coins, Antoninus, Faustina, and others, discovered near them. One skeleton had a bracelet of glass beads like those Druidical rings called *glain neider*, the *ova anguinum* of Pliny, around his left wrist, and a battle axe by his side. Fifteen years after this first discovery some other miners found several human bones, and a golden bracelet. *Camb. Reg.* vol. i. p. 265 and 271.

Two iron pickaxes of the Roman workman have also been found here, which are now in the Free School Library, *Shrewsbury*.

a magnificent landscape. It is no wonder if soldiers hitherto accustomed to the more tame and monotonous scenery of the country lying betwixt the *Avon* and the *Severn*, should have felt inspired with fresh hopes of conquest when this glorious view broke upon their sight. Whether, however, they first beheld it as invaders or conquerors we will now proceed to enquire.

On the South Eastern side of the BREIDEN there are two walls of stone heaped up after the fashion which has so often been described. They are "dry work" and evidently artificial. Similar indications appeared on the South Western end of the summit, but as it has been planted for some time, it was impossible to follow them with certainty. Below these two works, which are visible for seventy yards from North to South, the attention is drawn to a sudden fall of the hill, which though in great measure natural, has been augmented in some degree by manual labor. It presents a steep face about thirty feet high, till it terminates at the South Western end, a space of a hundred and sixty yards, or thereabouts. The whole of the Northern side of this eminence is nearly perpendicular, which will sufficiently explain why no lines of circumvallation are to be seen in that quarter.

Having made a slight descent from the height just mentioned, we come upon a bold conical eminence, nearly turfed over, that bears, I believe, the name of the *New Pieces*, on the North Western side of which, are remains of two irregularly shaped enclosures. The upper one is nearly quadrilateral, having its sides a hundred and ten paces long: the lower one is a small semicircular work shewing indications like the preceding one of stone aggera, which go round its South Eastern base. Each of these works is constructed with stones piled up after the British method. Faint indications of past occupancy are distinguishable also in several other places.

Before reaching the next position, we have to make a considerable descent, and then again to climb up the steep sides of an eminence nearly as lofty as the first, when we gain the enclosure upon the top of *CEFN Y CASTELL*. This is a stronghold adapted to the shape of the hill; it is a hundred and fifty paces wide in the centre, where three large stones protrude themselves through the surface, and about two hundred long. The gorges are at the North Eastern and South Western ends. It is surrounded by a single vallum whose interior slope at the parts where it is most perfect, does not exceed six feet.

The remaining post is on the summit of *BAUSLEY HILL*, a mile and a half to the North East of *CEFN Y CASTELL*. This yet continues in a very perfect state. The Eastern side is so precipitous, that there is no need of artificial means to strengthen it. Its shape resembles the longer half of an ellipse, and measures only twenty-five paces across it, its length not being double that distance. The opposite or Western side has two concentric ditches as it were, which have a counterscarp of about ten feet each.

I have been thus minute in describing these several places that the reader may be enabled to form some idea of their relative size and importance. With the exception of the works at the *NEW PIECES* which lie immediately under the crest of the *BREIDDEN*, the two others are so far removed that they cannot be considered as forming a portion of the whole. *BAUSLEY HILL* lies almost two miles from the rest; it is wholly unconnected with them, and like *CEFN Y CASTELL* must be assigned to a different period<sup>1</sup>. The two fortresses whose claims we have to deal with are the *BREIDDEN* and the *NEW PIECES*.

In assuming that the *BREIDDEN* is the precise lo-

<sup>1</sup> In the *Elegy of Lomarchus on Cadwallon, king of the Britons*, the poet says, that his army encamped on *Havren* or the *Severn*, 'and on the farther side of *Dygen*,' which perhaps means one of these positions on the *Breidden*. (See Pugh's Translation of *Llywarc Hên*. p. 113.)

cality of the retreating chieftain's last struggle, an objection at once presents itself which is difficult to answer. If it can be removed, then this historical question may be set for ever at rest. The uncertainty, nay, the utter hopelessness of accurately defining boundary lines of Roman geography has already been alluded to. How is it possible for us to tell exactly where the SILURES were divided from the CORNAVII, or where each of these in turn were separated from the ORDOVICES. We only know for certain, that some cities which have been mentioned belonged to the two former, and that SEGONTIUM, CONOVIVM, VARIS, and MEDIOLANUM belonged to the latter. It is probable that the *Dee* constituted their boundary in one part, and the Northern source of the *Severn* in another, but even then, a vast extent of country is left open to be claimed by further conjecture. Deva and Urioconium were cities of the CORNAVII; and following the same species of induction as that just laid down, it would seem most likely that the whole extent of Champagne country from the *Severn* and the foot of the WELSH BORDERS up to *Chester* in the North, belonged to the CORNAVII. Now we know that after Ostorius had subjugated the SILURES he went against the ORDOVICES, if, therefore, he had to cross the *Severn* under the BREIDDEN, this would have brought him into the country of the CORNAVII, whilst, if he had been among the SILURES or ORDOVICES, as Tacitus infers that he was, the river, according to our present knowledge of geography, would have been on the wrong side of him to afford any obstruction in his attack on the Britons.

There is still another place, hitherto unnoticed, that presents very well founded claims to take pre-eminence of all the foregoing. It lies immediately above the Western banks of the *Severn* near *Llandinam* in *Montgomeryshire*. Several circumstances concur in leading me to think that after all, this place which is called

CEFN CARNEDD may be the true position of Caractacus' final battle. The geography which has created so great a difficulty in solving the question heretofore, is now free from any objections. As far as it is possible to ascertain from the few data we possess what formed the country of the ORDOVICES, there is every argument in favour of considering the whole of the district North of this part of the *Severn*, as being theirs. The river is sufficiently large to have arrested the progress of an army, and it must have been crossed before an attack could be made upon the spot under notice. There are numerous British entrenchments in the vicinity, such as DINAS, PEN Y GAER, PEN Y CASTELL, PEN Y CLYN, CEFN Y CLODDIA, &c., besides the Roman one of CAER SWS, a mile from the base of CEFN CARNEDD.

CEFN CARNEDD adapts the figure of its entrenchments to the shape of its own summit which is a very elongated parallelogram, about five hundred paces long and two hundred broad, the angles being rounded. It is fortified with a single vallum on the North Western, and with a double one on the North Eastern side, from which quarter the attack upon its possessors would be made. Roman pottery, coins, and other remains have frequently been found at CAER SWS, whilst two roads constructed by this conqueror further tend to shew that the Romans planted themselves here. And what is more likely than that having gained a victory on the spot, they should choose the scene of their glory, as the one of all others most agreeable as a habitation for the colonists?

I merely throw out these remarks conjecturally, hoping that some one who has opportunity may be induced to examine this last mentioned position more carefully than I can now do: and as the place in question lies close on the high road from *Shrewsbury* to the agreeable watering-place of *Aberystwith*, an investigation may be made without much difficulty.

THE CHAIN OF CAMPS ERECTED BY OSTORIUS  
CONSIDERED.



UPON examining the country Northwards of the junction of the UPPER AVON<sup>1</sup> with the SEVERN at *Tewkesbury*, we must immediately be convinced that the *Warwickshire Avon* cannot be the river mentioned by Tacitus. Throughout the whole of *Warwickshire*, *Staffordshire*, and *Worcestershire*, on the Eastern side of the *Severn* there is a singular deficiency of earthworks. Several considerable eminences mark these counties, positions in themselves so favorable for defensive occupation, such for instance as *Cleeve Hill*, the *Clent*, and *Rocley Hills*, the *Lickey*, &c. &c. that had the inhabitants here been suspected by Ostorius, he would not have neglected to avail himself of the natural advantages offered by the country. We do not in fact, meet with any vestiges of entrenchments Northwards of the spot where the two rivers alluded to unite, until we reach BRINKLOW on the Northern borders of *Warwickshire*<sup>2</sup>. Whether this extraordinary fortress be

<sup>1</sup> The early reading was *Autona*, and supposed to be the *Nen*, but as the course of this river would in no way suit the march of Ostorius, it was corrected into *Auona*, or the *Avon*. Several Welsh streams have this title, though none of them are of sufficient importance to merit attention; either the *Upper* or the *Lower Avon*, the one flowing through the county of *Warwick* and the other through *Somersetshire* must be the stream Tacitus alludes to. The *ANTON* or *Test*, is too much to the South.

<sup>2</sup> In making this assertion, I however ought to say, that there exists a circular encampment on BEAUSALL COMMON, whose area

of British or Roman construction I will not now enquire, seeing that it lies too remote and isolated, and too little connected with any regular line of fortifications to be assignable to the period under discussion. Proceeding Westward we meet with nothing whatever until we reach the centre of *Shropshire*. The first work observed here, is the British stronghold on the summit of the WREKIN. It would be needless to follow the course of the *Severn* higher, inasmuch as whatever military works exist in this direction, were, (with a few exceptions, noticed in another place,) constructed by the natives.

We are therefore driven to inspect the remains existing between the LOWER AVON and the SEVERN, and the indications presented in this quarter, tend to shew pretty evidently that it was this district that Ostorius fortified<sup>1</sup>. The *Avon* rises at *Tetbury* in *Gloucestershire*, contains about six aera. Looking at the plan of it with which I am favoured by Sir Henry Dryden, Bart., it is in part double ditched.

Besides this, I have examined a quadrangular camp of much smaller dimensions at CHESTERTON on the *Fosse*, six miles South East of *Leamington*; the Roman pretensions of which are indisputable. On one of my visits thither, I brought away some coins of the Lower Empire, just turned over by the plough in the vicinity.

The small work at WAPENBURY, North East of *Leamington*, besides lying on the wrong side of the *Avon*, is too insignificant to attract notice. I believe this and the chief of the smaller *Warwickshire* earthworks to have been possessed by Romanized Britons.

About two miles North of the junction of the *Upper Avon* with the *Severn* is a quadrangular encampment, apparently Roman, called TOWBURY HILL; on BREDON HILL, and a little to the East are two large irregular works with a smaller one a mile to the South, these, with one on OXENTON HILL, lie completely detached from the great range, and must, I imagine, be unconnected with this campaign.

<sup>1</sup> Mr Bloxam seems to think that Ostorius's Chain of Camps commenced at *Brinklow*, and went hence due South to the *Somersetshire Avon*\*. My reason for dissenting from his opinion is this. Supposing *Brinklow* to be the Northern link of these fortresses, we are compelled to travel as far as BREDON HILL, or OXENTON HILL

\* *Annalist*, vol. iv. p. 185.

and afterwards flows Southwards in a *parallel* direction with the *Severn* till it reaches *Bath*, when it bends to the North West. In the country lying between these two rivers there are numerous encampments, some of them of considerable magnitude. The principal one lies most Northernly, and from this point we will trace them Southwards.

The first position that comes under our notice is ULEY BURY, an unusually large camp, in the shape of a parallelogram, double ditched, a mile East of *Dursley*. DRAKESTONE CAMP ON *Stinchcomb Hill*, and BLACKENBURY DITCHES, a small triangular work, on an eminence North of *Wootton Underedge*, come next in the group. Nine miles due South of ULEY BURY, on a high ridge of land communicating with the preceding, is a small semi-elliptical work known under the title of HORTON CASTLE. A mile still more Southward, on the same elevated line, we find a spacious, double ditched quadrangular encampment at LITTLE SODBURY. This and ULEY BURY are the chief fortresses in the range. The Eastern side of this ridge as far as *Langridge*, a distance of nineteen miles, is comparatively a plain country, but the Western side is for the most part very steep. The chief of the works along it are as considerable as any met with in other parts of the kingdom, and from these facts it may be inferred without dispute to be the ground Ostorius chose for his defensive chain.

Three miles and a half South of LITTLE SODBURY CAMP, the Turnpike road from *Pucklechurch* to *Nettleton*

near *Cheltenham*, the nearest of which places is upwards of forty miles in a straight course from *Brinklow*, before we meet with another camp, and from thence to RANBURY CAMP upwards of twenty miles East of *Cirencester*, before we come to a third; this besides would carry us quite too far to the East. How much more then, if we go from *Brinklow*, to NADBURY CAMP, as he proposes, on the borders of *Oxfordshire*? I put MEON HILL in the South of *Warwickshire* out of the question, because no appearance of ramparts exist on this summit though weapons have been found there.



passes through an irregular semi-circular camp on the top of HINTON HILL; and two miles East we meet with a very small quadrangular epaulement on HEBDOWN DOWN. Five miles Southwards, inclining a little to the East, we come upon the most extreme link of the chain, at the irregularly triangular single ditched fortress upon LITTLE SALISBURY HILL, scarcely a mile from the AVON, and not two from the city of *Bath*; making a distance from due North to South of upwards of twenty miles, where are found eight fortresses, which lying betwixt the *Avon* and the *Severn*, completely agree with the narrative of Tacitus.

Approaching the latter river, numerous vestiges of military occupancy occur, but whether assignable to the same period I will not venture to assert, though I should be inclined to consider they were. It is not unlikely their object was to check any irruption which the SILURES might make from the opposite shores of *Monmouthshire* and *Glamorganshire*. Be this, however, how it may, we find the following, which may additionally tend to prove that this was the expected seat of war.

The first defensive work, commencing at the mouth of the *Avon*, and journeying Northwards, is MERE BANK, a high vallum running parallel with this river from the banks of the *Severn*, till it nearly joins a circular entrenchment close to HENBURY. West of the *Avon*, opposite *Clifton* are two large semi-circular camps, known under the titles of STOKES LEIGH CAMP, and BOWER OF BOROUGH WALLS. Going from hence Westwards, on STOKES LEIGH DOWN are two small circular earthworks; and two miles still further to the West, are appearances of three inconsiderable circumvallations which lie on the direct road to the spacious oval fortress of CADBURY CAMP close to *Tickenham*. As we travel Northwards from this point, the first indication of entrenchments is seen at VINEYARD BREAK, North of *Oveston*. There are

slight remains perceptible at OLDBURY ON SEVERN, whilst a large pentagonal camp in a very perfect state, double ditched, lies a little to the North. This is the last stronghold of the Western range we have been tracing.

Besides the works on the two barriers hitherto mentioned, a few are here and there visible in the intervening country. They are comparatively undeserving of notice, and ought not to be contrasted with those already described. Uncertain remains are distinguishable at BRRTON: there is a small oval camp on BURY HILL, South of *Winterbourn*; a small irregular single ditched camp called the CASTLE, near *Titherington*; another at BURY HOUSE, South of *Doymton*; a Ring, entitled BURY CAMP, a mile East of *Marshfield*, and vestiges of another work a little to the West of it<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Whilst this sheet is passing through the press I find in Lyson's Account of the Roman Antiquities discovered at *Woodchester*, the following confirmation of my own views, "It is extremely probable," says he, "that the entrenchments at *Uley Bury* and on *Painswick Hill*, and perhaps those also on *Broadridge Green* and at *Little Sodbury*, are remains of those garrisons (Roman under *Ostorius*) or at least of their *Castra exploratoria*. A great number of Roman coins, both of the higher and lower empire, have been found within the entrenchments of *Uley Bury* and *Painswick Hill Camps*." p. 18.



THE LINE OF CAMPS CONSTRUCTED BY CARACTACUS  
EXAMINED.



ASCENDING with the *Severn* Northwards from the counties last spoken of, the first encampment we find on its Western side, is GADBURY BANKS, an irregularly four sided camp, eight miles North of *Gloucester*, and four South East of a very large entrenchment on MIDSUMMER HILL. This latter one is placed upon the ridge generally known under the name of the *Malvern Hills* and is the most Southerly of the remarkable works that were built upon their summit. A mile further along this line we come to the well known fortress of the HEREFORDSHIRE BEACON. Fifteen miles more Northerly on the *Abberley Hills* we reach WOODBURY HILL, the last stronghold of the group.

These four fortresses which are unusually large, as well as difficult of access, must have been erected by the Britons to check the progress of the Romans Westward. The eminences on which they are placed, are the most advantageous situations that could possibly be occupied, and it does not seem likely that the Britons would suffer the enemy to advance into their

country, without making a vigorous resistance in a quarter, where nature herself had done so much to assist them in preserving their liberty. They are extremely well adapted for the intention they had in view, as they entirely command HEREFORDSHIRE and the Welsh district lying East of it: and had the Roman forces landed on the shores of *Glamorganshire* or entangled themselves unwarily in the *Forest of Dean* in *Gloucestershire*, and even afterwards escaped out of those difficulties, they would in vain have attempted to retreat to their own chain of fortresses so long as the Britons remained in possession of this most important range.

And that the first great stand was made here, disadvantageously to our countrymen, can scarcely admit of a doubt. Neither of the contending powers immediately went Northwards; a conclusion we are justified in drawing from the fact of so many military works existing between this point and the *Wye*, whilst there are none in the other direction. WALL HILLS, near *Lodbury*, a strong pentagonal work double ditched, and an elliptical single ditched camp at SOLLER'S HOPE, on this river, are the most Southerly fortifications that occur. The encampments at BRINSOP, KENCHESTER, IVINGTON, and BLACKBURY HILL, by their rectilinear circumvallation appear to be Roman constructions<sup>1</sup>. It is doubtful what SUTTON WALLS, RISEBURY, and a small circular work two miles East of *Leominster*, were, but most likely later works. The magnificent elliptical fortresses of CROFT AMBREY and WAPLEY, scarcely seven miles asunder, the former a little North of *Aymestry*, the latter a little

<sup>1</sup> There exists a tradition that *Cholstry*, situated a mile West of *Leominster*, was a Roman camp or colony. This tradition receives some degree of corroboration from etymology. *Cholstry* seems to be a corruption of *Castra*. In ancient writings it is spelled *Caerostruy*, i. e. *the City of Ostruy*, perhaps a corruption of *Ostorius*. Hist. of *Leominster*, p. 7.

OYSTER HILL in *Hertfordshire*, and OYSTER HILL in *Hertfordshire* have been supposed to owe their name to the same cause.

South of *Presteign*, are undoubtedly British erections. They are the key to *Radnorshire* and *Montgomeryshire*, and before Ostorius could advance into these counties, which I suspect were occupied by the ORDOVICI, it was necessary they should be forced.

The fortunes of the brave Caractacus were declining, and we are now compelled to tread in his retreating footsteps, and follow him and his valiant companions from the fertile plain of *Herefordshire* to the rugged and naked mountains of the BORDERS. But how shall we describe the state of his army, defeated as it has been, diminished, in part disarmed, writhing under their wounds, yet carrying onwards an unrepressed passion to cover recent defeats with victory? and as they took a last glance at the land of their forefathers, every feeling that national affection could infuse must have inspired them with new courage, till they became actually maddened for fresh opportunities of conflict. The issue was too uniformly adverse, and we behold them gradually reduced to a small band, which ultimately was subdued.

CROFT AMBREY and WAPLEY are the most Southern of Caractacus's interior line of camps, which commences in the North at HËN DINAS. The Romans having gained these two, proceeded to secure their conquests in the country they had entered, by choosing such positions as were available, and which would at the same time enable them to press as closely as possible upon the enemy. We thus find them occupying the important post of NORTON CAMP, a large quadrangular work double ditched, which commands defiles to the East and West, and moreover lies very closely upon the flank of Caractacus in his supposed entrenchments upon BURROUGH HILL, BILLINGS RING, and BURY DITCHES. The strong work of BRANDON CAMP South of *Leintwardine* would form a counterwork to, or command the stronghold of Cox-

WALL KNOLL, as NORDY BANK would do to the DITCHES above *Skipton*.

FROM BRANDON CAMP, it seems most likely that Ostorius made a diversion of part of his forces against CAER CARADOC and the DITCHES, and having driven out the Britons from these elevated posts he left garrisons in the country, to prevent their reoccupation. NORDY BANK was intended to hinder their gaining possession of the large enclosure on the summit of *Abdon Burf*, by holding which the Britons would command the extensive valley running betwixt the *Brown* and the *Titterstone Clee Hills* towards *Bridgenorth* and *Worcestershire*, whilst it would at the same time serve the purpose of keeping in check the inhabitants of *Corve Dale*. The works at RUSHBURY, were erected for similar reasons, to keep in subjection the inhabitants of *Ape Dale*, at the head of which valley it is placed. And we thus find an early military way from these garrisoned places to *Wroaster*. Beginning at NORDY BANK it passes through *Tugford*, *Cratford*, over ROMAN BANK to RUSHBURY, thence by *Chatwall*, where it bears the name of the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY, (a more particular account of which is given hereafter,) *Acton Burnel*, *Pitchford*, &c., to the Severn at *Wroaster*.

The position chosen by Ostorius at *Whetlton* was in every respect an important one: and it shews that the great principles of STRATEGY have been the same in all ages. It had the command of observation of four valleys; CORVE DALE, APE DALE, the STRETTON VALLEY, and that leading to BRANDON CAMP, near *Leintwardine*; it was a means of securing a safe retreat for the Roman forces in case they should be driven back, whilst it would also secure them in the possession of all the plain as far as *Ludlow*, and even beyond it.

It would be impossible to mark with accuracy and in succession, the course of Ostorius's progress on the

Western side. We immediately get into the mountainous district of *Radnorshire*, where defensive vestiges are very numerous, and scattered over the eminences without any discernible principle. There are several small circular works, epaulements with one ditch, such as TOMEN CASTLE, South East of *New Radnor*; CASTELL CEFYNLLYS; CAER GINON; TOMEN BEDDUGRE near *Builth*; the GAER, a double fortress, and several small rectilinear fortifications on the *Melerydd* Mountain; others on GLOG HILL; CASTLE RING South of *Discoyd*; BURVA BANK, a mile lower, &c. &c. CASTELL CWRT LLECHRHYD, a mile North of *Builth* (BULLEUM); LLAN DU (a pentagonal entrenchment) North of *Llanvair Waterdine*; two CAER DIN RINGS, and two very small quadrangular works a little South of them, all five in *Clun Forest*. Immediately before entering *Montgomeryshire*, whilst yet in Shropshire, we have CASTELL CEFYN FRON, a small circular work seven miles West of BURY DITCHES; UPPER SHORT DITCH, and LOWER SHORT DITCH; a few circular works in the neighbourhood of KERRY; CASTLE RING, above *Ratlinghope*, (described more fully hereafter) and CASTLE RING under the Western side of the *Stiperstones*; CASTLE RING, betwixt *Hyssington* and *Church Stoke*, and CAER BEE, betwixt *Church Stoke* and *Chirbury*, which brings us close to FRIDD FALDWIN and CAER HOWEL near *Montgomery*.

With the exception of the long oval works of FRIDD FALDWIN and the circular one on *Tongley Hill*, called BURY DITCHES, East of *Bishop's Castle*, which has three concentric aggers, none of the works mentioned in the preceding paragraph are extensive, a fact proving that *Radnorshire* was not the field of any very severe contests.

Having driven the troops of Caractacus thus far, the Roman general seems to have paused, to allow time for the construction of such a camp, as would be suit-

able both to contain his forces, as well as to secure the territory he had acquired. The site was just such an one as a skilful tactician like Ostorius would be likely to choose. We have observed the prudence which guided him in fixing upon *Whittleton Wood* or *NORXON CAMP* as a flank defence for the valleys of *Corve Dale*, *Ape Dale*, and the *Stretton Gorge*, and in the present instance his position was selected as advantageously. *CAER FLÔS* stands above the Eastern banks of the *Severn* at the confluence of four valleys a mile and a half North of *Montgomery*; one of these takes the course of the river to *Welshpool*, *Llandrinio*, and *Melverley*, where it expands into a vast champagne country: the other takes the Eastern side of the *Breidden* and unites with the preceding valley at *Cardeston* and *Alberbury*. Besides being a key to these two, it is so situated as completely to command the whole district as far as *Bishop's Castle* to the South East, and the vale of the *Severn* as high as *Newtown* to the South West.

The entrenchments on the *BREIDDEN*, already described, are the nearest British strongholds of importance to the Roman work at *CAER FLÔS*, but whether their construction was prior to this, is, I must confess, very uncertain. The Britons retreating along the mountain heights, as the *Stretton Hills* and *Long Mynd*, crossing the *Stiperstones*, and thence flying to the *Long Mountain*, in all of which places we find Tumuli, might have fixed upon this insulated propugnaculum in their extremity, though as the Roman camp of *CAER FLÔS* is on the same side of the river, Ostorius would have had no need to ford, as we know he had, at the spot where the decisive engagement happened. As I have already entered into this question, and expressed my reasons for thinking that Ostorius penetrated as high up the *Severn* as *CAER SWS*, where there is another Roman camp placed with a view of commanding the



valleys, for instance, that through which the *Garno* flows from the North West; that through which the *Taranno* flows from the West, and the narrower one through which the Severn flows from the South, I shall now conclude this subject, yet not without offering a due meed of praise to the military skill he evinced from the commencement of this important campaign to the defeat of Caractacus, during which he displayed such a consummate knowledge of tactics that we are warranted in placing him amongst the first of Roman Generals.



## Old Oswestry or Rên Dinas.



LD OSWESTRY lies a mile and a half from the present town, upon an insulated eminence that has the tracing of an oblong parallelogram. Having been planted for a great many years, the concentric ditches are in some places considerably obliterated, but enough is still visible to excite our surprise at the vastness of the undertaking. The base of the hill occupies at least fifty acres; it gradually tapers towards the plane of site which is perfectly flat, whose area comprehends upwards of fifteen. If we make our ascent from the Western side, and leave a small cottage opposite *Mount Zion* to the left, we shall pass through five lines of circumvallation before we gain the top. Two of these entirely encircle the hill; the others do so partially, being designed for the peculiar defence of the entrance on the Western side, which is less precipitous than the other, and consequently required more artificial protection.

If we enter at the cottage already mentioned, which point was one of the original approaches, the other being on the opposite side, and follow the drift road leading up to the summit, the first vallum we come to is drawn round the base of the hill for a considerable distance: the second has its relief about fifty feet above the level of the road which runs along the bottom. The parapet is ten feet across, and has a counter-

scarp of six. Still ascending, we find the adjoining interior fosse twelve, and the third vallum six feet wide across the parapet, and having a relief of ten feet above the ditches on either side. The second and third lines lie on each side of the trench we are pursuing. There are indications of another vallum, but so indistinct and uncertain, owing to the broken nature of the ground and the accumulation of vegetable matter, that we will pass on to the lower vallum and fosse of those two that entirely circumscribe the upper part of this extraordinary fastness. The exterior or fourth vallum, is something like fifty feet above the third or the one last mentioned. Its counterscarp is ten feet, its width across the top six. The fosse, fortuitously I should suppose, is thirty feet wide. The superior or remaining vallum is on much the same scale, having a slight interior slope towards the enclosed plane of site. But the brakes and brushwood being much thicker towards the top, it is difficult to ascertain the exact measures, and as my observations were unfortunately made after heavy rain, the labour of pushing through the long wet grass and tangled thickets was extremely irksome.

From the foregoing remarks it may be observed that this fortified eminence is conformable, so far as regards its *double ditches*, to other posts of acknowledged British origin: whilst it is dissimilar to them in the depth and number of its trenches at the base. In how much greater a degree of magnitude and perfection these several works appeared at the time of their first formation, can only be surmised. But that they were very much larger, having their valls more lofty, their fosses wider and deeper, the angles of the scarps more acute, and the subsidiary lines of circumvallation more extended, there is every reason for believing. What must have been then the labour expended upon the construction of this stronghold, and how great the difficulties a be-

sieging army had to overcome, when they tried to surmount all the military obstacles which it presented! Even at the present day we cannot contemplate such gigantic efforts without being impressed with a feeling of astonishment, yet we behold the walls greatly depressed by the subsidence of the soil, and the ditches partially filled up with matted fern, and detritus that is incessantly slipping down from above. Other causes have conspired to alter the original aspect of the fortification. For we are told<sup>1</sup> that so long ago as 1767 as much timber was cut down on the ramparts as sold for seventeen thousand pounds. The process of effacement is still quietly going on, as the whole of this eminence, with the exception of the table land at the summit, is covered with wood in various stages of growth.

After I had twice threaded my passage through the thorny intricacies of this sylvan labyrinth, I descended to the point where I had commenced the circuit. When I looked upwards and endeavoured to follow with the eye the prohibitory circle of terraces with their chasms underneath, that were partially visible through the dark umbrageous foliage, I was forcibly struck with the silent majesty of the scene. The chilly dew of evening was falling rapidly around, and admonished me to hasten onwards upon my journey, but before I could bend my footsteps from the spot,

A weight of awe, not easy to be borne,  
Fell suddenly upon my Spirit—cast  
From the dread bosom of the unknown past.

The history of this remarkable work is wrapped in complete obscurity. It is called HËN DINAS<sup>2</sup> or the

<sup>1</sup> History of Oswestry, 1815. p. 90.

<sup>2</sup> The primary signification of this word is a fortified hill or mount; as we find by CASTELL DINAS BRAN above *Llangollen* in *Denbighshire*, and DIN ORWIC in *Caernarvonshire*. Hence the Roman terminations of *Dinum*, *Dintum*, and *Dunum* to the names of their cities in Gaul and Britain, and the old English *Tune*, now *Don*, *Ton*, and *Town*, and the Gael. Ir. Arm. and Corn. *dun*, for

old city; and aniently CAER OGYRFAN, of *Ogyrfan's Castle*, who was a hero contemporary with King Arthur. It has been ascribed to Oswald, and Penda, but merely on conjectural grounds. I agree with Pennant<sup>1</sup> in attributing it to the Britons; I conceive it must have been one of the chain of Caractacus's border fortresses, which it closely resembles in its main features of construction<sup>2</sup>.

a fortified hill. According to Bede, *dun* means a height in the ancient British, and Clitophon says it had the same signification in the ancient Gaulish. (See Armstrong under *Dún*; and Davies under *Din*.)

In the highly interesting Anglo Norman Romance of Fulk Fitz Warin, with a sight of which I have been favoured by Thomas Duffus Hardy, Esq., I find *Ludlow Castle* called DINAN.

<sup>1</sup> Pennant's *Wales*, vol. i. p. 272.

<sup>2</sup> Basire engraved for the Society of Antiquaries, 1763, a round shield, a foot diameter, found a foot under ground, within the area of *Hên dinas*.



## Caer Caradoc.



THIS is a hill fortress of great strength and importance. There can be no doubt of its having been one of the chief positions of Caractacus, or Caradog. Its situation on so elevated a mountain, and the complete insulation of the mountain itself, bespeak who were its former occupants. Every thing tends to shew that this is a genuine British entrenchment, and unquestionably held by the brave warrior who for so long a period repulsed the armies of Ostorius. It forms a conspicuous object amongst the *Shropshire Hills*, and is designated by the various names of the *Caradoc*, the *Curdoc*, the *Querdoc*, and the *Quordoc*. Its summit is encircled by two ditches having a counterscarp of five feet each, and an external slope of fifty. On the North Western side, immediately below the outer fosse, is a cave still bearing the name of *Caractacus' Cave*, which is about five feet high, and capable of holding half a dozen people. The *WATLING STREET* runs under the East side of the Caradoc, and at this part of its course it is sixteen feet and a half wide, though its average breadth cannot be considered as greater than twelve.

As is usual with all British fortresses, the present one is adapted to the nature of the ground; where the fosse terminates, it is occasioned by a rock presenting a natural obstacle to it being carried on; this would present a more formidable check to assailants, on ac-

count of its rugged and precipitous character, and thus render artificial strength unnecessary. The extreme length of the present encampment is three hundred and ninety three paces, and its width varies from sixty to seventy nine. There seem to have been three gorges, or gates of entrance, which are on the East, West, and North sides.

On the whole, the state of this fortification may be regarded as extremely perfect. The ditches are generally from five to six feet deep, and the escarps and counterscarps tolerably complete. This, however, must not be considered the original depth of the ditches, as I have been informed by an intelligent individual who has known the Caradoc for several years, that he remembers them much deeper, a fact in accordance with the natural tendency of trenches becoming choked up with stones continually rolling down from the rocks above, or else being filled up by an accumulation of vegetable matter.



## The Ditches



RE a very fine encampment about a mile West of the turnpike road, leading from *Wenlock* to *Ludlow*, and a short distance above *Larden Hall*. It encloses nearly eight acres, the inner part being four. The form is nearly a complete circle, like *Bury Ditches*. It is surrounded by inner and outer fosses, and two valla. The internal slope of the inner wall falls on the side due East twelve feet, and externally twenty-five: across the crest of the parapet it is six feet broad. The relief of the second vallum rises ten feet from the fosse, and is at present twelve feet wide across its parapet: externally it falls eight feet: there is then a second ditch which is something like twelve feet wide. It is however partially obliterated, either in consequence of all the mounds and ditches being planted over, or through their being injured by natural causes.

These *Ditches* must formerly have been a post of some importance: for they supply a necessary link in the chain of British entrenchments which stretch throughout the county. The present position is in the im-



mediate view of NORDY BANK, and within command of observation from both the CAERS, BURY DITCHES and the WREKIN. The original entrance appears to have been at the North East side. There is much difficulty in making out these points satisfactorily at present, as the whole camp, at least the walls and ditches, are completely obscured by wood. Were there no other reason for the assumption, the fact of a British Urn having been found in the immediate neighbourhood, would sanction the idea of the whole work being British. A little North West of the DITCHES is the semblance of a *Tumulus*. A gentleman residing in the neighbourhood remembers it more prominent than when I first saw it. There were still however sufficient indications to lead us to open it<sup>1</sup>, though the labour did not requite us by imparting any new light to this subject. After making a cut five feet deep from West to East, the workmen came to a black deposit, which led us to suppose that the interment had been simple, and by cremation. On a previous occasion, by mere accident, an earthen vessel was found whilst making a drain about three or four hundred yards South East of the encampment. It was formed of a kind of red clay, so slightly baked on the outside that it washed away when a brush and water were applied to clean it. The inside was black and somewhat harder, as though it had been baked by making the fire within. "Before I saw it," says Mr Mytton, "the workmen had broken the lower part which was next the surface of the ground, but by putting the pieces together the form could be made out. It was found with the mouth downwards, and contained fragments of bones." Fortunately Mr Mytton made a drawing of it at the time, a copy of which is presented to the reader. It appears precisely of the same kind as those Urns which have been generally acknowledged as British, and so repeatedly

<sup>1</sup> This was done by the Rev. R. Moore and Thos. Mytton, Esq.

found in *Cornwall* and *Wiltshire*. A Cinerary Urn, similar to the one now under discussion, was found in the year 1741, in the parish of *Gwythian* in the former county. Like the present one it had its mouth downwards, and was filled with human bones. The object in placing it thus, was to prevent the moisture of the ground above from suddenly rotting them. (See this subject fully entered into by Borlase in his *Antiquities of Cornwall*, pp. 236, &c. edit. 1769.)



Scale two inches to the foot.

## Castle Hill.

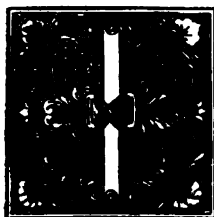


CASTLE HILL lies a quarter of a mile West North West of the church of *Lebotwood*. As far as can be judged from existing appearances it seems most like an *exploratory mound*, though of an uncertain age. Probably this small eminence, which is in great measure a natural elevation, had its height still more increased by artificial means. Its summit is about forty feet above the subinherent plain, and the extreme length of it at the top two hundred and sixty five. There is a considerable fall on the North side, but a very gradual one on the South. There being no traces of ditches or mounds around, would lead us to think it was originally either a Barrow, or intended for a Beacon; yet the name points to something defensive, similarly to the CASTLE RINGS, near *Wistantow*, *Edgton*, and *Ratlinghope*. Thus, too, we have CASTLE DYKES in *Northamptonshire*, and near *Buxton* in *Derbyshire*; CASTLE HILL on the *Tees*, besides many others.

A mile and a half Northward of the present spot, on the estate of Charles Guest, Esq., are vestiges of a meadow below BANK FARM, of a quadrangular entrenchment. An eminence a quarter of a mile further North bears the name of SIGNAL BANK. This seems to have been a sentinel's position to warn the occupants of the camp just mentioned, in the same way as SHOW BANK was for NORTON CAMP. (See remarks upon these words among Observations on the Names of Places.)



## Castle Ring



is a British encampment immediately above *Ratlinghope*, and contains within its area about an acre and a half. The ascent from the West and South sides is precipitous, and as being unnecessary here, the vallum and fosse have been slight: whereas on the East side where the ground falls but gently, the works have been more elevated. The camp is nearly oval. The gorge is at the East. The general height of the vallum seems to have been ten feet, and the work is encircled by one ditch only. There are indications of another camp due South of CASTLE RING, between this place and *Bilbitch Gutter*, and a British trackway appears to run between these two places, for the purpose of communication between the two positions.

About a mile to the North of CASTLE RING, just above the turnpike road, is a TUMULUS, that forms a very prominent object in the landscape. From the circumstance of Roman coins having been found in emptying a ditch between the *New Leasowes* and the *Thresholds*, I should feel disposed to pronounce this a Roman Tumulus. But in this as in all other cases where Tumuli have not been opened, we have nothing but conjecture to offer. Below CASTLE RING a copper mine has recently been opened by the proprietors of the neighbouring estate. The ore is extremely rich, and it promises every prospect of remuneration to its owners, the Messrs Hawkins of *Ratlinghope*. There is a CASTLE RING near *Stanton Moor* in *Derbyshire*, in the vicinity of several Druidic remains, that has a deep ditch and double vallum, and is supposed to be British<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> See Archæol. vol. vi. p. 113.

## Bodbury Ring.



ODBURY RING is a small encampment on the top of a hill near *Church Stretton*. It is evidently a British position, and obtains its name in part from that language. In C. Brit. *Bód*, signifies a dwelling: this was a fortified abode of the British, surrounded by a ditch, or *Ring*, which is about forty-seven paces from West to East, and ninety-five from North to South. This will make it elliptical in its figure. There is a slight vallum four yards wide to the South South East and West sides. The ditch is most perfect on the North and East sides where the land adjoining has but a slight fall. The camp takes the natural shape of the plane of site, and as was usual it is protected by a fosse and vallum on those sides where an assault would be made with the greatest certainty of success. NORBURY RING, near *Mindtown*, if we may judge from the Ordnance Map, is similar to it.





VIEW AT LITTLE WENLOCK.



## The Wrekin.



WHEN the Wrekin is ascended from the South East side, a ditch is crossed very near the summit, which following the course of the eminence, runs distinctly visible from North East to South South West for fifty paces. The fosse is very narrow, and does not seem when in its most perfect state ever to have been deep. Its present width is scarcely three yards. Below this rampart was formerly another, which is now in great measure obliterated, in consequence of this remarkable elevation being planted. A farmer who has lived below this side of the Wrekin for upwards of fifty years, assures me he remembers the outer vallum and fosse more distinct than the one now remaining.

This entrenchment agrees in so many respects with the system of castrametation adopted by Caractacus, that I have no hesitation in assigning it to the period. Having reached the summit, we pass through a gate of entrance at the North end, which haply in allusion to the fatigue being over of making the ascent, bears the name of *Heaven Gate*. Although the fall on the North East side is very precipitous, yet we find it strengthened by a ditch that is still discernible for thirty or forty yards. There is a gorge of six feet clear between the portals or sides of *Heaven Gate*, and they are about the same height above the average level of the table land of the hill itself.



Proceeding along the top for nearly its whole length we come to a TUMULUS, that is about four feet high, sixteen paces across its crest, and with a slight indentation in the middle. About forty paces further we meet with another gorge or gate of entrance to the enclosure, but unlike the *Heaven Gate*, inasmuch as instead of resembling its circular base, the portals have an oblong form; they are twenty-five yards long, and twelve across, but the same distance asunder, and the same height above the surrounding plane of site. These are called *Hell Gate*. This truly interesting British fortification is gradually becoming indistinct, in consequence of the rising plantation. In a very few years every trace of it will be quite gone.

As every association connected with the Wrekin must be interesting to a Salopian, I shall endeavour to give its Etymology. It is natural to suppose that a mountain of such altitude, standing isolated in the midst of a vast plain, and visible from various points of a radius of seventy miles round it, should form in remote times, as we know that it does now, a very remarkable landmark. Hence in the Celtic we find that the name implies as much; *Bre*, which is synonymous with *Vre* or *Wre*, signifies *a hill*; and *ken*, *the chief, or principal*: that is, *Wre-ken, the conspicuous hill*. In the Islandic, according to Haldorson, *Brecka*, denotes a hill; *Brecku hvel*, *convexitas supra horizontem*, (Verel. in Indic.) And in C. Brit. *Wrç*<sup>1</sup> signifies, according to Pughe, "that is high or rotund". So that its name is found in all respects according with its character. It is called by Lomarchus or Llywarç Hên, DDINLLE VRBOON, or *the high placed city of Wrecon*.<sup>2</sup> Nennius mentions CAER

<sup>1</sup> Bohem. *wrch*, a mountain.

<sup>2</sup> The Heroic Elegies of Llywarç Hên, p. 94. Lluyd says that perhaps it means *Wrocester*. Archaeol. p. 258. col. 3. The learned Baxter supposes that the *Wrekin* took its name from *Wrocester*, but it is far more likely that the Roman station should have derived

URNACH OF CAIR URNAHC, which has been generally conceived by antiquaries to mean the city of *Wroaster*.

Baxter supposed that URNACH was abbreviated from *Uar na ùag, ad cervicem fluctus*, and that *Veroconium* sounded like *Uar o cond iu, super aquâ principe vel Sabrinâ*. The Romans, in this instance as in others, might have Latinised the old British name, by turning *Urnach* into *Urioconium*. If we examine the word we shall see how closely it is connected with the Celtic. In this tongue *Ur* is a primitive, denoting a dwelling-place or habitation. *Uria* in the Basque language means a village or city<sup>1</sup>. In the forty-first book of Livy, we read that the Proconsul Gracchus having vanquished the Celtiberians, entered into a capitulation with them, and to leave behind him, in *Spain*, a monument of his victories, he built the city of *Gracchuris*. Strabo informs us that *Gracchuris*, in Spanish, signifies the city of *Gracchus*. From this it appears that *Uri* in Spanish signified a city. *Ur* in Greek has the same meaning. *Yurt* in Tartarian is a horde or habitation of Tartars; and from *Ur* comes the Latin *Urbs*. *Conium*, in the present instance, is a Latinised form of the Celtic *Cond*, an em- its name from the hill above it. See Glossar. Antiq. Britan. p. 243. Nor can I agree with my late friend Mr Blakeway, in considering *Déinlle Vrecon* to be *Wroaster*, a position quite at variance with the poet's description. The author of *Vulgar Errors, Ancient and Modern*, says the *Wrekin* comes from the Gaelic *Braighe*, pronounced and written *Bre* and *Bri*. Its root is *Aighe* or *Eigh*, an hill. *G* in old terms is often changed to *C*. Thus *Blaighe*, an hill, is often changed to *Black*, as in *Blaigdon*, written also *Blackdown*\*. *Breghe*, then, in like manner, will change to *Breg* or *Brec*; and as *B* often changes to *V*, and this to *W*, *Breg* and *Brec* will change to *Wreg* and *Wrec* in old names. We have accordingly *Wreg*-hill, in *North-umberland*, where *Wreg* means hill, and the same as *Wrec* or *Wrek*, in the *Wrekin*. The word *In* is land, and *Wrekin* will imply what it is, *the hill or head land*, (p. 56.) Between *Urioconium* and *Urnach* is considerable resemblance, and the former may be derived from the latter.

<sup>1</sup> See *Bullet, Dict. Celt. sub voce*.

\* There is a **BLAKEDOWN** between *Hagley* and *Kidderminster* in *Worcestershire*; and a **BLAKLEY HILL** between *Stanton* and *Bury Walls*, in *Shropshire*. (See observations on the names of places.)

bouchure. The junction of the river *Tern* (the *Tren* of Lomarchus) with the Severn, close to *Wroxeter*, makes the name highly appropriate. Hence *Uria-Cond*, *Uri-Cond*, *Uriconium*, the city at the entrance or embouchure of the river. From the same source, probably, are the names of CONDOVER, and COUND, from being placed on a large brook which empties itself into the *Severn*, at no great distance from the latter village. Whether CAER URNACH and URICONIUM are identical can only rest upon conjecture. If we dissect the former word, it will seem rather to mean the WREKIN than WROXETER. Thus, in the same language, from which our previous conclusions have been drawn, *Ur* signifies a habitation or dwelling, and *Nach* an elevation, or mountain. *Ur-nach*, the habitation or position on high, which would lead us to suppose that the whole of these Caers meant the Wrekin. Let this, however, be how it may, it is quite reasonable to imagine that the Britons would make mention of a position which is every way so remarkable. Yet it was not merely the situation and strength of it that caused them to speak of it in the scanty records which have survived to the present day. For if we descend the hill on the Eastern side we shall fall in with vestiges that at once prove it to have been an important military post.

A small valley at the foot still shews by its name of WILLOW MOOR, by its existing TUMULI, and by the great quantity of broken weapons that have been found there, that the spot was formerly contested. Its appellation of *Willow* is significant. In the termination *LOW*, direct allusion is made to the TUMULI which render the place still remarkable. *Law*, *La*, *Loff*, *Lo*, according to their different pronunciations, signify an eminence or elevation. Thus we have *lo*, high, in old French; *loh* in German; *loo* in Flemish; and *lowe* in A. Saxon, denoting a hill or gentle eminence, from the C. British *Uohâu*, to place, and hence by contraction *lau*. And

what does *low* mean but a TUMULUS or GRAVE? The A. Sax. *hlaew*, *hlaw*, expressly marks as much. And thus we have the ARBOUR LOWS in *Derbyshire*, still remaining. Brompton in his Chronicle speaks of *Hubbellow*, or *Hubba's Grave*: and there is scarcely a county in England in which there is not some spot thus nominally consecrated by a Briton's or a Saxon's grave. And, even to the present day, the first syllable indicates the name of the person interred, and its termination, the object of the monument. The names by themselves sufficiently explain themselves; the discoveries which are constantly being made fully point out the use and origin of these Barrows, whilst at the same time they furnish us with additional arguments for elucidating obscure points of Archæology by the assistance of etymology. This has been very clearly shewn by Sir Thomas Phillipps in a paper on the Saxon Names of Places, published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Literature, where writing on this topic, he adduces from Domesday Book several instances of places possessing names clearly indicative of their origin. Thus he cites<sup>1</sup> in counties contiguous to our own,

Oswaldslaw, the grave of Oswald, in *Worcestershire*.  
 Offelow, ... .. Offa, in *Staffordshire*.  
 Tamenaslau,.. ... Tamena, ... ..  
 Tateslau, ... .. Tata,... ..  
 Derunlau, ... .. Dering, in *Shropshire*.

In *Warwickshire* there are *Brinklow* and *Knightlow*, two places sufficiently memorable; the former being the largest tumulus in the island<sup>2</sup>; together with the *Bartlow Hills* in *Cambridgeshire*, and a great number in *Derbyshire*. Nor is the term *low* unusual in our early English

<sup>1</sup> p. 3.

<sup>2</sup> See an account of this in Mr Bloxam's excellent illustration of the British and Roman Remains of *Warwickshire*, published in the *Annalist*, vol. iv. p. 183.

writers: several of them employ it to denote a Barrow. In an old chronicle cited by Hearne, speaking of *Hubba*, the writer says, "And when the *Danes* fond *Hungar* and *Hubba* deid, thei baren theym to a *mountayn* ther besyde and made upon hym a *logge* and lete call it *Hubbslugh*<sup>1</sup>." The metrical romancers continually use the word<sup>2</sup>.

We will now see how far present appearances accord with these derivations. WILLOW MOOR, WILLOW FARM, or as it is occasionally called the WREKIN FARM, lies on the South East side of the *Wrekin*, in a sequestered and highly picturesque valley, from which there seems at first sight to be no outlet. To this secluded spot I frequently wandered when residing in the parish. The sylvan beauties of *Wenlock Wood* and the *Ercall* so often allured me to their retreats, that while I write, every minute feature of this impressive scenery is vividly recalled to the mind<sup>3</sup>. Having descended the hill from *Little Wenlock*, about fifty yards above the gate which stands upon the road, a very depressed vallum is passed through, which is just perceptible for about twenty yards on the left hand side, and for about fifty on the right. It may be again observed curving towards the *Wrekin* from the North end of a barn for the same distance. The land here has been under the plough, so that the mound is extremely indistinct. The tenant remembers both this and the *Tumuli* much more conspicuous than they are at present. They are in truth now almost undiscoverable without his assistance to point out where they lie. On the East side of the barn in three different meadows, are four slight mounds which have every sign of being artificial. In a rushy meadow at

<sup>1</sup> As quoted by Pegge on the *Arbour Lows*. *Archæol.* vol. vii. p. 134.

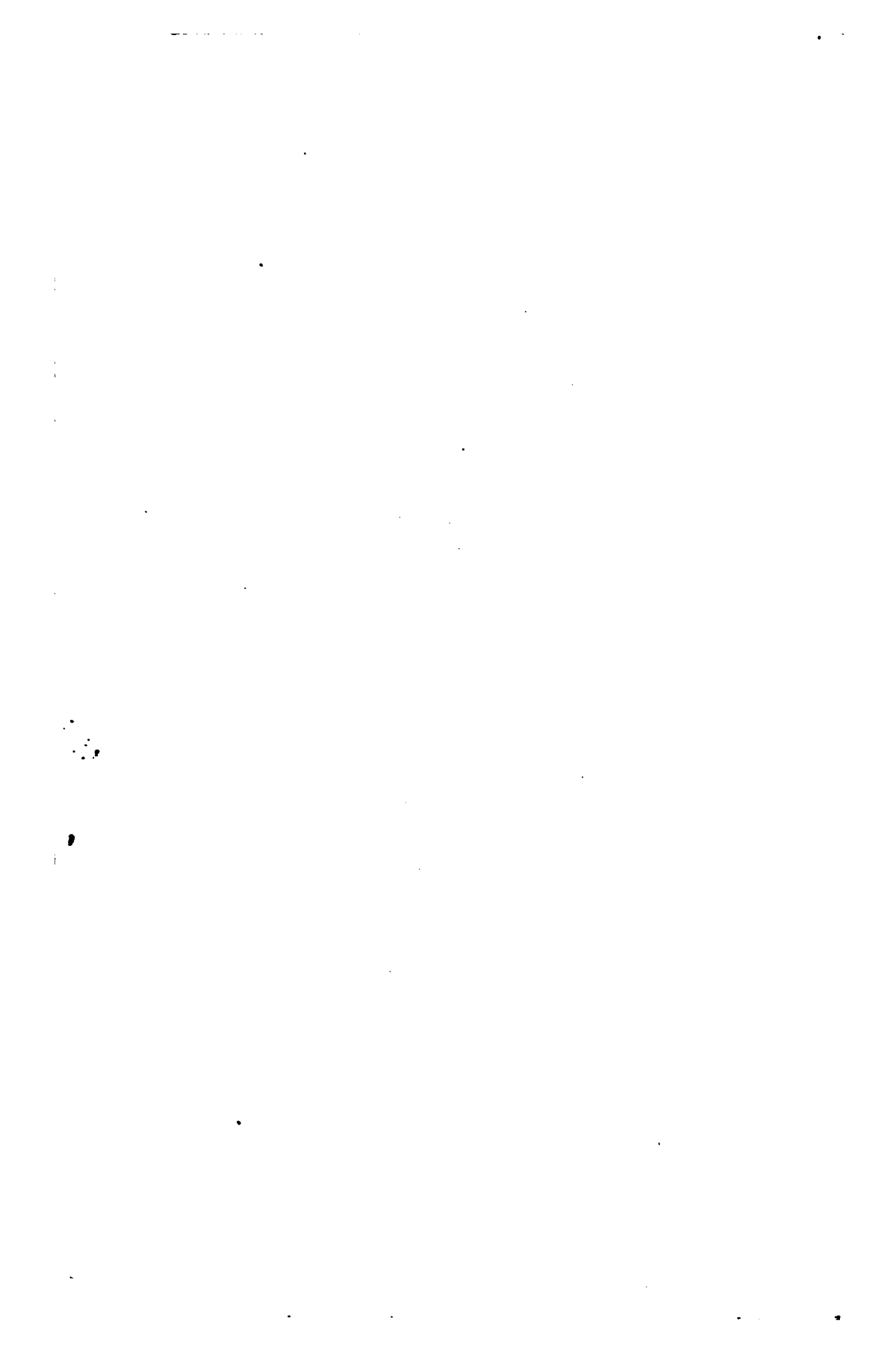
<sup>2</sup> For further illustrations see the Glossarial part of the present work under *Ludlow*.

<sup>3</sup> In the accompanying plate I have endeavoured to present the reader with a view of the scenery in this little valley, as seen from the top of the hill mentioned in the next paragraph.



View of the Valley from the Queen

WATERLOO FRONT.



the bottom of the hill, on the left hand side of the road which leads from *Little Wenlock* to *Wellington*, are appearances of three more *Tumuli*: and on the other side of the road which goes into *Wenlock Wood*, due West of these, are two other *Tumuli*.

There are still other reasons for considering these mounds sepulchral, which will further appear when it is stated that on two occasions in the memory of the present generation, remains have been found which mark it as a place of military burial. On the former occasion, which was more than half a century ago, a considerable number of broken weapons were found similar to those which were met with in the year 1835; but beyond this nothing further can be remembered of them. From residing in the parish when the last were met with I am able to describe from personal observation the circumstances attending their discovery. Whilst a labourer was cutting a drain about a hundred yards from the left hand side of the road leading from *Little Wenlock* to *Wellington*, by a hedge side separating the two fields lying between the top and the bottom of the ascent, he suddenly came upon a heap of broken spears. They lay piled up together, and were two or three hundred at least, but nearly all much injured. Among them were three or four small *whetstones*<sup>1</sup> and a *celt*<sup>2</sup>. The spear and celt were made of brass, many of the former

<sup>1</sup> It is by no means unusual to find *whetstones* among funereal deposits. In a tumulus opened at *Everley* in *Wiltshire* was found a *whetstone* of free stone, and a *blus hone*. These were used for the purpose of sharpening the weapons of the warriors who were interred, and probably were usually carried by them for that purpose.

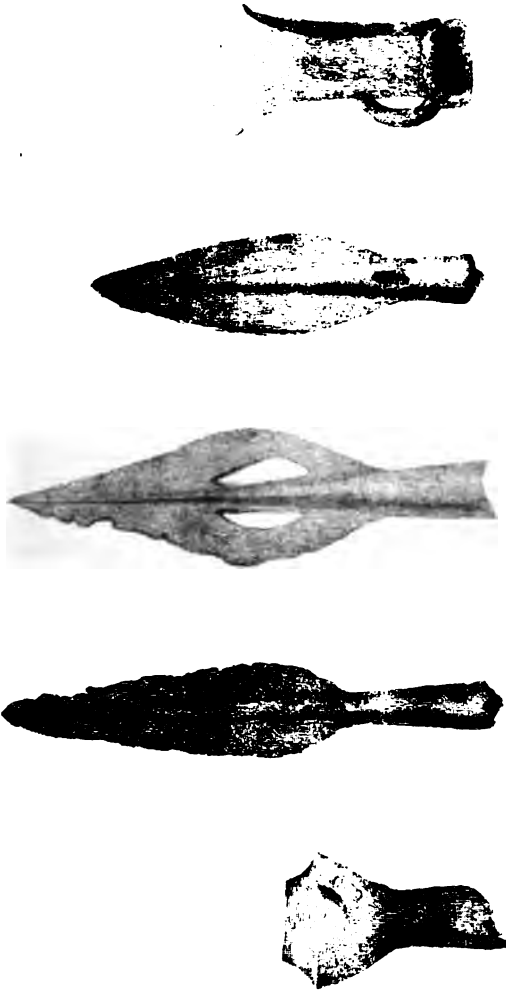
<sup>2</sup> On the use of celts much has been written in the *Archæologia* and elsewhere. My own opinion is entirely with that of my highly esteemed friend Sir Samuel Meyrick, who considers them to have been instruments used partly for warlike and partly for domestic purposes. They constantly occur among the contents of *Tumuli*, which is alone a presumptive reason for thinking them devoted to military uses. See this subject further considered in the valuable little volume by Mr Bloxam, p. 12.



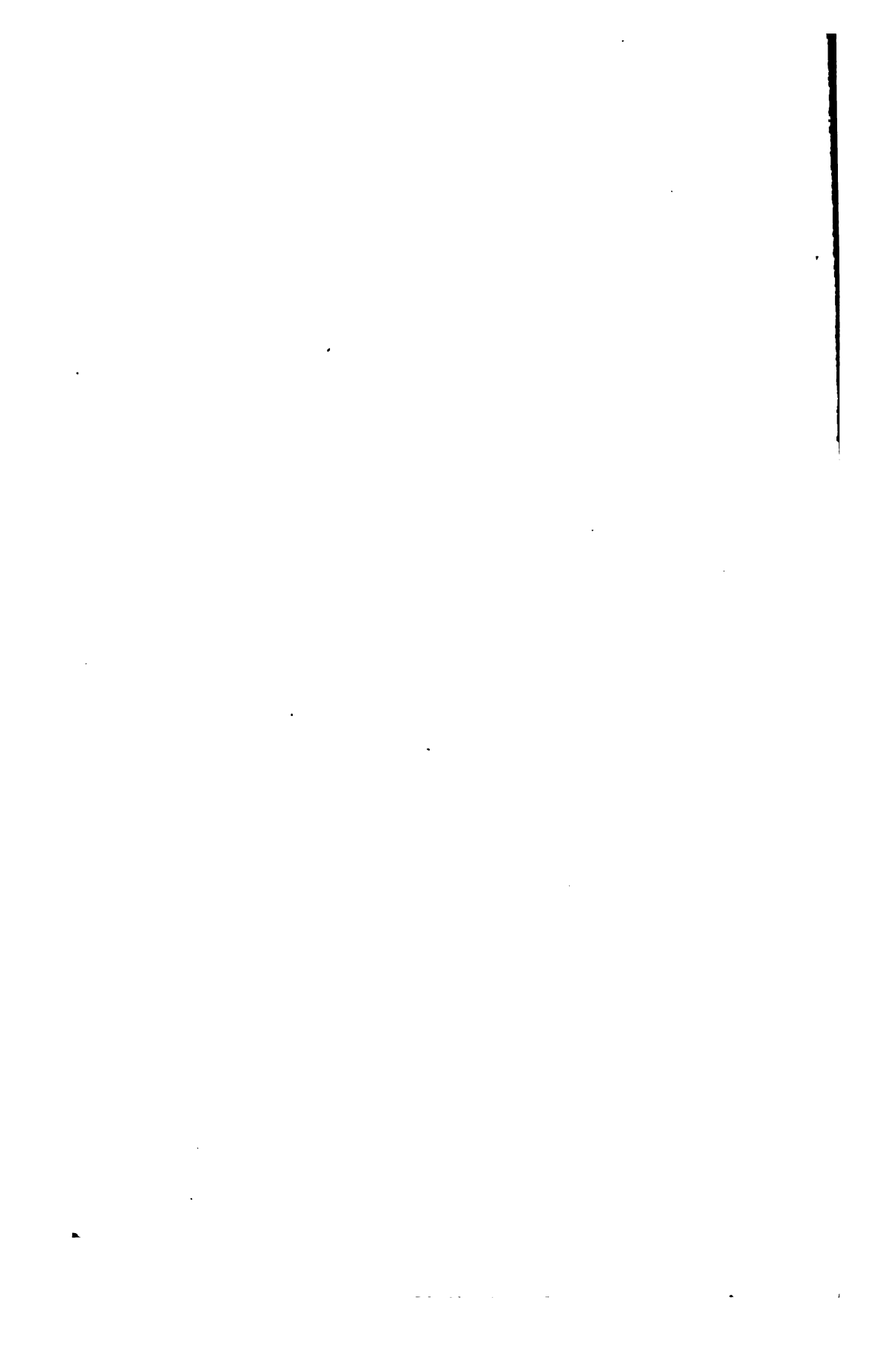
precisely like some of acknowledged British origin that have been dug up elsewhere.

The accompanying plate will shew the nature of those that were most perfect, to which I refer the reader, that he may better be enabled to understand the description. No. 1. A small spear quite plain, having a hole on each side of its socket through which a rivet was passed to fasten it to the shaft. No. 2. This has a slight chamfer running from the bottom of its rivet hole to the lower part of the blade. Round the end of it are four ribs by which the string binding it to the shaft was kept from slipping. The workmanship is extremely good. Part of the shaft of this was still remaining in the socket. No. 3. A spear with rivet holes very perfect, but without chamfers or ribs. No. 4. The blade of a dagger, probably belonging to the handle figured (No. 7). No. 5. A spear head with rivet holes. No. 6. This spear is unlike any of the others in shape, and when found its edges were nearly as sharp as that of a knife. No. 7. The handle of a dagger. It seems to have been inlaid, most likely with ivory. No. 8. Another spear head, with apertures on each side of the shaft socket and ribbed at the base. No. 9. A small celt. Another had its head chamfered from the bottom of its rivet holes towards the point. It had two bands or ribs, one close to the rivet holes, another at the end. The socket was ornamented between the bands with four circles that had each as many concentric ones. These had been struck with a pair of compasses after the spear was cast<sup>1</sup>. There were four other circular decorations above the upper band similar to those betwixt the two, and a little zigzag work engraved on each side of the cham-

<sup>1</sup> Brass spear heads have been cast in a mould, and such heads within a sheath of wood, have been found in a barrow. *Archæol.* vol. xv. p. 304. pl. xxxiv.



BRITISH WEAPONS.



fer, both at the bottom of the blade, and on the blade itself. Another of a very elegant shape, still sharp, had the usual rivet-holes and the ribbing at the end<sup>1</sup>. The rest were merely fragments, and it is unnecessary to give a representation or further description of them.

From the fact of similar weapons having been found in some of the Tumuli opened by Sir Richard Hoare in *Wiltshire*, though by no means in such large quantities; from weapons of the like nature having been dug up in various parts of *Ireland*, where we know the Romans never made any settlement; from others of the same sort having been discovered in *Wales*<sup>2</sup>; at *Pernelle*<sup>3</sup>, and in the neighbourhood of *Vire* in *Normandy*, all of which have been decided on undeniable grounds not to be of Roman manufacture, it follows that these also are not the work of our Roman invaders. But by whom shall we say that they were made? Latterly it has been the fashion to consider every thing which is not Roman as Phœnician, on the supposition that the Britons being unable to fabricate their implements of warfare, procured them from the early navigators to their coasts in exchange for tin. This argument would be sufficiently strong if such weapons were peculiar to Britain, but it fails when we discover them turned up over all parts of Sweden, France, and Germany. Was it likely that those extensive kingdoms should have received the instruments of destruction from a country so remote as Carthage, from one with which they could not have any necessity for traffic, and in the instance

<sup>1</sup> Some of these are in the author's possession.

<sup>2</sup> Four ancient weapons were exhibited to the Antiquarian Society March 23, 1800, discovered in a mountain called *Cwm Moch*, in the parish of *Maentwrog*, *Merionethshire*, figured in the *Archæologia*, vol. xvi. pl. 70. No. 3 is like No. 2 of the annexed plate.

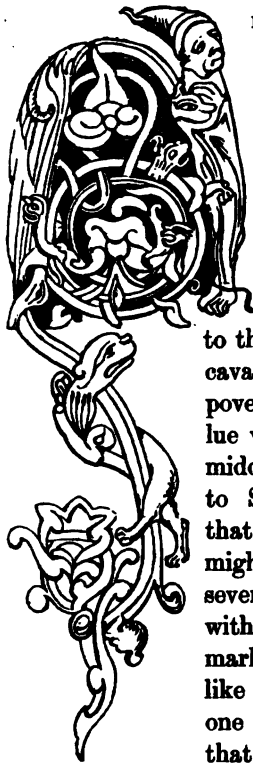
<sup>3</sup> The weapons found at *Pernelle* in the neighbourhood of *Vire*, and in the *Département de la Manche*, were like those found at *Willow Farm*. See *Mémoires de la Société des Antiquaires de Normandie*, 1827—1828.

of the latter state, no means of communication? It is highly improbable. There is an absence of any thing like proof, nay, of any evidence but mere conjecture; and I am disposed to consider them as the workmanship of the nations where they are found. And why should they not be so? For that these different European nations understood the art of smelting, of annealing, and of inlaying, is well known, and it is but natural to think they were equally well acquainted with the art of casting<sup>1</sup>. Their countries severally possessed the minerals from which these implements were made; neither does it appear probable that the Phœnicians should have come hither to freight their vessels with the raw material, for the very small profit merely, which they could afterwards derive from its reproduction in another form.

<sup>1</sup> As in fact they were: for moulds for spear, arrow and axe-heads have been frequently found both in Britain and Ireland. The discovery in 1735, on *Easterly Moor* near *York*, of 100 axe-heads, with several lumps of metal and a quantity of cinders, may be considered sufficient testimony that at least the bronze imported into Britain was cast into shapes by the inhabitants themselves. (v. *Archæol.* vol. xiv. pl. iv. vol. xv. pl. xxxiv. *Collectanea de Reb. Hibern.* vol. iv. pl. x. *Borlase, Cornwall*, p. 287. *Pict. Hist. Engl.* p. 103, 4.)



## Tumuli.



ABOUT a century ago some TUMULI were opened upon the top of *Morf* by the Rev. Mr Stackhouse, who furnished an account of his operations to the Royal Society. No vestiges of these Tumuli now appear, as the land is all under the plough. We gather from his own account what was the result of his labors; but whether it was owing to the unskilful manner in which the excavation was set about, or to the actual poverty of the *Tumulus*, nothing of value was found. He dug through the middle and largest Tumulus from North to South, supposing by that method that he should cross any body that might have been laid there. He dug seven feet deep, even to the solid rock, without meeting with any thing remarkable, except an iron shell, in shape like a small egg, with a round hole at one end, but so cankered and decayed that it easily broke into small pieces; this he supposed to have been the pommel of a sword. Upon the West side was found in a kind of hollow, one of the large vertebræ of the loins with its process nearly perfect, "but thoroughly petrified"; and upon further

search, several portions of bones all alike petrified, but so "disguised" that he could not discover to what part of the body they belonged. He afterwards opened one of the lesser *Tumuli*, and found what he considered to be the *os sacrum*, and many other small pieces of bones in a petrified state. He left the other Tumuli unexamined. The middle *Tumulus* was about nine yards in diameter, and the lesser eight, at its base.

Midway betwixt the period when Mr Stackhouse made these excavations, and the present day, an opening was cut into a *Tumulus* at STAPLETON. The plan of operations has not been recorded, but we know that all that was discovered in it was a funeral urn, formed of clay baked in the sun, which it is thought had formerly held the ashes of the person to whose memory the barrow was raised. It is worth noticing that a coincidence exists in the name of the place where this *Tumulus* was placed, and STAPELEY HILL on the borders of *Montgomeryshire*, each of them haply significant of sepulchral remains.

Upon the summit of LONG MYND are a series of *Tumuli*, which if we commence at *Choulton Lodge*, by the time we reach *Yapsel Bank*, we shall have passed six of them. The one here and one North West of *Rock* make eight. At the extremity of the eminence are two others which bear the name of ROBIN HOOD'S BUTTS. A few years ago that lying to the South East was opened, but whether owing to the natural unproductiveness of the barrow, or to the interment having been missed through the unskilfulness of the labourers who were employed, nothing was discovered to repay the investigator for his enquiry. It was of an oval form, eight feet high, twelve wide, and from twenty to twenty-five feet long. It is singular that some Tumuli on the South Eastern borders of *Devonshire* should have the same name. They are conical mounds of earth, like these,

and about sixty feet in diameter, and are supposed to be the tombs of warriors who fell during the contests between the Saxons and the Danes. One of them was opened in the year 1818, but no deposit found. These Tumuli, continues my authority, bear the characteristic marks of Celtic barrows. Those in Shropshire we may, with most reason, ascribe to the British Period. In *Derbyshire* are Cairns known under the name of *Robin Hood's Pricks*, which having been opened, were ascertained, from the urns they contained, to be British<sup>1</sup>.

I shall take this opportunity of stating my belief that the PORT WAY running along the summit of the LONG MYND is an ancient BRITISH TRACK WAY from CASTLE HILL near *Lebotwood*, to BILLING'S RING, an oval entrenchment of two ditches, lying two miles to the South East of *Bishop's Castle*. The title of PORT WAY is not UNUSUAL. There is another PORT WAY, a branch from WATLING STREET, in *Whittlebury Forest*. The Roman road from *Silchester* to *Old Sarum*, which cuts another at almost right angles between *Andover* and *Knight's Inham* in *Hampshire*, and crosses the river *Test* or *Anton*, at *St Mary Bourn*, is sometimes called the PORT WAY. So is the ICKNIELD in its progress from *Streatley* to *Wantage*, about *Upton* and *Harwell* in *Berkshire*. The street called *Icknield*, where it passes *Old Sarum*, from North East to South West, towards *Stratford*, is always called PORT LANE<sup>2</sup>. There is a PORT LANE between *Aylesbury* and *Dinton* in *Buckinghamshire*. At *Dinton* Roman remains have been found<sup>3</sup>. This lane runs into the RIDGE WAY or ICKLETON STREET as it is called, near EAST ILSLEY in *Berkshire*, near which place the PORT WAY runs parallel to it: passing STREAT-

<sup>1</sup> See *Archæol.* vol. vii. p. 137.

<sup>2</sup> *Warton's History of Kiddington*, 4to. 1815. p. 64.

<sup>3</sup> See *Archæol.* vol. x. p. 171.



LEY, GRIM'S DYKE, and COLD HARBOUR<sup>1</sup> FARM, it trends to *Beacon Hill*, where it is called *Ickleton* road. Here it leaves a *Tumulus* to the North, and *Kingston Grave* to the South East. Just before it reaches *Tring* it is called the ICKNIELD WAY. The name is derived from the A. Sax. *port*, *promontorium*, because it runs along an eminence, and is in fact as we should call it, strictly speaking, a *Highway*. It occurs also in the parish of *Hardwick, Cambridgeshire*.

The Rev. John Rocke is the first Salopian who attempted to open a *Tumulus* in a methodical and scientific manner. The barrow he cut into was unproductive of those sepulchral relics which are usually found, but we are repaid for the want of internal treasures by the light which his succinct and accurate observations have thrown upon this subject generally. I am indebted to his friendship for furnishing the following account of his operations.

A few yards to the North East of CLUNGUNFORD CHURCH, (vulgo dictum *Lungonas*<sup>2</sup>) is a large circular mound, which stands fifteen feet above the average level of the subjacent meadow; it is one hundred and three feet across its base, and forty-nine across its summit. From South East to West the diameter is two feet more. The sides incline at an angle of twenty-eight degrees<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> There are several COLD HARBOURS, in Great Britain, mentioned in the Observations upon the Names of Places, (q. v.) A COLD HARBOUR, and COLD COMFORT, lie two miles North of *Dinton*.

<sup>2</sup> CLUNGUNAS. Saxton's Map, 1577. *Chungonax*, *Chungunnas*, *Chungonax*, *Chungonford*. Chartæ apud Rev. J. Rocke. Celt. *Lon*, *Lun*, aqua. Hence *London*, *Lancaster*, &c.

<sup>3</sup> Dr Dorow in his account of the excavations made by him near *Wiesbaden*, in the year 1817, (See *Opferstätte und Grabhugel der Germanen und Römer am Rhein untersucht und dargestellt von Dr Wilhelm Dorow; Wiesbaden*. 4to. 1826), states that he considers the winter season the most advantageous for making researches of this nature. The soil below the frozen surface is more readily worked than in summer, and the earthen vessels are always more easily preserved. The opening of the barrow itself, I have made trial of, says he, in every possible manner, and account the best and most simple to be according to this practice: to begin from the peak of the barrow and level it in all directions as far as the outermost

Mr Roche made an incision into the barrow from the North, by cutting a passage five feet five inches wide, which he carried on six feet beyond the centre in a Southern direction. At the distance of eight feet from the edge, he came upon a solid mass of ashes, in which was found numerous pieces of rude unbaked pottery. This cinereal stratum was one inch and a half in thickness at its commencement, and kept gradually increasing as it got nearer the centre of the PYRE, when it became four inches thick. Four feet from the edge of the ashes, or twelve from the extremity of the barrow, a stratum of deep grey coloured mud began, of that kind thrown out of fish ponds; it took an undulating form, and at the centre of the Tumulus was as much as eight feet in thickness. It was highly charged with a light coloured matter resembling mushroom spawn, which after a few minutes exposure to the air assumed a pale Prussian blue colour<sup>1</sup>. It contained animal matter, pieces of charcoal, of unburnt wood, pieces of bone, and fragments of sunburnt pottery: the handle of one piece had the impression of a man's thumb on the under side. Below this stratum was another of a similar edge. Remarkable objects were often found by him on the outermost extremities of the barrow, perhaps after the interments. The same thing occurs in the *Wiltshire* barrows, the interment itself being frequently on one side.

Mr Davidson, in his *British and Roman remains in the vicinity of Azminster*, says that the vestiges of ancient earthworks and lines of communication, which are in many instances almost effaced by the united effects of the weather and cultivation, the antiquary, if he wish for success, should choose a clear winter's day for his researches. The fields are then bare of corn, the herbage is short, the trees and hedges are divested of their foliage, and the sun being low, a broader shadow is cast from any irregularities of the surface. p. 14.

<sup>1</sup> In the barrows opened by Milner in *Dorsetshire*, was noticed a considerable quantity of fine rich black earth, with a certain white mouldiness between the particles, which must have been fetched from a considerable distance, and which was invariably strewed over the remains of the dead in these ancient sepultures. (Description of several barrows opened in *Dorsetshire*, Selections from the Gentleman's Magazine, vol. i. p. 447.)

kind, varying however in some degree, inasmuch as it was of a deeper colour, and appeared more highly charged with animal matter. Besides containing bones of oxen and large pieces of charcoal, there were in this deposit boars' tusks, and two pieces of iron resembling a horse-shoe nail; one long and thin like an awl, the other like "a *frost nail*". The appearance of this stratification exactly resembled what we see at the present day in the iron manufacturing districts: where in the conversion of coal into coke, or wood into charcoal, the surface of the heap is smothered with damp earth or ashes, as a means of making the body retain heat better. And it had probably the same use here, being employed to prevent the escape of the fire, or any offensive smell which would arise from burning the bodies.

At the distance of twenty feet six inches from the outside of the barrow, Mr Rooke came upon a heap of stones which seems to have encircled the central part of the Pyre, and was intended as a *fender*. It was three feet nine inches wide, and one foot eight inches high. Underneath it lay the dark mass of charcoal before mentioned, which evidently shews that the *fender* was put on as a later work. At this point the richer mud was one foot in thickness: midway betwixt this part and the centre it increased to one foot four inches. The hearth was one inch in thickness at its beginning, it was here two, and at the centre four inches. Towards

<sup>1</sup> Iron nails have been found in some of the *Wiltshire* barrows. Mr Cunnington opened a mound in *Elder Valley*, but found nothing in it but a few animal bones, a small piece of pottery, and a *nail*. In one of the barrows in *Ashton Valley* he found with pieces of charred wood, *iron nails* with flat heads from half an inch to five inches long. (Hoare's *Ancient Wiltshire*, p. 78.) In 1801 he opened a large Tumulus on *Cotley Hill* in *Wiltshire*. The only articles he discovered were animal bones, *iron nails*, and broken pottery of different sorts. This barrow is surrounded by a circular vallum of small elevation, and from the circumstance of the ditch being within the bank, Sir Richard Hoare pronounced it to have been originally a work destined for religious purposes. *Ib.* p. 71.

the centre there appeared to be two strata of ashes; the lower one was four inches thick, the upper one three inches thick, having nine inches of clay betwixt them. This seemed to have been sunk on the Eastern side, as the ashes rose up towards the West. Can we infer from this that there was more than one cremation? The richest part of the mud was towards the centre of the mound; it was there of a deeper cast, and fuller of the prussiate of iron. And here it was two feet thick above the coal hearth, and about two feet six inches below it. Outside the fender, just where the cinereal stratum commences, was found great quantities of vegetable matter, which seemed to be rushes: this was clearly intended to kindle the funereal pile. Some of the seeds were shaken out of it, and sown in a hot-house to ascertain what they actually were, but they did not grow.

Having carried on his investigations thus far, Mr Roche reached the centre of the Tumulus, and thinking that he might still have missed some interment, he continued the excavation five feet further, and two feet lower. He still found the same kind of mud, but in a more liquid state, and falling into a basin as it were, in the centre of which was a plum-pudding stone of a peculiar shape, one foot high and eighteen inches long, and fifty pounds weight, that had formerly been supported by a piece of cleft oak, which was lying flat underneath it. This stone had evidently been set here for some purpose or other: but not to mark the place where a body had been put, as the ground below it had never been moved.

That this TUMULUS is an instance of interment by cremation is so clear, that it seems hardly necessary to state it<sup>1</sup>. Through the careful and praiseworthy at-

<sup>1</sup> There is reason to think that the rites of cremation have been practised in Tumuli where we find charred wood, with fragments of human bones and rude British pottery. As in the instance of *King's barrow* in *Wiltshire*. Hoare's *Ancient Wiltshire*, p. 73.

tention bestowed by Mr Roewe whilst the labourers were employed, we gain some insight into the method that was adopted in burning the dead at the period when this barrow was constructed. We see how the fire was kindled, how the bodies were held in through means of the stone fender, and how the heat was retained until they were entirely consumed<sup>1</sup>. His trouble was not compensated by the discovery of such intrinsically valuable relics as have sometimes attended similar labors elsewhere, but he has increased our knowledge on the subject of sepulchral remains in a manner that will elicit the gratitude of all succeeding antiquaries.

In the interesting account which Dr Dorow has given of his excavations near *Wiesbaden*, there are several facts mentioned that accord with these. Many of his excavations were fruitless: he met with coals only, which lay in strata, and were covered with reddish burnt earth. He observed no fixed connexion or order in the position of the barrows which he opened. They seem specially to have sought for declivities towards the East. There frequently lay in barrows, skeletons unburnt, still adorned with jewels and ornaments, and close by were found burned bones and ashes in urns. It is worthy of observation that he found no coins in any barrow in the environs of *Wiesbaden*, although objects therein contained were of unquestionable Roman origin. In the first barrow which Dorow opened, on the road to the *Platte*, in a wood belonging to the town of *Wiesbaden*, called *Hebenkies*, he ordered the workmen to dig from the West side of its extreme edge, towards the middle, and

<sup>1</sup> The A. Sax. poem of *Beowulf* furnishes us with some curious particulars relative to the manner in which the obsequies of a Teutonic Hero were celebrated. The principal points were the feast; the raising of a mound; the burning of the body; and the throwing upon the pile or into the mound, jewels, arms, and warlike implements; the sacrifice of hawks, hounds, horses, and even human beings, slaves or free men. (See the subject further illustrated in the notes of Kemble's Translation of *Beowulf*. 1837.)

soon came upon a layer placed with design, in fashion like a wall of field-stones, piled up three feet high and two and a half broad, which lay in the direction of the middle of the barrow. Following this up for five feet he came upon the exterior side of a caldron-shaped layer of just the same kind of stones. From this the passage, which was filled up with stones as above mentioned, issued. He caused this caldron (*kessel*) that was burdened with an agglomeration of burnt earth, stones, pieces of earthen vessels and other substances, to be cleared out with every precaution. Directly at the right side of the entrance into the caldron he found on this side a stone battle-axe, not far from it on the left, bones of the upper and lower jaw of a horse. On the right near the battle-axe, fragments of ornamented urns, and bones of a skull almost as light as a feather, pieces of arm and leg-bones, a man's tooth, and a considerable quantity of ashes, which are distinguishable in barrows from the rest of the soil by their pale yellow colour, by their lightness in a dry state, and by their feeling soft. The bones lay upon crystals of quartz, which were found in very considerable quantities, and had suffered more or less from fire. Under these small stones was found a polished flint three quarters of an inch long and a quarter broad, perhaps a fragment of a knife.

The fragments of urns were now carefully picked out from amongst the burnt rubbish and stones, also sherds of two burned earthen vessels, which were found by the horse's bones. A closer inspection of the sepulchre induced the belief that it had been built in the barrow with field-stones set wedgewise, in the form of a trough-shaped caldron, seven feet diameter and five feet high, so that on the West there was left a horizontal aperture, which at last was filled up with stones. There appeared upon this caldron, which shewed no trace of

vaulting over, a cone raised up seven feet higher, of just the same field-stones, but the whole was covered over with earth a foot thick: in this, immediately at the top, were found a great number of metallic rings, much covered with verdigris, in part entirely converted into it.

From the fashion of this burial-place, we are led readily to form the supposition, that first the caldron was built up, in order to raise upon it the pile of wood for burning the deceased with his arms and his war-horse. The horizontal passage into it seems like a vent hole or flue for encouraging the fire. The urns placed on the edge of the sepulchre with the ornaments of it, tumbled down into the caldron with the consumed pile, and were covered over with the ashes, and crushed by the hard and heavy load of the cone of stones.

These objects are totally different from the Roman remains that are found in this part of the world, as well as the internal appearance of the burial-place itself, with the quantity of field-stones piled up; and they justify our concluding that this was an Aboriginal German grave, and lead to the conjecture that a warrior, chieftain, or prince was interred there.

The BATTLE-AXE weighing two pounds, was two and a half inches broad, nine inches long, one inch nine lines thick, and was of dark green serpentine. Half of that side which lay uppermost was coated over with an incrustation half a line thick, of the nature of sandstone, which it was not possible to detach, without injuring the serpentine, especially as the coating had penetrated at the same time into the pores, that were found here and there on the surface of the stone. Excepting one small spot besides this, incrustation was not found elsewhere on the other half of this side, which almost alone is a proof of its having laid a thousand

years and more in its place. The battle-axe in all probability served rather for ornament than for actual service against the enemy. The form as well as the workmanship of this piece of arms is pointed out as alike excellent. The polish still retained its lustre; and the round aperture pierced through for the handle was very singular; it was made with the greatest skill, and could not have been drilled more beautifully by the best workers in metal, whilst the lustre of it also was not in the least degree inferior. For a wooden handle the aperture appeared rather too small, though there was no metal to be found which would in all respects have served the purpose. The stone battle-axe, moreover, may have been placed in the sepulchre as a symbol of Thor the god of war, to denote that the deceased was a hero.

There were found four URNS. The *first* of these was of unglazed *burnt* clay, eight and a half inches high, and bellying out six inches in diameter. The ornaments appear to represent fir-cones, and are slightly sketched in with a round blunt style, and then worked out with a pointed style. The form of the urn was most similar to a drinking vessel, and of uncommon occurrence. It was originally black. The brittleness, softness, and weatherbeaten state of the fragments, from which however it could have been entirely put together again, shew from having lain in the earth a thousand and more years, by what means this urn may have lost its dark colour. The *second* URN was still more similar to a drinking vessel than the foregoing, and had with equal height and out-bellying, a greater projection in the brim, and a wider corresponding neck. The lump of clay out of which this was fashioned was also blackened, and appeared coarser than the preceding one. Its form and decoration was of a simpler and ruder kind. The *third* URN was found in more than fifty pieces by the



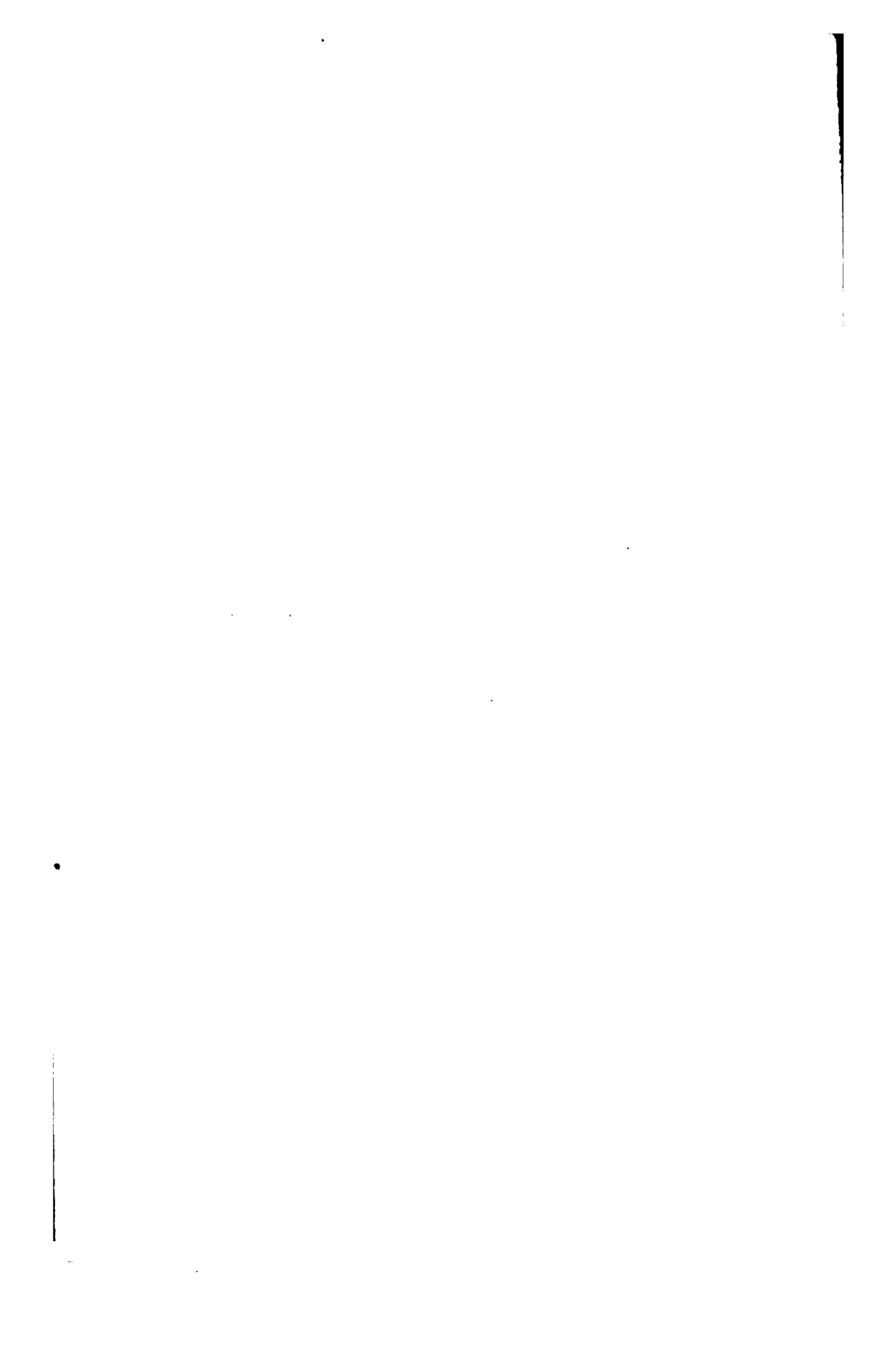
side of the horse's bones, but Dr Dorow managed for the most part to put it together. It was strikingly different in shape from the foregoing one, inasmuch as it had a wide oval protuberance of one foot one inch in diameter, by one foot high, two handles, and a narrower neck opening, of four inches nine lines in diameter, and on the whole looked not unlike a water-pot. Its clay was of the same goodness as the second urn, and it had much resemblance to it in the style of its decoration. However, the strokes which form the ornaments in this were more carelessly drawn, more irregular, less deeply impressed, and less sharply defined. This urn was of yellow clay, and appeared burnt harder than the foregoing one. The *fourth* URN lay likewise with the horse's bones, was of a smaller kind than the preceding ones, and of very much coarser clay, of ruder shape and workmanship. It was four inches eight lines high, and instead of the two handles on the protuberance of six inches diameter, a rudely shaped lump of clay projected, in which a hole of two lines in diameter was made, probably in order to pass a string through. This pot-shaped urn was of a greyish yellow colour and without ornament. Besides these there was found the ornamented handle of a *fifth* URN of black clay.

The HORSE'S BONES consisted of a piece of the upper jaw-bone with two teeth, and a much larger piece of the lower jaw-bone with the first five teeth. On the teeth themselves the enamel was perfectly well preserved: the bones had suffered more in comparison, but contrasted with the human bones were solid. Under these bones lay a wrought piece of stag's horn, as Dr Dorow and several other persons supposed it to be, not unlike a toothpick.

There was found with the human bones an oblong but irregular and opaque piece of white quartz, appa-

rently a rock-crystal, which in this country occurs only among the slates of the Rhine: it was probably laid in the grave with some intention, since in several, yet only in such as are considered German, quartz stones of the same kind have been found. The tasteful and simple decoration of the first and second urn was remarkable, and may be considered as an argument that Asiatic Colonists of a higher degree of civilization migrating into these parts, grew savage in the forests and colder climate of Germany, and by them these elegant forms had been preserved, though the workmanship and material had become coarse.





ROMAN PERIOD.





## WROXETER.



HAVING examined the etymology of WROXETER in a former part of this volume<sup>1</sup>, I shall now place before the reader those few facts we possess relative to its early history. The first writer by whom it is mentioned is Ptolemy<sup>2</sup>, who speaks of *Οὐριόκωνιον* as one of the chief cities of the CORNAVII. It occurs in the second and twelfth Iter of Antoninus, under the Latinised form of URICOONIUM. The doubtful authority of Richard of Cirencester, says that URICONIUM was one of the largest cities in Britain<sup>3</sup>. In his first, second<sup>4</sup> and thirteenth Iter it is called VIRICOONIUM. These facts of themselves shew that under the Roman dominion of Britain it was a place of considerable importance.

The Saxons called it WREKEN-CEASTER, which has subsequently been corrupted into ROXALTER, (Speed's Map, 1646.) WROXALTER, (Philos. Trans. 1747, vol. xlv, p. 557,) and WROXETER its present name.

<sup>1</sup> Vide, p. 91.

<sup>2</sup> Ptolomæi Geog. apud Horsley, p. 359.

<sup>3</sup> *Uriconium inter Britanniae civitates maxumas nomen possidebat.* Ricardi Corinensis de situ Britanniae, lib. i. cap. 27.

<sup>4</sup> Gale, in his comment on this second Iter says, "Nomen hujus urbis e Vindilicia cum Romanis aquilis ad nos venisse videatur; occurrunt enim Virucinales inter quatuor Vindelicorum gentes quas nobis in Alpino trophæo exhibet Plinius, lib. iii. cap. 20. Britannicum vero nomen hujus urbi fuit *Brecon* vel *Vrecon*, quod et retinet in vincia mons hodie Wreken appellatus." Anton. Iter. curâ Gale, p. 56.

Baxter says that an ancient tradition existed in his day that the city was burned by the Danes, "immissis *Passeribus* de Veroconio monte," the meaning whereof others may better explain. He suspects these fugitive sparrows to have been monks or hermits from the *Wrekin*<sup>1</sup>. In later times the mountain was usually termed MONS GILBERTI, or ST GILBERT'S MOUNTAIN, from which 'Saint' the Gilbertine Monks originated. The earliest authority in which I have met with the title of Sr GILBERT'S HILL for the *Wrekin* is in the highly curious Anglo Norman Romance of Fulk Fitz Warin, where it is called MONT GYLBERT<sup>2</sup>. From the fact of an iron seal having been dug up at WROXETER, upon which was engraved the head of a prince circled with a Roman diadem, and having long hair, with the inscription CAIVT SERVI DEI, Baxter concludes the city had not been overthrown by the Saxons. He conjectures this head to have represented *Offa* king of Mercia, on account of the intermixture of Greek with Latin characters. From the place being mentioned at the close of the seventh century in the Chorography of Ravennas<sup>3</sup>, as the chief city of the CORNAVII, he supposes that it flourished till the time of the Danes, and that perhaps even here at one period the Mercians fixed their capital. And if DDINLE VRECON, means *Wroxeter*, and not the hill fortress of the WREKIN, *Uriconium* was standing when Llywarc Hên wrote his elegy on the death of Cynddylan.

The CAER URNACH<sup>4</sup> of Nennius has been conjectured to mean WROXETER, but without sufficient reason<sup>5</sup>. The affix of *Ur* in *Uriconium* and in *Urnach* being the chief argument for the assumption. Baxter imagines that

<sup>1</sup> Glossarium Antiquitatum Britannicarum, p. 243.    <sup>2</sup> p. 2.

<sup>3</sup> Vtriconion Cornoninorum. Uriconium Cornavium, (Cornoviorum Vat. MS.) Ravenn. Chorog.

<sup>4</sup> Whitaker, in his History of *Manchester*, supposes *Wroxeter* to be *Y Ricon Caer*, the city of Kings. vol. i. p. 148.

<sup>5</sup> See p. 92.

*Caer ūar na ūag* signifies *civitas ad cervicem fluctus*. Its connexion with the Giant Urnach, says he, of whom the Welsh fables speak, is too ridiculous to excite attention.

Antiquities of the Roman period have been found here at various times. The earliest discovery of which we have any information is the *Sudatory* or *Hypocaust*<sup>1</sup> that was uncovered in the year 1701. About forty perches North of the wall some labourers in digging to ascertain the cause of unfruitfulness of the land there, came upon a small square room "walled about and floored under and over." It was set with four ranks of small brick pillars eight inches square, and laid in a strong sort of very fine red clay, each pillar being founded upon a foot square quarry of brick; and upon the head of every pillar was fixed a large quarry of two feet square, hard almost as flint. These pillars were to support a double floor, made of very strong mortar, mixed with coarse gravel and broken bricks. The first of these floors was laid upon the large quarries, and when dry the second floor was laid upon it.

There was a range of tunnel-bricks<sup>2</sup> fixed with iron cramps up to the wall within, with their lower ends level with the under sides of the broad quarries, and their upper ends with the surface of the upper floor: and every tunnel had alike two opposite mortice-holes,

<sup>1</sup> Sir Christopher Wren informed Dr Harwood who communicated an account of this discovery to the Royal Society, that he discovered the remains of such another Hypocaust when they were laying the foundation of the King's house at *Winchester*.

Mr Christopher Hunter, in a letter to Dr Lyster dated May 15, 1702, published in *Philos. Trans.* No. 278, p. 1131, gives an account of one dug up in *Yorkshire*. Edward Liwyd in his additions to Camden notices another discovered at *Kaer hyn*, co. *Caernarvon*. He describes and gives a figure of one of the hollow bricks or tunnels. Another has been found at *Hope* in *Flintshire*, and another at *Chester*, besides several other places.

<sup>2</sup> These flues are usually the same wherever they occur. The present ones, from the representation given, are just like some I have seen that were found at *Borough Hill*, near *Daventry*.



one on either side, cut through for a cross passage to disperse the heat amongst them all<sup>1</sup>.

In 1747, a clay mould for forging Roman coin was found here, it had on it the head of Julia, the wife of Severus, and the inscription JVLIA AVGVSTA. It was described in a paper read before the Royal Society the same year, together with four others discovered in digging sand at *Ryton*, near *Condover*<sup>2</sup>. They were all

<sup>1</sup> A description of a Roman Sudatory or Hypocaustum, found at *Wroxeter* in Shropshire, 1701, by Mr John Lyster, (*Philosophical Transactions*, vol. xxv. p. 2226—8.) a representation is given of these remains in the volume quoted, and a model of them existed in the Library of the Free School, *Shrewsbury*.

<sup>2</sup> According to the account of them in the *Philos. Trans.* vol. xlv. p. 557, they were as follows:\*

1. Probably the reverse of a Denarius of Severus. On the reverse, *Figura velata coram aram sacrificans. VOTA SVSCEPTA. X.*

2. On one side *Caput Juliae Severi, IVLIA AVGVSTA*. On the other was the reverse of a Denarius of Severus. *Victoria gradiens cum fune superscuto P. M. TR. F. VIII. COS. II. P. P.*

3. A reverse of Caracalla. *Trophæum de Parthis cum duobus captivis assidentibus. PART. MAX. PON. TR. P. V. COS.*

4. *Caput Juliae Severi. IVLIA AVGVSTA.*

These were bought by Gough at the decease of the possessor, and are now probably among his bequests to the Bodleian.

\* I remember, says the author of this paper, no account of any such kind of moulds being found in other countries excepting some said to be found at *Lyons*, but I believe more of them have been discovered at different times in England. I have been informed that the Earl of Winchelsea had several impressions or moulds of this sort, all joined together side by side, on one flat piece of clay as if for the making of many casts at once. They were all of the Emperor Severus. In the Earl of Pembroke's collection is a clay mould impressed on both sides like No. 2, one side with the head of Severus, the other with a known reverse of that emperor, so that all we know of are nearly of the same time, Severus or Caracalla his son and immediate successor. They are seemingly intended for the coinage of money though it is very difficult to conceive in what manner they could be employed for that purpose, especially those with an impression on both sides, unless we suppose two pieces to have been coined at the same time by the help of three moulds, of which this was to be the middle one. If by disposing these into some sort of frame or case, as letter founders do the brass moulds for casting types, the metal could be poured into them, it would certainly be a very easy method of coining, as such moulds require little time or expense to make, and might easily be renewed. They seem to have been burned or baked sufficiently to make them hard, but not so as to render them like bricks, whereby they would have lost their smooth and even surface, which in these is plainly so smooth that whatever metal should be formed in them would have no appearance like the sand holes by which counterfeit coins are usually detected.

At *Lyons* in the *Fourviere*, (*forum vetus*) the quarter mostly inhabited by the Romans, moulds of whitish clay baked are frequently found. M. Mahudel has given a memoir on their use. (*Mémoires de l'Académie d'Inscriptions*, tom. iii. 218, No. ii. 333—342.)

They are about an inch in diameter, two lines thick at the edge; most have impression on both sides. Each mould has a small opening or channel at the edge leading to the cavity of the impression, which served to receive and conduct the metal. When a number of them were laid together, at each end was a mould impressed only on one side, and they were perhaps imbedded in earth to hold them together, as some still adhere to some of these moulds. They were of the time of Severus, who resided long at *Lyons*, where Caracalla was born. An ingot of mixed metal was found with them, the verdigris on which, shewed there was more copper than silver. The number and goodness of these moulds led some antiquaries to the supposition that the Romans sometimes cast their silver coin. M. Mahudel adduces various arguments to shew that it was struck, and thinks that these moulds were used solely by false coiners.

of the size of a denarius, a little more than the thickness of a halfpenny, with the exception of the former one that was double. They were made of a smooth pot or rather brick clay that seemed to have been well cleaned from sand or dirt, and well beat or kneaded, to render it fit for taking a fair impression. Great numbers of them were found, but for want of care most of them were broken in pieces.

In the year 1752, in a field two hundred yards North East of the OLD WALL were found three sepulchral stones, that are now preserved in the Free School Library at *Shrewsbury*, together with a fourth subsequently discovered<sup>1</sup>. As far as type will allow I have endeavoured to print their inscriptions in the following pages.

<sup>1</sup> These are engraved in Camden, vol. iii. p. 13, and in a small privately printed volume of plates which gives representations of some coarse urns found in 1810.

Pliny speaks of the debasement of coin and the art required to distinguish that which was genuine from pieces cast in a sand mould, which imitations were often so well executed that the curious would often give many pieces of good money for one false one.

Count Caylus took impressions in pewter from these *Lyons* moulds; when they were carefully cleaned he obtained perfect casts; they were of Antoninus Pius, Geta and Julia, all described by Occo.

Count Caylus differs from Mahudel as to the use of these moulds, Recueil i. 286, he thinks that the Romans as well as the kings of Egypt, Syria, Judea, &c. used both moulds and the hammer. They seem intended for silver coinage, which in the reign of Severus was debased, and continued more and more so till the time of Diocletian. After the time of Severus coins are mostly of billon—brass alloyed with a little silver,—and to forge such base coin he argues would be hardly worth the coiners's while, and also that the mints would be more careless about the mode of marking such coin and use the shortest and least costly method, namely, the mould, the head might quickly be engraved in relief on a punchbeon hard enough to stamp the clay, the legend possibly printed by moveable characters, a conjecture authorised by the confusion and transposition of letters on medals.

In the ruins of the fountain of Nismes were found two brass dies of medals of Augustus, engraved Mémoires de l'Acad. des Insc. xiv. 106. Caylus Recueil i. cv. f. 1. See a third in Moulinet Cabinet de St Genevieve, p. 117, of Augustus; in the same collection two of iron of Constantius.

See in Phil. Trans. vol. — No. 234, an account by Thoresby of clay moulds for casting money found at *Thorpe* in *Yorkshire*; they were of Severus, his consort Julia, his son Caracalla. Alexander Severus, his mother, Mammaea, and Diadumenianus. In the Ashmolean are matrices of clay for casting Roman coins found 167, in the parish of *Murthick* co. *Somerset*. presented 1688, by John Aubrey of *Easton Prince, Wills*. No. 93—96 coins.



## No. 1.

Is a stone four feet ten long and one foot nine inches wide.

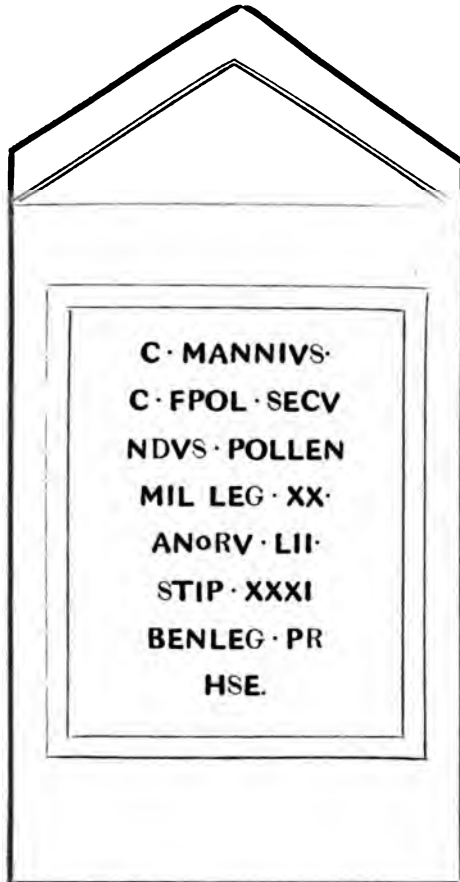


Marcus . Petronius Lucii . filius . Menenise vixit . annos  
 XXXVIII miles . legionis XIII geminæ<sup>1</sup> militavit annos .  
 XVIII . Signifer . fuit . Hic . Sepultus . est .

<sup>1</sup> It is said that this legion was never in Britain, though I have been unable to ascertain on what authority it is so stated. Dr Ward in his account of this Inscription in the Philos. Trans. vol. xlix. part i. p. 196, conjectures that Petronius only came for his health and died here!

## No. 2.

A stone four feet five inches high, by two feet three wide.  
Surmounted at the top by a pine apple betwixt two lions.



Caius . Mannius . Caii . Filius Polliae . Secundus<sup>1</sup> . Pol-  
lens Miles Legionis . XX . Annorum . LII . Stipendiarius .  
XXXI . beneficiarius legati<sup>2</sup> . provinciae hic Sepultus est .

<sup>1</sup> *Secundus*, an epithet bestowed by his general: this and *Pollens*, were titles of honour.

<sup>2</sup> Every province had its legati, or Lieutenant Generals, appointed by the Consuls.

## No. 3.

A stone two feet eight inches high, and two feet three wide, divided into three compartments, one of which is blank. The upper part is ornamented by the representation of two dolphins, two serpents, and a human head.

D · M	D · M ·	
PLACIDA	DEVCCV	
AN · LV	S · AN · XV	
CVR · AC	CVR · C ·	
CON · I ·	RA · TRE	

Diis . Manibus Placida annis . LV cura . agente conjuge<sup>1</sup>.

Diis . Manibus . Deuccus . annis . XV . cura . agente patre<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> I am not prepared to set before the reader a better interpretation than this, nor bold enough to add to it the numerals XXX. as has been done by others, implying that Placida was thirty years a wife. What has been tortured into XXX. appears to me nothing more than a long cross ornament at the bottom, like the triplication of a W.

<sup>2</sup> Nor do I feel satisfied with the reading of the latter part of this inscription.

## No. 4.

A stone two feet ten high, and two feet wide :

TIB · CLAVD · TIB  
 NINS · EQ · COH  
 THRACVM · AI  
 ORVM · LVII · ST  
 ENDIOR · X  
 H · S

Tiberius Claudius *Tibertinus* Eques Cohortis Thracum auxiliorum LVII. Stipendiorum X. hic Sepultus est<sup>1</sup>.

In June 1788 very considerable remains of Roman Baths, and Hypocausts<sup>2</sup> were found, together with coins

<sup>1</sup> Engraved in Camden, vol. iii. p. 23.

<sup>2</sup> The nature of these HYPOCAUSTA is well examined by Baxter in a letter to Harwood, in which he says,

The Ancients had two sorts of HYPOCAUSTA, the one called by Cicero *Vaporarium*, and by others *Laconicum*, or *Sudatio*, which was a large sweating bath in which were tria vasa athena, called *Caldarium*, *Tepidarium*, and *Frigidarium*, from the water contained in them. The other sort of *Hypocaustum* is not so distinctly handled by Antiquaries, and it was a sort of *Fornax*, or kiln to heat their winter parlours or *Cœnatiunculæ Hybernæ*. "Erat et Disetæ sive Cœnatiunculæ," says Argol upon Panvinus, "sub qua ignis accendebatur, unde et cœnatio Hypocaustum." Cicero in his Epistles mentions *Cœnationes Æstivæ et Hybernæ*.

The Terrace floor is called by Vitruvius, *Testudo*. Testudines alveorum in communi hypocausti calefaciuntur. This *Hypocaustis* was called *Alveus* and *Fornax*, and the man who tended the fire *Fornacator*. The *Tubuli* seem to have been contrived to convey away the smother, that otherwise would choke the *Fornacator*. This kind of stove seems to be graphically described by P. Statius, in *Balneo Hetrusii*:

—ubi languidus ignis inerrat

Ædibus, et tenuem volvunt hypocausta vaporem.

Of the *Terrace*, Argol has these words, "Testudines sunt pavimenta sub quibus *Fornax* ardet."

P. S. By the way I take the word *Stove* to be derived from *Æstus* quasi *Æstivium*, there wanting hitherto a probable etymon.

both of the upper and lower Empire, bones of animals (some of which were burnt), fragments of earthen vessels of various sizes, shapes and manufactures, some of them black and resembling Etruscan ware, pieces of glass, and the whole ground was in fact full of charred substances in different strata, with layers of earth between them, seeming to indicate that the place had suffered from more than one conflagration.

The buildings were carefully surveyed at the time of their discovery by Mr Telford<sup>1</sup>, and plans with full descriptions are given in the *Archæologia*<sup>2</sup>.

The first floor uncovered was paved with tiles sixteen inches long, by twelve wide, and half an inch thick. They lay on a bed of mortar a foot thick, under which were rubble stones to a considerable depth. Adjoining it on the Northern side was a small bath capable of holding four persons, supposing them to sit on the steps or seats along the Southern side. Through the North side was a hole near the bottom. The bottom was paved with tiles, and the sides and seats plastered with mortar consisting of three layers or coats: the first, or that next the stones, was formed of lime and pounded brick without sand; the third of the same, but having a greater proportion of lime, and a little sand, the surface of this was very smooth and very hard.

Next to this were two Hypocausts about five feet by seven. They stood on a floor of mortar, one of them having six, and the other eight pillars<sup>3</sup>. Several pieces of painted stucco were found in the first Hypocaust, some of which were in stripes of crimson on a yellow ground, some in a decussated checquer of the same colors, others plain red, and others plain blue. There was also found in this place a tile two feet square, pierced with many

<sup>1</sup> See also the *Life of Telford*, published by Murray, 1839.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. ix. p. 323. communicated by the Rev. F. Leighton to Gough.

<sup>3</sup> Fragments of these still remain in the village.

holes, which were wide at the lower side, and ended almost in a point at the upper side.

There were two other small rooms, two feet by six, and two larger ones, respectively five feet, and three feet by eight, which had tessellated floors made of pieces of brick one inch and a quarter square, disposed merely in a simple cheoquer, besides another large tessellated floor nine feet six by fourteen: and another Hypocaust twelve feet by twenty. Its floor was of mortar upon rubble stones. The pillars were not uniform in their shape, size or disposition: some rows consisted of six, and some of seven pillars: some pillars were shorter than others, and the deficiency was made up by tiles, or stones laid upon them: some were apparently the fragments of large columns of a kind of granite, one foot six inches and one foot two in diameter. In one corner of this Hypocaust there was a small Bath, with one seat or step on two of its sides. The whole of the inside was well plastered with mortar. Near this Bath was found a piece of leaden pipe<sup>1</sup>, not soldered, but hammered together, and the seam or juncture was secured by a kind

<sup>1</sup> The Romans worked the LEAD MINES under the *Stiperstones* at an early period after their gaining the island. This is shewn by pigs of lead having been found in the neighbourhood.

A pig of lead was found in the year 1767 about a foot below the surface of the ground, in a piece of land about three miles North West of *Bishop's Castle*\*. It was 22 inches long; 7 wide at base; 3½ at top, and 4½ deep. There are two stamps upon the border that runs round the relieve; the letters of which, says the describer, are WINP†; as he apprehends, they stand for *Quinquevirorum jussu notatum plumbum*. This is mere conjecture. It may be observed as to the first two letters: "deducebatur colonia aut per triumviros, aut per decemviros, quamvis et *quinquevirorum*, septemvirorum, vigintivirorum colonie deducendæ huic inde fiat mentio‡." The inscription may be considered as a proof that, in the time of Adrian, the mines in Britain were worked solely for the advantage of the Emperor, agreeable to what Suetonius says; "plurimis etiam civitatibus et privatis veteres immunitates, et *ius metallorum* ac vecti-

\* This is the one mentioned by Mr Murchison in his *Silurian System*, as being in the possession of Mr More, near Bishop's Castle.

† A pig of lead in all respects similar to this is described in the *Library of Entertaining Knowledge*, the Townley Gallery, vol. ii. p. 291, it was found near *Swadbatch*, and presented to the British Museum in 1798. They each bear the inscription IMP. HADRIANI AVG.

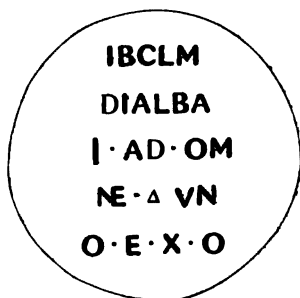
‡ *Cent. Mag.* vol. lvi. p. 224.

‡ *Heineccii Antiq. Roman. Append. lib. i. 119, and 112.*



of mortar. Probably at the same time a *strigil* and a *bronze key* kept with the antiquities in the Free School Library were found.

Several other things have at different times been turned up. Amongst them, an amuletal seal, discovered by some men near the OLD WALL while ploughing, in the year 1808. The letters are incised upon a circular jadz stone seven eighths of an inch in diameter and a quarter thick. It has hitherto baffled the endeavours of those who have attempted to explain it. As far as our type will allow, the reader may form some idea of it; the letters are carefully engraved<sup>1</sup> on the original.



galia adempta\*." And thus also all criminals were condemned either to work on the roads or in the mines. "Multos honesti ordinis deformatos prius stigmatum notis, *ad metalla* et munitiones viarum, aut ad bestias condemnavit†." However, private adventurers were afterwards permitted to work them. Heineccius says, "Restituerant deinde iisdem hoc beneficium sequentes principes, sed ea lege, ut certum inde *Canonem metallicum* solverent, de quo agit L. 4. C. Theodosii de Metallar. et ibi Io. Gothofredus." And we are told in the Codex what this *Canon metallicus* was: "Cuncti, qui per privatorum loca saxorum venam laboriosis effossionibus persequentur, decimas fisco, decimas etiam domino representent‡." The adventurers were to pay a tenth to the crown, and a tenth to the owners of the land. If the mines of this island were in the time of Adrian, worked solely for his advantage, it is natural to think that the blocks of metal were, at that time, stamped, in order to prevent lead being sold by any but the imperial officers.

<sup>1</sup> It is engraved in Gent. Mag. vol. lxxx. p. 617, and mentioned in Beauties of England and Wales, county Salop, p. 191.

\* In Tiberio, c. 49.

† In Caligula, c. 27.

‡ Codicis, lib. xl. Tit. vi. 2.

In 1810 several urns were found, and two small tessellated pavements, besides a quantity of silver coins<sup>1</sup>. These by having become dispersed and carried out of the parish, have lost their chief value, and it is now difficult to trace them. Some years ago a clause existed in the leases of the tenants at *Wroxeter*, that all antiquities found there should be rendered to the proprietor of the soil<sup>2</sup>. Had this continually been enforced, its history might have been considerably enlarged. As it is, almost every thing that has been discovered, has been lost, or by falling into hands unconnected with the place, these objects have lost their local relationship, and thus ceased to have any real worth. It is their association with *Wroxeter* that can alone render such relics of any interest, speaking as to their pecuniary value, they actually possess none<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The coins found are still called *DINDERS*, from *Denarius* (see Gloss.) as they were when Horsley visited the spot.

There were other things found in 1818, and 1824.

<sup>2</sup> Lloyd's MS. Hist. of Shropshire.

<sup>3</sup> In 1829 Mr Dukes, *Shrewsbury*, presented to the Society of Antiquaries, a manuscript account of *Wroxeter*, which contains a list of 201 silver coins, one gold, and four counterfeit ones, found there at different times.



## PRESENT STATE OF WROXETER.



WHOEVER travels along the road from *Buildwas* to *Shrewsbury*, cannot fail observing, close to the highway, as he approaches the village of *Wroxeter*, a large ruin of **OLD BALL** standing in a field to his left. This is all that now remains of the ancient

**URICONIUM**, a city formerly so extensive that it covered from three to four hundred acres, and even now vestiges of its circumference may be traced, though indistinctly it must be confessed, for three miles. A vallum and fosse encircled the whole, and as far as I have been able to make out, from the depressed and altered state to which they have been reduced by the plough, the vallum was fifteen feet in height, and the fosse the same in width. It appears to have commenced at the Severn, not quite a quarter of a mile South of *Bell Brook*; it crosses the turnpike road a few yards North West of the fifth milestone, passing over *Bell Brook* and pointing towards *Norton*, which it leaves a furlong and a half to the North. It then goes over the road leading from *Norton* to *Wroxeter*, and continues Eastwards till it crosses another road leading to the *Horse Shoes*. I conceive this road that falls into the **WATLING STREET** at the last mentioned spot to have been the direct line of Roman road to the city, though it is now degenerated into a mere lane. From its section with this line of communication it inclines a little to the South, when

again passing over *Bell Brook*, it makes a sudden turn to the South West, and terminates at the *Severn*.

Between the road to *Norton* and the road to the *Horse Shoes*, if I mistake not, or else East of the latter, on an eminence called *Middle Crows Green*, was the cemetery of the city, as it is supposed, for at this place were found the grave-stones before mentioned, besides several bones, urns, &c., all evincing that it was a spot of sepulture<sup>1</sup>. The silver coins found in 1810 were discovered in a glass vessel with two handles, in the road leading from the *Horse Shoes* toward *Wroxeter*.

The fragment of the ancient *Uriconium* so generally known as the **OLD WALL**, is in all respects a genuine example of Roman construction. It is built on just the same principles as **RICHBOROUGH**<sup>2</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> An observation has been made in reference to the manner of burying here, where the graves are found to be deep and wide, and the corpee enclosed in red clay both under and over, and to prevent the mixture of other mould with that clay the graves were faced on the sides with slates, and then covered with stones, sometimes five or six upon one sepulture. Bones have been found to be interred after this manner which contributed to their preservation for some hundreds of years. Teeth have been taken out of the jaw-bones of men, near three inches long and as many about. Some thigh bones have been found of a full yard in length. Several urns have been discovered, in the memory of man, after digging three or four feet into the earth, and it is to be noted that as the dead bodies here are buried in red clay, so are the urns lodged in red sand. *Lloyd's MS.*

<sup>2</sup> The remains at **RICHBOROUGH CASTLE** occupy three sides of a square, the fourth side having a steep bank, and a stream at the bottom. The walls are eleven feet thick and from twenty to thirty in height. The exterior is faced with quarried flints of seven and nine courses, and at these distances are two rows of Roman tile, not going entirely through the wall. In the whole there are six courses of tile as there are at **BURGH**. The interior of the wall is filled up with rubble, mortar, flints, &c. It has buttresses or flanking walls, and towers; the latter like those at **BURGH**. There is so much resemblance between these three Roman works that upon comparing together two drawings of my own of the masonry of *Wroxeter* and *Richborough* made in 1836, I see no difference except in the space between the two uppermost courses of Roman tile. At *Richborough* there are nine courses of quarried flints between them, whilst at *Wroxeter* there are only four courses of quarried sand-stone.

BURGH<sup>1</sup> CASTLES being faced with small quarried stones six inches by four, with bondings of Roman tile after a certain number of courses. What remains is seventy-two feet long, and twenty high, the wall itself being three feet two inches thick. There are six courses of tile in it, which as at RICHBOROUGH and BURGH, are placed edgewise, with only mortar between them, having two rows of tile in each course. The uppermost course of quarried surface consists of four, the three next six, and the fifth from the top of the building of eight rows of squared stones. As these are red sand-stones their face has suffered considerably more than the harder materials have which are used by the Romans at the forementioned stations.

Mr Carte of *Leicester*, appears to have been the first person who called the attention of antiquaries to this interesting specimen of Roman architecture. In 1721 he gave the Society of Antiquaries an account of "the old work with a rude draught." "The main wall now standing," said he, "is thirty yards long, and the foundations from it Westward forty yards, so that the whole was seventy yards long. The middle arch six yards

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to the friendship of Albert Way, Esq. for furnishing me with an account of BURGH, as well as for some valuable assistance on the subject of *Wroxeter* generally. Mr Way visited BURGH CASTLE in March of the present year when he made the following notes:

On the North side which seems to be the highest part, the wall is about fourteen feet nine inches above the surface of the ploughed land around.

The South side is most perfect, being furthest from the village of *Burgh*, almost all the flint facing and much of the tile has been carried away on the North and East sides to build the church, &c.

On this South side I found the facing to consist of seven strata of squared flint with six strata of tile intervening.

The former measures about one foot seven inches in height, but towards the upper half of the wall two feet, and the fifth stratum from below the facing consists of five rows of square flints, all the others having only four rows. It is not stated however positively, that this was uniform all round, for, as observed, the facing is almost wholly removed in other parts, and time did not allow a careful observation of the fragments, from which a more perfect account might probably be drawn up.

high from the ground, but from the floor much higher, six yards broad; the other two only four yards broad, but of the same height. The hole in the middle arch supposed to have been broken through, and so is the other. At each end are smooth walls coming out at the end of the arches; the foundations answering the main wall, and the arches ten yards from it. Two rows of tile go through the wall. The stones are laid exactly across each other; in the middle, rubbish and pebbles. The arches seem covered with the same as the walls. Some ragged pieces stand out a yard and a half from the wall. It is now eight yards from the ground; the North side smooth, except some holes as for scaffolds<sup>1</sup>."

When Mr Lloyd saw the **OLD WALL**, it was twenty feet high and a hundred long<sup>2</sup>.

The stratum of tile consisting of three tiles, each with a thick layer of cement between each row of tiles, measures in height about seven inches and a half, the average thickness of tile being one inch and a half.

The tile is only one row deep, the interior wall being wholly rubble. There appear courses of tile on the inner side, but whether they range or not with those outside, remains for enquiry. The dimensions of the tile as near as could be ascertained are of the usual size. They are of fine well-burnt red clay. Some fragments are found with a recurved edge, the use of which is not ascertained; it has not the appearance of being merely accidental.

The area enclosed is now a ploughed field; three walls remain almost perfect. The West side is wholly open, and appears to have been defended by a steep bank overhanging the ancient *Æstuary*, now marshy meadow land; but this bank has been thrown down, and it is uncertain whether there was any wall on this side. On the opposite side of the wide *Æstuary* was Caistor another Roman station.

The walls were flanked by six rounders of a horse shoe form, two at North East and South East angles, two between them, and on the North and South sides one, both of which have fallen. These bastions of solid masonry were faced like the whole of the wall, the strata following in regular order like those of the curtain wall; but the said bastions are not part and parcel of the wall, all the lower portion of them being merely applied to the face of it, but at about the fourth stratum of tile from the bottom, they are hid in the main wall. This imperfect union having in most instances given way; it is possible to see and in one case to pass between the main wall and the bastion.

<sup>1</sup> Camden, vol. iii. p. 27.

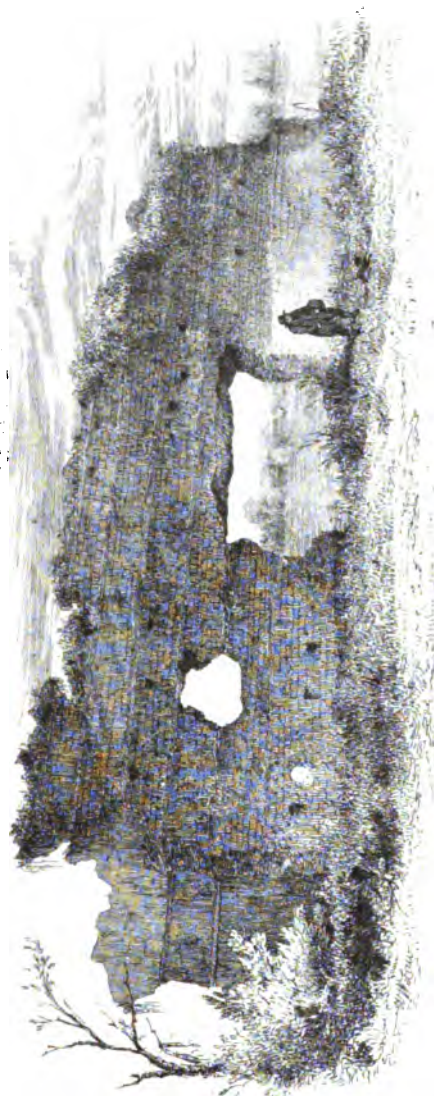
<sup>2</sup> *Ib.*

Horsley seems to have examined WROXETER with some care. In his comment on the second Iter of Antonine, he says, "*Uriconium* eleven miles in the Itinerary from *Rutunium*, has with good reason been fixed at *Wroxeter*. I spent the greatest part of a day with much pleasure in viewing that place and the antiquities of it. I had seen several medals at *Shrewsbury*, most of which were found here, and I purchased a few myself, the people call them *Wroxeter-Dinders*, probably from *Denarii*. The town has been very large and also the fortified ground. It is situated on the North or North East side of the *Severn*, and on the other side of the place runs a small rivulet, so that this (as many other of the Roman stations) has been situated on a *lingula* near the confluence of a rivulet and a larger river. There is a piece of old wall yet standing which has in it three regular strata of Roman brick, each stratum consisting of the thickness of two bricks. It is about eight yards high and about twenty long. The field this stands in I thought to be the *Prætorium*, for like *Aldbrough* in *Yorkshire*, the whole city seems to have been encompassed with a rampart and ditch, above half a mile square, the vestiges of which may yet be discerned. It encompasses the whole of the fields in which the stones, coins and other antiquities are found. I was informed that a *balneum* or sudatory had been discovered here some years ago, but then was destroyed<sup>1</sup>."

The annexed plate will shew the reader what appearance the ~~Old Wall~~ presented in the year 1838, when I last visited it, and made the drawing from which it is taken.

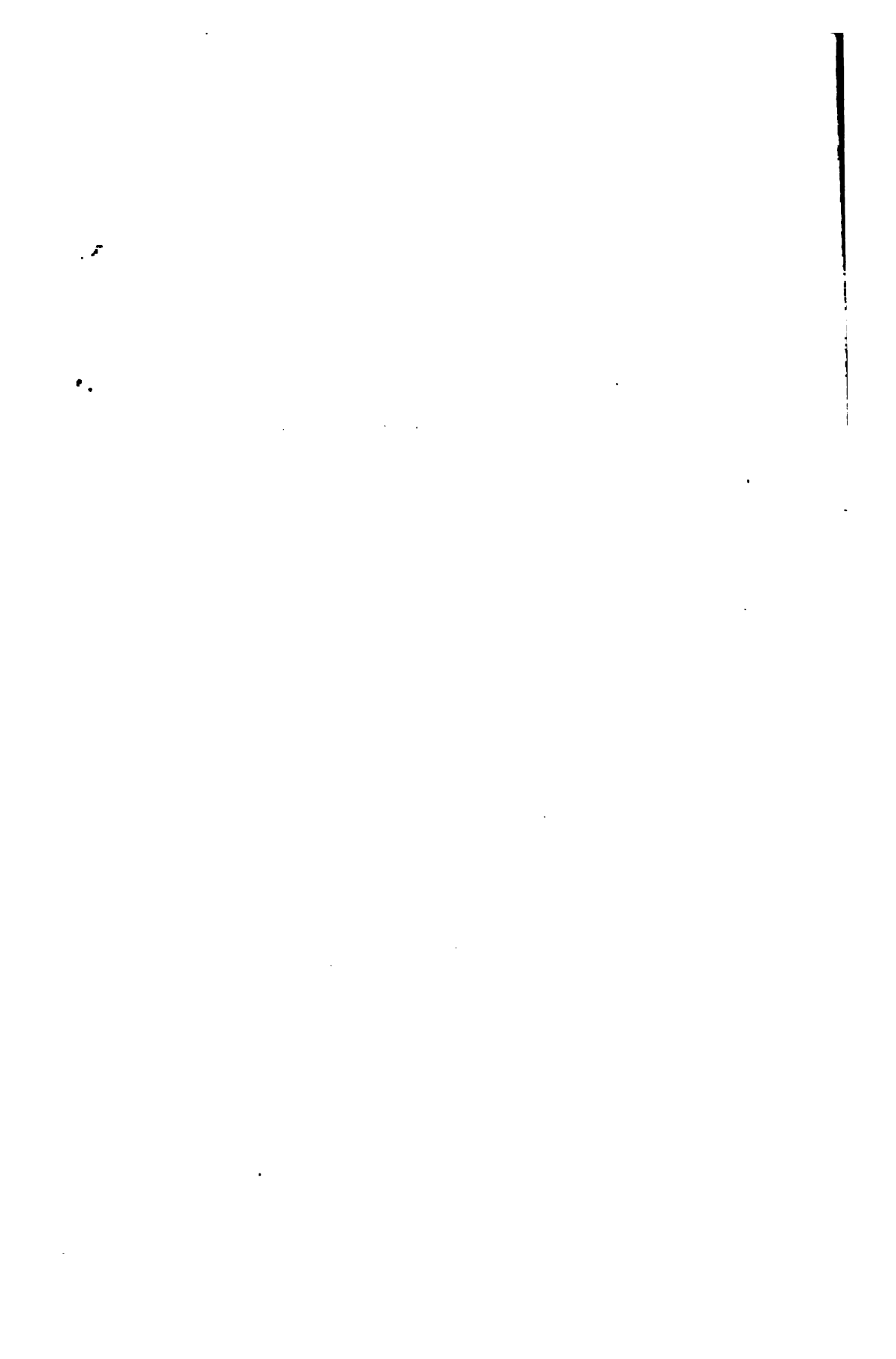
WROXETER is mentioned in two Iters of Antonine, and in three of Richard. It is placed in the second Iter of the former betwixt *RUTUNIUM* and *USACONA*, and the distance from *Rowton Castle* and *Oaken Gates*, (where

<sup>1</sup> Britan. Rom. p. 419.



THE GREAT HALL OF THE CASTLE OF BRISTOL





an Hypocaust has been found<sup>1</sup>) exactly corresponds with the numbers in the Itinerary.

Another great road from it went over the *Severn* through BRAVINIUM (Anton. Iter. xii.) or BRANNOGENIUM, (Ric. Corin. Iter. xiii.) which is BRANDON CAMP near *Leintwardine*, and so onwards to *Caer Leon*. Great part of the way this road bears the name of the *Watling Street*. Foundations of a bridge below the Ford were visible two or three years back.

A third road from WROXETER passed over the *Severn* due West towards *Berrington Hall*, near which place the line of road is still called *King Street*, leaving the small epaulement of the BURG, a Roman work, to the right, going by *Hunger Hill*, *Eaxford's Green*, *Ascot* and LEA CROSS (where a tessellated pavement was found in 1793); from *Lea Cross* it proceeded to *Edge* and STONEY STRETTON where it fell into the road from RUTUNIUM to CAER FLÔS.

A fourth road went Northwards, through *Newport* to *Chester*, and

A fifth crossed the *Severn* and branched out of the *Watling Street* near *Pitchford*, trending along the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY to RUSHBURY and NORDY BANK, a more particular account of which the reader will find in the ensuing chapter.

<sup>1</sup> Gent. Mag. Feb. 1797.



## THE DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY.



It has ever been the practice of a credulous and ill informed people to attribute any works displaying extraordinary skill and labor in their execution, to preternatural agency. In accordance with this principle, *the Devil's Bridge* in *Cardiganshire*, *the Devil's Ditch* in *Cambridgeshire*, and THE DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY<sup>1</sup> in our own county have severally taken their names. It was an easy mode of solving a difficulty when the peasantry attempted to account for works which they ignorantly gazed upon with superstitious awe. Though we are immediately led to question their wisdom in drawing such conclusions, it must at the same time, be confessed, that they rarely resorted to these explanations upon unworthy occasions; unconsciously acting on the rule laid down by Horace,

Nec deus intersit nisi dignus vindice nodus,

they never referred to Satanic influence circumstances of minor importance. It was only when a scene was marked by more than usual grandeur, when nature seemed convulsed, and a savage and wild aspect was stamped upon her form, or else when man had triumphed over great difficulties, and displayed wonderful artifice and contrivance in his work, that they called in the aid of unearthly powers to account for their origin.

<sup>1</sup> STANE STREET CAUSEWAY, a Roman road which is fabled by the lower orders to have been made by the Devil. (Aubrey's Survey, vol. iv. p. 187.)

Mainly in consequence of the imposing appellation which THE DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY has obtained, I determined at the close of the autumn of 1838 to ascertain by a personal inspection, what was the nature of its claims to so unusual a title. At an early hour in the morning I crossed the WATLING STREET at *Longnor Green*, and proceeded due East for about a mile and a quarter, up a strait narrow lane which had every appearance of having been made at a remote time. Before reaching *Froddesley Lodge*, all traces of it were lost, but as I pressed onwards across the wild and open land of *Froddesley Park*, I fell in with, on the Northern side, some vestiges of an ancient paved way. The stones which formed it were disposed with too much regularity to have been the work of chance. They struck me as singular immediately I saw them, and I accordingly followed the direction they took, as far as it could be distinguished, which was for a distance of perhaps fifty yards. Viewing them in this situation, thus seemingly isolated, I was unable to connect them with any satisfactory conjecture, and could only hope that some link would present itself in the course of my ensuing investigation, that would serve to unite them, as it afterwards did, with the object of my enquiry.

Upon quitting this undulating and unenclosed ground, a lane, which twisted about with a good deal of occasional angularity, brought me to the little hamlet of *Ruckley*. At this point of junction I diverged in a South Western direction, towards the village of *Cardington*, and instantly observed evident signs that the road I had taken was the right one. For upon the left was a high artificially formed causeway, about the width that such paths usually are, and a very bad road below it. There was nothing *demoniacal* it is true, but there seemed an unusual degree of magnitude in the materials with which the causeway was constructed. A little further on, both it and the road were upon the same level, and here and there, first upon the

right, then upon the left, lay large coping stones, that seemed placed rather as the boundary of the road, than for curb stones. Occasionally large boulders shewed themselves in the centre or at the sides, but clearly neither washed there by diluvial agency, or fortuitously rolled from the slopes above. As I went forwards they became more numerous, so that by the time CAUSEWAY WOOD was gained, the road was absolutely laid with them. They were placed with the utmost regularity with respect to each other, and presented such a systematic appearance, that no doubt any longer existed in the mind, that the labor of making the road had been performed at a very early period. It was clearly artificial, and if I were to add the epithet gigantic, it would not be inappropriate. The whole partook of vastness: it indicated the genius of a great people, and silently seemed to declare that it had formerly been a considerable thoroughfare. Who that people were, and whither it led, I shall presently enquire.

Viewing the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY at this spot, it looks very like the boldest and most shaking pavè, an Englishman ever jolted over in France or Italy. From CAUSEWAY WOOD to which it has been traced, to its termination two or three hundred yards farther on, the work in question is to be seen in its most perfect state, and I shall take this opportunity of describing it more minutely.

The DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY is a way, partially at present, but originally entirely formed of large blocks of basalt, which were procured from the neighbouring sides of the *Lawley*. They vary in superficial size from one to two feet in length, and from eight to fifteen inches in breadth, and are disposed in their longest direction across the road. At first they were placed with extreme regularity, and had their face much more even than it now lies. From an average of several measures taken in different parts,

the road seems originally to have been thirteen feet wide. It is edged with roughly hewn flat stones lying upon the surface of the soil, and varying from one to two feet in width; they are uniformly one foot in thickness, and stand so as to touch each other. The existing inequality of the face of the road may be accounted for on reasons which it is almost superfluous to mention. Such, for instance, as the peculiar nature of the stone itself with which it is paved, and its aptness speedily to disintegrate: the traffic which it has for a very lengthened period sustained: the operation of various natural causes which are still in action, such as the tendency that heavy bodies have to become imperceptibly buried below the surface of the ground, together with the SPIRIT OF DESTRUCTION which has incessantly actuated man to carry away, and break up the materials of which the road is composed.

Thus far had I proceeded when a suspicion that was but faint in the outset of my path, grew more confirmed, and I felt assured that the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY must be an old ROMAN ROAD. Possessed with this idea I returned and examined it under this impression. It was not until then, that its resemblance to a Roman road I had travelled along a few years previously across the Plain of Magnesia<sup>1</sup>, suggested itself, and upon mentally comparing

<sup>1</sup> Upon referring to a MS. journal written whilst travelling in Asia Minor, I find the Roman road in question thus alluded to. "In four hours from Smyrna we reached a Caffè called Yakakue. Immediately opposite on the South was a grand mountain capped with snow, whose outline reminded me of the Wrekin. A very rich plain of no great extent lay at its feet. We continued ascending for another hour, having occasionally a view of the sea. Our descent from this elevation then commenced rather rapidly; the scenery became wild and barren. But the ancient Roman road formed our constant line of travelling in those parts where our horses had most difficulty of footing. Though broken up in places, it was generally very perfect. After travelling through this rugged Alpine region for an hour, we came in sight of the plain of MAGNESIA. It stretched twenty miles before us, and apparently the same distance on each side. It was extremely rich; and the uniform equality of its surface conveyed an idea of interminable extent. The town of Magnesia is built on the Southern side,

the two together, though in different continents, I was much struck with their conformity. Nor was this second inspection without value in another respect, for upon carefully looking at a small bridge which the causeway traverses close to its termination, there appeared additional indications that both the road and the bridge itself must be ascribed to the same age and people. Although the conviction that this was a Roman road slowly dawned upon my mind, yet it now presented so much resemblance to others of the same class, that even without the superabundant evidence of the architecture of the bridge, I could have no scruple in attributing its existence to that enterprising nation. And I think any one who has ever examined a specimen of their art of road making will identify the two as singularly alike<sup>1</sup>.

immediately under a mountain which rises precipitously above it to a great altitude. The vicinity is rendered interesting in consequence of being the scene of the consul Scipio's victory over Antiochus the Great, the first conquest, and the first footing the Romans obtained in Asia.

Left Magnesia before sunrise the next morning. At half an hour's distance, the Hermus was crossed by a wooden bridge: the foundations of the old Roman one were quite perfect a little above. This river which was celebrated by Virgil for being turbid with gold, is now remarkable for the excellence of its fish. The Poet meant to infer by "*auro turbidus*" that its inundations tended to enrich and fertilize the plain through which it flowed. We continued along the Roman road for a considerable distance, at one time using it, at another making slight deviations: yet continually falling in with it again. The extreme regularity with which it is paved, shews that until within the last few years, all our more modern roads were vastly inferior to those constructed by the ancients. The *chaussée* of both France and Italy are not worthy to be compared with this." After leaving Thyatira I discerned no further traces of it. The road of which mention has been made was the line of communication betwixt Smyrna and Thyatira, at which latter city it joined one commencing at Lampeacus, and passing from thence to Abydos, Dardanus, Ilium, Troas, Antandros, Adrymyttium, Pergamos, Germa, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Tripolis, and Hierapolis it terminated at Laodicea. It was probably formed by Tiberius Caesar, after the earthquake which laid Sardis and the neighbouring cities in ruins, as Magnesia was one of those which partook of his munificence.

<sup>1</sup> In a very valuable little volume treating upon the British and Roman remains in the neighbourhood of *Amminster* a similar cause-

When we look at the architecture of the bridge we cannot fail to notice three peculiarities. And first, the form of the arch. It springs from two centres, and assumes a curve, somewhat resembling a segmental arch, but more depressed than any thing Norman, being in fact broader, as we see it in Roman examples. Secondly, the voussoirs are alternately parallel-sided, and cuneiform or acutely shaped at one end, as though the intention of the architect was to make them available in filling up

*woy* is described that formerly' existed on the borders of *Devonshire* and *Somersetshire*. "This remarkable specimen of Roman workmanship," as it is rightly called, "which is known by the name of MORWOOD'S CAUSEWAY," must not be passed without particular notice, as well on account of its peculiar construction, as the importance which has been attached to its title. The spot of ground across which it was carried is a part of what is called Crow Moor, and was no doubt then, as it is to the present day, a flat and boggy place, very difficult to be kept dry, and consequently impassable at that time without such a pavement. The causeway, which now no longer exists, was about a quarter of a mile in length, running almost North and South, in width about fifteen feet, and composed of very large flint stones, with which the neighbourhood abounds, laid together in a most compact and durable form, having, of course, their flat sides uppermost, and resting upon a deep stratum of smaller stones and gravel. The work presented an appearance somewhat similar to that of the pavement in the London streets, except that the materials were of much larger size, and that at every interval of about six feet there was a cavity or channel across it, which caused the intermediate portions to assume the shape of low arches, and formed a furrow, or gutter, to facilitate the draining of water from the surface. That this fragment was of Roman construction there is little reason to doubt; for it remarkably coincides with the plan adopted by that people when they were obliged to carry their roads across marshy places, as given by Statius.

Hic primus labor inchoare sulcos  
Et rescindere limites, et alto  
Egrotu punitus cavare terras:  
Mox haustas aliter replere fossas  
Et summo gremium parare dorso  
Ne mutant sola, ne maligna sedes  
Et pressis dubium cubile saxa.

This interesting relic of Roman art was taken up to form a turnpike road at its Southern end, though with much more difficulty than had been anticipated, and its materials broken to pieces. The name and the outline of its course are all that now remain to point out where it existed. The British and Roman remains in the vicinity of *Arminster*, in the county of *Devon*. By James Davidson, London, 1833. p. 71, 2.



the interstices between the regular parallel-sided voussoirs; and lastly, the whole is put together with *concrete*, as may readily be detected by taking the trouble to creep underneath the arch, and detaching a piece of it from the joints. If we couple the foregoing description of the road, with these remarkable characteristics, the Roman claims of both are not unsatisfactorily established.

Nor is this the whole amount of argument which may be adduced in support of these opinions. For if it should be asked what induced the Romans to carry a road of such magnitude through a remote and sequestered valley, running parallel too as it does, with the WATLING STREET, not more than two miles to the North West, it may be replied that the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY was the direct line of communication from NORDY BANK through *Tugford*, *Cratesford*, OVER ROMAN BANK to RUSHBURY, *the WALL under Heywood*, the Latin VALLUM; leaving the village of CARDINGTON like the HOAR EDGE on the left, each of which places derive their name from bordering upon it, (See remarks under HOAR STONE and FORD) was the direct line, as is imagined from NORDY BANK, and thence to the station at RUSHBURY by *Cardington*, and CHATWALL, (quasi *Chaltwall*, or *Chalum Vallum*, a *halting* place, a half-way house, as it actually is betwixt the two extremities, (Lat. *Chalo*. Gr.  $\chi\alpha\lambda\omega\tilde{\nu}$ ) to *Ruckley*. Here one part branched off to the left, and went over *Froddesley Park*, where vestiges of it still appear. It is probable that from hence it took the course of the ancient lane to *Longnor Green* where it fell into the WATLING STREET, leading from *Uriconium* or WROXETER, to *Branogenium*, or *Bravonium*, (BRANDON CAMP, see p. 55, 73.) *Magna* or *Magnis*, (KENTCHESTER), *Gobannium* (ABERGAVENNY), and *Bultrum* or *Burrium*, (USK). The main road, however, from the Roman station at RUSHBURY, passed through *Ruckley*; it continued

in a direct line through *Acton Burnel*<sup>1</sup> and a mile beyond, it joined the same great road half a mile South of the village of *Pitchford*. Its course is here interrupted for a quarter of a mile, but it is again met with in some fields to the East of the general line of communication. After answering the purpose of a common drift road used merely for agricultural convenience for about a quarter of a mile, it again joins the road from *Pitchford* to *Cound*. Having crossed *Cound Brook* it proceeds Northerly by *Black Barn* and *Gowter* where it crosses the turnpike road from *Much Wenlock* to *Shrewsbury*: from hence it takes a North Easterly direction for nearly two miles, when it terminates upon a ford immediately under the present village, or ancient city of *WROXETER*.

According to *Isidore*<sup>2</sup> the Carthaginians were the first people who underwent the labor and expence of regularly paving their public roads. From them the art was learned by the Romans, who carried it with their conquests through the continents of Europe and Asia, as much with a view to the advantages arising from easy communication with their possessions, as a means of keeping the people out of idleness<sup>3</sup>. The immense sums of money expended, and the vast multitudes employed in these works, is not their least striking feature.

When we consider that they extended from the most Western side of Spain and Barbary, to the Eastern kingdoms of Media and Assyria; and from Great Britain in the North, through Gaul, Hungary and Scy-

<sup>1</sup> BUR in composition is repeatedly found in the names of places on the *WATLING STREET*, as *BURLINGTON*, near *Sheriff Hayles*; *BURCOT*, near *Hay Gate*; *BURWAY* near *Church Stretton*; *BURROW HILL CAMP* near the *Craven Arms*; *BURRINGTON* near *Wigmore*; *BIRLEY*, South of *Stretford*; *BIRLEY HILL* and *BURGHILL*, &c., &c. Can this allude to Roman occupation or connexion? "Castellum parvulum, quem *Buryum* vocant." *Vegetius de re Militar.* iv. 10.

<sup>2</sup> *Isidor. Orig. lib. xv. c. 16.*

<sup>3</sup> *Plinii Nat. Hist. lib. xxxvi. c. 12.*

this, to Arabia, Egypt and Libya in the South, we may justly wonder how such stupendous projects could have been completed. We can only, by means of the scattered information we possess, assign their accomplishment to the belief that the Roman soldiers were not permitted to continue indolent in peace, but in conjunction with the inhabitants of the vanquished provinces, were obliged to labor in the formation of these works. The difficulties and hardships they suffered whilst performing these labors occasioned heavy complaints, which even sometimes broke out into sedition. The Roman subjects in the provinces were compelled to assist in constructing the roads, and they considered this so oppressive that Galgacus<sup>1</sup> when exhorting his countrymen, the Caledonians, to resist more vigorously the Romans under Agricola, reminded them of this grievance with which the conquered inhabitants of Britain were afflicted. Besides these classes, all criminals were condemned either to work in the mines or upon the great roads of the empire, as our malefactors are employed at the present day<sup>2</sup>.

Great attention was bestowed upon their preservation. Their care was an office of high trust, and only confided to persons of consequence, such as the governors of the district, or those who had filled important situations in the state. Augustus Caesar was chosen to hold the post of surveyor of the roads in the vicinity of Rome, as one of peculiar honor; and having undertaken their management, to discharge his duties with greater credit, he appointed for his deputies those who had passed through the prætorship. Pliny<sup>3</sup> in one of his epistles deems it a fitting subject of congratulation to his correspondent

<sup>1</sup> In Vita Agricolæ, c. 29, &c.

<sup>2</sup> Multos honesti ordinis deformatos prius stigmatum notis, ad metalla, et munitiones Viarum, aut ad bestias condemnavit. Sueton. in Caligula, c. 27.

<sup>3</sup> Plinii Epist. lib. v. ep. 15.

Pontius that their mutual friend Cornutus Tertullus who had shared the consular dignity with him, should have been elevated to this distinguished situation. In the same complimentary manner Statius<sup>1</sup> alludes to his friends Marcellus and Plotius Grippus having been elected to the same dignity. Nor can we suppose it was less highly esteemed in Britain, where the same enterprising nation introduced their arms and civilisation.

The usual method of making a road consisted in first laying down a stratum of round rough stones, grouted with lime, sand or cement, which was called *statumen*, or the foundation. The next course was composed of rubble, or any kind of refuse, (*rudera*) or rubbish, (*glarea*) or gravel, according to the nature of the material employed. Upon this was laid the upper coating, which consisted of large flat blocks, that varied in size and shape, though usually square: they were jointed with such nicety that it was difficult to see where one stone touched another. They were usually of flint, and had a row of curb stones, (*marginæ*) on each side to keep the crown or centre of the road (*agger*<sup>2</sup>) uniform and straight.

The first road formed in Italy was the VIA APPIA which extended from *Rome* to *Capua*. It is not only the most remarkable in point of priority, having been laid down upwards of two thousand years, but also in respect of its beauty. In some places it is still wonderfully well preserved, as I can myself testify from having seen it; that part where it crosses the *Pontine Marshes* is admirably perfect, though the work was commenced B. C. 309.

In the year B. C. 241 Caius Aurelius Cotta formed the second public way in Italy, and from him it de-

<sup>1</sup> Statii Sywar. lib. iv.

<sup>2</sup> Agger est media strata eminentia, coaggregatione lapidibus, vel glarea aut silicibus strata; ab aggere, id est coacervatione dicta, quam historici Viam militarem dicunt. Isid. Orig. xv. c. ult. Berg. tom. i. p. 253.

rived the name of the VIA AURELLA. It commenced at *Rome*, and passed along the coast of *Etruria* to *Pisa*, *Genoa*, *Nice* and *Arles*. At *Genoa* the VIA POSTHUMIA connected it with the VIA ÆMILIA at *Piacenza*, which from hence passed through *Parma*, *Reggio*, *Modena*, *Bologna*, *Cesena* and *Rimini*. And here the VIA ÆMILIA was met by the VIA FLAMINIA, which coasting along the *Adriatic* to *Ancona* passed over to the West through *Nocera*, *Foligno*, *Narni*, *Otricoli* and *Nepi* to *Rome*.

Besides these, there were *forty-two others* of importance whose courses it would be out of place to follow here, especially as the subject has been so thoroughly investigated by a very learned writer, that little is left for additional illustration<sup>1</sup>.

Yet it may be proper to remark that such magnificent undertakings were not confined to Italy. For at the close of the last Punic War, B. C. 150, the Romans began to extend these advantages to their provinces. They commenced them in *Spain*. In the year B. C. 124, Domitius Ahenobardus carried the VIA DOMITIA through Provence and Savoy. Under the reign of the Cæsars a road bearing the same name was constructed in Germany. We next read of the VIA EGNATIA, that commenced at *Apollonia* in *Epirus* and terminated at *Cypselas* in Thrace<sup>2</sup>, which was furnished like the VIA APPIA, and in fact like all the Roman roads, as we have every reason for believing, with *Milliaries* on the side to indicate the distances. Some of the roads, the VIA APPIA, for instance, even had horse-blocks on each side to enable the weary and infirm to mount without assistance. Caius Gracchus was the considerate person who introduced both of these conveniences. A Roman *Milliary* was discovered some years ago in the neighbour-

<sup>1</sup> Histoire des grands Chemins de l'Empire Romain. 2 tom. 4to. a Bruxelles. 1736.

<sup>2</sup> Strabo, lib. vii.

hood of *Leicester*. It was dug up about two miles from the town, and bore upon its face the Emperor Hadrian's name, and was marked II A RAVIS. One discovered a few years ago on the road from *Cambridge* to *Huntingdon*, is now in the vestibule of the University Library. Others have been found in the neighbourhood of *Lancaster*<sup>1</sup>.

As has been already intimated, there were in Italy alone forty-seven roads, whose united lengths measured 13,500 miles, the greater part, if not the whole of which, were systematically paved. The number in the provinces cannot with any degree of accuracy be ascertained, for there must have been several that are not mentioned in the Itineraries. That some notion, however, of their extent may be formed, I have added together their respective lengths. They amount to 38296 Roman miles, or allowing according to Reynolds' computation that the Roman and the English miles are the same, the whole distance is 38296 miles, English measure<sup>2</sup>. And this immense sum is independent of the fifteen British Iters, which, according to this commentator upon Antoninus, comprehended an extent of 2654 additional miles of regularly formed road, a surprising sum when it is borne in mind that it was for the most part laid down after the fashion which prevailed in Italy. Besides these, there were several branches of which the early geographers have not made any mention. Some of them may still be traced in different parts of Europe and Asia apart from the great line of acknowledged Roman roads, and in secluded and remote districts in our own island. I am inclined to think that several old *Causeways* partake of these characteristics, and would prove to be, if followed throughout by personal examination and the

<sup>1</sup> See one figured and described in Whitaker's *History of Richmondshire*, vol. ii. p. 214.

<sup>2</sup> Iter Britanniarum, or that part of the Itinerary of Antoninus which relates to Britain, p. 52. 4to. 1799.

Ordnance Surveys, genuine constructions of the Roman period: those who have opportunities would do well to look at them with this view, for in a few years all vestiges of the kind may be destroyed.

It would be an assertion resting too much upon conjecture, if it were stated that all our roads in England were *paved throughout* after the method learned by the Romans from the Carthaginians. Such labor and expence would be unnecessary in several places, besides the difficulty that would exist in getting suitable stones to build in this way. In passing through the oolitic district in *Northamptonshire*, as one instance out of many that may be adduced, the workmen upon the WATLING STREET would be unable to procure, unless from a great distance, any of those durable materials which are so ready at hand in the county of Shropshire. And consequently, we see the WATLING STREET road hereabouts, very much more worn on its surface, which leads us to believe it could never have been formed with such solidity, from this want of a hard and firm *statumen*, as it was on other parts of the line where they were easily obtained. Happening to be in the neighbourhood of *Weedon* a short time back, when the *London and Birmingham Railway* was just cut through the WATLING STREET near *Brockhall*, I had an opportunity of examining how this Roman road was laid down. There were not the least appearances of stratification, either of cement, rubbish, or of any other kind of deposit. It had no other marks than those of a common drift road that is used for agricultural purposes. When we get to the *Four Crosses* which lie two miles North West of *Cannock*, (and I am constrained to pass over all the intermediate distance, from never having examined it,) when we get to the *Four Crosses*, there are vestiges of the ancient *Pavement*; and immediately the road enters Shropshire, which it does close to *Weston under Lizard*,

a branch leads out to the North, that three miles further on, midway betwixt *Woodcote* and *Newport*, bears the name of PAVE LANE. This particular line is seen to possess one of the great features of a Roman road, namely, the direct course it takes from one point to another. No deviations for the sake of avoiding hills ever occur; when the line was chosen, every natural impediment, whether it were mountain or morass, yielded to the enterprise and labor exerted by this great nation.

It may be worth enquiring whether or not this road which quits the WATLING STREET at *Weston under Lizard*, and goes first to PAVE LANE, and thence to *Newport*, be not in fact an early communication to *Chester*. For let it be borne in mind, that the direction it takes is straight forward to the second *Stretton*, from the place where it quits the WATLING STREET. It is not improbable, that from PENNOCRUCIUM or *Penkridge*, the usual line of traffic was by STRETTON, *Weston under Lizard*, PAVE LANE, NEWPORT, LANE END, *Hinstock*, *Tern Hill*, *Sandiford*, *Whitchurch*, *Malpas*, another STRETTON, thence bending a little to the West to *Holt*, and thence to CHESTER. This is merely supposition, and is thrown out rather as a suggestion, that those who have the opportunity may ascertain whether such an idea is deserving the topographer's further attention.

In the present corrupt state of the text of Antoninus it would be useless to seek out the true situation of MEDIOLANUM. It has been placed by Gale and Stukeley at *Meivod*; by Horseley at *Market Drayton*; by Tilstock at *Middle*; and by a writer in the *Cambrian Quarterly*, at *Shrewsbury*<sup>1</sup>. None of these spots agree in the least with the distance in the Itineraries. In the same way RUTUNIUM has been variously placed at *Routon Castle*, *Rowton*, and *Ruyton of the Eleven Towns*. The

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i. p. 52.



distance from *Rowton Castle* to *Wroxeter* agrees with the number of miles marked in the Itinerary, and so does RUSHBURY. The distance from MEDIOLANUM to URICONIUM exactly agrees with that from CAER FLÔS to *Wroxeter*, and the intervening station of RUTUNIUM, or *Rowton Castle*, to reach which, we pass over STRETTON *Heath*, tallies sufficiently to authorise our placing it there. But on the other hand, by fixing MEDIOLANUM at CAER FLÔS, all the places between it and DEVA disagree with the Itinerary numbers. The whole of the Iters relating to this district are very obscure, and I think it will be hopeless to attempt their illustration, until some one presents us with a better text of Antoninus to work upon.



## RUSHBURY.



OR several reasons it is probable there was a Roman station at RUSHBURY. There is not much corroboration of this in the name of the place itself, though sufficient in that of the contiguous hamlet of WALL *under Heywood*, as well as in the title of the hill above it, which is called ROMAN BANK. Gale<sup>1</sup> fancied he saw proof enough, that RUSHBURY was the BRAVINIUM mentioned in the twelfth Iter of Antonine, from the mere circumstance of *Browynen* in C. Brit. signifying a *Rush*. But as the distance from URICONIUM to this place is only about half what the Itineraries of Antonine and Richard set it at, it is utterly impossible to be the BRAVINIUM of the one, or the BRANNOGENIUM of the other. Had RUTUNIUM been fixed upon instead, there would have been no difficulty in regard to the distance, and not much dissimilarity in the sound of the name.

However, the claims of RUSHBURY being a Roman station are very clearly made out, without having recourse to a strained etymology. It lies on a Roman road between WROXETER and NORDY BANK; the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY passes through it in a direct line from the former place, and terminates at the latter. Roman antiquities are said to have been found here<sup>2</sup>, and

<sup>1</sup> Antonini Iter. cura T. Gale, p. 127.

<sup>2</sup> My own enquiries after coins were unsuccessful, nor could I learn from aged people who had lived here from their youth, that any *Roman* ones had ever been found. Reynolds (v. Iter. Brit. p. 460) states that there have.

there are still some works existing ascribable to the same age.

These consist of an elevated rectilinear mound, surrounded by a ditch, at present discernible on the North and South side, but which seems formerly to have gone round the whole. The exterior slope of the vallum falls externally twenty-five feet; the fosse is twenty-three feet wide, and the relief of the mound from the bottom of the ditch, twelve. The area of the work is a hundred and forty-five feet from East to West, and a hundred and thirty-one from North to South, the angles being rounded. Indications of other works are seen in a meadow South of the Church, as well as on the North and East sides, but as the ground has been disturbed, they are traceable with difficulty.



## NORDY BANK.



NORDY BANK is a Roman station midway betwixt the CLEE BURF and the little village of *Clee St Margaret*. It is by far the most perfect work of the period with which I am acquainted. The shape inclines to an oval, though the boundary lines are all straight, and it may with greater correctness be said to be a parallelogram having the angles rounded. From West to East it is two hundred and ten paces, and from North to South a hundred and forty-four. A single fosse twelve feet wide surrounds the whole. From a cutting made at the South East end, it is seen that the vallum is twenty-six feet wide at its base, and six across its crest. The interior slope is twelve feet, the scarp eighteen, and the counterscarp six. There are four gorges or openings due North, the original ones being at the East and West.

The situation of NORDY BANK was a very important one for the Romans to occupy, as it gave them the command of *Corve Dale*, whilst at the same time being entrenched here, they lay so close upon the *Clee Hill* valley on the Southern side of the BURF, as in a certain degree to command access to that also.

Had no other reasons been already given for the supposition that ABDON BURF was a *religious enclosure*, and not a *defensive* one, I think the existence of this very perfect Roman work immediately below it

would render it probable; for had the Britons been in possession of the enclosure above, the Romans would hardly have placed themselves in an inferior and commanded situation, one that could so readily have been assaulted.

It is conceived that the road from *Wroxeter*, or the *DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY*, terminated here, passing from *RUSHBURY* OVER *ROMAN BANK* and thence through *Hungerford* and *Tugford*.



## NORTON CAMP.



ROMAN CAMPS may be distinguished from British and those of a later age, by the *rectilinearity* of their valla, and by being most commonly encompassed by one ditch only<sup>1</sup>. Of this kind are the following. CÆSAR'S CAMP near *Arques*, which, though irregular, has its lines straight; CÆSAR'S CAMP North of *Farnham, Surrey*, which is seven-sided, single-ditched, and has all its lines straight; VESPASIAN'S CAMP near *Ambresbury, co. Wilts.*; WEATHERBURY CASTLE, *co. Dorset*, which has a small quadrangular work inside a larger; CASTELL DINAS, South of *Talgarth, co. Brecon*, quadrangular; ABERYSCIR, East of *Brecon*, the supposed site of BANNIVM, quadrangular; HOLME ON THE SEA; CAISTOR, and TASBURGH, in the county of *Nor-*

<sup>1</sup> The Roman stations in Britain may be classed as follows.

First, the great Romanized capitals of the British tribes, or other foundations of the Romans themselves, which were destined to be garrisoned by a legion each. These appear, from their outlines and other remains, to have occupied forty or fifty acres.

Next were the ordinary stations of the Itinerary or Notitia, intended for the reception of a cohort in the first, or, as at Bretonracum, a numerus in the second. Now from the absence of remains at some of these, and the appearances of arts and elegance in others, the first appear to have been mere military posts, whilst the latter have enjoyed a civilised and cultivated population. In the latter division, Ribchester, from the elegance and abundance of its remains, stands eminently conspicuous. But beside these, frequently appear small outposts, probably thrown up for temporary purposes, and evidently depending upon some of the former; besides airy and spacious summer camps on the hills, in the outline of which the ordinary forms of Roman castrametation were abandoned; and of these it may be observed, that while they scarcely ever bear the name of *caster* or *chester*, but most commonly that of *borough*, as contradistinguished from that of *bury*; so the *castra hiberna*, or regularly fortified towns, frequently, as at Overborough bear the same appellation without distinction. Whitaker's History

*folk*; CHESTERTON, co. *Warwick*; ULEY BURY; LITTLE SODBURY, co. *Somers.*; and BRANDON CAMP, near *Leintwardine*, all quadrangular; besides several others which it is needless to enumerate.

To this list must be added the fine rectilinear camp above *Whettleton*, which there is every reason for considering a Roman work.

The advantageous position of NORTON CAMP has been already adverted to<sup>1</sup>. It merely remains therefore to state that it is a quadrangular work, built on a considerable eminence, having two valla, the enclosed area being about two hundred and twenty paces square. The chief entrance is on the Eastern side, and a modern one has been made at the North West corner. In consequence of the whole of this eminence having been planted, I found it extremely difficult to get a good section of the works, but as far as I could make them out, the base of the interior vallum was forty feet, and the width across its crest twelve. The escarp of the interior vallum was twenty feet; width of fosse twelve; counterscarp eight. The escarp of exterior vallum was eight feet, breadth of fosse about the same, and the width of the crest twelve. There was a very rapid natural fall towards the West, where it is nearly inaccessible. I imagined that there were other marks of vallation on the Eastern side, where the ground is not so precipitous, but owing to the rising plantations they had become uncertain and indistinct.

The WATLING STREET from URICONIUM to BRAVINIUM runs underneath the Western side, and as the distance from URICONIUM to BRAVINIUM, in the twelfth Iter of Antoninus, and also in the thirteenth of Richard, where it bears the name of BRANNOGENIUM exactly agrees with it, I make no scruple in assigning BRAVINIUM to BRANDON CAMP near *Leintwardine*.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 72.

## CALLOW HILL.



SEVERAL places in Shropshire bear this designation, for instance, the present one, which lies betwixt *Habberly* and *Minsterly*; another which lies a little Easterly of the *Long Mynd*, and a third betwixt *Westhope* and *Norton Camp*. They owe their name to their character, *Callow*, signifying a spot that is bald, or smooth. Thus, A. Sax. *calo*, *calu*; Franc. *chalo*; Germ. *kal*; Pers. *kal*, *calous*, glaber, depilis. And as Milton uses the word,

Their brood as numerous hatch, from the egg that soon  
Bursting with kindly rapture forth disclosed  
Their *callow* young.

Paradise Lost, Book vii. v. 420.

The camp on *CALLOW HILL* near *Minsterly* is rectangular, and surrounded by a fosse four yards wide. This form favors the supposition of its having been thrown up by the Romans. It is eighty-six paces from East to West, and fifty-eight from North West to South East. The corners are gently rounded: that at the East North East more so than the rest. The only camp in command of observation is *CEFYN Y CASTEL* on the Breidden. The view up the valley of *Minsterly* from the present spot is extremely beautiful, and the neighbourhood presents, from its richness in lead mines, many attractions for the Geologist to visit it, nor would the Botanist find the vicinity undeserving his investigation.



## CHESTERTON.



THE WALLS at CHESTERTON are works of a defensive kind, placed upon an eminence close to the village, having this name. Like most other fortresses that have the semblance of being *British*, the present one assumes such a shape as is naturally dictated by the form of the ground. The figure of the enclosure is irregular, and comprehends about twenty acres.

The immediate neighbourhood is alike remarkable for the fertility of its soil, and the beauty of its scenery. A narrow valley runs round three sides of the encampment; the verdant meadows at its base are seamed by a brook well stored with trout, and flanked on the North Western side by red sand-stone rocks which rise in rugged and romantic forms, a hundred feet precipitously above the level of the stream. It is just such a spot as an idler would love to loiter in on sunny days, or such as a painter would frequent for the sake of imparting a feeling of the abrupt, broken and picturesque to his canvass. Yet in addition to these attractions of soil and situation, the spot is still better calculated for protection and defence. The earlier possessors, who could not have been insensible to these manifold advantages, chose it for a military post. Who they were, who thus first fixed upon it, it would now be impossible to say with certainty. We can only connect them with conjectural associations, or speak of them inferentially from a few existing facts.

The name of CHESTERTON at once betokens *Roman* occupation: but the nature of the fortifications bespeak a *British* origin. The evidence in support of either supposition is pretty equally balanced, inclining rather more, perhaps, to the aborigines than the invaders. Let us dispassionately examine how the claims of each respectively stand.

It might have been observed throughout the preceding pages, how constantly the BORDER CAMPS are found adapting themselves to the irregularity of form of the elevated points upon which they are placed—that their sites are usually such as would naturally present formidable obstructions to the besiegers—and that where, from circumstances the ground is weak, and an assault might be made with most chance of success, there, recourse has been had to artificial means to make the position strong. The methods invariably resorted to, to remedy these deficiencies, are the fosse and vallum; the latter as often having a bold escarp. Very frequently two or more ditches are drawn round the quarter most obnoxious to attack. In some instances, as for example, in that most extraordinary fortress at OLD OSWESTRY, there are four or five concentric ditches. Two are the commoner number, and these are observable at the two CAER CARADOCs, (pp. 51, 52, 81,) CRAIG Y BREIDDEN, &c., all of which erections are indisputably attributable to the British. Examining still closer the method which the Britons pursued in constructing their walls of defence, it may be seen that they were generally formed of loose stones, according to the description that Tacitus has left of their mode of building fortifications.

Now in the example before us, may be detected an adherence to all those general laws which regulated their principles of castrametation. For besides the situation being precisely such an one as the British would choose, there is moreover a manifest conformity to all their

usual rules of construction. Thus, we find on the Western side of the enclosed area, where the descent is gradual, and an assault would most probably be made, the natural weakness of the ground is compensated for, by having a fosse and vallum drawn round the most pregnable part of the declivity for upwards of a hundred yards. Whilst if we look at the materials with which the vallum that surrounds the whole enclosure is formed, we find it consisting of pieces of the sand-stone rock that forms the geological basis of the hill. These facts indirectly tend to shew that the work is of *British* origin.

If we look to Etymology to confirm this supposition, we shall find but little aid; yet I think in that little there is at least a grain of valuable weight. There are two places in the neighbourhood that bespeak some connexion with the *British*, arising in all probability from conflicts happening at CHESTERTON. STANLOW and KINGSLow, indicate something British, so far as we are justified in drawing conclusions from the illustrations afforded by Etymology. It would seem that these two places must have been the sepulture of some Britons who fell whilst defending their country. I am not unaware that such an idea may be deemed fanciful, but if the argument that is borrowed from Etymology be unworthy of our notice, then the claims of CHESTERTON being a *Roman* position, must immediately fall to the ground, for it is solely from those reasons that it can have any pretensions whatever.

When we speak of CHESTERTON we use a word that is of acknowledged Latin origin. This is so universally accepted, that wherever the word is located, we immediately associate the Romans with the spot. It belongs to a *Chesterton* in *Warwickshire*, where Roman coins of the lower empire are continually being turned over, some of which I have procured there myself. It belongs to *Chesterton* in *Cambridgeshire*, near which there

is the semi-circular Roman camp of ARBURY; (so called, because it lies betwixt and contiguous to two Roman roads, the VIA DEVANA and another; see remarks under HOAR STONES, p. 217) to a *Chesterton* in *Oxfordshire*, situated near *Bicester*, on the AKEMAN STREET; and to *Chesterton* in *Somersetshire*, where there is a Roman camp. Besides these we have *Casterton* in *Rutlandshire*; *Chesterfield* in *Bedfordshire*; *Chesterford* in *Essex*, where coins and other Roman antiquities have been discovered. Not to mention the various Roman positions of *Chester*, *Colchester*, *Winchester*, *Dorchester*, *Rochester*, *Rutchester*, *Chichester*, *Richester*, *Ebchester*, *Manchester*, *Silchester*, *Godmanchester*, &c., &c. *Halton Chesters*, *Walwick Chesters*, *Great and Little Chesters*, all derived from CASTRUM; besides the kindred names of WROXETER, *Worcester*, *Alcester*, *Leicester*, &c. Another name, arising from the same tongue, and equally favoring the idea of Roman colonization, occurs close to the camp itself. The title of STRATFORD, which the brook below has acquired, is deduced on the same authority from STRATUM, and occurs in very many places where the tide of Roman population has set. We meet with it in our own county at the STRETTONS which lie on the WATLING STREET; at *Stratford Grove* near *Wistantow*, and in the adjoining one of *Herefordshire*, at *Stratford*, a village on the WATLING STREET, five and a half miles South West of *Leominster*. The term is borrowed from the Latin *Sterno*; as *Strata* signified paved roads whether it was applied to roads in cities or in the country. It has the same sense in Lucretius, who writes

*Strataque jam volgi pedibus detrita viarum*  
Saxea conspicimus. De Natur. i. 322.

and in Virgil, where the poet describing the building of New Carthage, and the wonder of Æneas at the works which were in progress, says,

Miratur portas, strepitumque, et *strata viarum*.—Æn. i. 426.

It is rather singular that no antiquities, appertaining to either people, should ever have been discovered at CHESTER-TERTON. Thus, all our proofs of it being a *Roman* fortress are confined to its name, and we can only say in its behalf,

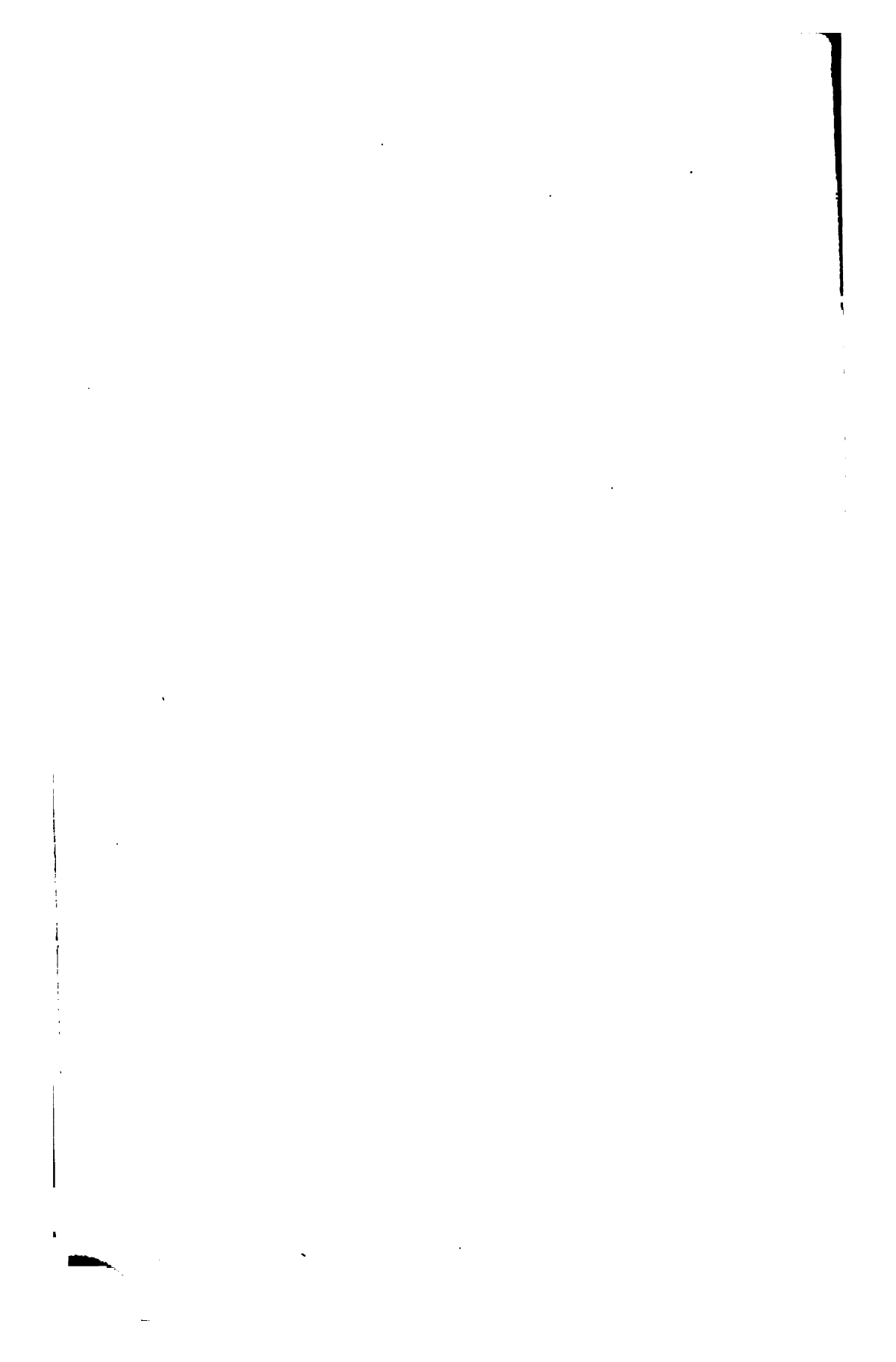
VOX ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL.

Yet, after all, if we attempt to reconcile these two dissentient statements, it may be done I think upon fair and good grounds. It is not improbable that CHESTER-TERTON was a position held by both *Britons* and *Romans*. Originally it might have been constructed as an outpost by the former nation, who were subsequently expelled from it when the latter advanced from the line of frontier camps which they had formed between the *Avon* and the *Severn*.



Anglo-Saxon Period.





## Wall.



THE WALL lies five miles North East of the town of *Wellington*. It is an enclosure of an irregular form containing within its area thirty acres, and accommodating its figure to the nature of the rising ground on which it stands. This is encircled by a vallum or *wall*, (hence its name) nearly the whole of which is still perceptible; and although much depressed in some parts, its general height is ten feet above the level of the interior. The present work, like so many others that have been described, has been considerably injured by the plough,

Hæc igitur minui, cum sint detrita videmus,

and the altitude of its vallum has in most places materially been affected by the operations of agriculture. Upon approaching it from the direction of *Kinnersley*, there are seen two concentric mounds which have an intervening ditch about four yards wide. They are visible for a hundred and fifty paces, and were thrown up for the especial protection of the South Western side of the stronghold: and here in all probability existed the original gate of entrance.

Following the course taken by the innermost, or third vallum, we find the road that has conducted us hitherto, running along the top of it for a few hundred paces, until it finally crosses a brook at the North end. In some parts the stream is so very shallow that it



was necessary to use artificial means to render this side of the enclosure stronger. So that besides the regular surrounding rampart, there are here traceable two other concentric ones, similar to those we have just left on the Western side. All other parts of this fortification are naturally defended by marshy ground. As it is almost impassable now, it must of itself have furnished a very complete defence at the period when the work was occupied. Besides the bog, it is surrounded nearly on all sides by a brook that washes the base of the vallum, and by some wide and deep water-courses.

The concentric ditches on the South West and North East sides lead us immediately to infer that the fortification is not Roman. It lies, moreover, quite too distant from the *Watling Street*, or any other Roman road for that nation to have made it one of their stations, or in fact to have had any connexion with it. Evidently, it is later than the period of their dominion; and consequently it was not the erection of the forces under Caradog. The earthwork of all others it most resembles, is the inferior fortress at the BERN; yet it is in all respects much more extensive than that. There is great similitude in both their positions, as they are alike surrounded by a morass, and protected by a single fosse.

It is not improbable that this is one of the places mentioned by Lomarchus in his plaintive elegy upon Cynddylan. The poet, in his heroic lament, states that the British Prince was "pierced through the head by *Turoc*, (or the Hog,) whilst defending the town of *Tren*." In another part of the same poem, he says,

The churches of *Bassa* afford space to night,  
To the progeny of Cyndrwyn—  
The grave-house of fair Cynddylan!<sup>1</sup>

If Cynddylan actually died in defending "Tren the patrimony of his sire," the two passages are at variance,

<sup>1</sup> The Heroic Elegies of Llywarc Hên, translated by William Owen. Lond. 1792, p. 85.

for it is highly unlikely that if the British Prince was slain at *Tren*, which must have been either upon the banks of the river Tern (and of such a spot there are no vestiges) or in the immediate neighbourhood, that he should have enriched the churches of *Bassa*, or *Baschurch* with his funeral, as that village is at the least, fifteen miles from the nearest point of this river. After the forces of Cyddyfan were driven from the town of *Tren*, it is very likely that they would take refuge either at the camp of *EBURY Wood* (supposing it then existed) or else at the *BERTH*; and the Welsh Prince dying during the retreat, or immediately his forces gained the latter position, he might have been interred at *Baschurch*. This is, however, assuming a great deal more than our facts warrant. All we really know is, that there still exist extensive earthworks at *WALL*; that they are of a nature precisely like the defensive constructions of the period when these circumstances are alleged to have happened, and that somewhere near the *Tern*<sup>1</sup> a sanguinary conflict occurred between the British Chief and the Saxons. Whether this event took place at the spot in question must be highly uncertain; if there be any value in presumptive argument, however, we should be led to conclude that it did.

The present one is a fair occasion to make a few remarks upon the names of those places in Shropshire which are mentioned in the Poems of *Llywarc Hên*, the Welsh bard just quoted. He speaks of the rivers *AVAERWY*, *TREN*, *TRYDONWY*, *MARCAWY*, and *HAVREN*.

In parallel windings with *AVAERWY*  
Doth *TREN* glide into the rough *TRYDONWY*,  
And also the stream of *TREN* into *MARCAWY*<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Usually pronounced *Téarn*. This is in accordance with the original mode of speaking it, if we may argue its correctness from the way in which it is spelt in the list of Tenants in *Capite* in Shropshire, Circa temp. Edw. I. "Item Abbas tenet villam de *TIERNE*." Collect. Topog. vol. i. p. 118.

<sup>2</sup> *Llywarc Hên*, p. 91.

The AVAERWY may mean the stream of the PERRY, which rises at *St Martin's*, four miles North of *Oswestry*, and empties itself into the *Severn*, a little below *Montford Bridge*. It flows about a mile and a half South West of the BERTH. The TREN is the TERN; the TRYDONWY, the RODEN; MARCAWY, the MEES; and the HAVREN, without dispute, the SEVERN. He also mentions ELWYDDEN,

In parallel windings with ELWYDDEN  
Doth TRYDONWY unite with TREN<sup>1</sup>.

in another place he says,

The barrow of ELWYDDEN is it not drenched with rain.  
There is MAODDYN under it<sup>2</sup>.

It is difficult to make out what stream this can be. The only other which flows in parallel windings with the *Roden* is LONCO BROOK that springs at *Bishop's Offley* in *Staffordshire*. It thence flows close to a spot still bearing the name of THE CAMP, just on the borders of the two counties, leaves KING'S WELL and ELLERTON a little to the West, and falls into the MEES at *Ohetwynd*. Most likely it is ELLERTON; and in the list of the tenants in *Capite* we meet with a place called *Elwardyn*, which must be the same. "*Rowlton et Elwardyn*." *Rowlton*, and *Ellardine*<sup>3</sup>. The poet bewails the death of his son *Gwen* at the ford of MORLAS. This river has been thought to be a brook of that name which runs from *Selattyn*, and is crossed four miles North of *Oswestry*; it shortly afterwards falls into the river *Ceiriog*<sup>4</sup>. But the *Morlas* is quite too insignificant a stream to have been memorable, and as there are several others bearing the same name, the *Morlas* commemorated by *Lomarchus* is rightly supposed to be a river contiguous to the poet's own principality, West of the forest of *Celyddon* somewhere in the neighbourhood of *Lancaster*.

<sup>1</sup> *Llywarc Hên*, p. 91.

<sup>2</sup> *Collect. Topog.* vol. i. p. 118.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of Shrewsbury*, vol. i. p. 4.

<sup>4</sup> *Ib.* p. 101.

Besides these rivers, he introduces into his Elegies some names, which there is good cause for thinking, identical with spots in Shropshire. The first we will notice is *ERCAL*.

The sod of *ERCAL* is on the ashes of fierce  
Men, of the progeny of *Morial*<sup>1</sup>.

There are three places of this name. *CHILDS ERCAL*, lying between the river *Tern* and *THE CAMP* before mentioned; at neither of these are there, however, any vestiges assignable to this period. The second is *HIGH ERCAL*, a village close upon the banks of the *Roden*. Perhaps this may be the place intended by the Poet; for a mile South of it, about three or four hundred paces from the Eastern side of the stream, there is still perceptible what appears to be a *Pond Barrow* as it has been termed by the late Sir Richard Hoare. It is a very depressed mound, thirty-six yards wide, and ninety long, with the angles rounded, and encircled by a fosse six feet deep and twenty-nine wide. The spot is called *Weselden Barn*, though it does not bear this name in the Ordnance Survey, where it is noted as a *Camp*. If it ever was used for any purpose of defence, it was most likely a moated house, for it is quite too limited to serve the purpose of an entrenchment. The name of *Weselden* would further seem to point to something. In C. British *hwysaw* implies to heap together, and it is not unlike the present title in sound, while its signification is similar.

The third *Ercal* lies betwixt *Wellington* and the *Wrekin*. The tumuli at the foot of this well known mountain have been already noticed, and as it has already been shewn that they probably belong to a much earlier period, it is unnecessary to state that they are unconnected with the sepulchres of the progeny of *Morial*.

<sup>1</sup> Llywarg Hên, p. 93.

There are, however, four mounds of a conical form lying on the brink of the DARY PIT<sup>1</sup>, a deep pool of dark water, which have every semblance of being artificial erections. They lie nearly obscured by wood, amid tangled fern and impervious thickets, where only the lover of nature's sylvan gloom, or the ardent fowler is ever likely to penetrate. Their summit is just perceptible from the road leading to *Willow Farm* from *Cluddeley* (vulgo *Clockley* or *Clotley*<sup>2</sup>), just where it trends to the *Hatch*<sup>3</sup>. There is every appearance, I repeat, of these four mounds being artificial: the conformity of them to each other is too remarkable to induce the belief that they are natural. The South Western tumulus, if such it may be called, rises twenty feet above the ground at its base, and thirty above the level of the DARY PIT. The one at the East North East side is twelve yards across its base, and eighteen long. The North Eastern mound is ten paces from the last; and here it may be remarked that the four are very nearly the same height and size, and that they stand equidistant round the margin of the pit: the latter mound, however, is more pointed than any of the others, though the fourth, which stands in the West South West side, is rather more elongated than the other three.

Whether these elevations are TUMULI raised over "the ashes of fierce men" can only be conjectured. They stand on the *Ercal* it is true, but beyond that, we are left to rove amid the deductions of fancy. And this

<sup>1</sup> Teutonic, *Dary*, *Darie*, *cespes bituminosus*, *gleba bituminea*, *cespes fossitius*, *nigra quædam et viscosa gleba qua ignis fovetur*. Kilian.

<sup>2</sup> In the Forest Perambulation of Shropshire, 28 Edw. I., the place bears this name: "de Clerkenebrugge in Watlingestrete ascendendo per le Stonibrok usque caput gardini Radulfi de CLOTLEGH." Chartular. Abb. St Petri MS. penes Sir T. Phillipps. "Et Villa de CЛОТНЛКН." In the list of tenants in Capite in Shropshire, Circa temp. Edw. I. printed in the *Collectanea Topographica*, vol. i. we find the place spelt as it is still pronounced, CLOTLEY, see p. 117.

<sup>3</sup> *Hunttoneshacche*, in the Forest Perambulation.

is a region favorable to its growth, as the reader will gather from the following proof that I gleaned on the spot. My informant, who had been severely afflicted with rheumatism, was induced, at the recommendation of one of his neighbours, who privately practised pharmacy for the injury of his fellow creatures, to come hither daily to drink buckbean water to cure his complaint, but having obeyed the injunction a few times, he found himself daily growing worse, and at length these drafts from the DARY PIT brought him close to death's door. He relinquished his potatoes in time, but not before he had fully proved their danger. Of course every thing connected with the spot was henceforth more vividly impressed on his imagination, and the stories of his boyhood were oftener recalled to his memory. He told me it had always been considered a place replete with horrors: that children would go a long distance round lest they should unluckily encounter any of those objects which are fabled to walk at the midnight hour. Even his grandmother used to hurry past it with her eyes shut, "for fear a should see the *sperrets*, because the fut path was uzed to come that way, un a saiden as how *sperrets* wun laid under the waiter." He stated that a felon named Kirby, having escaped from the county prison, hid himself for several days in the dark recesses of the neighbouring woods, and having filed off his fetters cast them in, as an offering to the deities of the water. Nor are these the only legends; for it is reported the unearthly powers are unappeased, and that *Rutter's Ghost* still walks abroad in the silence of night among these hills,

To haunt, to startle and way-lay.

"One Rutter, a cricker," continued my informant, "wuz laid here yo minden; un a wuz mighty fond o drink. When a cumm'd whoam at neet a wuz uzed to tak a mug un goa into the cellar like, un fach him a drop

o'drink, un then him an his wife usen to differ, an quarril an aggravait, an a wenten on a thians till at last his wife pizened him. After a wuz dhed the mug as a wun uzed to drink out on, cummd down off the shilf as natural as if a'd cotched hout on it wie his two honds, un it ud goa and fach drink out o' the ciller. I've often héard em talking about it: some o' Mat-thusses people liven thire at the time. They sayden as how his sperrit wuz laid i' th' Dary Pit; but I dunna knoa whoa laid him: yo oughten to know moor about sich things than me Sir, for yo sin I binna larned."

To return from this dialectical digression to the subjects of enquiry. The poet speaks of

The WHITE TOWN between TREN and TRAVAL<sup>1</sup>.

and of

The WHITE TOWN between TREN and TRODWYDD<sup>2</sup>.

The WHITE TOWN is on sufficient reasons supposed to be *Whittington*; and its situation between the *Tern* and *Roddington* leads us at once to infer that *Trodwydd* must mean this latter village. Where TRAVAL was, it is not so easy to settle. From *Tre* signifying a town and *gwâl* a wall, in the same language in which Llywarc Hên writes, (thus *Tra-val* the walled town, and *Gwâl Sever* the wall of Severus,) it seems evident that it alludes to some fortified position. It cannot mean WALL, because this stronghold is beyond the *Tern*, it must therefore be either EBURY, or BURY WALLS, near *Hawkstone*, most likely the latter. *Pengwern* is sufficiently known to be *Shrewsbury*. The rock of HYDWYTH, cannot be *Hodnet*, because there is not any rock there; it may be some eminence in the vicinity, for instance, *Kenstone*, or *Clarbury Hill*, or BURY WALLS<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Llywarc Hên, p. 87.

<sup>2</sup> *Ib.*

<sup>3</sup> I do not think it is ARMOUR HILL: Celt. *Ar*, a rock, and *mer*, great, high: *Ar-mer*, 'the high rock' as *Pendlestone rock* on the *Severn* above Bridgenorth, is called.

The Hall of Cynddylan is not easy this night,

On the top of the rock of HYDWYTH<sup>1</sup>,

Without its lord, without company, without the circling feasts.

And this supposition is rendered more probable by *Weston*, a village which lies at the foot of the latter, being called in a document of the time of Edward I., *Weston super LICHEFELDE*. (See Gloss. under LICHGATE.)

"The VALLEY OF MEISIR, the celebrated land of *Broçvael*," may perhaps mean the extensive plain through which the *Severn* flows from *Welshpool* to *Shrewsbury*; and "the verdant vale of FREUER", upon which the poet used to gaze from the high-placed city of WRECON, was the fertile vale of the HAVREN or SEVERN, from *Wroxeter* to *Buildwas*. DIGOLL was a circular entrenchment still bearing the name of CAER DIGOL, situated on the summit of CEFN DIGOL, at the South end of the *Long Mountain*. It is also called the *Beacon Ring*, and was a trigonometrical station<sup>2</sup>. This spot is mentioned both by Lomarchus in the seventh century, and by Cynddellw in the twelfth, which implies that CEFYN DIGOLL was a post generally occupied in the warfare of the Britons. DYGEN is most likely to be the BREIDDEN.

<sup>1</sup> Llywarc Hên, p. 77.

<sup>2</sup> Camb. and Celt. Quart. Mag. vol. iv. p. 388.





## The Berty.



HERE is not any reason for doubting the authenticity of the poems ascribed by Welsh scholars to Llywarç Hên, a poet who lived in the sixth century. Nor can their genuineness be impugned on the score of their misrepresenting events taking place at that period, because the poet was an eye-witness of the actions he records. He bore a distinguished part in defending his country against the growing power of the Saxons, and survived, as the historians tell us, to lament the loss of twenty-four sons who fell in the same cause. The poet himself was at length obliged to seek for shelter in the court of Cynddylan, a prince of Powis, whose subsequent misfortunes he describes in one of his odes. These heroic elegies throw considerable light upon the events of the period, and further enable us to fix upon the spot where the bard's regal protector was defeated by the Saxons.

It has been thought by a writer of high reputation who has touched upon the passages of these early times, that Cynddylan, after his expulsion from *Pengwern* circa 570, sought out a position somewhere at no great distance Northwards. He states there are strong grounds for thinking that the spot he fixed upon was in the immediate neighbourhood of *Baschurch*, because he was buried there, and "because *Baschurch*, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, formed part of the royal de-

meane of the crown of England." And "it is natural to suppose" as my authority continues, "that such demesne was in Mercia, derived from the Mercian kings; and it is likely that Offa, in his conquest of Western Shropshire, would retain in his own hands all the possessions of the native sovereigns of Powis. Thus the place is connected by no improbable links with the time of Cynddylan." Amid the great darkness of the period, it is difficult to catch even a gleam of light to guide us in fixing upon the actual scene of Cynddylan's defeat. Mr Blakeway conceived it was at the Berth<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Pennant says this fortress is called the *Bruff*, corruptly from *Burgh*, and that it was cast up by Kinred, King of Mercia, against the invasions of Osred, king of Northumberland, who was slain here in battle in 716. This stronghold is composed of two deep ditches and a rampart, formed chiefly of stone; the precinct not of any regular shape, for the fosses conform to the shape of the hill. Two of the corners project naturally, and form a species of bastion. The entrance was on the side next the present road. The approach is very visible: it crept up the steep sides; divided about midway, one branch took to the left and the other to the right. (*Pennant's Journey from Chester to London*, pp. 46, 47.)

It is suggested by the writer just quoted, that the corpse of Osred might have been buried under the tumulus at *Coplow*. I will not attempt to disturb that conjecture, seeing how many I have been necessitated to offer myself; but I must correct this valuable topographer's historical mistake. The works were not thrown up by *Kinred*, but by *Ceolred*, King of Mercia. Cenred, King of Mercia, went to Rome in the year 709 according to the Saxon Chronicle and Bede, lib. v. c. 24, where he died. He was succeeded in his kingdom the year he abdicated his throne by Ceolred, who in 715 fought with Ina at *Wodnesbeorh*, which seems to me most likely to be where *Wednesbury* in *Staffordshire* now stands. And in the succeeding year he defeated Osred at Mere. "Osred vero rex" says Henry Huntingdon, "belli infortunis juxta MERE pugnans interfectus est." Lib. iii. *Cenred* was Osred's successor. *Sax. Chron.* ann. 709—716. *Flor. Wor.* p. 266. *Matt. West.* p. 263.

If these works at *Berth Hill* were really constructed by the Saxons, it shews that they had retained the British system of castrametation, but when we look at the fortress of the *Berth* near *Baschurch* which was built a century and a half earlier, it appears to me that the works on *Berth Hill* must be assigned to a period anterior to that agreeing with our historical data, for they are precisely like, if we may accredit Pennant's account, the encampments of Caractacus' Chain. And herein I have the authority of King with me, who says and proves by two instances adduced,

My own reasons for dissenting from his opinion have been already given. Setting aside our mutual conjectures, let us examine its present appearance. It lies a mile and a half North East of the village of *Baschurch*, and takes its name, either from the C. Brit. *Berth*, which signifies a violent thrust, tallying with the event for which it is memorable, or else from the C. Brit. *Burth*, an enclosure. A small oval entrenchment, bearing the name of BERTH HILL, lies just out of Shropshire, in the adjoining county of *Stafford*, between *Woore* and *Chapel Chorlton*, and we find no less than six places with very significant names in the immediate contiguity of it. CAMP HILL; WAR HILL; WOODEN DALE, evidently WODEN DALE; BERRY HILL; SANDY LOW, and MAER FIELD, or the WATCHING FIELD; (C. Brit. *Maer*). Surely these titles are not accidental.

The works at the BERTH consist of two distinct fortresses, lying in a morass, but which are connected with each other by an artificially raised causeway, one hundred and fifty yards long and twelve feet wide, formed with vast labor of small stones. Though this traverses the bog at present on a level with it, yet it is distinctly marked by the yellowness of its herbage, notwithstanding all the draining which the land has undergone. Besides this, there is another causeway that takes a sinuous line across the bog towards the higher ground at *Marion*. This was the road of general communication with the main land; the other, was merely a passage of intercourse between the two camps. They are each of them built with stones, brought from a gravel pit, a quarter of a mile distant.

THE UPPER WORK, occupies a circular eminence of three acres, and rises about forty-five feet above the level of the land at its base. It is strengthened on that "Places of this description were not only strongholds and fortresses in the early British times, but were also deemed capable of being such even in much later ages." *Munimenta Antiqua*. vol. i. p. 26.

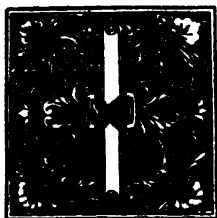
three sides by a morass; upon the South, or fourth side, by a deep pool of water, covering eight acres. A concentric trench and vallum encircle the whole work; in some parts this is still tolerably perfect, chiefly so on the North side, but having been formed of stones according to the British method of construction, the greater portion of it is destroyed, and what remains is daily growing less conspicuous, in consequence of the materials being used for draining the surrounding wet land. The fosse was at first as much as ten feet wide. The crest of the vallum is at present about twenty feet above the level of the marsh. On the North North East side are remains of the original entrance. The gorge or gangway is seven feet wide. It had a tower on either side, or some erection which answered the same purpose, for there are two great heaps of stones still on the surface, notwithstanding the thousands of loads that my informant told me had been buried in the surrounding bog, or carried away to mend the neighbouring roads. The work of destruction was proceeding when I was on the spot, but happily it will take many years still to complete it. A stream runs round this side of the work, that cuts off the causeway from reaching to the very entrance. There is no doubt that this was intentional, and served the purpose of preventing all approach to the superior fortress, unless its inhabitants let down a plank or drawbridge to allow their friends to come over.

Proceeding along the CAUSEWAY for a hundred and twenty-five yards we are stopped by a high, thick hedge, and obliged to make a little deviation from a straight line, so as to fall in with it again, on the other side. Following it for twenty-five yards further, we enter the *Inferior Work* between two slightly elevated mounds, which formed the original gate of admission.

The **INFERIOR FORTRESS** is of an elliptical form. It was defended by a morass on all sides, and even intersected by a ditch that was supplied with water to render all access to it still more difficult. The works on the side next the superior fortress are considerably higher than those in the other quarters. They are so faint and uncertain on the North side of the intersecting ditch, that it is questionable whether this side of the entrenchment had ever any other defence than the morass, the treacherous nature of which, even now, (1838) makes it troublesome to cross. It would have been a measure easily resorted to, if the Britons, when attacked, had dammed up the two streams which now tend to drain the bog, and this would at once have converted each of these fastnesses into an island. Yet if they had confided in the natural advantages alone of their retreat, the protection afforded by the elevated situation of the Superior Work, and the marshy ground around it, would have rendered their position extremely formidable. In whatever way we look at these two fortifications, they cannot fail to strike us as most remarkable examples of castrametation for the age when they were constructed. They evince a degree of military knowledge that is highly curious and surprising, whilst they furnish us with a connecting link in the history of martial tactics, that is well deserving the attention of the antiquary and the soldier.



## Ebury Camp.



HAVE already intimated the probability of EBURY CAMP being 'the rock of Hwydwyth' spoken of by Lomarchus, and I shall now proceed to give the reason for this supposition. There is such a scantiness of soil upon this eminence, and such an extensive and clear development of rock upon its North Eastern side, that the name of *Ebury rock* would still not be unappropriate. It lies, moreover, in an insulated and commanding position, so that the circumstance of it being mentioned as a *Rock* is not unlikely. Setting, however, such a speculation aside, I will describe the existing appearances.

EBURY CAMP is an oval enclosure, fortified by a single fosse and vallum: having at the original entrance at the South South East end a breach through the mound of ten paces in width: a little further on there is another interruption, two paces wide, but whether both these entrances are original, it is difficult to determine. One of them is so, undoubtedly, because there is no appearance of an entrance on the other side, whilst there is a concentric vallum or outwork at this point running for fifty paces. The general position of the camp is extremely commanding. It has a very strong natural defence in the precipitous character of the rock at the North East end, as well as in the steep fall at the North end. In the centre of the area there are

some very large stones, which seem as though they might have formed a portion of a *cromlech*, and as they differ from the formation of the hill, they have evidently been transported hither.

We must assign this work to the same period as THE WALL, which it greatly resembles in the simplicity of its construction.



## Pontesford Hill.



THE Camp upon the summit of this eminence is British, and may I think be assigned to the year 661, when, according to the Saxon Chronicle, Cenwalh fought at *Pontesbyrig* against the Welsh. It is a double camp, having its ditches and walls in conformity to the nature of the ground. The Hill is very steep on all sides, especially towards the East, where the declivity is nearly perpendicular. The lower camp, which is the Southerly one, is three hundred and seventeen yards long, and varies from twenty-five to thirty-five in width. The upper and Northerly division is the same width, and two hundred and sixty-five yards in length. There is an entrance due North into the upper one, and one due South into the lower. Great similarity exists between these works and those at CAINHAM: though this, from being situated on a greater elevation, is naturally much stronger.

A wake is annually held on Palm Sunday, on the top of "*Ponsert Hill*" as it is termed, under the pretence of "*seeking for the Golden Arrow*." I have in vain looked for elucidation of this custom, and can therefore offer nothing better than mere conjecture as to its origin. It may not be improbable that some tradition formerly existed of a golden arrow having been shot in the encounter between the two contending parties in the seventh century, and as Cenwalh



fought at Easter, it seems but likely that Palm Sunday should be a commemoration-day of the event, and that the golden arrow, whether fabled or genuine, should on that day especially be sought for. It is almost needless to add that the custom is now merely a pretext for having a merry making.



Offa's Dyke Co. Salop Hereford Barren Montgomery Denbigh Flint



Watts Dyke  
Co. Galop. Denbigh Flint



Watts Dyke  
Co. Warr. Berks. Somerset



Great Dyke Co. Derby



Asse Dyke Co. Devon



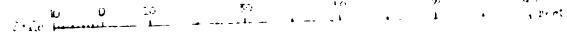
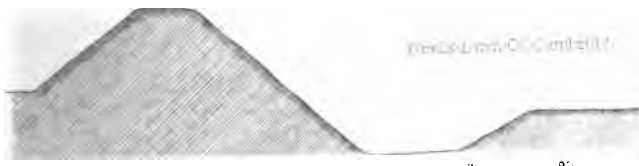
East Dyke Co. Cornwall



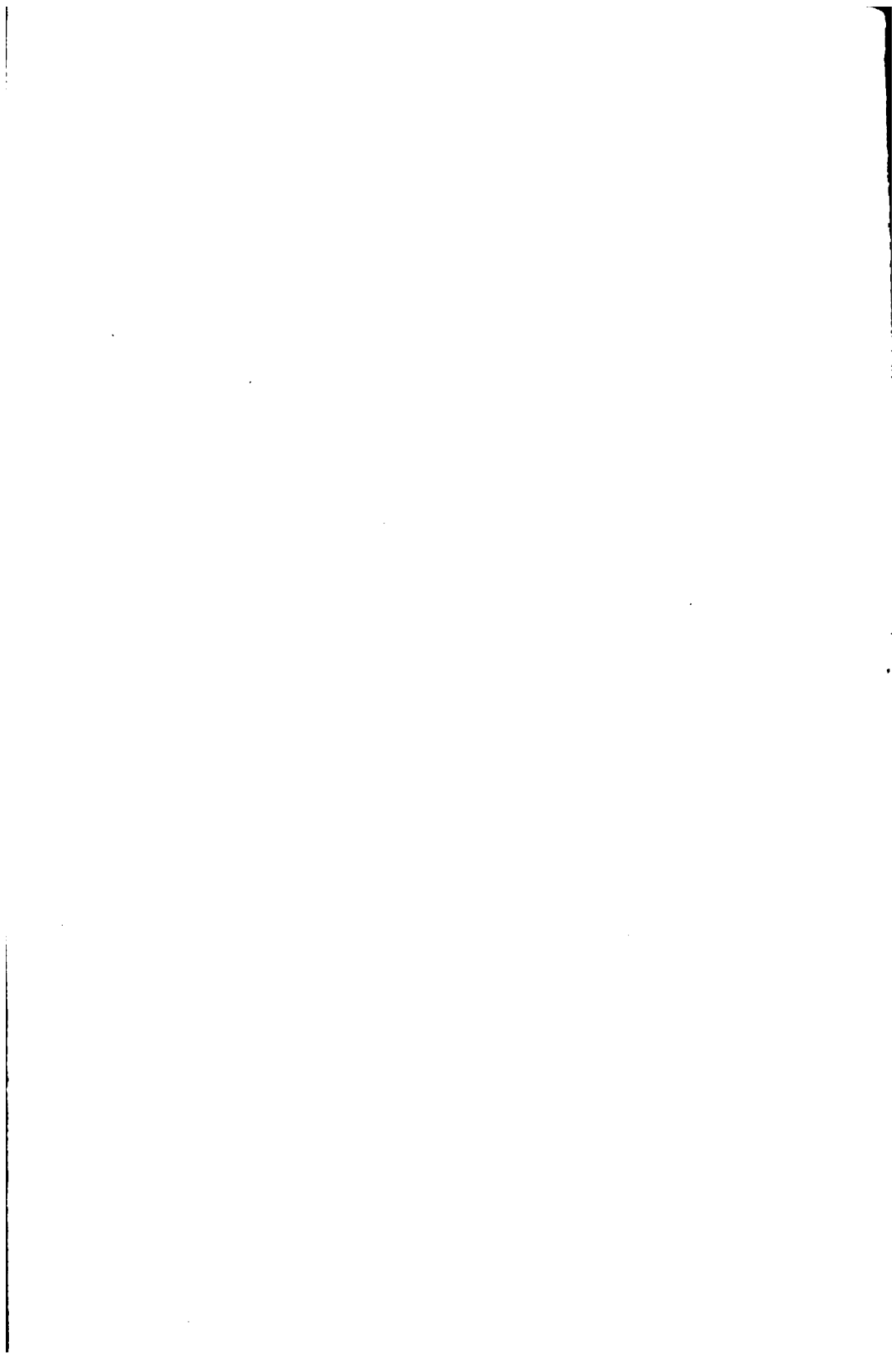
Went Dyke Co. Cornwall



Went Dyke Co. Cornwall



COMPARATIVE SCALE OF DYKES



## Offa's Dyke.



OFFA having expelled the Welsh from the open country they possessed between the *Wye* and the *Severn*, and annexed the Eastern parts of Wales, as far as the former river, to the kingdom of Mercia, proceeded to separate the Britons from his subjects by a high mound and ditch<sup>1</sup>. This extended from near *Treiddyn* in *Flintshire* to the *Wye* at *Bridge Sollers* in *Herefordshire*, and it may still be traced in a very perfect state at various places along this line.

It does not appear likely that Offa intended his work for any other purpose than merely a boundary. As a defence, it would have been totally insufficient to keep the rebellious Welsh in awe, who had constructed at an earlier period numerous fortifications of so strong a nature, that this would have presented scarcely any obstruction to their movements. Their extraordinary operations in forming the extensive chain of hill-fortresses

<sup>1</sup> Offa, qui vallum magnum inter Britanniam atque Merciam, id est de mari usque ad mare facere imperavit. Simeon Dunelm. Hist. p. 118.

Fuit in Mercia moderno tempore quidam strenuus, atque universis circa se regibus et regionibus finitimis formidolosus rex, nomine Offa; qui vallum magnum inter Britanniam atque Merciam de mari usque ad mare facere imperavit. Asserius de Ælfredi rebus gestis. Edit. Camden, Francof. 1603, p. 3.

As the Welsh Chroniclers do not mention either *Offa's Dyke* or *Watt's Dyke* as extending so far, I doubt very much whether they really did so, my reasons for which are given hereafter. It will not escape observation, that one of these historians has borrowed the very words of the other.

bordering upon Wales, forbid our supposing them to be ignorant of the arts of strategy and castrametation, and the valor they uniformly evinced, contradicts the idea of their having become in the short interval after the Roman invasion, degenerate sons of a warlike race.

The barrier erected by Offa is of such a nature, that it would be easy for a hostile force to break through and even partially destroy it, (as in fact we know the Welsh did) by making the assault at those parts where it might be left unguarded. Mr Pennant<sup>1</sup>, instead of attributing their incursions after the death of Offa, to the greater readiness with which they were able to surmount his Dyke, ought rather to have assigned them to the naturally restless spirit, and the invincible love of freedom which that nation have always shewn; instead of attributing them to the more certain hope of success with which they were inspired, when they found they had no longer to struggle against the superior tactics of this martial prince.

Sanguinary enactments were made for the purpose of confining the Welsh on their own side of OFFA'S DYKE. By a law of *Egbert*, the penalty of death was incurred by every Welshman who passed it. And by another law, made by Harold Harefoot, it was decreed that if a Welshman entered England without permission, and was taken on the English side of the ditch, his right hand should be cut off by the king's officer.

The precise year of its construction is not known, but on the authority of the *Brut y Saeson* and the *Brut y Twysogion*, two Welsh Chronicles, I think it may be fixed in or close after the year 784. The first of these historical records states<sup>2</sup> that in the summer

<sup>1</sup> North Wales, vol. i. p. 274.

<sup>2</sup> *Decl. xxxiii. yr haf y difeithws y cymre cyvoeth Offa, ac yna y peris Offa gwneuthur clawd yn derwyn ryingthawa chymre val y bei haws ydaw gwrthnebu y ruthyr y elynion; a hwnnw a*

of this year, 'the Welsh laid waste the dominions of Offa. And then Offa caused to be made a dyke as a limit between his territories and Wales, as it was easier thus to resist the assault of his enemies, and this is called OFFA'S DYKE, (CLAWDD OFFA<sup>1</sup>) from that time to the present.' The latter Chronicle<sup>2</sup> expresses it rather differently: 'the Christian year 784, Mercia was laid waste by the Welsh, and Offa made a dyke a second time nearer to him, that is, one running farther to the South East, and leaving room for the territory, between the Wye and the Severn, of Elystan Glodrydd, one of the five royal tribes of Wales.'

From another passage in the same authority<sup>3</sup> we are told that in the year 776, the people of GWENT and MORGANWY rose, and went against Mercia, and broke in Offa's Dyke even with the ground, and after this returned with great spoil.

When the people of *Monmouthshire* and *Glamorgan-shire* made this irruption, they probably broke down that Dyke which is now known under the name of WATT'S DYKE, which I conceive was constructed by Offa also nearly twenty years before OFFA'S, that is, in, or immediately after 765.

elwir yn glawd Offa yr hynny hyd hedyw. Brut y Saeson (Chronicle of the Saxons) in Cotton Lib. Cleopat. B. V. P. 136. Plut. xix. A.

<sup>1</sup> C. Britt. *claudh*; Bret. *clas*; Ir. *class*; Gael. *clais*; Arm. *cleux*, fossa.

<sup>2</sup> Oed Crist 784 y diffeithiwyd y Mers gan y Cymry, ac Offa a wraeth glawdd yr ail waith yn nes attaw a gadael lle gwlad rwng Gwy a Hafren lle mae Llwyth Elystan Glodrydd lle ydd aethant yn un o bum Breninllwyth Cymry. Brut y Twysogion. (Chronicle of the Princes) from a copy of an ancient MS. made in 1764 by George Williams, Esquire, of *Aber Pergum*.

<sup>3</sup> Oed Crist 776 y crdes Gwyr Gwent a Morganwy ac a aethant am bennr y Mers, ac y torasant Glawdd Offa yn gynwasted a'r ddacar, a gwedi hynny dychwelyd ag yspail fawr. Ib.

For these transcripts I am indebted to the kindness of my friend Sir S. Meyrick of Goodrich Court, who has also obligingly furnished me with some valuable suggestions relative to this part of the subject.

When we look at OFFA'S DYKE, even at the present day, we shall be surprised at the boldness of its conception. It is carried over the summit of lofty mountains, across morasses, and through places where every natural obstruction is presented. These difficulties are, however, successively overcome, and we behold its dark ridge traversing the mountainous district of the BORDER COUNTRY apparently with as much ease as though the engineer had felt himself superior to every natural impediment which he had to contend with. Those who have had opportunities of examining the regular method in which OFFA'S DYKE is constructed, and of tracing its course in the secluded and remote districts through which it is carried, must regard it as a very extraordinary effort of human labor and skill. Although it was projected by the king of the Mercians, it is highly probable that he compelled the Welsh to carry his plan into execution, and that he imposed upon the peasantry, through whose country it passed, the labor of constructing their own boundary line. This he might do by way of penalty for their former aggressions, or might else take it as a remission of tribute<sup>1</sup>.

In the autumn of 1838 I examined this work in several places where it is most complete: and from having taken measurements at different parts, I am enabled to state what appear to have been its dimensions when first constructed.

OFFA'S DYKE consists of a trench and a mound, the former supplying the means of raising up the

<sup>1</sup> Lewis Glyn Cothi, a Welsh Bard of the Fifteenth Century, in a poem addressed to Griffith ab Howell ab David ab Cadwalader, of Bachellrdrw (now *Bachelldre*), in the parish of *Churchstoke, Montgomeryshire*, urges him to serve under the banners of Edw. IV. He reminds him that his mansion stands on OFFA'S DYKE, and that as the Welsh were threatened with still further encroachments, he should unsheath his sword in behalf of the nation. Griffith was steward of the Manor of *Cours* or *Cause*, under the lords who dwelt at that castle. Gwaith Lewis Glyn Cothi, p. 268.

latter<sup>1</sup>. The ditch is invariably, throughout its whole extent, on the Welsh side, and averages twelve feet in width, and six in depth. A vallum or mound of earth is thrown up at an angle of forty-five degrees on the English side of the ditch, whose relief on the Welsh side is about fifteen feet in perpendicular height, and its width four feet across the top. The vallum is ten feet in perpendicular altitude above the average level of the adjacent soil on the English side of it. The width of the mound and ditch together is fifty-four feet: the base of the mound thirty-six, its summit four, and the ditch eleven. Although my measures allow only four feet for the width of the top of the vallum, I am inclined to think that formerly it was more, as we must allow something for the tendency of works like this to slip, and to become diminished through the natural depression of the soil.

The earlier topographical writers who have mentioned OFFA'S DYKE have confounded it with WATT'S DYKE, describing them as one and the same work. They make OFFA'S DYKE to commence at the *Bristol Channel*, and terminate where WATT'S does, at the *Dee*. Pennant was the first writer who attempted to trace their courses correctly, but he has not followed them out entirely.

It has been laid down by all preceding writers, as a fact, that OFFA'S DYKE commenced in the parish of *Tiddenham* in *Gloucestershire*, that it went from thence

<sup>1</sup> Offa died 794, and it has been supposed that he was buried at *Offchurch* near *Leamington*. (*Camb. Quart.* vol. iv. p. 347.) But the *Offeleia* mentioned by his biographer (*Vita Offæ Secundæ*, p. 987), as the place where he died is more likely to be *Offord Chury* or *Offord D'Arcy* in the neighbourhood of *Bedford*, to which town his body was afterward carried, and interred in a chapel on the banks of the *Ouse*. *Offchurch* and *Offchurch Bury*, THE BURY, as it is still called, has been examined by me in vain for any traces of works earlier than the little church, which belongs in part to the Norman period. We recognise Offa's possessions in those villages which are still called *Offington*, *Ovington*, *Uppington*, *Uffington*, *Ovey*, *Upton*, &c., &c.



near COLD HARBOUR to ST BRIAVELS, and thence to *Coleford*<sup>1</sup>; but of this there is no proof.

Mr Fosbroke says that OFFA'S DYKE is "known to have commenced at *Tiddenham* in *Gloucestershire*"<sup>2</sup>: but how known? When he was himself at *St Briavels*, he did not see it, but derived his information second-hand from a gentleman who is represented to have often crossed it, and who stated that it ran through a wood called the *Fence* near *Bigweir Bridge*. As there are two camps in the vicinity, one at CASTLE ORCHARD, the other South West of GUMBER'S BARN, it seems to me very probable that Mr Fosbroke's informant mistook some defensive ditch connected with them for a portion of OFFA'S DYKE. And this is rendered more likely by what he subsequently learned from a gentleman engaged in the Ordnance Survey, who informed him (if I understand the paragraph rightly), that there was a camp in CASWELL WOOD within the entrenchment, and that a line or mound from this CAMP could be traced nearly to a TUMULUS on the West side of the road.

It will be observed, that each of these assumed parts of OFFA'S DYKE are immediately connected with fortifications, and there seems abundant reason for supposing that they constituted a part of them. Nor does there appear to be any necessity for this artificial boundary South of its junction with the *Wye* at *Bridge Sollers*, the river forming a natural line of demarcation. Nor, again, would it have been in any wise needful to construct it betwixt *St Briavels* and *Tiddenham*, as the country included betwixt this place and the *Severn* is very narrow and limited in extent. The existence, moreover, of a COLD HARBOUR here in the contiguity of roads running with remarkable directness, together with some military works, would lead us to infer that most of the

<sup>1</sup> Fosbroke's *Wye Tour*, p. 128.

<sup>2</sup> *Gent. Mag.* vol. ci. p. 582—4.

defensive remains with which this nearly insulated part of *Gloucestershire* abounds, must have been erected at an earlier period, when, in fact, the Romans had gained a footing.

Its line has been presumed by Sir Samuel Meyrick<sup>1</sup> to have gone from hence to *Symond's Yat*, *Huntsholm Ferry-house*, *Bryngwyn*, *Penraig*, *Hentland*, *Pennaxton*, *Walbrook*, and *Tond Ditch* to *Bridge Sollers*, where it crossed the *Wye*. The Ordnance Survey does not indicate any trace of it South of *Coleford*, nor any what-ever Northwards, till it reaches the *Wye* at *Bridge Sollers*, either in the name of any place by which the above line would take it, or in a visible track through this part of *Monmouthshire* and *Herefordshire*. These circumstances induce me to dissent from the opinions of foregoing writers, and lead me readily to believe that *OFFA'S boundary* commenced with the mouth of the *Wye*, and that the river itself formed the line of demarcation until it reached *Bridge Sollers*, six and a half miles North West of *Hereford* where the *DIRCH* first appears. Southward of this place we meet with no traces of it, but proceeding Northward, they are abundant.

Commencing then, at this spot, the *Ditch* is distinctly visible the whole way to *Mansel Gamage*; it continues in the same course, due North, in a tolerably perfect state for a mile, to *UPPERTON*, or *Offa's Town*. No marks of it are hence perceptible for six miles. In all probability it took the line of the turnpike road, through *Sarnesfield*, as far as the *Holmes*, close to which place it is met with again.

*Rowe DIRCH*, which is a ditch a mile long, due North of *Pembridge*, and the same distance from it, would bring the line too much to the North East. This therefore, must have been a short defensive, or boundary ditch unconnected with it, similar to the *DIRCH BANK* under *Fron Hill* in *Radnorshire*, or the *ANCIENT*

<sup>1</sup> Camb. Quart. Mag. vol. v. p. 273.

DYKE above *Llangynllo*, or the UPPER and LOWER SHORT DITCHES, in *Olun Forest*. That these two last are of the same period as the great one whose course we are pursuing, is very probable. It may be presumed they are those mentioned as being thrown up during the twelve days truce between Offa and Marmodius<sup>1</sup>. A church, erected by the piety of the former prince, existed in the days of his biographer, and was called *Offe Kirk*. This church no longer remains; but a couple of miles West of *Mainstone*, betwixt the two ditches in question, there is some high land called *Saeson Bank*, or *Sawon's Bank*, where Offa's forces it is imagined were stationed, and as another spot in the immediate vicinity still retains the name of *Church Town Hill*, its title, for the same reasons, might have originated from the circumstance of the church having stood there.

At the North Western extremity of *Herefordshire* OFFA'S DYKE is again found a little to the South of *Lynhales* in a tolerably perfect state. Two miles from *Kington* it is crossed by the turnpike road to *Ross*. It then takes a Northernly direction, skirting the Western side of the hill above *Bullock's Mill*. Its course then grows devious and irregular: we find it ascending heights and descending into valleys. At *Knill Garaway*, where it is very perfect, it traverses a plain and makes an angle without any apparent reason. Adapting itself to the natural figure of the summit, it runs round the crest of *Herrock* and descends at the Northern end.

<sup>1</sup> Veruntamen cum nollet vel exercitus regis Offæ, vel Wallensium inde procul recedere, Rex Offa ad cautelam inter ipsos duos exercitus, communi assensu unum fossatum longum nimis et profundum effodi, aggere terrestri versus Wallenses eminenter elevato, ne fallacium hostium irruptionibus repentinis præoccuparetur. Et ut tutius ac quietius, divinis obsequiis in tanta solemnitate vacaret, unam ibidem construxit ecclesiolam. Quæ omnia, prout temporis brevitatis exigebat, ante natale Domini, videlicet duodecim diebus, licet brevissimis, sunt completa. Cujus rei ut memoria perpetuetur, fossa illa Offæ dicitur, et ecclesia *Offekirk*, usque in hodiernum diem appellatur. Vita Offæ Secundæ, p. 975.

Just upon entering *Radnorshire*, it passes under DITCH HILL, to which it most obviously gives the name, and upon whose summit there is an oval entrenchment. Thence winding round *Evenjob Hill* and *Evenjob Bank*, it leaves the circular work of CASTLE RING below it to the West, and the two rectangular camps of CAER DIN, one to the South West, and the other to the North East. The course of it now lies nearly straightforward in a Northernly direction, till it reaches *Knighton*, a distance of six miles, during the greater part of which distance it is but little altered or depressed. It may, however, be noted that midway between CASTLE RING and *Knighton*, the DYKE in passing over the top of *Furrow Hill*, curves to the East. It is again found a mile on the North West side of *Knighton*, or TREF-Y-CLAWDD, *the town upon the Ditch*, at the point where it emerges from the end of *Kinsley Wood*.

This brings it into *Montgomeryshire*. For six miles it continues without any interruption, pointing in a direct line; only two deviations occurring, one, where it winds round the hill to the East of *Skyborry Green*, the other, two miles farther on, where it makes a slight deflection to the left. Just before reaching this spot, it leaves a small pentagonal Camp to the right, on the summit of LLAN-DU<sup>1</sup>.

Having followed OFFA'S DYKE from *Kinsley Wood* for six miles, all traces of it are then lost for about a quarter of a mile. It is again met with after having

<sup>1</sup> In its form this earth-work is not unlike SOLDIER'S RING, in *Wiltshire*, and CAESAR'S CAMP in *Surrey*: there is another like them at MADMARTON in *Oxfordshire*, and a fourth example of *pentagonal castrametation*, though differing still from these, at LETCOMBE BASSET in *Berkshire*. LETCOMBE CASTLE is nearly circular, but has a sufficient degree of rectilinearity to bring it into the same class as the foregoing ones. All of these works are considerably larger than the one upon LLAN-DU. From their great regularity of construction, and their conformity in main principles to each other, it is most natural to refer them all to the Roman period. (See this subject further treated upon at p. 153.)

passed over *Burfield Warren*, just where it crosses the road leading from *Newcastle* to *Whitcot*. Leaving a small quadrangular camp to the West, it runs along the side of *Bryn-y-crach*, descends close to an irregular ovoid Camp at UPPER KNUCK, and proceeds gently curving Eastwards to *Mainstone*. Hence it traverses *Edenhope Hill*, where it is tolerably perfect. Leaving this, it points directly forwards without any interruption to the *Blue Bell*, about six miles on the turnpike road going from *Bishop's Castle* to *Montgomery*.

A mile further on it forms the boundary of *Shropshire* and *Montgomeryshire*, until it reaches the road communicating between the latter town and *Chirbury*. It is found in a perfect state a mile onwards, but all traces are lost at the *Devil's Hole*. Proceeding Northwards, it is again fallen in with: for two miles it seems to take the course of the turnpike road connecting *Montgomery* with *Welshpool*, from which road it is distant merely a few paces. At the first approach it makes to the road in question it is very perfect for a mile. At *Nantoribba Hall* it passes by a circular entrenchment called the MOAT, at which place it is very well preserved. Inclining a little to the East, it goes on to *Fron*, where it suddenly bends to the West, and then goes nearly in a straight line to BUTTINGTON<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The Saxon Chronicle anno 894, mentions a conflict at this spot, between the Danes and the Saxons, the latter being assisted by the Welsh. When they were all assembled they came up with the army at *Buldigintun*, on the banks of the Severn, and there they besieged them on every side in a fortress. When they had been encamped on the two sides of the river for many weeks, the king being still detained by the fleet in the West, in *Devonshire*, the Danes were pressed by hunger, and they had eaten great part of their horses, and some perished through famine. Then they rushed out upon the men who were posted on the Eastern side of the river, and fought with them, and the Christians gained the victory, but the King's Thane Ordhelm was slain there, and many others of the King's Thanes; and those (of the heathens) who escaped were saved by flight.

The river *Severn* at this place serves instead of the artificial boundary, and accordingly there are no indications of the ditch met with for four or five miles. But upon crossing the river at *Severn Farm*, the DYKE is again found. At the distance of a mile and three quarters it forms part of the turnpike road from *Llan-drinio* to *Llanymynech*<sup>1</sup>. At the latter place it skirts the bold escarpment of limestone rock above the village, and then trends a mile Northwards.

Parallel with two other DYKES upon this eminence, there is a stupendous rampart of loose stones, accompanied with a deep fosse, which follows the brow of the hill, and encompasses about one half of its whole extent. On its Eastern brow once stood a cromlech, measuring seven feet by six, and about eighteen inches thick. It was called by the vulgar *BEDD Y CAWR*, or *the great Sepulchre*: and it was the voice of immemorial tradition, that a giant had buried his wife under this stone, with a golden torques about her neck. This report caused three bothers, who lived in the neighbourhood some years back, to overturn the stone from its pedestals in search of the treasure, in which position it now lies<sup>2</sup>.

Marks of OFFA'S DYKE are next found near a small encampment to the North West of *White Haven*, but

A number of the Shrewsbury Chronicle describes a singular discovery made at this place in 1838. In digging the foundation for a school-house, near the church, the workmen's labors were interrupted by finding immense quantities of human skulls huddled together in holes, with other bones of the human frame scattered around, to the amount of several cart-loads. Ninety skulls were taken from one hole, and upwards of three hundred were ranged in grisly show in the church. In many the teeth were perfect, and most of them exhibited symptoms of having belonged to men in the prime of life. Still more recently, nearly the last of the sanguinary struggles of the Welsh for national independence was made on this spot.

<sup>1</sup> A mile from this place we observe a sixth *Pentagonal Camp*, called *CLAWDD COCH* approached by *CAUSEWAY LANE*.

<sup>2</sup> Camb. Regist. vol. i. p. 275.

its vestiges are again speedily lost. It leaves *Trefonen* a little to the right; the turnpike road from *Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant* to *Oswestry* crosses it at *Pentre Shanell* near *Trefar Clawdd*. Hence it goes over *Craig Fordd*, leaving the oval entrenchment of COED Y GAER to the South West, passing a stone of memorial to the North East. It leaves *Oswestry Race-course* a little to the right, and runs on in a direction nearly straight, by the *Forest*, CAREG Y BIG, *Garsedd Wen*, and *St Martin's Hill* to *Bron y Garth*, where it quits Shropshire, and enters *Denbighshire*, being traceable for twenty miles, in a perfect state, through the former county.

At *Pen isaf glyn* there is a breach, which is supposed to be the place of interment of the English, who fell in the battle of *Craigwen*<sup>1</sup>. It then goes by *Chirk Castle*, crosses the *Dee* at *Cefyn y Wern*, skirts the park at *Wynstay*, and cuts the *Ruabon* road near *Tir-y-ffon*. It runs parallel and contiguous to the turnpike road from *Ruabon* to *Tan-y-clawdd*, and thence to *Pentre Buchan*. At PEN Y GARDEN, about two hundred yards to the left of the DYKE is the circular camp of CAER DIN, enclosing about four acres. The inner ditch is made of loose stones, with a wall of vast thickness on the top. Within the area are many vestiges of buildings<sup>2</sup>. From *Pentre Buchan* it proceeds between *Plas Power* and *Plas Buckley*, by *Llidiart Farm* to *Brymbo*; and finally crossing the river *Cegidog*, and passing through a little valley on the South side of *Bryn Yorkyn*, to *Coed Talwyrn*, it terminates three quarters of a mile South East of *Treiddyn*, in the parish of *Mold* in *Flintshire*<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Pennant's *Wales*, vol. i. p. 274.

<sup>2</sup> The recurrence of *Streets* in this part of *Denbighshire*, betokens a connection with the Romans. Thus we find *Croes Street*, *Street Isaf*, *Street-y-Dinas*, *Street-yr-hibch*.

<sup>3</sup> Very slight vestiges are discernible between *Tyn y cyffion* and *Treiddyn*.

It does not appear why this DYKE was not continued to the sea<sup>1</sup>; but most probably *Offa* imagined that the *Cheydean Hills*, and the deep valley that lies on this side of their base, would serve as a continuance of his prohibitory line. He had carried his arms over most part of *Flintshire*, and vainly thought, that his labors would restrain the *Cambrian* inroads in one part, and his orders prevent any incursions beyond these natural limits, which he had decreed should be the boundaries of his new conquests. It is, however, important in this enquiry, to bear in mind that OFFA'S DYKE is no where to be discovered from opposite the village of *Hope* to the coast, a distance of sixteen miles, and that the two Dykes appear to become much narrower as if to form a junction.

Running parallel with the DYKE just described is another, known at the present day by the title of WATT'S DYKE, and which is, I think, the earlier of the two<sup>2</sup>. It is difficult to account for its name. The only writer who has hitherto offered any explanation, refers it to the C. Brit. *gwaed*, signifying blood. But I cannot see any connection that it has with such an etymology. The name seems more likely to be taken from *gwaeth*, 'the worse', 'that is less good', which epithet would distinguish the two DYKES from each other

<sup>1</sup> The Monkiah Chroniclers state that OFFA'S DYKE went from sea to sea, which I think highly improbable for the reasons already assigned, reasons further strengthened, by the complete silence of the Welsh annalists on the subject, who would hardly have omitted mentioning so important a fact, had the work been so extensive.

<sup>2</sup> Oed Crist 765, y diffeith iwyd Tiroedd y Mers gan y Cymry ac y gorfuant ar y Saeson, ac ai hyspeiliasant\* yn ddirvawr, a chaws hynny y gwnaeth Offa brenhin y Mers y clawdd mawr a elwir clawdd Offa yn derfynfa rhwng gwlad Gymru ar Mers, val y mae fyth yn parhau. Brut y Twysogion (Chronicle of the Princes.)

The Christian era 765, the lands of Mercia were laid waste by the Welsh, and they overthrew the Saxons, and they despoiled them exceedingly. On account of that, Offa, King of Mercia, made a great dyke, called Offa's Dyke, to be a limit between the country of Wales and Mercia, so they were thus separated.

\* Hence the Salopian word HURPIL, to hurry or spoil. (See Gloss. sub voce.)



with peculiar significancy, WATT'S DYKE being the lesser work of the two. By a slight change in its termination, the word would become turned into *Watt*: as GWAETH DYKE, or *Gwatt's Dyke, Watt's Dyke, the inferior Dyke.*

Upon examining WATT'S DYKE in the autumn of 1838, I was immediately struck with its inferiority to OFFA'S. The whole of its course is not more than thirty-seven miles: for the first ten of which, up to *Wynstay Park*, it is very indistinct, nearly in fact supposititious, nor is it of equal magnitude to it, in any of those parts which are most perfect. It is below it both in the height of the vallum, and the width of the fosse. The relief of the vallum from its crest to the bottom of the ditch is eleven feet six inches: width of fosse seven feet, whilst the vallum at its top is almost pointed. The measures being taken at *Pentre Clavodd* near *Rhuabon*. If we assign the erection of the former one to the year 784, we must fix the date of WATT'S DYKE on the same authority to the year 765.

These two great DITCHES run side by side for twenty miles. In some places they are within a few hundred yards of each other; in others they lie asunder, without any apparent reason, for three miles. The intervening space has been said to have been neutral ground. But this rests on the poetical description of Churchyarde in his *Worthines* of Wales,

— Offaes Dyke, that reacheth farre in length:  
All kind of ware, the Danes might thether bring,  
It was free ground, and cal'de the Britaines strength.  
Wat's Dyke likewise, about the same was set,  
Betweene which two, both Danes and Britaines met,  
And trafficke still, but passing bounds by sleighte,  
The one did take, the other prisner streight.

WATT'S DYKE commences at *Maesbury* near *Oswestry*. It is very slight at the first part of its course. The *Holyhead* road passes through it near *Gallows tree gate*. Thence it proceeds, leaving a huge STONE OF MEMORIAL

to the right, to *HER-DINAS*, by *Pentre Clawdd* to *Gobowen*, and the site of a small work called *Bryn-y-Castel*, where it quits Shropshire and enters *Denbighshire*; it passes by *Prys Henlle* and *Belmont*, crosses the *Ceiriog* between *Brynkinallt* and *Tan y Blew forge*, and the *Dee* below *Nant y Bellan*; from whence it runs through *Wynstay Park*, formerly called *Wattstay*, by another *Pentre Clawdd*, betwixt *Hafod House* and the *Fields* to *Erthig*, where there is another fort on its course. From the turnpike road North West of *Erthig* to the *Wilderness Mill Pond* at *Gwersyllt*, about two miles and three quarters, it can be followed without difficulty, passing to the West of *Wreaham* and between *Rhosddu* and *Croes-y-neiris*. For the next two miles and a quarter, to the road from *Cefyn-y-Bedd* to *Chester* scarcely a vestige of it remains. It passed over the *Allyn*, through the township of *Llai* to *Rhydin* in the county of *Flint*, above which is *CAER ESTYN*, a British position.

From hence to *Hope* it is indistinct, but afterwards runs very perfectly for ten miles and three quarters, to the point where it crosses the turnpike road from *Holywell* through *Northop* to *Flint*. It is however lost in the intermediate distance for a quarter of a mile, North of *Garreg Llwyd*: but after this it is found in a very perfect state trending Northwards, cutting through the South West corner of *Soughton Park*, and traceable hence for a mile and a half to *Ffynnon pen y Castell*. During the whole of this distance it is very plain; and in some parts appears more perfect than at any other part along the line. But from the crossing at the turnpike road for a distance of five miles to a farm called *Cefn-y-Coed*, but little of it is left to form a continuous line, and from *Cefn-y-Coed* to the *Abbey*, a distance of two miles, with the exception of a few yards at the back of *Bagillt Hall*, no part of it is left and its course is unknown.

It is a singular circumstance, that from the village of *Hope to Basingwerk Abbey*, the Dyke is called CLAWDD OFFA or OFFA'S DYKE, a fact which serves to confirm my idea of each of these Dykes being constructed by the same prince.

There are two ditches on the extreme West North West side of Shropshire, which, judging from their present condition and the peculiarity of their situation, must have been DEFENSIVE DITCHES<sup>1</sup>. The first lies about two miles and a half from *Mainstone*, and is known by the title of the LOWER SHORT DITCH: the vallum of each of these works is on the East side of the fosse: they run nearly parallel their whole length, which is about a mile, and are distant two miles and a half from each other. The other ditch under notice, is called UPPER SHORT DITCH. There are several TUMULI in the neighbourhood, besides military remains of a British and Roman character, all deserving attentive observation.

The plan of OFFA'S DYKE and the **Devil's Ditch** in *Cambridgeshire* is similar. Yet notwithstanding their similarity, they can hardly be compared; for although alike in their sections, they differ materially in the magnitude of their conception. The plan, in fact, of all those ditches which now remain, is the same. It is impossible, after the lapse of so many centuries from the period of their execution, and in the default of positive information on the subject, to say what was their precise object. Various conjectures have been formed respecting their origin; all we actually know about most of them is, that it was *very remote*. At present the **Devil's Ditch** serves for the boundary between the dioceses of *Norwich* and *Ely*. It might formerly have served the twofold purpose of being a defence as well

<sup>1</sup> Of this nature too, must be the ANCIENT DITCH which lies two miles to the North of *Llangynllo* in *Radnorshire*. It is not very perfect, nor was it ever very extensive. In this vicinity, are also several TUMULI.

as a boundary line. The length of it does not preclude the possibility of keeping it continually guarded, a precaution which it would have been impossible to take in the case of OFFA'S DYKE. For whilst this runs across the country for upwards of a hundred miles, the **Devil's Ditch** does not extend farther than eight. But though it be inferior to it in length, it surpasses it in height and breadth. By comparing the following measurements, which I made in the autumn of 1837, with those already given of OFFA'S DYKE, it will be seen what military advantages the one possesses over the other. The sectional representations which are given in the accompanying plate, will serve to shew at a glance, the relative magnitude of the most important of these works.

On the Eastern side, the **Devil's Ditch** is eighteen feet above the average level of the subjacent country: on the Western, upon which side is the fosse, it is as much as thirty feet. The width, taken across the summit of this huge mound, is twelve feet. The width of the Ditch is twenty feet: it is at present eight feet deep, and was originally perhaps two more. The entire length of the inclination of the sides of the vallum and fosse, are for the former, on the Eastern side, thirty feet; on the Western side, forty-six. The slope of the Ditch bank on the Western side of the fosse, is seventeen. Judging from sections made at different parts, it does not appear to have varied more in its original state, than two feet; and the same may be said of the other Ditches. From this it would seem, that any force having once obtained possession of the **Devil's Ditch**, could easily retain it, as well by reason of its precipitous character, aided by the depth and width of the fosse at its base, as from the circumstance, that an assault could not readily be made upon it without observation<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> These measures were made nearly midway between *Roach*, vulgo dictum ROACH, and the *Burwell* road from *Swaffham*. A

The **Devil's Ditch** runs in a direct line for seven miles and a quarter. It commences at *Reach*, and terminates at *Camois Hall* near *Ditton*. The course of it lies from the North East to the South West. It is most perfect for the first mile and a half from *Reach*. At the end of the first mile from its North Eastern extremity, it is cut through by the road which leads from *Swaffham Prior* to *Burwell*. From this road it goes on in a considerable degree of preservation for a mile and three quarters, when it is again cut through by another called *Running Gap*, which communicates immediately with the *Four mile Race Course* on *Newmarket Heath*. About a quarter of a mile further on, *Stable Gap* makes another sectional cut through it; and before it reaches the high turnpike road leading from *Newmarket* to *Cambridge*, which is about a mile distant from this latter *gap*, two other sections are made through it by *Wall Gap*, and *Cambridge Gap*. It is then cut through by the ICKNIELD STREET, and becomes somewhat diminished, continuing so for upwards of a mile, when the road communicating betwixt *Newmarket* and *Dullingham*, makes a seventh section through it. Here it is tolerably perfect till it reaches *Stetchworth Park*<sup>1</sup>, where the last cutting is made through it; and we find no farther traces of it when we have pursued it to *Camois Hall*.

The earliest notice made of this extraordinary work is by Matthew of Westminster, who states that in the year 902, Edward pursued Æthelwald<sup>2</sup> who had induced

laborer on the spot described the DEVIL'S DITCH to me, as being "a rare bit o' work when it was first hulled up."

<sup>1</sup> There is an encampment here, which seems from its rectangularity, to be *Roman*.

<sup>2</sup> Tandem cum præda maxima in offensum cum redire disposuisset ad propria, rex Eadwardus multo militum stipatus collegio superveniens, Æthelwaldum versus East Angliam fugientem insequitur. Et inter DUO FOSSATA SANCTI EADMUNDI, illum cum suis omnibus ad campestre prælium præparatum inveniens, facta suis

the army in *Northumberland* and *East Anglia* to break the peace, and fought with him betwixt the two DYKES OF ST EDMUND, where on the part of the Danes were slain Eohric their king, and Æthelwald who had instigated them to revolt. There was great slaughter on both sides, but chiefly on the part of the Danes, though they kept possession of the field of battle. Edward, however, infested the country with his troops and laid it waste from the **Devil's Ditch** to the *Ouse*, and even as far as *Northumberland*.

Canute declared it a prohibitory line in the year 1021, and commanded that the king's purveyors should not approach nearer than that barrier towards *Bury St Edmunds*, where he had richly endowed a monastery to expiate in some degree for the death of Edmund, who was treacherously murdered by Edric in 1016<sup>1</sup>.

I am inclined to think that the other DITCH which is alluded to, is that now having the names of FLEAM DYKE and BALSAM DYKE, for they are one and the same work, though bearing different titles at each extremity. As respects the relative priority of their construction, it may be inferred that the **Devil's Ditch**, is

exhortatione, irritu viriliter in ipsos. Flores Hist. Matth. Westmon. p. 362.

The A. Sax. Chron. fixes this incursion in the year 906. See Edit. Gurney, p. 117.

At rex Edwardus congregans exercitum quam citius potuit, ivit post eos et terram eorum totam prædatus est inter *Dicum* et Usam usque ad paludes in Nordhumbre. Henr. Huntingdon, p. 202.

Lambarde, speaking of the *Devil's Ditch*, says, "Canut and thaucent Chroniclers name it *St Edmondes Diche*, because it was made for the commodite of the Monkes of St Edmondes Burye. Topog. Dict. p. 240.

<sup>1</sup> The latter years of Canute's reign were as remarkable for his deeds of piety and religious zeal, as its beginning was for the display of martial virtues. I confess myself an unbeliever in the opinion which some writers have entertained, that he was accessory to Edmund's death. In confirmation of which I rely upon the circumstantial narrative left us by Henry, Archdeacon of *Huntingdon*, (see p. 208, 9, edit. 1696), and William of *Malmesbury*, (p. 41.) see also Sax. Chron. ann. 1016.

the earlier work, from its being nearer the coast. There is, however, so much uncertainty about every thing British, and so little historical reference can be made to this early period, that we have nothing better than our own conjectures to furnish illustration. We seek for light amid the greatest darkness whilst describing the works under notice, and can therefore only offer *theories*, instead of facts to guide the enquirer. His own sagacity will lead him readily to detect our fallacies, for fallacies must always be inherent to opinions which have no better foundation than mere conjecture to rest upon.

The average line of FLEAM DYKE is from North East to South West, and it is situated six miles South West of the former. It begins at *Fen Ditton* (Ditch-town) and the first appearance of it is at a barn just on the *Quy* side of the village. The present road to *Quy* from *Ditton* is on the vallum of the dyke, the top of which has been thrown into the fosse to make the road sufficiently broad. Where the *Ditton* and *Quy* road joins the *Newmarket* and *Cambridge* road, near *Quy Water* and *Fen*, we lose it; but find it again about half a mile West of *Great Wilbraham*, whence it runs directly South, alongside some fenny ground to a point half a mile South East of *Fulbourn*, but this part of the vallum is hardly discernible, from having been spread upon the land. Near *Fulbourn* it rises in its pristine state, and continues in a straight line, uninterrupted, unless by the small gaps cut in it South East, to within a quarter of a mile of *Balsam*. Between *Fulbourn* and *Dungate* it crosses the ICKNIELD WAY, near the Tumulus at MUTLOW HILL. Towards *Balsam* it has been much abraded. Its fosse is on the same side as that of the *Sebil's Dyke*. This boundary or defence extends nine and a quarter miles.

Both of these DITCHES, I *imagine*, to have been constructed anterior to the Roman invasion of Great

Britain. The *Belgae* made *seven* in *Wiltshire*, and *Celtic* or *Continental* tribes might also have formed these. Etymology, which often gives great assistance in clearing up what is obscure, does not afford us any light here. When resolved into the A. SAXON, FLEAM DYKE signifies *Flight Dyke*. If this imports anything, it looks to the expulsion of the Mercians hence, after the conflict they had sustained with the East Anglians and the Danes. But we are still left in utter ignorance of what occasioned the works to be planned.

In passing, we may remark the singular fact of these DITCHES, being generally found running parallel to each other. OFFA'S DYKE runs parallel to WATT'S DYKE; FLEAM DYKE parallel to the *Bevil's Ditch*, whilst several of the WILTSHIRE DITCHES are conformable to the same rule. Thus, if a straight line be drawn Northward from the Southern coast of England, about *Dorsetshire* and *Hampshire*, only thirty miles into land, it would cut through the curve of no fewer than seven of these boundaries successively circulating one beyond the other. All these seven valla describe the most desultory track, but proceed in windings nearly parallel; a proof of their reference to each other, and that the Aboriginal Britons did not suffer the invaders to advance with any degree of precipitation<sup>1</sup>.

A third DITCH in *Cambridgeshire*, is PAMPISFORD DITCH, about a mile South of *Bourn Bridge*, lying upon declining ground between *Abington Wood* and *Pampisford*, pointing towards *Cambridge*: towards the middle it has been filled up for the ICKNIELD WAY to pass over it, which shews it to be older than the road. It has no bank on either side, and is almost destroyed. It now begins on the ICKNIELD WAY, between *Pampisford* and *Bourn Bridge*, running South East by South for about two miles towards *Hildersham Wood*. The vallum has been

<sup>1</sup> Warton's History of *Kiddington*, p. 73.



spread on the land, but it was on the same side as that of the other DYKES. It is nearly parallel to FLEAM DYKE, and distant four miles and a half. This must be the ditch mentioned by Camden, as running from *Hinton* East towards *Horseheath* for five miles together. He probably never visited it. This ditch, like FLEAM DYKE and the **Devil's Ditch**, extends from the woods to flat soft land.

BRENT DYKE runs North North West and South South East. It begins at "the springs" in *Foulmire Common* (a fen) and continues up the hill to a spot where a track-way (apparently ancient) crosses it. Hence it is a stronger work throughout, although much mutilated. It crosses the ICKNIELD WAY and a brook at the same spot, and from this point is only just traceable for the next two miles and a quarter, up the hill to *Heydon* in *Essex*, beyond which the country is woody. Here all trace of it is lost, and it does not appear ever to have extended farther. The ditch has the vallum on the same side as the others, namely on the North East, or *Norfolk* side. Its whole course is about three miles and three quarters, and is nearly parallel to PAMPISFORD DYKE distant six miles and a quarter.

The Ordnance Survey points out a **Devil's Dyke** in *Norfolk*, beginning on *Brandon River* and going due North visibly for four miles and a half to *Cranwick Heys*, leaving *Cranwick* a quarter of a mile to the West. A little above *Caldecote*, eight miles North of the commencement, it is again perceptible for three miles, running to *Narborough*. The high bank is on the *Western* side.

Another **Devil's Dyke** in the same county begins at *Hall Green*, and points for a mile and a half towards *Mileham*, the highest bank being on the *East side*. This appears to be connected with the road through *Shereford*, going due North through the park to *Holkham*, and terminating at the circular camp of BURROW HILL, to the West of *Wells on the Sea*.

There are still other DITCHES, both in *Dorsetshire* and in *Oxfordshire*, which ought to be mentioned, and in doing so I shall in part make use of the account of the elegant historian of *Kiddington*, in the latter county, to make them familiar to the reader. COMBS DITCH, says he, is one of the seven Celtic boundaries and abuts at one end on the river *Alan* by *Blandford*, and on the other on the river *Bere*, both in *Dorsetshire*. WANSDYKE is believed to be flanked by the *Tees* about *Andover* in *Hampshire*, and by the *Avon* near *Bristol*. In the same manner, to mention no more instances, the boundary at *Kiddington* runs from the borders of the *Glynn* in *Blenheim Park*, yet with many an intricate digression, to the *Evenlode*, on the Eastern side of *Blandford Park*. A British or Celtic rampart, fresh and prominent, runs North and South at right angles over the Roman road to FARNHAM CASTLE in *Surrey*, originally a Roman fortress, bearing on the North to the hamlet of *Chilland* and the river *Ichen*, about five miles from the East gate of the city of *Winchester*<sup>1</sup>.

Again, AVESDITCH or OFFA'S DITCH in *Oxfordshire*, was drawn through that county about the year 778 as a partition between the Mercian and West Saxon kingdoms, and may be still traced near *Ardley*, *Middleton Stoney*, *Northbrook*, *Heyford*, and *Kirtleton*<sup>2</sup>.

Thus far the printed authority. We will now come to a description of the present state of the ditch in question, which I owe to the kindness of Sir Henry Dryden, Bart. who visited it this summer. It bears in the Ordnance Survey the several names of ASHBANK, WATTLEBANK, and AVESDITCH. It commences at PLOUGHLEY HILL, close to *Souldern* in the county of *Oxford*, and after trending nearly seven miles with a gentle degree of curvature, it terminates a little North of *Kirtlington*. It forms the road from PLOUGHLEY HILL

<sup>1</sup> Warton's History of *Kiddington*, p. 76.

<sup>2</sup> *Ib.* p. 55.

to *Fritwell*, and now bears little resemblance to a vallum or fosse. At intervals, a slightly raised bank of about fourteen feet across, runs parallel at a hundred and fifty yards distant on the East side. After leaving *Fritwell* it is a road not much used: it is then altogether lost, but soon found again in a large gorse about two miles and three quarters from *Ploughley Hill*, betwixt *Ardley Castle* and *Middleton Farm*. Two or three hundred yards West of the line are some "Remains", consisting of a vallum and fosse, running North and South for about four hundred and forty yards, having the vallum on the East. This vallum and fosse terminate abruptly both ways, and there are not any indications of their having turned at either end. The ground has never been ploughed, but there is nothing to be seen near it, except about forty yards from the ditch side, a pentagonal entrenchment with a vallum and fosse; the former very much depressed, and the latter outwards.

Soon after this we get again upon *Avesditch*. For some distance it is planted on each side and presents little appearance of any thing ancient. In about a mile it dwindles into a single track, with green on each side, and is slightly raised. The road presently parts from it, and the bank is found in a ploughed field about ten or eleven feet broad and eighteen inches high. The road, or *Port Way*, again crosses it: at the crossing it appears to have been paved.

The two next pieces are called *Ashbank*, (from two trees), and here the vallum is about two feet six high, and eighteen feet across. My informant could no where get the names of *Wattlebank* or *Avesditch* recognised by the country people. In one part it is called *Colcot Bank*, and that it has been larger than it is at present may be argued from the fact of its dividing the parishes in which *Colcot* and *Middleton Stoney* stand. An old

person met with on the spot, said that he remembered it "much larger than it is at present; that all the earth of the vallum was taken from the West side, so that from that side it was impossible to look over it; that the top of it was seven or eight feet broader, and covered with stones, many cart loads of which had been taken away;" three heaps of these had just been carried away and were lying near the spot<sup>1</sup>.

The frequent recurrence of Ditches in *Wiltshire* leads us to the supposition, that some of them must have been made to serve the purpose of entrenchments. Of this nature, I conceive, are those bearing the name of HAMSHILL DITCHES, a little to the North of *Wilton*: those in the immediate vicinity of CASTERLEY CAMP to the North of *Amesbury*, and some others, which an inspection of the Maps appended to Hoare's Ancient *Wiltshire*, will indicate at a glance. But the DITCHES which are known under the titles of BOKERLEY DITCH, OLD DITCH, VERN DITCH, GRIMS DITCH, and WANSDYKE, were constructed with some other object in view.

Such ditches as run for any considerable distance must have been intended for boundary lines, divisions between the territories, or lands of neighbouring chiefs; and the farther these lines were extended, the more powerful we may conceive the people to have been whose kingdoms they severed. Stukeley supposes them to have been formed by the *Belgæ*, as a means of securing the land as they successively conquered it from the Britons, for as they contested it inch by inch, and fought *pro aris et focis*, for their temples of *Stonehenge* and *Abury*, these barriers were thrown up by the *Belgæ* to secure what they had gained<sup>2</sup>. In the instance of WANSDYKE, he thinks differently, and adduces what is always valuable when accompanied by facts, *etymology*, to support his

<sup>1</sup> See the section in the accompanying plate.

<sup>2</sup> *Stonehenge*, p. 4.

opinion. WANSDYKE is evidently a boundary line. The length of it shews as much. It formerly extended from the Severn into *Berkshire*, a distance of eighty miles. Several traces of it are yet visible in *Somersetshire*, *Wiltshire*, and *Berkshire*. Sir Richard Hoare traced it from *Mass Knoll* in *Somersetshire*, throughout the whole of *Wiltshire*, to *Savernake Forest*, and has given a map of its course, to which those readers are referred who desire circumstantial information on the subject. From an engraving, in his interesting and truly valuable work, the section which illustrates the present subject has been copied. WANSDYKE is derived from the *C. Brit. gwahanu*, separare, and this coupled with the other fact, confirms the idea of its having been a frontier line. The opinion of the late Sir Richard Hoare leads us to believe that with the exception of WANSDYKE, and BOKERLEY DITCH near *Woodyates*, the *Wiltshire* Ditches were lines of communication, covered ways and sheltered, leading to British settlements.

In the immediate neighbourhood of *Stanwick* and *Forcet* in the county of *Richmond*, are some very remarkable fortifications, enclosing, by a system of irregular lines, a larger space of ground than perhaps has ever been discovered in any one encampment of any period in this island. It appears also to be connected with a vast prætenture, consisting of a rampart and two ditches, drawn from the *Tees* to the *Swale*, somewhat obliquely, and terminating near *Barforth* at the Northern, and at *Easby* on the Southern extremity. It is sometimes called by the inhabitants *Scotch*, and sometimes *ROMAN DYKE*; but it is indisputably neither a work of the one nor of the other of these nations. This fact will be proved by the following account of the work itself.

The *SCOTS' DYKE* as it is generally called, though sometimes the *ROMAN DYKE*, much resembles the *Scot's Ditch* on *Newmarket Heath*, consisting of an high ram-

part of earth, with a foss on each side, out of which the materials have been dug. I say on each side, for the two fosses are very conspicuous on *Gatherley Moor*, where the work is most entire. A very extensive work, however, with which it appears to have had some connexion, was traced about the year 1723 by Mr John Warburton, *Somerset Herald*, from a place called *Wheel-fell*, where it enters England between the rivers *North Tine* and *Read*. At *Busy Gap* the Roman wall cuts through it, which is decisive as to the comparative antiquity of the two works. Soon after, the Scots' *Dyke*, as it is there called, crosses the *South Tine*, and falls in with the course of the river *Alone*, the banks of which being very deep, answer the purpose of an artificial fortification, and supply the want of it to the head of that valley. At *Scots' Neck* it enters the Bishoprick of *Durham*, and points towards the head of *Tees*, the course of which it is supposed to have pursued to *Winstone*, and thence to *Gatherley Moor*, after which it reappears in the township of *Easby*, and is seen, so far as I know, no more.

There is some doubt with respect to its identity with the work traced by Mr Warburton out of *Scotland*, as the two extremities terminate several miles from each other, and form a considerable angle. Dr Whitaker considers it to have been one of those gigantic, but always inefficient, attempts to preserve the peace between two neighbouring and hostile tribes, to which savages have always been fond of resorting.

That the vast lines about *Aldburgh*, *Stanwick*, and *Forcet*, are connected with this mighty rampart, though they do not absolutely come in contact with it, there can be little doubt. The great similarity of the agger and foss in both, goes far, in my opinion, to prove them, respectively, works of the same people, and perhaps of the same age.

The outline of the works at *Stanwick* and *Forest* approaches to no geometrical figure, nor, though altogether irregular, has it been directed, so far as Dr Whitaker could discover, by any advantage or disadvantages of ground. The whole is nearly upon a level. The whole circuit cannot be less than five miles, nor the area less than one thousand acres.

On the main, my authority concludes, that this stupendous work formed the enclosure of a British city of unknown antiquity, abandoned in all probability, before the Romans invaded the Brigantes. There is not a vestige of Roman antiquity about the place<sup>1</sup>.

It is only by comparing analogous facts that we can hope to obtain any satisfactory information concerning their origin and intention. From pursuing this method in the present difficulty, we are enabled to draw a few conclusions that help us, though in a trifling degree, to dispel some of the darkness with which the subject before us is incumbered.

The four great *Wiltshire* Ditches traverse the Northern edge of a ridge of hills, and have their bank invariably on the South side, and their ditch on the North. From this it is conclusive, that *if* these were DITCHES OF DEFENCE, they could not have been cast up by the British against their invaders, because the ditch is on the wrong side. By the like process of argument we see that the fosse of OFFA'S and of WATT'S DYKE is on the Welsh side of each. The fosse of the DEVIL'S DITCH and FLEAM DITCH is on the West side of each. WANSDYKE must have been formed, as Stukely says, by the Belgæ. It is the last and most Northern boundary, and would cover their Southern conquests<sup>2</sup>. Just as we see that OFFA'S DYKE shut out the Welsh.

<sup>1</sup> Whitaker's *History of Richmondshire*, vol. i. pp. 207, 208.

<sup>2</sup> Hoare's *Anct. Wiltshire*, p. 18.

This enables us to draw another inference ; namely, that when we see two of these ditches running parallel to each other, the fosse being on the same side of each, there are manifest proofs of their being constructed by the same people, and with the like object in view. And this again leads me to think that the four *Wiltshire Ditches*, were the works of the *Belgæ*, as we know that the two Welsh Ditches were the labor of OFFA ; WATT's, was the earlier of his two, I suspect, and probably not being sufficiently extended, the defect was subsequently supplied by forming the longer barrier. And that FLEAM DYKE, the *Devil's Ditch*, and BRENT DITCH, had the same intention ; *if defensive* they were to protect the East Anglians against the Mercians, or, looking to a much earlier period, the Celtic invaders against the Aborigines. On the other hand, if these works are regarded solely as frontier lines, there are less difficulties to encounter ; always, however, excepting the great *historical* obscurity which overhangs the *Wiltshire* and *Cambridgeshire* Ditches, a darkness which it is to be feared will never be dispelled. We have nothing but conjecture for our guide ; fancy must supply the place of history, and though it may sound paradoxical, yet on a subject enveloped in so much obscurity, the most imaginative and ingenious may perhaps turn out after all to be the best antiquary.





## Burf Castle.



BURF CASTLE is a small oval entrenchment lying on the summit of an eminence a mile and a half East of the village of *Quatford*. It is naturally strong on the South, South East, and South West sides, but less so on the others. With a view of counteracting the weakness here, a ditch and vallum seem to have been formed, as faint traces of them are still perceptible. The fosse does not appear ever to have been considerable, if we may judge of its breadth by present indications, which would make it not exceeding twelve feet in width. From the land being under the plough, we are unable to state precisely the original dimensions. Enough only remains to shew that a ditch and artificial bank formerly strengthened the North East side of the hill upon which this camp stands. It enclosed two or three acres, which proves at once, that it was never a fortification of any magnitude.

Having stated thus much about the present appearance of BURF CASTLE, we must endeavour to ascertain next what people constructed it, and this is a point not quite so readily settled. The primary meaning of the word *Burf* is, a summit, or point. For this spot, like ABDON BURF, is as often called by the peasantry of the district *Barf*, as *Burf*. *Barf* comes from *Bar*, a height or hill: thus the C. Brit. Arm. Bret. Irish *bar*; Gael.

*barr*; Dan. *bar*, naked, without trees, as elevated spots usually are, and there are numerous synonyms in the Eastern languages, either simple or in composition, which recognise the word as implying height of some description or other. In its secondary sense *Burf* means an *enclosure*: O. Brit. *buarth*.

That the Danes should have constructed this fortification, after they fled before Alfred in the year 896, seems at first sight the most reasonable supposition. Yet there are some grounds for thinking that it is not the very fortress which is alluded to by one of the historians, who describes the occurrences of the period. The spot the Danes fixed upon for their winter quarters is stated, by all the chroniclers who mention the event, to have been at *Quatbridge*. Now *Quatford*, which seems to be the place alluded to, lies a mile and a half from *Burf Castle*, and at *Quatford* there do not exist any vestiges of a military kind, which on sufficient evidence, can be considered as of Danish origin. Yet that these people *formed an entrenchment* somewhere in the immediate vicinity is indisputable, inasmuch as Florence of Worcester tells us, that after having constructed a fortification they passed the winter there<sup>1</sup>.

As has been already mentioned, the distance of these two places from each other, gives rise to a difficulty, and besides this there is another to be encountered, which presents itself in the circumscribed and limited dimensions of the existing works. They seem scarcely capable of accommodating a numerous body of people, which there is reason for supposing those plunderers were.

Again, if we look to the other side of the argument, we are unable to discover the least traces of defensive

<sup>1</sup> Quod ubi Paganis innotuit, uxoribus in East Anglia denuo commendatis, navibusque relictis, locum qui *Quatbrig* dicitur, pedestres celeri fuga petunt, constructaque sibi munitione, hiemem ibidem exigunt. Flor. Wigorn. p. 334, edit. 4to.

occupation in any other quarter than BURF CASTLE. Under these circumstances, I think we are not assuming too much, when we state that the weight of evidence preponderates in favour of BURF CASTLE being the fortress which is said to have been erected by the Danes. And if this view be a correct one, we shall then gain an important piece of knowledge relative to the mode of fortification practised by this nation. Regarding, therefore, the specimen of castrametation before us, as a DANISH EARTH-WORK, we see that in comparison with similar works which owe their existence to the Britons, the Romans, or the Saxons, the present one is inferior in strength and magnitude to nearly every one with which we are acquainted. The Danes appear in this instance, to have trusted mainly to the remoteness and obscurity of their position. The natural advantages of situation were few, and they effected but little to increase them artificially. This may easily be accounted for, if we contemplate their character, and the circumstances under which they ravaged the country. They were little better than wandering and restless freebooters, who annually infested our coasts, making descents upon it whenever opportunities offered. Their army was probably formed in great part of desperate adventurers, who placed more reliance for success upon the terror which their very name excited, than upon the discipline of their troops. Such an unorganised body of marauders were necessarily unacquainted with the art of castrametation. Their visits to this country were so hurried, and their sojourn so brief, that they had scarcely the opportunity, even had they possessed the power, of erecting any fortifications commensurate with those previously existing in the island. It is not surprising, then, that

“The incessant rovers of the Northern main”

as they have been happily called by one of our modern poets should have left behind them on the face of the

country, so few memorials indicative of their settlement. These facts fully explain why we rarely meet with military works in Great Britain which can upon uncontrovertible grounds be attributed to the Danes<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Whether *Hunsborough Hill*, near *Northampton*, is a Danish encampment is very uncertain. *Bratton Hill* in *Wiltshire* has better pretensions for being called such, as this has been considered on very good grounds to have been the camp into which Alfred introduced himself in disguise. See *Vita Ælfredi*, p. 33.



## Cainham Camp



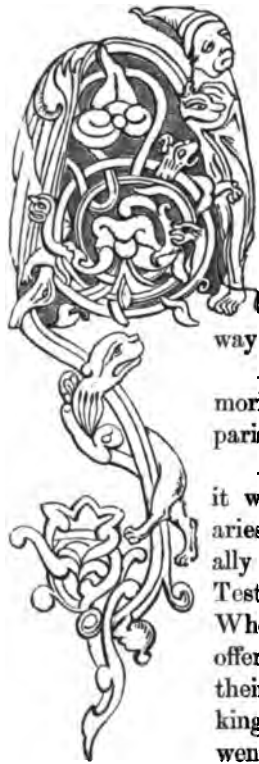
IES about two miles and a half South East of *Ludlow*, on a gentle eminence. It is a double camp, fortified by a high vallum, and a fosse: the latter is only at that end where the two camps join. The entrance is at the East, and is about six paces wide.

Here a good section of the vallum is obtained. Its base is as much as thirty-four yards wide, and the relief of the wall rises nearly twenty feet above it. On three sides the land falls somewhat precipitously. The mound is highest on the Eastern side, where the slope is easiest. At the Western end of the Easterly camp there are two openings into the other. The top of the vallum of both is planted. As might be expected in a view from an insulated eminence, the prospect is highly beautiful. There is a great similarity between *Cainham Camp* and the one upon *Ponsert Hill*. The latter is British and it seems reasonable to refer this to the same period, for the earth-works here are too extensive to have been originally built by the Mortimers who held the manor. Leland, speaking of it, says, "*Kainsham* or *Kensham Castle*, clene down, stood within two miles of *Ludloe*, on a hill top." This was evidently the site of their castle, but it must have been built subsequently to the construction of some of the present ramparts—which are far too extensive to have been formed by a family, ever powerful as that of the Mortimers was.

We cannot discover any thing in the etymology which serves to elucidate the early history of this fortification. In C. Brit. and Bret. *Cae*, signifies *sepes, claustrum*, as we should say a boundary, thus the brook which runs underneath bears the name of *Cay*, and *Caynham* or *Cainham*, means the village or *hamlet* which is the boundary—The boundary of what? Of *Herefordshire* and *Shropshire*.



## Hoar Stones, Mere Stones, Stones of Memorial.



ALL those single stones, upright, and unhewn, that we meet with in different parts of Shropshire under the name of HOAR STONES are boundary marks. With one exception, however, near the *White Grit Lead Mine* which has wrongly acquired this title. It is a custom derived from the earliest ages to erect single stones by way of defining the limits of territory.

A HOAR STONE is a stone of memorial, a division between estates and parishes.

As far back as the Patriarchal era it was the practice to fix such boundaries of property. Thus we continually find allusion made in the Old Testament to these artificial barriers. Where no natural line of demarcation offered itself, the Israelites made a stone their boundary; as in the limits of the kingdom of Judah; "and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben." Joshua xv. 6.

The land-marks of the Greeks and Romans were similar, and to write on them would occupy a separate

treatise. The poets abound in allusion to the limits of prædial possessions. Thus, Virgil, in the twelfth book of the *Æneid*, places one of these huge stones in the hand of Turnus, when he struggles with Æneas: having borrowed the idea from the twenty-first book of Homer, who represents Minerva assailing Mars in the same way.

*Saxum antiquum, ingens, campo quod forte jacebat  
Limes agro positus, litem ut discerneret arvis.*

And in one of his elegies, Tibullus describing the happiness of the Saturnian age, makes one of the advantages which the simple people at that day possessed, to consist in their equal rights, having neither need of doors to their dwellings or boundary marks to their fields.

*Non domus ulla fores habuit; non fixus in agris,  
Qui regeret certis finibus arva lapis.*

*Lib. I. Eleg. iii. v. 43, 44.*

Upon looking into the object of HOAR STONES at a much later period, we find it still the same. Northern nations separated their districts by similar means. They prevail to the present day in Nubia<sup>1</sup>, as well as in our own country, and still fulfil their original intention. The derivation of the word explains their use. From the Greek downwards, there are synonymous and symphonious words in all European tongues: thus Gr. *opos*; Lat. *ora*; Lat. Barb. *oraria*; Celt. C. Brit. *or* and *oir*; Ir. *or*, *ur*; Gael. *ear*, *aird*; Arm. *karz*; Teut. *oort*; Germ. Fran. Alaman. S. Goth. *ort*; A. Sax. *or*, *ord*, *ora*; Ital. *orlo*; Fr. *orle*; Span. *orla*, *ora*, *limes*. Hence our word HORIZON, and the heraldic term *orle*, for a bordure or selvage; and in monumental architecture, *orle* the fillet encircling the bacinet of a knight.

In Shropshire several places bear their appellations from these causes. WOORE, (in Domesday Book *Wawre*,) is a small village lying on the Northern extremity of

<sup>1</sup> Hamper on Hoar Stones, Archæol. vol. xxv.



Shropshire, pent in between *Staffordshire* and *Cheshire*. There is the HOAR EDGE, (Salopicè dictum *Whure* or *Whar idge*) a very elevated range of the TITTERSTONE which runs from it in an Easterly direction, and serves as a natural barrier betwixt the plain of *Ludlow* and *Worcestershire*; and the HOAR EDGE above the DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY.

BURWARTON under AEDON BURF, implies that it is *the town on the borders of the Burf*: BURF HOAR TOWN as we should say; by the same rule as WARTON in *Staffordshire* is so called, from bordering upon the county of Shropshire. HARLEY also receives its name from being flat land (see Glossary under LEY) at the boundary, to wit, the limestone barrier above it, of WENLOCK EDGES; and HORDLEY, for the same cause, from being near the principality, on the extreme South East of the county; and ARLEY, from touching upon *Worcestershire*. In the immediate vicinity to this village lies WARS HILL CAMP, a small rectangular work, apparently of the Roman period, but which like WIRSWALL, (where are discoverable faint indications of an entrenchment,) that lies just out of Shropshire, on the confines of *Cheshire*, derives its name from the same source. FARLOW also, a village on the extreme South Eastern side of Shropshire, and ORETON which is contiguous, and FARLOW BROOK, take their name from being on the confines of this county and *Worcestershire*. Whilst a little more Southward still, is BORASTON, upon the same barrier.

The actual HOAR STONES themselves that now exist are few. There are two in the neighbourhood of *Oswestry*, whether they still mark the boundary of parishes I am unable to say. There is every reason for thinking if they have ceased to do so, that formerly they were erected for that or a similar purpose. One of these lies very near OFFA'S DYKE, and about a mile to the South West of the race-course. It gives the

name to an adjoining farm and is known by the designation of CAREG Y BIG, OF THE POINTED STONE, from its inclined position. It was six feet ten above the surface when I saw it in the autumn of 1838, and measured across the Western face three feet six inches: across the South Eastern surface, two feet six, having a narrow side six inches across betwixt each of them.

The second HOAR STONE in this part of the county lies a few yards to the right of the *Holyhead road*, a mile on the *Shrewsbury* side of *Oswestry*. It forms so conspicuous an object in travelling in this direction, that it came naturally under my observation when passing by last year. This is called GARREG LWYD, or the *grey, hoary stone*: and such is its present colour: for it is of a deep grey at the summit, and its tones gradually mellow from that, through every degree of silver-grey, till it becomes, towards the base, of a rich light red. It is of an elongated pentagonal shape, four of its sides being almost equal, the fifth very narrow. It measures twelve feet six in circumference, and is three feet across the centre: the height nearly nine feet. As this is a sand-stone, and unlike what is found in the immediate neighbourhood, it has clearly been carried hither from a distance to serve the purpose to which it was assigned.

There is a third HOAR STONE in this division of Shropshire, which stands upon the left-hand side of the same turnpike road, nearer to the county town, two miles and a half South of *West Felton*. There is also a place called *Hoarstones* lying between *Moreton Say* and *Hawkstone*.

The next STONE of this kind which comes under our notice is at a considerable distance from that part of the county in which the preceding memorials are situated. Nearly upon the summit of *Clunbury Hill*, at the head of a slight valley on the Western side, is a large upright stone, of that kind termed by Geologists *green*

stone. That this huge mass has been carried here from some place or other is perfectly evident, because the structure of the hill upon which it stands is different from it, being that known under the name of *lower Ludlow rock*. Thus far then the Geologists can help us. But the Antiquarian recognises immediately a boundary stone, a HOAR STONE properly so called, a point at which the parishes of *Clungunford* and *Clunbury* separate.

There is a HOAR STONE to the East of *Bishop's Castle* close to the castle. In *Hales Owen* there is a HOAR STONE, dividing it from *Northfield* in the county of *Worcestershire*<sup>1</sup>. In the same neighbourhood we have WARLEY BANK on the edge of either county, and HARBORNE, quasi *Hoar bourn*, on the verge of *Worcestershire* and *Warwickshire*. The four counties hereabouts run so confusedly together, that it is difficult with all the advantages of landmarks and etymology, for any one but a parish officer to ascertain them.

The *Horeston* is mentioned in the Cartulary of *St Peter's, Salop*<sup>2</sup>, "Usque le *Horeston* in *Ardlestones grene*." The *Horreston* occurs in a Cartulary of *Hagham Abbey*<sup>3</sup>; in a deed of lands without date at *Aston*, near *Oswestry*. "Et sic directe usque le *Horeston* in *Twychenyldd Grene*." *Salop Forest Roll*, 26 Edw. I, describing *Bunde Foreste de Lythewood*. Et sic descendendo usque le *Horeston* in *Ardlestones Grene*, ib. describing *Bunde Hays de Welinton*.

MERE STONES are also boundary marks. I know but one in the county of *Shropshire*, and this is a modern erection on the site where an ancient stone, bearing this name stood within the last few years. It is near *Wilmoor Pool*, midway betwixt the TITTERSTONE and the HOAR EDGE. At present it serves to indicate the divi-

<sup>1</sup> Hamper in *Archæolog.* vol. xxv. p. 55.

<sup>2</sup> Penes Sir Thos. Phillips, fol. 252.

<sup>3</sup> Hamper in *Archæolog.* vol. xxv. p. 55.

sions of two properties, as a stone *without a name* does on the *Wrekin*. The peculiar designation of *MERE STONE*<sup>1</sup> is recognised in some of the Northern languages, in which countries its use is similar to what it has obtained in ours. Thus we find in the Isl. *mæri*, *lauda mæri*; Fris. *mare*; A. Sax. *meare*; S. Goth. *mare*; Belg. *meer*; Lapp. *mærrø*; Slav. *mera*; Dalm. *mira*; Pol. *miara*; Fenn. *mærcæ*, terminus; Gr. *μείρω*, divido.

There will not be any difficulty in distinguishing between *STONES OF MEMORIAL*, like the foregoing, and those geological phenomena, known as *ERRATIC BLOCKS*. Where these occur they are seldom found singly and upright too, but usually scattered, lying prostrate upon the surface, as we see them in a valley between *Clunbury Hill* and *Bishop's Castle*. Thus the *HAILSTONE* near *Roxley Regis*, on the confines of the county on the *Worcestershire* side, is a magnificent block of basalt standing at the edge of a bold hill, and the *STIPER-STONES* (from the Islandic *STEYPA*, fusio metallorum), are a well-known range of hills in Shropshire.

<sup>1</sup> The *DRUIDS' ALTAR*, near the *RATH* of *Mullmast* in *Ireland*, served the purpose originally of a *MERE STONE*. *Campion* says that *Ireland* was divided into five parts, between five princes, and that "for better contentation of all sides, they agreed to fix a *meare-stone* in the middle point of *Ireland*, to which stone every one of their kingdoms should extend." Vide *Dublin Penny Journal*, vol. iv. p. 340.



## Quatford.



THE Saxon Chronicle states that the Danes built a fortress at *Cwatbrige* in 896, and with the expectation of finding some military remains there that might safely be ascribed to these marauders, I examined the spot at the close of last year. It must be acknowledged that I had the most sanguine hopes of meeting with, at least here, something which might satisfactorily be considered a Danish work. But whatever might have existed at the earlier period, had through a change of occupants become so altered, that it was no longer possible to say with precision what had been built by the original possessors. An undisputed specimen therefore of a Danish encampment yet remains to be found. My enquiries, however, though unattended with success upon the bearing where it was most desired, were not without a certain degree of value, as they enabled me immediately both to classify several military remains existing in other parts of the county, and also to assign their erection to a definite time. There is such a manifest resemblance between QUATFORD, CASTLE PULVERBATCH, WOOLSTASTON and HOLGATE, that I have now no hesitation in considering the four to be erections of the same period.

That the Danes had a settlement at *Cwatbrige* in the year 896, and that *Cwatbrige* must be understood to mean the present village of QUATFORD, and not *Bridge-north*, does not admit of the least doubt.

Assuming then that this matter of geography is settled, I proceed to describe appearances as they were in 1838, merely premising in addition to the facts which will shortly be detailed, that this investigation completely sets at rest, in my own mind, any speculations that would tend to invest the *existing* remains with a Danish character.

The village of Quatford is most romantically placed upon the banks of the *Severn*, which is here navigable for vessels of considerable burden. At the back of it stretches for some miles an extensive tract of level sandy country. In this there are discoverable some works of an early nature, though they are partially effaced. They consist of BURG CASTLE which lies a mile and a half off, CHESTERTON, and the nearly undiscernible TUMULI which Mr Stackhouse opened about a century ago. Although the surrounding country has been described as sandy, it is remarkable for bringing its crops to maturity earlier than any other land in Shropshire, besides possessing an unusual degree of fertility. It is not to be wondered at that the Danes, when they retreated through Mercia before Alfred, upon first seeing the natural advantages which the situation possessed, should fix upon it for their winter quarters<sup>1</sup>. By means of the precipitous and inaccessible rock overhanging the river, an assault from that quarter would be impossible, or when compelled to retreat they had easy access to the water below it, which during this season of the year would enable them to use any new vessels that they might construct after the loss of their fleet near *London*. And as all our

<sup>1</sup> Sed non multo post superveniente rege Aelfredo, compulsi sunt pagani locum deserere, et noctu recedentes per provinciam Merciorum, non cessabant, donec ad villam super Sabrinam, quæ *Quantobrigæ* dicitur, pervenerunt. Matt. West. p. 349.

Florence of Worcester gives nearly the same version of their defeat and subsequent settlement. "Quod ubi Paganis innotuit, ux-  
oribus in Eastanglia denuo commendatis, navibusque relictis, locum qui *Quatbrig* dicitur, pedestres celeri fuga petunt, constructaque sibi munitione, hiemem ibidem exigunt." p. 334. edit. 4to. 1592.

authorities expressly say that they *wintered* here, at this time the Severn would readily admit of their new vessels being serviceable to return with, if they had built them. They departed in the spring<sup>1</sup>, dispersing themselves in *East Anglia*, and *Northumberland*. That they should have constructed the present place of defence during this short visit seems rather improbable, because if we may form an adequate idea of its size from the modern vestiges, it would be too small to be serviceable to so numerous a force. It is, however, worth examination, whether or not they built and occupied the neighbouring entrenchment of *BURF CASTLE*, an enquiry that has been pursued in a former section.

To return to our description of *QUATFORD*; my own opinion is, that the fortress erected here by the Danes was so completely merged in the works of the Normans afterwards, that were we not assured by an impartial annalist of its having once existed, it would be very problematical, such a Normanesque appearance does every thing now wear. About a quarter of a mile below the village, and upon a rock precipitously overhanging the river, there are indications of a keep having formerly stood<sup>2</sup>. This rock would be naturally impreg-

<sup>1</sup> *Æstivo tempore Paganorum exercitus, qui apud Quatbrige hie-maveret, pars quedam Æstangliam, pars quedam Northimbriam petit, ex quibus nonnulli ibidem remanserunt, nonnulli vero navibus acquisitis sæpe dictum flumen Sequanum adierunt. Matt. West. p. 334. edit. 4to. 1592.*

<sup>2</sup> Any one who has been in the habit of examining the existing appearances of Norman Castles will immediately identify the artificial mound on the summit of the rock, as the ground-work of a Norman Keep. The same sort of thing may be seen at *Owestrý* at this day. On the top of an artificial mount, outside the town, formerly stood a Castle that is called by Leland *Madog's Tower*, which according to Powell was built by Madog ab Meredydd ab Bleddyn in 1149. English historians fix it at an earlier date, assigning its construction to Alan, a Norman chief upon whom it was bestowed soon after the accession of the conqueror. The position of the Keep of *Cardiff Castle* is the same: *Pickering Castle*, and *Scarborough Castle* in *Yorkshire*, part of *Conisborough Castle*, part of *Carisbrook Castle* in the *Isle of Wight*, *Guildford Castle* in *Surrey*,

nable on the side next the water, as it rises nearly a hundred feet in perpendicular altitude above it. As the other sides needed protection, they were surrounded by a deep ditch cut round the base of the mound. Altogether unlike any other species of fortification with which I am acquainted; this ditch is cut in a curvilinear direction for nearly two hundred yards *through the solid rock*, and the marks of the workmen's tools upon it in several places are still distinctly visible. It is three yards wide at the bottom, and at least four in depth below the average level of the meadow above it, whilst the summit of the keep upon the top of the rock is about twenty-five feet above the same level. When we examine this remarkable work more closely, we find that it was not merely the natural advantages of soil and situation which induced its possessors, subsequent to the Danish period, to reoccupy the spot; for as the rock lies immediately above a ford, they strengthened it with a further view of preventing any hostile passage through the river. There are faint indications of an inferior keep a little nearer the ford, close to the present footpath leading to the ferry; this was evidently designed for its special protection. Another ford a little higher up the river still bears the name of *Danesford*, probably in allusion to the earliest settlers.

It seems then that a difficulty which cannot easily be got over presents itself, if we regard the existing vestiges at *Quatford* as Danish constructions, arising, as was just stated, both from their comparative insignificance and from their peculiarly Norman character. Upon reading further in the Anglo Saxon annalist, we learn that in the year 912, Æthelflæd, the lady of Mercia<sup>1</sup>,

*Norham Castle in Northumberland, Orford Castle in Suffolk, and Gisors in Normandy*, all manifest the same conformity.

<sup>1</sup> Anno Edwardi regis xviii. Elfleda domina Mercie burgum ad *Scoriate* et burgum apud *Brugge*, posuit et construxit. Chron. Joh. Brompton, p. 833.



built a fortified town at *Bricge*. As *Cwatbricge* was so particularly mentioned in the former passage, I see no reason for torturing the present one so as to make it imply that these two places are identical, one and the same. It is most natural to suppose they are not, from the difference of the name, and to refer it to *Bridgenorth*; indeed the descriptions of Matthew Westminster, Florence of Worcester, and Simeon of Durham clearly fix it there, as *Quatford* lies upon the wrong side of the river to correspond with their account of the circumstance<sup>1</sup>.

Whilst this view fixes the site of the erected or restored castle at *Bridgenorth*, it however encumbers us with the necessity of seeking for fresh evidence to prove when the keep at *Quatford* and the trench surrounding it were made. From the apparently credible account which has been recorded of the event that led to the

*Ægelfleda Merciorum domina, secundo Nonas Maii cum exercitu ad locum, qui Sceargate dicitur, venit, ibidemque arcem munitam extruxit; dehinc in occidentali plaga Sabrinae fluminis, in loco qui Bricge dicitur, aliam œdificavit.* Flor. Wigor. p. 341.

This passage is repeated in the History of Simeon of Durham, p. 153. edit. Twysden.

*Eodem tempore Ælfleda Merciorum domina, cum exercitu magno apud Strengate veniens, œdificavit ibi arcem munitam, et in plaga occidentali Sabrinae fluminis, in loco qui Brigges dicitur, aliam restauravit.* Matt. West. p. 357.

This lady seems to have been remarkable in several ways, if we may trust the author quoted in the ensuing sentence. He describes her as gifted with singularly matron-like prudence from her eighth year. She left behind her an only daughter, Algiva, whose birth caused her so much suffering that for the forty remaining years of her life she refused to accept the embraces of her husband: "a viri thoro sese et commixtione carnali subtraxit, dedignans ulterius, animi nobilitate ducta, laboriosi partus iterum experiri dolores." p. 359.

<sup>1</sup> I believe that a different opinion is entertained by an intelligent gentleman who resides upon the spot, who has paid the local history of the neighbourhood considerable attention, and that my late friend the Rev. J. B. Blakeway, in his History of *Shrewsbury* endeavoured also to make out *Quatford* to be the *Cwatbricge* *bæ Sæfern*, as well as the *Bricg* of the Saxon Chronicle. I think the passages already quoted which must have escaped their notice, will enable us on sufficient grounds to distinguish the two places as different.

foundation of the neighbouring church, we may conclude that the castle was built a few years later<sup>1</sup>.

*Quatford* was one of the numerous manors granted by the Conqueror, to Roger de Montgomery. As he was in the habit of hunting in these parts, the stronghold at *Quatford* might have been erected for his occasional residence when he came hither to enjoy the pleasures of the chase, and this recreation he pursued with great success, if we may consider the immense number of red deer bones and boars' tusks which were found in the ditch underneath the keep when it was excavated a few years ago by Mr Smallman, as constituting the spoil of his labors. Be this, however, how it may, it is quite clear that the keep in question must have been erected here within two centuries from the time when the Saxon Chronicler affirms Aelfleda rebuilt the fortress at *Bridgenorth*, inasmuch as the survey, made by order of the Conqueror, speaks of a *new house* at *Quatford*; the colony or town is also expressly mentioned in the same document, as well as by our countryman Vitalis, who states that Earl Rogers' son, Robert de Belesme, in the year 1098, removed the inhabitants from *Quatford* to *Brugia*, or *Bridgenorth*<sup>2</sup>: (that is the Saxon *Bricge* which is *North* of the afore-mentioned *Cwatbricge*), where he built a very strong castle for the protection of the inhabitants.

History informs us that with Robert de Belesme, allegiance was an easy obligation, and he was induced

<sup>1</sup> It is called in Domesday Book (p. 254), *Nova domus*, and as the survey of Shropshire was completed by the year 1082, this passage must refer to the newly-erected castle; the building of which may be fixed between 1067, when Roger de Montgomery first came into England, and the latter date.

*Scearstan* and *Sceargate* are identical, and refer to a place in *Worcestershire*. "In *Wiccia*, in loco qui *Scearstan* nominatur." Fl. Wigorn. p. 385.

<sup>2</sup> *Oppidum de Quatfort* transtulit, et *Brugiam* munitissimum castellum super *Sabrinam* fluvium condidit. Order. Vital. p. 768.

consequently to take these measures for his own personal security<sup>1</sup>. The march of Henry against his rebellious subject, the surrender of the newly fortified castle after a three weeks' siege, the descent of the king's army through the rugged pass of *Wenlock Edge*<sup>2</sup>, and the final surrender of Earl Robert at *Shrewsbury* to the victorious monarch, are fully detailed in the pages of

<sup>1</sup> Ibi nempe Brugiam munitissimum castrum super Sabrinam fluvium construebat, et totis ad resistendum viribus auxilios frustra quaerebat. (Anno 1102.) Order. Vital. p. 806.

<sup>2</sup> It will not be out of place here to quote the Monk's description of this pass, as the volume in which it is contained is rarely to be met with. Rex autem phalanges suas jussit *Hunel-hegem* pertransire, et Scrobesburiam urbem in monte sitam obsedere, quæ in ternis lateribus circumluitur Sabrina flumine. Angli quippe quendam transitum per Silvam *Hunolgo-hem* dicunt\*, quem Latini malum callem†, vel vicum, nuncupare possunt. Via enim per mille passus erat cava, grandibus Saxis aspera, stricta quoque quæ vix duos paritur equitantes capere valebat; cui opacum nemus ex utraque parte obumbrabat, in quo Sagitarii delitescabant, et stridulis missilibus vel sagittis prætereuntes subito multabant. Tunc plus quam LX millia peditum erant in expeditione, quibus rex jussit silvam securibus præcidere, et amplissimam stratam sibi, et cunctis transeuntibus usque in æternum præparare. Regia jussio velociter completa est, Saltuque complanato latissimus trames a multitudine adæquatus est. (ib. p. 807, 808.) An account of these transactions is fully given in Mr Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, pp. 19—32, with his usual clearness and fidelity.

When Giraldus de Barri travelled from *Shrewsbury* to *Ludlow* he went up this pass, which still bore the appellation of *the bad road*. The circumstance leads him to relate an anecdote connected with it, and this also serves to give us an idea of the humor which prevailed among the educated classes at the period. It happened, says the Archbishop, in my time, that a certain Jew journeying towards *Shrewsbury* with the Archdeacon of the same place whose cognomen was (Peck?) *Peccatum*, (sin), and a Dean whose name was (Dibble?) *Diabolus*, (or the Devil), heard the Archdeacon incidentally remark that his Archdeaconry commenced at this place which is termed the bad road, (*mala platen*), and that it terminated at a bad end, (*malus passus*) Malpas, near *Chester*. Turning over in his mind the cognomen of the Archdeacon and the name of the Dean, he facetiously subjoined, "It is a marvel to me if my luck ever carries me safely out of this country, seeing that sin is the Archdeacon, and the Dean the Devil, a bad road, forsooth, is the beginning of the Archdeaconry and a bad end the termination." *Itiner. Camb.* lib. ii. c. 13. p. 877.

\* A. Sax. *Asnel*, *protervus*.

† "Proprie ergo *callis* semita tenuis, *callo* pecorum prædurata." Varr. de Ling. Latin. Hence the French *causées* unless it be from *calcebus*. V. Bergier, vol. ii. p. 143. Menage Dict. Etymolog. vol. i. p. 361.

our Monkish historian, but as their investigation scarcely accords with the object of the present volume, I must reluctantly suffer them to pass without further observation.

The inferences then that I would establish are these. That no remains are now visible at *Quatford* which can be considered of Danish origin: that the castle which the Saxon Chronicler and Matthew Westminster state as being built or restored by Æthelfleda must have been at *Bridgenorth*; and lastly, that what actually exists at *Quatford* must have been the erection of Roger de Montgomery. That the anti Danic character of the spot may be still further set out of doubt, we are enabled to shew still more clearly its Norman pretensions.

It has already been observed that when matters had proceeded to extremities with Robert de Belesme, he deemed it necessary to concentrate his forces, and to make a decisive stand against the king. To effect this object the better, he transported the inhabitants from *Quatford* as a means of increasing his strength at his castle at *Bridgenorth*; and with a view of further rendering the former possession of no value, he rased it to the ground. History does not mention this circumstance it is true, and we can only gather so much from excavations which have been made on the spot at a very recent day. These, like all labors of the kind, are in the highest degree valuable, and they call forth the warmest thanks from every enlightened searcher after historic truth. We are indebted to Mr Smallman of *Quatford Castle*, for these additional discoveries, by whose directions the semi-circular ditch was cleared out.

From the information which he obligingly communicated to me, I learned that the keep, which originally stood upon the high rock overhanging the river, when dismantled by Robert de Belesme, must have been thrown down the sides of the mound so as to fill up

the fosse at its base, as the stratification of it from West to East clearly shewed. There were found embedded in the rubbish great quantities of red deer bones, and boars' tusks, two small horse-shoes, and an iron spur, that is evidently of Norman character.

The whole of the land occupied by the original castle comprises two acres. The rent of this land is at present appropriated to defray the charge of ferrying persons over the river when they attend the parish church, and if my memory does not deceive, the same obliging informant assured me that it was bestowed upon the church for this express purpose by Adeliza its original foundress.

The Church is altogether so interesting and remarkable a structure, that it well merits attention. Its history, moreover, breathes such an air of religious romance that the reader will allow me to wander from the professed object of my volume, for the sake of introducing the legend to his notice<sup>1</sup>.

After the murder of Mabil, his first wife, Roger de Montgomery married Adeliza the daughter of Ebrard de Pusey, who was one of the most noble families in France. She was the reverse of his former wife in disposition and character, as she constantly incited her husband to deeds of religion and charity, and to a love for the monastic orders. Such a temperament was easily wrought upon, and we know that in one instance the representations of monks did not fail of producing effect.

For as we learn from our authority for this history, when the Countess first came over to join her husband in England, a violent storm arose at sea, and the vessel in which she sailed was placed in the most imminent danger of shipwreck. As providence willed on this emergency (for so the legend states), a certain priest

<sup>1</sup> Order. Vital. pp. 578, 579.

who was in her retinue, being overcome by too much watching, fell asleep, when he beheld in a dream a matron standing before him and thus addressing him: "If your mistress and her suite desire to be liberated from the instant danger of horrible shipwreck, let her make a vow to God, and promise faithfully to build a church in honour of the blessed Mary Magdalene, on the spot where it happens that she first meets the Earl her husband, and exactly where a hollow oak-tree grows by a pigsty." The priest having awoke, narrated this singular vision to his mistress, who, when she had heard it, vowed to perform every thing fully, and presently the tempest being subdued, she quickly arrived with her retinue on the wished for shore.

After travelling for many days from the coast, towards the interior, she encountered her husband whilst hunting at *Quatford*, which was then deserted, at the very spot where the oak-tree that was indicated in the vision, grew. She immediately solicited the Earl to assist her in carrying into execution the vow she had made when under peril of shipwreck, and he as readily enabled her to perform it. He further endowed the church with ample possessions, and ecclesiastical privileges<sup>1</sup>.

Such is the history given of the causes which led to the foundation of the present church at *Quatford*, and if we look at the general narrative, it may be received on the main as worthy of belief. That the church is of this exact period no one can deny, and so far the building corroborates the legend. The church, is in fact, a most strikingly interesting specimen of Norman architecture, and will amply reward the visitor for its examination. Though merely the chancel stands in its original state, for the nave has been rebuilt with the

<sup>1</sup> These circumstances are narrated in the Chronicle of John Bromton, pp. 988, 989. edit. Twysden.

red sand-stone of the country, yet this part alone is deserving attentive inspection.

The Chancel is built of *calcareous Tufa*, which must have been brought hither up the *Severn* out of *Gloucestershire*, as the nearest deposit of this formation lies at *Stroud* in that county<sup>1</sup>. The arch which leads from the body of the church into the chancel makes up for its deficiency of ornament by its bold proportions. It is of a very simple style, and consists in its mouldings, merely, of two flats and two rounds, each of which decrease from the exterior to the inside part of the arch. The capitals are perfectly plain. A low font of the same age stands in this part of the church. The bowl is one foot four inches high and three feet nine in diameter. It rests upon four clustered legs, and has a further support in the centre. The sides of it are ornamented with quatre foils inscribed within a circle. The entire height is three feet ten. For a Shropshire church, this contains an unusually curious specimen of baptismal workmanship. There are five flat sepulchral slabs which probably cover the remains of the early ecclesiastics who belonged to the building, incised after the manner that prevailed in the tenth and eleventh centuries: and the whole floor of the building is paved with Norman tile.

<sup>1</sup> I am informed by the Rev. John Rocke, that *Travertine* exists in the wall at the East end of the chancel of *Bredwardine* Church, twelve miles from *Hereford*.



## Woolstaston.



BELONGING to the Norman Period are the remains at *Woolstaston*, *Castle Pulverbatch*<sup>1</sup>, *Quatford* and *Holgate*<sup>2</sup>. Those at *Woolstaston* consist of a conical mound, about ten feet high, and thirty-two across its centre; and another mound adjoining it which has a descent on three sides. This is naturally elevated above the adjacent land, and has its height further increased by an artificial raising of six feet, forming a figure in the shape of a parallelogram, which is a hundred paces wide from North to East, and a hundred and fifty-two from North to South. If this be the site of a castle, as seems most likely, it was either *Picot's* who held *Wistanetune*<sup>3</sup> under Earl Roger, or that of *Nigellus Medicia*

<sup>1</sup> CASTLE PULVERBATCHE is so precisely like *Woolstaston* that it is needless to describe it more particularly.

<sup>2</sup> *Holgate* still retains the name it did in the time of Camden, being usually called in the neighbourhood *Haugit*, or *Howpet*. It was granted by the Conqueror to Earl Roger, and held under him by *Helgo*, a Norman chief, who is mentioned by Ordericus Vitalis, as "quidam Normannorum potens miles\*." He held *Stantune* (vulgo dictum *Stau*), where he had a castle, according to Domesday<sup>†</sup>, and this was built upon the very elevated mount which now forms so conspicuous an object. The interesting old farm-house that is contiguous was built two centuries later. The older part consists of a semi-circular gable, which was originally a tower. It has the narrow lancet window peculiar to early English architecture. There are vestiges of a moat having surrounded the existing buildings. The church, which stands immediately contiguous, has three small lancet windows at the East end, and is of the same age and style as that at *Tugford* and *Rushbury*.

Domesday Book, fol. 258.

\* Order. Vital. lib. iii. p. 463.

† Domesday Book, fol. 258. b.



who is said in another part of Domesday, to have held *Wistaneston*<sup>1</sup> of the king. The works appear to me to resemble the remains of a keep and baly, rather than a tumulus.

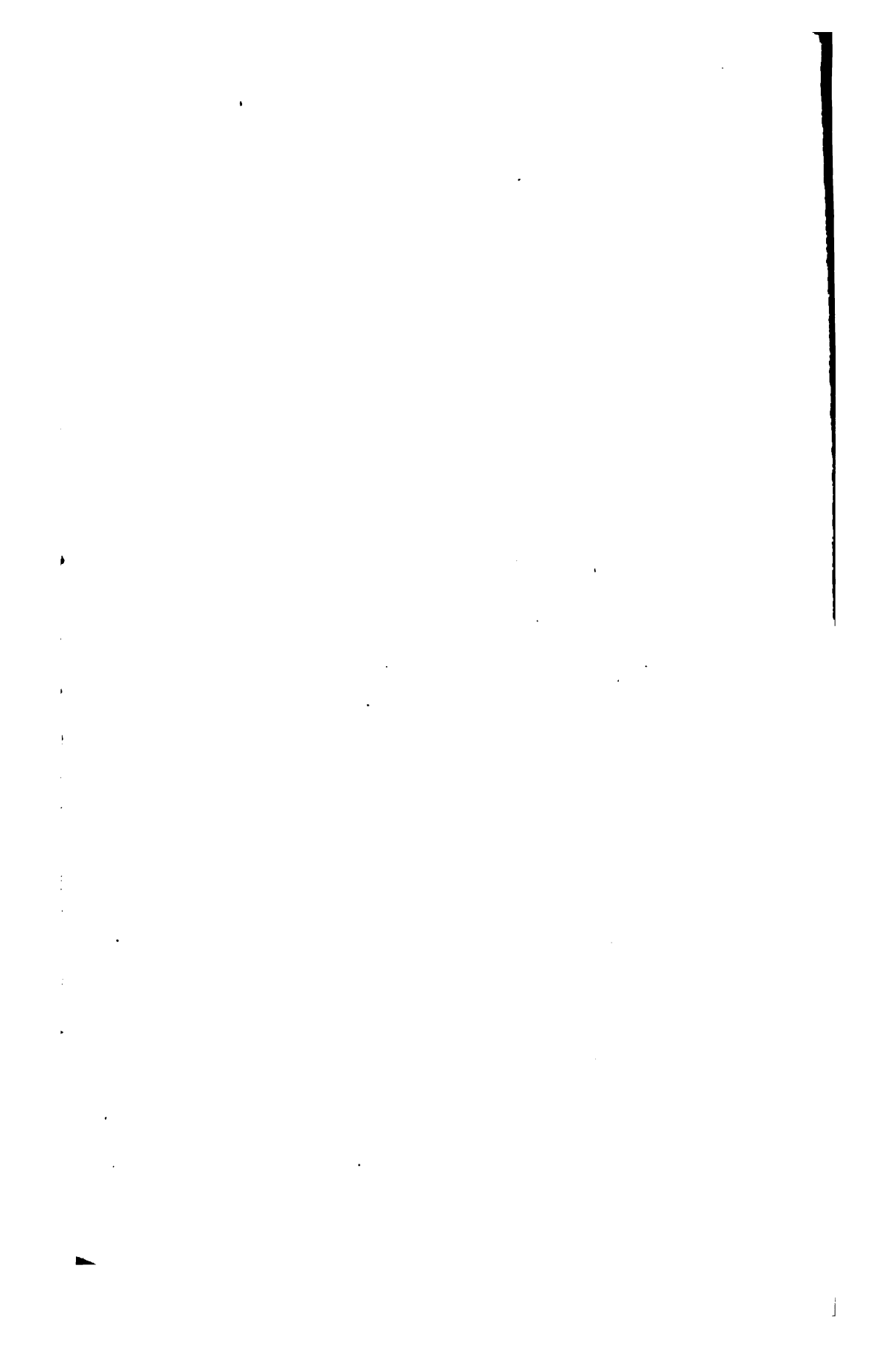
In a meadow, a few fields distant, contiguous to the church of *Smethcot*, is a barrow: and there is every presumptive reason for supposing that the immediate neighbourhood was the scene of some sanguinary contest. It is most natural to infer that it is built over the bodies of those who were slain when this neighbourhood was the seat of war between the Britons and the Romans. Whilst some labourers were employed in the year 1838 to get clay, a little below the North side of the church-yard, they came upon a vast quantity of human bones, that had evidently been deposited here at a very early time. In consequence of this spot being the burial-place of the slain, it probably acquired a certain degree of sanctity, and was looked upon afterwards by the vulgar with peculiar veneration. And thus in time it became fixed upon for the site of the present Norman church. Instances of this nature are very common. They may be observed in our own county at *Clungunford*, *Stapleton*, *Rushbury*, &c. In *Herefordshire* we see the same thing at *Kelpeck* and *Thruaton*; in *Warwickshire* at *Honily*; and in *Northamptonshire* at *Sulgrave*, *Earls Barton*, and *Wollaston*. A rude font within the church of *Smethcot*, and two circular headed windows, which are partially obliterated externally, but which are in their original state inside, clearly indicate the Norman character of this building.

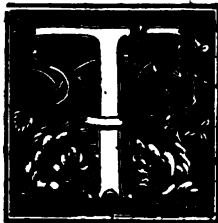
<sup>1</sup> Domesday Book, fol. 260—6.



**Observations**  
upon the  
**Names of Places.**







THE ensuing observations are an attempt to ascertain how far it be possible to illustrate TOPOGRAPHY by the aid of ETYMOLOGY; viewing the subject at the same time with relation to the similarity of position which places occupy that have synonymous names.

From the present result furnished by this species of enquiry, I am disposed to believe that if the subject were to be more skilfully pursued, it would tend to throw a considerable degree of light upon the darkest and most obscure passages of early British History. When the names of places are carefully examined with reference to their analogical bearing of locality, and when their derivation is investigated, a clue will often present itself that may direct further researches, and a glimpse even of truth will occasionally disclose itself through the subtle mazes of etymological conjecture. But in proportion as the etymologist finds his reveries and deductions agreeable, so much the more cautious ought he to be of making use of them. For there is such a captivating, such a misleading plausibility in all theories which are built upon the roots of words, that it is extremely difficult to decide how far the science itself ought to be admitted as an interpreter and guide. The exuberant ingenuity of the suggestive Vallancey has caused several to look upon it with distrust, whilst our Salopian author, Baxter, by referring every thing Roman to

Cambro British etymology, has rendered his learned work rather suspicious. Still there appears good reason for thinking, if fancy be restrained, that an application of the Celtic, Welsh and Northern languages to Topography and Archæology, may of themselves elucidate some of those portions upon which we need information.

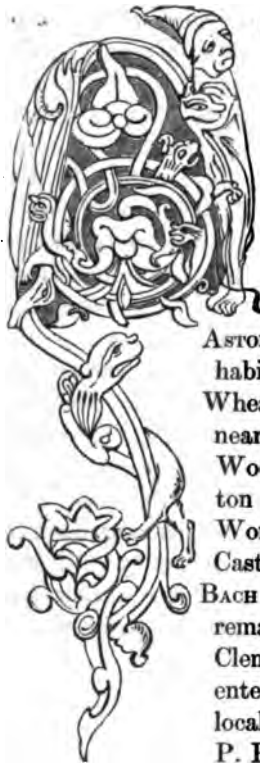
It may be noted, for example, that the names of our rivers, mountains, woods and valleys, are perpetually found issuing from the two former languages. The tide of ROMAN THOROUGHFARE may be traced in the names of *Stratford*, *Stratton*, *Streatley*, *Streatham*, *Stretford*, *Stretton*, *Caldicot*, *Old Harbour*, *Ford*, &c., &c., which exist by the side of Roman roads, for although in many cases the roads themselves have become obliterated by vegetation, or broken up by the plough, yet these names still continue, and by their aid their direction may be safely followed.

And marks of A. Saxon colonisation may be discerned in the various terminations of *by*, *ham*, *ley*, *wick*, *worth*, &c., which prevail throughout the island, more particularly the second of these, on the Eastern side, where the Saxons first landed. In proportion as prefixes and terminations from these sources exist, a fair idea may be formed of the comparative antiquity of the towns or villages where they respectively occur. No one, for instance, would affirm that the finals of *chester*, and *cester*, betokened mere manufacturing townlets of twenty years' growth, neither would they restrict their origin to the Saxon Period. Nor on the other hand, would they class the hagiological nomenclature of several towns and parishes in the island, such as *St Alban's*, *St Constantine*, *St David's*, *St Ives*, *St Oeyth*, *Stoke St Milborough*, &c., with the *Belle Vues*, *Paradise Rows*, *Waterloo Crescents*, and fashionable places of resort which have sprung into existence within the memory of the present generation.

In the appellations of various RIVERS, the *Nen*, *Wye*, *Cam*, *Conway*, *Dee*, &c.; in those of MOUNTAINS, the *Wrekin*, *Corndon*, *Penmaen Mawr*, &c., &c.; and in those of FORESTS, such as *Morf*, *Arden*, *Dean*, &c.; there is seen sufficient proof that their names have thus long outlived the corruption of tongues and the consumption of time.

Descending with successive conquerors of the country we observe this alteration. The aborigines we may suppose were habituated to speak of these places generically: the succeeding tribes identified them, or rather distinguished them from each other, so that what was purely Celtic for water in the first instance, became the name of the stream itself at a later date. In the same way the Latins communicated their terms to the people whom they subdued. They formed roads or streets, which being a method of proceeding barbarous nations were previously unacquainted with, it would in a proportionate degree excite their surprise. Hence the names of places upon these lines of communication are so frequently found to be allusive to their situation. Below this period there are but few names discoverable which mark the possession of the kingdom by its successive invaders, the Danes and the Normans. Our maps are disfigured rather by the unmeaning designations that caprice has bestowed upon newly cultivated lands, than called after the custom of the earlier possessors of the soil, by names indicative of position.





CRON. Celt. *Ac*, habitatio; *ton*, elevatio. A. Sax. *Ac*, quercus; *ton*, pagus; thus, Acton Scot, Round Acton.

AL. A termination denoting an elevation. Celt. *al*, *altus*; as in the instances of the Ercal, Benthall, Posenhal, *High* Ercal, Hadnal, Shiffnal, Gnorall, Gornal, co. Worcester. Pecknal, near Alberbury.

ASTON. The same as Acton. Celt. *as*, habitatio; *ton*, elevatio.

Wheaten Aston; Aston Eyres; Aston near Oswestry; Aston near Shiffnal; Woolstaston; Aston Rogers, and Aston Pigot, in the neighbourhood of Worthin; Aston Hill, East of Caourse Castle; Aston Botterell.

BACH; a bottom; as Dr Whitaker justly remarks, a Mercno Saxon word. "In Clent cowbach" in valle bovina. It enters into the composition of several local names in the Midland Counties.

P. Plouhman euss the word.

Cold Batch, South of Bishop's Castle; Wellbatch; Swinbatch; Batchcot; Beatchcot; Snailbatch; Swinbach, above Adderley; Pulverbach; Wagbatch; all in the county of Salop.

**BAILEY**, Celt. *Bal*, rupes, elevatio. Q? *Balkium*.

Bailey Hill, between Chapel Banhaglog and Llananno, co. Radnor.

Bailey Hill, near Knighton, co. Radnor.

Bailey Hill, six miles North West of Sheffield; where there are several tumuli, and other remains. (v. Archæol. vol. x. p. 466.)

Bailey Brook, North part of Shropshire.

**BANNER BANK**, a mile South East of an entrenchment called **CAMP HOUSE**, betwixt Honily and Haseley, co. Warwick. Allied to this are

*Signal Bank*, half a mile North of the entrenchments upon the estate of Charles Guest, Esq. Bank Farm, West of Dorrington. (Vide p. 86.)

*Show Bank*, a mile North of Norton Camp.

*Showbarrow*, an eminence betwixt *Towbury Hill Camp*, and a fortification on *Bredon Hill*, co. Worcester.

**STANDARD HILL**, co. Sussex; which is so called, because upon this hill, William the Conqueror is said to have fixed his standard previous to his conflict with Harold.

*Watchfield*, a mile South of Stratton Borough Castle, co. Wilts.

*Spyrcay*, six miles East of Maiden Castle, co. Dorset.

**BAYDON ROAD**, (THE UPPER OF) is a road running in a direct line for seven miles, along high land, South of Lambourn, co. Berks.

**BEACON**; A beacon is generally a very elevated point, that would serve both as a place of defence, (and they are most commonly fortified), and as a position from which an alarm might be spread throughout a chain of fortresses. It is supposed that barrows, served this two-fold purpose, but I think their height would not be sufficient to render them serviceable for such an end.

**Beacon**, a circular camp on Rook's Hill, North of East Lavant.



Beacon Batch, a mile North of Wrington, co. Somerset.  
id. a mile South West of Blagdon on *Blakedown*, where  
there are eight tumuli.

Beacon Hill, two miles West of Castle Frome, co.  
Worcester.

Beacon Hill, a mile and a half North East of Shepton  
Mallet.

Beacon Hill, a mile North of Bath.

Beacon Hill, half a mile East of Trellech, co. Mon-  
mouth.

Beacon Hill, West of Warneford, co. Hants.

Beacon Hill, North East of Amesbury.

Beacon Hill, on a Roman road, North West of Ospringe.

Beacon Hill, a fine camp, West of Burgclere, co. Hants.

Beacon Hill, between Coddendam and Needham Market.

Beacon Lane, North, but close to the camp on Hinton  
Hill, near Dyrham, co. Somerset.

Beacon Heath, two miles South of Lingfield, co. Kent.

Penn Beacon, East of West Wycomb.

Shipton Beacon, a small oval encampment East of Brid-  
port.

Hembury Beacon, a small semi-elliptical camp, co. Corn-  
wall.

Farnham Beacon, co. Surrey.

Michaelstow Beacon, a triple quadrangular work North  
of Michaelstow, co. Cornwall.

Caer Digol, or the BEACON RING, co. Montgomery.

Barr Beacon, co. Stafford.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE BEACON.

Dundon Beacon, a double-elliptical camp single-ditched,  
with a vallum across the middle, East of Compton  
Dundon, co. Somerset.

Westbury Beacon, one mile North East of Stoke Rod-  
ney, co. Somerset. Three tumuli.

BEACON, Celt. *Bel*, altus. *Bel*, arx. The derivation and  
meaning of *Bal* and *Bel* are thoroughly investigated in

the Ordnance Survey of Londonderry. Dublin, 4to. 1837. pp. 210, 211.

Belan, North East of Trefeglwys, co. Montgomery.

Belan Bank, South of Kinnerley.

Belan Bank, under the East side of the Long Mountain;

Belan, (Upper and Great,) two miles North of Newtown.

BELSAR'S HILL, a fortress near Willingham, co. Cambridge, is supposed to have taken its name from Belasius a Norman general. (See Lysons's Cambridge-shire, p. 8.) What is the meaning of *Baltzer's Cross*, three miles North of Shepton Mallet, co. Somerset?

BLACK, a very common prefix, importing a gentle swell or undulation, almost in fact a plain. Teut. *Black*, planus. Germ. *blackfeld*, locus campestris. Black, Blake, Blag, and Blag are identical.

Black Hill, North of Hampton Lucy, co. Warwick.

Blackthorn Hill, East of Ambrosden, co. Oxford.

Blakedon Hill, betwixt Leamington and Kenilworth.

Blakemore Hill, South of Hereford.

Blakeley Hill, South of Bury Walls, co. Salop. Blackwell Hill, close to Towcester.

Blackmoor Hill, five miles South of Melton Mowbray.

Blackdown Hill, South West of Crewkerne. Id. East of Modbury. (See note at p. 233.)

BRADELEY, Celt. *braid*; A. Sax. *brade*, latus, *broad*; and Celt. *leh*, habitatio; A. Sax. *ley*, *leag*, campus.

Bradeley near Wenlock. Bradeley near Kinlet. Bradeley near Bridgenorth.

Bradeley near Bilstone, co. Stafford.

Bradeley, East of Droitwich, co. Worcester.

BREDON; Celt. *Bre*, locus elevatus. (See Remarks under WREKIN, at p. 91.)

Bredon, North of Tewksbury. Bredon Hill; Bredon Norton, co. Worcester.

Bredwardine, co. Hereford.

Bredenbury, near Bromyard, co. Hereford.

**BULLOCK ROAD**; it begins at Upton, near Alconbury Hill, on the Ermine Street, co. Huntingdon, and ends at Bourn, co. Lincoln. It points to the North West for a distance of eleven miles, passing two *Cold Harbours*, *Chesterton* and Elton. As it does not pass through any village in this part of its course, and runs regularly parallel with the Ermine Street, at the same distance for the last nine miles, it is difficult to see what could have been its direct intention. A mile North of its juncture with the Elton and *Chesterton* Turnpike road, it is traceable, I fancy, at Water Newton Lodge, thence to Water Newton, and thence to *Castor* and Upton. From Upton to *Langdike Bush*, a distance of a mile, it is lost, but hence in a very straight line due North it is distinctly traceable through West Deeping and Thurlby, to Bourn, co. Rutland, for eleven miles, and is known for a considerable distance under the name of **KING STREET**. From *Castor*, co. Northampton, this is the direct road to Sleaford, and there is no doubt, I think, of its Roman pretensions, from beginning to end.

**BUNKERS HILL?**

Bunkers Hill, two miles South of Stourbridge, co. Worcester.

Bunkers Hill, between Moulton and Pitsford, co. Northampton.

Bunkers Hill, East of Evesham.

Bunkers Hill, two miles North West of Alcester.

Bunkers Hill, between Catworth and Longstow, co. Huntingdon.

Bungers Hill, co. Kent.

Bungers Hill, near Denham, co. Buckingham.

**BUR**; very common as a prefix. Celt. A. Sax. *bur*, domus. (See p. 141.)

Burcot, co. Rutland.

Burway; Burley, North West of Ludlow.

Burton, or Bourton, near Much Wenlock.

Burton Hastings, co. Warwick.

Burton Latimer, co. Northampton.

Burbach, on the Watling Street, near High Cross.

**BURX**; in its primary signification this word denoted a place of defence whether strong by nature or fortified by art. *Urbes atque castella*, says Vegetius, *aut naturâ muniuntur, aut manu. Naturâ, aut loco edito vel abrupto, aut circumfusa mari vel paludibus vel fluminibus. Manu, fossis ac muris.* (*De Re Militari*, lib. iv. cap. 2.) From these places of defence being situated on eminences, so that the approach to them should be more difficult, they obtained the name of *Burgs*. In the first place, from the eminence itself, M. Goth. *baïrg*; Franc. Alam. Isl. Celt. Teut. Belg. Sw. Germ. *borg*; A. Sax. *beorg*, *mons, rupes*, upon which they stood. The mountain hence gave name to the stronghold, which in a secondary sense was denominated a *Burg*, Gr. *πύργος*, Lat. *Burgus* (*Castellum parvulum quem Burgum vocant.* Veget. *De Re Milit.*) The origin of this word is to be sought for among the Northern languages. Ptolemy speaks of it as being in use among the ancient Germans. The *Burgundiones* are placed by Pliny among the five principal nations of Germany. "Germanorum genera quinque, Vindili, quorum pars Burgundiones." Vindili are the Vandals. Some authors suppose the Burgundiones to be descended from the Scythians. They dwelt under tents which were joined together, for the sake of their being able to act in concert when suddenly attacked. Hence the body was called a *Burg*, and subsequently through later channels came the word *Borough*, or an united assembly of people, a town. M. Goth. *Baurgs*; Celt. *Burg*; Alam. F. Theot. Sw. Isl. Belg. Germ. A. Sax. *burg*; S. Goth. Dan. Teut. *borg*; *arx munita, civitas*. Hence the A. Sax. *Burh*, *Buruh*, *civitas, borough* or *bury*. *Byrig, urbs, collis, tumulus quivis e terra con-*

gestus. *Byrigan*, *Bebyrgean*, sepelire. Which three last A. Sax. words come from the Northern tongues above quoted. A *Bury*, A. Sax. *birgenes*, a place of sepulture under a *Beorg* or mound, or artificial hill. Numerous places throughout England terminate in *Bury*, and near such are almost invariably found some ancient camp or earth-work which gave rise to the termination. Charlemagne, when he had conquered the Saxons decreed that the bodies of the Saxon Christians should no longer be interred in the tumuli of the Pagans, but carried to churches. *EBURY* Wood (see p. 177), near Haughmond Abbey, and *BURY WALLS* near Hawkstone, *PONTESBURY* (see p. 179), *SHREWSBURY* and *SHAWBURY*, (A. Sax. *scau*, nemus, and *burg*, civitas) derived their name from the former causes. *Shawbury* will therefore imply a camp, or place of defence by the side of a wood, and marks of its supposed existence are perceptible close to the village, in *Withyford Wood*, *Shawbury Park Wood*, and in *Matthews'*, *Griffin's*, *Dawson's*, *Green's*, *Hazles*, &c. *coppices*. In the same manner Tacitus states the Angli, Varini, Suardones, and other inhabitants of ancient Germany protected themselves, "fluminibus aut sylvis muniuntur." (V. de Morib. German. cap. 40, p. 680, edit. Var.) A river or wood defended them on one or more sides, whilst they drew a trench round them on the side exposed, and most obnoxious to attack. Instances of places in our own county deriving their appellation from the latter source, that is, from the A. Sax. *Birgena*, a bury or tumulus, may be discovered in *RUSHBURY* (see pp. 149, 150), where a remain of this nature now exists; to one or other of these reasons must be assigned the names of *Onibury*, *Oldbury*, *Sidbury*, *Beckbury*, *Diddlebury*, *Chirbury*, &c., in Shropshire.

And thus the name of *Aldburch* co. York and Norfolk; *Aldeborough*, co. Suffolk; *Aldebury*, co. Hertford and

Oxford; Alderbury, co. Wilts, with Oldbury, co. Salop, denote their antiquity as a fortification in general, for our Saxon ancestors, who imposed them were no antiquaries. The appearance of ancient fortifications, Roman, British, or of their own progenitors, as Dr Whitaker remarks, excited in their minds no distinct ideas: they were burghs alike. Thus they denominated the village of Aldburgh, co. Richmond, from the vast works in or about it, which are indubitably British; the Roman Isurium, which in its regular quadrangular walls bore an appearance altogether different from the last; and, thirdly, the camps in South Richmondshire, which were probably the workmanship of the earlier Saxon. All were Aldburghs. Burghs, because all were fortifications, and Ald, because their origin was beyond the recollection of the names.

BUSH. From the frequent recurrence of this word in the neighbourhood of Roman roads and stations, it is highly probable that it is allusive in a measure to some occurrence or scene with which the Romans were concerned. Perhaps it comes from the Lat. Barb. *ambuscia*, or an ambuscade, a place of surprise or ensnarement. Thus we have *Bampton in the Bush*, and Hinton in the *Hedges*, in Oxfordshire. MORDEN BUSH, (S. Goth. *Mor*, *sylva densior*) near Littleington, co. Cambridge, near two Roman roads. CLAY BUSH in the same vicinity, close to HARBOROUGH BANKS in Hertfordshire. PENNY'S BUSH, close to Streatly on a Roman road in Hertfordshire. KING'S BUSH, a mile and a half South East of Godmanchester, in the county of Huntingdon, upon the ERMINE STREET, and BLACKLAND'S BUSH on the South West side of the same station. At RADNALL BUSH, in Warwickshire, are indications of an early British settlement. (See Mr Bloxam's excellent account of the British Antiquities in Warwickshire, p. 184). CLOUDESLEY BUSH, on the Fosse

WAY, a mile and a half South of BENONIS. CUCKOO BUSHES, on the Roman road from Nutshalling to Winchester. SANDY BUSH, a mile North of TILT BRIDGE LANE, a Roman road from the ERMINE STREET, North of Lincoln to Littborough. BARTON BUSHES on the Roman road from Winchester through Ogbourn, St George, Chiselden, &c.

BUTTS. Fr. *bout*; Lat. Barb. *butta*, extremitas.

The Bouts, North of Inkberrow, co. Worcester.

The Butts, near Higley. The Butts, near Norbury.

Iudas Butts, between Shrewsbury and Uffington.

Butts, near Tanworth, co. Warwick.

BY. A termination. A. Sax. *bye*, pagus.

CALDECOT, CALDICOT, COLDICOT; the same in part as Cold Harbour; instead of Harbour we have *cot*, for the termination; Celt. A. Sax. *cote*, domus; C. Brit. *cott*; Isl. *kot*; S. Goth. *kâte*, tuguriolum. Places of this name usually lie contiguous to Roman roads or stations. Can this word *col*, or *cold*, have any connexion with the Lat. *colloco* or *colonia*?

Coldicot, one mile West of a road from Monmouth to Hereford, presumed to have been a Roman communication.

Caldicot, a mile and a half South of Caerwent, co. Monmouth, and midway betwixt this Roman station and a large semicircular encampment at the mouth of the Severn.

Caldecote on the Watling Street, South East of Atherstone.

Caldecot, South West of *Stratford* and Sandy, (SALENE) on a Roman way, leading from Hertford through Biggleswade to Godmanchester.

Caldecote, five miles South East of Biggleswade, between the Roman road and Harborough Banks.

Caldecote, between the PORT WAY on the North, and the MARE WAY on the South; the Ermine Way

two miles to the West, and a Roman road leading to Cambridge, through Barton, from the same Street. At Arrington Bridge, on the Ermine Street, co. Cambridge, a road branches off to the West, passes through Tadlow and Wrestlingworth, close to Biggleswade, it passes *Road Farm*; on the West side of the town just below Caldecote Green, it is called *Hill Lane*, from whence it proceeds to the small circular encampment of Old Warden. In the immediate vicinity we meet with the well known accompaniments to Roman positions, in *Warden Street*, *Lowes Bush*, *Stanford*, *Stanford Bury*.

Caldecote, between the BULLOCK ROAD and Ermine Street, a mile from either, and five South of Yaxley, co. Huntingdon.

Caldecot, one mile South of Newport Pagnel; and on the same road, betwixt *Walton* and *Fenny Stratford*, is *Calcot*. This road I imagine must be a Roman line of communication from the Watling Street at *Fenny Stratford*, through *Newport Pagnel*, *Olney*, four miles North of which it leaves a *Cold Harbour* a mile and a half to the East, from thence it proceeds to *Wollaston*, where are traces of an ancient way from hence to *LECHESTER*, and *IRTHLINGBOROUGH*, and terminates at *COTTON*, betwixt *Addington* and *Ringstead*, co. Northampton.

Caldecote Spenny, betwixt *Husbands Bosworth* and *Lutterworth*; on a branch road from the Watling Street, which crosses the road from *Towcester*, through *Northampton* to *Leicester*, which I conceive was originally a Roman one. There are three or four places by the side of this branch road which are compounded with *Wal*. The *MERE* Road, which begins at *Cloudesley Bush* on the *Fosse*, bearing betwixt this place and *Over Claybrook* the appellation of *Woodway Lane*, whence passing by *Cauldwell*, *Gilmorton*, and *Saddington*, must be an ancient way.



Caldecote, South of Uppingham, co. Rutland. From the direct line of the turnpike road here from the South, this might have been formerly a Vicinal Way. Caldecote, near Upper Shuckborough. Might not the direct road from Arbury Banks in the South of the co. of Warwick, have passed by this place? First of all, up the WELSHMAN'S ROAD to Boddington, thence to Priors Marston under Beacon Hill, Lower Shuckborough, Grandborough, *Walcote* and LONGDOWN LANE, the RIDGEWAY, where it joined the Watling Street between Crick and Kilsby.

Calcot, on the Ermine Street, South of Cricklade, co. Gloucester.

Calcot, midway between the Fosse and Saltway, South of Northleach, co. Gloucester.

Calcot, three miles from Shrewsbury on the Welsh Pool road, North West of *Pavement Gate*: there is every reason for thinking this road to be of Roman origin. (See p. 148.)

CALDERWELL, on a road that looks as though it were of Roman origin, beginning at Cainham Camp, co. Salop; it is seen at Huntingdon, Little Hereford Bridge, *Stoney Cross*, the *Ford*, *Stratford*, *Risbury Camp*; below it we find *Venus Green*, *Venus Wood*, and SUTTON WALLS, co. Hereford. This, by a slight corruption, becomes Cauldwell, and Caudwell, the latter of which words is found at the end of the GARTREE ROAD, and is of frequent occurrence in several other parts of England.

CALDY, CALDY BANK; close to three quadrangular camps South West of Mainstone, co. Salop.

CALLOW. Celt. *Cal*, altus; A. Sax. *calo*; Franc. *chalo*, *calous*. (Vide p. 155.)

Callow, North of Goodrich Court, co. Hereford. Callow, South of Hereford. Callow Hill, North West of Ledbury. Callow Hill South of Kenderchurch. Callow Hill, near the Forest of Wyre.

**Callow Hill**, West of Little Stretton. **Callow Hill**, South of Tardebigg, co. Worcester. **Callow Hill**, near Stonefield, co. Oxford. **CALLOW HILL Entrenchments**, North West of Blenheim Park, co. Oxford.

**Gallow Hill**, Bolam, Northumberland.

**Gallywood Common**, near Chelmsford.

**CANT**, in composition means the head or top of a thing that is winding and circular. Celt. *cant*, caput.

**Cantlope Cross**, East of Con Dover.

**Cantern Bank**, North of Bridgenorth.

**CAUSEWAY**. Several roads originally of Roman construction have degenerated into this title. Thus, part of the **VIA DEVANA**, South East of Cambridge, is called **WOBT'S CAUSEWAY**. The road from Wroxeter to Rushbury co. Salop, is called in one part the **DEVIL'S CAUSEWAY**, (see pp. 134, &c.) **HORKESLEY CAUSEWAY**, three miles North of Colchester, the road leading from Great Horkesley to Colchester. **THORLEY CAUSEWAY** turns to the West out of the **PEDDAR WAY** going from Bishop Stortford through Stanstead Montfitchet, Newport, Audley End, &c., to Holme on the sea. **BRIDGEND CAUSEWAY** points from Donnington, co. Lincoln, to the Ermine Street, which it joins at *Cold Harbour Turnpike*.

**COCKSHUT**. This word is of frequent recurrence in many counties, a clear indication that it is not used without having been acquired from an early source. One would expect to find it easy of explanation in consequence of its general acceptance. This, however, is not the case. The Celt. *Cok*, elevatus, caput, is the nearest approach we can make to the prefix: and in the same language *Sgod*, *Ysgod*, silva, is the best word which explains the termination. In some cases this will correspond with the present appearance of the places where the word is applied, amongst others the following, though it does not hold good in every instance here adduced.

- Cockbank, near Adderley, South of Audlem, co. Stafford.
- Cockshut, a bank, near Bitterley. Cockshut, between Ellesmere and Middle.
- Cockshut Bank, near Downton. Cockshut Lane, Broseley, co. Salop.
- Cockshoots, near Middleton Scriven. Cocksall, near Aston Botterell.
- Codsall, co. Stafford.
- Cockslade Rough.
- Cockbury Farm, North of Cheltenham, on Nottingham Hill.
- Cockshut, South of Montgomery.
- Cockshut Wood, one mile North of Usk. Id. one mile North of Chepstow. Id. one mile West of West Wyeombe.
- Cockshute Fair Firs, North of Wootton Underedge, co. Gloucester.
- Cockshut Hill Farm, South of Droitwich.
- Cockshoot Hill, near Shefford, co. Bedford.
- Cockley Hill, near Thenford, co. Northampton.
- Cocksheath, East of Skenfrith, co. Monmouth.
- Cockshed and Cocksbrook Wood, North East of Kentchurch, co. Hereford.
- Coxwall Knoll, near Brampton Brian, co. Radnor.
- COLD. A most frequent prefix to names of places in this and other counties. It seems to predominate near Roman settlements. Lat. *colonia*? Thus we have COLD CAMP, on *Woodbury Hill*, a mile and a half North of Upper Arley, and COLD CAMP, a small camp two miles North of Kidderminster.
- COLD BAGPATH, near Kingscote, co. Gloucester.
- COLD BATCH, South East of Bishop's Castle.
- COLD BLOW, three places in Pembrokeshire have this name.
- COLD CAMP, North West of the encampment on Woodbury Hill, co. Worcester. Id. North of Upper Arley, co. Worcester.

COLD COMFORT, South West of Alcester, co. Warwick, and East of Weston upon Avon.

COLD COMFORT, four miles North West of Gloucester.

COLD KITCHEN, co. Surrey.

COLD KITCHEN HILL, one mile East of Maiden Bradeley, co. Wilts.

COLD STOCKING, near Stokesay, co. Salop, close to the Watling Street.

COLD END, co. Pembroke.

COLD ARBOUR. The former word must not, I conceive, be taken in too literal a sense, but with reference to a secondary meaning, as *open, exposed*. M. Goth. *kald*; S. Goth. *kall*; Isl. *kaldur*; Franc. Alam. *chalt*; Dan. *kaald*; Germ. *kald*; Teut. Belg. *koude*; A. Sax. *ceald*, frigidus. Arbour or Harbour, must be derived from the Franc. Theot. *Hereberga*, munimentum castrense, receptaculum exercitus. Teut. Germ. *her*, exercitus; Teut. Germ. *bergen*, tueri. A. Sax. *here-beorgan*, manere. *Here-berga*, statio militaris. Lat. Barb. *Hereberga*, *Heriburgum*, *Heriburgum*. Thus, *Cold Harbour* indicates an open, unenclosed, or unfortified military station, and as the term perpetually occurs close upon Roman roads, or other lines of early communication, it appears to be a very natural inference, that it denotes either a halting place, or the temporary quarters of marching troops. From *Her* may be deduced the prefix *Har*, and *Ar*, in HARBURY BANKS, a Roman position near Chipping Warden.

ARBURY, a Roman station close to Cambridge.

HARBOROUGH BANKS, a mile South of Ashwell, co. Hertford, contiguous to the Icknield Street.

Market Harborough, co. Leicester, where Roman remains have been found.

Chaucer uses *Herberwe* and *Herbergage*, for lodging.

Cold Harbour, in the City of London, is mentioned as a tenement as early as the reign of Edw. II. In

1410, Henry IV. granted a house on this spot to his son, Henry Prince of Wales, by the title of "quoddam hospitium sive placeam vocatum *le Coldeherbergh*." See Pennant's London, p. 305, and Appendix p. 33. Query? Whether this be the Coldherbergh mentioned in the Minutes of a Council held at Cold Harbour, 8th of February, 1410. (See Privy Council Proceedings, Edit. Nicolas, vol. i. pp. 330, 331.) Sir Thomas Vaghan died seised of the Manor of *Coldeherbergh*: 36th Edw. III. (See Manning and Bray, Hist. of Surrey, vol. iii. p. 415.) There is a lane at Camberwell still called Cold Harbour Lane. Allied to this is *Hare Street*, so prevalent in Hertfordshire and Essex.

COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR THE AKEMAN STREET.

Cold Harbour, close to Chesterton, co. Oxford, South of Middleton Stoney.  
 Cold Harbour Farm, two miles South of it, close to Brill, co. Oxford.  
 Cold Harbour, one mile East of it, midway between Tetbury and Malmesbury, co. Wilts.

COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR THE ERMINE STREET.

Cold Harbour, four miles South East of Cricklade, co. Wilts.  
 Cold Harbour, one mile East of it, between Ware and Puckeridge.  
 Cold Harbour, North of Ware.  
 Cold Harbour, one mile from it, on the BULLOCK ROAD, North West of Alconbury, co. Huntingdon.

COLD HARBOUR, ON THE FOSSE.

Cold Harbour, one mile East of it, at Dicheridge, co. Somerset.

**COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR THE ICKNIELD STREET.**

Cold Harbour Farm, two miles South East of it, near Aldbury, co. Buckingham.

Cold Harbour, betwixt it and a Roman road, about Harborough Banks, near Ashwell, co. Hertford.

**COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR THE PORT WAY.**

Cold Harbour Farm, one mile East of Watlingford.

Cold Harbour Barn, between it and Ickleton Street, three miles South East of Wantage.

**COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR THE WATLING STREET.**

Cold Harbour Farm, close upon it, three miles North West of Fenny Stratford.

Cold Harbour, half a mile East of it, at Dunstable.

Cold Harbour, one mile North West of it, at Stretford, co. Hereford.

**COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR OTHER ROMAN ROADS.**

Cold Harbour, on the road from Wallingford to Thame, one mile North of Stadhampton, on *Rycote Lane*.

Cold Harbour, three miles South of Droitwich and one mile West of *Trench Lane*.

Cold Harbour Farm, one mile West of Roman road from Bicester to Buckingham, between Barton Hartshorn, and Cottisford.

Cold Harbour Farm, North of the preceding, betwixt Radston and Whitfield, co. Northampton.

Cold Harbour, on the Roman road near Tempisford, co. Huntingdon.

Cold Harbour, on Stone Street, South of Dorking. (See Camden, vol. i. p. 249.)

Cold Harbour, between Newington and Bobbington, close upon Roman road from Dovor to Rochester.

Cold Harbour, on Barham Downs, Kent, North of the Roman road from Dovor.

- Cold Harbour, one mile North of Biggleswade.  
 Cold Harbour, South of Fordham, co. Norfolk.  
 Cold Harbour, two miles South of Lower Wallop, North  
 of Roman road from Winchester to Old Sarum, co.  
 Wilts.  
 Cold Harbour, near Kingscote, co. Gloucester.  
 Cold Harbour, betwixt Westbury and Bristol, half a  
 mile West of the Ridgeway.  
 Cold Harbour, one mile South of Eltham and two from  
 the Roman road from London through Dartford.

COLD HARBOURS, ON OR NEAR OTHER *supposed*  
 ROMAN ROADS.

- Cold Harbour Farm, four miles North East of Fenny  
 Stratford, on a presumed line of ancient road between  
 this place and Salford: there are entrenchments to  
 the South of the latter place.  
 Cold Harbour, half a mile East of the road from Deal  
 to Woodnesborough and Richborough Castle.  
 Cold Harbour, a road goes due South from Canter-  
 bury to Lympne, close to the West of which is Cold  
 Harbour. Surely this must be a Roman road from  
 the peculiar straightness with which it runs. It seems  
 the direct road from Hythe to Canterbury.  
 Cold Harbour, between Harrold, co. Bedford, and Ol-  
 ney, co. Buckingham, one mile West of the former,  
 lying contiguous to the road to IRECHESTER, South of  
 which are faint indications of a Roman Way.  
 Cold Harbour, between Gayhurst and Stoke Goldington,  
 co. Buckingham.  
 Cold Harbour, North of Newent, co. Gloucester, on a  
 supposed line of Roman road.  
 Cold Harbour, one mile North West of Glastonbury.  
 Cold Harbour, West of St Briavels, co. Gloucester.  
 Cold Harbour, immediately under the fine camp of ULEY  
 BURY, near Dursley, co. Gloucester.

- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Berkhamstead.
- Cold Harbour, between Watford and Stanmore.
- Cold Harbour, close to Boxford, South.
- Cold Harbour, one mile North of Great Marlow.
- Cold Harbour, South of Hawkeshurst.
- Cold Harbour, between Hitchendon and Great Missenden.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South East of Worth, co. Surrey.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Maldon.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Croydon.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Bignor.
- Cold Harbour, one mile East of Havant, co. Hants.
- Cold Harbour, one mile North East of road from Seven-oaks to Tunbridge, between Upper and Lower Trench.
- Cold Harbour, one mile North of Wrotham.
- Cold Harbour, between Aylesford and Leybourn, close to the road from Maidstone to Foots Cray.
- Cold Harbour, between Addington and Beckenham, co. Kent.
- Cold Harbour, North of Bampton, co. Devon.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Ufulm and six North of Collumpton, co. Devon.
- Cold Harbour, between Westbury and Melksham, co. Wilts.
- Cold Harbour, two miles East of Modbury, co. Devon.
- Cold Harbour, close to Trowednack, co. Cornwall.
- Cold Harbour, three miles South West of Newark.
- Cold Harbour, two miles South East of Louth.
- Cold Harbour, North West of Purfleet, co. Essex.
- Cold Harbour, South East of Croydon.
- Cold Harbour Farm, one mile South of Deddington, co. Oxford.
- Cold Harbour, one mile South of Hungerford, co. Hants. adjoins the Akeman Street at Stretton St Margaret.
- Cold Harbour, a turnpike, four miles North of Fareham, co. Hants.
- Cold Harbour, a turnpike, three miles East of Grant-ham, co. Lincoln.



Cold Harbour, between Nottingham and Chiselhurst, co. Kent.

Cold Harbour, on Bailey Hill, near Knighton, co. Radnor.

Cold Harbour Pill, one mile and a half South of Caerwent, on the Severn. (C. Brit. *Pil*, a small inlet of the sea, filled by the tide. Celt. *Pill*, locus munitus, locus super.)

Cold Harbour Reen, on the Severn, one mile and a half West of Berkeley, co. Gloucester. (Celt. *ren*. A. Saxon, *ryne*, cursus aquæ.)

CONEYGARE, CONIGREE, &c. A very usual name, which may deserve insertion here, as various conjectures have been made on its etymology. It seems however most probably nothing more than a corruption of the old word Connigrie, a rabbit warren.

"Parkis warrens et *connigries*." Stat. 13. Ric. II. c. 13.

"na man take out *cunninges* out of uthers *cunningaires*. Stat. Jac. III. Scot. 1475. See also Stat. Jac. I. 1424. 2 Jac. VI. 1579.

Nash (I think) derives that at Dudley from *Cyning* a King; but the spelling *Coningre* is obviously to be traced to the old spelling of the word *coney*.

*Coninges* or with fine vitaille. CHAUCER.

Congar, North of Clevedon, co. Somerset.

Gongre Hill, near Toddington, co. Bedford.

Coneygree House, South of Etwall, co. Derby.

Conigree Hill, a circular artificial hill like the preceding one, close to Bromesberrow, co. Worcester.

Coningree Wood, two miles North East of Worcester.

Coneygree Wood, South of Ledbury, co. Hereford.

Coneygree Lane, near Middle Hill, co. Worcester.

Coningree Whitehouse, one mile South of Sutton Coldfield.

Coneygare Copse, near Quenington, co. Gloucester.

Coneygore Copse, South of Alfrick, co. Worcester.

Coneygore Farm, near Alveston, co. Somerset. Coneygore Wood, near Wootton Underedge.

Coneygore Hill, a mile East of Wincanton. Id. a mile South of Dorchester, co. Dorset.

Coneygore Pill, on the Severn, West of Berkeley, co. Gloucester.

The Coneygarth, West of Amesbury. A. Sax. *geard*?  
 Cor, Corx, a termination denoting a covered spot, house, building or *Cottage*. Isl. Teut. Germ. *Kot*; Fin. *coto*; Lapp. S. Goth. *Käte*; Celt. Gael. A. Sax. *cot*, C. Brit. *cwt*. Lat. Barb. *cota*, tuguriolum, habitatio.

Places with this termination are not so abundant with us as in some other counties. Among instances of it however are the following.

Sibberscot; C. Brit. *Sib*, that tends to encircle. (Owen Pughe.) *Ber*, a hill, and *cwt*, a cote or hord, an enclosure; that is, an enclosure encircling the hill.

Arlescot; C. Brit. *arghoyz*, a lord or master, and *cwt*, a dwelling. Arlescot or as it is pronounced *Alescot* is written in the earliest record, where I have found it mentioned *Edullescot*; (Rot. Hundr. temp. Hen. III.) in the next reign *Herlescote*; (Forest Peramb. of Shropshire, temp. Edw. I.) This is among the numerous instances which might be adduced to shew how constantly the name of the same place varied, especially after the Survey. A clear proof that our etymologies must be sought for antecedent to the A. Sax. period, and those derivations preferred which come from an earlier source.

**SMETHCOT.** There are three places of this name, one South of Upton Magna, another West of Hadnall, and the other a village ten miles South of Shrewsbury. A. Sax. *Smith*, faber, and *cot*. (Hodierno nostro sermone), "*the Smith's Shop*."

Picclescot, a small hamlet nine miles South of Shrewsbury, near Smethcot. C. Brit. *pitw*, (*pid*), parvus and *cwt*. Afterwards *Pightel's cot*, or the dwelling in a pyghtel, which Phillips explains to be 'a small parcel

of land enclosed with a hedge, which in some parts of England is commonly called a pingle.' Lat. Barb. *Pictellum*, *Pightellum*, *exigua fundi portio*, *Sepimento conclusa*. Du Cange.

Duncot; A. Sax. *dan*, collis, and *cot*. Besides Walcot, Woodcote, Lushcot, Buroot, Swancote, &c. &c.

Coton, Coton End; all the places of this name that I know, and they are numerous, entirely agree with its derivation; they are all upon a stream or river, usually in the suburbs of a town. Celt. Gael. A. Sax. *Cot*; C. Brit. *cwt*, domus; Celt. *on*, aqua, flumen.

Coton, South East of Conover, above the Severn.

Coton, betwixt Bridgenorth and Kidderminster.

Cotton, near Hodnet, a quarter of a mile from the Tern.

Cotton Hill, suburbs of Shrewsbury, on the Severn.

Coton End, suburbs of Northampton, on the Nen.

Coton End, suburbs of Leamington and Warwick, on the Avon.

Coton End, in the village of Cooknoe or Cogenhoe, Northamptonshire, where this is penned, is on a small stream which falls into the Nen.

Coton, South of Caldwell, co. Stafford.

Coton Barn, North of Spaldwick, co. Huntingdon.

DANE. There seems to me to be better reason for assigning the name of all those spots compounded with *Dan* and *Dane*, to Danish connexion, especially when the work is found in the vicinity of a camp or fortress, than to the A. Sax. *Degn*, thanus. Thus near *Quatford*, on the Severn, (Celt. *Crott*, habitatio) is Danesford, and we know that the Danes wintered at Cwatbridge in the year 896. (See p. 222.)

Danes Well, near the irregular encampment of Bury Walls near Hawkstone.

Danford, near Claverley.

Danes Ford, between Stone and Churchill, co. Worcester.

Danes Bank, North West of Alcester.

Danes Green, near Martin Husington, co. Worcester.

Danes Bury, near Welwyn; Danes End, and Danes Furlong, co. Hertford.

Dane Hill, North of Ticehurst, co. Kent; North of Folkingham; one mile South of Deddington, co. Oxford.

Dane Hill Plantation, two miles South East of Minchin Hampton, co. Gloucester.

Dane Hills, half a mile West of Leicester.

Dane Holes, South of Market Harborough. Danes Holes, Chadwell and Little Thurrock, Essex. Caverns supposed to have been granaries.

Dane Bottom, near Minchin Hampton. Woeful Dane Bottom, entrenchment South of Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Dane Street, co. Kent.

Danes Field, a quadrilateral Camp, South West of Great Marlow.

Dane Mill, South of Broad Hembury, co. Devon.

Dane Bridge, half a mile East of Much Hadham, Essex.

DAY HOUSE. (See Glossary Sub Voce.)

This appellation frequently prevails in many counties: I shall only notice its recurrence in Shropshire.

Day House, near Hanwood. Day House, East of Market Drayton. Day House Farm, North East of Crudgington. Day House, near Stottesdon. Day House Farm, near Wall.

Does not the name of Dyas, or Dayus, originate in this?

DON, DUN. A termination denoting an eminence. Celt.

Bret. Bas. Gael. A. Sax. Germ. *Dun*; C. Brit. *din*, collis.

It forms the names of a great number of places, in those counties which were inhabited by the Cymry. Hence the DUNUM, DINUM and DINIUM of the Romans; the *tune*, *don*, *ton* and *town* of the English. (Owen Pughe.) And hence the names of our Shropshire villages, Longdon, Sibdon, Stottesdon, &c. Gleedon Hill, Downton, &c.

DUD. A prefix to names of places, that appears to denote their lying on the borders of some particular

county. Thus Dudmaston near Bridgenorth, on the borders of Shropshire, verging upon Worcestershire, and Dudleston, North East of Oswestry, on the confines of the same county and Denbighshire. Dudstone, near Montgomery, on the borders of Montgomeryshire and Shropshire. Celt. *tuedd*, extremitas, fines? With such a derivation the position of Dudley, co. Worcester, agrees. So does Duddington in co. Northampton. Duncote in Berkshire, hardly suits this conjecture.

DUNGE. The word occurs simply at a spot one mile South of Broseley. In a composite form at Dungary, betwixt Bangor and Worthenbury. • Dungey Corner, on the borders of Easton Wood, co. Northampton. S. Goth. *dunge*, parvula Sylva.

DYKES. The chief Dykes in Great Britain are, OFFA'S DYKE, WATT'S DYKE, WANSDYKE, GRIMS' DYKE, FLEAM DYKE, BRENT DYKE, PAMPISFORD DYKE, the DEVIL'S DYKE, co. Cambridge, AVESDYKE, UPPER and LOWER SHORT DYKE, and the DEVIL'S DYKES, co. Norfolk, described under the first. (q. v.)

FORD; final in composition. Celt. *Ffordd*, via, transitus. C. Brit. *forz*, a passage, a road, a way. Corn. *ford*, id. Isl. *fert*; S. Goth. *fært*; Alam. *ferti*; Germ. *fart*, iter. A. Sax. *ford*, vadum. From finding this word so continually on Roman roads, there is no doubt that it is allusive to the position of the places where it occurs, and that the modern acceptation of the term is only employed in its secondary and lowest sense. Nor is a word having this termination invariably confined to places where water flows, as it is sometimes found where there is none at all, as at Bwlch y Fford on the SARN HELEN, betwixt Llanfachreth and Trawsfynedd; and on the summit of *Hafen Drum Ddu*, co. Brecon, we find CARNAN CEFYFN-Y-FORDD, three tumuli on the side of the Ridgway road, which leads, as I conceive, from CASTELL CWRT LLECHRYD, (BULLEUM ANTONINI) to some ROMAN

station in *Cardiganshire*. Thus taking the *WATLING STREET*, from *Wroxeter* to *Kenchester*, there are on its line, *Pitchford*, *Bentley Ford* near *Longnor Green*, *Frodesley*, (quasi *Fordsley*) *Stretford Bridge*, *Halford*, (*Clungunford*?) *Stretford*, (*Byford*?) and *Hereford*, a little beyond *Kenchester*. Again by following the *Watling Street* from *Richborough* to *Rowton*, seven miles West of *Shrewsbury*, we successively pass through *Dartford*, *Clayford*, *Deptford*, in *Kent*. *Shefford Mill*, *Hertfordshire*; *Fenny Stratford*, *Stoney Stratford*, in *Buckinghamshire*; *Dodford* and *Watford*, *Northamptonshire*; *Weeford* and (*Crateford*?) in *Staffordshire*; *Stoneyford*, *Mountford*, and *Ford* in *Shropshire*. The probability of there having been a branch line of *Vinial* way from the *Watling Street* through *Newport* to *Chester*, has been intimated in an earlier part of the volume, and if its assumed direction be followed from *Stratford Brook* under the walls at *CHESTERTON*, till it reaches the borders of *Cheshire*, it will be found running Northwards through *Whiston*, and *Tong*, after which it crosses the *Watling Street*, at *Stoney Ford*, thence trending by *Woodcote* and *Pave Lane* to *Newport*, leaving *Forton*, a little to the East, when it passes by *Stanford Hall*, *Shackeford*, *Losford*, *Ashford*, *Sandford* and *Dearnford*. The recurrence of this termination, coupled with other facts which are given in another part of the volume, induce me to think that a Roman road formerly went from *Shrewsbury* by *Horton Lane*, *Nox*, *Stoney Stretton*, *Westbury*, *Worthin*, *Hailsford Brook*, *Blackford*, and *Chirbury*, to *Montgomery* and *CAER FLÔS*. Taking a Northern direction still, another road would pass by *Little Oxon*, *Pavement Gate*, *Welshman's Ford*; soon after leaving *Rowton*, it would turn to the South over *Stretton Heath*, by *Hayford*, and join the road just mentioned, at *Westbury*. *Forden*, lies also on the direct line between an entrenchment called

the MOAT, above Nant Cribba Hall, and CAER FLÔS. I have also stated elsewhere, my reasons for considering the works at RUSHBURY and NORDY BANK, as Roman. On the direct line of communication between these two places, we pass over ROMAN BANK, Blackwood, Hungerford Plantation, Hungerford, and Tugford, to the latter Camp. Ford, a village midway between IVINGTON CAMP and RISBURY CAMP, co. Hereford, a little more than a mile from either. When the names of places on other lines of Roman road are investigated, the same theory will apply. For instance,

On the ERMINE STREET, there are, Helensford, Aberford, Castleford, co. York; Tuxford, co. Nottingham; Stamford, co. Lincoln; Coppingford, co. Huntingdon; Buntingford, Hertford, and Turnford, co. Hertford; and Burford, co. Surrey.

On the ICKNIELD STREET, are Thetford, co. Norfolk; Pampisford, co. Cambridge; Ickleford, co. Hertford; Water Stratford and Fringford, co. Buckingham; Gosford and Stafford Farm, co. Oxford; Wallingford, Moulsoford, co. Berks., going thus through Reading, by Calcot to Silchester.

On the AKEMAN STREET, beginning at Godmanchester, we leave two Offords, Barford, Tempsford, and Girtford, a little to the West; thence to Stanford, Shefford, Ickleford, and Lemsford Mills to Hatfield. On that branch which runs through Oxfordshire, we have Barford Farm and Langford Farm.

On the ICKNIELD STREET or HAYDEN WAY, are Bidford, Wixford, and Watford Gap, co. Warwick; Round Radford and Lifford, co. Worcester.

On the VIA DEVANA, which runs from Godmanchester to London, there are Hemingford, a little to the North East; Shelford, Stapleford, Chesterford, (Great and Little,) Orford House, Bishop Stortford, Woodford, and Stratford le Bow.

On a Roman Way from Shefford to King's Lynn, there are Langford, co. Hertford; Thetford, (South of Ely,) and Fordham, co. Norfolk.

On a Roman Way, which branches from the VIA DEVANA at Chesterford, and goes to Castle Acre. This road is called, betwixt Wangford and Mildenhall, MAREWAY HILL, and PORTWAY.

From Mildenhall it branches in two directions. The left passes through Wangford to Brandon, Mundford, and so on to Castle Acre. The right goes to Thetford. East of this latter place is another way of Roman origin, which is called PEDDAR WAY, and runs I imagine from Hunstanton on the North West coast of Norfolk to Ipswich, through Sedgford, Castle Acre, Stamford Hall, and Bramford.

On the FOSSE there are, Ditchford in Gloucestershire; Halford, Stanford, Stoney Ford and Bretford, in Warwickshire; Sharnford in Leicestershire; Shelford, Bridgeford and Langford, in Nottinghamshire.

Fordgam Helen Luedhog, at the end of Kraig Vorwyn, co. Merioneth, a Roman road. (Reynolds, p. 449.)

An inspection of the whole of the county maps of England, where the districts have been carefully surveyed, would readily enable a person to explain on the same principles, nearly all other names of places which terminate in FORD. Enough is shewn here to prove that this word has quite as much connexion with the Roman period, as the Strettons, Streatleys, Stratfords, and the Chesters, are reported to have. Only one instance occurs to me of a direct corruption from the Latin *Vadum*, which is *Wades Mill*, on the ERMINE STREET.

FRANKTON. It is difficult to make any thing out satisfactorily about this prefix. Llywarc Hen in his Elegy on Cynddylan, says,

Ni çafai Franc tanc o'i ben.

From his mouth the *Frank* would not get the word of peace.



Upon which passage Owen Pughe asks, did the *Franks* emigrate with the *Saxons*, in such numbers, as to cause the introduction of their name into this island, as a separate body of people? I confess I am quite unable to account for it.

Frankton, in the suburbs of Shrewsbury. Welsh Frankton, North East of Oswestry. English Frankton, and Frankton Grange, North of Cockshut.

GARTREE ROAD; South East of Leicester. It runs between Great and Little Stratton, which lying close upon it, sufficiently indicate its Roman origin. After it reaches Cross Barrow Hill, its course is uncertain. It here leaves a circular and a square encampment about a mile to the North, but seems to point uncertainly to the South. I conceive it took its name from the Celt. *gar*, *sylva*, and *tre*, vicus, because it leads to the villages on the borders of Rockingham forest.

GRAVE; more frequent as a prefix, than a termination.

M. Goth. *Graba*, fossa, fovea!

Gravenor; Barnet's Graves near Buildwas; Hargrave, co. Salop; North East End of the Long Mountain.

Corngreaves, co. Worcester.

Graveley, co. Cambridge; Graveley, co. Hertford.

Graven Hill, one mile South of Bioester.

Graveney; Gravesend, co. Kent.

Gravenhurst, co. Bedford.

HAGLEY. Celt. *haga*, *hai*, Sylva.

Little Hagley, and Great Hagley, near Presteign, co.

Radnor. Hagley, co. Worcester.

HALGHTON, HAUGHTON; Celt. *Hal*, collis: *haug*, and *au*;

M. Goth. *hauh*, C. Brit. *ucha*, altus.

Haughton, near Willey; near Ellesmere; near Shiffnal.

Halghton, North East of West Felton. Hence Halston.

Halghton (four), North of Ellesmere.

Haughton Moss, and Haughton Thorn, co. Chester.

HAM; a termination implying a dwelling-place. Some-

times a prefix, but more frequently final. Celt. Brët. A. Sax. S. Goth. Teut. *ham*; Germ. *hamm*; Isl. Dan. *heim*; Flem. *hem*, domus, a *home* as we should say. And thus, a *home-stead*; Hemel Hempstead, and Berkhamstead, (A. Sax. *beorg*, collis, *ham*, habitatio, and *Stead*, locus) are names referable to this etymology. In Shropshire we have Atcham, corrupted from Attingham, and this again from Atingeham (Domesday) Celt. *At*, terra, extremitas, fines; *ing*, locus angustus.

TRENTHAM, &c. the seat of his Grace THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, on the Trent.

In Norfolk and Suffolk the termination is abundant.

HATTON. The affixes of Hat, Had, Hath, Eath, Eth, are all respectively corrupted from *Heath*.

HAWKSTONE; there must be some engrafture of the A. Sax. here upon the M. Goth. *hawk*, altus. The C. Brit. has *uc*, altus. In Sussex, near Lewis is the Camp of *White Hawk*, both referable to the same source, as are most composites in Ox, such as OXENTON HILL, North of Cheltenham, &c.

Hawkridge Hill, co. Somerset.

Hawks Tor, co. Cornwall.

HAY; Celt. *Hai*; Isl. *heide*; Germ. *hain*, Sylva. Lat. Barb. *haia*; A. Sax. *haga*, agellus. (See Glossary, sub voce.)

The Hayes near Abberbury. Hampton Hayes, North of Worthin. Albion Hayes, near Preston Gobbalds.

The Hay, betwixt Madeley and Coalport. The Hay, near Chetton. Horsehay, South of Wellington.

HAYDEN WAY; the Icknield Street has this name from Coughton to Studley, co. Warwick; betwixt these two places it passes along high ground, and as all Roman roads were usually elevated above the adjacent soil, it perhaps took its name from the Celt. *hae*, terra elevata supra campum.

HOPK, in composition, denotes a small valley between two mountains. Celt. *Hope*. id.

With this agrees the position of Hope Bowdler, Hope-say, Millichope, Birchhope, East of the Stiperstone, Middlehope, Easthope, Ratlinghope, Hopton, Westhope, co. Salop.

HURST; (See Glossary, sub voce.)

The Hurst, near Worthin. Mulhurst, North West of Oswestry.

KNAVES CASTLE, NEVES CASTLE: a name indicative of position: *nab*, *neb*, *nef* in Celt. being the same, and all allusive to altitude; *knave* and *neve*, seem to come from this source. Isl. *nauf*: S. Goth. *nabb*, promontorium.

Knaves Castle, North of Presteign, co. Radnor.

Neves Castle, near Buildwas.

Knaves Castle, on the WATLING STREET, two miles West of ETOCETUM or Wall.

LANE; several Roman Ways have this appellation, and whenever lanes run straight forward for a considerable distance and are of uniform width, they bear evident symptoms of a remote formation. Thus, the Ermine Street in the North part of Rutlandshire is called HORN LANE, and a part of it in Richmondshire LEMING LANE.

LONGDOWN LANE or the RIDGE WAY, comes from the South of Warwickshire, and joins the Watling Street near Kilsby, co. Northampton, it runs betwixt Willoughby and Grandborough, Lower Shuckburgh, Boddington, a mile below which place it joins the WELSH ROAD or WELSHMAN'S ROAD, and goes thence to WALLOW BANK and ARBURY BANKS.

BANBURY LANE; this is a continuation of the Welshman's road.

FENN LANES; run from Manduessedum on the Watling Street, through Fenny Drayton to Cadeby. Q? if Roman.

COAL PIT LANES; run from the Fosse to the Watling Street, near Lutterworth. Q? if Roman.

**HEREFORD LANE**, the Watling Street; South of Aymestry, co. Hereford, is so called.

**RYCOTE LANE**, a road running from Thame to Dorchester, co. Oxford, with a Cold Harbour on it.

**TRENCH LANE**; South East of Newport, co. Salop; another leading from Droitwich, South East to Flyford Flavel, co. Worcester; and another from the Watling Street at Wellington to Newport.

**LEMING LANE**; a name which the Ermine Street has in co. Richmond.

**SALTER'S LANE**; a road leading from Cholmondeley Chapel to Holt, North of Maiden Castle, co. Chester. Salter's Lane, one mile and a half South East of Tardebigg, co. Worcester, leading from Bealey on the Icknield Street. (See **SALTER'S ROAD**, **SALTER STREET**.)

**KNAB LANE** is a Roman road running from Ixworth, through Barningham, Gasthorpe, East Harling, and Attleborough, to Norwich.

**LITTLE WORTH**; a hamlet, or little village. A. Sax. *worth*, platea, vicus. (See **WORTH**.)

Littleworth, in the parish of Little Wenlock.

Littleworth, North of Norbury.

Littleworth, near **COMPTON WINYATE**, co. Warwick.

Littleworth, close to Gretton, co. Gloucester.

Littleworth, West of Aylesbury.

Littleworth, South West of Biggleswade.

**LEY**; A. Sax. *ley*, *leag*, campus.

Leighton, Leaton, Leegomery, Hadley, Kinnersley, Dawley, Broseley, Madeley, Astley, Willey, Linley, Norley, Caughley, Harley, Henley, Froddesley, Langley, Sturchley, Claverley, Cloverley, Glazeley, Billingsley, Minsterley, Habberley, Tasley, Hughley, Astley, Ruckley, Henley, Pulley, Bitterley, &c.

Low. (v. p. 92.)

Beslow, Onslow, Whittingslow near Acton Scott, Muns-

low, Peplow, near Market Drayton, Branslow East of Bury Ditches.

**MAIDEN CASTLE.** The appellation of *Maiden* as applied to castles has hitherto been a difficulty, which those who have tried to explain it, have not successfully overcome. It has absurdly enough been thought to be a castle that was never taken: in this, as in every other name of a place where we are able, we must seek for the Etymology in the Celtic. *Mad, Med, Mod, Mos,* and *Maiden*, signify an eminence or elevation; thus *Maiden Castle*, will mean a castle on a height. As is Maiden Bower, near Dunstable; Maiden Bower, betwixt the Akeman Street and Staple Barton, co. Oxford; Maiden Castle in Cheshire; Maiden Castle, near Durham; Maiden Castle, near Dorchester; and Maiden Castle in Stainmore, Westmoreland. The three last of these are Roman works, and I believe the two others likewise. That part of the Watling Street (see the second Iter of Antoninus) which passes through *Vorreda* (quasi *Ford*) or Whelp Castle, in Westmoreland, to *Caer Vorwyn*, *Magna* (that is, C. Brit. *maur*, pronounced *vaur*, *magnus*) or Thirlwall Castle in Northumberland, on the Pict's or Severus' Wall, is still called the Maiden Way. It derived this name either because it was a raised road, as the Roman roads generally are, or else, which seems more likely, from its passing by Maiden Castle in Westmoreland, and by a small fort called MAIDENHOLD, betwixt Crackenthorp and Kirby Thorp, on the same line. In either case Maiden Way is synonymous with *Highway*. On the same principles may be explained *Caer Vorwyn* or *Caer Vorrán*, by the side of the river Tippal on the Maiden Way, in Westmoreland. DOLFORWYN, a ruined castle, built by Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, Circa 1065—1073, above the Severn, between Beriew and Newtown in Montgomeryshire, and CAER FORWYN a large circular entrenchment

above the river Alwen in Denbighshire. *Vorwyn* or *Morwyn*, signifies in C. Brit. a maiden, for the two words are identical, as V is never initial in C. British, though often pronounced so, as in the instance above, of *Vaur* for *Maur*, where in such cases the initials of the words in their primary sense are either B or M, and the V consonant is governed by one of them. Thus *Caer Vorwyn*, *Caer Forwyn*, and *Dolforwyn* mean *Maiden Castle*, which again springs out of the Celt. *Mad*, *Madien*, *Med*, *Mod*, *Mor*, (C. Brit. *Morwyn*), and *Mot*: so that the words are synonymous.

This gives us a clue to the Etymology of *MOFF*, a large tract of land lying very high, to the East of Bridgenorth, which was formerly a forest.

**MARE**; as the instances where this name occurs are at places above the general level of the surrounding country, it is most likely deduced from the A. Sax. *mere*, excelsus, summus. (v. pp. 173, 174.)

**Maer Way**, a road North West of Maer, and Chapel Chorlton, co. Stafford.

**Mare Ridges**, South West of Englefield, co. Berks.

**Mare Way Hill**, on Roman road, near Eriswell, co. Suffolk.

**Meer Bach Hill**, co. Hereford.

**NEACHLEY HILL**, East, and **Nedge Hill**, West of Shiffnal, co. Salop. **Netchwood**, South of Monk Hopton. Celt. *neach*, *neck*, altus.

**NEEN**. Celt. *nens*, *nant*, and plur. *neene*, rivus: and Celt. *nen*, altus. It is a choice betwixt the two, as either will suit the position of those places where the name occurs. *Neenton*, *Neen Savage*, or *Upper Neen*, co. Salop, are upon the river Rea. *Neen Sollers* lies a quarter of a mile from it, between this stream and Mill Brook. The river *Nen*, in Northamptonshire, hence derives its name.

**OUL**; in composition, denotes a dwelling-place or habi-

tation. Celt. *oul*, habitatio. It is synonymous with the C. Brit. *lle*, a place, spot, or situation.

In Shropshire there is Oulton, North East of Newport; Choulton, near Billing's Ring; Edgeboulton, near Shawbury; Soultion Hall, near Wem; Houleston, North of Middle.

PAN; either simple or in composition. *Pan* is the same as *Pen*, according to Bullet and Baxter, and in Celt. and C. Brit. the word means caput, promontorium, as it likewise signifies in Hebrew. Any high place will therefore be called *Pan*. Thus there is

Pancom Stone, close to Shobdon, co. Hereford.

Pan Castle, a small oval camp close to Whitchurch.

Pan Pudding Hill, near Bridgenorth.

Pans Hill, close to Boarstall, co. Buckingham.

Panson, near Hanwood, co. Salop.

Panshington, South West of Hartlebury, co. Worcester.

Penly, near Ellesmere.

Pendlestone Rock, near Bridgenorth.

PIM HILL, quasi *Pinkill*, Celt. *pin*, summitas.

PORT WAY; this is a very usual term for a Roman road, and it is highly probable that those lines of communication, in all places where it occurs, were originally formed by the Romans, and took this name in consequence.

The Watling Street, near Burghill, co. Hereford, has a place on it bearing this name.

North of Kirtlington, co. Oxford, the Portway crosses Wattlebank or Avesditch, to PLOUGHLEY HILL.

Port Way, a Roman road, North East of Andover.

Port Way, midway betwixt Leominster and Tenbury.

A little North of Orleton, co. Hereford, there is a Port Way, leading from the Ludlow and Leominster road, four miles and a half South of the former place, down Green Lane to CROFT AMBREY CAMP.

There is a Port Way in co. Hants.; another, co. Wilts. (Archæol. v. viii. p. 100.) another, co. Norfolk. A

road in Berkshire, East and West of Wantage, is called the Port Way, it continues nearly in a direct line to Wallingford, and I conceive it to be of Roman origin. Id. near Aynho, co. Northampton.

Port Way, betwixt Tanworth, co. Warwick, and the Ickniel Street. (See *SALTER STREET*.)

Port Way, in the parish of Hardwick, co. Cambridge.

Port Way, on the road from Wangford to Eriswell, co. Suffolk; Roman.

Port Way, two miles South East of Dudley, co. Worcester, leading by Causeway Green, Harborne, and Selly Oak.

It seems very probable that this is part of a line of Roman communication from the Watling Street below Penkridge to Alcester, passing by Crateford, Standiford, the Ford Houses, Wolverhampton, Cockshut Colliery, Sedgeley Beacon, Sedgeley, Cotwall End, Dudley, Portway, Causeway Green, Harborne, and Selly Oak, where it divided into two branches, one going to the West, through Bromsgrove to Droitwich; the other taking the course of some bye-ways for a mile and a half to King's Norton, at which place there is a straight line of road to Forhill, where it joins the Ickniel Way, coming in directly from Alcester, due South.

*SAUTRY, SAWTRY WAY*; I conceive this began at a more important road at *Thetford*, three miles South of Ely, on the Roman way from Cambridge into Norfolk, and went from hence to Streatham, Wilburton, Haddenham, (betwixt here and Earith it is called *Haddenham Causeway*,) Needingworth, leaving St Ives a little to the left, and Houghton. At this place its title of Sawtry Way begins, and continues for ten or twelve miles, till the road in short, joins the Ermine Street, two miles North of Alconbury Hill. A mile beyond this point of junction, it reaches *Sawtry All Saints*,



from which it takes its name: and this again derives it from the Celt. *sau*, parvus collis, from being placed on a superior eminence to the surrounding villages above the Fens. The Sawtry Way appears to be an early line of communication.

SHEN, SHINE; Celt. *yscenn*, *ken*; Celt. and Ir. *kin*, caput. Shingleton, co. Salop.

Shenston, near Chaddeasley Corbet, co. Worcester.

Shenston, co. Stafford.

To the same etymon may be referred Kinlet, Kinver, Kinfare, Kinnardsley, &c.

PEDDAR WAY. There are two Roman roads in the county of Norfolk of this name, one of which falls into the other.

The chief PEDDAR WAY is ninety-six miles long, commencing at Stratford le Bow, in Essex, and terminating at Holme on the Sea, in Norfolk. It runs direct from station to station, though at each of them there is a certain degree of angularity. From its commencement at Stratford le Bow, through Woodford and Epping, until it reaches Harlow, (where Roman remains have been found,) its course is very devious. From Harlow till its termination, the line is direct from town to town and from village to village; but the chief bearing varies, until it touches Norfolk, when its direction is quite straight. From Harlow it goes to Bishop Stortford and Newport, thence to Great Chesterford and Worstead Lodge, at which latter place it crosses the VIA DEVANA. Crossing Balsham Dyke, it thence passes through Newmarket, Barton Mill, Lord's Hut, North of Mildenhall, Brandon, Mundford, Hilborough, Swaffham, Castle Acre, Fring, Sedgeford, and ends at the quadrangular work of Holme on the Sea.

The other PEDDAR Way commences at Ixworth, co. Suffolk, and passes by Stanton St John's, between

East Wreetham and Illingworth to Tottington: being clearly traceable for thirteen miles. South of Swaffham it is called the WALSINGHAM WAY, and here it unites with the preceding PEDDAR WAY. Q? *Peddar Way*. *Pedestris*? PROMP. PARV. *Pedde*, calathus; *Peddar*, calathus piscarius. Celt. *pedd*, pes? Was the chief supply of fish for the Romans from the Northern seas to London by this road?

PULLEY; Celt. *Pwl*, locus sylvestris, uliginosus, as it was temp. Edw. I. 1300, being included in the Forest of Lithewood. Polelie, Domesday. Pollerdine, North of Ratlinghope. Bullerdine. Polmere, West of Hanwood.

RAG; a prefix denoting something small. Celt. *Rag*, parvus. *Ragleth*, (or the little portion?) near Church Stretton, from the preceding root, and *leth*, pars, and underneath it, *Ragdon* and *Ragbatch*. If this derivation be sound, and it must be confessed it is scarcely satisfactory to the author, *Ragleth* will literally mean a comparatively small part of the mountains which are seen in this part of Shropshire. *Helmeth* which is the next height to the North, signifies the middle height, or rock that is the middle hill between Caer Caradoc, and *Ragleth*, for *Hazler Hill* is a hill of insignificant altitude.

RIDDINGS; can the name of the two places, one near Broseley, the other near Ludlow, which are similar to this, be derived from the Celt. and C. Brit. *Rhudd*, ruber, on account of the colour of their soil? It is rather remarkable that at the former place, the colour of the land suddenly changes to this hue. Or do they take their name from the A. Sax. *hred-dan*, liberare, that is, land cleared of wood, redeemed from forests? There is *Ridding Wood*, near Maer, co. Stafford.

RIDGE WAY; so called because it takes its course along a ridge or elevated land. A. Sax. *hricg*, dorsum. Thus the Ridgeway in Warwickshire, which begins two miles

West of Alcester, runs along some high land, parallel with the Hayden Way, past the *Arbours*, to Red Ditch for seven miles. For the same reason Ridgeway, two miles South West of Powick, and Ridgeway between Stanford Bishop and Mathon, co. Worcester, are so called. And the Ridgeway between Edgeton and Castle Ring, co. Shropshire. Rudge Wood near Broseley. Rudge Heath on the borders of Shropshire and Staffordshire. Ridgeway joins the Fosse in Leicestershire, North East of Barkby. The Ridgeway Road from Pembroke to Tenby.

ROAD, see GARTREE, BAYDEN.

ROBIN HOOD. To this bold out-law are attributed many things which the ignorant cannot otherwise explain than by referring them to his agency. Thus we have among many other things assigned to him throughout England, the following:

Robin Hood's Chair, Nesseliff. Robin Hood's Butts, on Wapley Hill, six miles North East of Kington, co. Hereford. Robin Hood's Butts, co. York. Robin Hood's Butts, tumuli on the Long Myndd, co. Salop. Robin Hood's Farm, co. Warwick. Robin Hood's Stride, co. Derby. Robins Wood Hill, South of Matson, co. Gloucester. Robin Hood and Little John, two upright stones near Gunwade Ferry, Peterborough.

RUSH; in composition is most naturally derived from the A. Sax. *risc*, *juncus*, implying that the villages into which this compound enters are, or at least were, upon wet, rushy land.

Rushmoor, South of Longdon on Tern, co. Salop.

Rushbury, co. Salop. Rushton, under the Wrekin.

Rushden South East of Baldock, co. Hertford.

Rushden, co. Northampton.

Rushton, Rockingham Forest, co. Nottingham.

SHELVE; simple, and in composition. Ir. *scealp*, a cliff. Gael. *sgealb*, fragmentum lapidis. Shelve under the

Stiperstones. Shelf, near Betton. Leaton Shelf. Shelvocke, near Oswestry. This may suit as the etymon of our Shropshire names, though I fear it is quite inapplicable to some elsewhere, such as Shelton, co. Cambridge; Shelton, co. Bedford, and some others.

SLEAP, SLEPE; the Eislepe of Domesday; it lies on high land South West of Wem. Ir. *sliv*, *sléibh*; Gael. *slabh*, mons.

SPOON, SPUNHILL; (A. Sax. *spoon*, cremium, fomes?) Spoonley, near Market Drayton. Spoonhill Wood, near Round Acton. Spunhill, South of Ellesmere. Sponebed Hill, near Painswick, co. Gloucester. Spoonley, in Wychwood Forest, co. Oxford. Spon Lane, West Bromwich, co. Stafford. Spon Lane, betwixt Grendon, co. Leicester and the Watling Street.

STAPLE HILL; (for its Etymology see remarks under MITCHELL'S FOLD.)

Staple, co. Somerset.

Stapleton, vulgo dictum *Steppiton*, co. Salop; id. Cambridge; id. Gloucester; id. Leicester.

Stapeley Hill, under Corndon, co. Montgomery.

Staple Hill, South of Alcester. Staple Hill, North of Wellesbourne Hastings, co. Warwick.

Stapleton Hill, North East of Presteign.

Stapleford Park, near Melton Mowbray.

Stapleton, the encampment of Richard III. before the battle of Bosworth, South of Market Bosworth.

Stapleford, co. Salop.

Stapleford, co. Cambridge; id. Hertford; id. Lincoln; id. Nottingham; id. Wilts.; id. Essex; id. East of Maer, co. Stafford.

STOK, STOKE, STOCKING; a prefix derived from the A. Sax. *stoc*, locus; and often final, as *Wood Stock*, A. Sax. *Wude Stoc*, sylvarum locus.

Stokesay, Stockton.

Stoke St Milborough, a place celebrated for one of Milburga's Miracles, (v. Capgravi Legendæ Nova.) where they are fully related.

Stocking, near Onibury.

Stocking, near Bitterley.

Stocking, near Stokesay.

Stocking, North of Clifford, co. Hereford.

Cold Stocking.

No Stockings, on Roman road, between Casterford, and Stretton, co. Rutland.

STONE, STONEY; this epithet is indicative of Roman thoroughfare. The proofs that might be quoted are very considerable. The following, taken casually, will furnish sufficient illustration.

On the FOSSE. Stony Holds, a mile North of BENONIS. Stoney Ford, below Stretton on Dunsmore, co. Warwick.

On the WATLING STREET. Stoney Stratford, co. Buckingham. Stoney Ford on Watling Street, co. Salop.

Stoney Stretton, betwixt Shrewsbury and Westbury.

Middleton Stoney, co. Oxford. Stoney Gate, one mile South East of Leicester, on the GARTREE ROAD.

Stone Bridge, on the Roman road, betwixt Barton and Cambridge.

Stone Cross, half a mile North of Horseheath, by which a Roman road passes, co. Cambridge.

Stonesfield, on the AKEMAN STREET.

STREET; it would be an unnecessary labour to adduce all the instances where *Streat*, *Stret*, and *Strat* enter into the composition of words on Roman roads, I shall therefore confine my remarks to places little known. In Kent and Essex "Streets" constantly occur, which I conceive is owing to the lengthened occupation and colonisation of the Romans in these two counties. HARE STREET is a very frequent name in Essex, and may be referred to the A. Sæx. *here*, exercitus. (See COLD HARBOUR.)

**GREEN STREET**; North of High Wycombe. Near Sandwich. South of Teynham, on Roman road to Dover. South of Crowhurst. Green Street Green, between Farnborough and Chelsfield, co. Kent. Green Street, on Roman road, between Bishop Stortford and Braughing.

**KIND STREET**; near Midlewich, co. Chester. **CONDATE** has been placed upon it by some writers. (v. Camden, vol. iii. p. 57.)

**KING STREET**; another name allusive to the Roman period. Thus we have *King Street*, a branch out of the Ermine Street, at Castor in Northamptonshire; it runs due North, past Ufford, Greatford, and **CAR DYKE** in Rutlandshire to Bourn and Sleaford. (See **BULLOCK'S ROAD**.)

**KING STREET**; the road from the Depôt at Shrewsbury, to the Watling Street at Pitchford has this name, three miles and a half from the county town, which renders it likely that the way is of Roman origin, especially when we see it is a vicinal road from the Watling Street, to a place that is upon one of its branches.

**KING STREET**; two miles East of Woodcot and Pave Lane, co. Salop.

**MONKSPATH STREET**; a road in Warwickshire, direct from Henley in Arden to Birmingham, bears this name for two miles; when it is changed to **SHIRLEY STREET**.

**SALTER STREET** runs Southwards from Shirley Street to **TYBURN LANE** and Tanworth, two miles West of which is *Portway*, rather more than midway between this village and the Icknield Way, co. Warwick. (See **SALTER'S LANE**.)

**SALTER'S ROAD**, near the Ermine Street, co. Lincoln; it has been supposed to have been used by the Romans for bringing salt from Holland over Brigend Causey to Leicester. (v. Camden, vol. ii. p. 359.)

Under this head may be noticed a Roman road, which has, I believe, hitherto escaped the observation of topographers. It commences at Gloucester, which is by the unanimous consent of antiquaries supposed to be the Glevum of Antoninus, and terminates at its junction with the road which passes by Magna, or Kenchester, just above Ocle Pyechard. From Gloucester, I conceive the road went to Newent, a mile North of which place it leaves a Cold Harbour, to the West. Thence to Castle Tump, Dymock, Rose Hill, Little Marcle, Cromwell's Walls, Stretton Grandison, after which it joins the road above-mentioned six miles and a half North East of Hereford.

Besides this, another undescribed road seems to have started from the same city, and have gone Northwards, keeping the Malvern Hills to the West. Six miles North of Gloucester we have Harridge or Harwich Street, on the West; Stonend, Stonewall, Burg-hill, to the East, and GADBURY BANKS an irregularly quadrilateral single-ditched work, through which the road passes. Higher up about a mile, is a Port Way; afterwards we find, close on the left or Western side, Keys End, and KAISEND STREET, (Cæsar Street?) The *Rye Street*, *Birts Street*, and a mile to the right, *Robert's-end Street*. On the left, *Wain Street*, leading to RILBURY CAMP above Ledbury, and thus it proceeds, leaving *Pool-end Street* to the East under the Malvern Hills, upon which are two remarkable entrenchments, till it reaches Great Malvern.

SILVER STREET. Not unusual in the two last mentioned counties. Does not this come from the Lat. *sylva*? just as we say *Wood Street* at the present day? Silver Street, North of Stowmarket.

STONE STREET, co. Hereford. This began at MAGNA CASTRA or Kenchester, and went to Caer Leon.

**STONE STREET**, co. Surrey. This began at Kingston on Thames, and passed through Leatherhead, Dorking, Ockley, Slinford, Billingham, Pulborough, Cold Waltham, Bignor, Cold Harbour, and ended at Chichester.

**STREET FORELOG**; this branches to the North out of the Roman trackway from CAER SWS.

**SWEENY**; Celt. *Swi*, aqua, fluvius? A. Sax. *Swin*, porcus? as both of the examples will agree with the former derivation, it seems capricious to reject it for the latter. But it is most probable that these two places were *Swinahays*, or enclosures for fattening pigs, what we constantly find mentioned in Domesday. Sweeny near Oswestry, on a small brook; Swinny, near Broseley, on the Severn.

**TON**; a termination so common that it hardly needs explanation. It is, however, desirable to ascertain what degree of prevalency it has among us, and therefore I shall set down the names of those places where it occurs.

Cardeston (vulgo dictum, *Carson*), Withington, Uppington, Uffington, Roddington, Wellington, Womerton, Burton, Leighton, Woolstaston, Edgeton, Ruyton, Rowton, Dorrington, Kemberton, Culmington, Ship-ton, Ticklerton, Eaton, Eyton, Preston, Shineton, Donnington, Chesterton, Burwarton, Middleton, Acton, Stretton, Neenton, Weston, Tibberton, Moreton.

**TOOTHILL**, West of Chilworth, co. Hants.

Toothill, near Rhuddlan. At Criccaeth. Tothill Fields.

Tothill, two miles North West of Stowmarket.

**Tothill**, co. Lincoln. This is a peculiar military earth-work, consisting of a wide deep ditch about seventy yards in length, close by the side of which is a very lofty round hill, which to this day retains its ancient appellation of *Tootshill*, and from which the name of the village is derived.



Toothill, artificial Mount, near Cockermouth, Cumb.

Fairy Toote, co. Dorset.

Castle Tute, near Cleobury Mortimer, co. Salop.

Tutbury, and perhaps Tettenhall, (Teotan-heale) co. Stafford.

Strictly writing *Toothill* means a speculatory, from the Gael. *tota* colliculus exiguus; or the A. Sax. *totian*, eminere. *Totehyll*, specula. (Catholicon). *Totehyll* or hey place of looking, conspectus, teatrum. (PROMP. PARV.) *Totehyll*, Montaignette. (Palsgrave.) Hall in his Chronicle speaks of *Totyng* Holes, or places of look out. Coles, in his Dictionary, has *Tout*, to look out or upon. Q? does the *Tooter*, or Cad to an omnibus, (Celtic *cad*, garde) derive his title in consequence of being a looker out for passengers, and perched on a speculatory behind, or does he take it from the Belg. *tuyten*, to blow a little horn. The name is appropriate either way!

TRENCH; a place formerly surrounded, or lying upon, a ditch, fosse or trench. Lat. Barb. *trancheia*, *trencheia*; Fr. *trenchee*, *fossa*.

Trench, (three) North of Ellesmere.

Trench Lane, Trench Green, Trench Farm, South of Wem.

Trench Lane, running from Droitwich to Flyford Flavel, co. Worcester.

Trench Lane, a communication from the Ridgeway at Almondesbury to Matford Bridge, co. Gloucester.

VALLETS; according to its derivation from the C. Brit. *gwal*, it means strictly a place shut in, fenced or sheltered, a piece of cultivated ground.

Vallets, in the North part of the Forest of Wyre.

Vallets, South of Presteign, co. Radnor.

Castle Vallet, South of Pilleth, co. Radnor.

Lye Vallets, East of Hope, under Dinmore, co. Hereford.

Sallow Vallets, North of Coleford, co. Gloucester.

Step Vallet Farm, North of Downton Castle.

WALL; generally in composition, both initial and final, denoting a place surrounded with a *wall*, or agger, whether of British or Roman origin.

Eastwall, Chatwall, Wall under Heywood, Cotwall, Walls Bank, Walton near High Ercall.

WARDINE; a termination denoting a village, corrupted from *Worthin*, which comes from the A. Sax. *Worth*, platea, vicus, and is used both as a prefix and a termination.

Shrawardine, Wrockwardine, (see remarks under WREKIN), Fouswardine near Sidbury, Stanwardine, Ellerdine, Pedwardine, Belwardine, Pollerdine, Ingardine, Bullwardine, Llanvair Waterdine.

WAY; see remarks under HAYDEN, RIDGE, SAWTRY, BAYDON, PEDDAR, PORT, &c.

WIG, WIK; incipient and final. M. Goth. *weiks*; Celt. Germ. *wik*; A. Sax. *wic*, *vicus*.

Wigwig, near Much Wenlock.

Wiggin, near St Martin; Wigginton, id.

Wike, North East of Much Wenlock. The Wike, and Wykey Moss, co. Salop.

Note.—*Blackdown*. A long range of hill North West of Honiton Down, at the extremity of which is a small conical mount like a beacon, which looks artificial, but is I believe not so; it has however probably been occupied as a little fort or speculatory, and is known by the name of Morden or Mordle Pen Beacon (Q? Moridunum?) The ancient name of this mount or beacon is preserved in the adjacent hamlet *Blackborough* or *Blackburgh*.

Blackdown Hill, near Abbotsbury, Dorset.

Black Gang Chine, Isle of Wight.

**Places in Shropshire**  
mentioned in  
**Domesday Book.**



<i>Hundred of</i>		<i>Hundred of</i>	
<b>ALNODESTAUL.</b>	<b>FORD.</b>	<b>BASCHERCHE.</b>	<b>PIM HILL.</b>
Alberberie	Alberbury	Burertone	Boreatton
Alretone	Asterley ?	Burtone	Burton
	Halston ?	Burtune	
Comestane	Cardeston ?	Calmeres	Ellesmere ?
Corfan	Caurse	Chenbritone	
Menistrelie	Minsterley	Cheneltone	
		Cleberie	
		Colesmere	Colemere
		Costeford	
		Crugetone	Cruckton
		Eldone	
		Estone	
		Etbretone	
		Etbritone	
		Faventrei	Faintree
		Fordune	Forton
		Franchetone	Frankton
		Gellidone	
		Grivelesul	Grinahill
		Hadehelle	Hadnall
		Hantone	

<i>Hundred of</i>	
<b>BASCHERCHE.</b>	<b>PIM HILL.</b>
Abretone	Albrighton
Achetone	Astley
Aitone	Eyton
Albricstone	Albrighton
Andrelau	
Bascherche	Baschurch
Betford	Bettisfield ?
	Besford ?
Bosle	
Brunfelde	Broomfield









<i>Hundred of</i>		<i>Hundred of</i>	
PATINTUNE.	FRANCHISE OF WENLOCK.	RECORDINE.	WROCKWARDINE.
Abetune	Abdon	Beteslan	Betton, North of M. Drayton
Beritune	Berrington	Brochetone	Brockley Moor?
Broctune	Brocton	Burtone	Bratton?
Buchehale		Buterie	Buertton?
Cleie	Clee	Cerlecote	Charlton?
Dodefot		Cerlitone	Charlton Hill
Grotintune	Gretton	Cesdille	Cheswell Grange
Loteis	Callaughton	Cestulle	
Ludecote	Lutwych?	Chinardescie	Kinneraley
	Lushcot?	Corselle	
Madelie	Madeley	Edeslai	
Melicope	Millichope	Eiminstre	Emstrey
Mostune		Etbretelie	
Oxibola	Oxenbold	Etone	Eyton? Eton
Petelie	Peston	Hanstune	Constantine?
Prene	Prene	Hatlege	Hinstock?
Riseberie	Rushbury	Hortune	Hadley
Scipetune	Shipton	Lanelei	Horton
Staneweie		Languedune	
Stantune	Stanton	Lavelie	Lawley
	Stoke St Mil- borough	Lega	Leegomery
Stoche		Lestone	Leaton
Stope		Oftone	Uffington
Tichelevorde	Tickwood	Opetone	Uppington
Wenlock	Wenlock	Papelaw	Peplow
		Peventone	
		Prestone	Preston
		Prestune	
		Recordine	Wrockwardine
		Rochecestre	Wroxeter
		Rodintone	Roddington
		Sanford	Sanford
		Sawesberie	Shawbury
		Stoches	Stoke
		Sudtone	Sutton
		Tetbristone	Tibberton?
		Uchintune	Uckington
		Uptone	Upton Magna?

*Hundred of*

RECORDINE.	WROCKWARDINE.
Arcalun	High Ercal
Asnebruge	
Atingeham	Atcham
Avochelie	
Berewic	Berwick





*Hundred of*  
WITENTREI.

Ristune	
Roritune	Rorrington
Routone	Rowton
Westune	Weston

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*Hundred of*  
WITETREU.

Benehale  
Cestelop  
Dudeftune  
Elchitun  
Estune  
Etenehop

*Hundred of*  
WITETREU.

Goseford  
Hoptune  
Lestune  
Lvvre  
Maneford  
Meresberie  
Multune  
Muntgumeri  
Roritune  
Stantane  
Staurecote  
Ulestanesmude  
Wadelestun  
Walecot  
Westune  
Wrdine

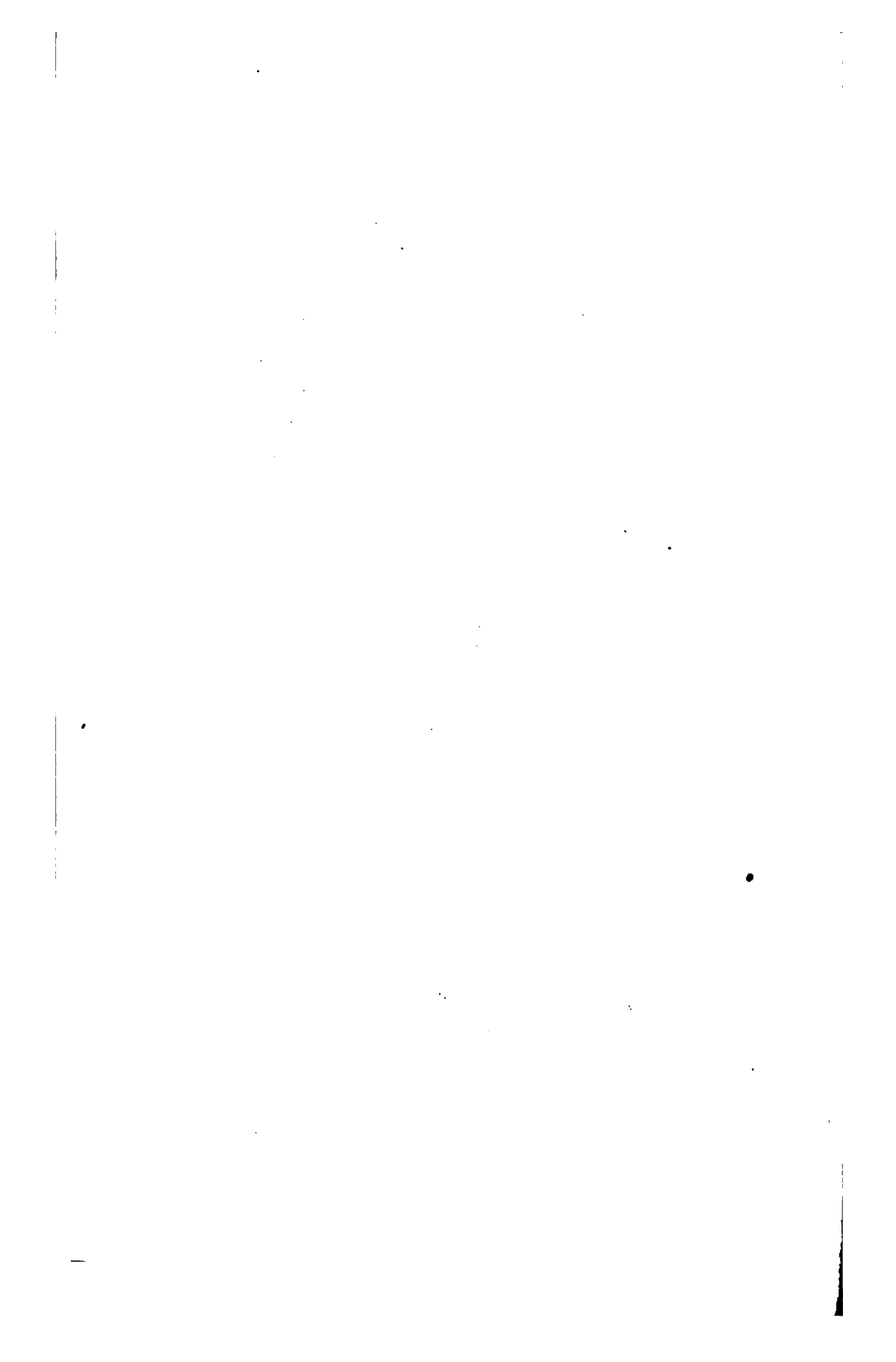


Cedit enim rerum novitate extrusa vetustas  
Semper; et ex aliis aliud reparare necesse est;  
Nec quidquam in barathrum nec tartara decadat atra.

LUCRETIVS.



A  
Glossary  
of Words  
used in Shrop-  
shire. Compiled  
by Charles Henry  
Hartshorne.



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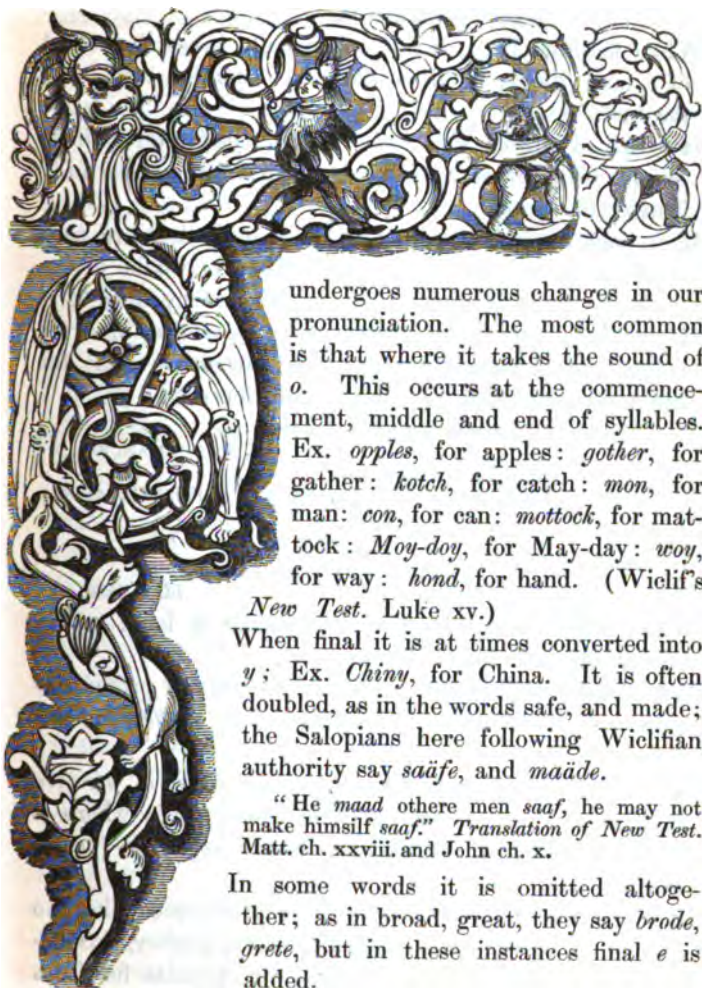
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- Observations on some of the Dialects in the West of England, particularly Somersetshire, by James Jennings, London, 1825, 12mo.
- A Dialogue in the Devonshire Dialect, by a Lady: to which is added a Glossary, by J. F. Palmer, London, 1837, 8vo.
- Ancient words used in the West Riding of Yorkshire, communicated to the *Archæologia* by Dr Willan, vol. xvii.
- A list of words appended to collections towards the History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford, by John Duncombe, Hereford, 4to. 1804.
- Ballads in the Cumberland Dialect, by Robert Anderson, Carlisle, 1824, 12mo.
- A list of some of the Provincial words of Wiltshire, (appended to the third volume of Britton's *Beauties of Wiltshire*,) 8vo. London, 1825.
- A Glossary of the Provincialisms in use in the County of Sussex, by William Durrant Cooper, Esq. Printed for private distribution, 12mo. Brighton, 1836.
- Provincial words used in Herefordshire and some of the adjoining Counties, 12mo. London, 1839.

\* Not in the author's collection.



undergoes numerous changes in our pronunciation. The most common is that where it takes the sound of *o*. This occurs at the commencement, middle and end of syllables. Ex. *opples*, for apples: *gotther*, for gather: *kotch*, for catch: *mon*, for man: *con*, for can: *mottock*, for mattock: *Moy-doy*, for May-day: *woy*, for way: *hond*, for hand. (Wiclif's

*New Test.* Luke xv.)

When final it is at times converted into *y*; Ex. *Chiny*, for China. It is often doubled, as in the words *safe*, and *made*; the Salopians here following Wiclifian authority say *saäfe*, and *maäde*.

"He *maad* othere men *saaf*, he may not make himsilf *saaf*." *Translation of New Test.* Matt. ch. xxviii. and John ch. x.

In some words it is omitted altogether; as in *broad*, *great*, they say *brode*, *grete*, but in these instances final *e* is added.

Beches and *brode* okes.

P. PLOUHMANN'S *Vision*, 80.

And strecchet hem *brode*!

P. PLOUHMANN'S *Crede*.

Of heom schon the *brode* feld.

*Kyng Alisaunder*, v. 1608, also v. 3433, 6126, 6599; *Sir Amadas*, v. 362; *Golden Legend*, *abrode*.

When followed by *g* or *l* it occasionally takes the sound of *o*, and the *g*, or *l*, is silent, as *cofe* for calf: *hofs* for half.

It is turned into *e*; Ex. *wesh* for wash: *gether* for gather: Wiclif, Chaucer and our Early English Romances fully justify this usage.

It is omitted in many monosyllabics, and they are thus made short, as *mot*, for moat. When it would necessarily be short if it were not lengthened by final *e*, it is pertinaciously made short, as, "He *star'd* me reet i' the feâce": *mar*, for mare: *spar*, for spare: *car*, for care: *bar*, for bear, and *dar*, for dare:

Til bothe hure hevedes were *bar*.

P. PLOUHMANN, 95.

He *bar* scharpe spere.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 969, also v. 988, 2312, &c. &c.

Hou he *dar*.

*id.* v. 5515.

Hound no best *dar* him assayle.

*id.* v. 6556.

When others make it short, we make it long, as in the words *conträry*, *äfter*, *färners*.

When long and broad according to general pronunciation we give it the sound of *ay* or *ey*, as *foyther*, for father.

Where it has by custom the sound of short *o*, we give it that of short *a*, especially in those words where it is followed by *n*, as *wander*, *swan's egg par* (pear), *waspish*, &c.

In words where followed by *s*, it is pronounced like the Scotch *ai*, or *ey*: thus *dastardly*, *nasty*, *master*, &c. become *daisterdly*, *naisty*, *maister*. *Sir Amadas* furnishes

an authority for this use, and also an example of pure Shropshire language.

The *mon* dyd as his *meyster* bad  
Bot suche a *sauer* as he ther hade. v. 71.

*Au*, is often converted into *o* short, and if followed by *gh*, receives the sound of *ff*, as *loff*, for laugh.

And then the whole quire hold their hips, and *loff*.

*Midsommer Night's Dream*, Act. II. Sc. 1.

and into *a* short, as *panch*, for paunch; *taght*, for taught. *A* is often used for they: Ex. "Whire bin *a*?" Instead of several prepositions, *on*, *at*, *in*, &c. as, "a Wednesday": *a* morwe, (Chaucer's *Canterb. Tales*, v. 824), "a fire", (*id.* v. 6308, and *Kyng Alisaunder*, v. 7549, 7552), as "a-whoäm": as "a-bed", (Chauc. *Canterb. Tales*, v. 5989, 6509, &c.)

It is frequently employed for the verb *have*, as "When shan 'e *a* done?" "He *a* got none."

For the pronouns *he* and *she*, as "There *a* comes". In the Metrical Romance of Sir Bevis *a* is continually used for *he*. It is also an expletive, as "*a* but"; for but, or Oh! but. It is an useless particle, constantly placed before a gerund. For instance, *a*-coming, *a*-doing, *a*-making. In such cases Tyrwhitt thinks it a corruption of *on*. (See his *Remarks on the Canterbury Tales*, v. 11884, 1689.) "I go *a*-fishing", John xxi. 3: and our best grammarians deem it a genuine preposition in such instances. (See Lowth's *English Grammar*, p. 82; Forby's *Glossary*, p. 3.) In composition, in words of Saxon origin, it may be considered an abbreviation of *at*, or *of*, of *on*, or *in*; and often only a corruption of the prepositive A. Sax. particle *ge* or *y*. The former of which prefixes subsequently became changed into *y*, as "yheled with lede". (P. Plouhman.) What force this had at an earlier period cannot now with accuracy be determined: if it ever had any power, it is now lost to us, and the vowel *a* which seems to be equally unmeaning is sub-

stituted in its place. In words of French origin it is generally to be deduced from the Latin *ab*, *ad*, and occasionally *ex*. The reader desirous of learning any thing additional on these points may consult with advantage, Chalmers' admirable Glossary to Sir David Lyndsay's works, and the first article in Todd's edition of Johnson's Dictionary. Enough has been said here; especially, as the examples quoted cannot be considered strictly local.

ACCON, in composition with the name of several places in the county, as ACCON SCOTT; ACCON REYNARD; ACCON BURNELL; ACCON PIGOT; ROUND ACCON, &c. It means the *oak-town*, from A. Sax. *eac*, *ac*, quercus; and *tun*, villa. (V. Remarks, at p. 240.)

ADE, AID, *s.* 1. a deep gutter cut across ploughed land. I imagine it means simply *an aid* for the water to escape. Isl. *æd*; Swed. *aeder*; Teut. *adere*; Germ. *ader*; A. Sax. *æddre*, vena. 2. a reach in a river. Ex. "Boden's *ade*", "Preen's *ade*", "Swinny *ade*", near Coalport. This signification is confined to Bargemen, *Owners* and *Boatmen*. (q. v.)

ADE, *v.* to cut a gutter of the above description. Ex. "*Ading* down in the follow."

ADLANDS, *s.* more common than *Hadlands* (which see): those butts in a ploughed field which lie at right angles to the general direction of the others, the part close against the hedges: quasi *Headlands*, as in fact the derivation shews. Isl. *haufud*; A. Sax. *heafod*, caput: A. Sax. *lund*, terra. In old deeds termed *Capitalia Agri*, "Canonici concesserunt hominibus de Wrechwyke duas acras prati pro *capitalibus* suarum croftarum." (Kennet's *Paroch. Antiq.* p. 137.) "A *Headland*", says this learned topographer, "now commonly called a *Hadland*, whence the *Head-way* or *Had-way*."

AFEARD, *part. past* of verb afraid. This can scarcely be considered as dialectical. A. Sax. *afæred*, territus.

It is of constant recurrence in all our early English writers. Robert of Glo'ster, *aford*, *afered*. King of Tars, *afort*. Kyng Alisaunder, P. Plouhman, Emp. Octavian, *aford*. Coer de Lion, Golden Legend, Chaucer, *aferde*. Chaucer, *afered*. Coer de Lion, *afere*. Spenser, *affears*. Shakspeare, "Be not *affear'd*."—*Temp.* iii. 2, &c.

**AFORE**, *adv.* instead of, before; and also thus, "*afore lung*", for before long. The ancient form. Chaucer. A. Sax. *æt-foran*, ante.

**AFTER-CLAP**, *s.* the consequence, issue, result, generally received in malam partem, and this was its signification in the time of Henry VIII.

From rayne and from colde  
And from raynning of rappes  
And suche *after-clappes*.

SKELTON'S *Poems*, edit. 1736. p. 84.

The confuter meant to be famous, like Poggius, that all-to-be-arsed Valla, Trapezuntius, and their dependents, many learned Italians; or might have given a guess at some possible *after-claps*, as good as a prognostication of an after-writer. *Pierce's Supererogation*, by GABRIEL HARVEY, 1593.

**AGAIN, AGEN**, *prep.* Used by the Cornavii in its various significations precisely as it is by the Iceni. 1. against. Ex. "I'm totally *agen* it." 2. contiguous. Ex. "Shut 'em *agen* the backside o' the house." 3. by, towards. Ex. "*Agen* to morrow ownder." 4. when. Ex. "*Agen* a mon's paid for iviry thin it taks a dhell o' money."

**AGE**, *v.* to grow old. Ex. "*Ages* a pace." A. Sax. *aldagian*, veterascere.

**AGONE**, *adv.* for ago; an archaism very common at Wenlock; and the worthy Burghers of that loyal town may fortify themselves with black-letter authority for their use of it.

And one of theym sayd, truly we have noo thyng but a rye lofe whyche he gaue to God, agenst his wyll, but ii. dayes *agone*.—*The life of Saynt Johan, elemosynar*; GOLDEN LEGEND.

**AIGLE, AIGLET** *s.* a spangle, the gold or silver tinsel ornamenting the dress of a showman or rope dancer.

Ex. "He's *aigled* all o'er." PROMP. PARV. *aglot*, acus. Fr. *aiguillette*. Nares, like some others, explains our word thus, "the tag of a point," and by this signification perverts the sense of his quotation from Spenser:

Which all above besprinckled was throughout  
With golden *ayglets*, that glistred bright.

Give him gold enough and marry him to a puppet, or an *aiglet* baby. *Taming of the Shrew*, i. 2.

All in a woodman's jacket he was clad  
Of Lincolne greene, belayd with silver lace;  
And on his head an hood with *aglets* spread.

SPENSER'S *Faerie Queene*, vi. ii. 5.

AKKER, *s.* an acorn. Ex. "Gwun to pike up the *akkers*":  
"The pigs gween a *akkering*." Corve Dale.

AKKORN, ATOHORN, *s.* an acorn: the former iambic, the latter trochaic in pronunciation. My late friend, Mr Roger Wilbraham, furnishes me in his admirable little Glossary of Cheshire words, with the prevalent example of our use of this word, which is common to the two counties. Ex. "The pigs are gone o' *aitchorning*." Isl. *akarn*; Dan. *aggern*; M. Goth. *akran*; Teut. *aecker*; Belg. *aker*; Germ. *accern*, *glans*.

ALL ALUNG OF; ALL ALUNG ON; ALUNG. 1. through, owing to, in consequence. Ex. "All *alung* o' *Conny Weston*." "This comes *alung* o' gween wi' sich a chap as he is." 2. uninterruptedly, continuously. Ex. "This'ns all *alung*." A. Sax. *ge-lang*, Teut. *gelangan*, *causa cunusvis*.

ALLEY, *s.* a taw, or favourite marble: a white *alley*, is one made of alabaster, a *chany* alley, one of china. Not local. Lat. *albus*?

AMAIST, *adv.* almost. Ex. "*Amaist* clemm'd." Teut. Belg. *all-meest*, Swed. *all-maest*, ut plurimum. See MAIST.

AMAISTER, *v.* 1. to teach. Ex. "I'll *amaister* it to you." I insert this word on the single authority of an ingenuous, and apparently honest man, from the neighbourhood of Clebury Mortimer, who assured me he had repeatedly heard it in the above sense. As-

suming that my simple minded informant is correct, and I see no reason to doubt his testimony, this furnishes an additional link to the chain of internal evidence which the Vision of Piers Plouhman exhibits in proof of the author being a native of our county. Ital. *ammaestrare?* docere.

How ich myghte *amaistren* hem to lovye and laboure  
For here lyfode.

P. PLOUHMANN, 139.

For we han Mede *amaistrid*.

*id.* 32. bis.

AMPOT, *s.* corrupted from hamper; thus, hamper, hand-pannier, hand pot, hampot, *ampot*.

AN, *s.* an individual, corrupted from *one*; as often *un*; "a bad *an*:" "a tidy *un*." Not peculiarly dialectical.

ANAN, NAN, *adv.* What? What do you say? an answer to an address not perfectly understood. I see no occasion to seek further for an etymon of this word, than what obviously arises from it. It seems to have originated simply in one of those common methods in which the lower orders delight. *Anan, agan, again*: that is, "say what you spoke before, *again*." "Again," *agan, anan, nan*.

ANENT, ANENST, ANUNST, *adv.* opposite, over *against*.

On the score of provinciality this has no right to admittance here. Yet for the sake of hazarding a new idea on its etymology, I give it insertion. At the head of all Glossarists stands Junius, who with vast stores of learning to draw from, seems always to give the preference to the Greek. That language will do but little in the cause of etymological truth as far as *we* are concerned. It has its advocates among the readers of classic literature, but yet they can scarcely assert that the dialectical owes any thing to that tongue. My predecessors with a Grecian reverence have assigned the present word to *εναντι*. With an humble respect for their opinion, I am nevertheless disposed to question



its propriety; I attribute its origin to Epenthesis, from *against*, *agenst*, (Coer de Lion, v. 248, 2048, 2409) and by a common method of interchanging *n* and *g*, *g* and *n*, as signify, into *sinnify*, it becomes *anenst*. And, surely, it is highly improbable that the common people picked up this word from a classic tongue, seeing that in scarcely any instance whatever they have enriched their vocabulary from it. M. Goth. A. Sax. *and*; Germ. Franc. *ant*, contra. Maundeville, Wiclif, *anentis*; Chaucer, *anenst*; Lyndsay, *anent*.

ANEW, *adv.* enough: *inouh* is likewise used in the same sense. Are they not corruptions of *enough*? Ex. "Thire bin *anew* on 'em."

ANIGH, *adv.* near. Ex. "Nivir lets no body come *anigh* him."

ANIND, ANEEND *adv.* on end, upright. Ex. "Right *anind*." "Mr Jones's hos reared *aneend*, bout uprit."

APPARN, *s.* an apron. This does not come from the Fr. *naperon*, as Brockett supposes, I presume by crasis: nor as the Craven Glossarist opines, from the A. Sax. *aforan*: but from the Armoric *apparn*, an apron.

Chil in, Diceon, a cleene *aperne* to take and set before me.  
*Gammer Gurton's Needle.*

APPON, *s.* the village of Abdon, county of Salop.

ARGUFY, *v.* to import, signify, avail. Ex. "Whod *argufies* a haggling a thisun."

ARGUFICATION, *s.* dispute, investigation.

ARGY, *s.* an argument. Ex. "Getting into an *argy*."

ARGY, *s.* an embankment betwixt *Melverley* and *Llangymynech*, which was constructed as a protection against the overflowings of the Severn. It has not, however, always this effect, as a considerable quantity of back water deluges the country in a flood, owing to a want of fall in the bed of the river. This embankment is five feet wide across the top, and varies from ten to twenty

feet in height above the average level of the meadows on the water side. We have picked up this very appropriate name from the C. Brit. *ardwy*, government, protection.

Gad *ardwy* rhad, er Duw rhi,  
Rhwyv'ar dwvyr rh'ov â Dyvi.

D. AP. GWILLYM.

ARN, *v.* to earn. Ex. "Wunna *arn* his mate." Germ. *arnen*; Gr. *ἀρνούμαι*, *acquirere*.

ARPIT, *adj.* quick, ready. Ex. "*Arpit* at his larning, saying as how he's so heavy o' hearing." If this word does not claim affinity with the A. Sax. *gearu* *promptus*, it must be the spurious offspring of some tripping tongue.

ARTH-STAFF, *s.* a poker used by blacksmiths; this in conjunction with the *arth* (hearth) shovel, *hearth-plate*, and *bosh*, make up what may be termed a smith's fire irons. *Harth*, Hollyband.

AS, *rel. pron.* 1. Who, which; Ex. "Those *as* liken." 2. As a redundant particle; Ex. "Saying *as* how he is an oud mon." 3. As a conjunction, instead of for, out, upon, &c.; Ex. "He'll come whoäm *as* nest Set-terday."

ASIDEN, *adv.* oblique, aslant, out of the perpendicular. Ex. "All *asiden* like Martha Rhoden's two-penny dish." "All *asiding* as hogs fighting": *Ray's Proverbs*.

ASINGS, *s.* easings, of which this is an evident deprivation. A. Sax. *esese*, *margo*.

Isycles in *evysynges*.

P. PLOUHMEN.

ASSAL, ASKER, *s.* a newt: (*Lacerta palustris*, Linn.) Gael. *asc*. Fr. *ascarabe*.

ASSAUT, *s.* an assault. Ex. "Fatched trouble for him for an *assaut*." Fr. *assaut*, oppugnation, Lacombe. Robt. of Brunne.

Held his *assawte* like hard.

COER DE LION, v. 1900, and vv. 3196, 4412, 5636.  
And by *assaut* he wan the citee after.

CHAUCER, *Knights Tale*, v. 991.

ASSAULT, *v.* to assault. Ex. "Assaulted him on the high road."

ASSON, in composition signifies the town of ashes, or where the ash-trees grow, from A. Sax. *æsc*, fraxinus, and *tun*, villus—and not from the Gr. *ἄστν*. Thus we find in Co. Salop, ADMASTON, EDGTASTON, ADBASTON, WILLASTON, WOOLASTON, WHEATEN ASTON, ASTLEY ABBOTS, BOTTERAL ASTON, &c. (V. Remarks at p. 240.)

AST, *part. past* of verb ask. Ex. "Ast him for it."

ASTER, *s.* Easter.

AT, *prep.* invariably used instead of to. Ex. "This road ull be daingerous jist now, if a dunna doä sommat at it." "A binna yable to doä anythin at him, a conna touch him, I tell ya."

ATHURT, *adv.* athwart, across. Ex. "Commed athurt on him." A. Sax. *thwoor*, *thwurh*, perversus: *ofer-thwoor*, *ofer-thwoer*, Wiclif, Chaucer, *overthwart*; Lyndsay, *overthort*.

And trusse it *overthwert* his mane.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 5519.

ATOP-ON, *prep.* upon the top of. Ex. "One atop o' the tother." "Atop o' the house."

ATTACK'D-ED, *part. past* of verb attack. This vulgarism is neither confined to us, nor yet to the cockneys, who may fairly be said to originate the chief corruptions of the English language. In Pickering's book of *Americanisms*, it is stated to be used by the most illiterate people in sea-port towns, and sometimes heard in the interior among persons of a somewhat higher class.

ATTAR, *prep.* after: *äter* is not provincial.

AUD, AULD, OUD, OULD, *adj.* old. (See Remarks under L.)

AUKERT, AUKUT, *adj.* awkward. This is a syncopized form not unfrequent among us, especially in such words as terminate in *wards*. (See TOARTS.) Ex. "A meety aukut job."

AUNDER, *s.* the evening: rarely pronounced so, being more usually OWNDER, (which see). Ray.

AUSE, *oss, v.* to try, essay, attempt, promise favourably.

Ex. "He *auses* well saying as how he's a young un."  
 "Ause at it." It has been conjectured to spring out of the Lat. *audeo: ausus*.

AUSSON, *s.* Alcaston, in the county of Salop.

AUVE, *s.* the helve of an axe. It seems like a vitiation of *helve* (which see.) Yet the Teutonic gives us "hand-*hauve*, capulus."

AVEN, *s.* promise, appearance. Ex. "The *aven* of a fine cowt." I am indebted for this word to Thomas Mytton, Esq. of Shipton Hall, who says he often hears it in his neighbourhood. It must be confined entirely to that district I imagine, for I have never heard it elsewhere. Germ. *abentheur*, molimen audax?

AWHILE. 1. Substantively. This very prevalent word must be compounded of the verb *have*, and *while*; A. Sax. *habban*, habere; and *while* spatium temporis. The phrase, "I can't *awhile*", therefore simply implies, I have not time: *while* in all instances betokening time: thus "stop a *while*", stay, a short, or long time, as the case may be: "done *awhile* I was away": in the time of my absence. 2. As a preposition, for until; Ex. "Thee fettle the hosses *awhile* I come back again from the lezzow": "Stay *awhile* I goä thire": the whole period of absence being by an ellipsis understood in these cases, as though the speaker actually said, "stay here during the time of my going and returning." 3. Instead of *whilst*, the particle *a* being redundant. Ex. "*Awhile*", or, "*awhilst* yo bin laäzing i' bed i' th' mourning." The second signification, not very dialectical. M. Goth. *hwæila*; Belg. Teut. *wiile*, spatium temporis; Germ. *weil*; A. Sax. *hwil*, donec.

Ax, *v.* to ask. This word is perhaps universal. Yet though now deemed a vulgarism, it is not without good

claims to a higher title, for at all events it is an archaism, and has been learned from our forefathers. Hoccleve, Chaucer, Sir D. Lyndsay, Bale, Wiclif, B. Jonson, and numerous others, use it. A. Sax. *axian*; Germ. *eiscon*; Belg. *eyschen*, interrogare; Gr. ἀξιόω, postulo.

For that I *axe* is due, as God me speede.

HOCCLEVE, (*Chalmers' Gloss.*)

*Axe* not why: for though thou *axe* me.

CHAUCER, *Cant. Tales*, v. 3557.

Thenne Josephus beyng a stronge man and a lyght caught the swerde to him and *axed* his felowe whether hadde lyuer lyue or deye. *The lyfe of saynt James the lasse*. GOLDEN LEGEND, *W. de Worde*, 1512.

And the Farisees camen and *axiden* him. WICLIF'S *New Test.* Mark c. x.

And James and Jon Zebedees sones camen to him and seyden Maystir we wolen that what evir we *axen* thou do to us. *id.*

AX'D OUT, *part. past*: having the bands of marriage published for the third time.

AYOH, AHUH, AUMPH, *adv.* awry, aslant, on one side.

EX. "All *ayoh*." There is at first hearing, a sound of provincial vulgarity stamped upon this word. Yet upon investigation it turns out to be in perfect accordance with the tongue from which our language is chiefly derived. Why, then, need we go to a classical one for terms to express our ideas, if the Anglo Saxon is copious in terms both appropriate, and expressive? A. Sax. *awoh*, tortè.





**BACKEN** *v.* 1. To prevent or retard in growth. Ex. "This caud weather ull *backen* the quern." 2. To back, or push farther behind. Ex. "*Backen* the oss wunn 'e."

**BACKERLEY**, *adv.* late, as applied to seasons and harvest, as "a *backerly*

*harrast*."

**BACKERTS**, *adv.* 1. Backwards. 2. Behind hand. Ex. "*Backerts* in his work."

**BACKERTER**, *comp.* of the foregoing. Ex. "Goä a bit *backerter* woot'e?"

**BACKSIDE**, *s.* by this word the retired premises of a house are usually designated. Ex. "Hers gwon o' the *backside*, her'l be back anon."

**BACKWATER**, *s.* water not wanted for turning the wheel of a water corn mill, what is superabundant and generally flows down a channel cut for the peculiar purpose.

**BADGER**, *s.* an itinerant dealer in poultry, butter or fruit; one who buys up such articles in open market, and retails them at an exorbitant profit. A. Sax. *bycgean*, emere. Bullokar.

**BAG**, *v.* to cut with a bill. Ex. "*Bagging* pase" (peas). "*Bagging* fitches" (vetches). Teut. *veghen*, radere.

**BAGGAGE**, *s.* a term of contempt applied to a female of

bad character. Ex. "Yah! you nasty imperint *baggage*." Isl. *bagr*, protervus.

BAGGING BILL, *s.* a curved iron instrument used in trimming hedges, as well as for various agricultural purposes. Teut. *veghen*, radere; *bille*, securicula; C. Brit. *biwall*; A. Sax. *bill*; Belg. *byl*; Dan. *biil*; Swed. *bila*, securis.

BAJONET, *s.* a bayonet: not a corruption as might appear at first hearing the word, but in strict accordance with the Swed. *bajonett*.

BAGLE, *s.* an impudent woman; an opprobrious term for a depraved female. Teut. *baggholen*, porcellus? Fr. *bé-gueule*, terme d'injure populaire, qui se dit d'une femme de basse condition qu'on taxe de betise, et aussi d'une femme folle et impertinente. Ce mot est composé de *gueule*, et de *bé*, c'est-à-dire, ouverte, comme qui diroit, une femme qui a toujours la gueule ouverte. Menage. Roquefort. The sense in which Salopians use the word is precisely that adopted by the French, we say of such a character, "Her is sich a *bagle*!" "Voyez cette begueule" cry the French. Richelet.

BAILEY, *s.* a bailiff. This is the old form of the word, and therefore correct enough: see *Tales and Quicke Answers*, p. 12. *Ritson's Anc. Songs*, p. 37. In the mining districts the word is Doricised and pronounced *Boily*.

BACKSTONE, *s.* a stone, or plate of iron, correctly speaking it should be the former, upon which oat cakes and *piklets* are baked: though usually made of the latter material, the old name of *Bakestone* is retained. See *Selections of Articles from Gentleman's Magazine* vol. ii. p. 202.

BALASE, *v.* to beat, flog or whip, to castigate, apply punishment to the breech. I believe this to be a genuine Shropshire word. The late editor of Warton's *History of English Poetry*, says, that excepting in the pages of Langland he can find no record of it. If this be the case, as I believe it is, in reference to its anglicised form, we are furnished with another reason for

asserting that the author of Piers Plouhman's Vision was a native of our county. The fact will also lead us to attribute a high degree of value to provincial glossaries, as means of elucidating obscure words and phrases in the Earlier English Poets. Dr Whitaker interprets *Balys*, a strap, and thus limits its meaning. Notwithstanding his restriction of the word, his explanation can hardly be deemed unsound, inasmuch as in our use of it, the application is confined to corporeal punishment with such a material. In the time of Matthew Paris *baleyse* had a different signification, denoting a *rod*. However, whether *strap*, or *rod*, in its earlier signification imports but little, since the verbal form of the word represents the act of using either. "(Abbas) Vestibus igitur spoliatus," says the monkish Historian, "cum suis militibus, similiter indumentis spoliatis, ferens in manu virgam quam vulgariter *Baleis* appellamus, intravit capitulum, et confitens culpam suam, quam ut ait, in bello, sicut tunc decuit dicere perpetraverat et commiserat, à singulis fratribus disciplinas nuda carne susceptit." (Matth. Paris, anno 1252.) The word in question is thus explained in the Glossary by Watt. "*Baleis*, virgam quam vulgariter *Baleis* appellamus a Gallico *Balaye* scopa. Ita enim et adhuc Norfolcienses mei vocant virgam majorem et ex pluribus longioribusque viminibus; quali utuntur pædagogi severiores in scholis." It has continued with us down to the present time, merely being changed from its nominal to a verbal form: though I suspect its circulation is confined to the neighbourhood of the Clee Hills. Ex. "Gie him a good *balasing*", "*Balase* him well", and thus in Piers Plouhman,

Yut am ich chalenged in chapitel hous as ich a child were,  
And *baleysed* in the bar ers and no breche be twyne. 95.

Ich putte hym ferste to booke  
Aristotle and other, to arguen ich tauhte  
Grammere for gurles, ich gart furst (to) wryte  
And bet hem with a *baleyse*, bote yf thei wolde lerne. 189.



**BALASE**, *v.* to ballast. The old form. Bullokar.

With some gall'd trunk, *ballac'd* with straw and stone.

BP. HALL'S *Satires*.

**BALATE**, *v.* by prosthesis for *blait*, *q. v.*

**BALDCOOT**, *s.* a water-hen, the coot, *Fulica atra* of Jenyns.

And they appear like *bald cootes*, in the nest.

*Knight of Malta.*

**BALK**, *v.* to disappoint, baffle. Ex. "*Balk'd* in his fancy."

**BALK**, *s.* 1. a log of timber. Teut. *balck*; S. Goth. *bjælke*; Belg. *balk*; Swed. *bielka*; Isl. *bialka*; Franc. *balco*; Fris. Germ. *balke*, trabs. 2. a small brass ornament fixed at the top of a wand, usually carried by members of a benefit club. 3. a little piece of land where a plough escapes whilst ploughing. Hence as it lies fallow has arisen the proverb that "a two year old *balk* is as good as a *ruck* of muck." 4. ridges of ploughed land. Ex. "Toert the end o' th' *balcks*." PROMP. PARV. *Balke* on lond ered. Palsgrave, *Baulke* of lande, separaison. Bullokar recognizes the third sense, and Minshew the first and last.

**BALL-STONE**, *s.* 1. a measure of iron-stone which lies near the surface. 2. a kind of limestone found near Wenlock.

**BALL-RIB**, *s.* that part of pork which lies nearer to the neck than a *sparerib*.

**BALLY**, *s.* the belly. We seem to retain the earlier pronunciation from the Teut. *balgh*; Germ. Belg. *balg*, venter. A. Sax. *bælig*; C. Brit. *bol*, id.

**BALLY**, *v.* to grow distended or become abdominal. Ex. "The sow's well *ballied*."

Sym that was *balyd* lyke a kow.

*The Huntynge of the Hare*, v. 187.

**BALLYFUL**, *s.* 1. a litter of pigs. Ex. "A good ballyful o' pigs." 2. repletion, sufficiency. Ex. "A ballyful o' mate and drink."

**BALLYS**, *s.* a pair of bellows. Ex. "If the fire unna tind, tak the *ballys* to it." "Wos and wos like oud San-

som's *ballys*." M. Goth. *balgs*; Belg. *balgh*; Germ. Teut. *balg*, uter.

**BAMMEL**, *v.* to chastise; one of the numerous synonyms for manual punishment. The word appears to have affinity with *pommel*; the interchange of B and P being common. C. Brit. *pwyo*, ferio.

**BAND**, TO WORK IN THE; *phr.* or to write the word as it is usually spoken, *to work i' th' bon*, signifies the employment of a collier when he labours an entire day in stocking coals down. Occasionally the phrase runs, "*works i' th' turn*." Teut. Germ. *bande*, sodalitium, id est, omnis multitudo, quæ communi quodam nexu, sive utilitatis, sive jucunditatis, in unam societatem colligatur.

**BANES**, *s.* the Banns of Marriage. PROMP. PARV. *Bane* of a Play or marriage. A. Sax. *abannan*, publicare.

**BANG**, *v.* 1. to excel. Ex. "Thissn *bangs* yorn." 2. to slam a door to. Ex. "*Banging the dure*." 3. to punish, beat, strike. Ex. "Gie him a good *banging*." Isl. S. Goth. *banga*; Teut. *bangelen*, percutio.

**BANGER**, *s.* 1. a hard blow. Ex. "Fat him a *banger* uv his yed." 2. any thing inordinately large, especially a female. Ex. "Molly's a *banger*."

**BANK-HOOK**, *s.* a large fish hook, which derives its name from being laid baited in brooks or running water, and attached by a line to the *bank*.

"Also you may bait many hooks over night with worms and fasten them on the *Bank-sides*." Upon which passage is a marginal explication, "*Bank Hooks*." WORLIDGE'S *Systema Agriculturae*, fol. 1675.

**BANKS MAN**, *s.* a collier who remains "on the Bank" to attend to the coals as soon as drawn to the top of the pit: generally called a *Bonks Mon*.

**BANNERING**, *s.* an annual custom of perambulating the borders of a parish. On which occasion a number of boys headed by the inferior parochial authorities, walk round its boundaries, for the purpose of maintaining

the local jurisdiction and privileges. The practice took its origin from a monastic custom that was somewhat similar. A body of people under a Monk, as leader, walked round the outskirts of the *Banleuca*, which was a tract of land about a league in circumference, over which the order had power of punishment, or the right of including its inhabitants under their *bann*. (See Du Cange sub *Banleuca*). Municipal charters in various cities on the continent recognize this power. (See Haltaus *Gloss.* sub *Bann-Zaum*). Wachter in his invaluable Glossary furnishes us with authority for the use of the verb which we employ to describe the custom. Germ. *bannen*, finibus includere. Hence *bann* comes to signify the boundary of any place, town or parish, as in the Saxon charter of Canute in Spelman, *were ure ban rested*, where our territory ceases. Hence also come the words, *bound*, *boundary*, *bound-stone*, &c. The reader desirous of further information may advantageously consult Mons. Menage under *Banlieue*.

**BANNUTS**, *s.* walnuts of a peculiarly large kind.

**BAR**, *v.* to bear. This according to ancient pronunciation is spoken without sounding the former vowel. Ex. "I wanna *bar* no sich tratement." See the metrical Romance of R. C. de Lion, P. Plouhman, Emperor Octavian, v. 953.

And whanne Jhesus hadde seyn hem he *bar* hevy and seid to hem suffre, &c. WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, Mark c. x.

**BARE**, **BEAR**, *s.* a mixture of molten iron and sand, which lies at the bottom of a furnace. It is very difficult to draw out, and when this is the case, the iron is said to be "*in the Bear*."

**BARFUT**, *adj.* by elision from *barefoot*: *bare* in its simple as well as in its compound form, is invariably pronounced *bar*. Germ. Dan. Swed. A. Sax. *bar*; Isl. *ber*, nudus. Hence the Germ. *barfuss*; and the A. Sax. *barfot*, nudipes.

**BARK HIS SHINS**, *phr.* to knock the skin off the legs by kicking or bruising them. A phrase evidently taken from *barking a tree*. The metaphor is at least an old one, as I find it in *Ane ballat of Matrimonie* published in Mr Laing's highly curious and valuable collection of *Ancient Popular Poetry of Scotland*. Swed. *barka*; Teut. *barken*, decorticare.

Berding her selfe to hym a pace,  
She cryed him mersy then  
And pyll'd the *barke* even of hys face  
With her commaundements ten.

Neist, Sanderson fratch'd wid a hay-stack,  
And Deavison fught wi' the whins;  
Smith Leytle fell out wi' the cobbles,  
And *peel'd aw the bark off his shins*.

ANDERSON'S *Cumberland Ballads*, p. 62.

**BARM**, *s.* yeast. Not a dialectical word, yet frequently supposed to be so by new inhabitants of the county. Corn. *burn*: A. Sax. *beorn*; Dan. *bærnes*; Germ. *berm*; Teut. Sicamb. Belg. *barm*, fermentum. S. Goth. *berma*; Hib. *borra*, fæx.

And sometime make the drink to bear no *barm*.

*Midsummer Night's Dream*.

**BARNACLES**, *s.* 1. a formidable pair of iron tweezers which are placed upon the nose of an unruly horse, so that he may be held quiet whilst shoeing. Minshew deduces the word from *gubernaculum*, quasi *bernaculum*: quia os equi *gubernat*. Though I am generally averse to seek for etymologies in a Greek or Latin quarter, believing that the humble classes have enriched their vocabulary but in a trifling degree from the learned languages, I feel disposed in the present instance to vary from usual practice, and agree with the Lexicographer just cited. His view is much more plausible than that taken by Skinner, who with reference to the Gr. *ἐπιστομῆς*, conceives the word corrupted from *Bear* and *Neck*. 2. spectacles. This sense is a metaphorical usurpation from the former. And as *spectacles* are derived from *specto*, by the same

process we have *bernaeles*, aphæretically, to use such a word, from *gubernaculum*. Forby says, and no better or surer authority can be cited, that the word is in its first sense correct, and was in use two centuries ago.

BARNAGE, BARNISH, *v.* a very expressive and well known word. It is the one of all others which conveys to a Salopian ear its own peculiar and forcible meaning. Without this in his vocabulary, a farmer would fruitlessly try to describe to his listener the improved appearance, the lusty and athletic character of his son just slipped out of youth, and entering upon manhood. Without it, the old domestic would vainly strive to describe the impression made on his mind by his young master's altered appearance since he left home for school. Would he say he was got fatter, or taller? These would be feeble expressions compared with this, which is both more descriptive of his opinion, and also more complimentary. "You bin bravely *barnished* Measter." Here we have natural definition; nay, it may be said there is music in the term. Simply applied, it signifies increased in bulk; adding corpulency to stature; filling up by plumpness; or as the Salopians occasionally say, "*coming on*." But looking at the significancy of the word in its more usual extended meaning, it implies the lusty bearing of a young fellow, the vigor, strength and robustness of his frame: it indicates more than mere growth, or fatness in proportion to increased height, and conveys, at least it does so to a Shropshire ear, the idea in conjunction with this signification, of manliness and courage; similar in fact to the acception it has in the Romance of Florimond,

Qu'il avait grand pris de *Barnage*,  
De prouesse et de vasselage.

But how did we imbibe it? I suspect its origin is with the Latins. According to numerous examples brought

forward by Du Cange, *Baro* means simply a man. An author quoted by him is expressly to the point.

*Baro, baronis, gravis aut authenticus est vir.*

It is frequently placed in contradistinction to *fœmina*. A. Sax. *baern*, denotes both a child and a man. Sp. *baron*; M. Goth. Franc. Germ. Isl. Swed. Dan. *barn*, though commonly explained by *puer*, have an extended meaning. Junius assigns the period of *Barnage* to the time of youth first bearing arms, following the authority of Gawane Douglas, who translates *juventus* by this representative.

*Nequicquam obscusa juvenus,*

he renders

The remanent of Trojane *barnage*, besegeit in vane.

*Aeneid*, x. 330.

BARN DOOR SAVAGE, *s.* a clodhopper: an agricultural labourer; in the Worcestershire dialect *a chaw-bacon*.

BARR, *v.* to choose, debar. Must we from the latter sense consider it a corruption introduced by the juveniles, who in playing together use the phrases "*Bar me that*," "*I bar that*," which import that by thus speaking first, they *debar* any of their playmates from the chosen possession? or must it be reputed a pure verb, for which authorities are producible from writers of the Elizabethan age? The reader shall decide.

"Only I *bar* those same whoreson unlawful terms, steeped in cisterns of aqua-fortis and gunpowder."

*Pierce's Supererogation*, 1593.

Peace, ho! I *bar* confusion.

*As You Like It*, i. 1.

Heaven, and fortune, *bar* me happy hours.

*Rich.* III. iv. 4.

BASS, *s.* 1. a cushion for kneeling on in church, matting manufactured from rushes. 2. a collar for cart horses made of the same material. "In tribus coleris, uno *basse*, cum tribus capistris, emptis apud Sterisbrugge." Kennet's Paroch. Antiq. p. 574.

This sense gives origin to the preceding. (See Du Cange sub *Basse*.) Isl. Swed. Germ. *bast*, philyra. Teut. *bast*, cortex. 3. a slaty piece of coal which burns white, usually known among Geologists under the titles of *Stigmara*, and *Calamites*.

**BASSET-END**, *s.* that direction of a mine where the coal or iron stone inclines upwards, 'crops out.' The same sense prevails among Derbyshire Miners.

**BASTE**, *v.* 1. to sew. Teut. *besten*, leviter consuere.

With a thred *basting* my slevis.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE, 104.

The body of your discourse is sometime guarded with fragments, and the guards are but slightly *basted* on neither.

*Much Ado about Nothing*, i. 1.

2. to beat, chastise. Ex. "Gie him a good *basteing*." Isl. *boysta*; Dan. *bester*, concutio. Swed. *basa*, flagellare. C. Brit. *baeddu*; Brit. *bassa*; Gr. *βαρευω*. Lat. *batuere*, verberare. Corn. Armor. *bazata*, to strike with a stick.

He paid good Robin back and side,

And *baist* him up and down.

ROBIN HOOD: *Edit. Ritson*, vol. i. p. 102.

And how they scarcely could win home,

Their bones were *baste* so sore.

*id.* vol. i. p. 113.

*Dro.* I think the meat wants that I have.

*Ant.* In good time, Sir, what's that?

*Dro.* *Basting*.

*Comedy of Errors*, ii. 2.

**BATCH**, *s.* 1. as much bread as an oven will conveniently hold for bakeing: a *batch* of corn implies enough for one bakeing. Ex. "Hers gwon to tak the *batch* to be gron." C. Brit. *baich*, a burden. Palsgrave, *Batches of bredde*, fournee de pain. PROMP. PARV. *Batches*, or *bakyngs*. Bullokar.

Thou core of envy, thou *crusty batch* of nature.

*Troilus and Cressida*.

This I'll tell ye by the way,

Maidens when ye leavens lay,

Crosse your Dow, and your dispatch

Will be the better for your *Batch*.

HERRICK'S *Hesperides*.

2. a game, or *batch at play*: a turn, or bout of drinking.

BATSTAFF, *s.* a wooden instrument used in washing.

PROMP. PARV. *batstaff*, vexillum.

BATT, *s.* a pat on the back.

And each of you a good *bat* on his neck.

DODSLEY'S *Collection*, iii. 42.

BATT, *v.* to beat gently, to tap. Ex. "*Batt* him on the back." If not by metathesis for *pat*, it has connexion with the Germ. *batten*; C. Brit. *baeddu*, and A. Sax. *beotan*, verberare.

BATTLETON, *s.* a wooden instrument used by washer-women in beating linen. Lat. *batillum*.

BAUSON, *adj.* swelled, pendant. An epithet applied to a hog or sow when their bag or belly hangs down, none of the accustomed operations of the knife having been performed on the former. Germ. *bauch*, venter: *bausen*, inflare: *baust*, turgidus. Coles has "a great *bausin*, ventrosus." Salopians speak of a *bauson pig*. Nares quotes Peace, you fat *bauson*, peace.

*Lingua.*

BEANT, *v.* are not. A. Sax. *beo*, esse.

Ye *beand* dum, and can pronounce na thing.

SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Works*, vol. ii. pp. 232, 315.

BEARD, *v.* to trim or cut a hedge at the top, that it may grow strong at bottom. In other parts of the county the term *breast* is used.

BEASTINGS, BEASTLINGS, BIESTING, *s.* the first milk given after the birth of a calf, quasi *Breastings*, says Minsheu. The word is not local, being found in Ben Jonson, Bullokar, Nares and Ash, and is also of general circulation in Norfolk, Cheshire, and other counties. Cotgrave says that it is accounted dangerous food for calves for three or four days, but Shropshire farmers dream not of such a hazard, anxiously wishing their calves to suck as soon as possible. A pudding made from this



milk is well known for its peculiar richness. A. Sax. *bysting*; Germ. *bienst*; Belg. Teut. *bienst*; colostrum.

BED OF BEEF, *s.* an inferior part of the cow, something cut from the belly.

BEETLE, *s.* a large hammer made of wood, and bound at each end of the head by a ring of iron. It is commonly used for driving wedges in cleaving wood, or for agricultural purposes. In a quarto vol. printed by Purfoote, entitled a *Dictionarie for children*, the word is thus explained: "a hammer to break the cloddes with in the corn field." The *beetle* mentioned by Shakspeare, was a formidable implement and required more than single strength to wield it. A. Sax. *bytl*, malleus. Palsgrave, *Betyll* to bete clothes with, battoyr. Hence also the compounded form of a *washing beetle*. Golden Legend.

If I do fillip me with a three man beetle.

2 *Henry*, IV. i. 2.

Have I liv'd thus long to be knocked o' th' head  
With half a *washing beetle*.

BRAUM. and FLETCH. *Tamer Tamed*, ii. 5.

BEGGAR, *v.* to impoverish. Farmers talk of certain crops *beggaring* their land.

BEGGARLY, *adj.* poor, as applied to land. Ex. "a *beggarly* bit o' groun."

BEGUM, BEGUMMIES, BYGOM, &c. a profane oath or asseveration corrupted from *By them*, in allusion to the Trinity. It generally stands the first word in a sentence. When the individual in speaking is either ignorant of the subject referred to, or unable to answer the question propounded, he usually cuts off the enquiry by saying, "*Bygum* I dunna knoa."

BEHAPPEN, *prep.* perhaps. Ex. "*Behappen* it ul rain."

BEHOLDEN, BEHOLDING, *part. past* obliged. Ex. "I amnod *beholden* to thee yit."

For Brutus' sake, I am *beholden* to you.

*Julius Cæsar*, iii. 2.

—As the world goes,  
Debtors are very slaves to those to whom  
They've been *beholding*.

BRAUM. and FLETCH. *Laws of Candy*, iv. 2.

**BELE, BELING, s.** a boil or pustule. A. Sax. *byl*, *carbunculus*.

**BELIKE, adv.** perhaps. Ex. "Belike yo unna."

**BELL, v.** to make a noise, roar, bellow. Ex. "Stop your *bellling*," as the impatient sometimes say to children. Hence also the phrase, "a *bellaking cratur*," applied to cattle. Isl. *belia*; Teut. A. Sax. *bellan*; Germ. *bellen*; Swed. *bola*, boare.

**BELLOCK, BULLOCK, and BLUCKN,** the last pronounced very short. 1. to bellow. Ex. "Yore bull's a *bellakin cratur*." 2. to roar, cry or blubber. Ex. "Whad bin 'e a *bellakin* about? Why d's na come to thy fittle?"

**BELLY VENGEANCE, s.** poor small beer.

**BELT, v.** to beat, castigate. This must be an old word though its origin is hidden. It is twice employed in the copious vituperation of Montgomery.

Hell spark, scabbed clark! and thou bark, I sall *belt* thee.

*The Flyting.*

Whether thou wilt let *belt* thy bawes,  
Or kiss all cloffes that stands besides. *id.*

**BEMULLE, v.** to dirty with mud. Shakspeare chiefly uses the word *bemoil*.—*Tam. of the Shrew*, iv. 1. Teut. *bemullen*, *aspergere pulvere*.

**BENOW, adv.** by this time. Ex. "I thought as how he'd a bin back again *benow*."

**BENSEL, v.** to castigate, chiefly with a stick. Ex. "*Bensel* his hide." S. Goth. *bengel*; Germ. *bengel*, *fustis*.

**BENT, s.** 1. a name given to some places in the county, as *Hayton's Bent*, &c. from 2, the brow of a hill. Ex. "Just o'er the *bent* of the hill." Isl. *benda*, *curvatura*. A. Sax. *bendan*, *inclinare*.

And downward from an hill under a *bent*.

CHAUCER, *Knights Tale*, 1933.

We saw a busteous berne cum ovir the *bent*.  
SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Dreme*, vol. i. p. 237.

Quhat bairnis are you upon the *bent*. *id.*

Then spake a berne upon the *bent*.  
PERCY'S *Reliq.* i. 22.

Then a lightsome bugle heard he blowe  
Over the *bents* so brown.  
*id.* i. 45. and ii. 76.

And hence comes the metaphorical application of the word, by Shakspeare,

They fool me to the top of my *bent*.  
*Hamlet*, iii. 2.

3. *bent*, or *bent-grass*, "a hay bent," the *Spica venti*, quasi *spica venti*, of Linnæus. *Bent-grass*, sometimes signifies a blade of coarse hay or grass. Teut. *bintz*, *juncus*.

He cared not for dint of sword or speere  
No more than for the stroke of straws or *bents*.  
SPENSER.

"Some in English, much agreeing to the Latine name, call these Windle straws. Now I take this last to be the Grasse with which we in London do usually adorne our chimneys in Sommer time; and wee commonly call the bundle of it, handsomely made up for our use, by the name of *Bents*."

GERARD'S *Herbal*, Edit. 1633.

These bundles of grass made up for fire-places in the time of Gerard, are still in summer-time to be seen adorning them in Shropshire houses, but with *Quaking grass*, or *Quaken*, the *Briza* of Linnæus.

BEOS, BWES, BWEAST, *s.* the general name for cattle.  
Ex. "The young *bwes* bin gotten into the Wheat."  
"A took reet down for the *bwes* fawr i' th' Abbey Forhed," i. e. He took right for the beast fair in the Abbey Foregate.

BERRYIN, BERRYING, *s.* a burial, funeral. This is neither a corruption, not used as a participle, but the old English word. Mr Hunter adopts a reasonable conjecture, when he says it ought to be derived rather from the verb to *bear*, than from to *bury*. A. Sax. *beoran* :

M. Goth. *bairan*; Alam. *beran*; Dan. *bære*; Belg. *beuren*, tollere. Hence BARROW: and *Bearers*.

Messyngers were sent to Rome  
After the pope, and he come sone  
To here terement.

Whan cardynales herd this tidynges,  
Thei come to hir *berynges*.

SIR GOWGHTER, v. 597.

And saide, "Gentil baroun! here my cry,  
On me that thou have mercy,  
And graunte me soche *beryng*,  
So fallith for a kyng."

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 4621.

Of his *beoryng* nothyng no dredith.

*id.* v. 8000.

BESLOBBER, *v.* to render wet, moist or dirty by spilling over the breast. Teut. *beslabberen*, laxum sive flaccidum esse.

The cam Sleuthe al *byslobered*, wit to slymed eyen.

PIERS PLOUHMAN, 110.

BESMOTTER, *v.* to stain, dirty, daub. It is a good old word, but nearly extinct. There are synonymous terms nearly symphonious in the M. Goth. S. Goth. A. Sax. and Belg. tongues. The Teut. *besmodden*, maculare, comes nearest. Kersey.

Of fustian he wered a gippon  
Alle *besmotted* with his habergeon.

CHAUCER, *Knights Prolog.* 76.

And eke for she was somdel *smoterlich*  
She was as digne as water in a diche.

*Reves' Tale*, v. 3961.

BESMUDGE, *v.* to dirty or splash with mud, a corruption from *besmutch*. A. Sax. *besmitan*, inquinare.

BEVIL, *s.* a kind of square used by masons and carpenters, moveable on a center, that can be set to any angle; hence the expression, "*the bevil on it*," the angle of it.

BEVIL, *s.* 1. to cut to an angle. Ex. "*Bevil it off*."  
2. to slope. Ex. "*Lay the road on a bevil*," that is, so that the central part be the highest.

BEZZLE, *v.* to drink sottishly. Ex. "*Drinking and bezzling*." Hence the phrase of a *bezzling fellow*.

but their deep *bezeling*,  
 Their boote carouse, and their Beere buttering.  
 MARSTON'S *Second Satire*.  
 And the sworn *bezzel* at an ale house tap.  
 HALL'S *Satires*.

tis now become  
 The shoeing horne of *Bezeler's* discourse.  
 JACK DRUM'S *Entertainment*.

Yonders the most hard-favoured news walks the streetes, seaven  
 men goeing to their graves that dyed with drinking and *bieeling*.  
 EVERY WOMAN'S *in her Humour*.

BIESTED, *s.* the same as *Beastlings*, q. v.

BILE, *s.* a boil. Ex. "As soär (sore) as a *bilo*." Al-  
 most as invariably pronounced by us, as it is written  
 without the *o*, in all the Early English Poets.

Brukis, *byks*, blobbis and bleisteris.  
 THE CURSING OF SIR JOHN ROWDIS.

Ane *byill* new brokin on his thie.  
 SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Monarchie*.

BIN, *v.* You are ; they are. Ex. "They *bin* bad uns,  
*they bin*." How frequently this occurs in common con-  
 versation it is unnecessary to say ; let it be sufficient  
 to add, that it is the usual form of salutation among  
 the lower orders generally when introduced thus, "How  
*binna* ? How *bin* yo ?" The reader or hearer who feels  
 disposed to laugh at us for what he fancies to be a  
 vulgarity, may learn that we have not superinduced  
 the word, if he will look to the Franc. and Germ. *bin*,  
 or the A. Sax. *beo* sum. Besides are there no poetic  
 authorities ?

When that ye *bin* stabult up.  
 THE HUNTYNG OF THE HARE, v. 109.

With every thing that pretty *bin*.  
 CYMBELINE.

BIN, BING, *s.* 1. a receptacle for fodder ; part of "a bay."  
 2. a depository for wine. 3. a corn chest. A. Sax.  
*binne*, præsepe. S. Goth. Swed. *binge* ; Dan. *bing*,  
*acervus granorum*.

But now he let'st wear ony gate it will hing,  
 And casts himself dowie upo' the corn-bing.  
 HERD'S *Scott. Songs*, ii. 110.

**BINDS**, *s.* shale, stone. Ex. "*The blue binds*," a measure well known among miners.

**BINNA**, **BINNOD**, **BINNOT**, *v.* third person plural, present tense of the preceding; when used in a negative sense it means, are not.

**BISHOP**, *v.* to produce artificial marks on a horse's tooth.

**BISHOPED**, *part. past* confirmed. Ex. "My lickle un's gween to be *bishoped*." The term has remained with us since the days of Langland, I know not how lately *other* counties have picked it up. A. Sax. *biscopod*, confirmation. *Bishopped*, Somner. Palsgrave, *Bysshoppynge* of children, confirmation.

And baptisede an *bushoppede*.

P. FLOUHMANN, 300.

**BISHOP'S FOOT**, *phr.* When milk is burned, or as we more commonly say, *grewed* in the pot, it is said the Bishop has put his foot in it. The phrase is an old one, and as it appears to have been learned in a singular manner I shall requote from the supplement to Jamieson's Dictionary, an apposite illustration that has been found for it in Tyndale's Obedyence of a Chyrsten man. "When," says this venerable writer, "a thyng speadeth not well, we borowe speach and saye, *the Bischope hath blessed it*, because that nothyng speadeth well that they medyll with all. If the podedch (pottage) be burned to, or the mete ouer rosted, we saye, *the byshope hath put his fote in the potte*, or *the byschope hath played the coke*, because the byschoppes burn who they lust and whosoever displeaseth them."

**BIST**, *v.* art thou. Ex. "How *bist*?" and "how *bist'e*?" the second person of the A. Sax. *beo*; *byst*. Alam. Franc. Germ. *bist*.

**BIT**, *s.* the broad part of a spade. This may be derived metaphorically from the iron *biting* the ground, in support of which idea there are numerous synonyms in the Northern languages. The Isl. *bit*, *acies ferri*, and

*biti*, buccæ, come nearer than any other etymon with which at present the writer is acquainted.

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Gif they be handillit, they melt away like ane *blob* of water.

BELKNDENUS, *Description of Albion*.



**BLOCKING AXE**, *s.* an axe from eight to nine pounds in weight, used for squaring timber. In the Craven Dialect, a *Blocker*. Teut. *blocken*, truncare.

**BLOOD STICK**, *s.* a short heavy stick used by farriers to strike their lancet when bleeding a horse.

**BLOOMS**, *s.* masses of iron which have passed a second time through a furnace, (the cupolo,) and undergone the action of the forge hammer. Teut. *bloeme*, menstruum. A. Sax. *bloma*, metallum. Bullokar has "*Blomary*, the first forge through which the iron passeth, after it is once melted out of the myne."

*Bloma ferri*, Domesday. It is very singular that so few notices should occur in the Domesday Survey of the mineral productions of the country. No mention whatever of *Tin* occurs in that part of the Survey which relates to Cornwall. But iron is mentioned in four places in Somersetshire, and at *Alwintune* and *Mercheloi* in Herefordshire, and in one place in Gloucestershire, Cheshire and Lincolnshire. Yet no mention of any minerals or metals in Shropshire and Staffordshire. The *Lead Works* mentioned in the Survey are almost all upon the King's Demesne in Derbyshire. Yet that lead was smelted in Shropshire long anterior to the compilation of this record is sufficiently notorious. The iron mines in the Forest of Dean, near Gloucester are mentioned by Giraldus: "Nobilemque Danubiæ Sylvam, quæ ferinam ferrique copiam Glovernæ ministrat." *Itinerar. Camb.* lib. i. c. 5. p. 836.

**BLOTHER, BLUTHER**, *v.* to make a great noise about nothing. Ex. "Whad bin 'e a *blothering* about?" See **BLETHER**.

**BLOW**, *s.* more commonly **BLOU**; a blossom, flower.

**BLOW**, *v.* to blossom. Ex. "When the pase bin *blowed*."

**BLOW-BELLUS**, *s.* a pair of bellows. Ex. "Fache the *blow-bellus* to the fire or yone nivir tind it."

**BLUNGE**, *v.* to blend, or break whilst in a state of mace-

ration. A term used by potters. They *blunge* the clay, to dissipate all its inherent fixed air, to make it pliant, and cohesive in itself. A. Sax. *blendian*, *miscere*.

BOAR SEA, *s.* a pig kept as a 'brawn' for three or four years. A. Sax. *bar*, *aper*; *sec*, *æger*?

BOBBER, *s.* a familiar term applied good naturedly to any one. Ex. "Well *bobber* how bin 'e?"

BOBBISH, *adj.* 1. smart, pert, well. Ex. "Pretty *bobbish* eh?" 2. not quite sober, verging upon intoxication. Ex. "Getting on quite *bobbish*." Fr. *bobance*, magnificence, profusion. Menage derives the word from the Lat. *pompantia*. This and the preceding word are wrested in their meaning from that which they originally had in the ensuing quotations, though evidently they are of the same complexion.

Ytelle on for sothe, for al huere *bobaunce*.

RITSON'S *Anc. Songs*.

The Soudan made *bobaunce* and best.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR. v. 1691.

For certainly, I say for no *bobance*.

CHAUCER, *Wife of Bath*, v. 6151.

BODY CLOUT, *s.* a piece of iron which adjoins the body of a 'tumbrel', and its wheels.

BOLSTER, *v.* to prop up or support; used also in the sense of lying together or thrown up. Ex. "*Bolster* 'em up in a ruck anenst the wall."

BOLSTER, *s.* the 'bed' of a timber carriage, otherwise called the *Bousters*.

BOLTING, BOULTING, BOUTIN, *s.* a bundle of straw. Ex. "Fach a *boutin* o' straw." The two last are varied forms of the first word. (See remarks under *ou*.) *Bol* in many kindred languages signifies what is round; thus in the Germ. we have the adj. *boll*, rotundus. Swed. *boll*, sphaera. Fr. *boule*. Gr. *πολεῖν*, *vertere*.

BON, BOND, *s.* a band. The tie used by reapers for binding up a sheaf. Teut. *bond*, vinculum.

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BLACK-BESS, *s.* a beetle, any coleopterous insect. In my Entomological pursuits, I have found that the term *beetle* was rarely or ever comprehended; under the title of *Black-Bess*, nearly every species of creeping thing or small horror being included.

BLADE, *v.* to trim or lop off that part of a hedge which grows too luxuriantly, to cut off the young shoots or blades. PROMP. PARV. *Bladen*, or take away the blades: depampino.

BLAIT, BLATE, *v.* to bleat, or bellow. Teut. *blatan*; A. Sax. *blatan*, balare. Dunbar has *blait-mouthed*.

BLANKS AND PRIZES, *s.* beans with boiled bacon chopped up and mixed together; the vegetable being termed a *blank*, and the meat a *prizo*.

BLAST, *v.* 1. to blow up. Hence the metaphor of blasting rocks with gunpowder. 2. as a phrase: *to put on the blast*; when an iron furnace is for a brief time quiescent, and the liquid ore running out, *the blast is off*: to fuse the new 'mine' it is put on again. Dan. A. Sax. *blæst*; Isl. *blastr*; Teut. *blæs*; Germ. *blast*; Belg. *blaest*, flatus.

BLAST FURNACE, *s.* an iron furnace worked by *blast*. The Islandic has *blastrjarn*, rude ferrum e clibano, which shows that the word has not been superinduced.

BLEDDER, BLETHER, *s.* a bladder. A good old word whose adoption is sanctioned by Regal authority. See BUFT. PROMP. PARV. *bledder*; A. Sax. *bledder*; Dan. *blære*; Germ. *blater*; Belg. *blader*; Alam. *platar*; Isl. *bladra*; C. Brit. *pledren*, vesica.

And found in a freitoure, a frere on a benche,  
A greet chori and a grym, growen as a tonne,  
With a face so fat, as a full *bleddere*,  
Blowen bretful of breth, and as a bagge honged.

P. PLOUHMAN'S *Crede*.

Blait-mowit bludy canes, with *bladder cheeks*.

DUNBAR'S *Complaint*.

Quhat and I fal, than I will brak my *bledder*.

SIR D. LYNDSAY'S *Satire of the Three Estatis*.

BLETHER, *v.* 1. to sob, cry. Ex. "Crying and *blethering*," probably a corruption from *blubbering*. 2. to talk nonsensically. Ex. "A *blethering* fellow." Teut. *blaffaert*, *blatarator*. S. Goth. *bladdra*; Swed. *bladra*; Teut. *blasteren*, *gairire*.

She tauld thee well thou wast a Skellum,  
A *blethering*, blustering, drunken bellum.

BURN'S *Poems*, iii. 238.

BLIND, *adj.* abortive, unfruitful. Ex. "This blow's a *blind un*."

BLIND BUZZART, *s.* a cockchafer. *Melalontha vulgaris*. Linn.

BLIND BALL, *s.* a fungus, such as the *Lycoperdon bovista* of Linnæus. It is believed that the brown dry powder which it contains will affect with blindness, and hence the name.

BLIND WORM, *s.* a snake known among Naturalists under the designation of the Slow worm, *Anguis fragilis*. An epithet derived from the C. Brit *Uyn*, pestilens, indicative of its noxious bite. Germ. *Lind wurm*, serpens quidam alatus. (See Wachter sub voce).

BLISSOMING, BLASSOMING, *part.* The former is the correct word: the latter its corruption. They have the same signification as *rutting*, and are applied to ewes in a state of *catulieny*. The Cheshire farmers give to it an opposite meaning, referring its application to the vigor of a ram. Isl. *blæssa*, *salax*.

BLOB, *s.* a drop, or globule of any liquid. Ex. "The swat fell down on his buzzum in great *blobs*." "A *blob* of ink." Palsgrave, *Blober* upon water, *bou-teillis*.

Gif they be handillit, they malt away like ane *blob* of water.

BELLKNDENUS, *Description of Albion*.

**BULLS**, *s.* transverse bars of wood into which the heads of Harrows are set.

**BULL'S EYES**, *s.* a coarse sweetmeat mixed with flour, and streaked various colours, greedily devoured by children.

**BULL CHAIN**, *s.* a chain which slides up and down a *Boosey*.

**BUM**, *s.* a contraction from Bomb bailiff.

**BUM**, *s.* 1. to dun. 2. a mode of punishment practised by schoolboys upon the younger. Corn. *bomyon*, a blow.

**BUNT**, *v.* to push violently with the head, or horns. Perhaps allied to the C. Brit. *pryo*, to beat, or knock.

**BURL**, *v.* to take such wool from lambs as is dirtied, or liable to additional deterioration from their laxity of body.

**BURLINGS**, *s.* the tails and other parts which are taken from lambs when sheared. The Fr. *bourre*, offered by Skinner only applies the signification to 'lockes of wooll.' Cotg. Ours is correctly diverted from the original meaning under, *Burling Wool*.

**BURLING-WOOL**, *s.* wool which is *burl'd*. From its inferior quality, it is sold at a lower price, chiefly to Sadlers, who use it for stuffing. (See Richelet under *Bourellier*.) Formerly garments were made of this particular kind, which was termed *Bourra*, and hence the appellation *bourras*, for any coarse habit.

Son habit en surquanie,  
Honneste et sans vilonie,  
Mais elle ne fut de *bourras*.

ROMAN DE LA ROSE.

Vestue ot une sorquemie  
Qui ne fut mie de *bourras*. *id.*

Du Cange says that *Borra* is that which is taken from the cloth when under the hands of the dresser, (the Burler). Ausonius has made the word classical in the following lines.

At nos illepidum rudem libellum,  
*Burras*, quisquillas, ineptiasque,  
Credemus gremio cui fovendum.

Servius thinks that *Burra* comes from *βοορ ουπα*, bovis cauda; Scaliger, that it is an ancient word in the Guienne dialect, the greater portion of which nation call quisquiliæ, *burra*. Proven. *bouras*; Langued. *bourasso*; Lat. Barb. *borassium*, *borra*, *bourra*.

**BURR**, *s.* 1. sweet bread. 2. a coarse whetstone, "a rubber," from which it is probably contracted. Ex. "A Brister *burr*," that is, one from Bristol, generally flat on either side. 3. the prickly seed of the Burdock; *Lappa*, of Linnæus. This sense frequently occurs in Shakspeare, *Measure for Measure*, iv. 3. *Troil. and Cress.* iii. 2. *As You Like It*, i. 3.

Hang off, thou cat, thou *burr*, vile thing let loose.

*Midsommer Night's Dream*, iii. 2.

**BUSS**, *s.* a kiss. Germ. *buss*; Armor. *bouch*; Ir. Gael. C. Brit. *bus*; osculum. Lat. *basium*. A young lady asks for one, according to a well-known conundrum, in a single word, *circumbendibus*, Sir, come bend a *buss*!

**BUSS**, *v.* to kiss. Germ. *bussen*; Teut. Belg. *bossen*; Armor. *boucher*; Fr. *baiser*; Sp. *bessar*; Ital. *basiare*, *oculari*. When the word was used by Shakspeare it was of good repute, but in the succeeding reign was used only in an impure sense, as we gather from this passage in Herrick, quoted by Nares.

Kissing and *bussing* differ both in this,  
We *buss* our wantons, but our wives we kisse.

Thy knee *bussing* the stones.

*Coriolanus*, iii. 2. and *Troil. and Cress.* iv. 6.

**BURR**, *s.* a certain number of furrows in ploughed land, which are separate by regular inclination from those contiguous. "Viginti acras in Heile furlong et *buttes* apud Ymbelowsmere." Kennett's Parochial Antiq. pp. 186. 187. 402.

**BUTTER FINGERED**, *adj.* incapable of holding any thing hot, as though the mandibles were melted by the heat of what they touched. A metaphor similar to that which

is employed for designating a person who is not very scrupulous in appropriating to his own benefit, any thing entrusted to his charge: "*a slippery fingered fellow*;" and *the light fingered gentry*, are epithets as poetical as *the rosy-fingered morn*.

**BUTTERED ALE**, *s.* ale boiled with lump sugar, butter, and spice. Old people recommend the solution as efficacious in curing colds. Marston in one of his Satires talks about *Beere-buttering*.

**BUTTER-MIT**, *s.* a small tub in which newly made butter is washed. A. Sax. *mitta*, mensura.

**BUTTING IRON**, *s.* an instrument used for peeling bark from trees.

**BUTTON**, *s.* 1. a small cake. Ex. "A gingerbread *button*." 2. a small round mushroom, the bud of a mushroom as it were, such as is used for pickling. Belg. *botte*; Fr. *bouton*, terme de jardiniere. 3. a knot upon the laniards of a barge. Like the Italians we have learned from the word those terms of contempt or depreciation, "not worth a *button*;" and "a Brummagem *button* tickler;" which latter phrase is applied in a Catholic sense to any one who comes from that flourishing burgh. *Bottoneggiare*, *Sbottonare*, to quip, scoffe, mock. Florio.

**BUTTRICE**, *s.* an iron instrument used by blacksmiths for paring horses' hoofs. Dan. *bryttia*, disecare. Isl. *britia*, frustatim scindo.

A *buttrice*, and pincers, a hammer and nail.

TUSSER, p. 10.

**BUTTY**, *s.* a companion, fellow labourer. Not very provincial, for I hear the word in Cheshire and Staffordshire. How deficient the vocabularies of those counties must be, into which this expressive word is not admitted! In the pure sense of the primitive, it perpetually occurs in Chaucer, v. 426. 13396. &c. in Minot's Poems, R. of Glo'ster, R. of Brunne, Sir D.

Lyndsay, Ritson's Met. Romances, Shakspeare, &c. A.  
Sax. *bote*; Belg. Teut. *boete*, auxilium.

Trew king, that sittes in trone,  
Unto the i tell my tale,  
And unto the i bid a bone  
For thou ert *bute* of all my bale.  
MINOT, p. 1. 15. 23. &c.

I wis it is no *bote*.  
ADAM BEL.

Now he that is *bot* of bale.  
SIR AMADAS, v. 185.

For now this day thou art my bale  
My *boote* when thou shold bee.  
ROBIN HOOD AND GUY OF GISBORNE, v. 72.

BUTTY, *v.* to cohabit with. Ex. "Her inna married,  
her *butties*." M. Goth. *botjan*, juvare. Teut. *boeten*,  
explere libidinem.

Buzz, *v.* to fill a glass brimful, in defiance of the chance  
that if some is left in the bottle, the drinker must also  
toss off a second. Thus the phrase "I'll *buzz* it" is  
tantamount to a bet of a bumper, that if the glass  
will not hold all that is in the bottle, he whose turn  
it is to drink next must fill to the brim: or ac-  
cording to the previous rendering, *buzzing* always  
means to take the last wine out of the bottle. This  
cannot be called a local custom, nor yet a very mo-  
dern one, for Erasmus in his Adagies has, "Ex am-  
phitheto bibisti," to designate a tippler, which two-  
handled vessel is called by the Dutch sailors *busa*. In  
the Lat. of the middle ages *Buza* denotes a large  
vessel, (See Du Cange sub voce): in Teut. *buysen* sig-  
nifies poculum utrinque ansatum, quod ob magnitudi-  
nem ambabus tollitur ac reponitur manibus: from  
drinking out of so capacious a measure originated the  
verb *buysen*, cothonissare, largiter potare, as well as the  
jovial term of *buzz*. Menage has *Busse* and *Bussart*,  
vaisseaux de vin, courts et gros. The word *Buzz* is  
a more gentle one for *boose*, which comes from the



same quarter. As the word is recognised by Grose, its *classicality* is established in the *Boozin-ken*.

BWILINGS, *s.* boilings.

Sire, he said, bi God in heuen,  
Thise *boilouns* that *boilen* seuen.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 2488.

BWILE, *s.* a boil. Dan. *bylcke*; Teut. Belg. *bugle*; Germ. *buol*; Swed. *bula*, tuberculum. From hence it appears that the more modern and refined pronunciation of *boil*, is a wresting from the legitimate one preserved by the vulgar.

BWILE, *v.* to boil. Fr. *bouiller*.

BWON, *s.* a bone. Ex. "My poor *bwones* yaiked agen," or as the more highly educated express themselves, "my poor bones ached again." This interposition of a *w* in words terminating in *one* is extremely frequent among the vulgar. See further remarks under Gwon.

His *bwones* thou do grave.

SIR AMADAS, v. 241.

Then schall howndes, that men may see,  
Wastars *bwones* gnawe.

*id.* v. 247.

BY BLOW, *s.* a child illegitimate.

BY GORSH, BY GOSH, *interj.* a profane corruption in both instances; in the former from *God cross*, and in the latter from *God's house*.

BY TAIL, *s.* the right handle of a plough.





is often transmuted into *q*, as in *corn*, *cord*, *coil*, &c. Salopians respectively pronounce these words like *quorn*, *querd*, *quile*, but in all such cases where *o* follows *c*, the vowel is changed into *u*.

**CADE-LAMB**, *s.* a young lamb brought up by hand or within the house. Fr. *cadet*, a casteling, a starveling, one that hath need of much cockering. Cotg. **CADELY-REAR'D**, *part. past* tenderly brought up, whether it be children or chickens. Fr. *cadeler*.

**CADY**, *adj.* addled, foolish, betraying signs of decayed intellect. Ex. "He's grown quite *cady*."

**CAGMAG**, *s.* inferior or bad meat. Ex. "Kills nothing but *cagmag*."

**CAKE**, *s.* a contemptuous appellation for any one. Either a chastened form of expression from the A. Sax. *cac*, as, "a *cake* of a feller," or else, which seems to me more probable, a corruption of the Fr. *cagot*, or *caqueus*, *cacous*, a race of people who were regarded with great aversion, under the idea that they were a remnant of the Jews, or as others say, of the Saracens, who were infected through each succeeding generation with leprosy. They usually followed the occupation of rope-making. So strong a prejudice existed against them, that the

Catholic Bishops partaking of the popular feeling, ordered that when they came to mass, they should confine themselves to the lower end of the church, and not kiss the Pax until all others present had done so, nor, under a certain penalty, touch the vessels of the altar. In the Registers of the Chancellerie de Bretagne 1475, exists an order that the *Caques* should be prevented from travelling in the Duchy without having a piece of red cloth upon their garments, to apprise people of the danger they would incur from coming in contact with them. They were placed under various harassing restrictions in their intercourse with those around; debarred any participation in civil honors; forbidden to pursue any craft except that of rope-making, or labour in any other way than in cultivating their gardens, under the penalty of confiscating all they possessed. Some French Antiquaries who have made researches into the history of this singular race, have conjectured that they were descendants of those Saracens who remained in Gascony after Charles Martel defeated Abdirama, and that their lives were spared on condition of their becoming Christians. They were nevertheless still looked upon with the same aversion. Popular odium ascribed to them all the infectious diseases which are supposed to be engrafted constitutionally on Eastern nations. Hence they were shunned for their offensive smell, and strong breath. And this was not solely out of hatred for the tyranny of the Saracens; for the Italians urged a reproach similar to this against the Lombards, as we read in an epistle addressed to Charlemagne by Pope Stephen, who in order to divert his marriage with Bertha, daughter of Didier, king of the Lombards, represented to him that not only invariably a bad smell accompanied all the race, but also, because, as my authority further saith, the Saracens smell disagreeably, and exhale a rank odour from

their body. At the close of the seventeenth century, Hevin, a learned advocate in the Parliament of Brittany, obtained the abrogation of the several enactments which injuriously affected the *Caquous*. It is not my present object to enquire into the difference between the *Cagots* and the *Caquous*; the reader curious upon that point will find it investigated under those heads in Moreri, and Menage. But descending to a later time, the Cagots of the Pyrennees are usually supposed to be similarly afflicted, as the Cretins of the Valais and Alps of Switzerland, of whom many are still met with at Martigny, Sion and other places on the course of the Rhone through the Canton des Valais and adjacent parts. Previous to the French Revolution these poor wretches were very numerous, whole families existed among which there was not an individual to be found who was not Cretin. They were endued with instinct just sufficient to enable them to provide the bare means of existence, and the evil became perpetuated to successive generations. Napoleon took effectual measures for the remedy of this horrible evil, by ordering all the Cretins of the Valais to be confined in a hospital at Sion, the chief town of the Canton, and provided for at the public expence. This hospital exists, but the regulations have been subsequently relaxed, and the traveller occasionally encounters the fearful and disgusting figure of a Cretin, especially at Martigny. They seem to find the same indulgence which has been shewn by various nations to those afflicted with fatuity. The Baron von Buch, well known for his scientific researches, particularly of a Geological nature, devoted a considerable time to the valleys adjacent to the Rhone; he observed that in certain confined recesses of the hills, hail had never been known to fall; a fact the more remarkable, as in those countries the hail is unusally frequent and de-

structive. In these particular valleys he noted that Cretinisme especially prevailed, and it was his opinion that some atmospheric peculiarity which thus strangely prevented the formation of hail, contributed mainly to occasion the disease of Cretinisme; it has been supposed also to be induced like the Goitre which is found to accompany it both in the Alps and Pyrenees, by the use of snow-water. It seems highly probable that the peculiar circumstances of these people have originated a phrase which is invariably applied as one of reproach.

**CALF**, *s.* a term of contempt for any one who is stupid.

Ex. "A *calf* of a fellow." Suetonius says that the Gauls called Servius by this title, on account of his stupidity. Besides being classical in its authority, the word is in analogy with the Teut. *Kalf*, homo obesus.

**CALL**, *s.* occasion, necessity. Ex. "I've no *call* to do it."

**CALL**, *v.* to abuse, vilify; the exact terms of reprobation, we may presume through delicacy, being omitted by the narrator. Ex. "She *called* me all to pieces." "She *called* me—ashamed to be heard." The word seems allied to the Isl. *kalea*, irridere. Yet a Salopian lady's knowledge of rhetoric would readily lead her to speak by a figure, termed an *aposiopesis*, that is, a form of narration or address in which a person breaks off the discourse, yet so artfully that the meaning may be conveyed to the hearers without being actually expressed.

**CAMERADE**, *s.* a companion. An old word. I find it in Dr Bullokar's Expositor, and therefore it is not a corruption of *comrade*. And its etymology says as much, Swed. *kamrat*; Germ. *camerad*; Sp. *camarada*; Fr. *camerade*, sodalis. Du Cange and others have supposed that the word takes its origin from soldiers or others sleeping together in the same tent or chamber: whilst Wachter and another class of investigators assign the word to the C. Brit. *cymmar*, socius: and this again

to the Armor. *chom*, simul morari; hence then the modern collegiate term *chum*.

His *camerade* that bare him company.

GREEN'S *Quip for an Upstart Courtier*.

CANARY, *s.* 1. a sovereign, so called from the similarity of color. 2. a glass of gin, rum, or any other ardent spirits. When men have drank ale till they are tired of it, some one amongst the crew of tipplers, proposes, "a drop o' *canary*."

CANARY BIRD, GIVE A CAT A; *phr.* a simile betokening incredulity or improbability; as it is unlikely in the last degree that any possessor of one of these songsters should dispose of it to a cat, so when there seems small chance of gratifying the hopes of a solicitous claimant, we draw a metaphor from the bird fancier, and say, "Give a cat a canary bird, eh?"

CAN BOTTLE, *s.* the bottle tip, long-tailed titmouse. *Parus caudatus*, Linn.

CANCRAMS, TANTRAMS, *s.* antrims (from which it is changed), whims, peevishness, ill-humour.

CANK, *v.* to cackle like a goose. A word which manifestly derives its origin rather from similarity of sound, an onomatopoeia, than deducible from a fixed and regular root.

And at the cairlis to *lookill*.

*Pebbis to the Play.*

CANKERED, *adj.* ill-tempered. Ex. "The missus is grow'd meety *cankered* like in her temper, oerts as whad a wuz used to be." A temper that is cankered, makes its possessor a nuisance to all around.

The beggar answered *cankardly*,

I have no money to lend.

ROBIN HOOD, vol. i. p. 99.

CAN YE DO ANYTHING, *phr.* a challenge to subscribe for something to drink.

CAPLING, *s.* part of a flail; the eye?

CAREYN, *s.* 1. a term of reproach for a female of doubtful reputation. Ex. "Yah! you nasty *careyn*." "Sich a

*careyn* of a cratur." 2. carrion, dead carcasses. Isl. *kar*, squalor. Fr. *caroigne*, *carogne*, *charoigne*, cadavre; de *caro* et de *rodens*. Roqf. Gloss. Græci *χαρῶνια*, loca quædam terrarum appellant, quæ exhalant fœdos odores.

Whether not to hem that synnyden whos *careyns* weren cast down in desert.

WICLIFF'S *New Test. Ebbrewis*, c. iiii.

CARRIAGE, *s.* a belt which carries a whetstone behind the mower.

CASE, *conj.* because. Ex. "Case as how ye sin he wunna yable; he wunna yable to do it."

CASELTLY, CASERTLY, *adj.* casual, accidental, bad, uncertain. Ex. "Caselty weather." Fr. *casuel*; Lat. *casus*.

CASP, *s.* the cross bar at the top of a spade. Randle Holmes in his Academy of Armorie, calls it a *Kaspe*. In Cheshire (See Mr Wilbraham's valuable little Glossary) it is termed a *Cosp*. Shovels are commonly made with a T *casp*, and spades with a D *casp*.

CAST, *s.* a second swarm from a hive of bees in the same year. Swed. *kast*, abjicere. Sp. *castrar*, to take a hive. Isl. *kast*, missio.

CAST, *v.* 1. to be thwarted, defeated. Ex. "Cast in a trial at Soesbury Sizes." Palsgrave, *cast* in love, amouree. In an Inscription at Rome, relating to the success of Claudius in Britain, we find the same phrase "*absque ulla jactura*". V. Camd. Brit. fol. LXXIX. 2. to vomit. Ex. "Cast his stomach." Isl. *kasta*, evomere. 3. to be delivered prematurely, as cows or other beasts. Ex. "Cherry has *cast* her calf."

CASTER, *s.* a cow who casts her calf.

CASTLING, *s.* a calf born before the usual time.

CAT and DOG, a game which in some parts of the county, and in other parts of England is called *Tip cat*. To a certain extent it resembles *trap-ball*, the ball being substituted by a piece of wood which is about six inches in length, and one or two in diameter, diminished

from the middle to each end, in the form of a double cone; it is made of box or yew, and when laid on the ground and smartly struck at either end, it will rise high enough for the striker to hit it away from him as it descends. The *Dog* is the stick with which it is struck. Strutt, in his *Sports and Pastimes*, p. 110. edit. 1833, enters into a description of the different methods by which the game is played. Nares borrows from the Cambridge Phrase Book, "to play at cat," *cato ligneo ludere*; *baculo et buxo ludere*. (See *Swipple* and *Trib.*)

CAT-BRAIN, *s.* a clayey sort of soil, little softer than stone, and not much better; a rough kind of gravel, "roch". Swed. *Catgull*, mica membranacea.

CAT-GALLOWS, *s.* a game played at by children, which consists in jumping over a stick placed at right angles to two others that are fixed in the ground.

CATSHEAD, *s.* a hollow square box made of wood to collect wind at the top of a pit shaft, which is conveyed by a pipe downwards so as to increase the subterranean ventilation. In Derbyshire called a *Horsehead*.

CAT-TAIL, *s.* Horse tail. *Equisetum*. Linn.

CAUD, COWD, *adj.* cold. Teut. *kaud*; M. Goth. *kald*; A. Sax. *ceald*; Dan. *kaald*; Germ. *kalt*; Franc. Alaman. *chalt*; Belg. *koud*, frigidus.

CAUD-CHISEL, CODE-CHISEL, COUD-CHISEL *s.* a hard chisel used for cutting cold iron.

CAUFS-COT, CAUVE-SKIT, *s.* a place where calves are kept. Evidently vitiated from A. Sax. *calf*, vitulus; and *cote*, tugurium. Swed. Teut. *kalf*; Isl. *kalf*; Germ. *calb*, vitulus. Isl. *kota*; Teut. *kot*, tugurium.

CAVE, *v.* 1. to tilt up, as a cart, and consequently to empty or to unload it. Ex. "Cave up the tumbrel." 2. to fall in. Ex. "The bank caves in," from being *cavus*, hollow or undermined.

Ray inserts the former sense amongst words peculiar to Cheshire, but Mr Wilbraham disowns the specific



locality. Wachter says the root lies in *caw*. Germ. *caw*; C. Brit. and Armor. *caw*, *cavus*.

**CEOUT**, *v.* to bark as a cur or cottager's dog. Hence a **CEOUTING-DOG**, or little *Ceout*. *s.* a sharp, vigilant dog.

Mr Wilbraham derives the word from *Skaut* or *Kaut*, signifying *Scout*. But I fancy the word is corrupted thus, a *Ceouting* dog, a *cuting* dog, (which we hear the brute called as often as by any other title), a *cute* dog, an *acute* dog; that is, a vigilant and sharp dog. Another derivation may be obtained from *colley*, a word common in Scotland for a shepherd's dog, as it also is in some parts of England. (See Grose). We then get the word *colting* dog; and according to the custom of changing *Col* into *Cow* or *Cou* we at once get the form of a *Couting* or *Ceouting* dog. That this transformation and transposition is not rare, may be seen under remarks upon *l*, and *ow*. The **PROMP.**

**PARV.** has *Keoutinge* as *cattes*.

**CEOUT**, **COWT**, *s.* a colt. If poetry will protect this word from the reproach of vulgarity, there is sanction for its use.

There was Wattie the Muirland laddie,  
That rides on the bonnie grey cowt.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 170.

**CHAFF**, *v.* to teaze. A low word now, though in better repute formerly. Not local.

Whom as soone as Tytus had beholden he began to *chauffe* and to be merueylous angry for anguysshe.

GOLDEN LEGEND, fol. cixvii.

**CHALL**, **CHOUL**, *s.* the jaw. Ex. "Hit him in the *choul*." "Broke his *chall* bwon." "A *chall* of bacon." A. Sax. *ceolas*, fauces. It was a word formerly in better repute, and used by the earlier translators of the Bible. See Ezek. xxiv. 4. xxxviii. 4.

Of an ape he caught the *chauls* bone.

BOCHAS, *Fall of Princes*.

**CHAMBLE**, *v.* to champ; to bite. Ex. "Chambles the bit." Applied to a horse. Fr. *champayer*.

CHARM, *s.* noise of a gentle kind, such as whispering, and murmuring, or the low, buzzing, drawling sounds, uttered by a body of children whilst learning. Ex. "What a *charm!*" A. Sax. *cyrm*; Arm. C. Brit. *garm*; clamor. G. Douglas *chirme*. Whether we adopt these roots or not, and I see no reason for rejecting them, it is quite evident that an intimate connexion subsists between our word and others of northern origin which have the same import and tendency. The Teut. *karion*, which betokens a soft and suppressed noise, such as is uttered to sooth children, and the Isl. *korra*, *infanti nœnias canere*, fix it as a legitimate word, and prove that it is neither superinduced, nor yet tralatitiously usurped from *charm*, an enchantment; this word being in fact under the suspicion of having been borrowed from the other, by a figure of speech known among Rhetoricians under the name of Metonymy. The dramatists afford additional evidence by almost invariably placing the word in such a position, that it bears reference exclusively to a noise or clamour.

Go to *charm* your tongue.

*Othello.*

Peace, wilful boy, or I will *charm* your tongue.

*Henry VI.*

*Charm* your skipping tongue.

*Cynthia's Revels.*

He is the man must *charm* you.

*Bartholomew Fair.*

That well could *charm* his tongue, and time his speech.

*Faery Queen*, v. ix.

Here we our slender pipes may safely *charm*.

*Shepherds' Calendar.*

Hark! Flora, Faunus, here is melody,

A *charm* of birds, and more than ordinary.

*Arraignment of Paris.*

What *charm* of earliest birds.

*Paradise Lost*, iv. 641.

He touched the strings which made such a *charm*.

PERCY'S *Reliq.* ii. 170.

**CHARTER-MASTER**, *s.* a man who, having undertaken to get coals or iron-stone at a certain price, employs men under him.

**CHASTISE**, *v.* 'to give good instruction,' forewarn. Ex. "Diden'e *chastise* him on it?" a sense peculiar to Corve Dale.

**CHATS**, *s.* small fagots, broken sticks. Ex. "Pikeing up a feow *chats*." "Love of lads and fire of *chats* is soon in and soon out." Ray's *Proverbs*, p. 42. Swed. *kastved*, ligna cæsa ad usum in fornacibus. Isl. *klatr*, res rejectaneæ. A. Sax. *ceatt*, res.

**CHATTY**, *adj.* small. Ex. "*Chatty* iron-stone." The deepest strata of lime-stone is called *chatty-stone*, from being small.

**CHAUNCE CHILD**, *s.* a child illegitimate.

**CHAVIN RIDDLE**, *s.* a large coarse riddle which is worked by the hands along a wooden horse, to sift grain from the straw and larger kinds of chaff. A vitiation from *chaffing-riddle*. A. Sax. *ceaf*, palea: *hriddle*, cribrum.

**CHÉATH**, *s.* a sheath. Ex. "A knitting *chéath*." In some of the rural and remote parts of the county the two vowels *e* and *a* when they come together are very distinctly articulated, as in *whé-át*, *shé-áf*, &c.

**CHEM, TEHEM**, *s.* a team of horses.

**CHESVIT**, *s.* a cheese-vat.

**CHIGGIN**, *interj.* an address to horses, bidding them go again, corruptly obtained thus, *Cho-gin*; *gee-gin*; *go-again*; *go-again*.

**CHILDER**, *s.* Children. The termination plural of A. Sax. *cild*, infans. Not of frequent occurrence in the central parts of Shropshire; chiefly confined to the Herefordshire and Cheshire outskirts. The word repeatedly occurs in the Metrical Romance of Amis and Amiloun.

Full blithe was Sir Amis tho:  
Ac for his *childer* him was full wo,  
For fairer ne'r non born.  
Wel loth him was his *childer* to slo.  
v. 2202—5. 2212. 2234. 2271. 2314. 2325. 2369. 2381. &c. &c.

**CHILDREN, CHILDERIN, s.** Children. Though the preceding word be not general, this is, and it is as frequently met with in the Early English Poets.

Ther as the *childerin* lay.

AMIS AND AMILOUN. v. 2405.

And bar her to *chylderen* euen.

Up to the sky.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 101. 197. 301. 307. 720, &c.

**CHILL, v.** to warm any kind of liquid in frosty weather.

Ex. "Will you have your drink *chilled*?" This is a very nice distinction between extreme cold, and the next degree to it.

**CHIMLAY, s.** a chimney. Ex. "Up i' th' *chimlay* cornel."

There is a vulgar tradition at the curious old mansion of Plush, that the beautiful chimneys there were built by a mason whom Judge Leighton had condemned to be hung, but who was reprieved under the promise of building for the Judge, "Sich *chimlays* as had nivir bin sin at no time nod a fore."

**CHIP O' THE OUD BLOCK, phr.** a phrase denoting family likeness or propensities. Grose.

**CHOAK PEAR, s.** a large hard pear, only used for baking. Palsgrave, *Choks pear*, *estranguillow*.

**CHOW, v.** to chew. Ex. "H' 'as lost his tith and canna *chow*." A. Sax. *ceowan*, ruminare.

**CHOW, s.** a quid. Ex. "A *chow* o' bacco." A. Sax. *ceowring*, ruminatio.

**CHRISTIAN, s.** it may seem unnecessary to write down a word in such common acceptation, and it may justly be said to be superfluous, if the notice of it were not remarkable for the peculiar distinction which it has received: an acceptation, however, not confined to ourselves, but in all probability familiar to the lower classes throughout England. It is an appellation which marks not so much the difference between believer and infidel, Christian and Jew, as the distinct characteristics betwixt man and beast. Thus the owner says of

his sagacious dog, "he knows almost as much as a *Christian*;" or a farmer describes a mischievous pig by likening his powers of climbing to those of a man, "he will get o'er a style just like any *Christian*." Forby says it obtains the same usage in Norfolk, and anticipates me by the following apposite quotation from Shakspeare.

And the boy that I gave Falstaff: he had him from me *Christian*; and look if the fat villain have not transformed him ape.  
2 *Hen.* IV. ii. 2.

Or, to illustrate the peculiar application of the word, as it was used in the hearing of an esteemed friend, who lives honoured amongst all who know him for his public spirited conduct, his intelligence and domestic virtues, "I seed a pair o' stotes reared up o' their hind legs, and feyght as nataral as two *Christians*."

**CHUCK**, *v.* to throw. Ex. "*Chuck* the ball o'er the wall."

Lat. *jacto*? Hence the North Country game of *chucks*, and our own rustic one of *chuck farthing*. (See this more fully described in Strutt's Sports and Pastimes, p. 386.)

**CHUNDERING**, *part.* dissatisfied, abusive. Ex. "a *chundering* fellow."

**CHURL**, *s.* the wallflower. *Choiranthus*, Linn. "In the Arabieke tongue" writeth Gerard, "it is called *Keyri*;" our's is but a trifling deviation from the more learned synonym.

**CLACK**, *s.* 1. a clapper of a mill. 2. a sucker or valve of a pump, a piece of leather which prevents the water from falling down 'the trees'.

**CLAM**, *v.* to ring a bell irregularly, or out of time and tune. Ex. "*Clamming* the bells." Swed. *klamma*, *comprimere modo violento*. *Klamning*, *pulsatio campanæ*. Teut. *klemmen*, *pervellere*.

**CLAM**, **CLEMM**, *v.* to starve with hunger. Ex. "Maist *clamm'd* for want o' fittle." "Welly *clemm'd*." This word has been commented upon by most lexicogra-

phers, and cannot therefore be so choice and dialectical as Salopians usually account it. From the bowels of a hungry man being supposed to be *clammed* or stuck together, it has been derived from words having that meaning. S. Goth. Swed. *klamma*; Dan. *klemme*; Ial. *klemma*; Teut. Belg. Germ. *klemmen*, coarctare. Ray, Coles, Grose, Nares, Craven Gloss. N. C. Ches. Gloss. Hallams. Gloss. Norf. Gloss. Tim Bobbin. Stafford. Heref.

I cannot eat stones and turfs, say, what will he *clem* me and my followers? ask him an he will *clem* me.

BEN JONSON'S *Poetaster*.

Hard is the choice when the valiant must eat their arms, or *clem*.

*Every Man out of his Humour*.

—and yet I,

Solicitous to encrease it, when my entrails  
Were *clemm'd* with keeping a perpetual fast  
Was deaf to their loud windy cries.

MASSINGER'S *Roman Actor*.

CLANE, *v.* to make clean, wash and dress, arrange the toilet. Ex. "I mun goa now and *clane* mysilf." See remarks under *ea*. A. Sax. *clane*; *clæman*, purificare.

CLAP, *s.* Skinner says this word is peculiar to the English, and explains it as the lip. Jamieson in his Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish language gives a quotation which refers the word to the uvula. "If," says his authority, "a person be thrown dead into the water, when the *clap* of his throat is shut, the water cannot enter." The sense, however, in which Salopians use the word, refers it to the tongue, or faculty of speech, as "Haud your *clap*," and so we find it employed by Chaucer.

The Reve answerd and saide, Stint thy *clappe*.

*Miller's Prologue*.

CLAP, *v.* to squat, either to kneel or sit. Ex. "*Clap't* herself down."

CLAT, *v.* to propagate ridiculous and false tales. Belg. *kladden*, maculare.

CLATS, *s.* idle stories, gossip. Germ. *kleck*, probrum; *klatscherer*, garritus, delatio; Teut. *kleps*, garrulus.

**CLAVER**, *v.* to impose upon, humbug. Ex. "He's got such a tongue, he'll *claver* 'em out o' any thing." (See **GLAVER**.)

**CLAW**, *v.* 1. to snatch or seize with the claw. 2. to take, to take away violently. Ex. "He *claw'd* hout on it." Germ. *klawen*, manus hominum rapacium et habendi cupidorum, ob similitudinem cum unguibus aquilinis aut milvinis, qui non facile dimittunt prædam. Wachter. A. Sax. *clawian*, scalpere.

For age with steling steps  
Hath *clawde* me with his crouch.

PERCY'S *Reliq.* vol. i. p. 187.

**CLEA**, **CLEY**, *s.* a claw. A good old word. Minshew has deduced it from the Gr. *χηλαι*, forfices.

In hus *clees* clawen us, and in hys cloches holde.

P. PLOUHEMAN, p. 9.

**CLEACH**, *v.* to snatch hold of. A. Sax. *gelæccan*, arripere.

**CLEACHING NET**, *s.* a hand net, with a semicircular hoop and a transverse bar; used by fishermen on the banks of the Severn. Heref.

**CLEAN**, *adv.* entirely, quite. Universal in this sense, though rarely pronounced by the Cornavii as now written, the former vowel being placed at the end of the word. Ex. "*Clane* gwon." The A. Sax. *clane* fully justifies our method of pronunciation, and Shakespeare by using the word adverbially furnishes us with sufficient authority for doing the same.

I found my bow *clene* cast on one side.

ASCHAM'S *Tocophilus*, p. 7.

**CLEAR** and **SHEAR**, *phr.* this is applied to closely and well sheared sheep.

**CLEAT**, *v.* to strengthen with a plate of iron. Ex. "Put a *cleat* on the wheel." A. Sax. *cleot*; C. Brit. *clott*, pitta-cium. Fland. *klessen*; Belg. *klisse*; M. Goth. *kladdra*; C. Brit. *clyttian*, adherescere. (See Du Cange sub voce *Cleia*.)

**CLENT**, *v.* when grain is cut and begins to harden, or when hay, or the straw of "*lent tillin*", becomes seasoned by the influence of the sun, it is said to *clent*; and

as it then begins to assume a bright appearance, the word may be from the Teut. *glantsen*, fulgere.

CLEW, CREW, CREWRING, *s.* a ring at the head of a scythe which fastens it to the *Sned*. (See *Sned*.) A. Sax. *cleow*; Germ. *kleuel*; Teut. *klouwe*, glomus.

CLICKET, *v.* to fasten as with a link over a staple. All the English authorities into which I have looked for this word derive it from the Fr. and they explain it by 'a key'. Where they found this etymology it is difficult to conjecture. Cotgrave, Miede, Richelet and Menage at all events do not recognize it. Roquefort who wrote since these authors, though he mentions the word, does not tell us where he picked it up. The mistakes of Tyrwhit, Skinner, Johnson, Ash, &c. afford me the opportunity of disclaiming for it all connexion with the Gauls, and of giving the Welsh the honor of having introduced it into our language. C. Brit. *cliccied*, the latch of a door, the bolt of a door. This derivation renders the ensuing passages from P. Plouhman intelligible, adopt another and they become pleonastic.

Hue hath a keye and a *clykett*.

p. 124.

—and the dore closed

Ykeyed and *yclykeded*. *id.*

PROMP. PARV. *clykett*. Chauc. Merch. Tale, v. 9991-5-7.

CLINK, *s.* a smart blow. Ex. "Gie him a *clink* i' th' feace." Teut. *klincke*, Colaphus.

CLINKER, *s.* 1. large nails which turn up over the toes of strong shoes, a word corrupted from *clinchers*. 2. a bad sort of coal. 3. cinders from an iron furnace.

CLIP, *v.* 1. to embrace. Ex. "*Clipped* her round the neck," Shakspeare. 2. to hold together by means of a screw or bandage; for instance, a blacksmith will put a piece of iron upon a wheel *to clip it*, lest it fall to pieces.

A. Sax. *clyppan*; Germ. *kleiben*; Gr. *πλέκω*. amplecti. 3. to shear, cut. Swed. Isl. *klippa*; Dan. *klippe*, tondere.



His meanest garment that ever hath but *clip'd* his body.

*Cymbeline.*

CLIPPING, *s.* as much wool as is cut off one sheep. Isl. *klippingr*, *pellis tonsa*.

CLIP THE CHURCH; There prevails a custom amongst the younger inhabitants of the town of Wellington, of annually going on Shrove Tuesday to the Parish Church, and by joining hands together endeavouring to encircle it. What is the origin of this custom it is difficult to say; but it is evidently a remnant of a juvenile pastime which boys have for years been accustomed to indulge in on this particular day.

CLOD COAL, *s.* a species of coal lying above the 'crawstone'; so termed because it lies between two measures called *clods*; it is reputed the best for manufacturing iron.

CLOD MALL, *s.* a wooden hammer which peasants use to break clods. Teut. *klot*, *gleba*, and *mælen*, *molere*.

Then every man had a *mall*,  
Syche as thei betyn *clottys* withall.

*The Hunttyng of the Hare.* v. 91.

CLOG, *v.* to *pickle* or prepare wheat for sowing. The important knowledge of preventing *Smut* or *Pepper Brand* in wheat has not been generally understood in this country more than half a century. Steeping the seed in a mixture of quick lime and *hertin*, (q. v.), is found an effectual brine for destroying the *uredo fetida*. Teut. *klotteren*, *coagulari*.

CLOIR AS CLOIR, *phr.* this means that a liquid is perfectly transparent, as clear as possible, "*Cloir as Cloir*," "*Cloir as waiter*"; it is certainly more correct than "clear as mud," a comparison frequently heard. "Clear as clear" and "hard as hard" are terms often used. Also "clire as clire."

CLOUT, *s.* a blow. Ex. "Fatch him a *clout* i' th' mouth."  
Corn. *clout*, a blow.

The kynges sone, kene and proud,  
Gaf kyng Richard swylke a ner *clout*  
That the fyr of hys heyen sprong.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 768.

And radly raght hym a *cloute*.

*The Huntynge of the Hare*, v. 174.

He gave her than so many a great *cloute*.

*The Wife lapped in Morel's Skin*, v. 977.

Clavers and his Highland men

Came down upo' the raw, man

Who being stout, gave mony a *clout*.

*Gillicrankie*. HERD. i. p. 182.

Did Sandy hear ye,

Ye wadna miss to get a *clout*.

RITSON'S *English Songs*, vol. i. p. 183.

CLOUT, *v.* 1. to weld, patch. Ex. "*Clout* these shoes."

2. to beat, strike; Ex. "*Clout* him in the face." Teut.

*klotsen*; Germ. *klopfen*; Belg. *kloppen*; Franc. *cloppen*;

Swed. *klappa*, pulsare.

Yf thou com more inward

It schall the rewe afterward,

So I schall the *clought*.

SIR CLERGES, v. 261.

—Baxter lads hae seal'd a vow,

To skelp and *clout* the guard.

FERGUSSON'S *Poems*.

CLOUT NAILS, *s.* 1. large nails used for the tire of waggon wheels. Palsgrave, *clout* of yron, platin de fer. 2. short nails with large heads for the soles of strong shoes.

CLOUTED-SHOES, *s.* shoes which may properly be termed clouted, are such as are patched, or mended. In the rural districts they say, "put a *clout* on the toes." Colliers however who think there is more virtue in iron than in leather, talk of having *clout nails* driven into their shoes, with *clinkers* turned over the front. There can be no dispute about the correctness of the former application. PROMP. PARV. *cloute* of a sho: *clouted as shone* or *other thingis of lether*. Palsgrave, *cloute* of a sho. ung talon. A. Sax. *clut*, lamina. Lat. Barb. *clata*. Du Cange.

His hod was full of holes, and his heare oute,

With his knoppede *shon clouted* ful thykke.

PERRS PLOUGHMAN'S *Crede*.

And put my *clouted* brogues from off my feet.

*Cymbeline*, iv. 2.

And no man puttith a *clout* of boistous cloth into an olde clothing, for it doith away the fulnesse of the cloth and a worse brekyng is maad.

WICLIFE'S *New Testament*, Matt. c. ix.

Neates leather shall *clout* thy *shoen*.

*K. Edw. and the Tanner of Tamworth*, v. 184.

But what if dancing on the green,  
And skipping like a mawkin,  
If they should see my *clouted shoon*  
Of me they will be tauking.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, ii. 67.

And old shoes and *clouted* upon their feet.

*Josh. ix. v. 5.*

CLOUTS, *s.* thin plates of iron which are fastened along the extremity of an axle-tree. (See CLEAT and CLOUT.)

Palsgrave, *clout*, of yron, platin de fer.

CLUNCHES, *s.* a measure of indurated earth, nearly as hard as stone. Germ. *klunt*; Belg. *klout*, massa concreta.

CLUTS, *s.* 1. the small wedges which go under the *claw* or *screw* of a scythe. C. Brit. *clut*. 2. wedges generally. Swed. *klots*, frustulum ligneum vel ferreum fabrile alicubi applicandum.

COB, *s.* the chief, head. Ex. "He's *cob*." Belg. *kop*, caput.

COB, *s.* 1. to conquer, excel, beat. Ex. "This *cobs* all." 2. to pull the hair, a punishment applied by school-boys to those who offend the olfactory senses of their playmates. The penalty consists in having the hair pulled whilst the offender whistles, counts ten and touches wood. It has nearly the same signification among the Roxburgshire shepherds. Belg. *kop*; Germ. *kopt*, caput.

COBBLES, *s.* 1. small pieces of coal. Ex. "Put a feow *cobbles* a top o' th' fire." 2. small pebbles. Ex. "Paved with *cobble* stones." Not very local.

With staves or with clubs or els with *cobble* stones.

*Gammer Gurton's Needle*.

COBNOBBLE, *v.* to beat on the head. Belg. Teut. *cop*, caput. Teut. Holl. Fris. Sicamb. Fland. *knodsen*, tundere.

**COB-NUT**, *s.* 1. a large nut with a hole bored through it, and through which runs a piece of string. A game played by boys upon the top of a hat, when one with his cob-nut tries to break the nut of the other. This is not a local amusement, or a provincialism: yet it has been deemed by preceding glossarists sufficiently dialectical to have obtained a place in their vocabularies. They all follow Minshew, and assign the origin of the word to the Belg. *kop-not*, *nux capitalis*, which he explains, 'a great nut, such as boyes play at *cob-nut* withal'.

**COCKARS**, *s.* short woollen socks. A. Sax. *cocer*, any kind of case. Somner. Isl. *koklaz*, ægre per inuia evadere. Teut. *koker*, theca.

Other loke for my *cokers*.

P. PLOUHMANN, p. 75.

—Hus *cockres* and hus *cuffes*.

*id.* p. 131.

And his patch'd *cockers* now despised been.

HALL'S *Satires*, iv. 6.

His mittens were of bauzen's skinne,

His *cokers* were of cordiwin.

PERCY'S *Reliq.* vol. i. p. 324.

**COCK A MEG**, *s.* a piece of timber about half a yard long, which is fastened on the *reeple* in a coal mine to support the roof.

**COCKET, COCKY, COXY**, *adj.* swaggering, pert, supercilious. Ex. "Grown quite *cocky*." Coles has *cocket*. *Coxy* must be a corruption from *coxcomical*, in which sense it is generally taken. Fr. *coquetè*: Cotgr. C. Brit. *coxyo*, to bear rule.

And now I think I may be *cocky*,

Since fortune has smurt'd on me.

*Jeanny Graden*, Ritson's *Scott. Songs*, i. 246.

**COCKHEAD**, *s.* a piece of iron which falls into the *branduts* of a mill. Another informant tells me that the cockhead, is that part of a mill "which is fixed into a stave of the ladder, the ladder being what the hopper rests upon." I confess I do not understand precisely

what I here repeat, but as it comes from a miller it is presumed to be correct.

**COG**, *s.* that particular part of a scythe which is held whilst mowing; the short handle.

**COGGLE**, *v.* to move unsteadily backwards and forwards, to become shaky. Teut. *kughlen*; Germ. *kugeln*, rotundare.

**COGGLETTY**, **COCKLETTY**, *adj.* apt to shake about.

**COIN**, **QUINE**, *s.* an architectural term, the corner of a building. Various etymologies have been offered for this word, as the Gr. *ἀγκών*—and *γωνία*—Lat. *cuneus*: Fr. *coing*.

**COLD COMFORT**, *s.* unwelcome intelligence, disagreeable information.

I do not ask you much, I beg *cold comfort*.

*K. John. v. 7.*

**COLLOGUEING**, *part.* scheming or plotting to the disadvantage of another. Kersey says it means to “decoy with fair words, to flatter or sooth up,” but not so in Shropshire. Minshen admits the participle as well as the verb. The verb is common in our Early English Dictionaries, see Baily, Cole, Skinner, Cocker and Blount. Forby agrees with me in asserting that it has a sense of its own quite different from flattering. Lat. *colloquor*.

**COLLY WESTON**, **CONNY WESTON**, *phr.* In the first sense in which we use this phrase it implies any thing awry, or on one side; if a garment, a bonnet or a shawl is awkwardly put on, it is *all conny wesson*: if things are contrary, ill-timed or go amiss, the evil genius *conny wesson* is the cause, and we lay all the blame to him, “*its all along o’ conny wesson*.” And the same characteristics of perverseness accompany its meaning when any thing is uneven, crooked, out of a straight line, or obstinate. Thus a shuffler partakes of the bad spirit of *conny wesson*, “he inna” we say,

"*strai-it forad, he's all conny wesson.*" What connexion, or whether it has any at all with the village of *Colly-weston* in Northamptonshire lies out of my power to determine.

**COLLER, COLLY, s.** the black incrustation of smoke and soot which adheres to the outside of a pot or kettle. Kersey recognises the word in his Dictionary. A. Sax. *col*; Isl. Swed. Germ. *kol*; Dan. *kul*; Teut. *kole*, carbo.

**COLLY. v.** to dirty with *colly*, to smut. Ex. "*Collied* his face all o'er."

He made foule chere,  
And *bicollede* is swere.

GESTE OF KING HORN, v. 1071, 1072.

He lokede aboute,  
Myd is *collede* smoute.

*id.* v. 1097, 1098.

Brief as the lightning in the *colly'd* night.

*Mids. Night's Dream*, i. 1.

And passion having my best judgement *collied*.

*Othello*, ii. 3.

**COME ON, v.** 1. to grow, improve. Ex. "The tillins *come on* apace." 2. to impose, encroach. Ex. "*Coming on* in his charges." 3. to succeed, follow. Ex. "*A coming on* tenant."

**COME OUT, or COME EYT,** an address offensive to a dog, which bids him either "blin of his barking," or get away.

**COMING FLOOR, s.** that part of a malthouse, where the barley lies, after it vegetates, grows, or acrespires. Isl. *keima*; Germ. *kiemen*; M. Goth. *keinan*; Franc. Alaman. *chinen*, germinare.

**COME-THY-WAYS, WITH THEE, phr.** An endearing kind of address to children. Not entirely dialectical. See examples and illustrations of its use in the North Country and Craven Glossaries, from one of which works the following one is requoted.

While Aire to Calder calls, and bids her *come her ways*.

DRAYTON'S *Poly-olbion*.

**COMMANDEMENTS, s. commandments.** The interposition of the vowel is very common also in the Early English writers; see Wiclif, Chaucer, Spenser, King Cambises. The worlde and the Chylde, Apius and Virginia, &c.

And pyllid the barke even of hys face  
Withe her *commandements* ten.

*Ane Ballat of Matrimonie.*

**COMM'D, past part.** 1. common for came. Ex. "Afore I *comm'd* he raught thire ye sin."

The righte aire of that suntere  
*Es cumen.*

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 14.

Quhare, troaist ye, I sall find yon *new-cumde* king.

SIR D. LYNDSEY, vol. ii. p. 35.

2. became. Ex. "Jack! the measter toud me to ax yo, whad yone done a th' groun bitch? Begum I dunna knoa—the last as I sid on her was down i' th' bwes fawhr, and whad *comm'd* on her ater, I conna justly say." A. Sax. *cuman*; Teut. *komen*; Germ. *kommen*; Swed. *komma*, venire. R. of Gloster, R. of Brunne, P. Plouhman and the Metr. Romances have *cum*, and *com* in the A. Sax. form.

**COME-MOGE, CUMMUGGIN, interj.** An address to the leading horse of a team, when he is required to turn to the left, to come nearer or turn round. They are varied inflections formed thus by elision, from *come over again*, *come again*, *commeggin*; as COME-MOGE and COM-MOTHER are deduced from, *come over*, and *come hither*.

**COMMUN, s.** a common, waste land. Ex. "Kip yo rit strai-it forat, across the *commun*." Those Salopians who are most simple and *pure* in their language usually employ the imperative in lieu of the indicative with an auxiliary, as in the example just given, in which case the more educated would say, "You *must* keep right straight forward," &c.

**COMMUN JUSTICE O' THE PACE: phr.** Ex. "Minded me no moor than if I'd bin a *commun Justice o' the Pace*."

COMPANY KEEPS, *phr.* This is the usual method of expressing that a young person receives the addresses of a lover. It is in analogy with the idiom of the early English and French. "*Compagner, etre en commerce, ou en familiarite avec quelqu'un, avoir commerce avec une femme.*" Roquef. Glossary. In the East window of St Mary's Church Shrewsbury, (See Blakeway and Owen's Hist. vol. ii. p. 318) is an inscription which beseeches the reader to pray for John de Charlton who caused the glazing to be made, and for Dame Hawise his *companion*. At that period the appellation was honourable, and even savoured of Royalty. Edw. II. in a letter to his son speaks of *nostre treschere compaigne la royne*: and the statute of treasons, 25 Edw. III. declares it to be treason to compass the death of the king, or of *Madame sa compaigne*. The old Spanish law has the same phrase. (See Barrington's Observations on the Statutes, p. 245.) Indeed our modern word queen, is in its primitive sense nothing more than a woman. (M. Goth. *quino*; Isl. *kuenna*; A. Sax. *cwen*; Dan. *quinde*; Teut. *quena*; Gr. *γυνή*, mulier.) The term of *companion*, gradually got lower, and in 1484, we read of a lady who was daughter of Monsieur John de Poitiers and Madame Isabeau *sa compaigne*, who was descended from the kings of Portugal. (See Palaye Mem. Sur l'anc. Chevalrie, vol. ii. p. 183.)

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE DOUBLE. In common with other counties, the language of the lower orders in Shropshire abounds with pleonasm of this nature. How often do we hear, *more painfuller, more tidyer, more industrier, most honestest, most quickest, most nearest*? I suppose these must be considered incorrect, examples however do exist which may tend to shield these apparent irregularities from the critic's censure.



Ne'er from France arrived *more happier* men.  
Hen. V. iv. 4.

*More sharper* than your swords.  
Hen. V. iii. 5.

Contain your spirit in *more stricter* bounds.  
*Every Man out of his Humour.*

They saw the Cardinal *more readier* to depart than the remnant; for not only the high dignity of the Civil Magistrate, but the *most basest* handicraft are holy, when they are directed to the honour of God. SIR THOMAS MORE.

Besides meeting with similar pleonasms in Jul. Cæsar, the Tempest, and the Two Gentlemen of Verona, we have a criticism on the foregoing quotation from Sir Thomas Moore from the pen of Ben Jonson, who says, "that this is a certain kind of *English Atticism*, or eloquent phrase of speech, imitating the manner of the *most ancientest* and finest Grecians, who for more emphasis and vehemency's sake used so to speak." Again, for other examples.

After the *most straitest* sect of our religion, I lived a Pharisee.  
*Acts xxvi. 5.*

Whosoever of you will be *chiefest*, shall be servant of all.  
*Mark x. 44.*

The *most coldest* that ever turned up all.  
*Cymb. ii. 3.*

Oh, 'tis the *most wicked'st*.  
*Women Pleased.*

But *first* and *chiefest* with thee bring  
Him, that yon soars on golden wing.  
*Il Pensierosa*

That on the sea's *extremest* border stood.  
*ADDISON'S Travels.*

CONÇAYT, CONCEIT, *s.* 1. good opinion. Ex. "I've no great *conçayt* on him." 2. opinion, simply. Ex. "But a poor *conçayt* as how he'll do it."

John Anderson my Jo, John  
Ye were my first *conceit*.  
*Scotch Ballad.*

CONÇAYT, *v.* to conceive, imagine. In this sense, according to Tyrwhitt, the word is used by Chaucer in his Translation of Boethius. Fr. *Concevoir*.

CONCERNMENT, *s.* concern, business. Ex. "No *concernment* o' yourn."

CONNA, CONNOD, *v.* can not.

CONSARN, *v.* to concern. Ex. "I dunna *consarn* mysilf wi' sich nonsense."

CONSARN; a kind of threat. See SARN.

CONSORT, *v.* to associate with. Ex. "*Consorting* together."  
Lat. *consocio*.

And afterwards *consort* with you till bed time.

*Comedy of Errors.*

And must for aye *consort* with black-brow'd night.

*Mids. Night's Dream*, iii. 2.

Thou *consort'st* with Romeo.

*Romeo and Juliet*, iii. 1.

And some of them believed and *consorted* with Paul and Silas.

*Acts* xvii. 4.

COOTH, *s.* a cold. Ex. "Kotched a *cooth* i' his limbs."

COP, *s.* the top or middle of a *Butt* in ploughed land.

A. Sax. *Cop*; C. Brit. *coppa*; Germ. *koppel*; Fr. *coupeau*, apex.

Tho' gan I on this hill to gone,  
And found on the *coppe* a wone.

CHAUCER'S *House of Fame*, iii.

COPPET, *adj.* pert, saucy. Craven Glossarist rightly refers the origin of this word to the Belg. *kop*, caput.

COPPY, *s.* a coppice. Ex. "Gwon to the *coppy* for a burn o' hetherin." Gr. κόπτω, scindo. Fr. *coppè*, cut. Cotgr.

COP SIL, COPSAL, *s.* a piece of serrated iron which terminates that extremity of a plough at which the horses are attached, sometimes called the *hear* of a plough, or the *cop rail*. Ex. "Shut 'em to the *copsil rail*."

CORACLE, *s.* a small boat formed with broad hoops and covered with tarpauling, so light that a fisherman easily carries it on his back. This little vessel is not confined to the Severn, being used also on the Wye. I suppose we are indebted to the Welsh for introducing it on our river. Camden speaks of it as pe-

cular to Shropshire in his time. "The Shrewsbury fishermen," says he, "use a vessel called a *coracle* which they row with one hand while they fish with the other. It is about five feet long, and three broad, almost oval, with a round bottom, made of willow twigs or osiers covered with horses' hides, and so light as to be carried on a man's back. These vessels seem to be the remains of the currachs used anciently between Ireland and Scotland, and similar to the canoes of the Americans." (Gough's Edition of Camden, vol. iii. p. 35.) The word has been derived by some one from *corium*, which would suit it well enough, provided *coracles* were covered with hides, but as they are not I conceive with more certainty the origin of the word will be found lurking under the C. Brit. *curwgle*, one of the singularly few words, considering our constant intercourse with and proximity to the Welsh, which we have acquired from their language. S. Goth. *korg*; Germ. *korb*, *corbis*. Fr. *corbeille*. A. Sax. *cuople*, *navicula*. Celt. *curuca*, *navis coriacea*. Sidonius Apollinaris says that the Saxon pirates in his time frequently crossed the British seas in these boats.

Quin et Aremoricus piratam Saxona tractus  
Sperabat, cui pelle salum sulcare Britannum.

*Carmina*, vii.

Armor. *crochen*; Bret. *croc'hen*, peau de quelque animal. Gael. *curach*, a small boat of wicker covered with hides.

CORKING, *s.* the turn up bits on the toe of a horse's shoe.

CORKED, *part. past*; offended.

CORNCRAKE, CORNDRAKE, *s.* *Rallus Crex*, of Linnæus: it is also frequently called by the several titles of *Corn craker*, *Oraker*; *Landrail*, *Landrake*. To write the word in an orthographical way, it ought to be *Corn Creke*. It receives this appellation from *creaking*, or making a hoarse, grating noise in the corn or long

mowing grass. C. Brit. *crech*, a scream. In a rare little volume entitled, "Avium Præcipium quarum apud Plinium et Aristotelem mentio est per Gul. Turnerum, Colon. M.D. XLIV: we find it thus described, and get at the derivation of the word from ornithological authority. "Est avis quædam apud Anglos, longis cruribus, cætera coturnici, nisi quod major est, similis, quæ in segete et lino, vere et in principio sætatis non aliam habet vocem semper ingeminet, quam ego Aristotelis *crecem* esse puto. Angli avem illam vocant a *daker hen*; Germani *ein Schryk*, nusquam in Anglia nisi in sola Northumbria vidi et audivi." White, in his History of Selborne, says the bird was rare in his district. Martin, in his account of the Western Isles, calls the bird a *corn-craker*; Lyndsay has *corn craik*.

He gart the Emproure trow, and trewlye behald,  
That the *corncraik*, the pundare at hand.

HOLLAND'S *Buke of the Howlat*.

CORNED, *part. past*; intoxicated by ale. Ex. "He was pretty well *corned*." Germ. *Kornen*, inescare granis. At first hearing we should say that this was metaphorical, but when we recollect the magical powers of malt liquor, we shall rather cry out as moral philosophers, in the ballad of Sir John Barleycorn,

He'll change a boy into a man,  
A man into an ass;  
He'll change your gold into silver,  
Your silver into brass.

CORNEL, *s.* a corner. Ex. "Clos up i' th' *cornel*."

C. Brit. *cornel*, angulus.

Clement stode in oo *kernell*.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 1115.

Wel flourished with *cornelles*.

R. COER DE LION, v. 1842.

Florence lay in a *cornell*.

LE BONE FLORENCE OF ROME, v. 808.

CORNER, *s.* a point at whist. The Iceni use this word. (See Forby.) Its circulation with us is confined to the

very inferior grades of card playing people. Ex. "I reckon 'a 'mun play three yappence a *corner*."

**CORNY**, *adj.* strong, tasting of the malt. Ex. "Pretty *corny*." Just in the sense it has in Chaucer.

Or elles a draught of moist and *corny* ale.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 12249 and 12390.

**COS**, *conj.* because. Ex. "*Cos* a coudna."

**COSH**, *adj.* quiet, still. Ex. "Quite *cosh*." *Mush* and *Hush* are words of the same import, and have their root in the final letters, which it will be seen continually enter into words which imply sound, or betoken silence.

**COSTERING**, *part.* swaggering, blustering. Ex. "A *costering* fellow." Teut. *kosteren*, obgannire.

**COSTLY COLOURS**, *s.* a game at cards.

**COSTREL**, *s.* a small wooden bottle used by labourers in harvest-time. A word little understood in the interior of the county, confined in great measure to the Cambro-Britannic side. C. Brit. *costrel*, a bottle. Fr. *costeret*, sorte de mesure de vin ou d' autre liqueur. Lat. *costrellus*, *costerellum*, *costerez*. (See Du Cange sub voce.) Bailey, Coles.

And withall a *costrell* taketh he tho

And sayd, "Here of a draught or two."

CHAUCER'S *Legend of Good Women*, v. 2655.

**COT**, a common termination to the names of several places in the county of Salop: as *Smethcot*, *Picclescot*, *Sibberscot*, *Harcot*, *Hencot*, *Woolascot*, *Woodcot*, *Beffcot*, *Arlascot*, &c. See p. 259.

**COTE**, *s.* a hovel or shed for cattle. A. Sax. *cote*; Isl. Belg. *cot*; Lat. Barb. *cota*, turgurium.

Theyr housbondry, but leteth theyr corne rote,

Theyr hey to must, theyr shepe dye in the *cote*.

*The Hye Way to the Spytell hous*, v. 542.

**COTTER**, *v.* to repair, mend, patch. Ex. "*Cotter* 'em up a bit, and mak 'em sarve a trifle lunger." Thus from things

being repaired in an inefficient way, by those who may not have the pecuniary means to do the work better, the word perhaps comes from the Fr. *cottier*, rusticus; Lat. Barb. *coteria*, tenementum rusticum.

COTTER, COTTERIL, *s.* an elastic thin piece of iron passed through the end of an iron pin or bolt that is inserted in a window-shutter, for the purpose of preventing the pin from falling out, and the shutters from being opened externally.

COTTON'S NECK, *phr.* "All awry like Cotton's neck." A simile applied to any thing that is warped or twisted.

COUCH, COUCH, *s.* a bed of barley when germinating for malt. Teut. *koeste*; Fr. *couche*, sponda.

COUCH, COUCH, *v.* to squat. Ex. "Cooched down like y' sin, and soa missed on him."

COULBOURN'S EYE, *phr.* "Clane gwon like Coulbourn's eye." A common simile, of whose origin we must contentedly remain in refined ignorance. Sometimes the infirmity of a different person is noted, and we hear of *David's eye*, *ould Wright's eye*, or *the lad's eye*. They all bear the same mark of provincial vulgarity, unrelieved either by wit, or the sanction of antiquity.

COULING-AXE, *s.* an instrument used to stock up earth.

COUPE, *s.* a wooden box or receptacle where poultry are kept to fatten. Purfoote's Dictionarie. Palsgrave, *coupe* for capons or other poultrie ware, caige aux chappons.

COURDEL, COURDLING, *s.* a small cord. Teut. *koordaken*, funiculus. Fr. *courdel*. Roquef. Gloss.

COURTED, COURTING KEARDS, *s.* court cards.

COUTER, *s.* a coulter, or ploughshare. Teut. *kouter*; Corn. *colter*; Fr. *coultre*; Lat. *culter*.

And helpe my *cutter* to kerve.

P. PLOUHMANN, p. 131

My daddy left me gear enough

A *couter*, and an auld beam plough.

*Wylie Winkie's Testament*. HERD'S *Songs*, vol. ii. p

Cow, *v.* to feel afraid. Ex. "Dunna be *cowed* at such a fellow as that." There is no doubt of this being a correct word, though Glossographers are at variance as to whence it comes.

It is the *cowish* tenor of his spirit.

*Lear*, iv. 2.

For it hath *cowed* my better part of man.

*Macbeth*, v. 7.

COW SHARN, *s.* cow-dung. Teut. *sharn*; S. Goth. Swed. *skarn*; A. Sax. *scearn*, stercus. Philemon Holland, in his translation of Pliny, declares that it is good as a cosmetic! (See Brockett's Gloss.) Few of our present belles would try its virtues in that respect; though it is still used by the lower orders as a cataplasm for bruises and sprains, being applied to the parts affected, as hot as the patient can bear it. In fact, whilst these lines are written I am told that a similar poultice has just been laid upon Miss J . . . . 's leg. The word is not very common with us. It is much more so in the North. Shakspeare has *shard* and *shard born* beetle. (See Craven Gloss.)

They turned me out, that's true enough  
To stand at city bar,  
That I may clean up ilka sheugh  
Of a' the *sharn* and glaur.

GALLOWAY'S *Poems*.

Taft play'd the priming-heels owt hither.  
They fell in *shairn*.

MAYNE'S *Siller Gun*.

CRABVARGES, *s.* verjuice, vinegar made from crabs. Ex. "As sour as *crabvarges*."

CRAB-WINDLASS, *s.* a windlass which stands on the deck of a barge and is used by hand. Swed. *krabb*, instrumentum quo quævis ex fundo aquarum eruuntur: *winda*, trochlea. (See Paul-windlass.)

CRACHY, *adj.* old, dilapidated, tumbling down. Ex. "An oud *crachy* consarn ov a plâäce."

CRAKE, *v.* to confess, say, declare. Ex. "He's too oud

a hond to *crake*." "Nivir *craked* a word." Teut. *krazeren*, cornicari, proclamare. Chauc. v. 9724.

Then is she mortall borne, how so ye *crake*.  
FAERIE QUEENE, vi. vii. 50.

CRANCH, CRUNCH, SCRANCH, *v.* 1. to crush any thing gritty under the feet. 2. to grind with the teeth.

To *cranchen* ous and al oure kynde.  
P. PLOUHMAN.

She can *cranch*  
A sack of small coale! eat you lime and hair.  
BEN JONSON'S *Magnetick Lady*.

CRANNY, *adj.* quick, giddy, thoughtless. Teut. *schrand*, *vafer*.

CRAP, *s.* a crop. The PROMP. PARV. furnishes a well known illustration, *Crappe of corne*. 2. an inferior piece of beef. Ex. "Nothing but a bit o' th' *crap*." Teut. *krappe*, *offula*. 3. the back part of the neck. Ex. "The *crap* o' th' neck." Gr. *κορυφή*, vertex; Germ. *kropt*; Teut. *krop*, *vesicula gutturis*. 4. the dregs of beer or malt liquor. Ex. "*Crap* o' th' barrel." Isl. *krap*, *nix semiliquida*.

CRAP, *v.* to yield a plentiful crop. Ex. "The tatures *crappen* well."

CRAPPING TIME, *s.* the period when grain or vegetables are gathered.

CRAPPINS, *s.* 1. where the coal crops out. 2. the name of a place in the parish of Dawley, county of Salop, whence, since the coal there *crops* out, it may reasonably be said to take its name.

CRAP OUT, *v.* Geologists sanction the correctness of this phrase, though they must not be considered responsible for the change of the vowel.

CRATCH, *s.* 1. a rack for holding bacon. Few, if any of our Shropshire farm houses are without this kitchen accompaniment, which invariably is suspended in a horizontal way close to the fire. 2. a rack for holding hay. Fr. *creicche*.



And I found Jesus—born into the world poor, laid in a *cratch*.

WICLIFF'S *Pore Caitif*. Relig. Tract Society, Reprint, p. 113.

And this is a tokene to you, ye schulen fynde a yonge child wlappid in clothis, and leyd in a *cracche*.

WICLIFF'S *Translation of the New Testament*, Luke ch. ii.

But the Lorde answerde to him and seyde, Ypocrite, wher ech of you untieth not in the Saboth his oxe or asse fro the *cracche*, and ledith to watir? *id.* Luke xiii.

**CRATCH**, *v.* to eat as a horse, generally: to eat or feast with appetite. Ex. "He *cratches* well, and nivr slights his fittle." Hence the phrase of "a good *cratcher*" for man or beast, when their stomach is constant.

**CRATE**, *s.* a large wicker basket, generally used for holding glass or china. Fr. *cretin*. Teut. Belg. Germ. A. Sax. *kratte*, corbis; Teut. Germ. *kratse*, corbis vimine textus. "Fiebant autem primum *crateræ* a connexionibus virgularum." Isid. Orig. (See Du Cange sub voce *Cratera*.)

**CRAW-STONE**, *s.* the lowest measure of iron-stone at present discovered in the Ketlay Coal Field. It is reported that a measure even lower called the Lancashire Ladies has been found near Coalport. The name originates, I am informed by an intelligent friend, from the stone "lying in *craws* in the rock, like a fowl's *craw*." Between Arles and Marseille there is a stony district called *Craw*, and this word has been derived from the Celtic *crag*, which signifies a rock. It would be travelling too far to fetch the origin of the word from thence.

**CRAZED**, *part. past*; china in the biscuit state, 'short fired.' When it has passed through the glaze kiln the evil is corrected. Coal Port.

**CRAZY**, *adj.* dilapidated. Ex. "An oud *crazy* consarn."

**CRESS**, *s.* a curved tile used for capping the roofs of houses.

Teut. *kries*; Germ. *kreis*, circulus; Swed. *krissa*, circulare.

**CREWE**, *s.* a coop for geese.

**CRIB**, *s.* 1. a lock up house. (Wellington and Bridge-north.) Isl. *kreppa*, coaretarc. 2. a rack holding hay or any kind of fodder for cattle. Teut. Belg. Germ.

- kribbe*; Dan. *krybbe*; Swed. *krubba*; Franc. *crippa*; A. Sax. *crybbe*, præsepe. Ital. *greppia*.
- CRICKER, *s.* a man who drives a pack horse with any kind of burden.
- CRICKETTING, *part.* a term betokening the catulency of a ferret. Grose.
- CRICKING HORSE, *s.* a horse used by a *Cricker*, and from being usually small, the appellation evidently comes from the Fr. *criquet*, une petit cheval.
- CRINKLING, *s.* a small precocious apple. Swed. *skrynkla*, corrugare; A. Sax. *skrincan*, arcare, debilitare; Teut. *schrinken*, contrahere.
- CRISS-CROSS, *s.* the cross or mark of such as cannot write. From the earliest period since the introduction of Christianity, it has been customary for those who were unable to sign their names, to affix the mark of a cross instead. Witred King of Kent decreed, Anno 694, that no deed was valid unless it bore this stamp. It is constantly observable in the charters of the Anglo-Saxon and Spanish Kings, and in all those documents which recite property bequeathed for ecclesiastical purposes. Numerous proofs still remain which testify that royal and noble personages were not ashamed to confess their ignorance of letters. Witred acknowledges in a charter printed in Spelman's *Concilia*, p. 193, that on account of his ignorance of letters, he had confirmed what he had dictated by the signature of a cross. (See *Du Cange*, under *Cruce subscribere*.)
- CRIT, CRUT, *s.* a hovel, a small hut built upon a pit bank for the accommodation of colliers. Teut. *kruft*; A. Sax. *cruft*, *crypta*.
- CROCK, *s.* an earthen vessel, a porringer cup. Teut. *kroegh*; Celt. *croth*; A. Sax. *crocca*; Dan. *krukke*; Alam. *cruch*; Belg. *kruycke*; Germ. *cruch*; Fr. *cruche*; C. Brit. *crochan*; Gael. *crogan*; Isl. *krucka*, *seria*; Lat. Barb. *orea*; Gr. κρώσσοσ, *croceus*.

And lerede men a ladel bygge with a long stele  
That cast for to kele a *crockke*.

P. PLOUHMAN, 380.

When that dronken was al in the *crook*.

CHAUCER. *Reeve's Tale*, v. 248.

CROFT, *s.* a small field. A. Sax. *croft*, *agellulus*.

For thei comen to my *croft*, my corn to defoule.

P. PLOUHMAN, 129.

CROODLE, *v.* 1. to bend over the fire in cold weather; to herd together like fowls in the wet. The same word used in Cheshire has a different meaning. 2. to feel cold, experience the want of animal warmth. Ex. "Chickens as bin wek, gwun *croodling* about for want o' th' hen to broodle 'em." And in the former sense, "Uz" (that is to say, *he is*) "Uz a mon as ud liffer *croodle* and starve than tak to work." Fr. *croupir*? Cotgr.

CROP, *s.* the craw of a fowl. S. Goth. *kropp*; Teut. *krop*; A. Sax. *crop*, *ingluyies*.

By night and day, that shouldest vex thee,  
Which sore would sticke, then in thy *crop*.

*The Wife lapped in Morel's skin.*

CROP THE CAUSEY, *phr.* a person is said to crop the causey when he unyieldingly walks down the center. Fr. *chausée*. Jamieson.

CROPE, the old *pret.* of the verb to creep. Ex. "Crops into a hole."

In the erthe they wolde have *crope*.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 3472.

CROPE, the old *perf.* tense of the verb to creep.

As thou right now were *crope* out of the ground.

*The Frankleines Tale*, v. 11018.

CROSSGRAINED, *part. past*; perverse, ill-tempered. Not local.

CROSSWIND, *v.* to become crooked, warped, or twisted.

Ex. "This glass *crosswinds* soa that I conna mak a good job on it." S. Goth. *winda*; Teut. *winden*; Isl. Swed. *vinda*, torquere.

CROSS WON, CROSS WOUN, CROSS WOUNDED, *part. past*; uneven,

irregular, contorted, when the surface is not as a Sallopian would define it, "palarel (parallel) with itself."  
**CROUP**, *s.* a disease incidental to poultry; not the same as the pip.

**CROWDER**, *phr.* "As cunning as Crowder." Ray in his list of proverbs has *Craddock* in lieu of *Crowder*.

**CROWN**, *v.* to hold an inquest. Ex. "A conna be buried yet, for a inna *crowned*."

**CROWNER**, *s.* a coroner.

**CROWNER'S QUEST**, *s.* a coroner's inquest. These three terms are neither local or modern. (See Shakspeare, Hamlet. v. 1.)

**CROWSON'S MARE**, *phr.* Ex. "Here a comes, limping along like oud *Crowson's Mare*."

**CRUD**, *v.* to curd. PROMP. PARV. *crudded*.

See how thy blood *cruddles* at this.

*A King and no King.*

**CRUDS**, *s.* by metathesis for *curds*. PROMP. PARV. *crudde*, coagulum.

**CRUDLY**, *adj.* crumbling. By a transposition not unfrequent it makes *curdly*, which form assimilates in meaning to our word, though some may prefer fixing its etymology at once in the C. Brit. *cryd*, trembling.

**CRUK**, *s.* a bend, or shoot. Ex. "The *cruk* o' the maut."

**CRUMP**, *v.* to break any thing of a brittle or crusty nature betwixt the teeth. Teut. *krimpan*; Swed. *krympa*; Belg. *krimpen*; Germ. *krumpen*, contrahi. A. Sax. *acruman*, in micæ frangere. Hence the commoner words *cramp* and *crumpet*.

**CRUMPLE**, **CRUNKLE**, *v.* to rumple. Teut. *kronckelen*, in-torquere.

**CUB**, *s.* a chest for corn or grain of any kind. Germ. *kubel*, cupa. Kersey.

**CUCKOO-FOOT-ALE**: Who will say that our Shropshire colliers, generally supposed to be insensible to the

charms of nature and the "song of earliest birds", lie deservedly under the reproach, or that they can be said to have their minds untouched by the soft influence of poetic feeling, when we find them annually welcoming the cuckoo, by libations quaffed in honor of his return. They greet this pleasing harbinger of spring by a meeting "to drink his foot-ale" or first arrival. The custom is invariably celebrated out of doors, and a fine levied upon the person who proposes to deviate from the usual practice and drink within.

CUNGIT, *s.* a road under the surface to 'the face' of a coal work, by which a horse can go; more recently termed 'the level'.

CUPOLA, *s.* a reverberating furnace, a building constructed in an arched form, tapering towards the top, in which pig iron is smelted. Bailey has *cupel*, *copel*, and *cup-pel*, as a term amongst chymists, a furnace made of ashes and burnt bones, to purify and try gold and silver. Ital. *cupo*; Phillips has *coppel*; Coles *cupulo*, *cupolo*, a round tower. (See Richelet under *coupelle*.)

CURLSTONE, a shale belonging to the coal formation, which on exposure to the air hardens and assumes a peculiar form, sometimes called "cone-upon-cone".

CUT, *s.* a canal. Derbyshire. Ex. "*The cut*", "the *cut side*." Three different grades of society designate it by the several titles of *the canal*; *the navigation*; and *the cut*.

CUT AND RUN, *phr.* Not a provincial mode of expressing that a person has absconded. To use this phrase correctly, the verbs ought to be transposed, and then the phrase would be in perfect analogy with any of those which emanate from what is deemed proper authority. C. Brit. *cuddio*; Germ. *kutten*; Gr. *κεύθω*, abscondere, occultare, explain the idiom thus, "he ran and *hid* himself."

CUT UP, *v.* 1. to be disappointed, labour under distress

of mind. Ex. "Desputly *cut up* by the dheath on his feayther." 2. to die possessed of ample property. Ex.

"A sen as how th' oud mon *cut up* well at the last."

*CUTE*, *adj.* expert, quick, clever. Ex. "a *cute* chap," "a *cute* dog." Some of my predecessors have very properly rejected the Lat. *acutus* as the origin of this word, and referred it to the A. Sax. *cuth*, expertus.

*CYTHEB*, *s.* cider. The *d* is often converted by the lower classes both among ourselves and in Herefordshire, into *th*. Wiclif employs the word in his translation of the New Testament for strong drink, which it signified in its original application, coming from the Heb. *secar*; Gr. *σικερα*, *sicera*, omnis potio quæ extra vinum inebriare potest. (Isidor. xx. 3. Poli Synops. in Lucam. i. 15. vol. iv. p. 856-7. Edit. 1674. Du Cange sub. *Sicera*.)





when final is frequently suppressed, particularly in the verbs, *send*, *tind*, *lend*, &c. and always commuted into *t* in the perfect tense, as *helt*, for held, *ailt* for ailed. This habit is not unusual with the Scotch.

I wat richt weill, ye will baith gif, and *len* me.  
*The Satyre of the Three Estatis.*

When double it is not unfrequently converted by metaplasm into *th*, and it may be remarked that this is the most common mutation which any letter undergoes. A great number of those words derived from the Teutonic, Belgic, A. Saxon and C. British, which are in universal circulation among the upper classes, may strictly be called *corruptions* of this nature from the primitive languages, as in the instances of *brother*, *weather*, *father*, *smith*, &c. In proof of such a termination being unnatural we need only refer to the difficulty experienced by children and foreigners in overcoming its pronunciation.

DABB, DABBING, *s.* 1. a pinafore. 2. a small legacy or gift. Ex. "Laft him a lickle *dab* o' money. 3. a blow, generally confined to one in the face, given with the

fist. Ex. "Fatch him a *dab* i' th' feáce," or the mouth, or the *chops*, whichsoever serveth him best.

Philot him gaf anothis *dabbe*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 2306.

Bytweone you deliþ hit with *dabbe*;  
And with spere, and sweordis dunt!

*id.* v. 7304.

As he was recovering himself, I gave him a *dab* in the mouth with my broken sword, which very much hurt him; but he aiming a second thrust, which I had likewise the good fortune to put by, and having as before given him another *dab* in the mouth, he immediately went off for fear of the pursuers.

*Memoirs of Capt. Creighton*, p. 82, as quoted by Jamieson.

DABB, *v.* the act of striking, or giving a *dabb*. Ex. "I'll *dabb* your mouth up." Teut. *dabben*, subigere.

The flemmisshe hem *dabbeth* o' the hed bare.

*A Ballad against the French.* (RITSON.)

DACKY, *s.* a sucking pig, "a *dacky* pig". Ex. "Jack! goa yo an fat up the *dackies*." From what people can we have learned this word? And where did we pick up the kind invitation for pigs to feed, which is conveyed in calling out at the trough, *Däk, Däk, Däk, Däk*. I can imagine the appellative *Süs, Süs, Süs, Süs*, as conveyed directly by the Latins, but whence we have derived *Dak, Dak*, it is difficult to say.

DADDLE, *s.* the fist, hand. Ex. "Tip us your *daddle*." A low salutation, or request to shake hands. Grose.

DADING STRINGS, *s.* strings by which children are supported whilst learning to walk. A. Sax. *teogan*, ducere.

DAFF, *v.* to put a *daff* on a person means to make him afraid. If there be such a word in the Islandic tongue as *daffe*, stupor, which Junius alleges there is, though such an one is not recognised by Andreas, Haldorson or Verelius, it exactly accords with the general application which we give the word. It seems to have been used continuously in the same sense from P. Plouhman to Chaucer. Bullokar explains, *Daff*, a dastard. Ray has *daff* to daunt.



Thou doted *daffe*, quath hue, dolle aren thy wittes.

P. PLOUHMAN.

Beth not *bedaffed* for your innocence,  
But sharply taketh on you the governaille.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 9067.

DAFFISH, *adj.* 1. shy, modest. Ex. "He's grow'd so meety *daffish*." 2. low spirited.

DAGGED, DAGGLED, *part. past*; wet or splashed with dirt.  
Isl. *deiga*, *madefacere*.

Furtherover, if so be that they wolden yeve swiche pounsoned and *dagged* clothing to the poure peple.

CHAUCER'S *Persones Tale*, p. 44.

DAGGLE-TAILED, *part. past*; wet or dirtied in the skirts by mud.

Never sorry lass so pitifully aweary of her ragged petticoat and *dagged tail*, that tattered livery of the confuting gentleman.

PIERCE'S *Supererogation*; or a new praise of the old *Ass*. 4to. 1593.

DAGGLY, *adj.* humid, wet. Ex. "A *daggly* day." "Meety *daggly* weather like." Swed. *daggig*, *roscidus*.

Isl. *deigr*, *madidus*.

DANDY COCK, DANDY HEN, *s.* one of the Bantam breed.

DANG, *s.* to throw down, or strike with violence. Though more commonly used as the præterite of *ding*, it is occasionally heard as a present tense, as "Dang my buttons," and "I'll *dang* it down if y' sen another synnable." In this case the præterite becomes *dinged*, as "He *ding'd* it smack o' th' yeath." Glossographers think this is the legitimate præterite of *dang*, and Nares quotes the Spanish Tragedy, and Marston, in confirmation of the rule.

Brought in a fresh supply of halberdiers,

Which paunch'd his horse, and *ding'd* him to the ground.

*Old Plays*, iii. 133.

Is *ding'd* to hell, and vultures eat his heart.

MARSTON'S *Satires*.

The assumption of *dang* as a present tense is not borne out by any example that I am aware of in the earlier English writers; though as a præterperfect, instances are innumerable. It occurs repeatedly in Sir David

Lyndsay, and besides the ensuing quotation, it is met with in one volume alone of his works in half a dozen places. See vol. ii. pp. 250. 262. 265. 270. 300. 303.

Than set my fais for to fang me,  
And every bouchour dog doun *dang* me.

*The Complaynt of Bageche*, p. 169.

And *dang* all doun, in powder small.

*The Monarchie*, vol. iii. p. 65.

With his tayl the erth he *dang*.

*Ywaine and Gawin*, v. 3167.

With that sa derffie on thame *dang*,

That lyke ane worthie campioun,

Ay at ane straik he *dang* ane doun.

*Squire Meldrum*, v. 662—4.

**DANG IT**; *phr.* an expression betokening disappointment, or it may be regarded as an oath, as in the example of "*dang* my buttons." In this instance however, we must designate the phrase as low. The vulgarity of its use is not confined to ourselves, being universally recognised under the form of "*dash* my buttons," "*dash* my wig," &c. and such like elegancies of diction!

**DARK**, *adj.* blind. Ex. "He has been *dark* uppits o' twenty year come next Newyus day."

**DARKSOME**, *adj.* an archaism for dark.

The fight, the prease, the night and *darksome* skies.

Care from his heart had tane, sight from his eies.

FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, xii. 49.

**DASH BOARDS**, *s.* 1. moveable sides to a cart or waggon placed round the natural body, so that the upper part is enlarged, and capable of holding an additional quantity. 2. the beaters of a barrel churn.

**DATER**, **DAHTER**, **DOUTER**, *s.* three several methods which the lower classes have of pronouncing *daughter*. The Dan. *datter*, *daatter*, filia, approaches near in sound to the two first words. Brockett gives the last to the A. Sax. and Germ. *dohter*, to which may also be added the Isl. *dottir*, and Swed. *pl. dottrar*.

She found hireself, and eke hire *doughtren* two.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 14835.

And namely sin thy *doughter* was ybore.

*id.* v. 8360, 8365, &c.

DAUNT, *v.* to dare, provoke to the performance of some deed which a person is naturally afraid of executing. Ex. "*daunted* him to it." Swed. *danta*, per invidiam male loqui vel alicui quid objicere. Fr. *danter*, denter, dompter. Roquef. Gloss.

But he can chorles *daunten*.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE.

That ne with love may *daunted* be.

*id.*

And fethermore, for as moche as resen of man wol not *daunt* sensualitee when it may, therefore is man worthy to have shame.

*The persones tale*, p. 24, ed. Tyrwhitt.

DAUNTED, *part. past*; afraid, alarmed. Ex. "Nothing *daunted*." "*Daunted* and dardna try again."

DAVID'S EYE; *phr.* See COULBOURN'S.

DAY-HOUSE, *s.* pronounced *Dayus*: a title bestowed upon several farm houses in the county of Salop, which signifies a dairy house. There is a Day house near Stottesdon, and another near Tibberton. Marshall in his Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, derives it from *dey*, an old word for milk, and *house*, the *milk house*. (See Jamieson.) Consult p. 261, before.

DAY-WORK, *s.* when a laborer is employed by the day, paid according to time, his undertaking is called *day-work*, in contradistinction to *piece-work*, or *job-work*, or *Grit*, as they say in Northamptonshire. Masters have a decided preference for the latter. A. Sax. *daeg-weorc*, day-work. Isl. *dags-verk*; Teut. *dagh-werck*; Swed. *dags-werke*, pensum diurnum.

DAY-ME: a mitigated form of an oath, far two well known. Ex. "I'll be *dayd* if I do." "*Day-me* if I do though." Which is as much as to say, "I'll be d—d if I do." "D—me if I do." Or if we are to regard the phrase lightly, we must consider it merely as an archaism for destroy: thus, "may I be deãd first." In the Glossary to Peter Langtoft's Chronicle, *dayet* is interpreted, cursed, "*dayet* that thereof rouht;" that is, cursed be he that occasioned this: "*dayet*

who the kyme," that is, confounded be he that entertains thee. *Deis* is also explained to kill, as "do thise Scottis *deis*," that is, kill these Scotts. Verel. in Indic. *deia*, mori.

DEAF-NUT, *adj.* a nut whose kernel is rotten. S. Goth. *dauf*, sterilis. Teut. *doove-not*, nux vitiosa.

DEAUW, *s.* dew. Ex. "The *deaw* innod gwon uv the grass yet." The orthoepy is peculiar, and rather difficult to convey to the ear of an alien. It is very similar to the method of writing it in early English poetry. Teut. Holl. Sicamb. *douwo*, ros. Isl. *daugg*; pluvia. A. Sax. *deau*; Alam. *dou*, *tau*, ros. C. Brit. *daefr*, aqua. Gr. *δeww*.

*Deawes* donketh the dounes.

RITSON'S *Ancient Songs*, p. 32.

My Lucia in the *deaw* did go,

And prettily bedabbed so.

HERRICK'S *Hesperides*, vol. ii. p. 69.

DRAUW, *v.* to rain slightly, pronounced "*joww*'s o raain." Teut. *dawwen* rorare. Isl. *döggear*; Dan. *dugger*, pluo.

DECK O' CEORDS, *s.* a pack of cards. Common in Cheshire and the North of England. "Sweeping the *deck*" means clearing the table of all the stakes, gaining all the tricks. The announcement in shop windows in Shrewsbury of "decks of cards" for sale, has often puzzled people who were not natives. (See Nares.) Shakspeare.

If I chance but once to get the *deck*

To deal about and shuffle as I would.

SOLIMUS.

DEEP END, *s.* that side of a mine where the coal or iron stone strikes below the general level of the work.

DELf, *s.* a pit; the name of a stagnant piece of water in the center of the town of Broseley; it has probably been a spot from whence minerals were formerly obtained. Brockett says that in the North, *delfs* are pits out of which iron stone has been dug. Teut. *delve*, fovea.

He drew me doun derne in *delf* by ane dyke.

GAW. DOUGLAS, *Æn.* xii. 239.

The first friend quhil he was laid in *delf*.  
*Priests of Peblis.*  
 Guyon finds mammon in a *delve*,

SPENSER.

DELVE, *v.* to dig, go deeper than a spade's graft. This is a thorough old English word, and as may be expected, occurs perpetually in the earlier poets. Teut. Belg. *delven*; A. Sax. *delfan*; Fris. *delva*, fodere.

Masons and minours, and many other craftes;  
 And dykers and *delvers*, that don here dedes ille.

P. PLOUHMANN.

Dykers and *delvers* diggeden up the balkes. *id.*  
 And tok ten men o ther twelve,  
 And het hem in the grounde *delue*.  
 Thai deden ase here louerd hem het,  
 And *doluen* alle ther ful sket.  
 Thai ne had *doluen* but a stounde, &c.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 2470.

He wolde thresh, and thereto dike, and *delve*.

*Prolog. to Cant. Tales*, v. 538.

The byschop made to *delve* down to the rote.

HARTSHORNE'S *Ant. Met. Tales*, p. 141.

My Daddy's a *delver* of dykes.

*Slighted Nancy*: HERD'S *Collection*, vol. ii. p. 82.

DEMATH, *s.* a small portion of land, 'a *scouts o' groun*' as my informant describes it. The late Mr Wilbraham, with that degree of scholarship and acumen for which he was remarkable, thus explains the word: "A *daymath*, or a day's mowing, generally used for a statute acre, but erroneously so, for it is properly one half of a Cheshire acre, which is to the statute acre in the proportion of 64 to 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ : consequently the *Demath* bears that of 32 to 30 $\frac{1}{4}$  to the statute acre. *Diemat*, *Deymath*, *Daymath*, is common, as I am told, in East Friseland. Wiarda explains it as, "a piece of land containing 400 square yards." *Deymath*, *dagmath*, ein stuck landes von 400 Ruthen. (See Wiarda sub voce.) "Sa suere," quotes Mr Wilbraham, "hi tuene ethan fire thet de mat": so let him swear two oaths for the *deymat*. (LL. Brockmanorum.) *Tagmat*,

as much as a labourer can mow in one day. "*Demat, Deimat, Demt, Dient*, all mean the same thing." The word is of unusual occurrence among us, and known only to old agricultural labourers. It is frequently found in terriers or other writings of an ecclesiastical nature. The Teut. *dagh-mael*, quarta pars jugeris, is about the same quantity of land as is comprehended at the present time by a *Demath*.

**DENIAL**, *s.* detriment, injury, drawback. Ex. "His latness o' speech was a sad *denial* to him."

**DEUCE**, *s.* The common phrase of "*the Deuce is in it*," or "*the Deuce take you*," &c. are specimens of vulgarity not confined to Salopians. The Gauls called all those divinities *Dusii*, (a Celtic word with a Latin termination, formed from *Tous*) which appeared and vanished in a moment. They also bestowed this title upon certain dæmons, Incubi, who correspond with the modern night-mare. St Augustin compares them with Sylvans and Fauns. "Silvanos et Faunos, quos vulgô Incubos vocant, improbos sæpe extitisse mulieribus, et earum appetisse, et peregisse concubitum; et quosdam Dæmones, quos *Dusios* Galli nuncupant, hanc assidue immunditiam et tentare, et efficere, plures, talesque asseverant." (De Civ. Dei. xv. 23.) From such an intercourse it has been fabled that the gigantic race who were imagined by mythologists to have originally peopled Briton, sprung. (Keysler, Antiq. Select. Septentrion, p. 214.) A passage in the Origines of Isidore of Seville seems to be grounded upon that of the Latin Father just quoted. "Unde et *Incubi* dicuntur ab *incumbendo*, hoc est, stuprando. Sæpe etiam improbi existunt mulieribus, et earum peragunt concubitum, quos dæmones Galli *Dusios* nuncupant, quia assidue hanc peragunt immunditiam." (Keysler, p. 457.) Kilian has Teut. vet. *duyse*, concubina. The Romans who have borrowed many religious rites and terms

from the Celts, called those Deities *Fauns*, which the Gauls called *Duses*. Germ. Slav. *Dusti*; Sorab. *duchi*; Bohem. *duše*, manes. Wormius has the Runic *duš*, spectrum montivagum. Bret. *teüs*; Bas. Bret. *deuz*; A. Sax. *Dues* (though not in Somner, Junius or Lye); Lang. Rom. *dušien*, spectrum. Corn. *duyse*, a goddess. Gr. *τηουσιος*, inanis. C. Brit. *tysmwy*, horror. For additional information on this subject the curious reader is referred to the annotations upon 1 Sam. xii. 21. in Poli Synopsis Critica, vol. i. part 2. p. 125: to those upon Jerem. l. 39. vol. iii. p. 981. Isaiah xiii. 21. p. 144: to Pelletier Dict. de la langue Bretonne under *Teüs*; Du Cange Gloss. under *Dustus*; Noel, Dict. de la Fable, under *Dusiens*; Bullet, Dict. de langue Celtique, &c. &c. **DEVER**, *s.* duty, best endeavour, from which latter word Junius supposes that it is derived. Ex. "I'll do my *dever* at it." Fr. *devoir* which in the earlier editions is printed *dever*. Clerke's Tale, v. 8842. Knighte's Tale, v. 2600.

Weile thei stode and did ther *devere*.

PET. LANGTOFT'S *Chron.* v. 331.

**DIBS**, *s.* money. Ex. "Down with the *dibs*." As this word is recognised in Somersetshire (See Jennen's West of England Gloss.) it can neither be called very local, or tralatitious. "Down with the *dust*" is another elegancy of the same kind.

**DICKEN**, *s.* the devil. A common corruption from *Nicken*, a title given by the Danes to an evil genius who presided over the water. (See much curious learning on the point in Keyseri Antiq. Select. Septentrion, pp. 261-5.)

**DICKY**, *s.* an apron, generally of leather. Ex. "A leathen *dicky*."

**DICKENS TO PAY**, *phr.* the result of some bad conduct, or ill luck: "*there'll, be the Dickens to pay.*" Whilst on the other hand, *to play the dickens*, means to punish

an offender, to *play the dickens* with him. The Scotch say "I shall catch my *dichals*" (See Jamieson sub voce) but our word is distinct from theirs, and unable to lay claim to the title of such decided provinciality.

DICK'S HATBAND, *phr.* This is one of those phrases which set philologists and antiquarians at defiance. Mr Wilbraham says it must be very local, and he might very reasonably conclude that its circulation was extremely limited. Yet upon enquiry it is found general, not only throughout the whole of Shropshire, but it has travelled even to Craven. In Cheshire they say, "as fine as *Dick's hatband*." We are unaccustomed to use the phrase in such a commendatory way, for we only apply it as a comparison for what is obstinate and perverse. Ex. "As curst as *Dick's Hatband*, which will come nineteen times round and wont tie at last." "As contrary as *Dick's Hatband*." "As fause as *Dick's Hatband*." "As cruekit as *Dick's Hatband*." "As twistit as *Dick's Hatband*." "All across like *Dick's Hatband*." "As queer as *Dick's Hatband*." &c. &c.

DIDDEN, *v.* did; and DIDEN, *imperf.* of *v.* to do. An archaism, repeatedly occurring in Chaucer and other early writers. (See Cant. Tales, vv. 7073. 12901, &c. See Remarks under EN.)

DIDENEH? did you, or ye.

DIDDY, *s.* 1. the nipple or teat. Ex. "The cow's got a sore *diddy*." 2. milk from the breast, mother's milk. Ex. "Gie th' liekle un a drop o' the *diddy*." Isl. *tita*, res tenera in specie acus capitata. C. Brit. *diden*; Germ. *dutte*; Hib. *did*; Lat. Barb. *dida*, mamma. (See TITTY.)

DIEDEN, *v. perf.* of verb to die. "Lest that they *dieden*." Cant. Tales, v. 7483. A. Sax. *dydam*, mori.

DINDERS, *s.* small coins of the lower empire which are constantly being turned up on the site of the ancient Uriconium. They bore this appellation when Horsley



wrote his celebrated *Britannia Romana*, as he mentions them under the same title. A. Sax. *dinor*; Lat. *denarius*.

**DING**, *v.* 1. to teach, instil into a person's mind, a metaphorical sense deduced from 2. to beat. Ex. "For the life on me I coudna *ding* it into him." S. Goth. *daenga*; A. Sax. *denegan*, tundere. Swed. *danga*, nisu omni vel adhibita vi percutere. Isl. *dangla*, pulsare. Gael. *dingam*, impellere. Coles.

Other Y schall thè bete and *dynge*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 1732.

Now sweir, be thy brynt schinis, the devill *ding* thame fra the.

SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Satyre of the Three Estatis*.

Out of hell, the devill scho wald *ding* out. *id.*

Even twenty-four of my next cozens,

Will help to *ding* him downe.

*Old Robin of Portingale*, (PERCY'S *Reliq.* iii. 49.)

**DIP**, *adj.* cunning, crafty. Ex. "As *dip* as Garrick." "He's too *dip* a hond to mak anythin on." "As *dip* as the North Star."

**DIPNESS**, *adj.* depth. A. Sax. *deopnysse*, profunditas.

**DISANNUL**, *v.* 1. to disturb, dispossess, turn out. If a poor person is a tenant for life, he expresses it by saying, "he shall nivr be *disannulled*." 2. to molest, interfere with: in this sense the common people say, when speaking of a person of quiet and orderly habits, "he nivr *disannuls* no body." Fr. *desannouller*.

**DISH**, *v.* to make thin. A term used by wheelwrights and coopers. By these it is applied to a hoop on a barrel, expressive of making it thinner on one side than the other; by those to the tire of a wheel; and confined by each, to the inward edge.

**DISMALS**, *s.* melancholy, an atrabilious feeling. Ex. "He's got a fit o' the *dismals* on him." Isl. *des*, mala fortuna. It is among the disorders which are imprecated by Montgomery upon Polwart.

The doit and the *dismail*, indifferentlie delt.

**DITHER**, DYDDER, *v.* 1. to shake. Ex. "*Dithers* it out o' th' hopper into the jiggig sieve." 2. to shake from

the effects of cold. A good old word. PROMP. PARV.  
 "Dyderinge for cold." Isl. *titra*; Teut. Germ. Sicamb.  
 Belg. A. Sax. *sitteren*, tremere.

Brecheles, bare foted, all stynkyng with dyrt,  
 With M. of tatters, drabblyng to the skyrt,  
 Boyes, gyrles, and luskysch strong knaues  
*Dydderyng* and dadderyng, leaning on their staues.

*The Hye way to the Spyttell Hous.* v. 30.

DITHERING, *s.* a trembling motion of the eye. In Cheshire  
*dithing*.

DIVIL'S DICHE, *s.* Offa's Dike near Bishops Castle. (See  
 OFFA'S DIKE in the Archæological portion of the work.)  
 The vulgar belief is that the Devil ploughed it up in  
 one night with a gander and a turkey.

DIVIL, *s.* a dibble or setting stick. I find *Dibble* in  
 Withals, Purfoote, Blount, Ray, and Coles. Teut.  
*dipffel*, fodibulum.

I'll not put the *dibble* in earth to set one slip of them.

*Winter's Tale*, iv. 3.

DOLLY, *s.* a washing beetle. A heavy piece of wood  
 circular at the base, where it is about a foot long,  
 having a handle inserted. The lower part has two  
 transverse grooves. This instrument is turned or worked  
 round upon coarse clothes, to save washerwomen's hands,  
 to the manifest injury of the linen. From the Fr.  
*doler*? or the Teut. *dolle*, *dolo*?

DON: a termination to the name of several places in  
 the county, which implies that they are placed on an  
 eminence, from the A. Sax. *dun*, collis. Thus we  
 have SIDON, ABDON, (*Appon*), LONGDON, STOTTESDON,  
 &c. (See p. 261, before.)

DONG, *part. past*; of verb DANG: and sometimes as a present  
 tense, imperative, as in the petulant exclamations, "*Dong*  
 it," "*Dong* my buttons;" in the nature of *part. past*  
 it often occurs in early writers.

I sai zow lely how thai lye,  
*Dongen* down all in a daunce.

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 29.

**DOUBLE**, *v.* 1. to clench or shut the fists. Ex. "He *doubled* his fisses." 2. to shut. Ex. "Double up your knife."

**DOUBLE COAL**, *s.* a carboniferous measure lying upon the 'Queises Neck'. It is a good sale coal: frequently five feet in thickness.

**DOUCE, DOUSE**, *s.* a blow in the face. Ex. "A *douss* in the chops."

And gave the dragon such a *douse*.  
He knew not what to think.

*Dragon of Wantley.*

**DOUCE, DOUSE**, *s.* to strike, give a blow. Teut. *dousen*; Belg. *dousem*, pugno percutere.

They *douce* her hurdies trimly  
Upo' the Stibble-rig;  
As law then, they a' then  
To tak a *douce* maun yield.

A. DOUGLAS' *Poems*, p. 128.

**DOUGH**, *s.* pronounced *duff*. 1. the stomach. Ex. "Peg him in his *dough*." 2. the legitimate sense with a varied pronunciation.

**DOUK, DUCK**, *v.* to drop the head, incline it towards the ground. A late sheriff for Staffordshire upon being reprimanded by a judge for not keeping order in court, endeavoured to enforce his authority over the refractory by the threat contained in the following dialogue, which ensued between him and his javelin man. Sheriff. "Why dost na mak 'em kip quoyot? Officer. "I co, they wo moind me." Sheriff. "Then louk 'em, louk 'em." Officer. "I co, they *douken*." S. Goth. *ducka*; Teut. *duycken*; Germ. *ducken*; Belg. *duiken*, inclinare caput. Swed. *dyka*; A. Sax. *gedurfian*, urinari.

Gar *douk*, gar *douk*, the king he cried,  
Gar *douk* for gold and fee;  
O wha will *douk* for Erl Richard's sake,  
Or wha will *douk* for me?

They *douked* in at ae weil-head  
And out aye at the other;  
We can *douk* nae mair for Erl Richard  
Although he were our brother.

*Scottish Minstrelsy*, vol. iii. p. 187.

**DOUK**, *s.* 1. a dip. 2. the quantity of ink usually taken up by a pen.

**DOUKER**, *s.* the Grebe; *Colymbus Urinator*, Linn.

**DOUL**, *s.* a nail sharpened at each end. C. Brit. *hoel*; Gr. ἦλος, *clavus*.

**DOUL**, *s.* 1. down, feathers, an archaism. Shakspeare makes Ariel say in the *Tempest*,

One *dowle* that's in my plume.

Isl. *dun*, *pluma molissima*. Belg. Teut. *douse*; Dan. *duum*, *lanugo plumaram*.

**DOUT**, *v.* to extinguish, *do out*. Ex. "*Dout* the candle." I cannot bring myself to consider this in the light of a corruption. The commentators upon Shakspeare have been much perplexed about the following passage where it is found,

—the dram of base  
Doth all the noble substance often *dout*.

it is not found in the early quarto edition of 1603, nor in the first folio. In the edition of 1611 we find it thus,

Doth all the noble substance of a *doubt*.

Malone, by his adoption of the former reading, has made the passage intelligible, and furnished us with an authority for using the word. Nares quotes Sylvester for it. Grose.

First, in the intellect it *douts* the light.

**DOUTER**, *s.* an extinguisher. Ray.

**DOWEL**, *s.* an architectural term akin to dove-tail. Fr. *douelle*, "il se dit de la coupe des pierres propres à faire des voutes." Richelet. Dowels are pins of wood or iron with which flooring is fastened together; the pins being driven half their length into the edge of each plank, and corresponding holes pierced in the edge of the adjacent plank to receive the projecting pins. This mode of compacting a floor is termed *Dowelling*.

DOWN, *v.* to knock down. Ex. "He *down'd* him with his fisses in double quick time."

DOWNES, *s.* A name which will be readily identified with many given to our farm houses. Dissimilar to most of those which are bestowed upon modern erections, it has a local meaning. Having built their houses upon a hill or rising ground, our Saxon ancestors chose their name from the circumstances of their situation. Unlike architects of the present day, they were content with any simple title that was connected with the locality, though there might be little of novelty in it to please the ear. The *Belle-Vues* and *Paradise Rows*, which so frequently constitute the meaner suburbs of a town, are as dissonant from truth in their application, as the nomenclature is at variance with the idiom of the English language. A. Sax. Germ. Fr. (Roq. Gloss.) *dun*, collis.

DOWNFALL, *s.* a fall of snow. Ex. "We shan ha nothin but caud weather, I reckon, till a comes a *down-fall*."

DOWNHEARTED, *part. past*; melancholy, dispirited. A refined expression for being *down i' th' mouth*.

DRAG, *s.* an instrument used by wood colliers for the purpose of getting timber from dangerous places. Isl. *dragi*; Dan. *last-drag*; Swed. *drag*, tractor.

DRAUGHTS, *s.* a pair of forceps used for extracting teeth: *draw outs*, as it were.

DRAW, *v.* to take cattle out of pasture land, that the grass may grow for mowing. Ex. "It should be floated afore the meadow's *drawed*." "Nivir *drawed* the lond till the middle o' May."

DRESSSEL, DRESSER, *s.* a piece of furniture that holds in its upper part rows of earthen-ware, and in its lower, those articles which are most generally wanted for household purposes. It is the chief embellishment of a Shropshire labourer's house, and is commonly accom-

panied by a clock in an oaken case, a round deal table, and a corner cupboard. The internal arrangements of our poor men's cottages present a striking contrast by their superior degree of comfort, and greater abundance of chattels, to those of the Eastern part of England. The same marks of an improved condition are visible in the quantity and quality of their wearing apparel. S. Goth. *dressel*, gazophylacium, aut ubi res pretiosæ conservantur. Fr. *dressoir*, espèce de buffet. Germ. *dressur*; Teut. *dressoor*, id.

**DRESSER**, *s.* an axe used in pits, to wrench the coal down after it is loosened by a *pike*. Teut. *drefel*, dolabra.

**DRIFTER**, *s.* a sheep that is 'overlaid' in a drift of snow. Isl. *drift*, syrtis nivalis.

**DRINK**, *s.* 1. small beer. Ex. "A small jug'le o' *drink*." "Fond on a drop o' *drink*." See FRESH DRINK, PIPE DRINK. 2. a draught. Swed. *drick*, bibendi haustus. Isl. *dryckia*; Dan. *drikken*, potatio. A. Sax. *drink*, haustus.

After a *drink* of main.

SIR TRISTREM, *Fytte*, ii. 40, 48.

Swete Ysonde, the fre,  
Asked Bringwain a *drink*.

*id.* 49.

Yit, or I die, gif me ane *drink*.

*Satyre of the Three Estatis.*

**DRINKMEAT**, *s.* boiled ale thickened with oatmeal and bread, generally administered to a person suffering from a cold. A comfortable kind of caudle, both meat and drink, yet strictly speaking neither one nor the other. It is analogous to the old words, *Fleshmeat* and *Mykmete*, which latter is explained in the PROMP. PARV. as meat made of milk. Our *drinkmeat* corresponds with the *bieren-brod* "une soupe a la bierre," drank in Saxony.

**DRIPPINGS**, *s.* the last milk afforded by a cow. Isl.

*dreyppa*; Swed. *dryppa*; Dan. *drypper*; Teut. *trieffen*; A. Sax. *driopan*, stillare.

**DROPPING TIME**, *s.* showery weather. Ex. "If thire should come a *dropping time*, ul be a fairish crap like." Swed. *droppe*, *regne-droppe*: A. Sax. *dropsiend*, stillans.

**DROUPEN**, *v.* to droop, look sickly. Ex. "They *droupen* their yeds." Isl. *driupa*, caput demittere.

For hire loue y cake and care,  
For hire loue y *droupne* and dare.

RITSON'S *Ancient Songs*, p. 29.

**DROUT, DROUTH**, *s.* drought. Ex. "The quern unna grow as lung as this *drouth lasses*." Pronounced according to our custom of dropping the *g* when followed by *ht*. (See remarks under LENGTH and STRENGTH.) Teut. *drooghte*; A. Sax. *drugotho*, siccitas.

Drink and *drouth* come sindle together.

Scot. Prov.

**DRUB**, *v.* to beat, chastise. Ex. "*Drub* him soundly." S. Goth. Swed. *drabba*, conffigo. Cimb. *driba*, percutere.

**DRUBBING**, *s.* a beating. Ex. "Yo desarven a good *drubbing* for it." Swed. *drubning*, conflictio.

**DRUDGER**, *s.* a flour sifter, or tin box used by cooks to sprinkle flour over meat, called in Cheshire a *drudge-box*.

**DRUV**, *part. past*; of drive. Ex. "*Druv* clane afore the wiind" "The bwes wun *o'erdruv*." (See Remarks under UV.)

**DRYP**, *v.* 1. to take the last milk from cows. Isl. *dryppa*, guttatim stillare. 2. to beat, chastise. Ex. "*Dryp* him well." S. Goth. *dryppa*; Teut. *treffen*; Isl. *drepa*, verberare.

**DUCKS AND DRAKES**; a game played by children, in which there seems to be but little meaning or point. A writer in *Blackwood's Magazine* for August, 1821, as quoted by Jamieson, gives a different description of this juvenile sport to ours, and I will therefore

explain the amusement as it is practised in Shropshire. The duck, with us, is a large stone supporting a smaller one called the *drake*. The children playing, endeavour to knock off the drake by flinging a stone at it, which is called the *duckstone*, crying at the same time,

A duck, and a drake,  
And a white penny cake,  
And a penny to pay the baker.

There is another game, which has the same name, but yet quite different in its character. It is equally silly, but has the recommendation, to notice at least, of being known among the ancients. Julius Pollux, (lib. ix. cap. 7.) mentions it, and so does Eustathius in his commentary upon Homer. I find it thus referred to by Minucius Felix. "Pueros videmus certatim gestientes, testarum in mare jaculationibus ludere. Is lusus est testam teretem, jactatione fluctuum levigatam, legere de littore; eam testam plano situ digitis comprehensam, inclinem ipsum, atque humilem, quantum potest, super undas inrotare: ut illud jaculum vel dorsum maris raderet, vel enataret, dum leni impetu labitur; vel summis fluctibus tonsis, emicaret, emergeret, dum assiduo saltu sublevatur. Is se in pueris victorem ferebat, cujus testa et procurreret longius, et frequentius exsiliret." Minucius Felix, p. 51, edit. Davisii. Cant. 1707. Even to the present time the game continues precisely the same. We have frequently seen boys in very playfulness throwing oyster shells, or "tile pieces," or pieces of broken earthenware, so that they may lightly skim the surface of the water; and their joy would be proportionate to the frequency with which the missiles rebounded from it.

We have hence the phrase of a man *making ducks and drakes* with his money, denoting that it is foolishly squandered away.



"He has thrown away as much in *ducks* and *drakes* as would have bought some five thousand capons."

GREEN'S *Tu quoque*.

What figur'd states are best to make  
Or watry surface *duck* or *drake*.

*Hudibras*, Part II. cap. iii. 301.

DUFHOUS, *s.* a dove house. PROMP. PARV. *dufhous*. Palsgrave, *dufhouse*, columbier. Isl. *dufna-hus*; Swed. *dufhus*, columbarius.

DUMBLE HOLE, *s.* a pit of water partially choked up with mud and vegetable life. Its application invariably is confined to a piece of stagnant water, in a wood or dell. In Cheshire, *Dumble* means a dingle. Ours is a better word, that is to say, its meaning is more analogous with the cognate tongues to which the English is allied. C. Brit. *tomlyd*, *domlyd*, lutulentus. DUMMIL, *s.* a slow, stupid, worn out, jaded horse. Germ. *dumba*, stollidus. I fancy we have the same word in the following quotation:

"Is it not impossible for humanity to be a spittle man, rhetoric a *dummerell*, poetry a tumbler, history a bankrupt, philosophy a broker, wit a cripple, courage a jade."

GABRIEL HARVEY'S *Pierce's Supererogation*.

DUNG, *part. past* of the verb *Ding* or *Dang*. Ex. "He'd ha' *dung* it down."

They war *dung* down with speid.

MONTGOMERY'S *Cherrie and the Slae*.

Be not fear'd, our mayster,  
That we two can be *dung*.

*Robin Hood and the Beggar*, p. 105.

DUNGE, *s.* the name of a place in the neighbourhood of Broseley, evidently given to it from the S. Goth. *dunge*, parvula sylva.

DUNGEVIL, *s.* a dung fork. The former part of the compound is common to various European languages, but the latter remains a stumbling block to the Etymologist, who meets with it under the varied forms of *Evil*, *Shārēvil*, *Shārēvil* and *Yiloe*.

DUNNA, DUNNOD, *v.* do not: and DUNNEH! for do ye.

DUNNOCK, *s.* a contraction from dung hook.

DUNNY, *adj.* deaf. Teut. *tugnen*, sepire?

DURST, *v.* to dare. Ex. "I *durstna* do it if it wuz ivir söä." In polite discourse this is the perfect tense of dare, but with the vulgar it is the present: their perfect is *dare*, and their present, *durst*. Ex. "They *dursen* say whad their betters nivir *dar*:" and "they *darden* whad their betters hanna *dursten*." Now this I suspect is purely Salopian language, and not unlike, nor yet much worse grammar than what the natives of the county spoke a few centuries ago, at least if dictionaries are capable of bringing sufficient proof. M. Goth. *gadaursta*, audebat. A. Sax. *gethristian*; Germ. *dursten*; Teut. *darren*; Swed. *drista*, audere.

DUST YOUR JACKET, *phr.* a formula expressive of castigation. It may be referred to the Isl. *dusta*, verberare: as to *kick up a dust* may be to the S. Goth. *dust*, *dyst*, tumultus. Isl. *dyst*, equestre certamen. Swed. *dust*, tempestas. Not local.

DWINE, *v.* to gradually waste away, decay. Ex. "*Dwining* away fast into a decline." Teut. *dwynen*, attenuare. Swed. *twina*, tabere. A. Sax. *dwinan*, tabescere.

PROMP. PARV. *dwyne*.

All woxen was her body unwelde  
And drie and *dwined* all for elde.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE, v. 360.

DYCH, *v.* to cut a ditch: invariably pronounced long. Ex. "Hedging and *dyching*." Swed. *dika*, fossas agere in pratis. A. Sax. *dician*; Teut. *diicken*, lacunare.

To delve and *dike* a deop diche.

P. PLOUHMANN, p. 335.





is sometimes lengthened at the beginning of a word, where according to the usual method of pronouncing it, it would otherwise be short: thus *eend* for end; *eenry* for entry. The second vowel being changed into *y* or *i* furnishes another method of pronunciation equally common with us: thus occasionally we hear *eynd*, *eind*, *aind* for end: *eynry*, *einry*, *ainry* for entry. Either practice is borne out by poetical sanction.

Ne weore accountis at the bordis *eynde*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 7362 and 8016.

It is often doubled in these words, and in others where the same vowel begins a word, as *eempty* for empty; *eevery* for every:

Clothis, eyghtis, withoutyn *eynde*.

*id.* v. 1573.

It is omitted before *a*, as in *arnest*, for earnest: (Promptuarium Parvulorum): *ach* on 'em, for each of them; *asy* for easy; *aven* for even. Its rejection from monosyllabics is extremely common in that part of the country which lies between Wenlock and Ludlow. In treat, seat, beat, meat, it is rarely or ever sounded; as "Gie th' bwes their *mate*." "Whoot stond a *trate*?" "Tak a *sate*," &c.

When final it is not unfrequently suppressed, and the preceding vowel if naturally long, made short, as *yok* uv a heg, for yoke of an egg; yet even this abbreviation has a precedent in Wicliff's Translation of the Testament:

"Now thanne what tempten ghe god to putte a *ghok* on the necke of the discipulis."

*The Dedis of Apostolis*, c. xv.

It is sometimes omitted in the middle of words, and placed at the end of them instead, as *swates* for sweats; a *chating* fellow, for a cheating fellow; the *youngst* o ten, for the youngest of ten.

Frequently it is turned into *i* short, as in *silf*, for self. (Leche heele thi *silf*.) *Wicliff's New Testament*, Luke, ch. iv. A. Sax. *silf*, ipse; *cliver chap*, for clever chap; *nivir*, for never.

It is frequently converted into *a*, as *yellow* for yellow, though more commonly *yaller*; this from its derivation may be considered the more correct expression, besides having poetical precedent.

Al so *yalow* so any gold.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 6496.

EA takes the sound of short *i*, as *fither* for feather; and also of short *e* or *a*, as *wekly* for weakly; *twake* for tweek; *spake* for speak.

EA is sounded like short *a*; as *larn* for learn; *arn* for earn; *arnest* for earnest; and very often it assumes the sound of *he*, as *dhel bwiãrd* for deal board; *dhef o' hearing* for deaf; *a dhed mon*, for a dead man. And when in a monosyllable, each letter is pronounced, as *stré-am* for stream; *té-am* for team, &c. &c.

EX is often changed into short *i*, as *wik* for week.

EI is turned into long *a*, and has the sound of open *a*, as *consate*, for conceit; *desate*, for deceit; *nather*, for neither.

EI is converted also into *oi*, in the same words, as in *consoit*, *desoit*, *noither*. This broad pronunciation, however, is entirely confined to the mining district, and partakes more of the Doric dialect of Staffordshire than of our

regular Atticism. Wiclif furnishes us with authority in his Translation of the New Testament :

“Which man hadde an hous in birielis and *noither* with cheynes now mighte ony man bynde him.”

Mark, ch. v.

It is continually changed into *ai*, in the foregoing words, a practice sanctioned by our early writers, by Wiclif, Gawane Douglas, Sir David Lyndsay, and others. See also Cole's Dictionary.

**EAM**, *s.* an uncle. This good old word is all but extinct. A. Sax. *eam*; Germ. *oheim*; Belg. *oom*; Fris. *iem*, avunculus; R. of Glos'ter, *eme*; R. of Brunne, *eam*. Metrical Romances, edited by Ritson and Weber, *eam* and *eme*. Lyndsay, Spenser, Drayton, Fairfax, Coles.

Now, my good *eme*, for Godes love I prey.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE, v. 261, 162, 306.

**EASIFUL**, *adj.* quiet, complacent, forbearing. Ex. “Mr Smith is very *easiful* under his troubles.” Not peculiar to us, nor, I imagine are any of those adjectives of a like nature, as *follyful*, *hurrisful*, &c.

Ere he attain his *easiful* western bed.

3 Henry VI. v. 3.

**EASING SPARROW**, *s.* the common house sparrow. *Fringilla domestica*.

**EBUS**, Ebey, *s.* an abbreviation for Ebenezer.

**ECLE**, ICKLE, *s.* an icicle. Not a corruption, as it might at first hearing seem, but an old word, being met with in the PROMP. PARV. *ikyll*, stiria. Isl. *is*, glaciers; Teut. *kekel*, stiria.

**EASY MELCHED**, *adj.* applied to a cow who readily yields her milk. Swed. *mjolka*; Teut. *melcken*; Isl. *miolka*; Dan. *malke*; Germ. *milchen*; A. Sax. *melcan*; Belg. *melken*; C. Brit. *armeilio*; Ital. *molgere*; Gr. *ἀμελγειν*, mulgere. The phrase “mild as mother's milk,” which is in general circulation, is not far removed from the Gr. *μειλιχος*, *mitis*. *Milch*, at one period was used for *mild*, as in Hamlet II. 2 :

Would have made *milch* the burning eyes of heaven.

And hom to his hous he it brought,  
And tok it his douhter, and hir besought,  
That hye schulde kepe it as sche can,  
For sche was *melche* and couthe theran,  
Sche bad it souke and it nold.

LAY LE FREINE v. 193-7.

EDDER, ETHER, *s.* an adder; and of general application for any kind of snake. PROMP. PARV. *edder*, *eddyr*, *neddyr*, *serpens*. A. Sax. *cæther*, *næddre*; Dan. *edor*; Belg. *adder*, *nater*; Teut. Fris. Cimb. *edder*; Germ. *oder*; C. Brit. *neidr*; Isl. *nadur*; M. Goth. *nadrs*; Lat. *natrix*, *vipera*. Lyndsay.

Quhair dragonis, lessertis, askis, *edderis* swatterit.

*Palice of Honour.*

EDDISH, *s.* after-grass. This genuine word is not unfrequently used adverbially, with much the same meaning. In speaking of the springing after-grass, the lower orders say, "It looks pretty *eddish* like." The term is by no means peculiar to us. It may be seen in Worlidge's *Systema Agriculturæ*, Skinner, Coles, Phillips, and of course Kersey, Forby, &c. A. Sax. *edisc*, *gramen serotinum*. Tusser has wrested the word from its primitive signification in his *dogrel*.

Seed first, go fetch,  
For *edish*, or etch.  
Soil perfectly know  
Ere *edish* ye sow.

EDGE, *s.* a ridge, or side of a hill; well known in Shropshire under the compound form of *Benthal-Edge*, *Wenlock-Edge*, &c.; that magnificent range of secondary transition, which runs without a break from the former parish as far as St Clears in Caermarthenshire. Our native historian Ordericus Vitalis, gives a particular account of the latter under the name of *Hunel-hege*, *Hunelge-hege*, when describing the passage of Henry the First's army to Shrewsbury, after the capture of Bridgenorth. "*Hunelge-hege* is the English name for a certain passage through a wood. In Latin it may be called *malus callis*, or *vicus*, for it was a hollow way

of a mile in length, full of great sharp stones, and so narrow as scarcely to admit two horsemen abreast. It was overshadowed on each side by a dark wood, wherein were stationed archers in ambuscade, who greatly annoyed the army with arrows and other missile weapons. But as the King had more than 60,000 men in his army, he detached large parties to cut down the wood, and make a wide road which should endure for the use of posterity." Lib. xi. p. 808. From this period it has been reasonably conjectured by my late valued friend Mr Blakeway, in the History of Shrewsbury, p. 57, that we may probably date the existence of a road over this steep ridge, which has since been rendered more commodious, and has laid aside most of its primitive horrors. Many of the passes, however, down this ridge retain all their ancient ferocity; one in particular, termed Blakeway Hollow, from the little hamlet adjoining, is nearly as impenetrable now, as it could have been in the days of Henry I. We have also the Hoar Edge, and in the North, there is *Biddlestone Edge*, and *Sharperton Edge*. (See Brockett.) Isl. *hegni*, circumsepire.

EEKK, *v.* to increase; and consequently "to eeke out any thing" is to make some addition by which it may answer the desired purpose. Isl. *eyk*; Swed. *oka*; A. Sax. *eacan*, augere.

Now wol the kyng *eche* his ost  
Feorre aboute, and eke acost.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 6026.

With true observance seek to *eke* out that.

*All's Well*, ii. 5. and *As You Like it*, i. 2.

I pray to heaven baith night and day,  
Be *eiked* their cares sae cauld.

PERCY'S *Reliq.* vol. ii. p. 77.

EILD, *v.* 1. to be sickly. Ex. "He is but *ilding* like."

2. to grow old, give way under the weight of age, yield: not I imagine another form of this last verb,

but from the A. Saxon, *ealdian*. Swed. *aldras*, senescere. Isl. *alldr*; Dan. *alder*, ætas. Lyndsay.

The time that *eldeth* our auncestours  
And *eldeth* Kingis and Emperours.  
ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE, v. 391. 2, and v. 395.

It is not provincial as a substantive. Herd's, Ritson's, and Pinkerton's Scottish Poetry, Percy, &c.

Whose graver years would for no labour yield,  
His age was full of puissance and might;  
Two sons he had to guard his noble *eild*.  
FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, iii. 35, and vii. 80.

Now leave we Robin with his man,  
Again to play the child,  
And learn himself to stand and gang  
By halds, for all his *eild*.  
RISTON'S *Robin Hood*, vol. i. p. 105.

3. by aphæresis for yield. Ex. "The wheat dunna *eild* well." A. Sax. *gildan*, præstare.

Gramarsey, seyde the weyffe,  
Sir, god *eylde* het the.  
*Robyn Hood (and the Potter)*, v. 244.

EILT, *imp.* of old verb *eilen*, to ail. Ex. "Whod *eilt* him." A. Sax. *adlian*, ægrotare.

What *eileth* you to be weary thus soone?  
*Troilus and Cressida*, ii. v. 161.

ELLABALU, HULLABALOO, *s.* shouting, noise, uproar. Ex. "Set up a *hullabalu*;" "kicked up a *ellabalu*," they are used indiscriminately; the former however must be held as the more correct dialecticism. Though the Armoric has *elou* and *helouy*, the Germ. *hallen*, and the Franc. *hellen*, sonare, I am for once disposed to deduce a Shropshirism from the Greek. Yet it is not claimed as our property alone, for it seems probable that the North country recognises the term, as it has found a place in Anderson's Cumberland Ballads. We read in the first book of Xenophon's Anabasis, that the Greeks were accustomed to strike their arms simultaneously and shout *ἐλελεῦ*, before they rushed



into battle; or, clothing the idea in the language of Milton,

fierce with grasped arms  
Clash'd on their sounding shields the din of war.

That the word has reference to vocal noise is decisive from Plutarch: ἐπιφωνεῖν δὲ ταῖς σπονδαῖς ἐλελεῦ, ἰὸν ἰὸν, τοὺς παρόντας. (Vita Thesei, c. 22.) And Io, one of the characters in the Prometheus Vincetus precedes the chorus with an ἐλελεῦ. It was one of the supposed offices of Bacchus to lead the chorus in the same cry, see the Antigone, v. 154, and the Scholiast on this passage,

ἐλελίζων Βακχεῖος ἄρχοι.

Hence, the Priestesses of Bacchus were called Eleleïdes.

Nunc feror, ut Bacchi furiis *Eleleïdes* actæ.

OVID. *Heroides*, iv. 47.

And the god himself derived in the same manner one of his numerous epithets.

Nycteliusque *Eleleusque* parens.

*Metamor.* iv. 15.

Than 'tyelleyer he began to chow,  
And hurs't up his shou'der;  
Wid a *hulla-baloo!* they cry't shoou! shoou!  
And heame set he in a powder!

ANDERSON'S *Ballads, Carlisle*, 1824.

ELLAR, ELLERN, ELLON, *s.* the elder-tree. In Scotland, and the North, the alder is termed the *eller*, but in Shropshire and Cheshire we only know the elder-tree under this appellation. It is a good old word in the form found amongst us, and comes direct from the A. Sax. *ellarrn*, sambucus. Norfolk, *eldern*; Lincolnshire, *hellar*. Forby, with his usual accuracy remarks, that, it is an adjective, with tree understood. I have generally heard it used in that sense; thus, "in the *ellern*-tree:" "in the *ellern*-bush." That this was the tree intended by our countryman Robert Langland, and not the alder, I cannot for a moment doubt; the A. Sax. etymology of the word sufficiently proves

it, were there no presumptive reasons for believing that the word had remained uncorrupted among us since the period when this distinguished Satirist wrote. The point, though one of little importance, is really worth establishing in a record of provincialisms: for my predecessors with a local zeal which should naturally characterise all writers of this description, have applied his words to quite a different tree, because such a term is used in their own dialects. The *elder*, for some reason of which we are ignorant, was considered by the dramatists as a tree of disgrace. Probably, the poetic invention of Robert Langland in these lines is the only plausible authority upon which the legend of Judas hanging himself upon it, is grounded.

Judas he by japede thorgh Jewene selver

An afterward he heng hym hye on an *ellerne*.

P. PLOUHMEN, 16.

Well follow'd; Judas was hang'd on an *elder*.

*Love's Labour Lost*, v. 2.

He shall be your Judas, and you shall be his *elder-tree* to hang on.

*Every Man out of Humour*, iv. 4.

Our gardens will prosper the better, when they have in them not one of these *elders*, whereupon so many covetous Judasses hang themselves.

NIXON'S *Strange Foot-post*.

ELBOW GREASE, *s.* hard rubbing, such as mahogany tables require: "Lucernum olere," as Brockett quotes. Not provincial.

ELDED, 1. *perf.* of old verb *eilen* to ail. Ex. "Whod *elded* him?" A. Sax. *adlian*, *ægrotare*. Swed. *hélta*, *salutem dicere*. 2. *part. past* of hold; to hold, impede, hinder. Ex. "Whod should ha *elded* him?" A. Sax. *holdan*, *servare*. Isl. *helld*, *tenere*.

ELDER, *s.* the udder of a cow. Teut. Belg. *elder*, *uber ovilli pecoris*.

ELL-RAKE, ELLOCK-RAKE, *s.* Each of these terms have different applications. The former must be a corrup-

tion induced in part by the Shropshire custom of leaving out the aspirate. It thus stands as *Hell-rake*: this again, by restoration becomes *Heel-rake*, or a large rake drawn at the heels, as in fact it is. *Ellock-rake* is a vitiation that must be accounted for on the same principle, in some measure, as the former. Loss of the aspirate has converted *Hillock-rake* into *Ellock-rake*, which is a small rake for breaking up ant-hills, having four broad teeth in the head; and is sometimes called a *oont-rake*.

EMĒ, *adj.* near. Ex. "This road is full as *eme* as the tother I reckon." Here is a term universal among Salopians: but how did we get it? It has metaphorical affinity, it is conceived, with the A. Sax. *eam*, which denotes a *near* degree of kindred; or else the primitive has not been recorded by any of our various lexicographers. Shakspeare has "*efstest way*." *Much Ado about Nothing*, iv. 2.

EMĒB, *adj.* comp. of the preceding.

EN; the lower orders adopt this ancient termination to their verbs, instead of the more general form of the perfect tense, used by the educated classes: thus, *broughten* for brought: *temptiden* for tempted: *suffereden* for suffered; *wenten* for went; *hadden* for had: *founden* for found, (*The Seyn Sages*, v. 173.) *mighten* for might, (*Kyng Alisaunder*, v. 5376.) *whistleden* for whistled, (*id.* v. 5348,) *buriden* for buried, &c., &c. In short, Wiclif and our earlier writers are full of similar forms. For our pronunciation of the latter word one extract shall be given from his translation of the New Testament, and that may serve to shew the prevalence of this termination in his writings.

But goode men *birtden* Steuene and *maden* greet morenyng on him.

*Dedie*, c. viii.

To this head may be referred all such verbs as form

their preterites in *on*: as *sotton* for *sat*: *forgotton* for forgot: *eaton* and *drunkon* for eat and drank.

When thei had *eyton* and *dronkon* also.

SIR AMADAS, v. 293.

ENDS, AND ALLS, *phr.* Ex. "Pack up your *ends and alls*, and be off with you." It is uncertain whether this phrase has been tralatitiously borrowed from the Shoemakers *ends and awls*, or not. But in adopting a literal explanation, it appears more accordant with truth than metaphor can throw around it. For instance, when a servant is about quitting her place, her employers are desirous of seeing her soon and thoroughly free from their service; that there should be "no hanging about," as Shropshire people say, but an *end* of her: that her "things" should be packed up and her *all* speedily cleared away. Those who by chance have ever seen the varied contents of a domestic's huge papered box, will have been somewhat amused, as well as surprised at its useless and miscellaneous contents: consisting not so much of old wearing apparel and materials to keep it in repair, as of odds and *ends* so diversified in their nature, that few houses out of their rejected rubbish could supply the counterpart. Nothing seems too trivial, or too worthless to be stored up among these highly valued possessions. Every *end*, scrap or shred that fortune has cast before them during their course of servitude, constitute too frequently the whole amount of their worldly treasures. These are their *all*; their *ends and alls*.

ENDWAYS, *adv.* straight forward. Ex. "Miles *endways*."

ENEMY, *s.* 1. a common appellation for any coleopterous insect. 2. ants; in which instance it is corrupted from *emnets*.

Eow, *pron.* you.

EOWER, *pron.* your. Both of these were considered ar-

chaisms when Verstegan wrote his *Restitution of De-caied Intelligence*. (See remarks at the commencement of this letter, and under *NĒW*.)

*ERCLE*, *s.* a blister. Ex. "Rose up in *ercles*." Neenton.  
*ESCHEN*, *adj.* made of ash. Ex. "Lay a good *eschen* plant across his shouthers." A. Sax. *asc*; Germ. *esche*; Isl. *eski*; Teut. *esch*, (*eschen*, *fraxinum*) *fraxinus*.  
*ESHUK*, *s.* a hook at the extremity of a waggon horse's traces: properly an S hook, from being in the form of that letter.

*ESS*, *s.* ashes: the nearest approach to this is in the Hebrew *aesh*, *esch*, ignis. Gr. *έρχάρα*, focus. Isl. *eysa*, cinis ignitus. Teut. *ast*, *eist*.

Do ye not see Rob, Jock, and Hab,  
 As they are girded gallantly,  
 While I sit hurklen in the *ase*?  
 I'll have a new cloak about me.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 103.

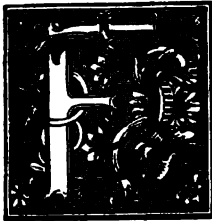
*ESSHOLE*, *s.* the pit under a kitchen grate into which the ashes fall: in another word, "the Purgatory."

*ETHERING*, *s.* strong twigs which are used for plating between the upper part of stakes in hedges, to strengthen the top and keep down the *trous*. A. Sax. *heatherian*, *cohibere*.

*EVIL*, *s.* a fork, with three or four strong teeth; generally, a *dung-evil*, *share-evil*, or *yilve*.

*EXPECT*, *v.* to think, imagine. Anticipation does not cross the mind in the general use of this verb by the vulgar. Ex. "It belongs to him I *expect*, but I am not certain." "I *expect* you have had a pleasant journey." The polite *expect* things that are future: the vulgar, both in various parts of England, and generally throughout America, *expect* things that are past. (See Pickering, sub voce.)





perpetually takes the sound of *v*, as *wo* for of; *iv* for if, &c.

FACCHE, *v.* the old form of *fetch*.

Goth *faccheth* me the traytour.

RITSON'S *Ancient Songs*, p. 21.

We shule *facche* the rybans wher thi wille be.

*id.* p. 21.

Thei went to the towne to *fach* ther wyvys.

*The Hunttyng of the Hare*, v. 241.

FACED CARD, *s.* a court card.

FACHUR, *v.* to grow like in feature. Ex. "Lickle Johnny *fachurs* his feayther."

FAEBERRY, *s.* a gooseberry. This word I take to be confined to the mining district. Colliers talk of a "*faeberry poi*," meaning a gooseberry tart. It very rarely signifies a whinberry. Gerard gives it as synonymous with gooseberry. It was of good repute in his day, though now it is considered low. (See Gerard's *Herbal* by Johnson, p. 1324.) The Ioeni have abbreviated the word into *feaps*, *feabs*, *fabes*, and *thapes*.

FAGOT, *s.* a reproachful appellation for a female, whether she be of loose character, evil temper, or idle habits. Ex. "A nasty imperint *fagot*." "A lazy *fagot*." Metaphor was never drawn more truly. The French considered such individuals in their proper light when they coined their proverbs, "Qu'il y a bien de difference entre une femme et un *fagot*? que la plus grande difference

est qu' une femme parle toujours, et qu' un *fagot* ne dit mot." And "elle est fait comme une *fagot*." I shall leave the disputes that have tortured the learned on the derivation of this term, and content myself by adopting the Lat. *fascis*, which seems to be the most approved root. C. Brit. Arm. *ffagot*; B. Bret. *fagot*. Pelletier finds out a connexion between the latter word and *baggage*. The same affinity exists in all probability between our two terms.

FAGOT, *s.* to cut or tie up *fagots*. Fr. *fagoter*, alligare in manipulos.

FAIGH, *s.* soil which lies upon stone, marl or coal; any strata superincumbent upon the particular one which is about to be got. In Derbyshire, *feigh* denotes stone, soil, or other substances carried away as useless. I have not been able to trace the verb *faigh*, or *fey* to cleanse out.

FAINS; this may be taken in the sense of a verb or adverb, but in either case the signification is alike, and implies gentle restraint, compulsion or necessity that is not of a disagreeable nature, yet not denoting such a great degree of willingness as the more commonly accepted term *fain* implies. The final *s* just marks the difference. Thus says one who has been sent on an errand, "Company dropped in, and so I was *fains* to wait." A very common excuse for dilatoriness. Again, says another, "Instead o' *fetting* the hos, he mun *fains* go off to bed;" glad no doubt to escape the labor. The stream of authority for the usage of *fain* runs clear and continuous through R. of Glo'ster, R. of Brunne, P. Plouhman, Lyndsay, Chaucer, Spenser, Shakspeare, &c., down to our own time. I pass over various illustrations in these authors, besides Sir Tristrem, fyte i. 60, ii. 35, Minot's Poems, p. 50, Ritson's Anct. Pop. Poet. p. 875, Robin Hood, p. 37, &c. to borrow one from the very excellent glossary written upon the Hallam-

shire words by Mr Hunter, as being peculiarly within the scope of our meaning.

Then went the cuppes so merrily about that many of the Frenchmen were *fain* to be led to their beds.

CAVENDISH'S *Life of Wolsey*.

That lads sae thick come her to woo,  
They're *fain* to sleep on hay or straw.  
The Ewie wi' the crooked horn.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 288.

Isl. *feginn*; Dan. *fornesjet*, in sinu gaudens. A. Sax. *fagen*, lætus. M. Goth. *fuginon*, gaudere.

FAIRISHES PIPES, *s.* the old tobacco pipes which are frequently found in turning over soil. The idea is not peculiar to us, but prevalent in the North of England. (See Brockett under the word.)

FAIRISHES RINGS, *s.* small circles observable in grass land, of a deeper green than the surrounding herbage. It is superstitiously believed in Shropshire and Staffordshire to be caused by the nocturnal visits of the Fairies, who are fabled to dance on the spot. This notion is not current merely in Shropshire, but of old standing, and general prevalency. The causes of the appearance are investigated by Dr Wollaston in the *Philosophical Transactions*. (See also *Saturday Magazine*, vol. v. p. 200; *Withering's Botany*, vol. iv. p. 277; *Nares' Glossary*.)

FALL, *s.* autumn. Ex. "*Spring and fall*."

They are most commonly sown in the *fall of the leaf*, or autumn.

GERARD'S *Herbal*, p. 86.

FALLAL, *s.* and *adj.* a gaudily dressed woman; a contemptuous epithet for a suspicious looking female. Ex. "A *fallal* sort of a body." This word must be referred to *falsæ* as one of kindred signification.

FALSE, *v.* to deceive. From the old verb *falsen*, used by Chaucer, *Cant. Tales*, v. 3175; *Rom. of the Rose*, v. 5416.



FAMULOUS, *adj.* family. Ex. "His pride's a *famulous* disorder."

FANGS, *s.* claws of a bird. Germ. Teut. *fangen*; A. Sax. *fangan*, capere manu. Isl. *fanga*; Dan. *fanger*, comprehendere.

FANTEAG, *s.* ill humour. Ex. "Put her into a pretty *fanteag*." It is most frequently used in allusion to certain ebullitions of temper which the fair sex are at times disposed to manifest towards their dependants. It has some alliance with the Teut. *teghen*, contrarius.

FANTOM, *adj.* light. An epithet given to corn that is unproductive or unkind. "The French," says Ray, "call a spirit appearing by night, or a ghost, a *Fantome*, from Phantasma, Spectrum. So then Phantome corn, is corn that has as little bulk or solidity in it as a spirit or spectre." Hence too has originated the comparison of a thin person to a *phantom*. "He is just like a *phantom*." And in French, one who is wasted away, "Ce n'est plus qu' un *fantome*." And hence the epithet applied to a sickly person, "he is but *fantom*."

FABANTLY, FARANGLY, *adj.* handsome, comely. Ex. "She's a *farantly* looking woman enough." Jamieson as well as all other Glossarists are at fault for a satisfactory derivation. Our use of it is different to that prevailing in other districts. The definition of 'clean, decent,' which it has received from Mr Wilbraham in his Cheshire Glossary, comes as might be expected, nearer to our sense of the word than the meaning it has obtained in the North. He says it has been supposed to be compounded of the two words, *fair* and *clean*, but at the same time objects to this etymology. The application which we invariably give to it, leads me however to dissent from this excellent authority. The *c* most commonly introduced in the pronunciation, justifies the supposition that it is abbreviated either

from *fair and clean*, or from *fair and comely*, thus, *Fa'r an' c'ly, faranclly, farantly*. PROMP. PARV. "*Comly* or well *farynge* in shape, elegans." Hormanni *Vulgaria*; "He looked *unfaringly*, aspectu in composito." These authorities go to shew, not merely that it is a good old word, but that the primitive meaning, perverted elsewhere, has remained pure and uncorrupted in the mouths of Salopians. Ray has "*farantly*, handsom. Fair and *farantly*, fair and handsom."

The eldest is a young merchand,  
He is right *fair* and weal *farrand*.

SIR GRAY STEEL, v. 222.

With him came mony stede *farant*,  
And mony *faire* juster corant.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 3460.

Hym semyd wele a gentilman;  
She knewe non suche in hyr londe,  
So goodly a man and wele *farand*.

THE LYFE OF IPOMYDON, v. 282.

**FASTEN**, *v.* 1. to detain by a grasp, to bite. Ex. "The dog *fastened* him by the leg." 2. to take hold of. Ex. "Why ivir dostna *fasten* houd on it wi' boáth honds." Belg. *vatten*; Germ. *fassen*; Swed. *fatta*, capere prehensione. The other cognate terms, such as the Swed. *fästa*; Teut. *vasten*; M. Goth. *faskja*; A. Sax. *fæstnian*, figere, apply to the generally received sense of this word.

**FAT**, *s.* *pres.* and *preterperf.* the old form of the verb fetch. Ex. "I *fat* it from the shap." "*Fat* it from him." This word occurs with us in the time of Henry VII. (See History of Shrewsbury, vol. i. p. 280.) We have also the *part. past.* Ex. "Ale that was *fat*." Hence the common phrase of "A *fattin* o' drink," that quantity of ale which is carried out of a public house and drank, sub dio, such as the *Cuckoo's Foot ale*. A. Sax. *fæccæan*, *fætian*, adducere. Teut. *vaten*; Belg. *vatten*, comprehendere. Swed. *fatta*, prehendere.

**FAUD, FODE, FOD, s.** a fold. None of these methods of pronunciation are peculiar to us, unless it be the second. The first and last are well known Scottisms.

**FAUSE, adj.** false, cunning, coaxing, subtle. Ex. "A *fause* dog." Fr. *fausse*. Ray.

For mine was o' the gude red gould,  
But thine was o' the tin;  
And mine was true and trusty baith,  
But thine was *fause* within.

*The Bonny Lass of Lochroyan.* HERD'S Collection.

**FAUSE, v.** to COAX, wheedle, flatter. Ex. "He knows how to *fause* her o'er." Germ. *falschen*; Teut. Belg. *valschen*; Swed. *falskas*; Isl. *falsa*; Dan. *forfalske*, decipere, adulterare, falsum pro vero substituere.

**FAUT, FAULT, s.** 1. want, negligence. Ex. "Welly clemm'd for *faut* o' fittle."

When that she swouned next, for *faute* o' blood.

CHAUCER'S *Squier's Tale*, v. 10757.

2. a defection in a mine. Ex. "Ye sin there's a *faut*, and the coal craps out." Jamieson adduces several passages, which shew that the former sense of the word is precisely that which it had at an earlier period. The latter, is the usual term amongst miners in Shropshire and Staffordshire; it is current in Derbyshire, but with quite a different meaning. It would be difficult to substitute any expression more suitable than our own. Teut. *faute*, defectus. *A la faute*, l'endroit où quelque chose finit. Roquef.

**FAUTY, adj.** decayed, rotten as wood. Teut. *faut*, materia inutilis in arbore aut ligno, facillime cariem sentiens.

**FAVOUR, v.** to bear a family likeness. Ex. "*Favours* the mother's side."

Good faith, methinks that this young Lord Chamont  
*Favours* my mother, sister, doth he not.

*Case is Alter'd*, iii. 1.

**FAWHR, s.** a fair. Such is the method of pronunciation

adopted in the districts round the Clee Hills, where the language is very much Doricised. We must therefore not confound it with the Fr. *foire*, though it has the same meaning.

**FĒAK**, *s.* a sharp twitch or pull.

**FEAR**, *v.* to frighten, terrify. M. Goth. *faurhtan*; Dan. *frycte*; Belg. *vruchtan*; A. Sax. *færan*; Franc. *ferron*; Germ. *faren*; Teut. *vaeren*, *facere ut metuunt*. Hence *afeärd*, for frightened.

And thus he shall you with his wordes fere.

*Troil. and Cress.* iv. 1483.

I tell thee, Lady, this aspect of mine

Hath fear'd the valiant.

*Merchant of Venice*, ii. 1.

And see the slanderer in before I left him,

But as it is it fears me.

*A Fair Quarrel*, ii. 1.

Nor the threatnings of kings (which are perilous to a prince,) nor the persuasions of Papists (which are honny to the mouth) could either *fear* hir, or allure hir.

*Euphuus and his England*, p. 123.

If he shall *fears* us out of our wits with strange words.

*The Curtain-drawer of the World*, p. 41.

**FĒART**, *past part.*; afraid.

**FEATHER**, *v.* to bring a stack of grain gradually and neatly to a summit, "top it up" well, slope it carefully to a point. A. Sax. *fetho*, *acies*. Hence the term of a *feather edge*.

**FECK**, *s.* a small piece of iron used by miners in blasting rocks. A. Sax. *fæcele*, *facula*.

**FECKLESS**, *adj.* effectless, of which it is probably a corruption.

False, *feckless* foulmart.

*The Flyting of Montgomery.*

For as we se a mischief grow

Aft of a *feckless* thing.

MONTGOMERY'S *Cherry and the Slae*, s. iii.

A faithles, *feckles*, fingerles, and fals.

MONTGOMERY'S *Sonnets.*

On pleasure let's employ our wit,

And laugh at fortune's *feckless* powers.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 228.

**FRED**, *s.* 1. food, "keep." Ex. "They'n had plenty o' good *feed*." Swed. *foder*; Isl. *fodr*; Teut. *voeder*, pabulum.

For losing his pasture, and *feed* of his field.

TUSSER.

2. a quartern of oats. Ex. Traveller. "Give my horse a quartern o' corn." Ostler. "He's had a *feed a'ready*." **FEEDING**, *part. past*; nourishing. Ex. "*Feeding* stuff for children." M. Goth. *fodan*; A. Sax. *fedan*; Belg. *voeden*; Swed. *fæda*; Isl. *fodra*; Dan. *forer*; Teut. *voederen*, nutrire.

**FEEDING TIME**, *phr.* genial and mild weather, gentle rain and moderate heat.

**FEL**, *perf.* of feel. The *d* and *t* final are occasionally suppressed in verbs forming their perfect by these consonants.

**FELDIFIERE**, *s.* a fieldfare. *Turdus pilaris* of Linnæus. A. Sax. *fealafor*. Both the derivation and its poetical illustrations establish the correctness of the vulgar usage.

Over all where so they fare,  
And sing, Go farewell *felfefare*.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE.

**FESCUE**, *s.* a small stick or piece of wire used by school-mistresses for pointing out their letters to children learning to read. A word rapidly vanishing from the language. Palsgrave; *festus* to spell with, *festen*.

Ah do but put  
A *feskue* in her fist, and you shall see her  
Take a new lesson out.

*The Two Noble Kinsmen.*

**FET**, *v.* another old form of *fetch*.

The Soudan ther he sat in halle,  
He comaundede his knihtes alle  
That maiden for to *fette*.

KING OF TARS, v. 361.

And therupon the win was *fette* anon.

CHAUCER'S *Prol.* v. 821.

Yong men hym *fette*, with bowes bent.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 362.

And fayr servyse byfore hem *fette*.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 1504, 3478.

Then he *fette* to Lytell Johan

The numbles of a doo.

*A lytell geste of Robyn Hode.* RITSON, p. 32.

And *fet* his felaw.

*Sompnoures Tale.*

How that hire in his grisely carte he *fette*.

*Merchant's Tale.*

Whose blood is *fet* from fathers of war proof.

*Hen. V. iii. 1.*

FETTLE, *s.* order, condition. Ex. "His *hos* (horse) is in good *fettle*." Sometimes applied to denote the jaded or splashed state of a beast. Ex. "Yone brought him whoam in a pretty *fettle*." Lanc. Chesh. Hallam. Scotch. Ray. Not very local. Mr Wilbraham deduces this very prevalent word from the old Fr. *faiture* which has the same meaning. I have searched in vain for a closer derivative. The Isl. *fitla*, adparare, is the nearest approach we can make. Still I am entirely indisposed to allow that a word so universally known, so indispensable, let me add too, to give perspicuity and meaning to what we intend to say, can be tralatitious or superinduced. Nares is at liberty to call it "undignified," but he could never have persuaded a Sallopian to drop it from his vocabulary; nor will any present writer induce us to believe that a word sanctioned by such authors as Bishop Hall and Swift, is inapplicable or inelegant. What imports it, whether it be concinnous or not? It is an exceedingly useful word, and embodies more pith and meaning than any other which can be substituted in its place. It is quite certain that no Shropshire person will ever be timid in letting it fall from his tongue.

Wa' than, says Job, aw's warn us reet,—

There 'nought 'ats' ought to settle,

Sea whoop! lads, hey for Fuursday neecht!

And git yer pumps i' *fettle*.

FETTLE, *v.* to mend, put in order, prepare, rectify, &c. The verb is even more common than the noun. Ex. "Fettle it woot?" "Fetting the hos." "Gwon up stairs to fettle herself; her'l soon be down." Coles, Phillips.

Then John bent up his long bende-bowe,  
And fetteled him to shoot.

ROBIN HOOD and GUY OF GISBORNE.

Yett neither Robin Hood nor Sir Guy  
Them fettleled to flye away. *id.*

The barrel, (of a gun) was rustit as black as the grun'  
But he's taen't to the smiddy an's fettleled it rarely.

TANNAHILL'S *Poems*, quoted by JAMIESON.

Craven Gloss. quotes also,

"He has hastened him to the Queen's Court at Whitehall  
strange and fettleled an archers of the guard liverye bow."

*Memorial of R. Rokeby.*

Beaumont and Quarenby saw all this  
And Lockwood, where they stood  
They fettleled them to fence, I wis  
And shot as they were wood.

*Vale of Calder.*

They to their long-hand journey fettleled them.

*Maiden's Bush.*

FEYHT, FEHT, *s.* a fight. Our pronunciation accords with the ancient, and also with the derivation. Germ. *fechten*; A. Sax. *feohtan*; Alam. *fehlan*; Teut. Belg. *vechten*, pugnare.

I will fechte on a felde.

THE AWNTYRS OF ARTHURE.

I gat them in the field fechting.

JOHNIE ARMSTRONG.

FEYT, *s.* an action or performance, generally understood in a bad sense. Ex. "A sheamful feyt." "A pritty feyt." Teut. *feyt*, facinus.

FILE, *s.* now a slang term given to one who joins a tolerable share of worthlessness with cunning and quickness. Ex. "A rum old file." It is however a good old word and had always much the same meaning, if we may judge from the position it assumes in the authorities ensuing. Isl. *fyla*, res rejecta.

David at that while was with Edward the kyng,  
Zit avanced he that *file* untill a faire thing.

R. OF BRUNNE.

Philip the Valas was a *file*,

He fled, and durst nocht tak his dole,

MINOR'S *Poems*, p. 31.

Sir Philip was funden a *file*.

*id.* p. 36.

FILLY, *s.* a mare colt, metaphorically applied to a young female. C. Brit. *ffilog*; Hebr. *phillegesh*, (Davies.) Germ. *füllein*; A. Sax. Swed. *fola*; Franc. *fulin*; Alam. *vole*; M. Goth. *fula*; Isl. *fyl*; Belg. *voelen*, *hinnulus*.

FINAGUE, *v.* to omit or cease playing trumps. Ex. "He's *finagued* shute," (suit). In spite of this peculiar specimen of card table concinuity, I am disposed to think that the word comes from the Fr. *finer*, to which amongst other meanings, Roquefort assigns those of *nourir* and *cesser*.

FISSES, *s.* fists. Ex. "Thire inna mainy as bin a gween to lick our Tummus, a young springy, lissom chap, hondles his *fisses* mighty prittily."

FITCHUK, *s.* a pole cat. Ex. "Yo stinken wus nor a *fitchuk*." Fr. *fissau*. *Fitchew*, seems to be legitimate. (See Othello, iv. 1. Troilus and Cressida, v. 1.)

And make ye fight like *fichots*.

BONDUCA.

FITCHUK PIE, *s.* an unsavoury compound of bacon, apples, and onions; by labouring men it is considered a dainty kind of pie, but it smells rank unto the senses of those who are habituated to delicate feeding. Surely some ill-natured Apician conceived its name from those offensive odours which are emitted by the Pole Cat. The pie is not confined to us, being made in Cheshire and Staffordshire.

FIX, *s.* a lamb yeaned dead.

FIZZ, *v.* to make a hissing noise, as any fermented liquor. C. Brit. *ffysg*, haste. Forby has Isl. *fisa*,



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restly perversions. The first, however, is generally prevalent in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, Hallamshire, Lancashire, and is traceable from the period of our Shropshire Satirist through Chaucer, Spenser, Fairfax, &c., down to the present time. PROMP. PARV. *fitten*, or remewn away. S. Goth. *flyta*, transportare ab uno loco ad alterum. Isl. *flyta*, ve-here. Swed. *flytta*; Dan. *flytter*, migrare.

And *fittyng*e fond ich the frere.

PIERS PLOUGHMAN, p. 202.

Fer might thai nocht *fit*.

MINOT'S Poems, p. 46.

Lat newefangylnes the plese

Oftyn to remewe nor to *flyt*.

RITSON'S Anc. Pop. Poet. p. 85.

Promitting, bot *fitting*.

MONTGOMERY'S *Cherry and the Slae*, St. 106.

Hou we ahule *flyten*,

Ant togedere smiten.

GESTR OF KYNG HORN, v. 855.

And whan it failleth, he woll *fit*.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE.

So sore it sticked when I was hit,

That by no craft I might it *fit*.

*id.* and also *Troil. and Cress.* v. 1543.

Forthwith her ghost out of her corps did *fit*.

*Astrophel.* 177.

FLITCHEN, *s.* a fitch of bacon. A. Sax. *flicce*, succidia.

FLOAT, *v.* to irrigate, cut gutters by which water may be conveyed over meadow land. This is not a wrested application of the common verb neuter which has cognate synonyms in the A. Sax. *flotan*; Teut. *vlotten*; Isl. *flota*; Germ. *flotter*; Belg. *vlieten*, flutare, but derived from the Swed. *flotta*, pingui fluido imbuer.

FLOATING SHOVEL, *s.* a shovel used for cutting turf.

FLOP, *adv.* quickly, entirely, smartly. A vulgarism expressing a fall or blow which has happened without any let or hindrance. Teut. *vloes*, brevissima pars temporis. (See SOUSE.)

FLUE, FLUKE, *s.* a lancet used for letting blood from horses. Swed. Isl. *flyta*; Teut. *vlooden*, fluere.

**FLUFF**, *s.* down, or any light flying particles of a gossamer like nature. Ex. "A coat is covered with *fluff* when it has lain on the top of a bed," and with "*slut's wool*" when it has fallen underneath. A. Sax. *floh*; C. Brit. *flochen* (hence a *flock* bed?) fragmen.

**FLUSK, FLUKE**, *s.* a flounder. A. Sax. *floc*, passer.

I's fell thee like a *fluike*, flatlings on the flure.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flyting*.

**FLUMMERY**, *s.* 1. blanc mange. 2. firmity. The latter dish is rarely made at Shropshire farm houses, though constituting a principal part of the food at supper of our neighbours the Welsh. Fr. *fourmentée*, *froumentè*. Lat. frumentum.

**FLUMMERY HULLS**, *s.* the skin of oats prepared for making *flummery*.

**FLUMMOX**, *v.* to cheat, outwit. Ex. "*Flummoxed* him ye sin." A low word.

**FLUSH**, *s.* an increase of water in the river Severn, not so large a quantity as a flood. A bargeman's word. Ex. "Now the *flush* is come we'en be off i' th' ownder." Sometimes adjectively. Ex. "The Sivr'n's (Severn is) pretty *flush*." Teut. *fluysen*, meare cum impetu. Belg. *fluysen*; Swed. *flyta*; Dan. *flyder*; Isl. *flyta*, fluere.

**FLUSH**, *adj.* 1. strong in the pocket. Ex. "*Flush* o' the ready." PROMP. PARV. *Floushen*, floreo. Shakspeare has "As *flush* as May." 2. even. Ex. "Now us bin *flush*." 3. fledged. Ex. "Tak em when a bin *flush*." Teut. *vlugghen*, plumescere.

**FLUSKER**, *v.* to be confused, giddy, stupified. Ex. "Meetily *flusker'd*." A deprivation of *fluster*.

**FOCED**, *part. past*; of verb to force, the *r* as is usual, being omitted. Ex. "I was *foced* to goä."

**FOGGY**, *adj.* A horse is said to be *foggy*, when for a time having been fed upon grass, he has grown dull

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To a bath gan him lede,  
Ful gayn.

SIR TRISTREM, *Fytte*, ii. 40.

Ye ar the *gainest* gate, and gyde, to God.

*Priests of Peblis.*

**GAINY COAL**, *s.* a coal measure bearing this title at Brosely corresponds with the *Sill-Coal* in the Lightmoor field. A collier informs the writer that "Mr —— wonst got it, but it lee him in eliven shilling a ton afore he knocked it off."

**GALL**, *v.* 1. to hurt by pressure or friction. Ex. "*Galled* by the tightness of the collar." Hence the secondary meaning; 2. to suffer from vexation, be crossed. Ex. "Terribly *galled* when I told him."

However this may *gall* him with some check.

*Othello*, i. 1.

A. Sax. *geallan*, intertrigare. Ir. *gaillim*, lædere. Fr. *galler*.

**GALL**, *s.* The bitterness of this liquid, or more correctly speaking viscous substance, is universally proverbial: whether the simile of "as yellow as *gall*" be so I am uncertain. A term more expressive of color, etymologically viewed, it would be difficult to find. A striking congruity exists between the substantive and adjective. The latter evidently taking its origin from the former, and retaining nearly the same sound with the substantive in the respective languages below. Isl. Belg. *gall*; Swed. Franc-Theot. Ital. *galla*; Dan. *galde*; Teut. Germ. A. Sax. Fr. *galle*; Sp. *gallia*; Lat. *galla*, fel. Whilst the adjective becomes in Isl. *gulur*; Swed. *gull*; Teut. *galle*; Belg. *geel*, gheluwe; Dan. *gul*; A. Sax. *gealow*; Germ. *gelb*; Ital. *giallo*; Sp. *galde*; Fr. *jaune*, *jaulne*; Lat. *flavus*. From these synonyms the reputed vulgarisms *Yeller* (Isl. *gulur*) and *Yellow* (Ital. *giallo*; Teut. *galle*, &c.) with the old English *Yellow*, receive countenance.

Al so *yellow* as ony gold.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 6469.

**GALLIMAUFREY**, *s.* a rank compound of weekly scraps which may be enumerated among school boys' fare. Fr. *gali-mafrè*, sorte de hachis de *haut-guôt*. Minsheu gives a curious account of the dish, sub voce. Bullokar describes it as "a confused mixture of several things, a mingle mangle, hotch potch, mishmash." Nares, Coles, Shakspeare.

**GALLOWES, GALLOUS**, *adj.* applied to a person who by bad conduct stands a fair chance of reaching one. Ex. "He's an onlucky *gallows* dog." M. Goth. *galga*; A. Sax. *galg*; Dan. Swed. *galge*; Isl. *galgi*; Belg. *galghe*, patibulum.

Ay, and a shrewd unhappy *gallows* too.

*Love's Labour's Lost*, v. 2.

**GALLOWSES**, *s.* braces; are they termed so *metaphorically*, because a certain part of men's attire is held up by them?

**GALLY**, *adj.* applied to wet land, and consequently such as is poor and sterile. Ex. "Wet and *gally*, and wants draining." Isl. (Verel. in Ind.) *gall*; Swed. Germ. *gall*, sterilis, infæcundus.

**GAMBRIL**, *s.* 1. the lower part of a horse's leg. 2. a stick used by butchers, which having either end passed through the sinews of a slaughtered animal, is the means of supporting it from the ground. 3. a stick placed across the inside to keep open the carcass of the slain. Ital. *gamba*.

Soon crooks the tree that good *gambrel* would be.

RAY, p. 93.

**GAMBRIL**, *v.* to stretch open the carcass of a sheep or other animal for the foregoing purpose. Nares.

And carry you *gambril'd* thither like a mutton.

*Nice Valour*, iv. 1.

**GAMOCK**, *s.* foolish sport, practical jokes; it may be referable to the succeeding.

**GAMON**, *s.* nonsense. Ex. "Lets have none of your *gamon*." "Houd your *gamon*." 2. play, pastime. Ex. "Up to their *gamon*." Isl. *gaman*, jocus. A. Sax. *gamene*, ludus. Swed. *gamman*, lætitia.

Bot *gumenen* togedres, and eke scoff.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 5461.

And that thou never on Eldridge come

To sporte, *gamon*, or play.

PERCY'S *Reliques*, vol. i. p. 47.

GANDERNOPED, *adj.* giddy, thoughtless, or as the phrase goes, "a goose."

GANDY, *adj.* idly disposed.

GAP, GAT, *s.* a hole in a fence, part broken down, or through. Isl. Teut. Belg. Swed. *gat*; Germ. *gatt*, foramen, hiatus. M. Goth. *gatanka*, ruptura. Verel. in Indic. *gap*, foramen sepis, per quod pecus transire potest.

And led 'till the *gap*.

*Tournament of Tottenham.*

GAUKY, GOKY, *s.* a term of contempt, a foolish, rude, illbred fellow. Isl. *gaukr*, arrogans morio. Corn. *goky*; Germ. *gauch*; Swed. *gåck*, stultus. Dan. *giek*; Alaman. *goch*; Franc. *gouch*, stolidus.

a *goky* he is yholden

So is he a *goky* by that in the godspel failleth.

PERES PLOURMAN, v. 221.

*Gowke*, wyt mee not to gar thee greit.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flyting.*

GAUP, *v.* to gape, stare; pronounced *gëaup*. Ex. "Whod dost stond thire *gëauping* at?" "A *gëauping* fool." Isl. *gapi*; Dan. *gabe*; Teut. *gaepen*; A. Sax. *geapan*; Verel. in Indic. *gapa*; Swed. *gapa*; Belg. *gaapen*; Germ. *gaffen*, hiare.

GAUT, *s.* a barrow pig. S. Goth. *gallt*; Isl. *galti*; Dan. Swed. *galt*, majalis.

GAWN, *s.* a small bucket chiefly used in brewing. Ex. "A lading *gawn*."

GAYPOLE, *s.* a piece of wood which goes across the interior of a chimney, upon which are passed chains, to hold pots and kettles over the fire. It is only seen in old houses, and the word is rapidly becoming extinct.

GET, *s.* 1. stock, breed. Ex. "All that hos's *get* bin good uns." 2. income, receipt. Ex. "A man of poor *get*."

GET, *v.* to receive chastisement. Ex. "Yone *get* it lad when yo gwon whoam."

GIB, *s.* a piece of wood about ten inches long, used in supporting the roof of a coal mine.

GID, *perf.* of give. Ex. "I nivr *gid* my mind to sich nonsense." Sometimes *en* final is added, as "they *giden*," for they gave.

GIFFY, *s.* the shortest space of time. Ex. "Done in a *giffy*." This cannot be very dialectical.

GIGGLE, *v.* to titter. Ex. "Laughing and *giggling*." It is usually applied to a person whose manner and discourse are light and foolish. And such an acceptation strictly accords with its etymon. A. Sax. *gegas*, *gegas-sprac*, *nugatorius sermo*.

GILLORE, *adv.* plenty. This word which is not peculiar to us I believe, is used in general, at the end of a sentence. Ex. "Have you any besoms? Yes, I've besoms *gillore*." Irish, *gillore*. Grose.

But see de Tyrconnel is now come ashore,  
And we shall have commission *gillore*.

*Lilli Burlero*, v. 32.

GILT, *s.* a spayed pig. A. Sax. *gilde*; Isl. Dan. *gaalte*; Dan. *gylt*; Germ. *gelze*, *sucula*. Northamptonshire, *yilt*.

GIN, *perf.* of verb give. Ex. "Whod's he *gin* yo?" for what has he given you.

GIN, *s.* a trap or snare to take hares or rabbits. As a deceit, plot, or engine of entrapment, it is most common in Chaucer and our early poets. (Canterb. Tales, vv. 149, 342, 446, &c. &c.) And in his Translation of Boethius we read,

Ye ne hyden not youre *ginnes* in hie mountains to catchen  
fyshe.

Of the traytours of Scotland that take beth with *gynne*.

RITSON'S *Ant. Song*, p. 5.

Neptanabus byhalt his *gynne*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 607.



Thus berdes been maade all daye full feele  
With anglers and other *gynnes* over all.

HARTSHORNE'S *Anti. Metrical Tales*, p. 119.

My *gynnes*, my japis, I will resigne.

*id.* p. 126.

GIN, *v.* to ensnare. Isl. *ginni*, decipere, allicere.

GIN, *s.* a wooden perpendicular axle, which has arms projecting from its upper part, to which a horse is fastened. A common mode of drawing materials out of a coal pit when a work is in its infancy. Whence the term has come it is now perhaps impossible to say. Unless its origin lies hidden in the word *engine*. We also have several compounds from it, as "going in the *gin*" when a horse is used to that peculiar labour, besides some other words that follow.

GINGER HACKLED, *adj.* red haired. This elegant epithet is chiefly applied to the softer sex. Grose.

GINGERLY, *adv.* lightly, tenderly, gently. Ex. "*Gingerly*, as if you were treading on eggs." This must not be accounted dialectical; yet it is sufficiently remarkable to obtain a place in a provincial glossary, one of whose principal uses seems naturally to consist in recording the extent of reception, which any word of presumed limited circulation, has obtained.

GIN-HORSE, *s.* a horse accustomed to work "in the *gin*."

GINNY RAILS, *s.* iron rails along which small wooden carriages (*ginny carriages*) are drawn, laden with coal, iron-stone, lime-stone, or other mineral products.

GINNY CARRIAGE, *s.* a stout wooden, or sometimes iron carriage, used for conveying materials along a rail road.

GIN-RING, *s.* the circle round which a *gin horse* exercises his daily labour.

GIRDER, *s.* a blow. Ex. "If he dunnod haud his rackle, gie him a *girder* Thavie." This is not the vulgarism which its first sound would lead us to suppose. Salopians, though I confess, unconsciously, yet do not unwarrantably, give it utterance. In this as in most other

of their peculiarities, something like good authority can be adduced. A. Sax. *gyrdan*. Besides its adoption by our early poets, Robert Langland, Sir David Lyndsay, Chaucer and others, we find its occurrence in the following passages.

A *gyrd* rycht to the King he couth maik.

THE BRUCE.

Myd *gerden* to his naked rug.

ROBERT OF GLOUCESTER.

Men of all sorts take a pride to *gird* at me.

2 Hen. IV. i. 2.

**GISS**, *v.* to guess. Ex. "*Giss* agen." How or when did this vowel supplant the diphthong? Have not the vulgar in this instance retained a word more closely in analogy with the general idiom of our language, than that adopted by their superiors? Isl. *giska*; Swed. *gissa*; Teut. *ghissen*; Belg. Germ. *gissen*; Dan. *gjætte*; A. Sax. *gætan*, conjiere.

**GIT**, *v.* for get. This change of vowels is very frequent. **GIVE**, *v.* 1. to yield. Ex. "The ground *gives*" during a thaw. 2. to abuse, scold, vituperate. Ex. "But" (this disjunctive implies retaliation) "I *gid* it him." As much as to say, under another form of provincialism, "I *gid* him the length of my tongue." The gift itself is usually understood in such phrases, as "to *give* tongue," implies to give utterance: and akin to the former example, "I *gave* him as good as he brought," signifies that the objurgation was satisfactory and complete. 3. to chastise, beat. Ex. "Thee mind lad if I dunna *gis* it thee when thee comst whoam."

**GIZZERN**, *s.* the gizzard. Lat. *gigerium*; Fr. *gesier*; the guiserne of a bird. Cotgrave. **GYSERNE** of fowles. **PROMP. PARV.**

**GLAT**, *s.* an opening in a fence, part broken down, or destroyed. Ex. "A stop-*glat*." "Any thin ull doä to stop a *glat*." Isl. *glatan*, dispendium. Teut. Swed. *glatt*, planus. (See **GAP**.)

GLAVERING, *part.* flattering. Ex. "A *glavering* and slaver-  
ing fellow." The *a* is invariably pronounced broad.  
Junius had heard each of these. One is merely by a  
trifling metathesis the same as the other. *Glaver* is  
one of the singularly few words which we have ac-  
quired from our Cambrian neighbours. C. Brit. *glafn*,  
adulatio. A. Sax. *gliwan*, scurram agere. Lat. *glaber*.  
Coles.

And begileth hem of her good with *glaverynge* wordes.  
PERES PLOUGHMAN'S *Crede*.

Ha! now he *glavers* with his fawning snoute.  
MARSTON'S *Scourge of Villanie*.

Leave *glavering* on him in the peopled presse.  
*id.*

When grand Mæcenas casts a *glavering* eye.  
HALL'S *Satires*, v. 1.

Do you hear stiff-toe, give him warning to forsake his saucy  
*glavering* grace and his goggle eye.

*Poetaster*, iii. 4.

GLEMMY, *adj.* close, damp, muggy. Ex. "*Glemmy* wea-  
ther." Teut. *klam*, humidus. PROMP. PARV. *Gleymen*,  
visco; and *Gloymous*, viscosus.

GLOPPEN, *v.* to alarm; to feel astonished; to be igno-  
rantly surprised. Ex. "Welly *gloppened* when I seed  
him." A word found by me hitherto only in the  
mouths of persons living on the North side of the  
county. It comes to us I suspect from Cheshire, and  
being (in part) the property of that county, it has  
not escaped the notice of my late highly valued friend  
Mr Wilbraham. Verel. in Ind. *glapa*, intentis oculis  
adspicere. Isl. *glapi*, intueri. Germ. *glupen*, oculos  
vultumque demittere. S. Goth. *glop*, fatuus.

It zellede, it zamede with vengeance full wete;

And saide, afre syghande full sare,

I am the body that the bare,

Allas! now kyndyls my kare,

I *gloppyn* and I grete!

*The Awntyrs off Arthure*.

Thane *gloppennyde*, and grett, dame Gaynoure the gay.

*id.*

**Gob**, *s.* 1. the mouth. Ex. "Shut your *gob*." Irish, *gob*; Fr. *gobe*. Sir D. Lyndsay, Ray. *Gobstick*, a spoon; North country. And secondarily transferred to what issues therefrom, as, 2. talk, nonsense, expectation. Ex. "Stop your *gob*." Or, 3. what may be put therein as a small round piece of fat, or any substance that is edible, whether solid or semi-fluid.

So hope ich to haue of hym, that his al myghty  
A *gobet* of hus grace.

P. PLOUHMANN, 80.

4. A particular measure in a coal mine. Ex. "At work i' th' *gob*."

**Gob**, *v.* to fill up, impede. Ex. "The drain's *gobbed* up o' dirt."

**GOBBLE**, **GOBBLER**, *s.* a turkey cock. Let any individual stand in a farm yard when the poultry are fed, and their ears will be assailed by these various sounds addressed to the respective feathered tribes. *Gobble*, *gobble*, *gobble*, to the turkey; *chuck*, *chuck*, *chuck*, to the chicken; *pen*, *pen*, *pen*, to the peacock; *walk up*, *walk up*, *walk up*, to the guinea fowl; *hic*, *hic*, *hic*, to the young duck; *wid*, *wid*, *wid*, to the old one. These respective terms of invitation are struck off on the principle of *onomatopœia*.

**GOLD FINCH**, *s.* the Yellow Bunting. (*Emberiza Citrinella*.)

**GOMS**, **GOOMS**, *s.* the gums. Verel. in Indic. *goma* fauces.

A. Sax. *goma*, the gums of the mouth. Swed. *gom*, palatum.

**GONE**, *part. past.* We are much reprehended for our peculiar use of this verb: yet the idiom is classical, and well known to readers of the Greek Tragedians. Other counties substitute *grown* for *gone*, and say *grown cold* for *gone cold*. Our form is surely as correct as theirs.

**GOOD FEW**, *adj.* a fair number, plentiful supply. Ex.

"He gin me a *good few*." A *goodish few*, or a *good two-three*, are phrases of similar significancy.

GOODIT, GOODY'S-TUESDAY. *s.* By this title, Shrovetide is usually known among the lower orders. (See Wilbraham's Cheshire Glossary under *Guttit*.)

GOOM RED. (See under RED GOOM.)

GOSLINS, *s.* the blossoms of the salix, which from their color and peculiar softness are not unnaturally compared by the vulgar to young geese; more commonly denominated "*goosy goslins*."

GOSSEP, GOSSIP, *s.* a godfather or godmother. A. Sax. *godsibb*, sponsor. Junius supposes that from sponsors, under cover of their spiritual office, meeting together at entertainments, and discussing family affairs, arose the phrases of 'going a gossiping;' and 'a drunken or gadding gossip.' PROMP. PARV. *gosep man*, commater: *gosep woman*, commater.

For which a woman may in no lesse sinne assemble with hire *godsib*, than with hir owen fleshly broder.

*Persones Tale*, vol. iv. p. 107.

And say he schal mi *gossibbe* be.

LAY LE FREINE, v. 42 and 50.

And said *gossap* beir hame zour pure offering.

*Colkelbie Sow*.

GOSTER, *v.* to bully, hector, talk vauntingly. C. Brit. *gostegn*, silere quiescere.

GRAB, *v.* to lay hold of, snatch, pilfer. S. Goth. Swed. *grabba*; Teut. Belg. *grabbelen*, arripere.

GRADELY, *adv.* gently, moderately, by degrees. Ex. "Tak it *gradely*." Teut. *graed*; Swed. *grad*, gradus.

A. Sax. *grade*, ordo.

GRADELY, *adj.* respectable, moderate. Ex. "A *gradely* man." A. Sax. *geræd man*, prudens.

GRAF, GRAFT, *s.* the depth of a spade's bit in digging. Ex. "Turn up the sile a spade's *graf*." Isl. *grafa*; Dan. *grafwa*; Swed. *gråfwa*; M. Goth. *graban*; A. Sax. *grafan*, fodere. Isl. *gráfningr*; Swed. *gråfning*; Dan. *graevning*, fossio. Teut. *graft*, fossa.

GRAFTING TOOL, *s.* a long spade used in draining. Verel. in Indic. *grastol*, instrumenta fossoria.

GRAINS, *s.* 1. the prongs of a hay or dung fork. Ex. "Pikel *grains*." 2. the branches of a tree, where they first separate from the stem. S. Goth. Swed. Dan. *gren*; Isl. *grein*, ramus.

Apoun ane *grane* or branch of yan grene tree.

G. DOUGLAS' *Virgil*, p. 350.

3. malt when the water has been passed through it in brewing. Isl. *grion*, zea. C. Brit. *grawn*; Teut. Belg. *greyn*; Ital. Span. *grano*; Fr. *grain*, granum.

GRANDAM, *s.* a grandmother; An archaism perpetuated from grand mamma.

My *grandam* liv'd at Washington,

My *grandsir* delv'd in ditches.

RITSON'S *Anct. Songs*, p. 280.

GRANGE, *s.* Originally this signified a farm house or granary, or farm appertaining to a monastery, or some other religious house, and thus in time the term became identified with the place itself, as in the instances of *Harnage Grange*, *Hatton Grange*, *Hoarly Grange*, *Stoke Grange*, *Walton Grange*, *Kingstreet Grange*. Hence too arose the name of *Granger*, one who was accustomed to keep charge of the farm, or storehouse, a farmer. (See Du Cange sub *Grangia*.) Fr. *grange*; Ital. *grancia*; Span. *granja*; Chaucer, Spenser, Milton, Blount.

GRANNY-BEAR'D, *part. past*; brought up by a Grandmother: it commonly implies spoiled, tenderly treated, accustomed to the foolish kindness which over indulgent relatives evince.

GRANSIR, *s.* a grandfather. This good old word is rapidly falling into disuse, and is now I suspect confined to the Western district. In a Poem written by John Audelay, a blind Monk of Haughmond Abbey, preserved among the Douce Manuscripts in the Bod-

leian, it thus occurs in conjunction with the preceding word.

His gracious *granseres* and his *graundama*,  
His fader and moderis of kyngis thay came.

fol. 29.

**GRAVES**, *s.* the refuse of tallow made into cakes, a sort of oil cake with which dogs are fed. A. Sax. Sicamb. Teut. *greus*; cremium. Brade of *greven*.

**GRAVE-spike**, *s.* an instrument used by sextons in grave digging. Dan. *gravestaker*, instrumenta sepulchralia. Isl. *grafa*; Swed. *gråfwa*.

**GREAT**, *adj.* familiar, intimate. A word now chiefly confined to the vocabulary of schoolboys, though formerly in higher circulation. (See Hunter's, and Brockett's Glossaries.)

**GREWED**, *part. past*; 1. burned or stuck to the pot in boiling. Ex. "The milk is *grew'd* to the pot. 2. adhering firmly to the flesh, as dirt, or filth. Ex. "*Grew'd* o' dirt." "The dirt's *grew'd* into thee." Teut. *grouen*, crassescere.

**GRIG**, *s.* heath. From this shrub the poor generally make their besoms, at least all those whose locality places them within its reach. We were remarked by Ray for using the word, who in his Catalogue of local words, gives it to the Salopians a century or more ago. It is one of the very few terms we have borrowed from our Welsh neighbours. C. Brit. *gryg*.

**GRIME**, *s.* dirt, colly. Verel. in Indic. *grima*, cutis faciei. Isl. *grima*, conticinium quando omnia quasi obvelata caligine videntur: persona.

**GRIME**, *v.* to daub, dirty. Ex. "*Grimed* with colly." Evidently metaphorical from the Icelandic, hidden with dirt, obscured, dark, so that it is difficult to recognise the individual as the same. Tha' runnu a' hann toær *grimur*, personam fere mutavit, ut vix se continuit. Belg. *begriemen*, demigrare.

My face i'll *grime* with *filth*.

*Lear*, ii. 3.

**GRIN**, *s.* a trap, snare to take game or small birds. Sometimes a springe, consisting simply of a bent twig; hence the S. Goth. and Swed. *gren*, ramus, suggests an etymon; more correctly, the A. Sax. *grin*, Germ. *garu*, laquei quibus aves vel feræ capiuntur. Gr. ἄρρηκτος, rete.

But I trowe that thy *grynnes* been untelt.

HARTSHORNE'S *Metrical Tales*, p. 123.

**GRIN**, *v.* to take hares or game by means of a running noose set in those particular parts of a hedge through which they are accustomed to pass.

**GRIN AND ABIDE IT**, *phr.* a phrase applicable to those unfortunate people whose only power of redressing their injuries, or means of consolation and contentment under adverse circumstances, consists in the recreation of 'shewing their teeth,' and patiently enduring what cannot be remedied. What a horrid predicament to be placed in!

**GRINDLESTWON**, *s.* a grindstone. Several verbs which terminate in *ind* have correspondent substantives in *le*; as *bind*, bundle; *wind*, windle; and thus by analogy we may say *grind*, grindle. The A. Sax. has not, it is true, under *grindl* our definition of the word, but as has been justly observed by one of my glossarising predecessors, many terms are still floating about which have not yet been arrested by any dictionary maker; and it is not assuming too much to suppose that our meaning might also belong to that class, and come from the verb *grindan*, molere. Concluding that the former part of the compound is satisfactorily accounted for, there still remains the use of the latter to justify. The analogy of our language will shew this not to be without warrant, so the word becomes defensible. (See Remarks under *gron*.) Cotgrave, *Meule*, a *grindlestone*.

**GRITS**, *s.* groats. Ex. "Gritty pudding." This farinaceous condiment is invariably eaten by the Cornavii with



roast goose, to counteract the richness of the bird.  
A. Sax. *grætta*, *avenæ deacinatæ*. Swed. *grôt*, *pula*.

GRON, GROUND, *part. past* and *perf.* of *v.* to grind. Ex. "The batch is gwon to be *gron*." "Han yo *gron* that scythe yit?"

GROUND, GROUND, GRUND, *s.* 1. definitely taken, for some particular spot or part. Ex. "Gwon down i' th' *groun*." "The uvver *ground*." 2. the whole farm. Ex. "Look o'er the *ground*." Verel. in Indic. *grund*, *fundus*. Dan. Isl. M. Goth. A. Sax. Swed. *grund*; Teut. *grond*, *solum*. 3. a greyhound. Ex. "A *groun* bitch." Thus, a *greyhound*, *grhound*, *groun*. Lincolns. *ground* and *grey*. (See Skinner, *sub voce*.)

GROUND, GO TO, *phr.* a practice which the building of conveniences has not yet superseded. (See Brockett's Gloss.)

GROUND CAR, *s.* an agricultural sledge.

GRUNDEN, *part. past*; of *v.* to grind. In accordance with the usual custom of adding *en* to the end of verba. The old form; witness Wiclif, and our earlier writers.

Or *grunden* litarge eke on the porphurie.  
*Cant. Tales*, v. 16243.

GROUND-ISAAC, *s.* the yellow wren. *Silvia trochilus*.

GROWTES, *s.* the bottoms of beer, or sediment of any kind of liquid. Teut. *grawct*, *condimentum cerevisiæ*. A.

Sax. C. Brit. *grut*, *fæx*. Isl. *grotti*; Teut. *gruet*, *fæx*.

PROMP. PARV. *grut*, *limus*; *growts*, *stranamellum*.

The toun dykes on every syde,  
They wer deep and fulwyde,  
Ful off *grut*, no man myghte swymme.

R. COER DE LION, v. 4339.

GRUBBY, *adj.* testy, ill-tempered, peevish. (See remarks under Stubby.)

GRUND, GRUNDEN, *part. past*; of *v.* to grind. A. Sax. *grindan*, *molere*. Lyndsay, Chaucer.

Shod wele with yren and stele,  
And also *grunden* wonder wele.

*Ywaine and Gawain*, v. 676.

GRUNSH, *v.* to bite strongly, gnash the teeth. This must be referred to *Cransh*. Teut. *schrantson*, dentibus frangere.

GRUNT, *v.* try, endeavour. Ex. "Grunt at it." As though the speaker had said, "another grunt," that is, through the effort, "and then it will be done." Though the sense this phrase has, is of ancient standing, it must be conceded to be a low metaphorical form of speech, taken from those inharmonious quadrupeds who usually supply a comparison for what excites disgust. Vox a sono ficta. Teut. *grunnen*; A. Sax. *grunan*; Ital. *grugnare*; Fr. *groigner*, grunire.

GUDGEONS, *s.* a pin, or screw of an axis to a windlass: a miner's word which is difficult to explain clearly. In Derbyshire, it means a piece of wood used for roofing.

GULSCHING, GULSCHY, *adj.* addicted to drinking, greedy of drink. This word which originally signified gluttonous, has been changed in later times in its passage to us. (See Nares, sub *Gulch*.) It is found in Ben Jonson, and other dramatic writers. Teut. *gulsigh*, gulosus.

GUMPRION, *s.* intellect, strength of mind. Ex. "A man of *gumption*." This word has been declared correct by two glossarial writers, and may consequently be considered deserving general adoption; few perhaps would deem it entitled to currency on the score of euphony: let it stand on its etymology then. M. Goth. *gaumian*, percipere.

GUN, SON OF A, *phr.* Richardson says that *kunde* in Persian has among its various significations that of a woman; and the Gr. *Γυνή*, Irish, *gean* mulier, if they have any connexion with this phrase make it intelligible: by metonymy is it deduced from Isl. and Germ. *gun*, vir?

GURGEONS, *s.* a coarse meal used in feeding pigs, extracted from wheat. The first form is *Sharps*; from them is obtained *Gurgeons*; from them, *Bran*, and lastly *Flour*. Fr. *escourgeon*.

A warrior tumbled in his blood we saw,  
His armes though dustie, bloodie, *hackt* and rent.

FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, viii. 52.

One flourishing branch of his most royal root,  
Is crack'd, and all the precious liquor spilt ;  
Is *hack'd* down, and his summer leaves all faded.

*Richard II.* i. 2.

2. to stammer, speak hesitatingly. Ex. "*Hacks* and hammer at his words." Teut. *hackelen*; S. Goth. *hacka*; C. Brit. *haccio*, balbutire.

HACKER, *s.* Such an axe as is usually taken to cut up cordwood: it is from two, to two and a half pounds weight, almost straight, and set in a wooden handle. It differs from a "*Brumhook*," says my informant, as that "comes uv a cruk, is thicker like, and innod nigh so brode." Teut. *hacks*, securis.

HACKLE, *v.* to cover a mow of wheat by placing two sheaves at the top with the ears downwards; by spreading them round those which are upright, and fastening the two exterior sheaves together, the mow is protected from wet.

HACKLERS, *s.* those sheaves which cover a mow. A. Sax. *hacela*, chlamys. We also hear among fishermen of "a cock's *hackle*," one of those feathers which clothe his neck.

HADDEN, *perf.* of *v.* to have. The old form, as used by Wicklif, Chaucer, and our early writers.

For catel *hadden* they ynough and rent.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 375.

HADLAND, *s.* headland, that part of a ploughed field which runs at right angles to the course of the butts. Verel. in Indic. *haufud*; A. Sax. *heafod*, caput. *Havedelond*, (Kennet's Gloss.) A. Sax. *hafud-land*, promontorium. Item una pecia terræ jacet ibidem cum Havedelonds, et jacet pro duabus acris et dimidia. id. p. 333.

Now plough up thy *headland*, or delve it with spade  
Where otherwise profit but little is made.

TUSSER'S *Husbandry*, p. 51.

HAGG, *s.* 1. a wood. 2. that part of a coppice set out for falling. A. Sax. *haga*, agellus. Isl. *hagi*, pascua. Swed. *hage*, locus pascuus circumseptus. In Domesday we read "In Gildeford habet Rex Willelmus LXXV. *hagas*." Properly, it is according to its etymology, a house enclosed by a fence, from Germ. *hagen*, sepire: thence the term received a more extended signification, and was applied to any enclosure or woodland: Germ. *hag*, nemus. Lat. Barb. *haja*, *hais* seu sepibus septa. The French called that part of a forest a *Haie* which was bounded by a fence or hedge, to enclose game. (See Du Cange.) In the Domesday Survey the *Haie* chiefly occur in Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Cheshire and Shropshire. In the last county iii. *Haie firmæ* are noticed at *Lege*, that is *Langley*. At *Clone*, (Clun,) are iii. *Haie*. At *Wrdine*, or *Worthen* is a wood with iii. *Haie*. At *Cortune* is a *Haia* "capreolis capiendis." And in the land of Ralph de Mortimer at *Lingham* are iii. *Haie* "capreolis capiendis." Beasts were caught by driving them into a hedged or paled part of a wood or forest, as elephants are in India, or deer in North America. Hence THE HAY near Coalport in Shropshire. See Spelman sub *Haya*, and Ellis's Introduction to Domesday Book, vol. i. p. 115. They also termed the entrenchments made by bushes and thickets *hayes*, for we read in Froissart, where he is speaking of the English at the Battle of Poitiers, "*ont pris le long du chemin, fortifié durement de hayes et de buissons, et ont vestu celle haye d'une part de leurs Archers*."

This said, he led me over holts and *hags*,

FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, viii. 41.

HAGG, HAGGLE, *v.* 1. to endeavour to lower a persons price, to wrangle. Ex. "After a dhel o' *hagging*." Fris. *hagghen*, rixari; Fr. *harceler*, Cotg. 2. to cut irregularly. Ex. "The joint's *haggled*."

**HAGG-WORK**, *s.* work taken by the piece. Ex. "On by the *hagg*." Evidently referable to the preceding, as a portion set apart. Verel. in Indic. *haga*, and S. Goth. *haga*, *disponere*.

**HAIHO**, *s.* the woodpecker. *Picus viridis*.

**HAIR**, *v.* to air: according to our custom of adding the aspirate. Thus, we hear a servant say, "the linen is not *haired*;" "the sheets want *hairing*": and to take the chill from beer is usually denoted by the phrase, "tak the *hair* off the drink"; "Its coud, jist out o' the cellar, yoden (you hadden) better tak the *yars* off it."

**HALE**, **HAUL**, *v.* to draw. This word is confined to the river side, and chiefly applied to men or horses drawing small or large craft on the Severn against the stream. (See Bow-haler.) Isl. Swed. *hala*; Belg. *halen*; Fr. *haler*, *trahere*.

Quem nec rumpere nauticum celeusma,  
Nec clamor valet *helcyariorum*.

*Mart. Epig.* iv. 64.

They setten mast, and *halen* saile.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 992.

Ancres into schip they *hakith*.

*id.* v. 1416.

It is not comely to be *haled* to the earth  
Like high-fed jades upon a tilting day.

FORD'S *Lover's Melancholy*.

**HALF-STRAINED**, *adj.* an epithet contemptuously applied to one who is deficient of understanding. Ex. "A *half-strained* fool."

**HALY DAY**, *s.* holy day. The old word, alike in derivation and authority. A. Sax. *halig-dag*; Franc. *heilag*; Swed. *helig*; Germ. Belg. *heilig*; Dan. *hellig*; Isl. *heilagr*, sanctus. Verel. in Indic. *heilagt*, *sacrorum peractio*.

For thei holden nat here *halydayes* as holy churche techeth.  
P. FLOURMAN, 148.

Eche *halyday* to huyre.

*id.* 159.

HAMES, HOMES, *s.* two curving pieces of wood which clip a horse's collar. Celt. C. Brit. *camm*, curvus, quia collum equi ambit tanquam collare. Sorab. *kommet*; Germ. *kummet*, jugum equorum. Isl. *hamur*, induvie.

HAMPTON; in composition with some preceding word, and signifies the village of the hamlet, *town* or house of the hamlet, *ham-ton*; from the A. Sax. *ham*, domus, prædium, villa; and *tun*, septum quodvis. Thus we have BROOK HAMPTON; WELSH HAMPTON; FELL HAMPTON, &c.

HAN, *v.* to have: *pres.* and *perf.* Ex. "Han 'e bin aater the bweast yit." Germ. Swed. *han*, habere.

Ye *han* ete on the erthe, and in youre leocheries ye *han* norished your hertis.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, James ch. v.

What yit *han* we nede to witnessis? lo now ye *han* herd blasfemye.

*id.* Matt. ch. xxvi. and 1 Corynth. ch. ix.

He wenden *han* buen kynges and seiden so in sawe.

RITSON'S *Anct. Songs*, p. 6.

HANDY, *adj.* ready, expert. Ex. "A *handy* lad." "Things lie *handy*." A cow is *handy* with her horn, if she is disposed to use it unkindly. A. Sax. *handlunga*, præsto. Swed. *handlag*; Teut. *be-hendigh*, manu promptus; Belg. *handelbaar*, *handigh*, commodus. Verel. in Indic. *handrif*.

HANGLASS, *s.* 1. a handle of a windlass. 2. a small windlass. Isl. *handlas*, funis simplex in altera manu aucupis? Teut. Swed. *hand*, manus, Teut. Swed. *last*, pondus; Dan. *handler*; A. Sax. *handle*, manubrium; Germ. *handleistung*, opitulatio.

HANDSTAFF, *s.* that part of a threshing flail which is held in the hand.

HANDSTRIKE, *s.* a strong piece of wood used as a lever to a windlass. Verel. in Indic. *handstyrkia*, manuum robore per funem in sublime se tollere.

HANNA, HANNOD, *v.* have not.

HANT, *v.* they have not. Germ. *hant*, habent.

HARDEN, *v.* to air, as clothes, which being damp, become stiff and hard, as it were, by exposure to the fire. Teut. *herdten*, torrere? Isl. *herda*; A. Sax. *heardian*; Swed. *hårda*, indurare. A Shropshire person would dispense with these derivations and declare the word was merely by prosthesis for *airden*; quasi, *air them*; and seeing that we make such strange work always with the aspirates, the criticism may not be unjust.

HARNISH, *v.* to harness.

He dude quyk *harnesche* hors.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 4708.

HARNISH, *s.* harness. We follow the ancient orthoepey here, though the word receives from us a secondary meaning. Originally it meant heavy armour, made of iron or steel: we now apply the word solely to horse harness. Germ. *harnisch*, gravis armatura. Swed. *harnesk*, thorax ferreus. Lat. Barb. *harnascha*; Fr. *harnois*. Verel. in Indic. *herneskia*, lorica.

HARRAST, *s.* harvest. Ex. "At the back o' quern *har-rast*." A permutation very unusual. A. Sax. Germ. *harvest*; Belg. *herfst*, messis.

HARRAST, *v.* to do harvest work. Ex. "My mon's gwun a *harrasting*."

HARRIMAN, *s.* a lizard; a newt.

HARSLET, HASLET, *s.* the race, liver, &c. of pigs. Ex. "Dineden off a pig's *haslet*." Teut. *harst*, spina porci. Verel. in Indic. *halea*, fasciculus. Palsgrave; *haslet* of a hogge. Fr. *hastoral*, a hog's *haslet*. Cotgr.

"The intrals of hogges are good (I thinke hee meaneth that whiche wee commonlye call hogges *harslet*."

PURFOOTE'S *Dictionarie*, sub *Illa*.

HASP, *v.* to fasten, join together. A. Sax. *hapsian*, obserare, which verb is referred by Wachter to A. Sax. *habban*, tenere.

So harde hath averyce *hasped* hem to gederes.

P. PLOUHMANN, 22.

**HASP**, *s.* a clasp which folds by a hinge over a box or door. It is a good old word, whether used verbally or substantively. S. Goth. Dan. *haspe*; Teut. Swed. Belg. *haspe*; Isl. *haspa*; C. Brit. *haspen*. A. Sax. *hasps*, fibula. In the West of England they yet generally use the A. Sax. synonym.

And underne the is an *hasp*,  
Schet with a stapyl and a claspe.

R. COER DE LION, v. 4063.

**HASTENER, HASTELEK**, *s.* a piece of kitchen furniture made of wood and lined with tin, or occasionally made of tin exclusively, used for reflecting the heat upon meat that is roasting. PROMP. PARV. Roster or *Hasteler*, assator.

**HATBAT**, *s.* the common bat, so named probably from boys throwing their hats up to catch them. *Vespertilio*.

**HAUD, HOUD**, *v.* 1. to hold. Ex. "Tak *houd* on it." "Han he got *houd* o' the rop?" Teut. Belg. *houden*, *houden*, tenere. 2. a term of salutation. Ex. "How does it *houd* you?" Teut. *houden*, gerere.

**HAUNTEDEN**, *v.* the old form of the imperfect plural: to haunt, follow.

Of yonge folk, that *haunteden* folie.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 12368.

**HAAVE**, *v.* to lift, throw. Ex. "I'll *haave* a stwon at your yed." M. Goth. *hafgan*; A. Sax. *hefan*; Teut. *heffen*; Swed. *håfwa*; Verel. in Indic. *hefa*, levare. (See **HEFT**) Eng. *heave*.

**HAYER**, *s.* 1. the lower part of a barn door which commonly falls in by a slide. 2. a hurdle.

**HAW**, *interj.* a waggoner's address to his horses when he wishes them to come towards him.

**HAWED**, *part. past*; when oats are well headed, having shot their heads from the stem, and begun to swell and ripen, they are said to be *hawed*. The term is not applied to any other kind of grain, which will shew how carefully it has kept to its original signification. Teut.



*hauwe*, tunica, sive calyx : *hauer*, avena ; *houden*, spicam proferre. Germ. *heben*, capere de fructibus. Scherz. Gloss.

**HAWK**, *v.* to expectorate, clear the throat. C. Brit. *hockio* ; Teut. Germ. *hauchen* ; Swed. *harskna* ; Dan. *harcker*, screeare. Shakspeare.

**HAWS**, *s.* the berries of the haw-thorn. Ex. "Heps and *haws*." A. Sax. *hagan* ; Brit. Corn. *hogan*, mora sentis. Shakspeare, Chaucer, Cant. Tales, v. 6241.

Amonges hogges, that have *haws* at wille.

P. PLOUHMAN.

**HAYRIFF**, *s.* a pernicious weed which has very small seeds ; from their minuteness, it is extremely difficult to separate them from grain in winnowing it.

If you stamp *Hariffe* a little, and lay it in faire springe water for the space of 24 houres, and then wash any sore or scabby place therewith, it will heal it wonderfully.

LUPTON'S *Notable Things*, p. 45.

**HEAD, TO DRIVE A**, *phr.* A phrase confined to miners, and lime-workers ; it signifies the act of making a passage into "the body of the work."

**HEAD OUT**, *v.* synonymous with "to crap out" : to come to the head or surface.

**HEADDISH**, *adj.* When aftermath begins to grow, the farmers say it is quite *headdish*. (See **EDDISH**.) which is the proper term.

**HEADGROVE**, *s.* aftermath. Sometimes called *headgrow*, *headgrowth*. These terms must be referred to A. Sax. *edisc*, vivarium.

**HEAFER**, *s.* a heifer. We here retain the true pronunciation of the correspondent A. Sax. *heahfor*, juvenca.

**HEALTHFUL**, *adj.* in sound health.

**HEARTEN**, *v.* to animate, encourage. Ex. "*Hearten* him on his journey." Teut. *horten*, animare. (See **Craven Gloss**.) Palsgrave, *harten*, to embolden.

**HEARTWELL**, *adj.* in good spirits ; and the reverse *heart-sick*, melancholy, low.

**HEELING, HILLING, s.** the cover or binding of a book. De Rome, De Seuil, Roger Payne, and Charles Lewis, who by skill and taste eclipsed all his predecessors in Bibliopegistic art, have given the world no term half so appropriate. Were it not for provincial bookbinders, (imperitum pecus) the word would be lost. Dan. *hyllæ*, cooperculum. PROMP. PARV. *hillinge*, of what thinge it be: cooptura. Palgrave, *hylling*, a coueryng, couverture. In Northamptonshire *hilling* signifies a *coverlid* to a bed.

That nowther one hede, ne on hare, *hillynge* it hade.  
*Awntyrs of Arthure*, ix. 96.

Your *hyllynge*s with fures of armyne.  
*The Squyr of Lowe Degre*, v. 839.

**HEEL OF THE LOAF, phr.** the last top and bottom crust of a loaf.

**HEFT, s.** a heavy weight. Ex. "Too great a *heft* to lift."

He cracks his gorge, his sides with violent *hefts*.  
*Winter's Tale*, ii. 1.

How shall my prince and uncle now sustain  
(Depriv'd of so good helpe) so great a *heft*.  
HARRINGTON'S *Ariosto*, xliii. 164.

**HEFT, v.** to lift. Verel. in Indic. *hefa*; Teut. Belg. *heffen*; Swed. S. Goth. *háfwa*; A. Sax. *hefan*, levare. Isl. *hef*, tollere.

With his lyft hand he *hef* his gysarme.  
KING ALISAUNDER, v. 2297.

**HEIT, interj.** an address to a horse when he is required to go from you: never applied to the leader. Persian, *heita*, come hither. Isl. *heiti*, vocare.

This carter smote and cryde as he were wode,  
*Heit* Scot, *heit* Brok, what spare ye for the nones?  
*Cant. Tales*, v. 7125 and v. 7143.

**HEICK, HIKE, v.** to cast, to throw on.

With velvet hats *heicht* on thair heidis.  
PINKERTON'S *Scottish Poems*, p. 327.

**HEIT, HOTT, v.** to throw up. Ex. "*Hoit* it up." Whatever may be the origin of this verb, and I confess

myself unable to find any trace of it, it has evidently given birth to the more generally received vulgarism of "a *hoity-toity* dame." A. Sax. *heah*, altus!

HEKEL, *v.* to comb hemp. Teut. Belg. *hekelen*; Swed. *häckla*, pectere linum. *Hatchel*, Ash, Lyndsay. Palsgrave; *hetchell* for flaxe, serant.

HELE, HILL, *v.* to cover. Ex. "*Hill* 'em o'er or they'l be frost ketchen." Here is an excellent word retained solely by the lower orders; we should have spoken in closer analogy with our language if like them we had not wandered to the French for a term to express our ideas. S. Goth. *hylia*; M. Goth. *hulgan*; Franc. Alman. C. Brit. *hulio*; A. Sax. *helan*, tegere; Teut. Belg. *helen*. Verel. in Indic. *hylia*, celare; Swed. *hölja*, velare. *Helled*, Pet. Langtoft's Chron.

Menye of the bryddes

Hudden and *heleden* durneliche here egges.

P. PLOUHMANN, 223.

And yt hus hous be *unhelede*.

*id.* 337.

*Y-heoled* wel with selkyn webbe.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 278.

As enowgh lygges on the mountaynes,

*Be-heyd* were hylles and playnes

With hawberk bryghte and helmes clere.

R. COER DE LION, v. 5586.

In the pavyloun he fond a bed of prys,

*Iheled* with purple bys.

LAUNFAL, v. 284.

The harmes that ze have hent,

Now may ze *hele* and hide.

MINOT'S Poems, p. 22.

Parde we women connen nothing *hele*.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 6532.

HELVE, *s.* the handle of an axe, most commonly *Hilos*.

A. Sax. *helf*; Teut. Germ. *helve*, manubrium securis.

Ray.

HEPES, *s.* the berries from the common brier. Palsgrave;

*heppe* bery of eglantyne, cornille. A. Sax. *heap*, cy-

nosbati bacca. "Fie upon *hops* (quoth the fox) because he could not reach them." Ray.

**HEOW**, *v.* to hew, cut. Ex. "Hacking and *heowing*."

Our method of pronouncing *ew* is peculiar, both in this and several words of like termination. *Ou* is inserted before *ew*, so that the syllable obtains the sound of *yeou*. This kind of utterance has prevailed from the earliest period, as our Earlier Metrical Romances shew, and the pronunciation seems borne out by the several languages to which we claim affinity. Teut. Belg. *houwen*, cæsım ferire. Germ. *hauen*, cædere.

**HER**, *pron.* he, or him. The masculine and feminine pronouns are constantly transposed by the vulgar. Thus a poor woman in describing the infirm state of her husband, says, "*Her* is meety lahm." And, verily, if sanction be required for this personal offence, read it in Maister Skelton:

What say ye of the Scottish Kyng  
That is another thing  
He is but an yonglyng  
A tall worthy striplyng  
*Her* is a whispring and a whiptyng.

*Why come ye not to Court.*

**HERDS**, *s.* dressed flax, or hemp. Teut. *herde*, fibra lini. A. Sax. *heordan*, stupeæ. Palgrave; *heerdes* of hempe, estoupes. Tow, or *hyrdes*. Minsheu.

And pyk and ter, als haiff thai tane;  
And lynt and *herds* and brymstane.

THE BRUCE, xvii. v. 612.

Thaire *herdis* thaire ankers  
Hanged thai on here.

MINOT'S Poems, p. 46.

That not of hempe ne *heerdis* was.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE, v. 1283.

"Now that part (of the flax) which is utmost, and next to the pill or rind, is called tow or *herds*."

HOLLAND'S *Pliny*.

**HERRIN**, *s.* urine. Germ. *harn*; Gr. *ούρον*, lotium.

**HETHER**, *s.* an adder. (See under **EDDER**.)

**HETHERING**, *s.* a pliant twig about six feet long, chiefly employed at the top of newly laid down hedges to keep under the loose and straggling shoots. A. Sax. *heatherian*, *cohibere*.

**HEYMENT**, *s.* a boundary, or fence. In looking accidentally through an old account-book of ecclesiastical expenditure for the parish of *Smethcot*, co. Salop, a few years ago, I found the following *item*: "Paid for Mending the *Heyment*," &c. It was not until the year, 1838, that I was able to ascertain what this very local word denoted. My informant says that the hedge which encircles part of the Church Yard still bears this name, and very properly too: from the A. Sax. *heag*, *sepes*.

**HIDE**, *v.* to beat. One of the numberless verbs expressive of castigation. Ex. "Gie yo a good *hiding*." "Tansel your *hide*." Isl. *hydi*, *flagellare*.

**HYE**, **HIGH**, *v.* to hasten, imperatively used to denote expedition. Ex. "*Hye* thee and fatch 'em." A. Sax. *hygan*, *festinare*. Shakspeare.

To hym *hyed* all the route.

THE LYFE OF IPOMYDON, v. 2014.

Go, hye seyde, on *heigheing*,  
And feche it hider, y pray the.

LAY LE FREINE, v. 214.

*Highe* thou to come bifore winter.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, 2 Timoth. iv.

She went vnto the justice hall,  
As fast as she could *hye*.

ADAM BEL, v. 66.

**HIGLER**, *s.* a person who goes to different country markets for the purpose of buying butter, eggs, poultry, and fruit. Dan. *hyckler*, *adulator*, Jun. Rather from the A. Sax. *eacan*, *augere*, because they sell for more than the first vendors.

**HIKE**, *v.* to toss, throw. Ex. "*Hike* it over the wall."  
(See **HEICK**, and **HEIT**.)

HILL, *v.* to cover, shield. Ex. "Góa and *hill* them plants." PROMP. PARV. *hyllen*, or *coveren*.

Al *yhyled* with leed.

PIERS PLOUGHMAN'S Creed.

Thy hair, thy beard, thy wings, *o'er-hill'd* with snow.

BEN JONSON'S *Masque of Beauty*.

Hides and *hells* als hende.

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 22.

HIT, *s.* a heavy crop. Ex. "A good *hit* o' apples," or as they say in the Eastern Counties a good *hang*, whether it be of hops, or fruit.

HIRST, *s.* that part of a ford in the Severn, over which the water from the shallowness of the stream, and the inequality of the bottom runs roughly. A.

Sax. *hyrstan*, murmurare.

HOARD, *s.* a heap. Ex. "A *hoard* of apples." Palsgrave; *hords* or *heape*, monceau.

HOD, *s.* a heap, a *tump* of potatoes, which being covered first with short straw, and then with soil, are protected during the winter. Teut. *hoed*; A. Sax. *hod*, capitium? Teut. Belg. *hoede*, protectio.

HOD, *v.* to place potatoes in a *hod* for protection from frost. Teut. Belg. *hoeden*, protegere.

HOFE, *adj.* half. Ex. "*Hofe* an oaf:" usually "*ofe* an oaf," and also *ofe* and *ofe*, for half and half.

HOGG, *s.* same as hodd. Swed. Verel. in Indic. *hoeg*; Germ. *hugel*; Fr. *hogue*, tumulus.

HOGGET, *s.* a yearling wether. C. Brit. *hogyn*, a young stripling. Norm. Fr. *hogetz*, a young wether sheep; Kelham. *hogettus*, bidens. Du Cange, Lyndsay, Coles, Ash. Prevalent in the midland counties. Palsgrave; *hoggerell*, a yong shepe.

HOLE, *v.* to undermine; a word used by colliers, who are better paid in a coal pit for *holing* than any other work. A. Sax. *holian*; Teut. Germ. *holen*; Isl. *hola*; Franc. *holon*; S. Goth. *holka*; Dan. *huler*, excavare. PROMP. PARV. *holen*, to make holes.

HOLLEN, HOLLYN, *s.* the common holly. A. Sax. *holen*,  
*agrifolium*. *Holin*, Coles, Lyndsay.

I see a lady where shee sate  
 Betweene an oke and a green *hollen*.  
*Marriage of Sir Gawaine.*

HOLP, *perf.* of *v.* to help.

The maronnors tolde the peryll where they had ben in and  
 how Saynt Marke had *holpe* them than for that one myracle.

GOLDBEN LEGEND, cxxi.

HONE, *v.* 1. to long after any thing, desire intensely.  
 A baby *hones* after the breast. This word was ap-  
 propriately used in the following way, by a poor per-  
 son towards his rector who was in the constant prac-  
 tice of rigorously exacting the utmost of his tithes:  
 "One would think thee didst want thy money, for  
 thee meetly *honst* after it." The reproof of this un-  
 lettered individual, fell without any force upon his  
 merciless ears. A. Sax. *hogian* sollicitus esse. M.  
 Goth. *hungan*, inhiare pecuniis. With what extreme  
 correctness was the word applied! M. Goth. *Qaiva*  
*agav ist thaim hungandam afar faihn*. *Quam difficile*  
*est iis qui inhiant pecuniis*. 2. to swell. Ex. "The  
 cow's elder is *honed*," swollen and hard after calving;  
 Craven Glossarist says, probably an abbreviation of  
*honenod*: but I suspect we owe the term to the  
 Teut. *huyderen*, *turgescere uberibus sive mammis, ut*  
*vaccæ fœtui maturæ*.

Tom Piper hath *hoven* and puffed up cheeks,  
 If cheese be so *hoven*, make Cis to seek creeks.

TUSSEY, p. 143.

HOOSISSON, WOOSISSON, *s.* WOOLASTON, co. Salop.

HOPE, *perf.* of *v.* to help. Ex. "He *hope* me to get  
 it." Very prevalent in the neighbourhood of Ludlow.  
 Whether is this a form of the A. Sax. *perf. hulpe*,  
 from *helfan*, *juvare*? Shakspeare frequently uses the  
 word.

Three times to-day I *hope* him to his horse.

*Henry VI. v. 3.*

**HOPK**; a termination to various names of places in the county, which expresses according to its original signification, a recess, from the Isl. *hop*, recessus. The situations of *Hope Bowdler*, *Hopesay*, *Hopton*, *Easthope*, *Millichope*, *Middlehope*, *Presthope*, and *Wilderhope*, accord with this derivation. These places lie between hills, in secluded parts of the county. At a later era, the Icelandic word gave birth to one of more general application, and what primarily signified merely a remote or circumscribed spot, grew into use to denote a farm, an orchard, a house. Teut. Germ. *hof*, villa, hortus; A. Sax. *hope*, domus.

**HOPPER**, *s.* a basket used by husbandmen to hold corn when sowing: curving in the middle to fit the hip upon which it rests. Hence the appropriateness of slang in Dunbar's Complaint.

With *hoppir* hippis, and hences narrow.

PINKERTON, p. 110.

**HOPPER-TROUGH**, *s.* a box of a mill into which the grain is put for grinding. C. Brit. *hopperam*, infundibulum. Palsgrave; *hopper* of a myll, tremye.

How that the *hopper* waggis til and fra.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 4037.

And heng his *hoper* on hus hals.

P. FLOUHMANN, 131.

**HOPSCOTCH**, *s.* a game played by children, more correctly named in Hallamshire, *Hopscore*.

**HOUD**, *v.* to hold. Ex. "Catch *houd*." "*Houd* yo." "*Tak hode*." Teut. Belg. *houden*, tenere.

**HOULT**, *s.* hold. Ex. "No *hoult* o' sich a chap;" referable to the preceding.

**HOUND**, *s.* an epithet of reproach for a worthless person. Ex. "Sich a lazy *hound*." "Scampering *hound*." "Worthless *hound*." This opprobrious comparison is found continually in Holy Writ. David says to Saul when he had saved his life at Engedi, "After whom is the King of Israel come out? after whom dost thou



pursue? after a dead *dog*, after a flea?" 1 Sam. xxiv. 14. So Mephibosheth, "What is thy servant, that thou shouldst look upon such a dead *dog* as I am." 2 Sam. ix. 8. And the same comparison of reprobation may be read in numerous passages of the Old and New Testament. It is no wonder, then, that in Eastern countries we should still find the like figure of reproach, applied, as it is most freely, as the writer of this note can testify, by Mussulmen to Christians. Verel. in Indic. *hund*, canis, alias verbum contumeliosum in inimicos. Thu hinn illi *hundr*, apage pessime Canis. Germ. *hund*, homo vilis. Verel. in Indic. *hundheidin*, mere paganus. The Christians, too, spoke with no feelings of affection for the heathens of former ages, as may be observed in the ancient Romances of Chivalry: thus Sir Bevys alluding to a Paynim King's daughter who had fallen in love with him, and sent Saracens to invite him to her bower, exclaims,

I wyll not ones stirre of this ground,  
To speke with an hethene *hounde*:  
Unchristen *houndes*, i rede you flee,  
Or i your harte bloude shall se.

and afterwards the Mahometans return the title by calling him "a Christian *hounde*." See Ritson's Met. Romances, vol. iii. p. 322.

The King of Tars applies the same epithet to the Soudan,

Hethene *hound* he doth the calle.

THE KING OF TARS, v. 93.

O *hound* of Crete, think'st thou my spouse to get.

Henry V. ii. 1.

HOUSEN, s. plural of house. Ex. "Farm *housen*." Germ. *hausen*, domus. S. Goth. A. Sax. Isl. Fran. Alaman. C. Brit. Swed. *hus*; Teut. *huys*; Belg. *huis*, domus. Hence come to *house*. Isl. *hysa*; Germ. *hausen*; A. Sax. *husian*, &c. in habitationem recipere: and *husband*, *husbandman*, &c.

**HOUSING**, *s.* gearing of horses. Isl. *hosa*, caliga? A. Sax. *hoss-bendas*, horse-bands.

**HOUSING-THUNGS**, *s.* a long strap curled at the end, which I remember often to have seen pendant from the *hames* of a horse's gears. Is this what is termed in Northamptonshire a *thiller*?

**HOUT**, *s.* a hold, or place of safety for fish, under a bank or between the roots of trees. (See **HOULT**.) The Scotch say "the trout has *haul*," meaning hold. Our present term is referable to the Teut. *hout*, lignum.

**HOUT**, *v.* to grasp, seize. Ex. "Tak *hout* on his hond." Teut. *houden*, tenere.

**HOWES**, *s.* berries on the hawthorn. (See **HAW**.)

They eate nothyng that came of corne,  
But beryes, and *howes* of the thorne  
Amonge the holtes bare.

SIR ISENBRAE, v. 167.

**HUBBIN**, *s.* a small iron study; a blacksmith's term.

**HUCK**, *v. perf.* of *heick*. Ex. "He *huck* it up," that is, threw or tossed it up. C. Brit. *uch*, supra.

**HUD**, *v.* to place or collect in small heaps. Ex. "*Hudding* up fitches." Germ. *hudeln*, vexare? It has much the same meaning as *huddle*. "*Huddling* jest upon jest." *Much Ado about Nothing*.

**HUDS**, *s.* small heaps. Ex. "*Huds* of fitches."

**HUFF**, *s.* a pet. Ex. "Gone away in a *huff*."

**HUFF**, *v.* to put out of humour. Ex. "Now you've *huff'd* him." A. Sax. *hoofan*, elevare. Isl. *yfaz*, irritare. Verel. in Indic. *yfer*, superbire. Femmes à la grande gorre, *huffing* or flaunting wenches. Cotgr.

Now *huffing* sir, what's your name.

*The Beggar's Bush*.

**HUK OR BY CRUK**, *phr.* Hook or by Crook. In the Schole House of women we meet with another difference of orthography, "*huck or cruck*."

**HULK**, *v.* to loiter, or idle about. May not this be, as it were by aphæresis, for *skulk*. It is used con-

temptuously: *hulking* about, that is so indolent and lazy that such an individual seems unable to wear his life away.

**HULKY**, *adj.* heavy, stupid. Ex. "A *hulky* fellow."

**HULL**, *s.* a shell, or sheath. Ex. "Pea-*hulls*." Verel. in Indie. *hulda*, protectio. Isl. Germ. *hulle*, velum. Swed. *hull*, cuticula. Teut. *hulsche*, folliculus. Palsgrave; *hull* of a bean or pea, escose; all of which have emanated from

**HULL**, *v.* 1. to shell, or divest of its covering: by metonymy, Verel. in Indic. *hulda*; M. Goth. *hulgan*; Franc. *hulen*; Germ. Teut. *hullen*; C. Brit. *hyllo*; Swed. *hölja*; Belg. *hulzen*, tegere, operire. 2. to throw, cast. Ex. "Hull it at him." This must be a verb of entirely arbitrary adoption, as no correspondent one occurs in those cognate languages which sanction the obsolete expressions in our own.

**HULLOCK**, *s.* for hillock.

**HUMBZ**, *s.* the cockchafer: *Melalontha vulgaris*.

**HURCH**, **HURCHEN**, *v.* to keep close together. Ex. "*Hurchenon* clos up i' th' ohimlay cornel." PROMP. PARV. *hurchenon* togeder.

**HURST**; a termination to several names of places in the county, as Lee *Brockhurst*, *Brockhurst* Castle, *Lilyhurst*, *Sillenhurst*, *Coli-Hurst* Wood, *Hollyhurst*, *Hazlehurst*, &c. Anciently written *hyrst*. It signifies a woody place, and sometimes where the trees grow but low, and not so high as in other places, by reason of the badness of the soil: as *Stonyhurst*, *Sandhurst*, &c. The *Hursts* abound in Kent and Sussex. Germ. Teut. *horst*; A. Sax. *hurst*; Lat. Barb. *hursta*, sylvia; Teut. *horst*, virgultum.

**HURRYFUL**, *adj.* rapid, hasty. Ex. "He was very *hurryful* and could not wait." Munslow.

**HUSPIL**, *v.* to disorder, destroy, put to inconvenience, knock about. Ex. "We 'en bin sadly *huspilled*." "Bin-

nod a gween to be *huspil'd* a that'ns." PROMP. PARV. *huspelyn*, or *spoylen*. Fr. *houspiller* to tug, touse, ruffle, &c. Cotg. *Houssepiller*, maltraiter, vexer. Roquefort Gloss. de la Langue Romane. "Il l'a *houspillé* rudement." Richelet. It has the same origin says Menage as *gaspiller*; by the mutation of *g* into *h*, and *a* into *ou*. This comes close to the A. Sax. *gospillan*, dissipare. Germ. *verspillen*; Teut. *spillen*, dilapidare. Isl. *spilli* depravare. C. Brit. *yspoilio*.





is constantly changed into *ey* especially if it be followed by *gh*: for instance, we hear of “*a leyt neet*,” for a light night: and I was once in the weekly habit of listening to a parish clerk who read of “*a leyt to leyten the Gentiles*.” This softened pronunciation of the vowel is general in the mining districts, where they say *freyten* for frighten; *meighten* for might: *feight* for fight: each of which latter examples is accordant with the early idiom and orthoepy of our language.

Sum seyð it was a dogg feighttyng.

*The Huntyng of the Hare*, v. 233.

Where naturally short, *i* is turned into *e*, as *cestern* for cistern: *chemny* for chimney; *chrestmas* for Christmas: *selk-gownd*, for silk gown: *prented päaper*, for printed paper.

And in the beginning of words, as *enquere* for inquire.

*Enquered* of men of other contré.

LYFE OF IPOMYDON, v. 110.

Ne of no man cowde *enquere*.

*id.* v. 357.

IE has the sound of short *i*, as *fiłd* for field: *yild* for yield.

ICKLE, *s.* an icicle. (See ECCLÉ.)

ILDING, *part.* yielding. (See EILD.)

**ILLFIT**, *s.* a large vessel used in brewing. Ex. "If it innod worked cool i' th' *illfit*, it wunna mak good drink." A vitiation of *ale fat*. A *yelfate*, is among the inventory of effects belonging to Sir John Fawtolfe. (Archæol. xxi. 277.) S. Goth. *fat*, vas cujuscunque generis: *ôlfat*, cadus cerevisiæ condensæ destinatus. Teut. *aol*, cerevisia, and *vat*, dolium. Belg. *gyl*-kuip.

**IMPS**, *s.* young shoots, generally taken for grafts. A. Sax. *impan*; Teut. *impffen*, inserere. Dan. *impe*; C. Brit. *imp*; Swed. *ymp*, surculus.

Of feble trees ther comen wretched *impes*.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 13962.

**INCHMIL**, **INCHMORE**, *adv.* inch by inch.

**INCLINE**, *v.* for decline.

**INSENSE**, *v.* 1. to inform. This vulgarism is not confined to Salopians. 2. to convince. Ex. "Y' told him soa diden ye, but y' didna *insense* him."

**INSIGHT**, *s.* a road in a coal pit that is driven into the work.

**INTACK**, *s.* this does not signify so much a take in, or imposition, as it does that the work undertaken cannot be accomplished at the stipulated price. "*Intack*" says my informant "is where a job is inrunning in the price."

**INTURN**, *prep.* instead. Ex. "Tak this *inturn* o' that'n."

**JACK SQUEALER**, *s.* the Swift; *Cypselus apus*.

**JACKSTRAW**, *s.* 1. the black cap; *Sylvia atricapilla*. 2. the white throat; *Sylvia cinerea*.

**JAG**, *v.* to carry by means of a waggon or cart. Ex. "To *jag* him a load of hay." There is considerable difficulty in ascertaining whence we have learned the present term. I think the meaning of the S. Goth. *jaga*, persequi, which in its primary sense is applied to hunting, and the Teut. *jaghen*, festinare, are both alike

unable to throw light upon its origin. Isl. *jaga*, exercere?

**JAGGER**, *s.* one who works draught horses for hire. Ex. "Davis the *Jagger*."

**JENNYCOAT**, *s.* a bed-gown worn by children. This word is almost extinct.

**JIB**, TO HANG THE; *phr.* A vulgarism descriptive of a person out of humor.

**JIGGIN**, *interj.* an address to a waggon horse, bidding him proceed; (See remarks under *COMMONG*.)

**JIGGIN-SIEVE**, *s.* a fine cloth which sifts the dust from oats or wheat when they are ground.

**JOB**, *v.* to pierce suddenly with a sharp instrument. Ex. "Jobbed the fork through the table cloth." It is presumed that the present word is not provincial. Ash.

**JOBBER**, *s.* a dealer; as a *pig-jobber*, a *horse-jobber*, &c.

**JOBLOCKS**, *s.* the pendulous carunculated wattle which is seen in cock turkies.

**JOG**, *v.* 1. to shake. Ex. "*Jogging* the table." This first sense is chiefly of puerile adaptation, but nevertheless seems to have given origin to the metaphorical use of the word in its secondary sense; as, 2. to remind, refresh. Ex. "*Jog* his memory." Teut. Belg. *schocken*; Ital. *scuotere*, quassare.

**JONNOCK**, *phr.* The precise meaning of this word is so difficult to convey to polite ears, that an illustration rather than a definition must declare its peculiarity. I imagine it signifies that a matter is conclusive; for when a person seems unlikely to yield or retract, the fiat he pronounces, is said to be *jonnock*; there's no appeal that can avail when a man utters this decisive word: "That's *jonnock*." And sometimes we hear an independent, lawless living fellow described as *jonnock*; "le's *jonnock*." The word must assuredly be tralatibus, and is very likely most limited in circulation.

**JORAM**, *s.* a large dish. Ex. "A good joram o' broths."

S. Goth. Swed. Isl. Dan. *jord*, terra.

**JORDEN**, *s.* a fictile vessel. In Thomas Walsingham there is an amusing story of a quack doctor being condemned to ride through the streets of London with two jordens about his neck. "In crastino" says the historian, "cum mendacium latere non posset, captus est, et equo impositus, equinaque cauda commissa suis manibus loco fræni et duse ollæ, quas *jordanes* vulgo vocamus, ad ejus collum colligantur, cum cote in signum quod illam mentiendo promeruit, et ita circumductus est per omnem civitatem in conspectu cunctorum physicorum et chirurgorum digna dehonestamenta recipiens pro mercede." p. 288. 1 Henry IV. ii. 1.

Ich shal jangly to thys *jordan*.

P. PLOUGHMAN, 247.

Then come in *iordans* in iussall

Als red as any ruseall.

HARTSHORNE'S *Met. Tales*, p. 147.

And eke thyn urinals, and thy *jordanes*.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 12239.

**JOW**, *s.* abuse. It is variously pronounced; sometimes *jaw*, at others, *ja*. Teut. *jouw*, clamor rusticorum?

But they garr'd the Featherstones hand their *jaw*.

*Scottish Minstrelsy*, vol. ii. p. 88.

**JOWL**, *s.* 1. a dish. Ex. "A *jowl-dish*." 2. the head or neck. We sometimes hear of a man having a large *jowl*. Arm. *gueol*; Irish *giall*, os. Fr. *guole*; Ital. and Span. *gola*, *gula*. A. Sax. *ciol*, guttur.

**JOWL**, *v.* to beat the head, strike it against anything hard. Ex. "*Jowled* his yed agen the wall."

**JOWT-HEADED**, *adj.* stupid. A corruption from jolt-headed. (See remarks under *ou*.)

Bot fowl, *jaw-jourdane-headed*, jevens.

DUNBAR'S *Compt.*

**JOWT**, *v.* to jolt.



*Just now*; *phr.* Salopians use this in a most extended way, applying the phrase to the past, present, and future. Such a custom never gives rise to doubt or ambiguity among themselves, though aliens are frequently puzzled by the irregularity. An individual has dined, and he expresses the fact, by saying "he dined *just now*." If at dinner, he would say "I am dining *just now*," or if he has the dinner in anticipation, "he hopes to dine *just now*."





**KAFF**, **KAFFLE**, *s.* a hoe having a very long handle, one used by gardeners. S. Goth. Swed. Verel. in Indic. *kaſte*, bacillus.

**KALE**, **KAVE**, *v.* to empty by tilting or throwing upwards, as a loaded cart. Gr. *κοιλόω*, *cavo*?

**KALTS**, *s.* quoits. As this is not a vitiation of Keils, or Kayles, which mean nine pins, from the Fr. *quille*, let us see whether it can deduce its origin by one of those complicated ways in which Etymologists delight to perplex themselves and their readers. Fr. *palet*; by prosthesis, *kalet*; by syncope, *kalt*; by paragoge, *kalts*. Isl. *kuoita*, *violenter jactari*. *Nine-pinnes*, or *Keyles*. Cotgr.

**KANSH**, **KENSH**, *s.* a strain. Ex. "A *kensh* in the hip."

**KASARDLY**, *adj.* unlucky. Lat. *casus*.

**KEDLOCK**, *s.* a very troublesome weed, known by Botanists as the charlock, or *Sinapis arvensis*.

**KEEP**, *s.* 1. pasture. Ex. "Plenty o' good *keep*."

2. maintenance. Ex. "Jack inna wuth his *keep*."

**KEEP**, *v.* to maintain, find in meat and drink. Ex. "I'd lother *keep* sich a chap as thee bist, a wik, than a fortnight."

**KEEP**, **OUT AT**, *phr.* Horses or cattle which lay out in hired pastures are said to be out at keep. Ex. "The cowts han bin *out at keep*."

**KEFYL**, *s.* a very inferior horse. Ex. "Such a poor *kefyl*." This is one of the few words that the Sa-  
lopians have gathered from their Welsh neighbours.  
But why it should be applied in a bad sense seems  
unaccountable. In the Early Poets frequent mention  
is made of *capels*, *capuls*, &c. for steeds of little value.

In the same armure y' Isenbras wroughte  
And on a croked *caple* that coles broughte  
Hymselfe to battayll gan ryde.

SIR ISENBRAS, v. 415.

Yet the word before us, cannot be regarded as a cor-  
ruption from thence, but must have been learned 'in  
malam partem' from the C. Brit. *kefyl*. PROMP. PARV.  
*keuyll* for hors, mordale. (See Yorke's Royal Tribes, p. 91.)

**KEGGLE**, *v.* to be unsteady; Ex. "The table *kegges*."  
Germ. *kugeln*; Teut. Belg. *kughelen*, rotundare.

**KEKILL**, *v.* to make a noise like a goose. The same  
as *cackle*. Teut. Belg. *kaeckelen*, gloire. Lindsay.

**KELL**, *s.* a piece of skin which wraps over part of a loin  
of veal. My informants vary considerably in assigning  
it a locality. But as there is no discrepancy in the  
meaning of the word, it may not unaptly come from  
the Teut. *gale*, callus. PROMP. PARV. *kell*, reticulum.  
Nares quotes as an illustration of its use:

I'll have him cut to the *kell*, then down the seams.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER.

**KELL**, *s.* to skin over; a term applied to horses when  
they shew symptoms of blindness. Ex. "His eye begins  
to *kell* over." The able glossarist just quoted again fur-  
nishes me with an example.

Now cover'd over with dim cloudy *kels*.

DRAYTON.

**KEVER**, *v.* to cover. The regular vowel is perpetually  
changed into *e*, and *i*. Ex. "*Kever* em o'er."

And leyd hym in his owne hous  
And *keueryd* hom vp ayeyn.

*The Hunting of the Hare*, v. 252.

**KEYS**, *s.* blossoms of the ash. Bullokar under *kitkais* thus explains the word, "the fruit of the ashen-tree, they are little narrow husks hanging together in clusters, wherein is contained the seed of the ashe which is bitter."

**KEYX**, **KEX**, *s.* the dried stalks of the hemlock, or other umbelliferous plants. The word seems of universal acceptance; supplying all the kingdom through a simile for what is withered. Palsgrave; *kiches*, the drie stalke of humlockes or burres.

As doth a *kyx* other a candle.

P. PLOUHMANN, 330.

All the wyves of Tottenham came to se that syzt,  
Wyth wyspes, and *kexis*, and ryschys there lyzt.  
*Turnament of Tottenham*, v. 201.

I'll make these wither'd *kezes* bear my body.

*A King and no King.*

For *kez*, dried *kez*, that in summer has been so liberal to fodder other men's cattle, and scarce have enough to keep your own in winter.

*The miseries of Inforced Marriage*, iv.

**KIBBLE**, *v.* to cut small. Ex. "*Kibled* beans." Teut. *kippen*, insecare.

**KIBBLING-AXE**, *s.* an axe about four pounds and a half in weight, chiefly used in cutting 'cord wood.'

**KIBBLING MILL**, *s.* a mill used for cutting beans.

**KID**, *v.* to cut or bind up faggots. Teut. *kudden*, coire.

**KIDDLE**, *v.* saliva, chiefly from an infant. Teut. *kedel*, supporus.

**KIDDLE**, *v.* to emit saliva. S. Goth. *sagla*; Dan. *sigle*, dicitur de infantibus, ubi salivam per oris sinus effluere patiuntur.

**KIDS**, *s.* faggots. C. Brit. *cidyson*; PROMP. PARV. *kyde*, fascis. Palsgrave; *kydde*, a fagotte.

**KILSON**, *s.* the keel of a barge.

**KIMIT**, *adj.* 1. cross, ill tempered. 2. awry. 3. disordered in the brain. Ex. "A *kimit* sheep."

**KIMNAL**, *s.* a vessel for household purposes. **PROMP.**  
**PARV.** *kynlyn*, or keler vessel; what brewers would still  
 call a cooler; *kempling*, Bailey; *kimling*, Coles. An old  
 word whose derivation is veiled in obscure conjecture.  
 Ray enumerates it among the North Country words:  
 it is by no means common in Shropshire. Palgrave;  
*kymell*, quevve.

A kneding trough or elles a *kemelyn*.  
*Cant. Tales.* v. 3548.

She's somewhat simple  
 Indeed; she knew not what a *kinnel* was.  
*The Coxcomb.*

**KIND**, *v.* to light, as fire. Ex. "*Kind the fire.*"

**KIP**, *s.* a cote. Ex. "A cauves *kip*."

**KIPE**, *s.* a strong basket with two short handles, always  
 formed of unbarked osiers. A. Sax. *cypa*, *cophinus*.  
 Teut. *kuype*, *cupa*. Germ. *kipe*, *corbis dorsuaria*.

**KIT**, *s.* an universal vulgarism for a gang, or company.

**KITCHEN**, *s.* a large iron kettle which usually hangs over  
 a kitchen fire.

**KNACK**, *v.* 1. to gnash the teeth, to snap as a dog. 2.  
 to strike gently with one weapon or instrument against  
 another. 3. to nick. Swed. *knacka*, *pulsare*. Germ.  
*knacken*, *sonum edere ex ictu*.

**KNAG**, *v.* to bite at, snap; and hence the following adjecti-  
 ve, in a metaphorical sense. Isl. *naga*; Swed. *gnaga*,  
*mordere*. Teut. *knaghen*, *rodere*.

**KNAGGY**, *adj.* ill tempered, peevish. Dan. *knag*.

**KNARLY**, *adj.* 1. knotty. Ex. "This timber's *knarly*  
 stuff." 2. hardy, stiff. Ex. "A *knarly* fellow." Teut.  
*knarren*, *stridere*. Swed. *knar*, *hominis morosi verborum*  
*continuus strepitus*; *knarrig*, *morosus*. Dan. *knarvor-*  
*ren*, *austerus*. Verel. in Indic. *knar*, *acer*; Teut. *kn-*  
*rachtigh*, *nodosus*. (*knorre*, *nodus*.) "A *thikke gnarre*."  
 Chaucer, v. 551.

**KNIT**, *v.* 1. to unite. Ex. "The bwon (bone) inna *knit* yet." 2. to hang together. Ex. "The bees bin *knitted* under the skip." A. Sax. *cnittan*; Dan. *knytter*; Swed. *knyta*; Isl. *knyta*, nectere.

And to hys fete a strong rope *knyttes*.

R. COER DE LION, v. 4068.

And his honden biforen him *knet*.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 1516.

I wol ben his to whom that I am *knit*.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 11298.

**KNOGS**, *s.* hemp; and being the course, fibrous part, may have some connexion with the preceding.

**KOLING**, **KBOULING**, *s.* a rough tasting apple, nearly allied to the crab. This word is peculiar to the neighbourhood of Ludlow.

**KOUPING**, *adj.* addicted to bark at a horse's heels. Some of those who have listened critically to our peculiarities of speech tell me, that there is a decided difference between a *keouting* dog and a *kouping* dog. The former denoting one who is quick and sharp, valuable as a house guard, the latter, one who is good for nothing, unless it be to molest passers by. Ex. "Dunna yo hear that dog *kouping* the ship?" (See **CEOUT**.)





is frequently supplanted by *w*: thus Salopians say, "*Pawm* uv his hond" for palm of his hand. Palsgrave; *paulme* of the hande. And the practice is not without authority, as we find the same interchange of letters in Wiclif's translation of the New Testament: "Othere gaven strokis with the *paume* of her hondis in his face." St Matthew, ch. xxvi. Also, *baum*, for *balm*; Palsgrave; *baume*, an herb; *psaum*, for psalm. When preceded by *o*, *l* is invariably changed into *w*, or *u*, as in fold, sold, old, scold, bold, &c. we say *ford*, *sord*, *owd*, *scowd*, *bowd* (Teut. *boude*, audax.) When preceded by *a*, it is likewise converted into *u*; as "this borley wunnod mak good *maut*." "He dunna yarn his *saut*." Sometimes its sound is altogether suppressed, as in fault, vault, &c. The natives of Craven (See their glossarist under *maut*) have a similar practice.

AL undergoes a peculiar change in its pronunciation in several parts of the county, but especially at *Ludlow*. It is commuted into *aw*, and if a dissyllable ending in *d*, the *d* is invariably turned into *t*. Thus we hear the inhabitants of this Burg call that quarter of the town where the prison is situated, *Gawout*, and *Gawfort*, for *Goalford*; in like manner *Halford* is called *Hawout*, and *Walford*, *Wawout* and *Wawfut*.

LACE, *v.* to beat, chastise. "A tight lacing" in the two sexes is hardly synonymous; for whilst the male portion would carefully avoid it, the female part voluntarily inflict upon themselves this species of torment. Grose recognises the phrase of "I'll lace your jacket."

LADLICK'D, *part. past.*; being beaten by a boy. (See LICK.)

LAG, *v.* to loiter, remain behind.

LAGLAST, *phr.* the last of a band. Verel. in Indic. *lag*, *societas*. Grose.

LAGMAN, *s.* an epithet given to the last of a troop of mowers or reapers. S. Goth. Swed. *lagg*; Lapp. *lägg*, *extremum cujuscunque rei*.

LAM, *v.* to beat. Ex. "Give him a good *lamming*." Celt. *lam*, manus. Teut. *lam slaen*, enervare verberibus. C. Brit. *lainio*, verberare. Verel. in Indic. *lam*, *fractus*. Isl. *hlemma*, *tundere*. Swed. *lam*, *enervatus*.

Marry, I say, sir, if I had been acquainted  
With *lamming* in my youth, as you have been,  
With whipping, and such benefits of nature.

*The Honest Man's Fortune.*

One whose dull body will require a *lamming*.

*A King and no King.*

LAMB, LAMP, *v.* a form of the preceding. Grose has the word, and also the phrase "Lamb pie" which is synonymous. In the celebrated play of Ignoramus, the word occurs under a Latin form.

Pol. *Capillis illas in viis*

*Protrahens ita lambrabo, ne tollant pedes postea.*

*Edii. Hawkins, p. 96.*

To amplify the matter then; rogues are ye,  
And *lamb'd* ye shall be ere we leave ye.

*The Beggars' Bush.*

LAMBSKINET, *s.* a game at cards played by young people. A corruption from the Fr. *Lansquenets*. See Cotgrave. Menage, says the *Lansquenets*, who are Swiss, or German footmen, introduced this game into France. They were a body much employed by the Duke of Burgundy in his wars against the king of France. Phil. de Comines, Book VIII. c. 14.



LAMMEL, LAMMOCK, *v.* synonymous with the preceding.

LANGAN, LANGIT, *s.* the socket of a spade or shovel.

LANNET, *s.* a laniard. Fr. *laniere*.

LANT, *s.* urine. Isl. A. Sax. *hlant*, urina. Which again come from the Celtic *lan*, *lon*, *lin*, aqua. The primitive has given name to some places in our own county, as *Leintwardine*; and to several in the kingdom generally, as *Lancaster*, *London*, &c., which have taken their appellation from their position near water. Nares quotes for my purpose,

Your frequent drinking country ale with *lant* in't.

GLAPTHORNE'S *Wit in a Constable*.

LAPP, *v.* to wrap, fold up, enclose. Ex. "*Lapped* up in paper." Teut. *lappen*, coagmentare. Swed. *lappa*, sarcire. Sir D. Lyndsay.

And whanne the bodi was taken, Joseph *lappide* it in a clene sendel.

WICLIFF'S *New Test. St Matt.* ch. xxvii.

*Bilapped* among his fon.

AMIS AND AMILOUN, v. 1014.

Sche toke a riche baudekine  
That hir lord brought fram Constantine,  
And *lapped* the litel maiden therin.

LAY LE FREINE, v. 133.

Ye must gyve the knyght a lyveray,  
To *lappe* his body ther in.

RITSON'S *Robin Hood*, vol. i. p. 14.

And take him a grene mantell  
To *lappe* his body ther in.

*id.* vol. i. p. 35.

*Lap* me in soft Lydian airs.

*L'Allegro*.

LATCH, *v.* to measure under the surface, as a mine, by way of ascertaining how much of it has been used. Thus *to latch* a pit, signifies to measure how much of the mine has been used, as well as to discover what direction the work is taking. Germ. *lache*, incisura. Lat. Barb. *lachus*, incisio arborum: that is, as a boundary mark. "Omnia quæcunque his *lachis* et terminis

circumdata sunt cum villulis infra positis." (Du Cange, sub *Lachus*.)

**LATHER**, *s.* 1. a ladder. 2. part of a mill contiguous to the hopper.

**LATHER**, **LOTHER**, *adj.* rather. Ex. "I'd *lather* nod."

**LATNESS O' SPEECH**, *phr.* difficulty of utterance, impediment of speech. Teut. *lasten*, omittere? S. Goth. *lat*, piger. A. Sax. *latian*; M. Goth. *latgan*, diferre. Swed. *lätting*, ignarus.

**LATS**, *s.* laths. Teut. *latte*, tigillum.

**LATTING**, *adj.* late, backward. Ex. "A *latting* time for the tillin." Verel. in Indic. *latur*; M. Goth. *lata*, tardus.

**LAW**, *s.* liberty, licence, start.

**LAZE**, *v.* to glean. Ex. "Gone a *lazing*." S. Goth. *lasa*; Teut. Franc. Germ. *lesen*; Swed. *läsa*; A. Sax. *lesan*, legere.

**LAZING**, *s.* the produce of gleaning. A. Sax. *lesing*, spicilegium.

**LEAF**, *s.* fat round the kidneys of a pig. Ex. "Pig's *leaf*," usually converted into lard.

**LEAPERS**, *s.* grey peas, commonly called "*lapping paze*."

**LEARN**, *v.* to teach. This is a very common metonymy, and in all probability universal. Refinement has induced us to consider it a vulgarism, but I suspect somewhat arbitrarily. For both the example in the authorised version of the Bible, and the etymology of the word itself supply an answer to those who would condemn its use. Germ. *lernen*, docere. A. Sax. *leornian*; Franc. *lernan*; Alaman, *lirnan*, discere.

Lead me forth in thy truth, and *learn* me.

*Psaln* xxv. 4. and 8. *Psaln* cxix. 2.

and repeatedly in Shakspeare; As You Like It, i. 2; Tempest i. 2; Richard II. iv. 1.

**LEATHER**, *v.* to beat.

**LENTH**, **LEYNTH**, *s.* length. There is a general practice amongst the lower orders of suppressing the sound of *g*, in this and similar words: and as we find the

word written by some of our early writers without it, the custom is not unsanctioned. One illustration, from many, may suffice.

In his *muchehed*, and in his *leynthe*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 7352.

LENT-GRAIN, LENT-TILLIN, *s.* such crops as are sown in the spring.

And *lente seeds alle*  
Aren nouht so worthy as whete.

P. PLOUEMAN, 211.

LEVERS, *s.* 'wet boards;' or the lower moveable boards of a barn door: sometimes termed *Heavers*: perhaps from being lifted out of the side grooves.

LEY, *s.* 1. ploughed land that has been laid down with clover or other seeds. Ex. "A clover *ley*." "It was a *ley* last year." A. Sax. *ley*, novale.

And feyr toke vp a falow *ley*.

*The Hunttyng of the Hare*, v. 152.

2. as a common termination to the name of a place. In which we must seek for a higher origin. C. Brit. *lle*; Corn. *le*; Arm. *lech*; A. Sax. *lea*; Germ. *lage*, locus.

LICHGATE, *s.* that gate of a church-yard through which a funeral approaches the grave. One of the entrances to Madely Church-Yard is so called, and whilst all corpses are carried through that, all weddings as invariably pass through the other. The term is not confined to this place merely, as a similar appellation is given to others in various parts of the county; the church-yard gate at Albrighton bears this name; there is a *Lichfield Gate* near Norton Camp; and the like name is recognised in Cheshire and Staffordshire. The central gate leading into the church-yard of the Collegiate Church of Wolverhampton is still called the *Lich-gate*. Isl. Swed. Lapp. *lit*; A. Sax. *lic*; M. Goth. *leik*; Teut. *lijek*, cadaver. The city of *Lichfield* has hence derived its title, being as Lam-

bard informs us from John Ross, "called *Lycetfelde*, i. e. *Cadaverum Campus*, from the great slaughter there, *Lic* and *Lichoma* in Old English signifying a body, by which name Beda also calleth it."

LICK, *s.* a blow.

LICK, *v.* to beat. Ex. "A good *licking*." S. Goth. *laga*, percutere. Plautus has 'pugno *legere*.'

LICKLE, *adj.* a very general substitution in the vicinity of Church Stretton for *little*.

LIDS, *s.* transverse pieces of wood which support the roof of a coal work. A. Sax. *hlidan*, tegere?

LIEF, LIEV, *adj.* agreeable, as soon as; pronounced *lif* and *iv*. Ex. "I'd as *lif* do it as nod." A. Sax. *loef*; M. Goth. *liuba*; Teut. *lief*, dilectus. Germ. *lieben*, favere. Lat. *libet*, *lubet*.

What anima is *lef* or *loth*.

P. PLOUHMEN.

Be hym *lefe*, or be hym *loth*.

RITSON'S *Ant. Pop. Poetry*, p. 80.

Ne though I say it, I na'am not *lefe* to gabbe.

*Miller's Tale*, 3510.

Whether he were *loth* or *lefe*.

RITSON'S *Robin Hood*, vol. i. p. 41.

Whose mention was like to thee as *lieve*

As a catch-polls fist.

HALL'S *Satires*, iv. 2.

LIEN, *part. past*; layn. Ex. "Her hannod *lien* up all along;" which is to say, whether it be masculine or feminine, that the brute has layn out.

Though ye have *lien* among the pots.

*Psalms* lxxviii. 13.

LIEVER, *adj.* rather. Ex. "*Liever*, let him be." Sir D. Lyndsay, Chaucer, Spenser.

Hym was *leuer* to ryn than ryde.

SIR GOWGHTER, v. 246.

That hem were *lever* lond.

P. PLOUHMEN.

I had *leuer* than a thousand pound.

ADAM BELL, v. 545.

Mee had *lever* than a ston of chese.

*Turnament of Tottenham*, v. 189.

**LIGGER**, *s.* a liar. Ex. "Thee bist a *ligger*." S. Goth. *ljuga*; M. Goth. *liugan*; A. Sax. *leogan*; Franc. Alaman, *lingan*; Belg. *liegen*; Isl. Swed. *linga*; Germ. *lugen*, mentiri.

**LIGHT**, *v.* by aphæresis, for *alight*.

She *light* adoun and falleth him to fete.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 5524 and 10483.

A vengeance and dispight

On the must nedes *lyght*.

SKELTON'S *Poems*, p. 83.

All hys love yn her was *lyghth*.

LAUNFAL, v. 308.

**LIGHT TIMBERED**, *adj.* sickly, weak, feeble, slim. Ex. "There's nod much chaañce o' keeping sich a wekly, *light timbered* crachur alive."

**LIGHTSOME**, *adj.* light. PROMP. PARV. *lyghtsum*, full of light. Teut. *licht*; A. Sax. *liht*, lucidus.

Full *lightsome* and glad of cheres.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE.

**LIGHTSOMER**, *adj.* comparative of the foregoing.

**LIKE**; a redundancy which often enters into the middle, or forms the conclusion of a sentence. Ex. "Her's been very ill *like*." "Poorly *like*."

Sa Hope and Curage did, quod I,  
Experimented *lyke*.

MONTGOMERY'S *Cherry and the Slae*.

**LIKELY**, *adj.* suitable, promising. Ex. "A *likely* lad." M. Goth. *galeikan*, placere.

**LIMB OF THE LAW**, *phr.* Jamieson defines *limb* to be "a mischievous or wicked person;" as "You're a perfect *limb*." An elliptical expression says he, used for "a *limb* of Satan." Verel. in Indic. *Lim*, membrum; Swed. *lem*.

But I am taught the danger would be much,  
If these poor lines should one attorney touch—  
One of those *Limbs* of *Law* who're always here.

*The Borough*, Letter VI.

**LING**, *s.* heath. Verel. in Indic. *ling*, erica.

**LINKERING**, *adj.* idle. Ex. "Yo bin a *linkering* fellow." And as a participle, denoting one who loiters, or idles about. Ex. "*Linkering about.*" By metathesis for *lingering*. A. Sax. *lengian*; Teut. *lenghen*; Belg. *lengen*, prolongare.

**LIN PIN**, *s.* a pin of iron which passes through an axle of a waggon, or a "copsil" of a plough, to keep the wheel on. *Linch-pin*, Bailey.

**LINT**, *s.* a slang term for a halter. Ex. "Yone had the *lint* nigher your neck than he has." Teut. *lint*, funiculus. Swed. Verel. in Indic. A. Sax. Bret. *lin*; Belg. *lint*; Dan. *lintoj*; Lapp. *line*; C. Brit. Arm. Corn. *lin*, linum.

**LINTY**, *adj.* 1. idle, lazy. Ex. "A linty fellow." Coles has *lentous*, idle; hence the metaphorical sense, 2. *fat*. Ex. "A *linty* pig." (Lilleshall.) Teut. *lenterer*, *lentus*.

**LIPPING**, **LIPPING-CLOUT**; *s.* a piece of steel welded to the front of a horse's shoes. A. Sax. *lippa*; Franc. *lep*; Swed. *lepp*; Belg. Teut. Fr. *lippe*; Arm. Germ. *lipp*, labrum.

**LISSOM**, *adj.* elastic, supple, pliant. Ex. "*Lissom* as whalebone." A. Sax. *lisse*, relaxatio. Isl. *lidamiukr*; Dan. *ledmyg*, agilis.

And *lyth* as *lasse* of Kent.

*Dovesabell*, v. 27.

**LITHERLY**, *adj.* lazy. Not very provincial, I think. Sir D. Lyndsay, Chaucer, R. of Glo'ster. Bullokar, has *litherly*, slothful. "A Sax. *lythre*, malus, pravus."

My lad he is so *lither*, he said,  
He will doe nought that's meete.

KING ESTMERE, v. 203.

A clerk had *litherly* beset his while.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 3299.

**LITTER DOWN**, *v.* to make up a horse's bed. Teut. Belg. *littier* der beesten, cubile,

Who being, as I am, *litter'd* under Mercury.

*Winter's Tale*, iv. 2.

**LITTLE FLINT COAL**, *s.* a thin measure of coal, nearest the surface of any, resting upon the Crawstone. Our Shropshire strata lie thus, and bear the following names.

Lancashire Ladies. (Iron Stone.)  
 Little Flint Coal.  
 Crawstone.  
 Clod Coal.  
 Rondle Coal.  
 Two Foot Coal.  
 Sill, or Gainy Coal.  
 Clunohes.  
 Stinking Coal.  
 Penny Coal.  
 Flints, or Flint Coal.  
 Flat Stone.  
 Yard Coal.  
 Quises Neck.  
 Double Coal.  
 Three-quartered Coal.  
 Ball Stone.  
 Top Coal.

**LOB'S POUND**, *s.* a punishment of a playful kind with which children are threatened, an easy detention between the knees. Dramatic critics have been unable to discover the origin of the phrase. Nares quotes from Massinger and Hudibras,

Found in *Lob's* pound.

*Duke of Milan*, iii. 2.

Thou basely throwst into *Lob's* pound.

The term is among the *choice* collection of Grose.

**LOCKERS**, *s.* pieces of oak or hazle, which support the roof of a pit.

**LODGED**, *part. past*; grass or any kind of grain which is beaten down by wind or water, is said to be *lodged*. Haply the A. Sax. *loge*, aqua, originated the term.

Teut. *Hey-loghen*, componere fœnum in metam? A. Sax. *logian*; Belg. Fris. Sicamb. *loghen*, componere.

LOLLOP, *v.* to loll. Ex. "*Lolloping* about." Isl. *lolla*, segniter agere.

LOMB, *s.* a lamb. A deviation from the regular authorities of the Northern languages, which is only justified by the example of Piers Plouhman, and the ancient song of Cucu, printed in Ritson's Anct. Songs, p. 4.

LOMMOCK, *s.* a large piece. Ex. "A *lommock* o' bread." (See remarks under OCK.)

LONESOME, *adj.* 1. destitute, widowed. Ex. "A poor *lonesome* woman."

A hundred marks is a long loan for a *poor lone* woman to bear.  
2nd part of *Henry IV.*

2. solitary, shut out from the world. Ex. "A sad *lonesome* place to live in."

Thus he hath sold his land soe broad,  
Both hill and holt, and moore and fenne,  
All but a poore and *lonesome* lodge,  
That stood far off in a lonely glen.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 131.

LONG FEATHERS, *phr.* "To lie in the *long feathers*," is a cant phrase for sleeping upon straw, in a barn or stable.

LOOED, *part. past.* A perversion of the generally received meaning, which denotes in the present instance, being supplanted, superseded. Ex. "Ah! Surrey thee bist *loosed*, another chap's ta'en thy plack." Fr. *loocer*.

LOOM, *s.* the track, or wake of a fish. Ex. "A fish's *loom*." Swed. *loma*, segniter incedere?

LOOSE, *v.* to discharge, let off: as guns, or cannon. This is considered by many as a vulgarism, or bearing the marks of provincial slang. But there are few words used on better authority. It ought rather to be written as it is frequently pronounced, and in short as it is spelt by Roger Ascham and others, *louse*.



They *loused* their arrowes both at once.

ADAM BELL, v. 309.

It obtains the like signification with him as it does with us. Nares gives illustrations from Drayton and Ben Jonson, to rescue it from reproach. A. Sax. *leosan*; M. Goth. *lausan*, liberare.

LOTHER, *v.* to offer. Ex. "I *lothed* it to him at five shillin."

LOTHER, *adj.* 1. a corruption of rather. Ex. "I'd *lother* nod." 2. unwilling, in which case it is the comparative of A. Sax. *lota*, perversus.

A lorde were *lother*, for to leyne a knaue  
Than swich a begger.

P. FLOURMAN'S *Crede*.

*Loth* him was that dede to don,  
And wele *lother* his liif forgon.

AMIS AND AMILOUN, v. 646.

The fairer of face, the prouder of hart,  
The *lother* to wo, the sooner won.

*Schole House of Women*, v. 561.

LOUK, *s.* a blow. Ex. "Fat him a *louk* on his yed." By metonymy I suppose we get this word from the Isl. and S. Goth. *luta*; A. Sax. *lutan*, inclinare se. I have no better fancy to offer.

LOUN, *s.* a clown, boor, stupid, countryfied fellow. Synonymous with *loon*. Teut. Belg. *loen*, homo stupidus. Verel. in Indic. *lund*, perversæ indolis homo. Ir. *liun*, desidiosus. Sir D. Lindsay. Shakspeare.

Thou lies false *loun* they said again.

• RITSON'S *Robin Hood*, vol. i. p. 107.

And bauldly bare away the gear,  
Of many a lawland *loun*.

*Gilderoy*, v. 60.

He held them sixpence all too deere;  
Therefore he called the taylor *loun*.

PERCY'S *Reliques*, vol. i. p. 207.

LOUN, LOUNDER, *v.* to chastise. Ex. "*Loun* him well." This and the previous Scotticisms have hitherto eluded etymological research.

LOUNER, *s.* a large piece of bread; the *loun's* piece, is the first cut from a new loaf.

LOVESOME, *adj.* an archaism for lovely. Sir D. Lyndsay, *lufesum*.

Her *louesum* eighen, her rode so bright.

LAY LE FREINE, v. 263.

LUDLOW, *s.* The name of this town accords precisely with its position. A. Sax. *leod*; Teut. *luden*, populus. A. Sax. *hlaro*, *lowe*, tumulus. Teut. *loo*, locus altus adjacentis stagnis, *torrentibus*, aut paludibus: (i. e.) The people who live on the hill. *Low*, or *Lo*, is common as a termination to several places both in and out of the county. Thus in it there is *Munslow*; A. Sax. *mund* os; and *lowe*, tumulus; out of it, *Marlow*, a hill surrounded with marshes. *Hounslow*, *East Loo*, *West Loo*, &c. The latter part of the word undoubtedly comes from the C. Brit. *Uehan*, locare, and by contraction *lau*, and thence *low*; but generally speaking, *low*, designates a tumulus, as *Brinklou*, and *Knighlouw*, in Warwickshire, and SAXON'S *Low*, near Trentham, co. Stafford, on the estate of his Grace the Duke of Sutherland. In Shropshire we have the *Willow* farm in the parish of *Little Wenlock*, a locality sanctified, as it were, by the number of tumuli it contains. (See remarks at pp. 93, 269.)

This too will be found in strict accordance with etymological research, as Verel. in Indic. *loge*; S. Goth. *läga*; A. Sax. *leg*; Alam. *lauga*; Belg. *laeye*; Fenn. *liecki*; Dan. *luc*; Brem. *loegniss*; Germ. *loh*; M. Goth. in comp. *lauh*; flamma, *lux*, evidence: having reference to the cremation celebrated on the site of those *Lowes*, or eminences.

They drowe heom quyk undur a *lowe*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 4348 and 5364.

Of lightnes sal thou se a *lowe*.

*Ywayne and Gawin*, v. 343.

Alone he walked by a *lowe*,  
A fayre fyre sawe he glowe.

SYR ISENBRAAS, v. 384.

As they ryden an a *lowe*.

LYBEAUS DISCOMUS, v. 1000.

That beheard the sheriffe of Nottingham,  
As he leaned under a *lowe*.

*Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne*, v. 187.

**LUG**, *s.* 1. a pull by the ear. Ex. "A *lug* of the ear." Not provincial: being used by Lindsay, Shakspeare, Dryden, &c. &c. (See Nares.) In its primary signification, figure was unknown, and it signified the ear itself, and this meaning still continues in some parts of England.

All but a *lug* by th' ear,  
Or such trifle.

*The Nice Valour*.

2. the strongest kind of "springle," cut in two, pegging down under the "buckles" the thatch of a cottage.

**LUGE**, *v.* 1. to pull by the hair, or ear. Ex. "*Lugging* him by the yare." S. Goth. *lugga*, crines vellere.

2. to draw: generally applicable to heavy carriage, as timber, stone, manure, &c. Thus, we hear farmers talking "of *lugging* muck on the follow." From the tardy movement of horses on such occasions, it evidently comes from Teut. Fris. *luggen*, ignavè et segniter agere.

"Don't you remember," says Horace Walpole to Sir Horace Mann, "how the countess used to *lug* a half-length picture of the latter behind her post-chaise all over Italy?"

*Correspondence*, vol. ii. p. 286.

**LUMM**, *s.* an epithet given to a piece of water by the turnpike road side, betwixt Coalbrookdale and Wellington; **LUMM HOLE**, is vastly similar to some pieces of water in the Tyrol, which obtain their celestial green marly colour, from the peculiar nature of their bottom. Willan recognises the epithet in Yorkshire. C. Brit. *Hum*, nudus.

**LUNGE**, *v.* to beat, or violently assault a person, chiefly by kicking. This sense enables us not inaptly to derive it from the Fr. *allonger*.

Art thou not shrewdly hurt? the foul great *lungies* laid unmercifully on thee.

*The Knight of the Burning Pestle.*

**LUNGOUS**, *adj.* cruel, vindictive, possessing a disposition which delights in mischief, or the infliction of bodily injury.

Un chien *alonge*, est celui qui a les doigts du pied etendus par quelque blessure.

RICHLETT.





undergoes but few changes, and even these are presumed to be of general acceptance. In the word *turnip*, it takes the place of *n*, as *turmit*; the same word constantly varies, as, *turmid*, *tormit*, *tormid*, &c.

**MAGGY-MANY-FEET**, *s.* the millepedes.

*Isl. margfætla, scolopendra?*

**MAID**, *s.* an iron frame which holds 'the bakstone.'  
(See **BAKSTONE**.)

**MAIST**, *adv.* almost. Ex. "*Maist* clemm'd." M. Goth. *mais*; Germ. *moist*; A. Sax. *maest*; Teut. Belg. *meest*; Swed. S. Goth. Dan. *mest*; Isl. *mestr*. plurimum. *maist*, Sir D. Lyndsay: *mast*, R. of Brunne: *meest*, Wiclif: *meste*, Chaucer.

**MAK**, *v.* an usual and very common abbreviation of make.  
Ex. "Whod ivir *maks* thee do a thisns."

The cheese is to *mak*, the butter's to kirn.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 125.

**MAKSHIFT**, *s.* a substitute.

**MAKE**, *v.* to fasten. Ex. "Make the door." "Are the windows *made*?" This has been considered by many as a provincialism. It may be questioned however, whether it really be one. Let us regard it as an el-

liptical expression, and call the modern Greeks to sanction our use of it by their analagous phrase, of *καμνει την θύραν*.

*Make the doors upon a woman's wit.*

*As You Like It.*

The doors are made against you.

*Comedy of Errors.*

**MAKE UP**, *phr.* 1. to coat, wheedle. Ex. "Fausing and *making up*." 2. attempting a reconciliation.

**MALL**, *s.* a corruption from Mary, through *Moll*: unfrequent.

**MAMMET**, *s.* a doll, something small intending to represent a human being. Ex. "A *mammet* of a thing."

**PROM. PARV.** *mawmette*, imagines *fictæ loco* Deorum. Coles has *mamme*, a puppet. Belg. Teut. *mammeken*, *mammula*, (Minsheu.) Nares says it has been supposed to be a corruption of *movement*. He quotes among other authorities for its use,

This is no world,

To play with *mammets*, and to tilt with lips.

1 *Hen.* IV. ii. 3.

**MAMMOCKS**, *s.* broken or refuse victuals. Ex. "You may eat your *mammocks* as likes." Not provincial.

**MAMMOCK**, *v.* to waste or crumble away bread. Ex. "Child dunna *mammock* thy fittle o' that'ns." Skinner thinks this word comes from the C. Brit. *mân*, parvus; *ocks* being added as a diminutive. The latter part of his conjecture does not seem in analogy, either with the Welsh, or any Northern language; *oka*, being a cumulative or intensive verb. (See Remarks under **LOMMOCK**, **WADDOCK**.)

Whan *mamockes* was your meate.

SKELTON'S *Poems*, p. 197.

**MANTLE PIECE**, *s.* a chimney piece. Belg. *mantel* van de schoude; Fr. *manteau* de la cheminée. Germ. *mantel*; *structura quæ camini focum circumdat*.

**MARCHER LORDS**, *s.* A title given to the petty sovereigns who lived on the borders of England and Wales.

The same privileges appertained to those on the Scotch borders. Our earliest record of their origin, is given by the Conqueror, in 1070, who permitted Roger de Montgomery to levy war at his discretion upon the neighbouring kingdoms, and to appropriate to himself from the Welsh, whatever he could thus acquire. This policy led to the erection of the Marcher Lordships, which consisted of more than a hundred little states, and thus became the fruitful parent of innumerable disorders, till their suppression in the reign of Henry VII. (See Blakeway's Hist. of Shrewsbury, vol. i. p. 117.) M. Goth. *marka*; A. Sax. *mearc*; Dan. S. Goth. *märke*; Isl. *mark*; C. Brit. *mars*; Germ. *gomerch*; Fr. *marche*; Belg. Teut. *marck*; Ital. *marka*; Span. *comarka*, limites alicujus territorii.

**MARE, TO CRY THE; phr.** This harvest custom is not confined to Salopians, as there is reference to it in Cole's Dictionary, and in the Magna Britannia of Lysons. It varies however in the method of celebration, both with us, and from others. When a farmer has ended his reaping, and the wooden bottle is passing merrily round, the reapers form themselves into two bands, and commence the following dialogue in loud shouts, or rather in a kind of chant at the utmost pitch of their voice. First band: *I have her, I have her, I have her.* (Every sentence is repeated three times.) *What hast thee? What hast thee? What hast thee?* First, a *mare*, a *mare*, a *mare*. Second; *Whose is her? Whose is her? Whose is her?* First, A. B's. (naming their master, whose corn is all cut.) Second, *Where shall we send her?* &c. First, to C. D. (naming some neighbour whose corn is still standing.) And the whole concludes with a joyous shout of both bands united. In the South Eastern part of Shropshire, the ceremony is performed with a slight variation. The last few stalks of the wheat are left standing; all the reapers throw their sickles,

and he who cuts it off, cries, "*I have her,*" "*I have her,*" "*I have her*"; on which the rustic mirth begins: and it is practised in a manner very similar in Devonshire. (See Lyson's *Magna Brit.* p. cccLIV. and Cornwall, p. cclLII.) The latest farmer in the neighbourhood, whose reapers cannot therefore send her to any other person, is said "*to keep her all the winter.*" This rural ceremony, which like the other picturesque usages of a former period, is fast wearing away, evidently refers to the time, when, our county lying all open in common fields, and the corn consequently exposed to the depredations of the wild mares, the season at which it was secured from their ravages was a time of rejoicing, and of exulting over a tardier neighbour. That this is the true solution is further confirmed by the fact that there is a "*crying the sow,*" sometimes observed at the end of the harvest of pease. (See Blakeway and Owen's *History of Shrewsbury*, vol. ii. p. 27. Brand's *Popular Antiq. of Vulgar Customs*, vol. i. p. 443, &c.) By way, I suppose, of keeping up this custom with full effect, it not unfrequently happens, that the farmer who has been presented with "*the mar,*" sends one of his harvest men with a halter at supper time for her! Or to express myself in the dialect of my own county, according to the relation of a witnesser of the scene in 1835: "*They cryden the mar* awhile I was thire, becos yo sin we'den done harrast fust; 'e gotten up o'er neet and laid a dhel o' the weat down i' swaaths, un awhile we wun at supper a mon cumm'd in wie a autar to fatch her away." It is not unusual to sing this distich at the conclusion of a prosperously gotten in harvest.

Harrast whoam, Harrast whoam,  
Niver a loads been overthroan.

MARKET FRESH, *adj.* That dubious degree of sobriety with which farmers too commonly return home from



market : having had full inclination for intemperance, but only venturing to the borders of excess.

Not drunken nor sober, but neighbour to both.

MARMIT, *s.* a pot with hooks at each side.

MAROW, MARROW, *s.* a companion, friend. The PROMP.

PARV. has *marwe*, and *marowe*, or felowe in travayle, socius. Fr. *mari*.

Pore husbondes that had no *marowes*.

*The Huntynge of the Hare*, v. 247.

Tis right we together sud be

For nane of us cud find a *marrow*.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 246.

MASE, *v.* to turn giddy, light-headed. Ex. "Felt quite *mased*." An old english word, metaphorically applied from the substantive, *mase*, a labyrinth. A. Sax. *mase*, gorges. Bulloker has *maze*, an astonishment. In a slightly deflected sense to our own, we find Chaucer using the word.

Ye *mase*, ye *masen*, goode sire, quod she.

*Canterbury Tales*, v. 10261.

MASE OR MAES, MAESBROOK. In this immediate vicinity was fought a battle between Oswald King of Northumberland and Penda King of Mercia, in which the former was slain. Tradition, or at best, conjecture, has fixed the scene of conflict at Oswestry, but surely it must be considered more probable to have taken place in a situation still bearing the same name as that recorded by the Saxon Chronicler, than in one, concerning which all early historians preserve silence. Neither does Etymology desert us here, in ascertaining the true locality of the action. MAESBURY, supplies in its termination, additional evidence that the place had become sanctified through the slaughter of these Saxon warriors. (See Remarks under BURY.) At Maesbrook, or on Maesbrooke Common, it seems highly probable this engagement took place. Having fixed the situation, let us now turn to the history, about which there can be no

variance. The concurrent testimony of historians represents Oswald as a monarch who benefitted his age, and who displayed in his own life those gentle virtues which exalt the character of the bravest chief. His piety was remarkable. Bede gives us some striking proofs of the way in which he desired to advance the religious condition of his subjects. Whilst he was thus labouring for their advantage, the ambitious and restless Penda, King of Mercia, invaded his kingdom of Northumbria, and Oswald fell in battle, on Aug. 5, 642, at Maesbrooke, in the thirty-eighth year of his age. His conqueror caused his head to be severed from his body, his trunk cut in pieces, and the parts exposed on stakes; or, according to Henry of Huntingdon who is our authority for this fact, his head and arms only were thus dishonoured.

*Cujus et abscissum caput abscissoq. lacertos,  
Et tribus affixos palis pendere cruentos  
Penda jubet. lib. iii. p. 331.*

Bede, states that his remains were about a year afterwards under miraculous circumstances transferred by his niece Osthryda to the monastery of Bardney. They were received by the monks with great honor, and became the fruitful source of those numerous legends with which the pages of Hagiologists abound. Subsequently they were removed from hence to Lindisfarn by his successor Oswy, his hands and arms, however, were preserved at Bamborough. Matthew Westminster states that in the year 910, his bones were transported with great reverence from Bardney into Mercia; (See p. 355.) and Florence of Worcester corroborates him. (See p. 339.) The episcopal seat of Lindisfarn had been removed to Chester in 882, where we may suppose these bones were placed. The Chronicle of John Brompton says the bones of St Oswald were removed by Elflæda to Gloucester, where she built a monastery in honor of his

memory. (p. 833.) (Bedaë Hist. lib. iii. Saxon Chron. anno 642. Matt. Westmons. p. 224, &c.) Pennant considers it probable that the Britons bestowed on the spot where the battle was fought, the name of *Maes hîr*, or the *long field*, or combat, from the obstinacy of the conflict. The Saxons, for a considerable time, retained the name of the place where the action was fought, with the addition of their own vernacular word *feld*, or *felth*, a field; as *Maserfeld*, *maserfelth*, and corruptly, *masafeld*. (Pennant's Wales, p. 259.)

Campus *Mesafeld* sanctorum conduit ossa.

*Hen. Huntingdon*, lib. iii. p. 331.

"In after-days", says Pennant, "the name became entirely *Saxon*; and from the fate of the King was styled *Oswald's tree*; now *Oswestry*; and by the *Welsh* rendered *Cross-oswallt*." (p. 260.) This is a very ingenious derivation of *Oswestry*, but it does not at all disprove the conjectures I have advanced, or make the present town, the site of the engagement. It has also been surmised that Oswald fell in a field near the town, called *Caonef*, or Heaven field, and that a tree was planted near the spot called *Oswald's tree*, hence, *Oswestry*. (Nicholson, p. 1018.) In answer to which it has been urged that *Heafensfeld* in Northumberland has the same meaning; and received it on account of the victory Oswald obtained there. The derivation of Maesbrook may satisfy the doubts of those who may still be scrupulous. C. Brit. Bret. Armor. *maes*, prelium.

MASH FAT, MASH TUB, *s.* a vessel used in brewing, which holds the malt: the grain is stirred round with a wooden implement, termed a *mash staff*. Junius aptly deduces it from the Gr. *μασσω*. pinso. Fr. *mascher*; Ital. *mac-care*. S. Goth. A. Sax. *fat*; Germ. *fass*; C. Brit. *ffattan*; Alam. *faz*; Belg. *vat*, vas cujusunque generis.

She drancke on the *mashe fut*.

*Elinour Rimming*, p. 137.

Then up they gat the *maskin-fat*.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 124.

**MASKER**, *v.* 1. to feel stupified, confused. Ex. "Sich a dark neet I was *masker'd* like." 2. to grow giddy, stun. Ex. "Gid him a lick as quite *masker'd* him." Fr. *massacre*; Ital. *mazzare*? Pegge has the word as common in Derbyshire.

**MASTER TAIL**, *s.* the left handle of a plough.

**MAUL**, *v.* to bruise or hurt by the fist as in fighting. Ex. "Terribly *mauled* in the face." Isl. Swed. *mala*, molere. Phillips has *maul*, to bang or beat soundly. Coles. Nares.

**MAUN**, *s.* a horse's mane. Ex. "Cohm (comb) his *maun* afore yo ta'en him out o' th' steåble. The Isl. *mön*, and Swed. *mahn*, juba equina, favor our pronunciation.

**MAUN**, *v.* must, a corruption, I suppose, of the old verb *moun*.

But we *maun* hae linen, an' that *maun* hae we.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 282.

**MAUNDER**, *v.* to talk foolishly, incoherently. Ex. "Goes *maundering* and bothering on."

Now I shall take my pleasure,  
And not my neighbour Justice *maunder* at me.

*Rule a Wife and have a Wife.*

And now Louisa went on with a medical *maundering*.

MISS EDGEWORTH'S *Helen*, vol. iii. p. 104.

**MAUNDREL**, *s.* 1. a pickaxe pointed at each end, such as is used by colliers when "holing." 2. a pin of iron employed by smiths when making "balking axes."

**MAWSKIN**, *s.* part of a calf's stomach, that is salted for the purpose of coagulating milk in making cheese. S. Goth. Swed. Isl. *mage*; A. Sax. *maga*; Alam. *mago*; Belg. *maag*; Teut. *maeghe*, ventriculus.

**ME**, *pron.* If this be not one of our elegant redundances, we must consider it as a pronoun used instead of *myself*. Ex. "I'll goa and get *me* some mate." "Clane *me* for chyrche."

**MEAKING**, *part. pres.* poorly, drooping. Ex. "A *meaking* cratur." "Gwuz *meaking* about." PROMP. PARV. *mekyn*, humilio. Verel. in Indic. *maka*, verba haud viriliter proferre. S. Goth. *maker*, homo mollis. Swed. *meka*, hebetudine ingenii in sermone timidulum agere.

**MEAL'S MEAT**, *s.* a meal of meat, or enough for a meal. More commonly, "a *males mats*." Ex. "Nobody to gie him a *males mats*." Craven.

Ne take a *meles mete* of thine.

P. FLOUHMAN.

A *meles mete* for a poure man. *id.*

**MEANEVERS**, *adv.* mean while.

**MEG**, *s.* a mark pitched at in playing at quoits. When the quoit touches it the thrower counts two; if the *meg* is driven from its place, (*megrisors*) three; and if it be entirely covered, (*whawvers*) four. C. Brit. *magl*, a spot? Isl. *megn*, summa rei?

**MEGHT**, *v.* the old form of the preter-imperfect. Ex. "He *meght* ha' done it, if had liked."

Because they *meght* haue good space.

SIR TRYAMOUR, v. 679.

**MELCH**, *adj.* in milk. Ex. "A *new melch* cow:" and one who yields her milk readily is called "an easy *melched* one." A. Sax. *melcan*; Swed. *molka*; Belg. *melken*; Teut. *melcken*; Germ. *melken* and *milchen*, mulgere. Isl. *mialta*; Dan. *malcken*, mulctum ire.

For sche was *melche* and couthe theran.

Sche bad it souke and it nold.

LAY LE FREIN, v. 196.

**MELVERLY**, *s.* From the circumstance of this village on the Welsh side of Shropshire being continually flooded by the irruptions of the Severn, has originated the phrase of "Get to **MELVERLY** wie thee." Its remoteness, perhaps, and the frequency of inundations to which it is subject, has occasioned the place to pass into a bye word, and its inhabitants to be called *Melverly* God helps. In a wet season their plight turns the

joke against them, but after a dry summer, the *Melverleians*, whose land which in itself is rich and productive, has been rendered more fertile by the bountiful watering of the adjacent river, retort upon their bantering neighbours, by the phrase of "MELVERLY! *where do you think?*" A triumphant kind of exclamation, which signifies that such crops as those at Melverly could be obtained no where else.

MEUSE, *s.* a hole in a fence through which a hare usually passes, her general track. Cotgrave has under Fr. *trouée*, a gap or *muset* in a hedge. A word recognised by Beaumont and Fletcher, Chapman, and other poets, as well as by Gervase Markham, a professed writer on field sports. (See Nares.)

Take a hare without a *meuse*.

RAY'S Proverbs.

MEZZELD, *part. past*; afflicted with a kind of leprosy. Ex. "Th' aud sow's *mezzild* like, I think as how ul die." PROMP. PARV. *maselyd*, *serpiginosus*. Palsgrave; *mezyll* the sicknesse, *mesellerie*. Cotgrave renders the Fr. *mezeau* a *meselled* person. In Lancashire and Derbyshire, *mezzil-feas'd*, means red with pimples. S. Goth. *maslig*, *scabiosus*. Bret. *mezell*; Fr. *mezeau* and *meseau*; Teut. *mesel*; Belg. *maselen*; Dan. *maseling*, *leprosus*. The term is for the most part applied to swine; and as my informant under the Wrekin saith, the word *mezzild* describes a pig which has "the flesh full of tiny blobs of water all over the body; the cheeks are not so bad as any other part; the fat as bad iviry mossel, but nod so visible like to the eye." Germ. *mas*, *masel*, *macula*.

MIDLING-SHARP, *adj.* tolerably well. Ex. "How is the family, John? Why the meāster's ketched a hacking cuff (cough) like, but the missus bin *midling-sharp*."

MIKE, *v.* to idle, loiter. Ex. "Jacky wants to *mike*." Craven Gloss. and Nares have it *michin* and *mick*, the

same word as our own but differently spelt. We always use it in a perverse sense. It is not so intensively employed as formerly. PROMP. PARV. *Mychyn or pryvately stelyn smale thynge, Surripio*. Softened down by the dramatists to *idle* and mischievous. Chaucer.

MILE, *s.* This is inserted simply for the sake of noticing the universal *singularity* of its use. The vulgar never give the word a plural. A similar practice is observable in *Foot*: they suppose this to be likewise a plural in itself, and speak of "a two *foot* rule:" "a twoward seven *foot* long." In the former instance, they say, "to'ert four or five mile;" and the custom seems to receive countenance from some of our Early English Poets.

Three *myle* myghte men here the soun.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 5714.

An hundred *myle*.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 286.

MILES ENDWAYS, *phr.* These are very long ones.

MILLER, *s.* the larva of a lepidopterous insect, known in its imago state by the appellation of *Vanessa Urticæ*. It is addressed by children in this distich,

Miller, Miller, blow your horn!

You shall be hanged for stealing corn.

MILK-FORK, *s.* a forked branch of oak, usually at the dairy door, upon which the milking pails, and other lacteous vessels are hung.

MILK-PRICK'D, *part. past*; milk turned sour.

MILNER, *v.* the old form for miller, according to P. Plouhman, A. C. Mery Talys, p. 24, Percy's Reliques, &c. &c.

MISDEEM, *v.* to be suspicious, illiberal. Teut. *misdienon*, male mereri. A. Sax. *mis*, from M. Goth. *missa*, defectus; *deman*, judicare.

He which that misconceiveth, oft *misdeemeth*.

CHAUCER'S *Merch. Tale*.

That taketh well and scorneth nought,  
Ne it *misdeeme* in hir thought.

*House of Fame.*

They retained not the fear of the Lord, and they assented not to my counsel, and they depraved, and *misdeemed* all my correction.

WICLIFF *on Prayer*, c. ii.

MISDEEMFUL, *adj.* suspicious. See Roister Doister, edit. Briggs, p. 50.

MISLE, *v.* to rain gently. Ex. "It *misles* o' rain," that is, according to its sense and derivation, "it *mists* o' rain" A. Sax. *mist*, caligo, quia caligo est privatio lucis, a *missen*, carere. Germ. *mist*, nebula. Wachteri Gloss. Teut. Fris. Holl. *misten*, *misselen*, rorare tenuem pluviam. MIX, *v.* to clean out as a stable, or cow house. Ex. "Mixing the moggies," i. e. mixing the calves.

MIXEN, MIXON, *s.* a dunghill, heap of rubbish. It is not dialectical. A. Sax. *mixen*; Dan. *móg*; Scan. *mock-hull*; Isl. *myki*; Swed. *mók*, sterquilinum. Cotgrave, Coles, &c. *mexen*, *mixen*.

MOBBLE, *v.* to cover up. Ex. "Mobbled up in a cloak." *Mobbled*, as females are said to be when so covered or clothed, and from their form being obscured and partially hidden by this ungraceful load of drapery; the word has affinity with the S. Goth. Swed. *moln*, nubes.

1st PLAYER. But who, ah woe! had seen the *mobbled* queen,

HAM. The *mobbled* queen?

POL. That's good; *mobbled* queen is good.

*Hamlet*, ii. 2.

MOBCAP, *s.* a cap tying under a woman's chin by so broad a piece of lace or muslin of the same material as the cap itself, that the face is partially hidden. This unbecoming and inelegant fabrication of our English *modistes*, may not unaptly be assimilated to the Lappish, *skobmok*, tegmentum capitis, quo femine Lapporum utuntur hieme quoque simul facies operitur.

MOG, *v.* to move. Ex. "Come *mog* off." Isl. *moka*, movere.

MOIL, *v.* 1. to work hard, slavishly, generally at some dirty occupation. Ex. "Toiling and *moiling*."



Unpreaching prelates are so troubled with lordly living, and *moiling* in their gay manors and mansions.

LATIMER'S *Sermon on the Plough*.

2. to become dirty. Ex. "*Moiled* from yed to fut." Teut. *moeyer*, limus. Eng. *mire*; Fr. *mouiller*, (which gives us the Salopian pronunciation :) madidare. Verel. in Indic *modur*; Dan. *mødder*; S. Goth. *mod*; Alam. *muoder*; Belg. *moede*; Germ. *miude*, fatigatus. Gr.  $\mu\omicron\lambda\upsilon\nu\omega$ , contaminare.

MOLLICRUSH, *v.* to bruise or break fine; used in 'malam partem.' Ex. "I'll *mollicrush* thee." Fr. *mol, escraser*.

MOLLIFY, *v.* 1. to bruise or beat. In this sense, which must be considered a vulgarism, it is not so frequently used as in the next. 2. to soften, subdue. Here it is a correct word. Neither *mollified* nor bound up with ointment. Is. i. 6. Fr. *mollifier*, to *mollify*. Cotgr. Lat. *mollio*.

Some *mollification* for your giant sweet lady.

*Twelfth Night*, i. 5.

MOMMET, *s.* a trifle, a doll, or puppet; synonymous with *mammet*.

MON, *s.* a man. Pure A. Saxon *mon*, homo.

MONGE, *v.* to eat, bite at ravenously. Fr. *manger* a un grain de sel, to eat hastily or greedily, without staying for any sawce or seasoning, other than a corne of salt will yeeld him. Cotgr.

MOONSHINE FLIT, *phr.* decamping by night, and leaving the landlord unpaid.

MORAL, *s.* a model. As in the North Country, we say, "a *moral* of a man." Brockett, Moore, Nares.

MORKIN, MAWKIN, *s.* a scarecrow. Isl. *morkinn*; Swed. *murken*, putrefactus?

Could he not sacrifice

Some sorry *morkin* that unbidden dies.

BISHOP HALL'S *Satires*.

MORT, *s.* a large quantity. Ex. "A *mort* of it." Isl.

*margt, morgt.* Cimb. *mort*, multum. Irish, *morán*, multitudo. Grose.

**MOSSEL**, *s.* a morcel. Ex. "Nod a *mossel* o' mate."  
Fr. *morcel*.

And after the *mossel*, thanne Satanus entride into him.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, John xiv.

**MOSY**, *adj.* a state verging upon rottenness. Ex. "*Mosy* apples." Teut. *moes*, puls? C. Brit. *mwydo*, humectari. Gr. *μυδάω* nimio humore putrescere.

His horse hipped with an old mothy saddle, the stirrups of no kindred; besides, possessed with the glanders, and like to *mose* in the chine.

*Taming of the Shrew*, iii. 2.

**MOTHEB**, *s.* a round piece of leather put upon the bladder that lies inside of a foot-ball.

**MOTHERING**, *s.* the sediment, or turbulent dregs of vinegar.

S. Goth. Belg. *modder*; A. Sax. *moder*, spurcities ista, quæ in fundo doliorum aut ampullarum residet. Teut. *moeder*, *modder*, fæx. Isl. *mod*, quisquilæ. Swed. *moder*, residuum fæculentum in fundo vasorum. Palsgrave; *moder*, a disease, marrys.

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**, *s.* "To go a *mothering*," is a very old custom. It seems to have originated from the practice that prevailed in the Roman Church of people visiting *Mother* Church on this, or *Midlent Sunday*, to make their offerings at the high altar. The appointment of the lessons for this day, the first of which, gives the story of Joseph entertaining his brethren, and the second, which, treats of our Saviour's miraculously feeding five thousand, together with the allusion to *Mother* church in the epistle to the Galatians, iv. 26. "Jerusalem which is the *mother* of us all," &c. have evidently occasioned the practice.

I'll to thee a simnell bring,  
'Gainst thou goest a *mothering*.

HERRICK'S *Hesperides*.

**MORRY**, *s.* a mark, or spot at which quoit players pitch.  
S. Goth. *mot*, punctum, in quo plures concurrunt. Isl.

*mot*, concursus. C. Brit. *mot*, a place. A. Sax. *mot*, atomus.

MOUGHT, *v.* the old form of the preter imperfect. Chaucer, &c. A. Sax. *mot*, possum.

For to get sleep if that he *mought*.

SIR GRAY STEEL, v. 1398.

The grehound ranne forth his waye  
Tyll he came where his maister laye,

As faste as euer he *mought*.

SIR TRYAMOURS, v. 513.

MOUGHT, *s.* a moth. Ex. "The *moughts* han eat it."  
Palsgrave; *mought* that eateth clothes.

MOULD 'ORT, MOULDY WARP, *s.* a mole. A good old English word. A. Sax. *mold*, terra; *uorspian*, jactare; Swed. *mullsock*; Germ. *maul wurff*; Teut. *mul-wurp*; Alam. *mul-wurf*; Isl. *moldearpa*; Dan. *muldearp*; S. Goth. *mullwad*, talpa.

We call in some parts of England a *moule*, a *mouldwarp*, which is as much to say, as a *cast-earth*; and when planks or bords are awry we say they *cast*, or they *warp*.

VERSTEGAN'S *Restitution of Decayed Intelligence*.

Sometimes he angers me

With telling me of the *moldwarp* and the ant.

1 Hen. IV. iii. 1.

MOUN, *v.* correlative with *may* and *may not*. In the former instance an archaic, in the latter, a vitiated form. Ex. "I *moun* tak it whoäm." Here the first vowel is oftener silent, and it becomes by elision, *mun*; "I *mun* take it whoäm." In the latter example, it is employed negatively, as, "I *moun* let thee do a thatn's," implying, I may not.

Ye *moun* not serve to God and to richesse.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*.

For adventures which that *moun* betide.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 12868 and 13160.

MOUT, MOWT, *v.* to moult. PROMP. PARV. *Mowted*, deplumatus; *Mowtinge*, deplumacio. Teut. *muyton*, plumas in aviariis amittere. Fr. *muer*.

MOUTER, *v.* to moulder, decay. Ex. "*Moustering* away."  
A vitiation of the original form, obtained thus, *moulder*,

*moultter, mouster.* Teut. *mouteren*, macerare, mollire; M. Goth. *muld*; S. Goth. *mull*; Swed. id. Isl. *mol*; A. Sax. *mold*; Dan. *muld*, pulvis.

**MUCK, v.** 1. to clean out, free from manure. Ex. "Muck the cowhus." S. Goth. Swed. *mocka*, stabula purgare. 2. to cover with manure. A farmer talks of *mucking* his land. (See MIXEN.) Hence, also,

**MUCKER, v.** 1. to be busy or employed upon some filthy work. Ex. "A *muckering* job." 2. to live as it were from hand to mouth, in a comfortless, dirty way. Ex. "He lived always in a very *muckering* way." 3. In an uncertain sense. Ex. "The clothes were *mucked* in the wash tub."

**MUDSON, s.** quasi Mudstone, the upper Silurian rocks generally, which rapidly disintegrate, and fall into mud.

**MUGHUS, s.** a pottery. At Benthall, one is carried on with spirit and activity, and it is this, which has supplied me with an authority for the present appellation: universal there and the neighbouring parish of Broseley.

**MULLOK, s.** rubbish, dung. Ex. "A heap o' *mullok*." Isl. *mol*, mica. C. Brit. *mellog*, quisquilæ.

The *mullok* on an hepe ysweped was,  
And on the flore ycast a canevas,  
And all this *mullok* in a sive ythrow.

*Cant. Tales*, v. 16408.

Till it be rotten in *mullok* or in stre.

*id.* v. 3871.

**MUN, v.** a form of the imperfect verb must. Ex. "I *mun* goä I reckon."

Thai *mun* be met if thai war ma.

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 3.

**MUNCH, MUNGE, s.** to eat. Fr. manger.

**MUNCORN, s.** oats and barley mixed; Old English, *mong-corn*: a term but rarely heard, except on the Cheshire side of the county. A. Sax. *mengean*, miscere.

**MUNNA, MUNNOD, v.** two various forms of must not, which are very prevalent. Simply another mode of

expression which we give to the old word *moun*: by suppression of the first vowel, it becomes *mun*, thence *munna*, and *mun not*, and in accordance with the common practice of converting *t* final into *d*, *munnod*. Ex. "Her *munnod* nize a that'ns."

**MUNDLE**, *s.* A stick used in stirring up cream. Ex. "A cream-*mundle*." A. Sax. *mund*, manus.

**MUTTON**, *s.* 1. a low term of contempt for an abandoned female. This title has been derived from the Fr. *moutonne*, a sort of coiffure used by females, consisting of a tress of hair, tufted and frizzed which was worn in front.

Nous voyons des Precheurs coiffez a la *moutonne*  
Se faire les yeaux grands et la bouche mignonne,  
Se radoueir la voix et pour tout geste enfin.  
Aux Dames d'alentour faire la belle main.

*Lewis de Sanlaque.*

2. a reproachful address to a dog. Ex. "Ah? *mutton*, *mutton*," implying that he is addicted to run after, or kill sheep: as we say in rustic discourse, "Tie up that *kill-ship* o' yorn."

**MUSH**, **MOOSH**, *adj.* silent, quiet, hidden. Ex. "Remained *mush* like." Forby suggests *mouche* as the origin.

**MUZZY**, *adj.* fuddled, stupid from intoxication. Ex. "A bit *muzzy*." "So *muzzy*, that he could na understand." Is it from the Gr. *μύσις*. obstructio?





AGGY, SNAGGY, *adj.* peevish, contentious: the same as NAGGEDY, or NAG-LING: all deducible from Isl. *nagga*, litigare.

NAGE, *v.* to bite at, snap. Ex. "Jim's whippet *nagged* at my heels." S. Goth. *gnaga*; A. Sax. *gnagan*; Isl. *gnagen*; Dan. Germ. *nagen*; Teut. Belg. *knaghen*; C. Brit. *noi*, rodere.

NACK, *v.* to nick. Ex. "*Nacking* knives," an amusement well known to schoolboys. Teut. *knacken*, frangere.

NAIL PASSER, *s.* a gimlet. A very appropriate word invariably used by ourselves and the Herefordshire people for that instrument: with what authority let the following synonymous parts declare. Teut. *naeghel*; Germ. *nagel*, clavus. Teut. *passeren*; Germ. *passen*, transire.

NAN, *pron.* (See ANAN.)

NAPE, *s.* the back part of the neck; the *nape* of the neck. It is that part which falls into a hollow: from the Teut. *nap*, alveolus.

NASH, NAISH, NESH, *adj.* 1. tender, delicate. Ex. "A poor *nesh* cratur." PROMP. PARV. *growe neshhe*, and also in the very fine MS. of the PROMP. PARV. in King's Coll. Lib. Camb. A. Sax. *nesc*; Belg. *nesh*,

mollis. Hung. *kenyés*, delicatus. Cotgrave explains *tendre*, *nesh*, puling, delicate. This expressive word is not local. Pet. Langtoft. Chron.

The child was keped *tendre*, and *nessche*.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 732.

No knyght for *nessche* ne harde.

LYBRAUS DISCONUS, v. 1483.

All *tendere* and *nessche*.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 1211.

Him to behold, so is he goodly freshe,

It seemeth for love his herte is tender and *neshe*.

CHAUCER'S *Court of Love*, v. 1092.

—This but sweats thee

Like a *nesh* nag.

*Bonduca*.

2. chilly. (Clungunford.) The Teuton. *nesch*, *madius*; (*nesch weder*, aer humidus,) justifies also this secondary use of the word. A friend of the writer's heard in the county town of Staffordshire, these compounded forms: "a *nesh-phizzed* fellow," a man who will not fight for fear of becoming bruised—" *nesh-stomached*," one who "cannot ete but littel mete," his "stomach is not good," as the old song quaintly has it. Had the same observer kept his ears open in this county, the present small volume might have been enriched with a greater variety of polite discourse, than it can now boast of. Coles. Nares. Grose. Ray.

Theo *nessche* clay hit makith clyng.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 915 and 7325.

NATIVE, *s.* We may consider this as noun or adjective, but if taken as the latter, *place*, by an ellipsis is understood. The Iceni adopt the same form. Ex. "Neenton's my *natif*."

NATTERED, *adj.* sour, crossgrained. Ex. "A *natter'd* piece," as they say of an ill conditioned old woman.

NATURE, *s.* employed in a good sense, for kind heartedness and affection. Ex. "There's often more *nature*

in people of that sort, than in those as yo' men call their betters." Shakspeare. An Icenicism.

NAUGER, *s.* by Crasis, for an auger, as in *Naul*. Teut. *ewegher*, terebra.

Hays lent me here his *naul*.

*Gammer Gurton's Needle.*

NAUNT, NUNCLE, &c., &c., *s.* None of these words or any of a like kind can be deemed provincialisms.

NEAT'S FOOT OIL, *s.* oil extracted from cows' feet, which is generally applied to stable or coach-house purposes, in preserving leather. This is one of the two only forms in which we have retained the old word *neat*. Isl. *naut*; Swed. *nót*; Alam. *noz*; A. Sax. *neat*; Dan. *nod*; Sp. *gamado*, bos. The old poets continually used the primitive *Nout foot*. Ritson's Scottish Songs.

NEAT'S TONGUE, *s.* a cow's tongue.

NEELD, *s.* a needle. An instance of Crasis, as old as P. Plouhman.

Tho was it portatyf and pershaunt as the poÿnt of a *nelde*.

M. Goth. *nethla*; A. Sax. *nædd*; Alam. *nalde*; Dan. *nael*; Isl. *naal*; Fris. *nirle*; Teut. *naelde*; Belg. *naeld*; Germ. *naedel*; S. Goth. *nâl*; Fenn. *neula*; Esthon. *nekla*, acus. *Mids. Night's Dream*.

Why, know you any tidings which way my *neele* is gone.

*Gammer Gurton's Needle.*

NELSON'S BALLS, *s.* a confection in great request among children, called *Nelson's Bullets*, in the North, and supposed to have been invented in honor of the hero! (See Brockett.)

NEOW, *adj.* new. I insert this form of the word on account of the pronunciation it receives generally throughout the county. It is borne out by the orthography, which in numberless cases, it has received in our early poets. The Romance of Kyng Alisauxder presents no deviation from this mode of writing it.

And take him a *neowe* wyve.

v. 308; see also v. 416, 1090, 1240, 7172, 7809, &c. &c.



**Ness, s.** The name of this place is in strict conformity with its situation. A. Sax. *ness*, promontorium. Teut. Sicamb. Flan. *ness*, *naus*: severally implying that it stands on, or close upon, a Cliff: hence *Nesscliff*, county Salop.

**Nesses, s.** nests, a corruption similar to several others which we have adopted from nouns terminating their singular in *est*, *ist*, or *ust*: Ex. "Bird's *nesses*." "Wek *wrisses*"; "dry *crusses*"; for bird's nests, weak wrists, dry crusts.

**Nest, adj.** next. Ex. "*Nest* dure neighbour." It can scarcely be deemed a vitiation. A. Sax. *neht*; C. Brit. *nés*. S. Goth. *næste*, proprior.

**NEWGATE, FAUSE AS, phr.** Wherefore as *False as Newgate*? Doubtless metonymically it is so spoken.

**NEWYUS DAY, s.** New year's day. Almost extinct, and now used only by the aged, from one of whom, in his eighty-eighth year, I heard the word.

**NEZE, v.** to sneeze. Not admitted on the ground of being provincial. (See Craven and other Glossaries.) A. Sax. *nissan*; Franc. *niosen*; Belg. *niezen*; Swed. *niusa*; Germ. *niessen*; Teut. *niessen*, sternutare. Shakspere.

**NIFF, v.** to quarrel. Correlative with *niff*, and *tiff*: all of them words of a base and vulgar kind.

**NILD, s.** a small piece of iron used by miners when 'blasting' rocks; by Crasis, for a needle.

**NILE, s.** a term for that part of a threshing flail, that is usually called a 'swepple.' *Nile* is peculiar to Corve Dale, but I suspect it is tralatitious.

**NINE DAYS, phr.** Salopians invariably, when speaking of an indefinite length of time between a week and a fortnight, express it by the phrase of *a week* or *NINE DAYS*. In the East and the West, in the South, and I rather think in the direct North, the idiom runs to *a week* or *TEN days*. And, wherefore *ten* days in pre-

ference to NINE? Surely we have as much reason to limit, as others have to extend the interval. I believe this is a remarkable test by which the identity of a man's Salopian birth may be truly ascertained. Let my doubtful readers, try whether this peculiarity be not entirely local, and they will find, as the writer has proved in repeated instances, that a Shropshire person always circumscribes the period in question to NINE *days*.

NINE EYES, *s.* The *Ammocætes branchialis* of Naturalists, so called from having a number of spiracles on each side, or branchial orifices in a lateral groove. Found profusely in the Ledwick brook near Ludlow.

NINETED, *part. past*; a low term used in a perverse sense, descriptive of one versed at an early age in evil practices. Ex. "A *nineted* youth," a youngster who is wicked and wilful.

NINETING, *s.* a threshing, castigation. Ex. "A good *nineting*." Referable to the preceding: each of them corrupted from *anoint*.

NISGAL, *s.* the youngest pig in a litter.

NOBLER, *s.* a man whose duty it is to remind inattentive youths in church, of their misbehaviour, by "*nobling*" them, or hitting them on the head with a wand carried for that purpose. Teut. *knodsen*, *tundere*?

NODDIE, *s.* a foolish fellow; when characterizing such an one still more contemptuously, he is called a *neddy*. Ex. "Such a *noddie* as him." Fr. *nauden*, a *noddie*, Cotgr. Ital. *pisellore*, a *noddie*. Florio's *Worlde of Wordes*. Shakspeare. Grose. Moore.

NOGS, *s.* hemp. A. Sax. *cnotta*, *nodus*?

NOGGEN, *s.* any garment soever made of the above material.

NOGLER, *s.* a bungler. A writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* thinks the etymology of the word to be this.

What we call an *higler* was once written an *hagler*, and so you will find it in Dr Fuller's *Worthies*, p. 27. Now, an *hagler* is very easily turned into a *nagler*, and with a open a *nogler*.

**NONE**, *adj.* This is often used by a periphrasis to signify not any time, as "I stopp'd *none* at Soesbury," for, I staid no time at Shrewsbury.

**NOR**; in composition, or in connexion with the name of a place means *new*, from the Islandic. (See Halder-son, and Verel. in Indic.) *nyr*, novus. Thus we have in Shropshire; **NORTON**, or the New Town: **WENCH-NOR**, or the new habitation, from the A. Sax. *Wun-nesse*, habitatio: *wunian*, habitare.

**NOTHER**, *adj.* for another, by aphæresis.

**NOPE**, *s.* a bullfinch. *Loxia pyrrhula* of Linnæus. Ex. "The *Nope's* a deuced mischievous bird."

**NORN**, *adj.* neither. Ex. "*Norn* on em." As often "*nairn* on em."

**NOSE**, *v.* to smell. Ex. "I *nosed* it afore it cummed on the table." S. Goth. *nosa*, flare necnon rostro pertentare, ut solent animalia. Isl. *niosa*, speculari.

**NOW**, *adv.* by an ellipse this is generally understood. Ex. "Between and then."

**NUB**, *s.* a point, projection. Ex. "A *nub* of the loaf." Teut. *knobbel*, tuber.

**NURLED**, *adj.* 1. twisted, ribbed. A goldsmith's term; scarcely Salopian.

**NURLY**, *adj.* 1. ill-tempered. 2. warped, knotty. Germ. *knurren*, stridere. Teut. *knorren*, grunnire.

**NUVITOUS**, *adj.* nutritious. (Corve Dale.)





when short receives the sound of double *o* : thus cord becomes *oord* ; (Teut. *koords*, funis.)

“Thanne knyghtis kittiden awei the *oordis* of the boot, and suffriden it to falle awei.”

*The Dedis of Apostles*, ch. xxvii.

Short *o* is converted into *au* and *ou*, especially when followed by *l*, when the liquid is suppressed : thus we hear *baut*, for bolt : *caut* for colt : *oud* for old : *foud* for fold : *toud* for told, &c.

It is also changed into short *a* ; as *drap* for drop : *hally-bush*, for holly-bush : *crap* for crop. Many Saxon words have been adopted by us with *o* substituted for the more correct *a*.

It also takes in its pronunciation the sound of *eo*, as *ceow* for cow : *pleow* for plough : *neow* for now.

When followed by *g* it is most commonly converted into *a*, as *lang* for long : *strang* for strong : *amang* for among, and *wrang* for wrong, as in the Seuvyn Sages,

Lordinges, he said, lokes *omang* yow.

v. 3659, 3787.

If thou tald a *wrang* resown.

id. v. 3685.

Long *o* has frequently the sound of short *u*, as *struo* for strove : *pruo*, for prove : *muo* for move.

Or : this diphthong is perpetually transmuted into long *i*, as in *spile* for spoil : *mile*, for moil : *nise*, for noise ; *bile* for boil : " *sore as a bile.*"

And there was a begger Lazarus by name: that laye at hise gate ful of *bilis*, and coueytide to be fulfilled of the crummys that fellen down fro the riche mannes boorde: and no man gaf to him, but houndis camen and likkiden hise *bylis*.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, Luke ch. xvi.

Oo is narrowed into long *u*, as *gus* for goose : *nuse* for noose : and sometimes changed into short *u*, as *spuntle* for spoonful ; *ruf*, for roof ; *crucket*, for crooked ; *bruk*, for brook ; *pruf*, for proof. Or like *ue*, as in the words, *tuke*, *dure*, *flure*, for took, door, (A. Sax. *dure*; Teut. *thur*; Belg. *deure*, porta,) floor : again, *ore* takes a similar sound in more, whore, sore, where the lower classes say mure, hure, (Teut. *huere*; A. Sax. *hure*, scorta) suir.

Ou, when followed by *ght* drops the *gh*, as in *out* for ought ; *fout* for fought : *drou*t for drought. And is changed into *o*, as *yores* for yours.

Oy, takes the sound of *i* short, as in *biy* for boy : *jiyful* for joyful : *emply* for employ : *destry* for destroy : the practice has been derived from an early time, as our ancient poets will testify. Chaucer perpetually gives us a like termination. (See *Canterbury Tales*, v. 1332, 17110, &c. *Dreme*, v. 1605, &c.)

OBITCH'S COWT ; *phr.* " FORTY SA ONE LIKE OBITCH'S COWT." The origin of this common phrase has heretofore lurked in impenetrable obscurity. There exists another simile amongst us, of like import ; and whether Obitch or Rhoden was the real owner of the horse in question is a matter much contested. We will not investigate that point now, but illustrate the history of Obitch by a legendary account which has been taken down from the lips of a nurse. She gathered her lore from Melverly her birth-place, and coming from so unfrequently visited a quarter, where little corruption

has flowed into the language, we may be allowed to receive the history following as a genuine record of the animal's marvellous qualities. To write, however, without figure, the tale does appear to have taken its birth from tradition: and if my reader wishes to know how it first received its present form, and he will implicitly believe conjecture, I start one for his edification. It is one of those 'very probable' ones which Antiquaries love to produce. We are told in the third book of Bede, that not long after the death of Oswald, which we have presumed happened at Maesbrook in the immediate neighbourhood to Melverly, a certain traveller passing by the spot on horseback, found his beast suddenly grow weary, hang his head, and foaming at the mouth, with apparently much pain, fell to the earth. The rider leapt off his back, and having made himself a kind of bed, awaited the hour which should either witness his beast's recovery, or oblige him to leave him behind as dead. Whilst the horse lay in this unhappy condition, writhing with pain, he fortunately rolled himself over, and touched the place where King Oswald had died. In an instant, his pains left him; and as horses are wont, after fatigue, he turned himself on his side, and got up, and then like one in perfect health, immediately began to graze. The sagacious owner, conceived that the spot was sacred, and having marked it narrowly, remounted his horse and proceeded to an inn. When he had come thither he beheld a damsel afflicted with paralysis; and her friends lamenting to him the disorder under which she suffered, it occurred to him to narrate the miraculous cure which had so recently been effected on his horse. What so natural as to expect that the same results would await the maiden? She was forthwith placed in a sledge, and brought to the scene of this

marvellous cure. A gentle sleep fell upon her, and when she awoke, feeling herself healed, she asked for water with which she washed her face; she adjusted her hair, wrapped up her head, and returned home on foot. To this Hagiological legend may be traced the virtues of OBITCH'S COLT, for the latter fable is in some parts so like the former, that it appears manifestly to have arisen out of it. By degrees the history became distorted, and Oswald merged into the less euphonous name of Obitch. We will now have the present version. "There wuz wunst a läädý dhed, un a burrieden her in her jewels. An there wuz a mon, a callen him *Obitch*, as went to her grave i' th' dhéad o' the niht and taked away her jewels off her: and ivir ater he was always hainted by a cowt. They callen the plaice Cutberry Hollow where he used to meet lest a shulden see the coult, and the läädý riding on him. I conno say that I gie credit to sich ear things, o' folks coming agen like: but a sen the auld mon had niver no pace ater: a wuz sadly troubled i his yed, and mitherd. The ould mon lived at one time at Leighton Hathe, as is clos by Fitz, where one Parson H . . . . . praches. Obitch used to say, as a tellen me, that he seed the cowt as nataral as ony Christian, and he used to get up clos agen the style for him to get up a top uv his back, and at last the coult growed so bould, that the folks sidden him in the day time. When I lived at Melverly they usen to say if ivir ony body was a gween to be married, if a wuz any thin aged like, "*her wuz as ould as Obitch's Coult, forty sa one.*"

ODDS, *v.* to fit, make even. Ex. "*Odds this bhwoärd.*" A carpenter's term. This is not a *lucus*, as the sound in connexion with the meaning imports, but a word legitimately taken from the C. Brit. *addasu*, aptare.

**OEETS**, *adv.* in comparison of. Ex. "Mrs Smith's gownd is dear *oeets* as thian."

**OFF**, *adv.* The substitution of the adverb's pronunciation for that of the preposition, is highly characteristic of Salopians. Even among those, whose station would lead us to think they had been better taught, this perversion is very general; and it is the means of discovering a native of Shropshire with as much certainty as by his forgetfulness of aspirates. Ex. "I heard it *off* Mr Chose." "I bought it *off* Mr Eddowes."

**OGISTRY**, *s.* Oswestry, co. Salop.

**OMBER**, *s.* a hammer; from which word it is a vile corruption.

**OMMOST**, *adv.* almost. This and the preceding vitiation are explained under vocal mutations of *a* into *o*, and the reverse.

**ON**; prefix. In composition constantly employed instead of *un*; and in words of pure Saxon origin not incorrectly so used. The PROMP. PARV. has *onclene*, *oncertayne*, *onhappy*.

**ONBEAR**, *v.* to uncover. A word applied to the opening of a lime or stone quarry. Ex. "*Onbear* so many yards." I suppose it is resolvable into the A. Sax. *on*, and *aberian*, *nudare*.

**ONBEARING** *s.* the *faigh*, or that particular deposit which lies nearest any material about to be worked. Ex. "There's a dhel uv *onbearing*."

**ONT**, *v.* will not. Ex. "I *ont* do it." Thus perverted from the regular form; *will not*, *w'ont*, *'ont*.

**OONT**, **WOONT**, **WUNHT**, *s.* a mole. A word not peculiar to Salopians, being met with in some of our early writers, though from what nation it became engrafted on our dialect, it is difficult to ascertain.

A moul or *woont* enclosed in an earthen pot, if you set then the powder of brimstone on fire, she will call other Moles or *wonts* to helpe her with a very mourning voice.

LUPTON'S *Thousand Notable Things*.



**OONT-KETCHER**, *s.* a man whose employment lies in destroying the above vermin; discharging the same honorable functions as "a rot-ketcher."

**ORISE**, *v.* to plane, make smooth. A joiner *orises* a board, that is, he takes off the *aruchedd* (C. Brit.) the outside, surface.

From thair *orising* stok cuttit quhill thay be.

*Colkelbie Sow.*

**ORL**, *s.* the alder. Exclusively confined to the Herefordshire side. Belg. *erlenbaum*; Fr. *aulne*, alnus.

**ORNARY**, *s.* 1. a table d'hote, or open dinner. Ex. "Market ornary." 2. *adj.* a corruption from ordinary, inferior. Ex. "Mighty *ornary* mate." "A *ornary* looking homan."

**ORTS**, *s.* leavings, fragments, refuse meat. Ex. "Eat up your *orts*." This word may be looked upon as one of good quality, furnished through the several cognate tongues to us as follows. S. Goth. *ort*; Alam. Germ. *ort*; C. Brit. *or*; A. Sax. *ord*; Teut. *oort*, *ort*, extremitas. With these synonyms before me, I cannot deem it a perversion of *over*. *Towards* is most commonly pronounced by the vulgar *to'arts*; and a similar licence in the word before us, would convert *over* into *oerts* and thence into *orts*. But the word is of better authority, and occurs in the PROMP. PARV. *Ortys*, THE RELEFE OF MANNYS METE, in fact, the *outsides*. (See HOAR STONE, p. 216.)

Some slender *ort* of his remainder.

*Timon of Athens*, iv. 3.

The fractions of her faith *orts* of her love.

*Troil. and Cressida*, v. 2.

Come, Goody, stop your humdrum wheel,

Sweep up your *orts*, and get your hat.

BLOOMFIELD.

**OUT AT LEY**, *phr.* When cattle or horses are feeding in hired pastures they are said to be *out at ley*.

**OUT CAST**, *s.* the overplus gained by malsters between

a bushel of barley, and the same when converted into malt. PROMP. PARV. OWTECASTE, OR REFUSE OF CORN.

OUSE, OOZE, *s.* a nooze: 'by aphæresis. Ex. "A running *ouze*."

OUTS, *phr.* A common formula for expressing contempt for any individual who is without the essential qualifications which constitute a gentleman. Ex. "Him! a gentleman! a gentleman with *three outs*, neither wit, money, or manners." Which is as much as to infer, he is *without* all.

OVERGOOD, O'ERGOOD, *adj.* An epithet applied in an uncharitable spirit, to such as are more strict in their living than the generality. Ex. "*O'ergood* by one half." Teut. *ouer-good*, perbonus.

OVER THE LEFT; *phr.* a metaphor by which one who speaks by figure is reprov'd. Ex. "Ah! that's *over the left*."

OVERGET, *v.* to recover from; or as the Cornavii more commonly say, *get over*. Ex. "He unnud *overget* this bout I reckon."

OVER RUN, *v.* to leave unfinished, to decamp. Ex. "He's *over run* his work."

OWLER, *s.* the alder: more frequently called the *Wollur* or *Wuller*: which see.

OWLERT, *s.* the owl, generically speaking. This ominous bird is known by us under the several names of *Owl*, *Owlert*, *Hullert*, *Hullat*, *Howlat*, *Wullat*, &c., which respectively claim affinity with the Isl. *ugla*; Dan. *ugle*; Alam. *wuile*; Teut. *gal*; Belg. *uyl*; Fr. *hulote*; Sp. *autilla*, &c. *ulula*, noctua.

OWNDER, *s.* the evening. Ex. "To'ert to-morrow *ownder*." "*I th' ownder*." A word in general acceptation on the banks of the Severn, betwixt Shrewsbury and Bridgenorth, and now almost confined to that part of the county. The Rev. J. Rocke of Clungunford, informs the author in a very interesting communication concerning the words

current among the lower classes in his neighbourhood, that about thirty years ago, the term *ownder* was well understood in his vicinity, but at present it is intelligible only to the older portion of the people. This is another, amongst the numerous proofs which have presented themselves whilst arranging these pages, of the truth of Horace's remarks,

Multa renascentur, quæ jam cadere: cadentque,  
Quæ nunc sunt in honore vocabula.

and the fact should stimulate observers in other counties to record these fleeting memorials of the language spoken by their forefathers.

Few words have been more thoroughly 'shaken' by Etymologists than that under present discussion. Jamieson has left little for those who come after him, to perform. It is not my intention to follow him through his learned meanderings, and as the Scotch interpretation of the term assigns it to a different period of the day from our own, it would not be subservient to our purpose. I shall content myself with the insertion of a few synonyms which by their origin are closely connected with the word in question. M. Goth. *andei*, finis. Franc. Alaman. *andanakti*, initium noctis. Germ. Teut. *abend*; A. Sax. *aſen*; Belg. *avond*; Dan. *aften*; Isl. *aftan*; Cimb. *abtan*, vespera. Scotch. *aunder*. *Oandurth*. Tim Bobbin.

OWNER, *s.* the proprietor of a barge. An *Owner* is a sort of Barge Captain, and is looked upon, relatively speaking, with as much respect as the Captain is by his sailors. We hear of "*Owner* Lloyd; *Owner* Doughty, &c."





**PAIR O' BEDSTEADS**, *phr.* the frame on which a bed is placed, is by the vulgar invariably thus designated, as the upper classes say *a pair of stairs*.

**PASSER**, *s.* a gimblet, or small auger: termed also a *nail passer*. **PROMP.**

**PARV.** has, a *Persoure*, terebrum.

**FR.** *persoir*, a piercer, Cotgr.

**PATTUN**, Pattinton, county Salop; the *un* is always pronounced nasally.

**PAUL-WINDLAS**, *s.* a small windlass which is used to raise or lower the mast of a barge, placed on the poop of the vessel.

**PAY**, *v.* to beat, chastise. **C. Brit.** *payan*; **Gr.** *παιω*, verberare. **Shakspeare.**

He *paid* good Robin back and side.

**RITSON'S** *Robin Hood*, vol. i. p. 102.

I fear you'll both be *paid*.

*id.* p. 105.

**PAYL**, *v.* correlative with the preceding. **Belg.** *pylon*; **Isl.** *piaka*, tundere.

**PAYS**, *s.* peas. **Ex.** "*Pay-hulls*."

**PEASON**, *s.* as often pronounced *passum*; in the primary sense the word denotes peas, but it is rarely used with this restriction. The term is correct enough, if the

example of an early Lexicographer avails anything for its vindication.

*Peason* with the huskes are windie and hurtful, but their huskes being taken off, *peason* are good enough.

PURFORE'S *Dictionarie*.

Gerard in his Herbal uses the word indiscriminately with *peas*. (See Book ii. c. 510.) Yet our more general application understands it to mean, in the secondary sense, the straw of peas; *peason*, *pessum*, quasi, *peshaulm*, *peas-halm*. A. Sax. *pisa*; C. Brit. *pyson*; Gr. *πισον*, *pisa*. Ital. *piselli*, all manner of small *peason*; Florio. Fr. *pois*, *peason*. Cotgr.

**PEART**, *adj.* lively, well. Ex. "The missis bin pretty *peart*." This is undoubtedly a perversion of *pert*, by epenthesis, and comes from the C. Brit. *pert*, which is formed of *berth*, the *b* by use being changed into *p*, and though more extended in its signification than the usual force we give to *pert*, will scarcely justify the strained meaning Salopians give to the word.

**PECKLED**, *adj.* speckled, spotted. By aphæresis for the correct word. Teut. *speckelen*, *variogare*.

**PEG**, *v.* to punish with the fist. It may be remarked here, once for all, that none of these various words which imply castigation are local and dialectical. One or other of them occurs in all the Glossaries written by my predecessors, and as yet I am ignorant of any one we may claim exclusively. My object in introducing them in these pages is to shew what universal acceptance they have obtained, so much so, that as far as their derivation can shew, they may be regarded not as tralatitious even, or neological, but as received, and legitimate words. Indeed, the instance under review seems to have supplied the upper classes with a metaphor that is often applied to the unruly and conceited. We hear of the prudence of taking such an one "*down a peg*," which has very much the same force as *pegging him*, or as "*pegging it into*

him," Παράσσειν αὐτον, as the Greeks say, or in plain language, "make him feel."

**PREWIT**, *s.* the common Thick knee; *Œdicnemus* of Jernyns: so called by us in consequence of the peculiar cry this bird utters. (See **TWOWIT**.)

**PEGGY WHITE THROAT**, *s.* there is at present a difficulty in identifying this bird with its correspondent name in the Linnæan nomenclature.

**PELE**, *s.* an instrument used by bakers. Lat. Barb. *pala*, instrumentum coquinarium, batillum. Du Cange.

A doz trogh, and a *pele*.

*Tournament of Tottenham*, v. 124.

**PEN, PENS, PENFEATHER**, *s.* the roots of feathers in poultry; a cook complains that the fowl she is plucking is "full of pens." Fr. *penne*, a quill, or hard feather, *a penn-feather*, Cotgrave. C. Brit. Bret. Armor. *pen*, caput, initium.

**PENNY MEASURE**, *s.* a clay lying above the Penny Stone, from which coarse earthenware is manufactured.

**PENNY STONE**, *s.* a measure of iron stone about nine yards thick. The best iron ore which Shropshire produces.

**PERISHED**, *part. past*; by this word farmers describe the peculiar condition of their young crops, when there has been a wet winter. Ex. "Whod o th' wet a th' land, un altogether, the weats welly *perished*."

**PHEG**, *s.* a coarse long grass, which affords little if any nourishment to cattle, so that rustics say, "the bwes un nivr ha any flesh atop on their bwons, when un sich *phog* as that to ate." The *Cynosurus Cristatus* of botanists.

**PHEGGY**, *adj.* land which has a superabundant crop of *Phog*.

**PICKLE**, *v.* to subject wheat to that particular process of steeping in salt and water, which is necessary to check the *uredo festida*. (See **HERRIN** and **SMUT**.)

**PIDLING**, *adj.* dainty, small, trifling. Ex. "My pig beänt but a *pidling* ater." Here is a word employed in a

manner which shews to us with what singular felicity it has been chosen. For presuming that Adrian Junius is correct, *Piddle* means, to eat daintily, to feed nicely and delicately. Coming from the C. Brit. *Bwytta*, comedere, *B* and *P* being of like power in that tongue. It is, moreover, a dictionary word; see Johnson.

PIEFINCH, *s.* the chaffinch; *Fringilla caelebs* of Naturalists.

PIG'S PARSNIP, *s.* the common cow parsnip; hogweed; the *Heracleum Sphondylium*, of Linnæus.

PIK, *s.* a pick-axe. Teut. *picks*, ligo.

And with the *pyk* putte down.

P. PLOUHMANN, 170.

PIK-AXE, *s.* a mattock used by agricultural labourers; it is generally pointed at one end of the head and broad at the other; this being termed the *pain* end, and that the *square*. Germ. *pickel-axt*, *ascia* in cuspidem designens.

PIK-IRON, *s.* the pointed end of an anvil.

PIKE, *s.* a pick-axe. In the mining districts the final *e* is invariably sounded, and by prosthesis, the word becomes long. Teut. *picks*, *bipalium*, ligo.

PIKE, *v.* to pick. Unwittingly the lower orders elongate this monosyllabic verb from good authority. M. Goth. S. Goth. Isl. Swed. *picka*; Dan. *picks*; Teut. Belg. *picken*; A. Sax. *pycan*; Fr. *piquer*; Ital. *piccare*; Span. *picar*, *pincere*. Chaucer, Gower, Lyndsay.

*Pykede* aweye the wedes.

P. PLOUHMANN, 134.

Wher he were othe feld *pychoynde* stake.

*id.*

PIKES, *s.* short 'butts' which fill up; or make up for the irregularity caused by hedges not running parallel.

PIKEL, *s.* a hayfork. It is a word in universal use amongst all classes in Shropshire: and is fairly referable to the preceding words, to which may be added as forming

a closer affinity with the present, the C. Brit. *piccol*, jaculum, and the Germ. *pickel*, cœlum, graphium, scalprum, et quodvis instrumentum ferreum ad fodiendum aut fodicandum factum. Ex. "Goà and git mizzhurd for a *pitel*;" applied to a tall and lazy person.

**PIKELET**, *s.* a small indigestible circular piece of half baked dough, which being covered with butter is esteemed dainty tea table fare.

**PILE**, *v.* to detach the *piles* from barley.

**PILING IRONS**, *s.* 1. a heavy iron instrument used to break the beard from barley. Ex. "Sumtimes the thrashall unna tak one hofe o' the *piles* of, and then a bin obleeged to use the *piling* iron yo sin." 2. instruments used to take off bark from newly fallen trees.

**PILL**, **PELL**, *v.* to peel. Ex. "*Pilling* the crust off the loäf." Dan. *pille*; A. Sax. *pilan*; Teut. Belg. *pollen*; C. Brit. *pilio*; Fr. *peler*; Span. *pelar*, decorticare, glabrare. Cotgrave has *poiler*, to *pill*. Percy's Reliques.

Quhat Justice sauld! what *pilling* of the pure!

MONTGOMERY'S *Sonnets*.

And *pyllid* the barke even of hys face  
With her commaundements ten.

*Ane ballet*, in LAING'S *Collection of Scotch Poetry*.

**PINK STERN**, *s.* a very narrow boat, chiefly used by fishermen on the river Severn. Belg. *pinkge*. Teut. A. Sax. *pink*; Fr. *pinque*, navis speculatoria.

**PINNOCKS**, *s.* fine clothes. Ex. "My dahter nivir wears any fine *pinnocks*, and yo needna fear taking on her." C. Brit. *piner*, a garment. *Pinge*, finely dress'd.

**PINSON**, *s.* pincers. Ex. "A pair of *pinson*." Were we ambitious of referring our construction to the Greek, we ought to claim this as a regular form of the dual. Teut. *pinasse*, volsella. Palsgrave; *Payre of Pinsons*, pincees. *Pynsons* of yrone, estriquooyer.

**PIPE DRINK**, *s.* a weak, sparkling fresh ale, fit for smokers, and for no one else, to drink. Ex. "*Good pipe drink*, lad."



PIPS, *s. pl.* used in all the senses given by Forby as current in Norfolk.

1. seeds of fruit. Ex. "Pips of an orange."
2. spots on playing cards. Ex. "Count thé *pips*."
3. flowers growing in a raceme. Ex. "Cowslip *pips*."

PISSANNAT, *s.* the common ant. The original word has in this instance become changed by epenthesis. Pismire is doubtless the best term. The A. Sax. furnishes us with *æmott* and *myra*; the Belg. with *pis-emme*, formica, out of which the provincialism has arisen.

PITCHING AXE, *s.* an axe weighing from six to seven pounds and employed in felling timber.

PITTHEB, *v.* to go softly, fidget about. A. Sax. *petthian*, *callen facere*, *conculcare*.

PIT WOOD, *s.* wood which is thus called generally runs from three feet six inches to four feet in length, and is very thick. It is used for supporting the roof of a coal pit.

PIZE, PIZY, *adj.* fretful, peevish, ill-tempered. Ex. "Th' oud homan's grow'd mighty *pizy*: her's a *pize* ode yarb."

PLACK, *s.* 1. a portion of 'ground,' some part allotted from a larger quantity. Ex. "A *plack* o' cabbages." "A *plack* o' tatars." Teut. *placks*, *plaga*, *spatium terræ*. Hence has sprung the secondary meaning, 2. an assigned labour, task, employment. Ex. "When I've done o' my present *plack*, I reckon I shall tak to the dicing agen."

PLASH, *s.* a piece of water. The *Flash* near the town of Shrewsbury is so called from the Severn forming a kind of lake there. Teut. *plasch*, *palus*. Palsgrave; *Plasche* of a water, flacquet.

PLAY, *v.* not to work. Hence a play day amongst colliers is "the Monday after the reck'ning." Ex. "My mon's in meety poor get Sir, 'a has but half a turn, an' 'a play'n three days i' th' wik."

**PLEACH**, *v.* to intertwine, or lay down, as a hedge. This term is now admitted into dictionaries, and occurs for three or four generations back in Shropshire leases. Shakspeare has sanctioned its use in three places. Gr. πλέκω; Fr. *plessor*, to thicken a hedge, or cover a wall by *plashing*. Cotgr. *Pleissicum*, domus suburbana. (Du Cange.)

**PLOUGH IRON**, *s.* the share of a plough. Close to the Isl. *plougjern*, vomer.

**PLOUGH PADDLE**, *s.* a small hatchet which usually accompanies a plough, for the purpose of detaching whatever unnecessarily adheres to the *shield-board*.

**PLOWDEN, THE CASE IS ALTERED QUOTH**, *phr.* This phrase which originated through the unexpected decisions given by the celebrated Judge Plowden has continued current amongst us since his time. It is almost superfluous to say that he was born in Shropshire. Having applied himself first to physic and then to law, he became reader in the Middle Temple. In the reign of Mary he was called to the degree of Serjeant, but being a Roman Catholic he obtained no preferment under Elizabeth. His commentaries or reports remain a splendid monument of his professional learning. "*The case is altered quoth Plowden*," is yet in the mouths of his countrymen; though, indeed, with many the origin of the phrase is unknown, and with many more it has been quite changed, and we hear them say instead "*the case is altered said Floro*."

To what base uses we may return, Horatio!  
Why may not imagination trace the noble dust of  
Alexander, till he find it stopping a bung-hole.

**PLUSHES**, *s.* thin hoops which hold a besom together. Swed. *plös*, *assumentum transversum*? Teut. *ployen*; Fr. *ployer*, *plicare*?

**POL-EVIL**, *s.* a disorder incidental to horses, an eruption on the neck and ears. Teut. *pol*, caput; and *euel*, morbus.

**POPLAIN**, *s.* the common poplar tree.

POSH, *v.* to push. Chaucer uses *posse*, to push. (See Legend of Good Women, v. 2409.) Fr. *pousser*; Sp. *pujar*; Ital. *bussare*, *pulsare*.

I was *poshed* on every side.

ROMANCE OF THE ROSE, v. 4624.

POSH, *s.* a great quantity. Ex. "The wäater com'd all of a *posh*." "A grate *posh* o' wäater."

POTCH, *v.* to pierce, puncture. Ex. "*Potched* his finger i' my eye." "*Potched* the pikel in his leg i' the quern harrast." Isl. *pota*, acu pungere. Swed. *pöta*; Fr. *pocher*, digito vel instrumento fodicare.

I'll *potch* at him some way.

*Coriolanus*, i. 10.

POTHERY, *adj.* hot, close. Ex. "*Pothery* weather." Strictly speaking this is not a provincialism; any more than is the phrase of "being all in a *pother*." Fr. *poudre*?

POUK, *s.* a pimple; but more commonly a sty in the eye. Germ. Teut. *pock*; A. Sax. *poč*; Belg. *pocken*, pustula.

Ne for no *poust* pestilence.

P. PLOUHMANN.

POUK-LADEN, *part. past*; bewitched, fairy-led; or to use the precise definition given by my informant, "led you dunna know whire, an conna remeddy yoursilf." Though this rendering be not so full and figurative as that of the immortal bard, it may serve to convey our Salopian meaning just as adequately. The reader shall, however, have both, and from the two he cannot fail escaping being placed in such a dilemma, at least as far as his comprehension of the term is concerned.

I'll follow you, I'll lead you about a round,

Through bog, through bush, through brake, through brier:

Sometime a horse I'll be, sometime a hound,

A hog, a headless bear, sometime a fire;

And neigh, and bark, and grunt, and roar, and burn,

Like horse, hound, hog, bear, fire, at every turn.

*Midsummer Night's Dreame*, iii. 1.

Isl. *puki*; C. Brit. *pwca*, malus demon. In Guernsey, the Cromlechs are called Poquelays, or places of the evil demon.

Ne nonne helle-*pouke*.

P. PLOUHMANN.

I wis, sere kyng—quod Ser Fouke,—  
I wene that knyght was a pouke.

R. COER DE LION, v. 566.

He is no man, he is a pouke.

*id.* v. 4326, and v. 5722.

**POUND STONE**, *s.* a term applied by colliers to a part of their work.

**POUSE**, *s.* must, refuse in making cider or perry. C. Brit. *puyo*; Teut. *polssen*; Fr. *poussen*, *poulsier*. (See Cotgrave and Menage under *Pous*.)

**POVEY'S FOOT**, *phr.* "Wos and wos like *Povey's foot*."

It would be vain to search for other information regarding this simile, than in conjecture; it is evidently one of those vulgar comparisons which have been struck off from the circumstance of some one bearing that name, invariably answering all enquirers that he was "worse and worse." Occasionally varied, to "as large as *Povey's foot*."

**POWER**, *s.* quantity. Under the brass effigy of Edmund Geste, Bishop of Salisbury, who died 1578, it is recorded that among his bequests, "*ingentem optimorum librorum vim quantum vix una capere Bibliotheca potest studiosorum usui destinavit*:" but the idiom is as old as Homer. See Steph. Thesaur. vol. i. p. 731.

**PRICK**, *s.* a prop used either to support the shafts of a cart, or to relieve a horse from its weight, when resting in an ascent; from being pointed at one end with iron, it gains readier entrance into the ground, and prevents the cart from going backwards. Isl. *prikka*; A. Sax. *priccian*; Teut. *prickelen*; Swed. *pricka*; Dan. *prikker*, *pungere*.

**PRILL**, *s.* 1. a small stream of water. Ex. "A lickle *prill* o' waiter." (Church Stretton.) 2. the back water of a mill stream. (Corve Dale.)

**PRINCIPAL**, *s.* the corner posts of a house, tenoned into the ground plates below, and into the beams of the roof. Bailey, Teut. *principael*, *principalis*.

Theyr housyng vnkept wynd and water tyght,  
 Letyng the *pryncypals* rot down ryght.  
*The Hye Way to the Spytel Hous*, v. 532.

PRINK, *v.* to look at, gaze upon, as a girl does at herself in a glass. Teut. *pronken*, trahere vultum.

Ys Peers in this place quath ich, and he *preynkte* upon me.  
 P. PLOUHMANN, 340.

PRISE, *v.* to force open, raise up forcibly as by means of a lever. Ex. "To *prise* a lock." Fr. *presser*.

PRODIGAL, *adj.* proud. Ex. "A *prodigal* chap;" and on the same principle such an one is remarked for his *prodigality*. Here is a wresting from the right meaning with a vengeance.

PROKE, *v.* to poke or stir a fire. Ex. "*Proke* out the ees;" by epenthesis.

PROKER, *s.* a poker. Teut. Fris. Sicamb. Holl. Fland. *poke*, pugio.

PROSPERATION, *s.* prosperity. It is almost impossible to convey to a reader's ears the peculiar euphony of the penultimate. My brother burgesses of the ancient town of Much Wenlock can better understand the pronunciation than most other natives of the county, as they have under the old regime been permitted to drink out of the mace, success to the municipal interests, in this form :

Prosperation  
 To the Corporation

PROUD-TAILOR, *s.* the goldfinch; *Fringilla Carduelis* of JENYNS.

PUCK, *pret.* of *v.* to pick. Ex. "Whern 'e think a *puck* her up?"

PUCKLE, *s.* a pimple, or breaking out. Teut. *puckele*, pustula.

PUMPLE, *s.* a pustule. C. Brit. *pumppl*; Fr. *pompette*; Gr. *πομφόλυξ*, pustula.

PUMPTIALLY, *adv.* punctually. Ex. "*Pumptially* i' th' ownder."

PUNK, *s.* touch wood. A. Sax. *spongea*, spongia?

PUNGER, *v.* to sponge upon. Ex. "A *pungering* fellow."

This aphæretical form leads me to think the preceding derivation may not be far from right.

PUNN, *v.* 1. to pound, bruise. Ex. "*Punned* in a mortar." A. Sax. *punian*, conterere. Hence the pugilistic term, *punished*. Northamptonshire, *punn*.

The green leaves of the Elder, *pounded* with Deeres suet or Bulls tallow, are good to be laid to hot swellings and tumors, and doe asswage the pain of the gout.

GERARD'S *Herbal*, p. 1423.

He would *pun* thee into shivers with his fist, as a sailor breaks a biscuit.

*Troil. and Cressida*, ii. 1.

2. to beat or rap at a door. Ex. "Somebody *punning* agen the wall." See Nares.

PURGY, *adj.* proud, coxcomical, testy. Ex. "Billy's a *purgy* dog."

PURGATORY, *s.* the pit grate of a kitchen fire place; by falling through which the ashes become *purer*. A. Sax. *pur*, purus. C. Brit. Arm. *purden*, *purgatorio*. These and several synonyms are referable to the Gr.  $\pi\upsilon\rho$ .

PUTCHIN, *s.* a wicker basket in which eels or other fresh water fish are taken in running streams. Ir. *pucan*, marsupium? C. Brit. *pontriel*, a dung-pot or basket made with rods and rushes. Fr. *puit*, puteus.

PUT OVER, *v.* to recover from illness. Ex. "He wunna *put* this turn *o'er*."





QUARREL, *s.* a stone quarry. C. Brit. *coarel*, id.

QUARRY, *s.* a small square tile chiefly used for kitchen floors. Fr. *quarreau*, *quadrula*.

QUARTER WITH, *v.* to lodge with. Ex. "Her *quarters* with her mother."

QUERK, *s.* the clock of a stocking.

QUERN, *s.* corn. Ex. "The *quern* harrast." This pronunciation has not improbably been acquired from the A. Sax. *coorn*, *mola*.

QUEST, *s.* an inquest. Ex. "They hanned had the crown-er's *quest* yit." It is superfluous to say that this is not peculiar to us, as it may be heard in all counties throughout England. In our own we hear of the *quest*, for the *inquest*: *Crown-er's quest*, for Coroner's inquest: *Crown-er's law*, for Coroner's law: to *crown a man*, for the Coroner holding an inquest. "He inna *crowned yet*;" the jury has not been impaneled. P. Langtoft.

What lawful *quest* have giv'n their verdict up.  
*Rich.* III. i. 4.

QUICK, *s.* either as a noun or adjectively. Ex. "A *quick* hedge:" and verbally used, as "to *quick* a hedge," which implies to plant it with quick. Teut. *quick-haeghe*, *sepes viva*. *Mespilus Oxyacantha* of Smith's Eng. Flora.

QUILE, *s.* a hay cock. Fr. *cuilis*, recolte de sbiens de la terre en general. Roquefort.

QUILE, *v.* to cock hay. Fr. *cueillir*.

QUILT, *v.* to punish, castigate. Teut. *quellen*, molestare?

QUINE, *s.* the corner of a building. Fr. *coigne*.

QUININ, QUEENEN, *s.* a fine-flavoured table apple, which grows abundantly in the neighbourhood of Ludlow, but is not so well known in other parts of the county.

QUISE, *s.* the common wood-pigeon. *Columba oenas*, or the stock dove of Jenyns.

QUISES NECK, *s.* a strata among the coal measures which is formed of 'Basses' and indurated earth.

QUISSHON, *s.* a cushion. This must clearly be the early English form of the word.

With dossours, and *queschyns*.

THE AWNTYRS OF ARTHURE.

And doune she set her by him on a stone  
Of jasper, upon a *quissen* of gold ybete.

*id.* ii. 490.

Fetche forth a chayre, and a *quission*.

SYR ISENBRAS, v. 571.

And with that word, he for a *quissen* ran.

*Troil. and Cress.* vi. 3. v. 966.

QUIXON, *s.* a quicksand.

QUORMIRE, *s.* a quagmire. A. Sax. *cwacian*; Lat. *quatio*;

Arm. *guac*, tener, mollis?

QUOKE, the old *pret.* of verb to quake; as in like manner we say *shoke* and *toke*, for shook and took.

Under the hors feet it *quoke*

R. COER DE LION, v. 4441.

They seten style and sore *quook*.

*id.* v. 3471.







when followed by *s* is often dropped, the *s* in such cases being doubled; thus *curses* is changed into *cusses*, and *cursed* into *cust*; *durst not* into *dust not*; *thirst* into *thist*; *horses* into *hosses*; *mercer* into *messer*; the *e* retaining the original sound of *u*. In like manner, in words where it is followed by *c*, as *scase*, for *scarce*; *scacely*, for *scarcely*.

**RABBIT IT**, *phr.* The evidently profane phrase "*Od rabbit it*," is not local. The *Od* in this case is but a corruption of *God*, and the other part of the oath has become changed to its present form from the old English *rabate*, *rebate*, which in its turn is altered from the Fr. *rebatre*; Teut. *rabatten*, de summa detrahere.

**RABBLE**, *s.* a rake with very long teeth, used by wood colliers in separating charcoal from the dust.

**RACK**, *s.* 1. a pathway, track. Belg. *rac*, callis. Forby says it comes from the S. Goth. *ratta*, callis, but I am unable to find any such word in my usual authorities. Brockett very reasonably infers that Shakspeare intended the same meaning as that our word has obtained in the North, when he wrote the well-known passage,

Leave not a *rack* behind.

In the Shrewsbury Chronicle of Nov. 1835, there ap-

peared an account of a murderous assault upon a gentleman's gamekeeper, and as the word repeatedly occurs throughout the paragraph, I will give it entire by way of illustration.

"A resolute and cold-blooded murder was perpetrated in this county on Wednesday evening. As William Corfield, gamekeeper to M. G. Benson, Esq. of Lutwychehall, was going his rounds about five o'clock in the evening, he heard the report of a gun in a coppice, and he went into the wood in search of the person; there is a path (or "*rack*," as the witnesses termed it) up the middle of the coppice, and another "*rack*" about half-way up, which runs along the side of the cover. Corfield had scarcely gone one hundred yards up the wood, when, just as he came opposite the entrance of the other "*rack*," he was fired upon by some person concealed in a bush within two or three yards of him, and the poor fellow received the contents of the gun in his left breast, and fell. The villain immediately ran back along the "*rack*;" and it appears that Corfield never had sight of him. Corfield got up, and was able to walk back out of the wood, and across one field and about half-way across another; but he appears to have rested several times, from the traces of blood in several places. In the second field, however, he found himself sinking, and cried "Murder" several times. His voice was heard. The wounded man was lifted up, and they endeavoured to carry him to the Hill-top-house; but he begged to be put down again, and in a few minutes he was a corpse. On the next day information was given to Mr Downes, the coroner, who immediately repaired to the spot, and a most respectable jury being assembled, an inquest was held on the body, which was adjourned to nine o'clock on Saturday, and the coroner and jury continued sitting examining witnesses till five o'clock in the evening. The coroner

having charged the jury, they unanimously, and after a few minutes' consideration, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against John Thomas, the younger, a millwright, living at Hughley." The keeper had no gun or any weapon of defence with him; and, it appears, had no conflict whatever with the villain who shot him. The perpetrator, therefore, must have deliberately waited for him in ambush, and fired when within a very few yards of him."—*Shrewsbury Chronicle. Times*, Nov. 9, 1835.

RACK, *v.* to pour off beer; to subject it to a fermentive process. S. Goth. *racka*; Isl. *brekia*, cursitare. Teut. A. Sax. Fris. *racken*, purgare latrinas.

RACK OF EYE, *phr.* without line or measure; to work by such a direction as the eye alone affords.

RACKLE, *s.* noise, senseless talking. Ex. "Haud thy *rackle* lad." Is this a depravation of *rattle*? or does it claim affinity with any cognate tongue? I fancy I discover some lurking connexion with the Teut. *raeck*, fauces; by this method we shall justify through a literal translation, the other phrase so common, "Haud yor *jaw*."

RADLING, *s.* bribery, money used to purchase votes at an election. Ex. "He'll goa up to th' Parliament House if 's no *radling*." This is not a figurative application from the sheep-fold, but apparently from the Isl. *rad*, facultates.

RADLINGS, *s.* slight strips of wood, generally "cloven stuff," which are employed in thatching barns or outhouses. They answer the same purpose as laths under tiles, and are six feet long.

RADY MAD ASY, *s.* a well known 'horn book' for children, entitled 'Reading made Easy.'

RAG, *v.* to abuse. Ex. "Bost him, but I gied him a good *ragging*." Neither word or practice are peculiarly Saxonian. I follow my predecessors in assigning the word to the Islandic, though I prefer a different word to the

one they have chosen. Isl. *ragna*, imprecari alieni vindictam deorum.

**RAKE**, *v.* to make up fire for the night. An invariable rule in all Shropshire houses, fuel being plentiful, and coal near to most parts of the county. Teut. *reken*, condere sive occultare ignem cineribus. Hence also a *raking coal*, a large one placed on the top, which will not easily burn away. Teut. *raeck-kuyl*, scrobiculus in quo ignis conservatur; *raecken het vier*. Shaksperian.

**RAMBLING**, **RAMLING**, *part. past*; talking incoherently, confusedly. Ex. "He *rambles* meetily i' his yed." Teut. *remelen*, delirare. S. Goth. *ramla*; Belg. *rammelen*; Ital. *rombolare*, strepitum edere.

**RAMCAG'D**, *adj.* and *part. past*; withered, stagheaded; an epithet applied to oaks. S. Goth. *Ram*, notat deformem. Fenn. *rema*, deformis.

**RAME**, **RĒAM**, **RHAME**, *v.* to cry aloud, weep, sob. Ex. "*RĒaming* enough to freeten the house." S. Goth. *rāma*; A. Sax. *hreaman*, *reomian*; Germ. *raimmen*, boare.

**RAMMEL**, *s.* stony rubbish. Ex. "Nothing but *rammel* thrown out o' the road." A. Sax. *hremming*, impedimentum. Germ. *rammen*, impedire. Nares supplies us with an authority for its adoption.

The Pictes ridding away the earth and *ramell* wherewith it was closed up.

HOLINSHEAD'S *Hist. of Scotland*.

**RAMJOLLOCK**, *v.* to shuffle, completely change in a pack, as one who has been unsuccessful serves a pack of cards. A low expression which seems to have no legitimate origin.

**RAMPAGIOUS**, *adj.* obstinate, passionate, headstrong. If this word be not tralatitious, it has been corrupted from the A. Sax. *rempend*, præceps.

**RAMSHACKERING**, **RAMSHACKLING**, *adj.* 1. worthless, idle, unsteady. Ex. "No dependance on such a *ramshackering* fellow." 2. falling to decay, dilapidated. Ex.

“A *ramshackling* oud pláace.” All these words which commence with *Ram* obtain more force by being thus compounded, *Ram* being an old Suio-Gothic word, denoting strength. Teut. *schaecker*, sicarius: *schaeckieren*, variare. Grose.

RASEN, RESEN, ROSEN, *v.* to take off the skin from a person's legs by kicking or striking them. Ex. “*Rasen* his shins.” Without controversy we are indebted for these several forms to the Teut. *raseren*, radere. The verb is sometimes changed into *riesel*; occasionally into *rasp*, which has the same meaning as the four preceding words, but seems to have originated in the Teut. Belg. Germ. *raspen*; Swed. *raspa*; Dan. *raspe*; Ital. *raspare*; Fr. *rasper*; Span. *raspar*, radere.

RASTY, REASTY, *adj.* rancid. Ex. “*Reasty* bacon.” Nares and Forby considered this a vitiation from rusty, and I think they were right. Swed. *rostig*; Teut. *roestigh*, ferruginosus? My readers will find the word ably discussed in the *Craven Glossary*, to which article they are referred.

RATE, *v.* to chide, scold. Ex. “*Rate* him soundly; gie him a good *rating*.” Swed. *rata*; Germ. *raten*, vituperare. S. Goth. *rata*, vilipendere. Verel in Indic. *reita*, irritare. The tide of authority for its use runs from P. Plouhman to Shakspeare.

—thus reason me *aratede*.

*Vision*, 75.

In the Rialto you have *rated* me.

*Merchant of Venice*.

RATHER O' THE RATHEREST, *phr.* Here we differ in our application of this phrase from the Iceni; according to Forby they use it with reference to underdone meat; the Cornavii infer by it, a very minute degree of propinquity: thus if one road can be found a trifling space shorter than another which was previously supposed to save distance, it is described as being, *rather o' th' ratherest*.

**RAUGHT**, the old *pret.* and *part. past.* of verb to reach. Besides the ensuing, there are a multitude of other authorities, with Shakspeare and Spenser, to show how archaically the vulgar use it. Ex. "Afore I *raught* whoäm."

There was a man gonne up in ye steple of Saynt Marke at Venyse and as he entred for to do a work, he was troubled in suche wyse that he fell and was lyke to haue be al to broken in his membres: nevertheles in his fallynge he cryed Saynt Marke and anone he rested upon a braunche that sprange out, wherof he toke none hede and after one *raught*, and lets hym downe a corde by whiche he avayled downe and was saued.

*Golden Legend*, cxxi.

The domme man to him he *raught*.

SYR GOWGHTER, v. 335 and 434.

After he *raughte* Agyloun.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 2335.

That lord that *raust* was on the roode.

RITSON'S *Anct. Songs*, p. 45.

Tristrem *raught* his brain.

SIR TRISTREM, *Fytte*, ii. 33, and i. 28, 57.

**RAUL**, *v.* to pull about rudely. Ex. "*Rauling* the young .homan about." Teut. *rauelen*, agitari, ineptire.

**RAUL**, **SCHAWL**, *s.* an entanglement. Teut. *rauelen*, intricare.

**REÁN**, *s.* a gutter running parallel with the furrows of ploughed land. M. Goth. *rinno*, torrens. A. Sax. *rin*; Arm. *ryne*, cursus. Isl. *rema*; Germ. *rinne*, canalis. Corn. *ruas*, Tim Bobbin.

Al the ky in the countrey, they skarred and chased

That roaring they wood-ran, and routed in a *reane*.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flyting*.

**RECKLIN**, **RICKLIN**, *s.* the smallest pig of a litter. Craven Glosearist says, "A starveling, *wreckling*, writling. *Cotgrave*, from *wreck*."

**RECKON**, *v.* We use this word like our Transatlantic friends, instead of think, imagine, apprehend, &c. Thus, "its a good distance, I *reckon*." "He'll not come to-day I *reckon*." Webster says the word is used in

some of the *Southern* states of America, as *guess* is in the *Northern*, and infers its provinciality in that, as he does in this country. If I mistake not, Bishop Warburton in one of his sermons employs it in the same manner.

**REEPLE**, *s.* a piece of timber five or six feet long, which lying horizontally, helps to sustain the roof of a coal work.

**REEST**, *s.* the skin of bacon. Isl. *hrœistr*, squama.

**REET**, *adj.* sane. Ex. "Inna quite *reet* i' his yed."

**RETTES**, **ROTTES**, *s.* aquatic plants, which choke up the bed of a stream. The word is very common among fishermen on the Severn, and Salopian piscators. It appears from Aulus Gellius, lib. ii. c. 17, that from these obstacles impeding the navigation they were termed *rette*, or nets, because they stopped vessels in their course along the water. And as in those days equally with these, it being important that the channel should be open, an officer was appointed under the title of **RETARIUS**, whose duty it was to remove these obstructions. An ancient inscription has been found bearing the words **NEGOTIATOR ET RETARIUS BRITANNICIANUS**. Kilian explains the Teutonic word *rette*, *alveus navigabilis*, a term manifestly taken from the Latin, *reta*: yet some may think the Teut. *grugte*, *lenticula palustris quæ in paludibus et stagnis per æstatem aquæ supernatat*, preferable.

On *ruttes* and *runches* in the fields.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flying*.

**REMEDDY**, *s.* so universal a vulgarism is scarcely admissible, for it has not I suspect any claims to being called provincial; yet as some of my countrymen will expect to find it in the present volume, I have "no *remeddy*" but to introduce it.

**RENDER**, *v.* to seethe, melt; as a cook renders lard and suet, for certain culinary purposes which are familiar to us on Shrove Tuesday. M. Goth. *hrains*; S. Goth.

- Swed. *ren*; A. Sax. Alam. Belg. *rein*; Isl. *krein*, *purus*.
- REVE, *s.* a bailiff; a very sound word; yet in limited circulation, almost confined to the Hundred of Bradford. P. Plouhman, Chaucer, &c. A. Sax. *gerefa*, *præfectus*.
- REY, RYE, *v.* to sift noxious seeds from wheat, or other grain. Ex. "Rye it, and then yo unna see th' hay-riff." Teut. Germ. Sax. Sicamb. *reyteren*, *cribrare*.
- RHODEN, MARTHA, *phr.* I shall leave to some more fortunate local investigator the honour of discovering the origin of this very provincial simile. Ex. "All asiden, like Martha Rhoden's twopenny dish."
- RHODEN'S COWT, FORTY SA ONE LIKE, *phr.* Many places in the county dispute the honor of originating this phrase. But where the credit consisteth, in the longevity of the animal, or the good fortune of his possessor, it is difficult to determine. Nevertheless there does exist something like local jealousy. One informant states that "Rhoden lived under a Hagg near Eyton," about sixty years ago; another declares that this distinguished breeder came from Benthall; a third, assures us that his true seed-plot was at Coal-port; whilst a fourth positively says it is all a mistake, for it was not Rhoden's Cownt that lived to the age of nine and thirty, but Obitch's, and we are sent even "to Melverly" to learn the history of this remarkable quadruped. None, however dispute the age of the beast, and most reprobate his coat "*as raggit*."
- RIC, SIC; a call or invitation to pigs when their food is ready.
- RICK, *s.* a stack, whether it be of hay or any kind of grain. In etymology it is identified with *ruck*.
- RINDLE, *s.* a strong coarse sieve made with iron wire, used by masons, and in agricultural work. A. Sax. *hriddel*; C. Brit. *rhidyll*, *cribrum*.
- RIDICULOUS, *adj.* taken frequently in the sense of indelicate.



**RIFTER**, *s.* a severe blow on the ribs. Ex. "Deal him out a *rifter*." The Isl. *rif*, costa, suggests itself in opposition to the Swed. *rifva*, dilacerare.

**RIGGER**, *s.* lead in a half melted state, the condition it is in before thoroughly fused. Some was found several years back nearly upon the summit of *Ponsert Hill*, in which were imbedded pieces of charcoal. As those mines were worked by the Romans, the fragment evidently belonged to their age.

**RIGIL**, **ROGGEL**, *s.* an animal imperfectly castrated. Isl. *rog*, impotens nixus.

**RIGLET**, *s.* a small channel. C. Brit. *rhigol*, sulcus.

**RIN**, *v.* to run, flow. Ex. "If the yale woll but *rin*, it 'll do." I have only heard this word used by old people, and it is nearly extinct. S. Goth. Isl. Swed. *rinna*; M. Goth. A. Sax. Franc. *rinnan*; Teut. *rinnen*; Belg. *rennen*; Dan. *rende*, currere.

Ac the reyn that *ryneth*.

P. PLOUHAN, 337.

His feit maid sic dynnyng  
He lakkit breth for *rynning*.

*Collecbie Sow*, v. 254.

I saw ane river *rin*.

*Cherrie and the Slae*.

On Seaton Crafts they buft their crafts  
And gart them *rin* like daft, man.

*Tranent Muir*.

**RINDLASS**, *s.* the maw-skin of a calf when soaked; used to curdle milk in making cheese. Palsgrave; *Rendles* for a cheese, pressure. Teut. *rindsel*, coagulum.

**RIP**, *v.* to utter impetuously. Ex. "*Ripped* out an oath." Isl. *rippa*, recitare.

**RIPPLES**, *s.* a moveable frame attached to the exterior surface of a cart or wagon, to enable it to contain more than its own body of itself, allows. S. Goth. Isl. *ref*, costa, Anglicè a *rib*.

**RISE**, **RITHE**, *s.* a twig. Ex. "*A pea-rise*." May not the vulgar phrase "fetch him a *riser*" be derived hence?

S. Goth. Swed. *ris*; Isl. A. Sax. *kris*; Teut. *rys*; Dan. *riis*; Germ. *reis*, *virgulta*.

To ride an hunting, under *riis*.

AMIS AND AMILOUN, v. 136.

Her Rudd Redder than the Rose; that on the *Rise* hangeth.

PERCY'S *Reliques*, ii. 278.

**RISOMED**, *part. past*; well headed, applied to oats; sometimes said to be hawed. From growing strong and partaking of the nature of a stronger plant, I think it is connected with the preceding. The word is prevalent in Cheshire.

**ROBBLE**, *s.* an instrument used by bakers, and preparers of oatmeal, one with which bread or grain is moved and stirred in an oven.

**ROBBLY**, *adj.* faulty, as the coal runs occasionally in pits.

**ROBLE**, *s.* a sort of rake. I never heard it in this sense but once, and then it was used at a mill under the South side of the Wrekin, to describe an instrument with which oats are stirred in an oven. Forby has *rab* a wooden beater.

**ROCHE**, 1. the strata above a marshy deposit. 2. earth mingled with stone. 3. any strata which is superincumbent to the one about to be worked. This word has been changed in a slight degree from its primitive signification, though it remains unaltered in its orthography. I am unacquainted with any variation of its spelling throughout the whole range of Early English Poetry. It is *roche*, in Octavian Imperator, v. 296. K. Ali-saunder, v. 5167. 5196. 6235. 7090. Chaucer, House of Fame, iii. 26. Sir D. Lyndsay, vol. i. p. 243. iii. p. 123, &c. &c. A. Sax. *roc*, *rupes*. Fr. *rocque*, *motte de terre*.

**ROCHY**, *adj.* having the foregoing quality.

**RODED**, *part. past*; lean mingled with fat. Ex. "*Roded* bacon." Swed. *roed*, *ruber*.

**ROLLOCKING**, *adj.* unwieldy, slatternly. Ex. "A large *rollocking* woman." One who *rolls* about in her gait.

Generally used as an offensive epithet, yet the preceding adjective weakens the force of my illustration, as size can never justly be said to detract from female beauty. Though, in defiance of all those magnificent creations of Rubens, the world at large remains unconvinced that breadth and a flowing outline contribute to heighten its effect. In his figures, this great painter goes beyond the beauty of mere vulgar skin and bone, and imagines forms which seem personified with Goddesses and Angels. "Such as nature often erring, shews she would fain make." The great mass of mankind like homely beauties; the grace that pleases them is technical: hence when they observe anything that is above the dead level of common life, they marvel, and either mistake or misunderstand what their own unenlarged perception does not permit them to appreciate. And thus it is, that whilst no masters' works have commanded more attention and study, yet none have received such silly censure.

ROMANCE, *v.* to magnify in a narrative. Ex. "He's only *romancing* Máery, dunna believe him."

ROMPEG, *s.* a blighted part of a tree; an old stump; the part 'stagheaded'. We recognise the meaning under the various forms of *Rampick*, *Ramcag*, *Romshack*, *Ronpeg*, *Ronpick*, &c., &c. Coles has *Rampick* 'an old tree beginning to decay.' Wachter under the various significations of *Ram*, gives it that of 'pars extrema rei.' *N* among the vulgar is often substituted for *m*, and thus by *synecdoche*, *ram* and *rom*, are changed into *ran* and *ron*. Drayton.

RONDLE-COAL, *s.* a measure of coal lying contiguous to, and above the *clod-coal*: it is inferior to that, and chiefly valuable in manufacturing iron.

RONGE, *v.* to gnaw, or bite at. Ex. "The ship bin *ronging* at the ivvy." Fr. *ronger*, to gnaw or nibble off. Cotgrave.

**ROOK**, *v.* 1. to huddle together. Ex. "*Rooking* together" generally for the purpose of keeping warm. Hence the secondary meaning. 2. "*Rooking* o'er the fire." Tim Bobbin has *reawk*, to idle in neighbours' houses: a signification not unknown to Salopians, though how we received the word I know not.

**ROOK**, *s.* In Corve Dale a *crook* bar bears this title.

**ROPE**, *s.* the intestine of a woodcock. A. Sax. *roppas*, exta.

**ROPE**, *perf. of v.* to reap. Chaucer, Legend of G. Women.

**ROPY**, *adj.* thick, muddy. Ex. "*Ropy* beer."

**ROSSIL**, *v.* to kick or strike so as to take the skin from the legs. Ex. "*Rossil* his shins."

**ROSY**, *adj.* When the combs of hens look red and healthy, and they commence laying, fowls are said to be *rosy*.

**ROT**, *s.* a disease incidental to sheep. Ex. "The ship han got the *rot*." A. Sax. *rotung*, ulcus.

**ROTGUT**, *s.* this vulgarism is used both substantively and adjectively, for instance, weak tea, or liquids of any kind, bear the appellation, and it also supplies an epithet denoting the same qualities. Ex. "Drink such poor *rotgut* as that!" "This is *rotgut* stuff."

**ROTTLE**, *s.* the peculiar noise in the throat of a dying person. Ex. "*Rottling* in his throat." Teut. *rotel*, murmur quale moribundi edunt: *rotelen*, murmillare.

**ROUGH**, *s.* a wood, or copse.

**ROUSING**, *adj.* large, unusually strong. Ex. "A *rousing* fire." Is this by syncope for *arousing*? if it were peculiar to us, I should have thought it so; but being a word well known in Craven (See Gloss.) it rests upon better authority. Mine author referred to, attributes it to the Teut. *rassen*, (furere) to burn. The other application is common; and we often hear of a *rousing* *lee*, or a *rouser*.

**ROUST**, *s.* according to this method of writing we pro-

nounce *rust*, and *roost*; Ex. "The gis bin gwn to *roust*."

ROWEL, *s.* a circular piece of leather inserted into a horse's side for the purpose of creating a discharge. Fr. *rouelle*.

ROWEL, *v.* to insert a rowel.

He has been ten times *rowell'd*.

*The Scornful Lady.*

RUBBER, *s.* a coarse whetstone used by mowers.

RUCK, *s.* a heap. Ex. "A two-year oud balk is as good as a *ruck* o' muck," as the Shropshire adage runs. Isl. *hraukr*; S. Goth. *roak*; Teut. *rock*; Verel. in Indic. *roke*, cumulus.

Sweet-scented *rucks* round which we play'd.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 297.

RUCK, *v.* 1. to gather together. 2. to crease. Ex. "*Rucked* her petticoats all in a *ruck*." PROMP. PARV. *ruckyng*, incurvatio. Verel. in Indic. *rucka*, ruga. 3. to heap up. S. Goth. *rōka*, coacervare.

RUCK O' BRICKS, *phr.* a slang phrase for the county gaol.

RUF, *s.* invariably used for *roof*. Ex. "The *ruf* o' th' ous."

RUN AGAIN, *v.* to calumniate, backbite. Ex. "Hers always *running again* me."

RUN OF HIS TEETH, *phr.* maintenance, bodily support, such allowance as parents often make to their children when they have married prematurely and imprudently. Ex. "*Gid em the run o' their tith*."

RUNNEL, *s.* pollarded ash or oak. Isl. *runnr*, virgultum.

RUNT, RUNTLENG, *s.* the smallest in a litter of pigs. Verel. in Indic. *runte*, verres non castratus.

Before I buy a bargain of such *runts*.

RUNTS, *s.* decayed stumps of trees.

Auld rottin *runtis* quharin na sap was leifit.

*Palace of Honor.*

RUT, *s.* the track of a wheel.

RUT, *v.* the desire of sheep to come together. Isl.  
*rutur*, aries.

in gendrynge of kynde  
 After cours of conception non tok kepe of othere.  
 As when thei hadde *rutyed*.

P. PLOUHMANN, 222.

RUYT, Root, Rout, *v.* to turn up from out of the  
 earth: to plough up turf with the snout, as a pig.  
 Ex. "The pigs han *ruyted* up the tatures down i' the  
 lezzer." Teut. *ruyten*, evellere, eruere. A. Sax. *wro-*  
*tan*, rostro versare. Chaucer *wrots*.

Or like a worm, that *wroteth* in a tree.

LYDGATE.





SADE, *v.* to satisfy. Ex. "I'm wolly *saded*."  
Isl. *saddr*, saturatus. Teut. *saden*,  
satiare. A. Sax. *sadian*, saturare.  
M. Goth. *sade*, satur. Gr. *σάρτω*.

SADING, *part.* from the preceding. Ex.  
"Sading stuff."

SAFT, *adj.* soft: as a contemptuous  
epithet for one who is foolish, or acting in a man-  
ner that is disagreeable or ridiculous. Ex. "Thee  
bist *saft*." Teut. *saft*, mollis.

SAGG, *v.* to give way under pressure, become top heavy.  
A wagoner describes a load of hay or grain as *sagg-  
ing*, when it is badly put on his wagon, and likely  
to fall off before it reaches its appointed destination.  
The commonly accepted word is *swag*: ours can  
scarcely be deemed dialectical. (See Craven Gloss.) But  
nevertheless it is one that is little inferior to the word  
more known, and rests upon as good a foundation.  
It is used in Staffordshire. Isl. *svogia*, flectere,  
curvare. (Dan. *svøje*, Haldorson.) *svær*, heavy; *svæver*,  
to wave.

The mind I sway by, and the heart I bear,  
Shall never *sagg* with doubt, nor shake with fear.

*Macbeth*, v. 3.

SAGGER, *s.* a vessel formed of clay, one used in  
China Manufactories and Potteries in which different

articles of ware are placed when 'burned'. Teut. *sag-hene*, *sagens*? Lat. Barb. *sagamen*, vas, ut videtur, in quo *sagimen* reponitur. Du Cange.

**SAKE**, *s.* a spring that breaks out in a field: and hence land which is wet in consequence, is termed **SAKY**. (See under **SEAKY**.) A. Sax. *sich*, *sica*, *sicha*, sulcus aquarius.

**SAMLET**, *s.* the *Salmulus* of Ithyological writers. It is now pretty well ascertained, Jenyns says, that this fish is a distinct species, and always remains the same size: not being the young of the Salmon or Sea Trout.

**SAMMY**, *s.* a fool. The North Country recognises both the word and the character.

**SAMMY**, *adj.* adhering closely together, clammy, heavy. Ex. "*Sammy* bread." *Sam* is a very general prefix in S. Goth. Isl. and Dan. denoting a joining or union. Thus in the example before us, bread receives the epithet from being badly made, and rendered 'close'.

**SAPY**, *adj.* moist, sodden. Ex. "*Sapy* meat." Isl. Dan. Swed. *saft*, succus.

**SARN**; an oath. As, "*Sarn* yo," "*Consarn* yo." A deprecation which is evidently acquired from the Isl. *sarna*, dolere.

**SATES**, *s.* quickset. I do not believe this is a corruption from *Setts*, (q. v.): if it were, the M. Goth. *sagan*, and Isl. *set*, ponere, would suit it; it seems like a genuine word which has never been lucky enough to have been committed to paper.

**SAUNTER WHEEL**, *s.* a wheel which works face ways from a *spur* wheel.

**SAVE-ALL**, *s.* 1. A small tin candlestick which is used solely for the purpose of consuming the old ends of candles. 2, an earthen bottle with slits at the sides, destined to receive *all* the *savings* of children.

**SAVIN-TREE**, *s.* the *Juniperus Sabina* of Linnæus. The



same horrid 'virtues' are attributed to this tree in Shropshire as are supposed to belong to it by the Icenii. (See Moore, Nares, &c.) Gerard states in his Herbal that the shrub was esteemed in his day for the same reasons.

SAVVER, *s.* a savour, a taste merely: whether it be of liquid or solid. Ex. "There innod a *savver* i' th' jug." "Thee shat nod hav' a *savver*," as though the speaker had said 'thou shalt not have a *savour*': and also in conformity with the early word,

Bot such a *sauer* as he ther hade.

SIR AMADAS, v. 72.

SCATTER-WITTED, *adj.* speaking without thought, confusedly, as persons must needs do if their wits be scattered.

SCORE, *s.* the core of an apple. Verel. in Indic. Swed. *skorpa*, crusta. Teut. *schorsse*, crusta. Fr. *escorasse*; Ital. *scorza*; Sp. *corteza*.

SCOTCH, *v.* to impede or stop a wheel. Ex. "Scotch the wheel." Verel. in Indic. *skorda*, fulcris primare.

SCRAGGY, *adj.* thin, meagre: an epithet chiefly confined to the neck; thus we hear in slang language of a person being

Three times lagg'd, and very nigh *scragg'd*,

or hung: and "a *scrag* of mutton"; "the *scrag* end of a neck of mutton": when that is all that remains to eat, men must be very "near the end of the mutton" indeed. Though the present word has now fallen among the rejected and despised, it is not improperly used. Germ. *kragen*, collare, vinculum colli.

SCRANCH, *v.* to crush anything between the teeth. Belg. *schransen*. Teut. *schrantsen*, frangere.

SCRAT, SCRATCH, *s.* 1. the itch. C. Brit. *crack*; Gael. *carr*, scabies. Gael. *carrack*, scabiosus. 2. *escrache*, gale, rogne, farcin, one who "looks after the main chance,"

who is attentive to his own interest, and secures it by personal industry. 3. "*Oud Scrat.*"

SCRAT, *v.* 1. to scratch; 2. to work hard, depend upon one's own resources.

SCRATCHINGS, *s.* fat which is taken from "the leaf of a pig" after it has undergone a kind of roasting process, with the addition of pepper and salt it becomes

SCRATCHING CAKE, *s.* in which state it is eaten, and takes its name I imagine from being as it were *scratched* or *scraped* out of the pigs.

SCRATTLE, *v.* to use exertion in procuring a livelihood.

Ex. "They'n nothing to depend on but whad a *scrat-teln* for."

SCRAWL, *v.* to *crawl*, (by prosthesis) to move about after the tardy and feeble manner of infirm or sickly people. Ex. "Much ado to *scrawl* up stairs agen."

SCREECH OWL, *s.* *Strix flammea* of Jenyns: the common white owl. The singular cry or scream of this bird is considered ominous of death.

SCRINGE, *v.* to cringe, (by prosthesis), to draw back.

Teut. *schrincken*, retrahere? A. Sax. *scringan*, areocere. (See CRINKLING.)

SCRUNCH, *v.* the same as *scranch*, *q. v.* Each of these are very expressive words, and bear the like signification with us which they do in Devonshire and Somersetshire. (See Palmer and Jennens.)

SCRUTHING BAGS, *s.* coarse hair cloths or bags through which cider is passed: by metathesis for *scorthing* bags, (See under SCORK) because they catch the rind and peel of the apples.

SCRYMMAGE, *s.* a skirmish. Ex. "We'den only a bit of a *scrymmage.*"

SCRYMMAGIN, *part.* playfully fighting, skirmishing, by metathesis.

There was champions *skyrmyng*,  
Of heom and of other wastlyng.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 197.

SCRYMMITY, *adj.* stingy, close. S. Goth. *skrumpa*, corrugari?

SCUD, *s.* a passing shower of rain. Ex. "Its oly a bit of a *scud*."

SCUD, *v.* to rain suddenly, or sharply for a short time. Ex. "It *scuds* o' rain." S. Goth. *skudda*, effundere. Teut. *schudden*, fundere.

SCUFF, *s.* the back part of the neck: as often, *scruff*. Ex. "Took hout on him by the *scuff* o' th' neck." M. Goth. *skufta*, capillus.

SCUFFLE, *s.* a hoe chiefly used in gardens for cutting up weeds. S. Goth. *skyffel*; Swed. *sköfwel*, ligo. A. Sax. *soofl*; Fris. Sicamb. Teut. *schuyffel*, pala.

SCUFFLE, *v.* to make use of the above instrument. Ex. "*Scuffle* it o'er." S. Goth. *skyfla*, pala motitare. Upon this word Ihre remarks, "vocabulary hortense usurpatum dum ferro lato a gramine liberatur humus."

SCUTCH, SCUTCH, *s.* loose fibres, roots of grain or grass: vestiges of slovenly farming. A. Sax. *cwice*, gramen caninum.

SCUTTER, *v.* to scatter. Ex. "*Scutter* some money amongst them." Isl. *skiota*, jaculari.

SCUTTER, *s.* a scramble for whatever is *scattered*.

SEAKY, *adj.* boggy, wet. Teut. *saecht*, mollis.

SEAM SET, *s.* a grooved wooden instrument used by shoemakers, for smoothing the *seams* of boots and shoes.

SEARCH, *v.* to penetrate, thoroughly gain admission: a word applied to wounds: anything liquid *searches* them; a cold wind *searches* an old house; hence a *searching-pain*, and a *searching-wind*.

SEAT RODS, *s.* hazel twigs used in thatching.

SECONDS, *s.* a quality of flour, from which the "*sharps*" only are taken.

SEED, SID, *perf.* of verb to see. Ex. "Nivir *seed* sich a chap afore."

**SEED LEP, s.** a hopper or seed basket used in sowing. A.

Sax. *seed lep*, *seminatoris corbis*.

**SEEKING RAKE, s.** a rake used for drawing small coles out of the carbonaceous refuse, after the larger ones are selected.

**SEGS, s.** sedge. A. Sax. *seg*, *carex*.

I wove a coffin for his corse, of *seggs*,  
That with the wind did wave like bannerets.

*Cornelia.*

**SEN, v.** to say. Ex. "A *sen* thee bist kimit:" (that is, they say you are foolish :) "a *sen* soä, that's all I know, folks un talk." *Sen* is only used as the third person indicative plural.

**SEN, adv.** since. An old contraction for since. Ex. "A fortneet *sen*." R. of Brunne. *Sin*, Chaucer, Spenser, A. Sax. *sithen*.

Bot, *sen* the time that god was born.

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 12.

*Sen*, we haif had sic contemplatioun.

SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Dreme*, pp. 220, 228, 246, &c.

**SENNEWS, s.** sinews. Verel. in Indic. *sina*; A. Sax. Germ. *senne*; Teut. *sennoce*, *nervus*.

**SENS-POOL, s.** a word recognized by Forby in the East, and Brocket in the North, though neither are able to account for its birth. Its legitimacy must continue uncertain, for I think that neither the Fr. *sasser*, adduced by the former, nor the Lat. *cedo* by the latter, give us any satisfactory intimation of its origin. This receptacle of filth, for such is the meaning of the word, has doubtlessly obtained its name from an early and direct source, for it does not appear at all probable that a term which has such extended circulation, should have been superinduced.

**SETRINGS, s.** a miner's word: 'a bar and two *trees* of cord wood' used in a pit. This seems to be an explication of that nature which is called 'ignotum per ignotius', but the reader is requested to seek further information under these respective terms.

SEY, SYE, *s.* a skimming dish. A. Sax. *seon*. Teut. *siighen*, percolare. Among the valuables enumerated in the humorous ballad of Jok and Jynny is

Ane *milk-syth*, with ane swyne-tail.

SHACK, *s.* a ragamuffin, a vagabond kind of person, "A *shack* of a fellow." Here is a word which is reputed as vile and base as the object to which it is applied: but it is not so low as that, as its etymology sheweth. A. Sax. *sceacere*; Germ. *schächer*; Teut. *schacke*, latro. Thus we see by lingual analogy that a *shackler*, that is, one, as my informant tells me, "who is a fause hollow sort of a mon," a *shack* of a fellow, or a *shack-bag*, bears his title more honestly than his calling.

SHACKED, *part. past*; a term applied to timber. Ex. "Its a hard thing to get a bit o' yeow (yew) y' sin as innad lagg'd and *shacked*," that is, a piece of yew that is not warped, naturally cloven, or twisted. A. Sax. *sceacan*, quaterere.

SHACKLES, *s.* cow chains. Ex. "*Cow-shackles*:" chains used to tie up cows to, "the Boosey stall." A. Sax. *sceacul*, compedes. There exists a characteristic difference betwixt *shackles* and *shackle*, irrespectively of the number. *Shackles* has been explained: *shackle* applies rather to the iron ring which goes round a *stitch*, q. v. and is thus appropriately to be assigned to the Teut. *schackel*, annulus catena.

Soles, fetters, and *shackles*, with horse lock and pad.

TUSSEY'S *Husbandry*, p. 16.

SHALL; There is a very common usage among the agrarians of substituting *shall* for will; did they reverse these forms of the future the language would be tainted by Hibernicism. The lower classes never make use of *shall* like our friends in the Sister Country, and say, "I will be drowned and nobody *shall* help me:" but when in perplexity, or doubt, and they cannot immediately collect their wits so as to furnish a clear and satisfactory

reply, they have recourse to this form rather than the common one, as an expedient to allay the eager curiosity of an enquirer, and thus, when in mental and memorial difficulty they hesitate to answer the question propounded, they commonly say, "I *shall* tell you presently."

SHAMBLE, *v.* to walk unsteadily. Ex. "Look! how a *shambles*."

SHAMBLING, *adj.* 1. awkward in gait. 2. uncertain in conduct, unsteady. Thus, if a person be capricious, or devoid of principle, we often hear him described as a *shambling* fellow. Ex. "Thier's no hout o' sich a *shambling* chap as him." Teut. *schampigh*, lubricus.

SHANK'S PONEY, *phr.* Ex. "Rode on *Shank's Poney*," that is, walked. The origin of this little dash of humor is unknown. It is very current from the North to the South. My Catholic acquaintance speak of *St Francis' horse*, when they walk. In Herd's collection of Scottish Songs the same means of travel are designated as *Shank's-naigie*.

And ay until the day he died  
He raide on good *Shank's-naigie*.

vol. ii. p. 80.

SHAREVIL, *s.* a fork used for agricultural or garden work. (See *EVIL*.) Teut. Sicamb. A. Sax. *scheere*, forfex, vomis.

SHARPS, *s.* a refuse kind of flour, meal. First, the flour when it has been sifted by every possible means: secondly, come the *sharps*; thirdly the *gurgeons*, and lastly the *bran*.

SHAVER, *s.* a term applied in coarse humor to a man or boy. It has been introduced into poetry by Burns, and henceforth it can hardly be reputed as a low or vulgar appellation.

SHAVES, *s.* not an unusual plural of *shafts*.

SHAWS, *s.* 1. a wood, cover, generally in a definite sense. Ex. "Down in the *shaws*." 2. a name given to rough land, or land that is woody. A. Sax. *sowa*; Dan. *schov*,

nemus. Teut. *schawe*, umbra. P. Plouhman, Lyndsay, Chaucer.

That somer suld schew him  
In *schawes* ful schene.

MINOT'S *Poems*, p. 48.

As he rood be a wodes *schawe*.

OCTAVIAN IMPERATOR, v. 355.

He led her thorow a feyre *schawe*,  
In wodes waste and wilde.

LE BONE FLORENCE OF ROME.

In somer when the *shawes* be sheyn.

HARTSHORNE'S *Anct. Met. Tales*, p. 179.

SHEED, *v.* to spill, pour out, effuse. Ex. "Tak care yo dunna *sheed* it." "The wheat begins to *sheed* out o' the shofs." Teut. *scheeden*; A. Sax. *soeadan*; Germ. *scheiden*, separare.

SHELBOARD, *s.* usually pronounced *shilbooard*, part of a plough, which is so called from its similarity in shape to a *shield*, as though we designated it a *shieldboard*, which name it often bears. Amongst the requisite properties of a plough, Worlidge says,

"The shorter and lesser it is made, having its true pitch, with its true cast on the *shield-board*, and *shortvest*, and sharp irons, the far easier."

*Systema Agricult.* p. 225.

SHERIFF'S MAN, *s.* the seven coloured linnnet, *Carduelis* of LINNÆUS.

SHEU, SHEUH, *interj.* a word so well known that it needs no elucidation except to shew that it is an *onomatopœia*, and resolvable into a mere sound, rather than the same word as the Germ. *schouen*, vitare.

SHIDES, *s.* cloven, peeled oak poles. PROMP. PARV. *schyde*, teda. A. Sax. *scide*, scindula. Teut. *schieden*, findere ligna.

And bad shappe hym a shup of *shides* and of bodes.

P. PLOUHMAN, v. 177, 196, 305.

—Off tymber grete *schyde*s clong.

R. COER DE LION, v. 1385, and v. 4359.

SHIMBLE, SHAMBLE, *adj.* loose, unconnected; this and *scrimble*, *scramble*, are species of *onomatopœia*.

**SHINE, v.** Ex. "May God *shine* on him." A benediction used by the lower orders which they have acquired from Holy writ. Numb. vi. 25. Psal. xxxi. 16. Job xxix. 3. 2 Cor. iv. 6, &c.

**SHINGLE, v.** to beat, or weld iron under a forge hammer. (See BLOOMS.) Both of these are terms constantly employed in the iron manufactories of Shropshire and Staffordshire. 'From a sow of iron rolled into the fire, the workmen melt off a piece called a loop, which they beat with iron sledges, and then hammer it gently, which forces out the cinder and dross, and then beat it thicker and stronger till they bring it to a *bloom*, which is a square mass of about two feet long. This operation they call shingling the loop.' Kennett's Glossary, MS. Lansd. Num. 1098, fol. 43, as quoted by Sir H. Ellis in the general introduction to Domesday, vol. i. p. 137.

**SHINGLER, s.** a man employed in managing the iron whilst under a forge hammer.

**SHIP, s.** usual for *sheep*. Ex. "The *ship* han got into the wheat." "Poor grass when *ships* cannot grase." Lusus Literarum, p. 68.

**SHIPE, s.** a kind of shovel for cutting turf.

**SHOF, SHÖAF, SHOFF, s.** a sheaf, or bundle. Ex. "The *shofs* bin but thin on the groun." Teut. *scof*; Belg. *schoof*; A. Sax. *sceaf*, fascis. PROMP. PARV. *schef*, or *shof*.

**SHOKE, perf. of v.** to shake. Ex. "Till a *shoke* agen." This is the old form, and occurs repeatedly in early English writers.

Ayther on othir sweordis *schoke*,

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 7397.

He blew loud and *shoke* it wele.

THE LYFE OF IPOMYDON, v. 787.

He strok his berd, and *schok* his yerde.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 143, 1069.

When thou *shoke* thy sworde so noble a man to mar.

PERCY'S *Reliques*, vol. i. p. 101.



SHOMACKY, *adj.* slovenly, awkward in gait. Teut. *slug-merachtigh*, somniculosus.

SHORE, *v.* to prop, support. Teut. *schoren*, suffulcire.

And shaketh it ne were hit under *shorede*.

P. PLOUHMANN, p. 306.

SHORERS, *s.* props. Teut. *schore*, fulcimentum.

SHOT, *s.* usually the quota, or sum owing for drinking at an ale-house. A word common wherever the practice exists. Teut. *shot*; Fr. *escot*; Ital. *scotto*; Sp. *escote*, solutio.

"Let us gether or make a *schotte*, or a stake for the mynstrells rewarde or wages." *Hormanni Vulgaria*, p. 283.

SHRED, *v.* to cut very fine and thin. Ex. "*Shredding shuet*." A. Sax. *screadan*, resecano.

SHRIKE, SCHRICH, *v.* to scream, cry out loudly. Ex. "*Schriching* as soon as ivir yo touchen him." PROMP.

PARV. "*Scrykyng* of *chylder*," vagitus. Isl. *skrikia*; Dan. *skriger*; (*At skrige høyt*, to *schrich* out, as Salopians say) Swed. *skrika*, clamare.

Women *scrike*, girles gredyng.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 2802.

The Crystene men gunne make a *scryke*.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 4709.

Loude he gan to crie and *skriche*.

THE SEUYN SAGES, v. 1290.

And quhen she saw the red, red blude,

A loud *scrich* *schriched* she.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 147.

SHUET, *s.* suet. Ex. "A *shuety* pudding."

SHUIT, *v.* to suit. By this interposition of the aspirate, the vulgar unknowingly pay very unfortunate compliments. A shoemaker for instance hopes that his shoes will *shuit* (shoot) his customers; and the seller of a horse, that the steed will *shuit* (not over his head) the rider.

SHUPERNACULAR, *adj.* superior. The aspirate is here inserted in accordance with the usage which prevails of interposing it in all words compounded with the Latin

preposition. As in *shupareor*, *shuperfine*, *shupervisor*, &c. It may have been already remarked, that whenever the lower classes adopt words which come from the Latin and Greek tongues, they generally either mispronounce them, or mistake their meaning, but when they use those which are portion of their native language, I mean such as are derived from a Northern or Anglo-Saxon stock, they speak with conformity both to the orthoepy and idiom of the English. At least they rarely, if ever, superinduce a word; they are not guilty of any tralatitious, or arbitrary engrafting; and whenever they do pervert a term or phrase from its original meaning, they do not grievously damage the sense, nor greatly debase the national language. He is a bold man who will say as much as this in behalf of those who live out of an agricultural district, and are consigned to dwell in the great metropolis.

The lower orders in Shropshire apply the word *shuper-nacular* to any liquor of an excellent quality. It is an expression derived from a kind of mock Latin phrase, *super nagulum*, upon the nail, as being considered worthy of being drunk according to that whimsical practice. (For an account of this, look to Nares, *sub voce*.)

SHUT, *s.* 1. riddance, or deliverance, which occasions great pleasure. Ex. "Good *shut* o' bad rubbidge." Every body may recognise this sense, but the two next are, I suspect, local. 2. a narrow passage, forming an outlet from one street to another. Ex. "THE GULLET SHUT", in the town of Shrewsbury. Teut. *schut*, locus conclusus :

Per Watling strete usque le Wodewardes *shutte*.  
*Cartular. S<sup>m</sup>. Petri. MS. apud Sir Thos. Phillipps, Bart. fol. 250.*

3. an accession of fresh water in a river, in the Severn for example. Ex. "There come a *shut* on the river

in the night." "Rather more than a *shut*, a *fresh*."

A. Sax. *soutan*, impetum facere?

SHUT IN, *v.* a blacksmith's term, to denote that one piece of iron is made part of another, both compactedly, and as it were, invisibly and indivisibly united.

SHUT OF, *v.* to part with unconstrainedly, always with alacrity and joy. Ex. "I reckon you be glad to get *shut* on him." "Whod! yone got *shut* o' the tother then, han 'e?" Teut. *schutten*, pellerere, avertere, arcere.

SID, *perf.* of *v.* to see. Ex. "I hanna *sid* him since istirday ownder."

SIDNESS, *s.* the time of sowing, seedness. Ex. "The quern *sidness*."

SIGHT OF; an augmentative. Ex. "A *sight of work* to be done."

SIKE, *v.* to cry, lament, sob. Ex. "Sobbing and *siking*."

It seems to imply a bitter grief, sorrow fetched up from the heart, a distressful utterance of sighs that nearly choke in their breathing. A. Sax. *siccetan*, singultire. Northamp.

*Sykinge* for my sennes.

P. PLOUHMANN, p. 81.

*Sylkede* for joye.

*id.* p. 305.

*Sykyng*, sorewyng, and thokt.

RITSON'S *Anct. Songs*, p. 23.

He glowtyd, and gan to *syke*.

RICHARD COER DE LION, v. 4771.

And wepe, and *syke*, and crye, alas!

LAY LE FREINE, v. 119.

The Lady *siked* and said alas.

HARTSHORN'S *Anct. Metrical Tales*.

SILL, *v.* to sell. Ex. "Whad diden 'e *sill* him for?"

An archaism that has been with us since the time of Wiclif. A. Sax. *sillan*, vendere.

And Jhesus biheld him and lovede him and seyde to him oo thing failith to thee go thou and *sille* alle thingis that thou haste and geve to pore men.

*Translation of the Testament*, Mark ch. x.

**SILL**, *s.* the foundation of any thing; as a window *sill*, a door *sill*, &c. S. Goth. *syll*, fundamentum cujus rei.

**SILL-COAL**, *s.* coal which my informant describes as being found "in the *clunches*." This is a *lucus* with a vengeance.

**SIMNELL**, *s.* a plumb cake having a raised crust for the exterior. It partakes of the nature of a mince pie, but the contents are packed closer together, and consequently rendered still more indigestible. The crust is extremely hard, and highly flavoured with saffron. Originally it was a sort of bread merely, or *cracknel* made from *simila*, or very fine flour, and according to Galea, it held the second place for excellence among the different kinds of bread. In the middle-age-writers we find it spoken of under the title of *siminellus*. Shrewsbury is now the only place where this kind of cake is made. It is supposed to be in highest season about Christmas. S. Goth. *simla*; Alam. *sembla*; Teut. Germ. Belg. *semmel-brod*, panis triticeus.

**SKEAW-WIFT**, *adv.* on one side, uneven. Ex. "All *skeaw-wift*."

**SKELK**, *v.* to shrink. Applied to coffin wood.

**SKIN-FLINT**, *s.* a covetous person, one who, if it were possible would "skin a flint, to save a penny."

**SKINNY**, *adj.* niggardly, mean, avaricious. Ex. "A *skinny* aud thing." Swed. *skinna*, immodice lucrari. Verel. in Indic. *skynia kuna*, mulier frugi.

**SKIP**, *s.* 1. a bee-hive. Gael. *sgeap*, a skip for bees. 2. a basket or vessel used in coal pits by which the material is drawn to the surface. A. Sax. *schoppen*, haurire. A. Sax. *sciop*, vas. Teut. *schepel*, modius.

**PROMP. PARV.** *skeppe*, sporta. Lat. *scappa*. Northamp. **SKIRMAGE**, *v.* to skirmish. Fr. *escrimer*.

Ac as they *skirmed* to the core.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 7886.

**SKITTER WITTED**, *adj.* one whose *wits* are *scattered*, foolish.

SKÖUTE, *s.* a small portion, allotment, or enclosed piece of land. Ex. "A *sköute* o' groun." S. Goth. *skot*; A. Sax. *scyt*, angulus. Teut. *schut*, septum. Isl. *skot*, latibulum.

SKREEN, *v.* to riddle. Hence a *malt-skreen*. Lat. Barb. *cernida*. (See Du Cange.)

SLACK, *s.* small coals. Germ. *schlack*, scoria.

SLACK, *v.* to prepare clod-lime by means of putting water to it. Isl. *slagi*, humiditas. A. Sax. *slacian*, relaxare.

SLAGG, *s.* the dross or refuse from any smelting of ores, as the *slag* of lead. This is the correct term. I first heard it used at the smelting furnaces under PONSERT HILL, in which immediate neighbourhood the Romans worked the very lead mines which produce the supply at the present day. S. Goth. *slagg*; Germ. *schlack*; Belg. *slacks*, scoria, fæx metalli.

This *slag* is worked by means of water blast and cokes, the high chimnies not having, even with all their power, a draft sufficiently quick to fuse it.

SLAGG PIGS, *s.* flat pigs of lead of a smaller size and inferior quality to the common ones. They are of this shape,



but wherefore I could not ascertain. It is however very remarkable that Slagg Pigs of a similar shape have been found forty five years ago, which seem to belong to the Roman period. The method of working this article consists in the addition of *slacked* lime, which causes the dross to thicken, so that it can be skimmed off.

SLANG, *s.* a long and narrow piece of land. Is this corrupted from *slade*, a word which has the like meaning, and deducible from the A. Sax. *slad*, or does it

come from the Germ. *schlank*? (See Kennett's Gloss. under *Slade*.)

SLANN, *s.* a sloe. S. Goth. *slá*, prunum. A. Sax. *slan*, pruna sylvestria.

SLAPE, *v.* to hang out, hang down, chiefly with reference to thrusting out the tongue. Ex. "*Slaping* his tongue out." Isl. *slapa*, pendere.

SLEDGER, *s.* the stone which lies undermost in the hopper of a mill.

SLEEPERS, *s.* 1. such grains of barley as do not vegetate whilst undergoing the process of malting. 2. transverse bars upon which the rails of a railway are laid.

SLENCH, *s.* that part of the cow which lies close to 'the brisket.'

SLICK, SLEEK, *v.* to make smooth, polish, make even. A shoemaker talks about *slicking* the soles of his shoes with a *slicking stick*; and a carpenter says that a plane will *slick* a deal board. Teut. *slichten*, *slechten*; Germ. *schlechten*, planare. PROMP. PARV. *slyke*, or smooth.

SLICK, *adj.* and as frequently used adverbially; 1. smooth, shining. Ex. "Your féace looks as *slick* as a mould ort."

With bent browes, smooth and *slicke*.

ROMAUNT OF THE ROSE.

2. clear, entirely. The Americans use it in this sense; we do so very rarely. Ex. "Gone off *slick*." Teut. *slicht*, planus.

SLIGHT, *v.* to neglect, do badly, perform carelessly. Ex. "He *slights* his work."

SLIGHTY, *adj.* slight, feeble, insufficient, unenduring. Ex. "Tis but a *slighty* job."

SLINK VEAL, *s.* such calves as are killed when under some disorder. Germ. *schlenken*, abjicere? Belg. *slanck*, gracilis. Skinner.

SLIP, *s.* clay is so called when the air and water is evaporated, so that it is ready for the potter's hands.

SLIP, *v.* to cast a foal.

SLIP COWT, *s.* a colt immaturely born.

SLIP FOAL, *s.* a colt prematurely foaled.

SLIPPER, *s.* a mare who casts her foal.

SLITHER, SLEATHER, *v.* to slide, slip easily along the surface. A. Sax. *slidan*; Teut. Belg. *slidderen, sledderen, prolabi*. PROMP. PARV. *slydyr, labilis*.

Quha sittith most hie, sal find the sait maist *slidder*.  
*Complaint of the Papingo.*

How worldye pomp, and glore, bene *slidder*.  
*The Monarchie.*

Some go strayghte thyther  
Be it slaty or *slider*.

ELINOUR RUMMING.

SLIVE, SLIVVER, *v.* to cut away in slices, strip bark from a tree. A. Sax. *slifan, findere*.

A lytyll bowe he gan of *slive*.

SIR CLEGES, v. 211.

SLOB, *s.* an outside board, 'a shide'. Corruptly for *slab*.

SLOBBER, *s.* rain. Ex. "Ther ull come some *slobber* soon."  
Teut. *slabben, distillare*.

SLOFF, *v.* to eat greedily, dirtily, or slovenly. Ex. "How yo' dun *sloff* o'er your fittle." PROMP. PARV. *sloffynge* or unkindly etynge, devoratio. C. Brit. *Uyft, sordidus*. Teut. Belg. *sloef, homo sordido, sive horrido cultu*. Dan. *slæff, hebes*. Hence the word *sloven*.

SLOMMACKING, SLAMMACHING, *adj.* unwieldy, clumsy. Ex. "A big *slommacking* homan." Teut. *slabacken, labascere*. Isl. *slýma, otiosus hærerere*. S. Goth. *slēm, turpis*. Teut. *slommeringhe, quisquilise*. Swed. *slēm, limus*. Germ. *schlampampe, a slut*.

SLOP, *v.* to spill, and in a secondary sense, to wet or dirty. Ex. "Mind yo dunna *slop* it." "*Slopped* hirself a fatching waiter." A low word struck off on the onomatopœic principle.

SLOPPY, *s.* a fall of rain. Ex. "Is it frosty this morning? Why noâ sir, there com'd summut *sloppy* i' the night."

**SLOBBY, SLURRY, s.** the levigated matter which forms under a grindstone. Ex. "Grindlestwun *slorry*." Teut. *sloorigh*, sordidus. PROMP. PARV. *slor*, or *sloor*, clay.

**SLOBBY, v.** to plaster, daub over. Ex. "*Slurry* it o'er." PROMP. PARV. *slorred*, cœnosus.

**SLOSH, SLUSH, s.** 1. mud, dirt. Ex. "All o'er *slosh*." "*Slosh* and gore." S. Goth. *slask*, humor sordidus. 2. a large body of water. Teut. *sluyse*, cataracta. Brockett, Forby.

**SLOT, SLOTE, s.** a kind of bolt for bottoms or sides of wagons, 'tumbrels', or harrows. Teut. *slot*; Alam. *slöz*, pera.

**SLOTE, v.** to bolt, or dovetail. Belg. *sluyten*; Teut. *slotelen*, *sluyten*, serare.

**SLUD, s.** usual for sludge.

**SLUD, v.** to be splashed or dirty with sludge. Ex. "*Sludded* from yed to fut." A. Sax. *slog*, locus concavus, lacuna cœnosa. Teut. *slodderem*, flaccescere. Dan. *slud*, pluvia et nix commixtæ.

**SMAY, v.** to refuse, feel a disinclination towards. Ex. "The bwes *smay'n* their mate." "*Smaid* his fittle." Apparently a very well authorised word, and in strict analogy with its root. Isl. *smá*; Teut. *smaden*, contemnere. A. Sax. *smægan*, considerare, (that is does not eat readily, but takes time to think whether there is need or appetite for food.)

**SMUT, s.** 1. the uredo fœtida, a disease incidental to wheat. (See remarks under HERRIN.) Ex. "The *smuts* ta'en the wêat." 2. particles of soot detached from the fire or chimney. Ex. "The *smut* flies about the room and dirties everything in it." 3. impure and filthy conversation. Ex. "He deals in *smut*." S. Goth. *smuts*, inquinatio. Teut. *smet*; A. Sax. *smitta*, labes. Germ. *schmutz*, sordes.

**SMUTTY, adj.** 1. blighted. 2. black: (Anglice, *smutch*.) 3. given to indecent jesting. Ex. "A *smutty* dog." Swed. *smutsig*, immundus.



SNAFE, *v.* to check, thwart. Ex. "Dunna *snape* the babby a thatns." Analogous to the following.

SNAPLE, *v.* to nip, wither. Ex. "This here frost 'ull *snaple* the posies." Isl. *niupa*; Swed. *nypa*; Belg. *nipen*; Germ. *kneiffen*, arcatare, constringere.

SNED, *s.* the handle of a scythe. Teut. *snede*, acies cultri. A. Sax. *snæd*, falcis ansa. S. Goth. Swed. *sned*, obliquus. Isl. *snaida*, obliquare. Nares cites Evelyn for *snæd*, which possesses the same meaning.

SNIDDLE, *s.* a long coarse grass: the *Poa aquatica* of botanists; usually seen growing in ditches and gutters.

SNOFFLE, *v.* to breathe with difficulty through the nose. Ex. "He *snoffles*:" "A *snoffling* fellow." S. Goth. *snofla*, rancidulum quiddam blæsa de nare sonare. A. Sax. *snofel*, rheuma. Teut. *snoffelen*, naribus spirare. Hence to *sniff*, and to *snivel*.

SOCKET-PIKEL, *s.* a hook used by colliers.

SOG, *s.* a blow, chiefly applied to the stomach, as "A *sog* in the guts." Verel. in Indic. *sokn*, invasio hostilis.

SOGGER, *s.* 1. the same as the preceding. 2. a large lump.

SOK, *s.* 1. the liquid manure which oozes from a dunghill, quasi, the *soak*. Ex. "The *sok* o' th' mixen." Isl. *sokk*, mergor. A. Sax. *soc*, suctus. 2. the suck of a plough.

Corn. Bret. Armor. *sok*; Gael. *socan*, vomer.

I saw duke Sangor thair with mony a knob,  
Six hundred men slew with ane pleuchis *sok*.

*Palice of Honour*, xxvi.

SOLDIER'S THIGH, *phr.* a slang term for an empty pocket.

SOLES, SAWLS, SAWHLS, *s.* yokes with which cattle are tied.

Ex. "Fasten the bwes with the *sawls* up to the boosey."

A. Sax. *sol*, retinaculum jumentorum.

*Soles*, fetters, and shackles, with horse-lock and pad.

TUSSER, p. 16, edit. Mavor.

SOLID, *adj.* grave, sedate. Ex. "Miss Mary looks mighty *solid* o'er it."

SOMMERED, *part. past*; applied to ale when, as the word has been explained to the writer, "it is sour on the

grains." The fault arises chiefly from hot weather, and bad cellaring.

SORES, *s.* sirs, from whence corrupted. "*Sores alive!*" an address to comrades or fellow-workers. Ex. "Come! *sores alive!* we munna stop lazing (idling) a thisns."

SOSS, *s.* a mess. PROMP. PARV. *soos*, *houndis mete*. Gael. *sos*, a mixture of food for dogs.

SOURING, *s.* vinegar.

SOUSE, *s.* 1. a smart blow. Ex. "Fatch him a *souse* i' th' chops." 2. adverbially, smartly, so as to cause pain. Ex. "He fell down *souse*." A word that was of doubtful authority at the period of Beaumont and Fletcher, and it has not acquired any new claims to notice since.

Yes, that may hold, Sir:

*Souse* is a bona roba; so is *flops* too.

*The Nice Valour.*

SPAN-GUTTER, *s.* a drain in a coal mine, formed by one brick being placed flat, and one at either end to keep the soil from falling in.

SPANKER, *s.* any thing large, either man or beast. Ex. "A *spanking* horse," "rides a *spanker*:" usually received in a good sense.

SPARABLES, *s.* small nails for shoes.

SPARCLE, *s.* a spark. Ex. "A *sparcle* flew out o' th' fire." Teut. *sparcelen*, dispergere. PROMP. PARV. *sparcle* of *fyre*, and, *sparcleying*.

He sprong as *sparcle* doth of glede.

KING OF TARS, v. 194.

It sprange as *sparcle* oute of flynte.

SPAULED, *part. past*; split, cleft, as wood. Teut. Germ. *spalten*, findere.

SPAY, SPLAY, *v.* to castrate an heifer. We certainly took this term from the C. Brit. *dispaddu*, castrare, who in like manner received it from the Gr. *σπάω*, extraho. Bret. Armor. *spas*, *spaz*; Lat. *spado*; Gael. *spoth*, *spadare*.

SPEND, *v.* very current for *expend*.

**SPIFFLICATE**, *v.* to do some bodily injury. A low word, whose derivation is unknown; perhaps it is a corruption from *split*.

**SPIKE-POLE**, *s.* a rafter eight feet long, bound with iron at its end, generally the same size as a fencing rail, used in 'tying' dangerous places in the roof of a pit.

**SPILL**, *s.* a turn, trial, attempt. Ex. "Tak a *spill* at it." A. Sax. *speling*, vices. 'To do a spell:' Phillips.

**SPINDLE-RODS**, *s.* rails at the top of a pit by which 'Bank girls' hold to assist them in drawing 'the Bowk' from 'the shaft.' (See these various words.)

**SPINNY**, *s.* a small wood, cover, thicket. A word much in use among the Cornavii or dwellers in the midland counties, but more especially the Coritani and Catuellani. (See Ordnance Surveys.) Lat. *spina*? Nares quotes from Evelyn, *spinet*. Our word is provincial, but not dialectical. It is not met with in Coles, Blount, Bullokar or Phillips.

**SPIRE**, *v.* to grow rapidly, shoot upwards quickly. Teut. *sperron*, *extendere*.

**SPITTLE**, *s.* a spade. Seldom used in Shropshire, and entirely confined to the Staffordshire side of the county. A. Sax. *spitu*, *pastinum*.

**SPOKE-SHAVE**, *s.* a narrow plane used by wheelwrights to make smooth the inner parts of a wheel. Teut. *speecke*, *radius rotæ*; *shave*, *planula*. Palsgrave, *Spoke-shave*.

**SPOLE**, *s.* a small wheel contiguous to the distaff in a common spinning wheel. There is a word similar in meaning and sound to the present in nearly every European tongue. Not local. S. Goth. *spole*; Teut. *spoels*; Belg. *spoel*; Ital. *spola*, *instrumentum textorium*. PROMP. PARV. *Spole*, *Webster's instrument*.

**SPON-NEW**, *phr.* *Span-new* must be known all England through: though our method of pronunciation may be peculiar. The example from the Metrical Romance of Kyng Alisaunder gives precisely the form which

suits our manner of speaking it. Verel. in Indic. *spanyr*; Germ. *span*, novus.

Richelie he doth him schrede  
In *span-neowe* knyghtis wede.

v. 4055.

SPOR, *s.* used in place of drop. Ex. "Nod a *spot* i' th' jug." Isl. *spotti*, frustulum rei alicujus.

SPOR, *v.* to commence raining. Ex. "It *spots* o' rain." S. Goth. Swed. *spotta*; Teut. *spotten*; Germ. *spocken*, spuere.

SPOTTLE, *v.* to splash, stain or dirty with liquid filth. Ex. "*Spotted* your gownd." Teut. *spotten*, maculare. Wiclif uses *spotil* for *spittle*, thus he translates from the ix<sup>th</sup> of St John.

He spette into the eerthe, and made clay of the *spotil*.

SPRAG, *v.* to support or prop up any thing that inclines. *Spragging* therefore signifies to be supported by a pole. (A. Sax. *spreot*, contus,) a sprit or spret: this by a slight change becomes *sprat*, and *sprat*, *sprag*.

SPRAGES, *s.* 'uprights', or pieces of wood placed upright against the sides of a coal pit, to support the 'lids.'

SPRINGLE, *s.* a rod four feet long, generally of hazle or the mountain ash, used in thatching; the twigs which lie horizontally along the sides of the roof. A. Sax. *sprynGAN*, pullulare.

For ho so spareth the *spring*, spilleth hus children.

PIERS PLOUHMAN, 82.

SPRINGY, *adj.* elastic.

SPUNGERING, *adj.* overreaching, imposing. This is not a common word, and I feel disposed to think it is a vitiation from *spunging*. Never having heard it but once, I do not consider it as naturalised; though on that occasion it was uttered by a labourer from Cleobury Mortimer, where they ought to speak with peculiar purity. My informant says, that 'a *spungering* fellow is one who overcharges', and with his definition I leave it.

SPUNK, *s.* 1. spirit, energy. Ex. "He's no *spunk* in him." Evidently 'a low and contemptible word' though Brockett gainsays the assertion of Todd. 2. touch-wood. Devons. Norf. Suff. N. C.

SQUARES, *s.* broad hoops of iron which are used to hold coal in 'the Baskets,' whilst being drawn up a pit. In Staffordshire termed 'Rings to the Skip.'

SQUASHY, *adj.* watery; fruit or vegetables not arrived at maturity receive this epithet. Shakspeare, in Twelfth Night, and Winter's Tale, uses *squash* in a similar sense. Swed. *squal*, fluxus copiosior.

SQUELCH, *s.* a blow in the stomach. Ex. "A *squelch* i' th' guts."

SQUELCH, *v.* to give a blow in the stomach. Inelegantly enough, but old. Teut. *swelken*, premerere.

Oh! 'twas your luck and mine to be *squelch'd* master:  
He has stamp'd my very puddings into pancakes.

*The Nice Valour.*

SQUILT, *s.* any corporeal blemish, or scrofulous mark upon the body. Ex. "Nivir seed no *squilt* nor nothing o' the kind on him."

SQUIT, SQUITTERS, *s.* looseness of the body. A. Sax. *scitta*, fluor ventris. PROMP. PARV. *skytte*, or *flyx*, *fluvus*.

To heal thee of thy *skitter*.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flying*.

STAGGERS, *s.* old quick removed from one hedge to another. Teut. Germ. *staeck*, stipes.

STAIL, STELE, *s.* a handle. A. Sax. Teut. Belg. *stole*, capulus.

And lerede men a ladel bygge with a long *stole*.

P. FLOUHEMAN, 380.

STAKING AT THE STOMACH, *phr.* a tightness at the chest, difficulty of breathing. A disease "that comes through caud" my informant states. Applied also to cattle when bound in the stomach. Germ. *stecken* impedimentum objicere. Teut. *stecken*, hærere.

STAMPING, *s.* holes in a horse's shoe.

**STANK**, *s.* a dam carried across a brook, which from causing the water<sup>a</sup> above it to form into a kind of small lake becomes *stagnant*; Lat. *stagnum*. The A. Sax. *staeng*, sudes, offers another etymon, and stakes being usually applied to sustain the temporary dam, it seems more likely to have occasioned the word. Forby proposes the Norm. Fr. *estanche*. There are numerous passages in the Early Metrical Romances where the term is employed, though not with a signification sufficiently apposite or extended to warrant their insertion here. (See Rot. Parl. ii. 229, &c. iii. 282, &c. iv. 8.)

O'er bush, o'er bank, o'er ditch, o'er *stank*.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 102.

**STANK**, *v.* to dam up water. Ex. "*Stank* up the bruk."

S. Goth. *stānga*, usurpatur de quolibet claudendi modo.

**STAUN**, *s.* STANTON in Corve Dale. It was anciently written *Staunton*, and has thus been corrupted into *Staun*.

**STĀN**, *s.* a large earthen vessel. Ex. "Put th' o'er-plush o' th' drink i' th' *spigot-stean*." M. Goth. *stains*; S. Goth. Swed. *sten*; Alam. Isl. Germ. *stein*; A. Sax. *stan*; Dan. Belg. *steen*; lapis. Or, as we should say, "a stone jar."

I was once as fow of Gill Morice

As hip is o' the *stean*.

GILL MORICE, v. 160.

**STEER**, *s.* 1. a bullock till he reaches the age of two years. M. Goth. *stiur*; A. Sax. *steor*; Teut. Germ. *stier*, taurus. 2. a starling or *sturling*: Germ. *stör*; A. Sax. *stearn*; Lat. *sturnus*. (See Turnerus de Avibus, p. 89.) Thus Germ. *stör*, and *ling*, a frequent termination for a diminutive, as *spierling*, passerulus, from Germ. *spier*, passer: but consult the Prolegomena to Wachter, Sect. vi.

**STELCH**, *s.* a post to which cattle are tied in a cow house.

A. Sax. *stole*, columna.

**STELCH**, *adv.* furtively, or in secret. Ex. "Did it by *stelch*." Used for *stealth*.

**STELCH-STAFF**, *s.* a strong piece of wood which serves to keep asunder the traces of wagon horse gearing. It ought to be called *stretch-staff*.

**STENT**, *s.* a corruption from extent. Ex. "A *stent* o' work;" that is, an undertaking, or as much as can be accomplished in a fixed period. Nares quotes from the *Mirroure for Magistrates*,

Had even now attain'd his journey's *stent*.

**STEPPITON**, *s.* Stapleton, co. Salop.

**STICK**, *s.* a common termination to the names of many tools used by shoemakers: as a *Prick-stick*, used for pricking between seams: a *Long-stick*, used for smoothing the soles: a *Holling-stick*, for burnishing them; and a *Size-stick*, for taking the measure.

**STINKERS**, **STINKING-COAL**, *s.* a very inferior kind of coal which bears its title from the disagreeable smell of sulphur which it emits in burning. It is afterwards traceable by the redness of its ashes.

**STIRK**, *s.* a heifer until two years old. A. Sax. *stirc*, juvenous.

**STIVE**, *v.* to be shut up in a close, hot place; pent within a small room in warm weather. Ex. "*Stiving* and *stewing*." Ital. *stufa*, as rendered by Florio in a genuine Shropshire explanation, "a *whot* house." Skinner and Junius refer us to the Gr. *στύφα*, adstringo.

**STODGE**, *s.* a thick mess of oatmeal and milk, or any food which is semi-solid. Hence one who has freely eaten of this or any similar sort of food is said to be *stodged*. I am unable to trace this word to any legitimate origin, yet nevertheless I think it is far from being tralatitious, Moore having inserted *stodgey*, which has a like import.

**STOMBER**, *v.* to confuse. Ex. "Well did nod it *stomber* yo?" "Put me to the *stombers*." A vitiation of *astound*

perhaps. Confined to Corve Dale, therefore peculiarly local.

STOP-GLAT, *s.* a make shift, substitute, temporary supply.

Ex. "Nivir be a *stop-glat* for sich a chap as thee bist."  
(See GLAT.)

STORM-COCK, *s.* the missel thrush, *Turdus viscivorus*, Linn.

STOUK, *s.* a handle of any vessel. Ex. "The *stouk's* broke off." Teut. *steken*; Germ. *stecken*, hærerere; A. Sax. *stican*, figere. Some one has informed me that the word has peculiar reference to the handles of a milk pail; if this be so, the C. Brit. *ystrick*, a milk pail has an apparent relation to the word. Ray's correspondent, Mr Lloyd, gives *stouk*, in his list, for the handle of a pail.

STOUL, STOOL, *s.* the old and decayed stump from whence sprout young twigs.

STRAFE, *v.* to stray. Ex. "The bwes bin *strafed* away."  
"Stolen or *strafed*." Germ. *streifen*; Gr. *στρέφω*, *vagari*.

STRECKLE, STRICKLE, STRECLESS, &c. *s.* a piece of wood used for striking or sweeping off even measure. Teut. *streckel*, hostorium; *strickel*, strigil.

STREKE, *v.* to strike with a streckle. Ex. "Quern sould *streken* or yeped?" Teut. *strecklen*, leviter tangere. Germ. *streichen*, tangere æquandi causa.

And see that youre corne be mesured with a trewe mesure, that is to saye with a trewe busshell, and that euery busshell be *streken*.  
*Boke of Husbandry*. W. DE WORDE.

STRENGTH, *s.* a metonymy by which we express plenty, or a multitude. Ex. "A innod likely to get in his harrast this ownder, if a dunna get moor *strength* about him."  
"Plenty o' *strength*," as the vulgar say, when ten men do the work which one ought. In our habit of pronouncing this word, the *g* is omitted, as in *lenth* (q. v.) and the practice seems to be defensible through the example afforded by our Early English Poets.

Do there bothe *streynthe* and *gynne*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 7264, 7344, 7351, &c.



STRET, *adj.* tight. Ex. "A *stret* waistcoat." A. Sax. *strace*, strictus.

STRETZEN, *v.* to tighten. Ex. "*Stretten* the rop." Teut. *strecken*, tendere. PROMP. PARV. *streytnes*, strictura.

STRIKE, *s.* a bushel. Accurately distinguishing between the terms *strike* and bushel, we should say that a bushel denotes a measure capable of containing eight gallons, *unstricken*; a strike means a measure of eight clear gallons, *stricken*. But consult Moore, *sub voce*.

STRIKE, *v.* 1. to make the surface of a corn measure even. 2. to make a line by means of a chalked piece of string, a carpenter's method. Isl. *strika*, lineam ducere. A. Sax. *strica*, linea, directio. (Hence the Geologists have derived so correctly their term *strike*, as applied to stratification.)

STRINE, *s.* a ditch. A word not common. Is it very local? I think it is, but nevertheless deducible from good authority. Isl. *strönd*, stria.

STRIPPINGS, *s.* the last milk obtained from cows. Isl. *strefta*, lactis ultima emunctio. Dan. *strippe*, a pail.

STROKE, *s.* an unusual quantity of labor performed in a certain time. Ex. "Did an uncommon *stroke* of work." Or as we occasionally express ourselves in another classical idiom, "a *power* of work:" "a *sight* of work:" "a *power* of people:" "a *sight* of people," &c. And the periphrasis is every way as allowable as those we so frequently meet with in Greek and Latin writers, for instance, Homer's *βίη Ἡρακλεΐη*. Il. xv. 640. xviii. 117, &c. Theoc. Idyl. xxv. 55. 91. 110. 154. 261. Æschyl. Sept. ante Theb. 755. 796. Pers. 439. 605. Eurip. Suppl. 478. Lycophron. 228, &c. Cicero calls the aristocracy *robora* populi Romani: and in his oration for Murena, says, "qui quotidianis epulis in *robore* accumbunt." And we find Shakspeare employing the same figure in Hamlet's soliloquy,

To take up arms against a *sea* of troubles.

Now a days mankind thinks a *peck* of them sufficiently troublesome.

**STRUMPLES**, *phr.* "Thee'st cock'd my *strumple*." That is, by mentioning some unlooked for fact, astonished or made the hair stand on end.

**STUBS**, *s.* 1. decayed stumps of wood, or broken stakes which present obstacles to fishermen, or afford shelter to the finny race. Ex. "The trout took hout under the *stubs*." 2. rotten or withered roots generally, such as may be seen in old hedge-rows. Ex. "Stock up the *stubs* and clier the ground." 3. horse nails. Ex. "Digest horse nail *stubs*." 4. short nails for strong shoes. Ex. "Put some good *stubs* into the heels." These two latter senses have been engrafted on our Salopian Vocabulary from the meaning the word has under the two former examples, what is short and strong furnishing a term that denotes a particular sort of nail of this character. From the same source we have learned the metaphorical epithets of *stubby*, *stunty*, *snubby*, and *grubby*; epithets applied to persons whose replies display more of brevity than politeness. A. Sax. *stybbe*, truncus. Isl. Swed. *stubbe*, caudex arboris detruncatæ. Swed. *stubig*, brevis.

**STUDY**, *s.* a small anvil used in manufacturing nails.

**SUCKET**, *s.* a sweet sort of confectionary.

Now does my blood wamble, you! *sucket-eater*.  
*The Wits*, ii. (v. also NARES, *Sub voce*.)

**SUFF**, *s.* a drain. Ex. "Up the *suff*." The *suff*'s stopped."

This must be entirely our own. C. Brit. *sychu*, a drain.

**SUMMUT SHORT**, *phr.* "A glass o' *summut short*," ardent spirits. Low, and not dialectical.

**SUMP**, *s.* a term used by miners which I do not clearly understand. They frequently speak of the *sump* and *sumping*. In Derbyshire it means any perpendicular opening under ground, one not extending to the surface: perhaps our use of the word is the same.

**SUNTORE**, *part. past*; cracked or otherwise injured by the sun, applied to wood.

SUP, *s.* a draught. Ex. "Giz a *sup* o' drink, Surrey! woot?" Teut. *suppe*, haustus. Swed. *sup*; Belg. Teut. *soppe*, potus. S. Goth. *supa*, (usurpatur de cibis jurulentis. Ihre), and in such a signification the word is common among the Cornavii, as "a *sup* of broth", "a *sup* of gruel", &c. Fr. *souper*.

And soupyd off the brouwys a *soppe*.

R. COER DE LION, v. 3077.

SUP, *v.* to swallow, drink. Ex. "*Sup* it up." "I'll mā thee *sup* sorrow lad afore neet." S. Goth. *supa*; Teut. *suppen*; Germ. *suppen*; A. Sax. *supan*, sorbere.

*Sup* syne sex sops, but something thin.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flyting*.

And in a paper he dooth fayre fold it up,  
Fastyng thre days, he byddeth that to *sup*.

*The Hyeway to the Spyttell Hous*, v. 408.

SUPPIN, *s.* a form of the substantive *sup*, though having a more extended meaning, and being applicable generally to any liquids soever that can be lapped or drunk.

SUP UP, *v.* to feed at night. Ex. "Han 'e *supped* up the bwes yet?" "*Suppin* up time."

SURREY LAD, *phr.* a low and familiar address corrupted from *Sirrah lad*. Ex. "How goes it *Surrey lad*?" A friend informs me that a dialogue has been heard on a pit bank running in this distich; the first speaker being at the top calls to the one at the bottom,

*Surrey* hah (pronounced *haw*, for rythym sake).

Why dost na draw.

*Ans.* Cos the querdle hurts my bolly hah.

(Isl. *bol*, truncus).

SWAGLE, *v.* to swing. Isl. *svaigia*, flectere, curvare. Teut. *waeghen*, vacillare. (See WAGLE.)

SWAGLE, *s.* a swing.

SWALE, *s.* a piece of wood going from an upright shaft in an oatmeal mill to one of the wheels. M. Goth. *valtes*, virga? Isl. *vala*, taxillus?

SWANE, *v.* to soften, absorb, applied to a swelling. Ex. "Swane it away." A. Sax. *wanian*, minuere.

SWANKY, *s.* very inferior small beer. A. Sax. *swatan*, cerevisia.

SWAP, *adv.* clean, quickly, smartly. Ex. "Come down on the ground *swap*." A. Sax. *swipan*; Cimb. *swipan*, cito agere. Isl. *swipan*, motus subitus.

And in the same stound  
Al sodenly she *swapt* a down to ground.

CLERKE'S *Tale*, v. 8975.

SWAP, *s.* an exchange. Ex. "Make a *swap* with him." Isl. *skipta*, mutare. (Brockett.)

SWAP, *v.* to exchange. Ex. "*Swapped* it away."

I trow we *swapped* for the worse.

RITSON'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 48.

SWARM, *v.* to climb a tree or rope. Isl. *svarmla*, precipitanter contrectare.

SWAT, *s.* sweat, perspiration. Ex. "All on a *muck-swat*." Though to ears polite this word savours somewhat of vulgarity, yet it has incurred reprobation undeservedly; for if a word which is purely Saxon be more in analogy with the general idiom of our tongue, than one that is corrupted, or superinduced from the Latin, surely this is not merely defensible, but the more accurate expression. A. Sax. *swat*, sudor.

SWAT, *v.* to sweat. Ex. "How they *swat'n*!"

They *swapped* swords, and they twa *swat*.

*Battle of Otterburne.*

SWATH, *s.* a line of grass or grain left by mowers in the process of cutting. A. Sax. *swath*, vestigium: scissio.

SWELSH, *adv.* smack. Ex. "Came down *swelsh*." A low word. We also hear of "a *swelsh* i' th' guts." Teut. *swelcken*, premere.

SWEPPLE, *s.* the upper portion of a thresher's flail. Isl. *swipa*; A. Sax. *swip*; flagellum.

With swppying of *swepyls*.

*Turnament of Tottenham.*

SWERD, *s.* 1. turf, greensward. Ex. "On the *sword*." A. Sax. *sweard*, graminea campi superficies. 2. skin of bacon. Ex. "Tough as bacon *sword*." A. Sax. *sweard*, cutis. 3. a sword. Here we retain the original pronunciation in accordance with the various affinities which the word has. S. Goth. *sword*; Isl. *sword*, ensis.

Ony tweyne eggid *sword*.

WICLIFF'S *New Testament*, Ebrewis, ch. iv.

SWEY, *s.* a crane. Isl. *sveif*, ansa rotatilis.

SWIG, *s.* 1. toast and ale. Hence any liquor which is excellent, is termed "good *swig*;" and 2. figuratively, "Tak a *swig*."

SWIG, *v.* to drink, make a draught; verbally used, it is taken rather in malam partem, and applied to one who is prone to drink immoderately.

SWILKER, *v.* to get shaken over the sides of a vessel, as any liquid. Ex. "The milk *swilkers* o'er the sides of a pail." Teut. *swicken*, motitare.

SWILL, *s.* a vesicle in the stomach of a fish; sometimes termed a *swim*, because without it, there is an idea that the fish would *sink*. Isl. *svil*, lactes piscium.

SWILL, *v.* to cleanse out by means of liquid application. Ex. "*Swill* out a glass." "*Swill* down thy fittle." A. Sax. *swilian*, lavare; *swiling*, gargarismus.

SWINGE, *v.* to singe, by epenthesis. A. Sax. *sængan*; Teut. *sengen*, ustulare.

SWINGEING, *adj.* vehement, great, above measure. Ex. "A *swingeing* hot day." Is this referable to the preceding derivations, or to the Belg. *swindigh*, magnus?

SWINGER, *s.* whatever is excessive. Ex. "Gie him a *swinger*;" either a blow or some sort of punishment. A. Sax. *swingan*, flagellare. Teut. *swingen*, terere.

SWINGLE, *s.* a swing. Teut. *swinghelen*, vibrare.

SWINNYING, *s.* a dizziness. Ex. "A *swinnying* in the head." Teut. *swindelinghe*, vertigo.

SWITE, THWITE, *v.* 1. to shave with a knife. Ex. "A *swited* stick." 2. to cut as wood. Ex. "*Switing* pea stickings." A. Sax. *thwitan*, cultello resecare. The continual interchanging of *s* and *th*, render these two verbs identical. The latter form is commoner in Chaucer than the former.

SWIVE, *v.* to cut wheat or beans with a broad hook. A. Sax. *swigan*, circumagi. Hence such kind of reapers who for the most part are Welshmen, are called SWIVERS; and the sickle used, a SWIVING HOOK.





is entirely dropped in many words where it precedes *s*, and is superseded by *e*, especially if there be any plurality: thus do we hear of *shairp frosses*, for sharp frosts; of *birds' nesses* for birds' nests; of a few *crusses of bread*, for a few crusts of bread.

When final, it is converted into *d*, as in *nod* for not: *an whod nod?* for, and what not? *connod*, for cannot: *whodsomdever*, for whatsoever.

It is often suppressed when properly terminating a word, as *slep*, for slept: "as soon as *ã fel* the warmth o' th' fire", for as soon as he felt the warmth of the fire: *knel* down, for knelt down: *kep* for kept.

**TACK**, *s*. 1. taste. Ex. "The ale has got a *tack* o' th' barrel." 2. bad ale or beer generally. Ex. "This drink's poor *tack*." Fr. *tache*, *teche*, *teiehe*, qualite, disposition. (See Roquef. Gloss. de la langue Romane.) It is invariably used by us in a bad sense. The latter sense is employed by a figure from the first. 3. pasture taken by hire. Ex. "The bwes bin out at *tack*." This rendering arises from a totally different origin, and may be taken as an independent yet equally legitimate word. There seems to be a point of antiquarian interest in-

volved in its signification when we come to examine it. Camden in his *Britannia* gives a figure of some British coins which he had seen, having represented on one side, a horse running without a bridle, with the inscription, *TASCIA*. Baxter supposes that the coins of Cunobelen had this word impressed on them from the Antient C. British, *tascu*, (or *tasgu* Davies), onus imponere. It was a tribute annually exacted by the Romans as a kind of agrarian impost. It therefore does not seem improbable that in process of time, whilst the term was becoming corrupted that its signification should grow more extended, and that what had been obnoxious to a tax or payment should itself receive under a slightly modified form the same appellation. And if this conjecture be feasible, the Shropshire phrase of "*horses at TACK*" is accounted for.

**TADÉ**, *perf.* of *v.* to take. Ex. "*Tade* him whoám."  
"*Tade* on him nothin."

**TADIOUS**, *adj.* impatient and fretful. Ex. "Grows mighty *tadious*," from tedious.

**TAIL-END**, *s.* sweepings of a barn floor, after wheat is threshed.

**TAK**, *v.* 1. to take. Ex. "Wun 'e *tak* a drop o' drink?"  
In almost every monosyllable ending with *ks*, the word is shortened: and like the Scotch we say *tak*, *mak*, *shak*, &c. for take, make, shake, &c.

The ne'er a bed will she gae to  
But sit and *tak* the gee.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. ii. p. 138.

2. "*tak on*," to simulate, feign. Ex. "*Taked* on him nothing." 3. "*tak ater*," to resemble. Ex. "Johnny *taks ater* his feàther." 4. "*Tak off*," to imitate, ridicule. 5. "*tak to*," to apprehend, capture, seize. Ex. "The bum (subaudi, Bailiff, Bomb,) took to him clos agen the Bridge," (i. e. the Iron Bridge.) 6. to marry. Ex. "He had her afore I *took* to her." 7. to enter on a farm. Ex. "*Tak* to it as nest Newyus day."



**TAKE**, *v.* to blight, blast. Ex. "The fly has *taen* the turmits."

There he blasts the trees, and *takes* the cattle.

*Merry Wives of Windsor*, iv. 4.

**TAKING**, *s.* 1. any pain or uneasiness of body which cannot be accounted for. Ex. "A *taking* at the stomach." Isl. *tak*, pleuritis.

—Strike her young bones,  
You *taking* airs, with lameness.

*Lear*, ii. 2.

2. a dilemma. Ex. "In a pretty *taking*."

**TAKING**, *adj.* captivating, insinuating: or, in the sense of infecting, as used by Beaumont and Fletcher,  
For I am yet too *taking* for your company.

**TALLAT**, **TALLERT**, **TALLEN**, *s.* a hay-loft. Ex. "No hay up i th' *tallat*." Here we have a pure Shropshire word, and one, too, that is of equally good authority. In seeking for the primitive, the term before us must be dissected, and all its letters excepting *a* and *l* cast aside as superfluous in the investigation. These two enter in a most remarkable way into every European language where a horse is signified. If absent under the primary, they will be discovered either in some synonym, or else in a dependant and inflected form. Thus in Arabic *al* means a horse. Vossius imagines that the Latin *caballus* is a word of Persian and Parthian origin. "Atqui Parthorum equitatus erant cameli, *gamal*, et Persice *gaball* dicti." (See Whiter's Etymolog. Magnum, p. 157.) **AL** has given rise to a vast number of equestrian phrases in various languages, amongst which may be enumerated the following. Showiah, *alowdah*, a mare. Kalm. **ALUN**, a halter. Irish, **ALL**; *peall*, *caball*, a horse. **ALL-fana**, a skittish horse: **ALL-fonna**, a strong horse for a journey. **DIAL**, *diallod*, a saddle. **ALUN**, panels, of a saddle. **AMALL**, hames. And thus according to the ingenious Valancy, (*See his Grammar of the*

*Iberno-Celtic*, p. 30.) *Saddle* is derived from *said*, a seat, and ALL a horse: *bridle*, from *brad* to govern, and ALL, a horse. *ASAL*, an ass from *aos*, age, and ALL, because that animal is remarkable for its longevity; *camal*, a camel, from *cam*, crooked, and AL. Ital. *cavallo*; Sp. *caballo*; Fr. *cheval*; Corn. *ebal*; (Hung. *tal-moso-fu*, equisetum. Anglice, mare's tail.) Germ. *Beschaler*; C. Brit. *talffroy*, *caval*; A. Sax. *falæd*; O. Eng. *capul*; with *Palfrey*, *Stallion*, *Foal*, *Cavalry*. *Saddle*, *Halter*, *Stall*, &c. Modern Greek *ταλογον*. Bret. *tailier*, croupe de cheval. To these with all good cause may be joined, the Salopian word *TALLAT*. I have had it suggested to me that the word is a corruption of "the hay-loft," by Syncope, *t'ayloft*, *tayloft*, *taylat*, *tallat*. But it seems to me more reasonable to regard it in the light of a thoroughly legitimate word, as being neither tralatitious, or vitiated: for "the hay-loft" is known throughout Shropshire, among all classes by no other designation than "the tallat," nor does it seem probable that a mere corruption should have acquired such universal currency. And upon looking into the Glossaries of Britton, Jennens and Palmer, I find the word in use in Wiltshire, Somersetshire and Devonshire, which at all events goes to prove that though it may be a provincialism, it certainly cannot, from having such extended circulation, be considered a word that is either vitiated or superinduced.

**TAN**, *v.* one of the numerous modes expressive of castigation. Ex. "I'll *tan* thy hide lad."

**TANE**, *perf.* of *v.* to take. Ex. "*Tane* ill."

Some eat man's flesh, and captives *tane* in warre.

FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, xv. 28.

**TANG**, *s.* a sweet or pleasant sound. Quite changed from its primitive meaning in the Teut. *tangher*, asper gustu.

Very good words: there's a *tang* in 'em, and a sweet one.

*Fair Maid of the Inn.*

But she had a tongue with a *tang*.

*Ballad quoted by NARES sub voce.*

**TANG**, *v.* to make a harsh discordant noise by striking against a piece of metal: a word chiefly used in reference to the swarming of bees. Ex. "*Tang* the fry-  
ingpan, and they'n (they willen, i. e. will) soon knitt."  
Teut. *tanghen*, tintinare.

Let thy tongue *tang* arguments of state.

*Twelfth Night*, ii. 5.

This is a favorable opportunity for mentioning some of the inscriptions around bells in different churches in the county. There are for instance found round two at **BITTERLEY** the words

Hic sono que melis campana vocor gabrielis.

Jesu le seigne seynt anne per le ordynaunce aleisturys.  
Que div asoile pursagaunt mercy.

Round one at **STIRCHLEY** :

Ad laudem petri fit sonus iste mei.

On one at **CLEOBURY MORTIMER** :

Petri campanam vocor et Pauli modo sanam.

At **STANTON SUPER HINEHEATH**, there is this motto :

Sancta Maria virgo intercede pro toto mundo.

Round one at **MIDDLE** :

Petrus Apostolus et Paulus Doctor gentium.

At **BERRINGTON** :

Fuit homo missus a Deo cui nomen erat Johannis.

Round one at **MUNSLOW** :

Campana Mariæ virginis egregiæ vocor.

At **BASCHURCH** :

Jesus Nazareus rex Judeorum.

Maria: int: iaer: ous: heren: M: CCCC: ende: xivo: ian:  
van: venice.

Round one at **ASTON BOTTERELL** :

Pellantur merito Petri Pectoris ictu.

Round one at **HODNETT** :

Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram edificabo ecclesiam meam.

Round one at **PRES** :

Mentem sanctam spontaneum  
honorem deo et patris liberacionem.

Round the great bell at Tong :

Ad laudem dei patris omnipotentis beatæ Mariæ et Sancti Bartholomei.

Henricus Vernon Miles istam campanam fieri fecit. Founder's bell. 1518.

Round the sixth bell :

Virgo regina cælorum funde preces ad filium pro salute fidelium.  
Willm̄s Fitzharbert.

Round three bells at CLUNGUNFORD :

Cuthberti prece dulce sonet et amene  
Missi de cœlis habeo nomen gabrielis  
Eternis annis resonet campana Johannis.

Round one at UPTON MAGNA :

Voce mea vivo depello cuncta nociva.

In 1730, round the great bell of the Abbey of St Peter and St Paul, in Shrewsbury, there were these lines, but it has since been recast :

Protega: Pura: Pia: quos convoco:  
Virgo: Maria.

Sancta Wynefrida Deo nos commendare memento.  
Ut pietate sua nos servet ab hoste cruento.

TANSEL, *v.* to chastise. Ex. "Tansel your jacket." Ital. *tansare*; Fr. *tancer*, corriger. Roquef. Gloss.

TASKERS, *s.* harvest labourers, reapers who for the most part work by the acre, and not the day. Ex. "My own men bin a cutting the lent tillin, and the taskers a-swiving the wheat." Teut. *taeckse*, pensum.

TASKING, *part.* working in harvest by the acre. Ex. "He's left his plack at the pits and gwon a tasking."

TASKWORK, *s.* work taken by piece. Ex. "My present job is taskwork." Teut. *taecks-werk*, pensum. "Travailler à la tâche, et non pas à la journée." Richelet.

TATCHING-END, *s.* the waxed hempen string with which shoes are sewn.

TATHER, *v.* 1. to tether. Belg. Fris. Teut. *tudder*, vincire pecora in pascuis. 2. to lay out any kind of work.

TATHERING CHAIN, *s.* a chain by which work is laid out and planned. Isl. *tiudr*, funis, quo equos vel pecora ligant, ne vagentur. Fr. *tead*, funis,

TATURS, TO SETTLE HIS; *phr.* "To settle a man's taturS" implies either to give him a sound thrashing, or to bring him to account for his misdeeds. In other counties such a method of proceeding is termed "*settling his hash.*" We discipline the refractory upon the vegetable only.

TATÜR-TRAP, *s.* a low term for the mouth. Ex. "Shut thy *tatur-trap.*"

TAY, *v.* to take. Ex. "*Tay*, hout on it wunne?" *Make* undergoes a similar mutation. Ex. "Whod dunn'e *may* that nise for?"

TEART, *adj.* 1. sharp. Ex. "A *teart* frosty morning," "*teart* weather." 2. smart, severe, painful. Ex. "A *teart* blow with a squitch." In this instance pronounced *thekurt*. A word of general acceptance in the neighbourhood of Ludlow, but scarcely known in other districts. Although I was frequently in the habit of hearing it in that quarter about twenty years back, whether from the increased influence of education and consequent diffusion of new terms among the lower classes, in this interval; or whether it really be, as I suspect, confined exclusively to the Western side of the county, it has not even once struck upon my ears during the whole of this interval, and would perhaps have escaped my recollection altogether, had it not recently been recalled to my mind, with some others, by the singular kindness of the Rev. John Rocke of Clungunford House. We are so perfectly the slaves of custom in conversational forms, that the very fact of a word being used by the inferior orders, is sufficient at once to subject it to animadversion. It becomes stigmatised as quite unfit for polite ears, under an affected and ignorant notion that their use of any term which sounds unusual, should therefore be unsanctioned and barbarous. In conse-

quence of this, many good old terms have been unhesitatingly condemned, and modern substitutes employed in their place. The Gallicized votaries of fashion, the conventional slang of thieves and pickpockets, police reports or trials at the Old Bailey have been the means of giving currency to numberless words which are now daily used. It must willingly be granted that the lower orders in an agricultural district stand excused from the imputation of having recklessly adulterated the vernacular tongue. They have doubtlessly coined some new forms of speech, but these are comparatively few: and hence they do not lie open to the charge of having tralatitiously introduced words and phrases. They rarely superinduce terms. Their style of conversation is for the most part natural and unconstrained, their words primitive, appositely applied, and forcible; and it is only when departing from the true idiom of the English tongue, or when they use words in imitation of their betters, which are borrowed from the Greek, the Latin, or the French, that they trip, and provoke our ridicule. As long as they confine their choice of words to those which are most strictly in analogy with the English language, they never either misapply them, or mistake their signification. It is this method of speaking which so frequently gives that vigorous, and even graceful and touching spirit to their descriptions, such as lies beyond the reach of more learned and polished writers. A pleasing and agreeable simplicity manifests itself in their conversational phrases. Natural objects furnish them with ideas, and influence their style. Hence they are enabled to couple with convenient brevity, a succinctness, which enables us readily to enter into the feelings of the speaker. With all our accessions from classical sources, and our idiom acquired from modern languages, it is questionable whether the spirit and character of the English tongue has been

*proportionably* elevated. Something may have been gained in elegance and accuracy, but little in point and strength. Indeed, by having repudiated numerous terms of ancient standing under the supposition that they are low, local, or inharmonious, we have greatly contracted our oral powers, and variety of expression. TEART is one of those words which have thus fallen into desuetude, and nearly into oblivion. Yet it is a sound and an authorised epithet, coming down to us intact from the A. Sax. *teart*, asper, severus; Slav. *terd*; Polon. *twardy*, id.

TEDD, *v.* to break open grass from a *scath*, (q. v.) and scatter it thinly over the surface. C. Brit. *teddu*; M. Goth. *tahgan*, lacerare; A. Sax. *tedrian*, tenerescere.

The lass of Peaty's Mill,  
So bonny, blyth, and gay,  
In spite of all my skill,  
Hath stole my heart away  
When *tedding* of the hay.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 275.

TEENY, *adj.* small: softened from *tiny*, or else used as a diminutive, as, "a little *teeny* bit of a thing."

TENSIGHT, *adv.* tentimes. Ex. "I'd *tensight* rather." When not in a compound form, the latter syllable is used to denote *quantity*, or *number*, in the same sense as *power* is also used: as "a *sight* of money;" "a *sight* of people:" "a *power* of work:" "a *power* (not pour) of rain," for a quantity, or in true Salopian orthoepy, *quaintitty*, of any of these. None of them can be deemed deviations from correctness and propriety, seeing that they are figurative expressions continually used by ancient as well as later poets. (*See Remarks* under STRENGTH.) *Tensight*, however, is not merely sanctioned by its occurrence in Piers Plouhman's Vision, but it is deduced from the A. Sax. *ten*, decem, and *sith*, vicis. This is idle comment, and

To teche the ten comaundements were *tensithe* better.

P. FLOUHMAN, 276.

THATN, THATNS, *adv.* that way. Like the Iceni we pre-

fix the expletive. Ex. "If 'ad done it *a-thain*." According to Mr Wilbraham, Robert of Glo'ster has *thains* for this. (See his excellent note on the word.) Derbyshire.

THETCH, *v.* to thatch. Some modern rhymer has struck off the following distich, which a Salopian ear will immediately recognise as having been written by a native.

Says the *thetcher* to his *mon*  
Lets' *rare* the *lather* if a con;  
Says the *mon* unto the *thetcher*,  
Lets *ha* the drink—and *rare* it *atter*.

An earlier poet says,

In daubyng and in delvyng in donge a feld berynge  
In threschyng in *thetichyngs* in thwytyng pynnes.  
P. FLOUHMAN, 138.

Teut. *decken*, *insternere*. A. Sax. *thecan*, *thacian*, *integere*. Gr. *τιθημι*.

THIRL, *v.* to pierce, drill. A. Sax. *thirlian*, perforare.

Al were they sore yhurt, and namely on,  
That with a spere was *thirled* his brest bone.  
KNIGHTES Tale, v. 2712.

*Thirles* throu my hevvy heart.  
MONTGOMERY'S Poems.

Ther was *thirled* mony a side.  
KING ALISAUNDER, v. 2415.

THISN, THIBNS, *adv.* this way. Ex. "Do it *a thisn*."

THOROUGH GO, *s.* laxity of body. Ex. "Got the *thorough go*." "The *thorough go nimble*."

THRASHALL, *s.* a threshing flail. A. Sax. *thorscol*, *tritrium*.

THRAVE, *s.* twenty-four sheaves of wheat, or the same number of *boltings* (q. v.) of straw. Ex. "Twenty thrave to the acre." A. Sax. *threaf*, *manipulus*. The Boke of St Albans speaks of a *thraue* of threshers.

He sends forth *thraues* of ballads to the sale.  
HALL'S Satires, iv. 6.

THREAP, *v.* to beat, chastise. Ex. "Gie him a good *threaping*." A. Sax. *thrifelan*, *verberare*. Isl. *dropa*, *percutera*.



**THREE-QUARTERED COAL**, *s.* a measure of good coal, which lies above the *Double coal*.

**THRIPPLES**, *s.* moveable bars of wood which are affixed to the sides of carts or wagons to enlarge their capacity for carrying grain. A. Sax. *rip*, *messis*!

**THROM**, **THRUM**, *prep.* from. Ex. "*Thrum* to'art Shraden," that is, from the neighbourhood of Shawardine, county Salop. I know of no other similar conversion of the *r* into *th*, unless it be the Attic *θύλλον*, for *φυλλον*: *θάλα* for *φλάω*, and *σκυθος* for *σκυφος*. (See this last word in Athenæus.) Surely our form must be extremely dialectical.

**THRUNG**, *s.* and *v.* for throng.

And it bifelde the while he wente he was *thrungun* of the puple.  
WICLIFF'S *New Test.* Luk. viii.

**THRUSFIELD**, *s.* a thrush.

**THRUSHES**, *s.* a disease incidental to horses. M. Goth. *thrusts*, *lepra*; *thrutna*, *tumescere*. Germ. *druse*, *tuberculum*.

**THUNDER BOLT**, *s.* the common corn poppy. In Northamptonshire, *Belemnites* are called so.

**THUNK**, *s.* a thong: according to a habit which the lower classes have of changing *g* final into *k*: this is therefore a corruption of the right word. Tim Bobbin.

**THWITE**, *v.* to cut by slices or peel: the same as **SWITE**.

In threshyng, in thetchyne, in *thwytyng* of pynnes.

P. FLOUHEMAN.

**TICE**, *v.* to encourage, or entice, from which latter word it is by aphæresis taken. Ex. "To *tice* his appetite."

And *tising* baites laid forth of lust and love.

FAIRFAX'S *Tasso*, xv. 58.

**TIDDLE**, *v.* to rear tenderly. Ex. "They'n always *tiddled* him soa, 's likely to be a wekly un." Isl. *tita*, *res tenera*.

**TIFF**, *s.* a slight variance closely verging upon a rupture.

Ex. "A little *tiff*." Germ. *kief*, *jurgium*.

**TIFF**, *v.* to quarrel. Germ. *keifen*; Belg. *kyoen*, *jurgari*.

**TILL**, *conj.* than. Ex. "Chepper *till* that." "Better *till* they bin." Invariably used in this way by the lower orders in Northamptonshire.

**TILLIN**, *s.* crop, produce, whether it be of wheat or lent grain. Ex. "When the *tillin's* ripe." "The *tillin* looks from like." A. Sax. *tilda*, *tylung*, agricultura, fructus.

**TIMBERSOME**, *adj.* light, active.

**TIMMY**, *adj.* fearful.

**TIMMERSOME**, *adj.* timorous, from which, with the preceding it is taken.

**TIND**, *v.* to light, kindle. Ex. "Han 'e *tinded* the fire?" "The fire *tinds* up." Isl. *tendra*; Dan. *tendor*; A. Sax. *tendan*, accendere. Coles has *tin* the candle.

Ne me *teendith* not a lanterne and puttith it undir a bushel.  
WICLIFF'S *New Test.* Matth. v.

Coals of contention and hot vengeance *tin'd*.

*Faery Queen.*

As late the clouds

Justling, or push'd with winds, rude in their shock,  
*Tine* the slant lightning.

*Par. Lost*, x. 1073.

**TINE**, *v.* to intertwine or mend as a hedge. Verstegan gives *betined* in his list of old words, and adds, "We use yet in some parts of England to say *tyning* for hedging. A. Sax. *tynan*; Teut. *tuynen*, sepire.

**TINES**, *s.* the prongs or *grains* (q. v.) of a fork. Verel. in Indic. *tinne*, dens sarculi vel rastis, diminutivum a *tann*, dens. Swed. *tinne*, id.

**TIP**, **TIFE**, *v.* to overturn, upset: by which means the *top* or *tip* (Isl. *typpi*, summitas rei), becomes undermost. 2. to intimate. Ex. "*Tip* him a wink." Swed. *tippa*, aliquem leviter percutere. Hence a tip-staff, or sheriff's officer.

**TITTY**, *s.* 1. the teat or breast. 2. figuratively, milk from the mother's breast. Isl. *tita*; C. Brit. *teth*; A. Sax. *tit*; Teut. Fris. Sicamb. Germ. *titte*; Franc. *tuito*; Ital. *tetta*; Sp. *teta*; Fr. *tetes*; Gr.  $\tau\iota\tau\theta\eta$ , mamma.

**TO'ART**; *ar.* used definitely; thus I hear people say

they will do a thing "to'art Wednesday," when I know they intend to signify that they will do it positively on that particular day.

**TOART**, *adv.* towards, abbreviated thus, *towards*, *toward*, *toward*, *to'art*. Ex. "Raining to'art Stretton": which, from its hilly country attracts a superabundance of wet, as common people report of the nature of the climate there.

**TOM NOUP**, *s.* the common tit-mouse. *Parus*, Linn.

**TONG**, *v.* to toll, or make to speak as a bell. Ex. "Tong the bell." The Teut. *taughen*, tintinnire, properly applies to a ting tang, or small church bell; this to a large heavy one, the great bell. Thus we should say, *tongue* or *tung* the bell, make it sound; from the substantive, in the Dan. A. Sax. *tunge*; Swed. *tunga*; Ir. *teanga*; Belg. *tonge*; Teut. *tonghe*; Germ. *tunge*; M. Goth. *tuggo*; lingua. Gr. *φθόγγος*, is appositely adduced by Junius.

**TONGUE WALK**, *v.* to abuse or scold. Ex. "Pretty well *tongue-walked* him."

**TOP COAL**, *s.* as the term implies, it is the uppermost of the coal measures, and considered the best for fuel.

**TOP-FULL**, *adj.* 1. full to the brim. And ironically, a drinking vessel is said to be *top-full* of emptiness, when there is not any liquid in it. 2. depressed, low. Ex. "Topfull of poverty, with twelve children."

**TOPPING AND TAILING**, *phr.* to prepare gooseberries for eating, or potatoes for setting, by ridding of their excrescences. Swed. *toppa*, *summitates recidere*.

**TOB-FITCH**, *s.* a wild sort of vetch.

**TORMIT**, **TURMIT**, &c. *s.* used continually for *turnip*.

**TORRIL**, *s.* a term of depreciation applied in an offensive sense to a female, or to lessen the good qualities of a horse. Ex. "Such a *torril* as yo bin." "Yone got a top of a pretty *torril*." Isl. *tor*, *particula difficultatem notans*.

**TOT**, *s.* a small cup or liquid measure. Ex. "Oly (only) just a *totful* o'drink." Teut. *tote-pot*; *tuyte*, *cirnea*.

**TOTELY**, *adv.* gently. Ex. "Take it *totely*, yone got lots o' time." Swed. *tota*, conatu agendum suscipere.

**TOTLE**, *s.* a totful. (See remarks under HANTLE.)

**TOTTY**, *adj.* unsteady, giddy, light-headed from excessive drinking. Teut. *touteren*, leviter moveri.

About xij of the clocke home he came, and as he stode warmynge him by the fyre his hedde was so *totty*, that he falls into the fyre. *Tales and Quicke Answeres*, p. 6.

**Tow**, *adj.* tough. Just as the word was used by our native poet five centuries ago.

Aren tydjør and *tower*.

P. PLOUHMANN, 211.

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under *TRIP*.) My informant says it properly signifies the hole into which the ball falls.

*TRUCKLE, TRUCKLE, v.* to drip. Ex. "The waiter (water) trickled all down my back." Gaw. Douglas, *trigilland*; *trigle*. Chauc. *trickle*. S. Goth. *trilla*, rotare; *tilla*, guttatim decidere. C. Brit. *troigl*, revolutio.

*TRUCKLING, s.* 1. the smaller intestines of a pig or sheep; those guts which are used for sausages. A. Sax. *trig*, *alveus*. 2. THE BURF TRICKLING, (v. *Abdon Burf*.)

*TRIG, s.* a small gutter. A. Sax. *trig*, *alveus*.

*TRIMPLE, v.* to tread lightly; to walk lamely. Ex. "Comes *trimpling* along on his crutches." Swed. *trampa*; Belg. *drempelen*; Teut. *trippelen*, calcare.

*TROLLY, s.* a low, strong, broad wheeled wagon. C. Brit. *troell*, rota.

*TROUBLE, v.* to arrest, summon before a magistrate, serve with a warrant. Ex. "Went and fat *trouble* for him."

*TROUS, s.* rough wood generally, such as is used for the purpose of mending hedges; thorns loose or tied as fagots. A very old, and excellent word. Isl. *trys*, quisquilise; Teut. Belg. *tros*; Germ. *tross*; Swed. *trots*; C. Brit. *troua*; Sp. *troca*; Fr. *trousse*, fascis. Lat. Barb. *troussa*. (See Du Cange under *TROUSSA*.) And hence has arisen the more known word *Truss*, as "a *truss* of hay," because it is made up in a certain quantity.

Zef thy wed ys ytake bring hom the *trous*.

RITSON'S *Ancient Songs*, p. 36.

And dry *trevis* (*trous*?) that wele wald brin.

THE BRUCE, xvii. 613.

*TROW, s.* a wide flat bottomed barge. A. Sax. Germ. Isl. *trog*; Teut. *trock*, linter. The same kind of vessel was probably meant by the author of the Metrical Romance of Richard Coer de Lion, when describing the navy, he says,

Agaynes hem comen her naveye,  
Cogges, and dromoundes, many galey,  
Berges, schoutes, *trayeres* fele.

v. 4785.

**TRUFF**, *s.* a trough, pronounced short and sharp. In Cambridgeshire, *trauf*: in Northamptonshire, *troaf*: in Guernsey, *trove*.

**TUMBLING-SHAFT**, *s.* a spindle rod in an oatmeal mill, which lies under the floor.

**TUMBREL**, *s.* a strong, heavy sort of cart, used solely for agricultural purposes. Fr. *tumberell*, a tumbrell or dung cart. Cotgrave. Lat. Barb. *tumbrellum*.

To drag his *tumbrell* through the staring cheap.

BP. HALL'S *Satires*, v.

**TUMMY**, *s.* provisions, given to miners in a manufacturing district in lieu of money.

**TUMMY SHOP**, *s.* a shop where the article of *Tummy* is distributed. These words had their birth in Staffordshire, where the truck system prevailed a few years back to such an oppressive degree, that it became needful for the legislature to interfere, and protect the lower orders against the degrading system pursued by their employers. To the credit of Shropshire Iron Masters nothing besides the name ever reached the county.

**TUMP**, *s.* a hoard, *hod*, or heap of potatoes covered with soil, for their better preservation during winter. This is one of the singularly few words we have borrowed from the Welsh. C. Brit. *tumpath*, 'a hillock, a knap, a *tump*.' Davies. Hence the verb

**TUMP**, *v.* expressive of placing potatoes or turnips in such a situation.

**TUP**, *s.* a ram. This is clearly not provincial, but as most of my predecessors have admitted the word into their glossaries, I think it right to insert it in mine, were it merely for the sake of shewing that it cannot be reasonably considered either as of unfrequent occurrence, or dialectical.

**TUPPIN**, *part.* or rather a phrase which expresses a peculiar state of excitement incidental to ewes.

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*warchen.*" PROMP. PARV. *warchynge or sekensse.* A. SAX. *waerc*, dolor.

WARDINE, a termination to several of our names of places in the county, which signifies a possession, farm, or village, and has been gradually changed from the A. SAX. *worth*, *prædium*, *fundus*, to WORTHEN (co. Salop), *Warden*, and *Wardins*. Thus we have BULWARDINE (pronounced Bullerdine), Isl. *Boh*, *prædium*; POLLERDINE, SHREWARDINE, BELSWARDINE, CHESWARDINE, WROCKWARDINE, STANWARDINE, and LLANVAIR WATERDINE.

WARE, WEIR, *s.* an embankment across a stream by which the water is driven from its usual channel to turn a mill, or irrigate the adjacent land. This is an acknowledged word among all Shropshire lovers of the angle, and I find it in the admirable little treatise on Fly-Fishing, written by Richard Bowlker, who was a native of Ludlow or its immediate neighbourhood. Speaking of the trout, he says, "a little before they spawn, they make up the river towards the Spring-head, and to admiration will get through Mills, *Wares*, and Flood-gates." Edition printed at Worcester in 1748, (supposed to be the first,) p. 14. A. SAX. *Wær-bæra*, *piscina*. Teut. *were*, agger. Lat. Barb. *wera*. In the explanation of which word Du Cange has fallen into an error, in explaining it as a *beacon*, as the context of the passage he adduces clearly shews. *Woris aut motus factis*, &c. which means, *wares* or *moats*, being made. Chaucer, *were*.

And laye *woris* and spreteris in narrowe brookys.

*Piers of Fulham.*

WAREHOLE, WEIRHOLE, *s.* a hole into which the back water of a mill stream falls.

WASTREL, WASTREL, *s.* 1. a spendthrift, or youth who turns out ill, one who is deemed of no reputation. 2. an imperfect specimen of earthenware or china, something cast aside as 'waste.'

WATER SPARROW, *s.* the Reed Bunting. *Emberiza Schœ-nichus*. Linn.

WAYDY, WEADY, *adj.* This has been noticed both by Ray and Bailey as a Shropshire word, and they seem to have caught entirely the spirit of its meaning in the definitions they have given. The latter explains it thus, "A WHEADY *mile*, a mile beyond expectation, a tedious one:" and the former says A WHEADY *mile*, is a long mile, a mile longer than it seems to be. And thus too, every task or labour which turns out to be greater than was at one time anticipated, or any thing that is peculiarly long, tedious, or wearisome, is "A WEADY *job*," or described as "mighty waydy." A. Sax. *wide*, longus.

WEAL, *s.* a strong wicker basket of a conical form used in the river Severn for catching eels. A. Sax. *œwul*, nassa.

WEEVIL, *s.* a small insect which is very detrimental to thrashed grain. A. Sax. *wibba*, *wifel*, *curculio*, *vermes*. Teut. *wewel*; Germ. *wiblen*, *vermiculus in fabis nascens*.

WEEKLY, *adj.* weak. Ex. "A poor *welly* cratur."

WELL, *v.* to spring out as water, to issue forth. A word in great vogue with miners and pump makers. (See derivations under WALL.)

Thereby a christall streame did gently play  
Which from a sacred fountaine welled forth alway.  
*Faery Queens*, i. 1.

WELLS, *s.* the under parts of a wagon.

WELLY, *adv.* nearly, almost, *well nigh*. Ex. "Welly tired." "Welly done for." "Welly a good distance." A. Sax. *wel neak*, pene. Wilbraham. Craven Gloss. Brockett. Tim Bobbin. Bailey.

WENLOCK *Franchise*; The Franchise, or that division of the county of Salop which is known under this title was originally under the jurisdiction of the Prior of Wenlock, in consequence of the possessions of the church lying within these limits. With the exception of Clun, the ancient privileges still extend over the same country:



the ecclesiastical rights having become merged in municipal ones.

"I am old enough," says a late Town Clerk of Wenlock, writing to the Commissioners of the Public Records, to remember an old custom, and the last time it took place was about sixty years ago; it was called the "Boy's Bailiff," and was held in the Easter week, Holy Thursday, or in Whitsun week, and I have no doubt was for the purpose of going a bannering the extensive boundaries of this franchise, which consists of eighteen parishes. It consisted of a man who wore a hair-cloth gown and was called the bailiff, a recorder, justices, town clerk, sheriff, treasurer, crier, and other municipal officers. They were a large retinue of men and boys mounted on horseback, begirt with wooden swords, which they carried on their right sides, so that they must draw the swords out of the scabbards with their left hands. They, when I knew them, did not go the boundary, but used to call at all the gentlemen's houses in the franchise, where they were regaled with meat, drink, and money; and before the conclusion they assembled at the pillory at the Guildhall, where the town clerk read some sort of riddle which they called their charter, and I remember one part was,

"We go from Beckbury and Badger to Stoke on the Clee,  
"To Monkhopton, Round Acton, and so return we."

Beckbury, Badger, and Stoke on the Clee were and are the two extreme points of the franchise, North and South; Monkhopton and Round Acton are two other parishes on the return from Stoke St Milborough, otherwise Stoke on the Clee (or perhaps Milburgha, the tutelary Saint of the Abbey of Wenlock), to Much Wenlock. This custom I conceive to have originated in going a bannering, unless it should have been got up as a mockery to the magistracy of the franchise; but I rather think the former.—*Report of Record Commissioners, 1837, p. 507.*

**WERRIT**, *v.* to tease; a peevish child *werrits* its parents, and a cur dog *werrits* a pig. The word seems to have the same meaning as *worry*, from which it is in a trifling degree transformed. And *worry*, again, is identical with *worry*.

He was ware of a wyld bore,  
Wold have *worryed* a man.

PERCY iii. p. 9. *The Boy and the Mantle*.

**WESH**, *v.* to wash. The generally received form has more authority than this, as the Belg. and Teut. etymons evince in *waschen*; and the A. Sax. in *wacsan*, lavare. Though R. of Brunne does use *wesch*, Chaucer *wesh*, and Lyndsay, *wesche*.

**WESHOU**, *s.* a wash-house. With *weshub*, &c. Bailey.

**WET BOARD**, *s.* 1. a cutting out board used by shoemakers. 2. boards which are moveable, that slide into grooves within the bottom jambs of barn doors.

**WETCHET**, *adj.* wet in the feet: wet generally. Ex. "*Wetchet* i' th' fit like." We have gradually altered this word from the old English *weitschode*: thus *weitschode*, *wetschode*, *wetschede*, *wetshed*, *wetchet*. It is by no means local, being nearly in all the glossaries into which I have looked for it.

Werie and *weitschode*, went I forthe.

P. PLOUHMANN, 339.

**WHACK**, *s.* money. Ex. "Got the *whack*." This and the next word are genuine vulgarisms, and for our credit their use is pretty general.

**WHACK**, *v.* to beat. Ex. "A good *whacking*."

**WHACKER**, *s.* any thing large.

**WHACKING**, *adj.* large.

**WHATE**, **WHÉOT**, *s.* wheat. None but a Shropshire tongue can give the precise enunciation of this word. *Wheat* may be said by any one, but how shall I endeavour to teach them the art of articulating each letter in the manner we do? *Whee-ut* sounds something like it; and

the M. Goth. *hwait*, also seems to favour the common pronunciation.

**WHAUVE**, *v.* 1. to cover. Ex. "*Whauve* a boul dish o'er it." 2. to hang over. Ex. "The trees *whauver* o'er the road soa." 3. to incline, lean towards. Ex. "It *whauves* to'arts us." Isl. *hwelfi*; Dan. *hwæloer*, invertere.

**WHIFFLE**, *v.* to flutter, be unsteady, uncertain. Ex. "To *whiffle* about." Isl. *hworfa*, vertere. Belg. Teut. *weyfelan*, fluctuare. And hence the phrase of a *whiffling fellow*, one who is uncertain.

**WHINACH**, *v.* to cry, sob, lament. Ex. "Whod bist a *whinaching* a that'ns for!" This and *whine* are synonymous. A. Sax. *wanian*, flere. S. Goth. *wenga*; Belg. *weenen*; Dan. *huiner*; Swed. *hwina*; Isl. *wania*; M. Goth. *quainon*; Arm. *queni*; Ir. *cuinim*; Alam. *uueinon*, plorare.

**WHINNY**, *v.* to neigh, hinny as a young horse, or colt. Isl. *hwina*, fremere. Lat. *hinnio*.

**WHIPPET**, *s.* a dog bred betwixt a greyhound and a spaniel.

**WHISKET**, *s.* a strong basket. Ex. "Packed up in a *whisket*." All the Glossographers have admitted this word under an idea I presume that it is local. Their notice of it therefore would have made mine unnecessary if I had not often heard people ask what we meant by it. From this it seems that it is dialectical, though not peculiar to any of us. The Celt. *vascaud*, pressum, and C. Brit. *gwask*, compressio, adduced by Baxter throw no light upon my eyes as regards the origin of this word. We receive it, I suspect, from the Teut. *wisse*, vimen. Coles.

**WHITTLE**, *s.* a knife, generally not a good one. Ex. "A penny *whittle* two backs, and nivr a *ledge*." M. Goth. *hwat tol*, a sharp instrument. (Brockett.) A. Sax. *hwitel*, cultellus: and not *whytel* as Brockett, or *whitel* as the Craven Gloss. says.

WHOARD, *s.* a hoard, according to an usual custom of adding *s w.*

Or like a filthy heap of dung,  
That lyeth in a *whoard*.

PRACY'S *Reliques*, vol. i. p. 225.

WHOD, *pron.* what. By a frequent method we have of changing *t* final into *d*. Ex. "*Whodne* say?" (i. e.)

Whod dunne say; Whod dun ye say; What do ye say?

WHOT, *adj.* hot. The *w* is invariably prefixed by the lower orders, and as it seemeth from early English writers not without sufficient authority. Thus the Craven Glossarist cites two for its use: and my late friend Mr Wilbraham quotes the Christen State of Matrimonye, "Then shall the indignacion of the Lorde wax *w-hot* over you." p. 8.

WIBBLE WOBBLE, *adv.* unsteadily, on one side. (See WAGLE.)

*Wibble wobble* went the gonder.

*Old Salopian Song.*

WICKY, *s.* the Mountain Ash: in Corve Dale the *witky* or willow, (A. Sax. *withig*, *salix*) usually denotes the same tree. I am not aware of any magical virtues being attributed to this tree by my countrymen. They are a very literal and sensible set of folks, and as one of them informed me upon a particular occasion unconnected with the present subject, "*dunna consarn em wi' sich nonsense.*" The poetical charms with which Romance has invested it are unknown to us. I fear we have no soul for poetry, and are disposed to receive with greater pleasure what satisfies the appetite, than what pleases the fancy. Thus we drink no inspiration whatever from this humble tree, nor do we discern any of its efficacy in protecting us from Witchcraft: though Shakspeare invested it with incantation, and our border neighbours have found out the art of extracting a beverage from its crude berries.

WIG, *s.* a bun. Teut. *wegge*, *panis triticeus*.

WILL GILL, *s.* an Hermaphrodite. Isl. *veill*, male compactus; *gil*, hiatus.

**WIMBLE BENT**, *s.* a light, long sort of grass, sometimes termed *windle-straw*. (See BENT.) S. Goth. Swed. *wimla*; Germ. *wimmelen*; Teut. Belg. *wemelen*; Isl. *wamla*, motitare. *Wimble* is used by Spenser, and from the context means, light.

He was so *wimble* and so wight.

In the South-western part of the county the word is used as a simile to denote unsteadiness, or uncertainty. Ex. "You're like a *wimble bent*."

**WINDFALL**, *s.* any thing good and out of the usual course of fortune, as an unexpected legacy, or hit of luck. Ex. "Come in for a good *windfall* from his oud nuncle." Germ. *fall*, eventus fortuitus. Teut. *val*, fortuna.

**WIN-ROWS**, *s.* hay raked together in rows, so that the wind may have power to dry it, *wind-rows*, as it were. Cotgrave recognises the word in his explication of the phrase 'mettre le foin en roue,' viz. in *wind-baulkes*, or *wind-rows*. It is also a Scotch term, as I find it, though in rather an altered form, in the Ballad of the Fermorar and his Dochter printed in Mr Laing's valuable collection.

As I did walk onys be ane medo side,  
In ane symmer seasoun, quhen men *wynnis* thair hay.

**WIRE-WORM**, *s.* an insect which our farmers say destroys the root of their crops. I have not yet been able to identify it so satisfactorily as to indicate to my brother entomologists what it is.

**WISE MAN**, *s.* a conjurer.

**WISHFUL**, *adj.* anxious. We convert many of our substantives into adjectives by giving to them this termination, as *hurryful*, for hasty: *follyful*, for foolish, &c.

**WITH**, **WITHE**, *s.* a twisted band of willow, used for horticultural purposes. Under the A. Sax. word *withthe*, restis, vinculum, Somner explains "a *with*, a *withie*, a rope or band made of willow or *withie* tree writhen,

serving instead of a halter or cord." C. Brit. *wydd*, id. (Camb. and Celt. Quarterly, vol. iv. p. 489.)

He bar a bordon ybounde with a brod lyste  
In a *weyth* wynde wyse ywrythe al aboute.

P. PLOUHMANN, 119.

A *withthe* was heore stole, certes,  
With on othir thy weoven y-gurte.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 4714.

Hang'd on a *writhen wythe* since Martin's eve.

HALL'S *Satires*, vol. iv. s. 4.

**WITHERINGS**, *s.* the second floor of a malthouse. The first is the *Coming Floor*, (q. v.), where the barley germinates, in the second its growth is checked, and it *withers*; hence the name.

**WITHY**, *s.* a willow. A. Sax. *withig*, salix.

**WIZZEN**, *v.* to fade away, wither. S. Goth. *wisna*; Swed. *wistna*; Isl. *wisna*; A. Sax. *wisnian*; Dan. *wisner*, marcescere. Sir D. Lyndsay.

**WIZZEN-FACED**, *adj.* thin, lank, eager in the countenance through disease. Ex. "Such a *wizzen-faced* looking rascal!" Is *weazle-faced*, a corruption of this?

**WONT**, *s.* a mole; (See OONT.) commonly pronounced with an aspirate.

A moul or *wont* enclosed in an earthen pot, if you set then the powder of brimstone on fire, she will call other moles or *wonts* to help her with a very mourning voice.

LUPRON'S *Thousand Notable Things*, p. 52. Edit. 1650.

**WOOL**, a common prefix to the names of places, which seemeth to me to be derived from the Latin *villus*. Thus we have WOOLERTON, WOOLASTON, WOOLSTANTON, &c. **WOOSE**, *s.* mud. Unfrequent. A. Sax. *wose*, succus. Verel. in Indic. *vos*, humor, aqua.

In *wose* and in *donge*.

P. PLOUHMANN, 213.

**WORSE**, comp. of *adj.* bad. This use of the double comparative though sounding barbarously, is nevertheless not without poetical authority.

Changed to a *worse* shape thou canst not be.

1 *Henry VI.*

A dreadful quiet felt, and *worse* far  
Than arms, a sullen interval of war.

DRYDEN.

WORT-LADDER, *s.* an implement used in brewing, over which the hop sieve is passed and shaken.

WREET'S SHOP, *s.* a carpenter's, or more frequently a *Wheelwright's* shop. We never use the word un-compounded. A. Sax. *wryhta*, operarius.

WUNNA, WUNNOD; will not: most frequently the first letter takes the sound of the aspirate, as *hunna*, *hunnod*: also wonder is as often pronounced *honder*. Ex. "Egad I shouldna *hunder*."





is prefixed to a vast number of words which commence with the aspirate, and is substituted for it; in consequence of this we have few beginning with this letter that can truly be called archaical or dialectical, though they may be provincial.

It often takes the place of *e* and *ea*; as in the words *earth, earn, earnest, &c.* we say *yarth, yarn, yarnest, &c.* And also in the names of places we find it exercising the same power, as YEETON for *Eardington*: YEËTON for *Eaton*.

YABLE, *adj.* able. Ex. "Wunna *yable*."

YALLER, *adj.* yellow. Ex. "As *yaller* as gall." This common example of the manner in which we employ the word is pleonastic, and that is the worst that can be said of it, as the following affinities will shew. It will be seen from them that a remarkable congruity exists between the substantive *gall*, and the adjective *yellow*, and that the metaphor is strictly appropriate. Islandic, *Gall*; Danish, *Galle*; Franco Theotisc, *Galla*; Swedish, *Galla, Gull*; Teutonic, *Galle, Galle*; Belgic, *Gall, Geel*; German, *Galle, Gell*; A. Sax. *Galle, Gealow*; Italian, *Galla, Giallo*; Spanish, *Gallia, Yalde*; French, *Galle*; Lat. *Fel, Flavus*.



YALE, YEÁL, *s.* ale.

YARBS, *s.* herbs. Ex. "Cut him as small as *yarbs* to the pot."

YARD-COAL, *s.* a measure of coal which lies upon the the *Black Besses*, (q. v.) which *Black Besses*, repose upon the *Flatstone*. (q. v.)

YARE, *s.* hair. Ex. "No *yare* atop on his yed."

YARN, *v.* to earn. Ex. "Thee wou'dstna *yarn* thy saut."

A. Sax. *arnian*; Germ. *arnen*, acquirere.

YARNING, *part.* yearning, desirous of. Ex. "Her's got a *yarning* ater it like." PROMP. PARV. *Yarnynge*, or desiringe.

YAT, YATE, *s.* a gate. The common *g* is so softened in this word that it partakes rather of the sound of *y*, but it is more lingual than *y* alone is generally pronounced: perhaps *Yhee-at*, and *Yheä-at*, convey the closest approach to euphony. We seldom hear any material difference in the pronunciation of the universally received *gate*, (*gä-ät*) unless it be from the generation that it is now passing away from a rural and secluded district. In Corve Dale, where I have all along considered our dialect to be spoken with the greatest purity, the old and softened pronunciation however still lingers. The lower orders throughout the county universally speak of the OPEN HATES, and the OAKEN-YATES, for the OKEN GATES, and of WOOD YAT, for *Woodgate* near Much Wenlock. It is the ancient orthoepy, as may be seen by the PROMP. PARV. having *yate*, porta; and in the quotations ensuing. Bailey, in his Dictionary, has "OKEN YATE [of *Oak* and *Gate*] a small village in Shropshire."

Hy stolen the kayes under their *yate*.

KYNG ALISAUNDER, v. 3276.

Sperre the *yate* fast, for fear of fraude,

*Shepherd's Calendar.*

YEÄN, *v.* to bring forth lambs, to ean. This is so written says Nares by all writers from Drayton to Dryden.

A. Sax. *eanian*; Gael. Ir. *gein*, parere.

**YĒATH**, *s.* 1. a heath. 2. the ground. Ex. "Dung it down o' th' yēath." (pronounced in this instance *yuth*.)

**YED**, *s.* 1. the head. Ex. "A *yed* and shouthus taller." 2. a place where one collier only can work at a time, the room allotted being about one yard and a quarter wide, and three quarters high. A *double yed* is twice this width.

**YED, TO DRIVE**, *v.* to make an aperture or way of the above kind; *yeds* are always driven the same dimensions.

**YEDART, YETHART**, *s.* Edward. Isl. *Iatoardr*.

**YELLOW-HOMBER**, *s.* the Chaffinch. *Fringilla Cœlebs* of Jennens.

**YĒORTH**, *s.* the earth, ground. The peculiar pronunciation given to this word bears great similarity to the Isl. *jorth*, terra. (Dan. *jord*.) the *e* is nearly silent, or at least assumes the sound of *o*, very like what it is presumed to have received when the Romance of Kyng Alisaunder was translated. (circa 1438.)

*Eorthische knyght, or eorthische kyng.*

v. 429.

And richely is broughte to the *eorthe*.

v. 1362.

**YĒOW**, *s.* an ewe. Here we retain the old pronunciation.

A. Sax. *ewce*; Teut. Belg. *owce*, *ovis fæmina*.

Bot, thay, lyke rammis, into thair rage,  
Unpisselet rynniss among the *yowis*.

SIR D. LYNDSEY'S *Monarchie*, p. 236.

**YĒRD**, *s.* 1. a yard wand, or in pure Salopian orthoepy, a *yēard mizzhure*. 2. a yard, back premises, or a small piece of land lying contiguous to a dwelling. This most ancient word may be traced through the Parthian, Punic, Sarmatian, Celtic, Greek and Latin tongues to several with which ours is more closely allied. Thus, C. Brit. *gardd*; M. Goth. *gards*, domus; A. Sax. *geard*, area; Verel. in Indic. *gard*, fundus, rusticus, ædificiis necessariis circumseptus; Sorab. *hrodz*; Pol. *grodz*, sta-

bulum; Franc. *gardo*; Teut. Germ. Fris. Sicamb. *gaerd*, hortus; Swed. *gård*, area ædificiis circumdata; Lapp. *garde*, *gaerde*, locus conceptus.

Sigh I thee not in the *gherd* with him.

WICLIF'S *New Testament*, Joh. ch. xviii.

Bi feith Jacob diyngge blesside alle the sones of Joseph and onouride the highenesse of his *gherde*. Ebrewis, c. xi.

Man wumman, alle yede to swerde,

Bothe in house, and eke in *yerde*.

R. COER DE LION, v. 4572.

In as moche as I maked you aferd,

Whan I you herte, and brought out of your *yerd*.

*Nonnes Preestes Tale*, v. 15428.

A *yerd* she had, enclosed all about.

*id.* 14853.

YERTH, *s.* the earth.

This cors the *yerthe* he forbede.

SIR AMADAS, v. 172.

YILVE, *s.* a dung fork, an *evil*, as we more commonly call it, instead of either, from which word *yilos* is transmuted. (See EVIL.)

Yo, YEou, *pron.* you. Ex. "Yo bin." Also *yorn*, and *yourn* for yours.

YOUNG'ST, *adj.* youngest. Ex. "The *young'st* o ten on em."

YOWL, *v.* 1. to cry. Ex. "Whod bin 'e a-*yowling* about? come to thy mate." 2. to howl as a dog.

And the towne tykes *yowles*.

MONTGOMERY'S *Flyting*.

The black dog *yow'd*; he saw the light

Nae man but I could see.

HERD'S *Scottish Songs*, vol. i. p. 137.



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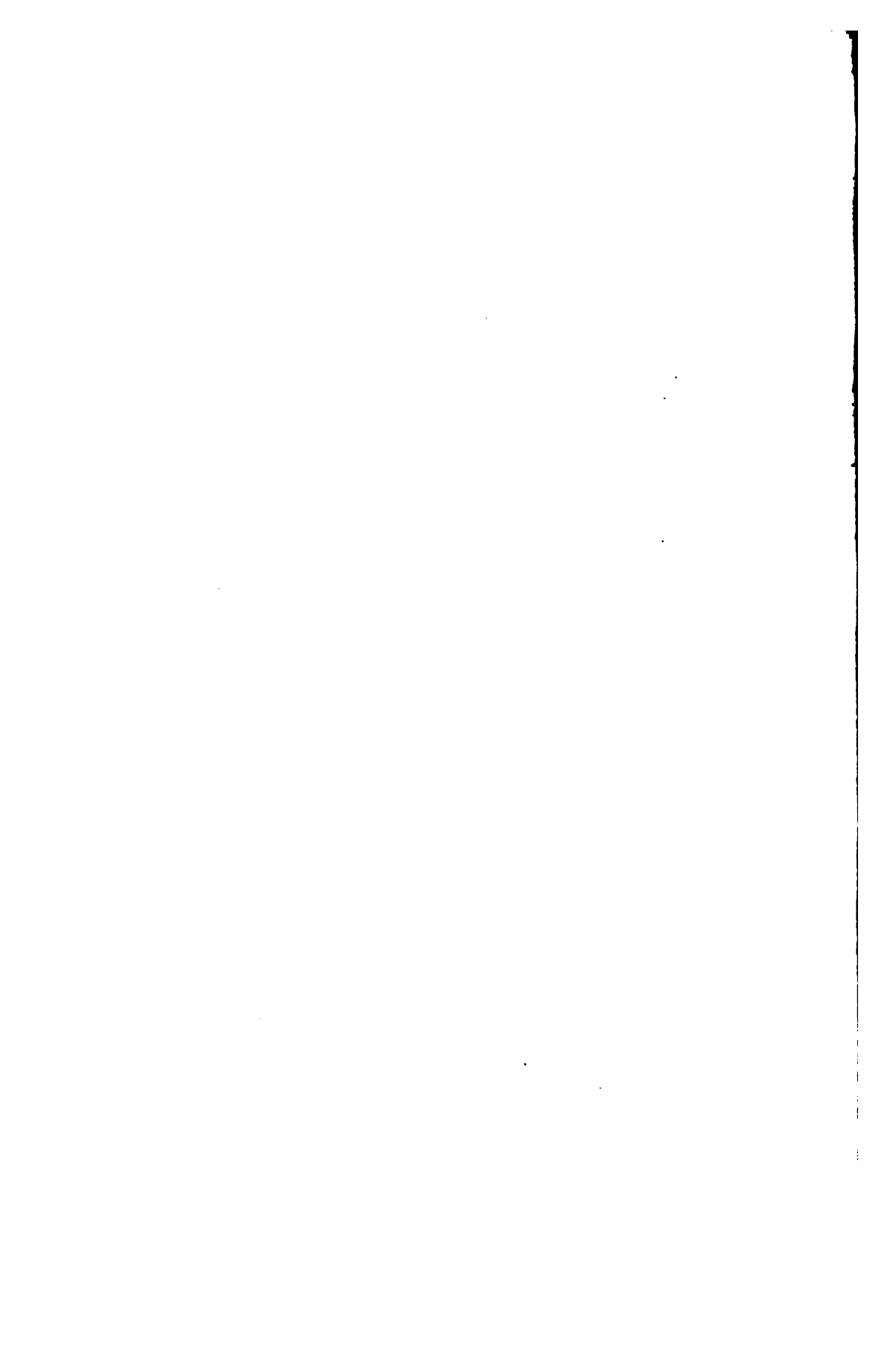
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