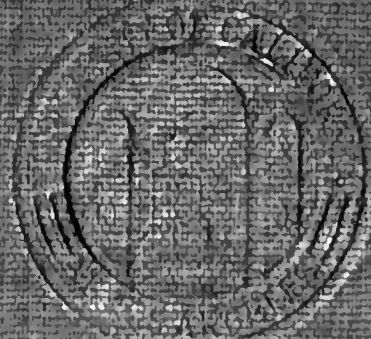
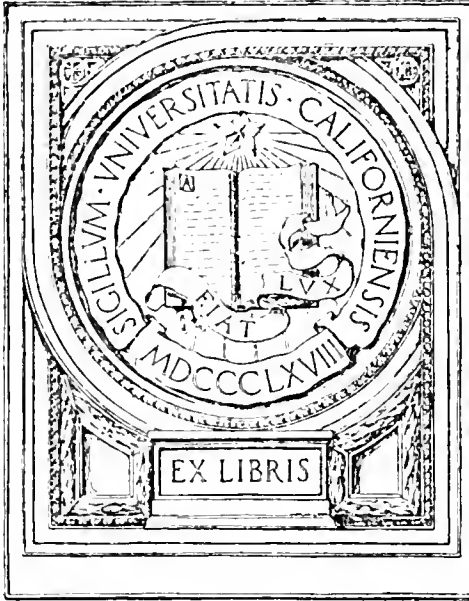


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THE
SAXON AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES
RECIPROCALLY ILLUSTRATIVE OF EACH OTHER;

THE
IMPRACTICABILITY OF ACQUIRING
AN ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE OF SAXON LITERATURE,
THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF LATIN PHRASEOLOGY,

EXEMPLIFIED IN THE ERRORS OF
HICKES, WILKINS, GIBSON, AND OTHER SCHOLARS,
AND A

NEW MODE SUGGESTED OF RADICALLY STUDYING
THE SAXON AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES,

By SAMUEL HENSHALL, M.A.

FELLOW OF BRAZEN-NOSE COLLEGE, OXFORD, AND AUTHOR OF
SPECIMENS AND PARTS OF THE HISTORY OF SOUTH-BRITAIN.



READING I TEACH.
paedende ic teace.

BEDA.



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MDCCCXCVIII.

*Author of
Specimens of the
History of South
Britain*

Horne Took 53.55 10.2.20. 48

Whe + 500 Gilt Wainfield

J. Hickes for Thesaurus 210

David Wilkins 17

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Gibson 27

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TO

THOMAS ASTLE, ESQ. F.R.S. AND S.A.

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RESPECTED SIR,

THE Favours received, and the Information derived, by my free Admission to your invaluable Library, demand my earliest Acknowledgements, not only on the Principle of Justice, but from my grateful Consciousness of the high Obligation conferred upon me. No sooner had my SPECIMENS of the HISTORY OF SOUTH-BRITAIN appeared, than you became its avowed Patron, invited me to your House, permitted me the unlimited Perusal of your ANCIENT DOCUMENTS, SAXON MANUSCRIPTS, and ANSTIS'S NOBLE COLLECTION of EXTRACTS and AUTHORITIES, and generously allowed me to transcribe whatever could illustrate the ancient State of the British Realm. Not resting here, you have entrusted valuable Volumes to my Custody, referred me to the best Sources of Information, and introduced me to Gentlemen and Scholars, the Keepers of our national Records, to which I have had easy Access. When the next Number of my History appears, the Advantages derived from such Opportunities

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the history

tunities will be manifested to the Public ; and the numerous References to the Manuscripts in your Possession, will best evince my Opinion of their Worth, and Sense of your Kindness. In the mean Time, though you are fully convinced that the Books of DOMESDAY have been my more immediate Study, permit me to present you with the First-fruits of my Proficiency in Saxon Learning, a Language essentially necessary for understanding many Parts of this AUTOGRAPH, till I can with Prudence pursue my grand Undertaking.

I am, respected Sir,

Your truly obliged

and sincere humble Servant,

LONDON, AUG. 10, 1798.

SAMUEL HENSHALL.

THE
SAXON AND ENGLISH
LANGUAGES, &c.

THE Study of the Anglo-Saxon Language has certainly engaged the attention of able Scholars and learned Divines. The ancient Records of this realm have been collected with laudable assiduity, many of them have been printed with a Version, and more liberally translated. To assert that no correct ideas can be collected from the laborious exertions of a Hickes, a Gibson, or a Wilkins; to affirm that their Latin interpretations are of little authority, unintelligible, and delusory; argues certainly a daring Challenger, or a Champion conscious of the merits of his cause, and therefore not easily intimidated.

The present investigator relies little on his own knowledge, but is confident in the errors of his opponents; he is better acquainted with ancient Latin Records than Saxon Documents, but having

been compelled, in the course of his investigations, to consult the Thesaurus of Hickes, the *Leges Saxonicae* of Wilkins, &c. and finding it impossible to form any certain inference from their Latin jargon, he was necessitated to examine the Original, in its vernacular idiom. Of the result of this investigation let others judge; but before condemnation is passed, let the evidence be candidly weighed by the judgment of a discerning jury. For this purpose we shall submit the Original in Saxon Characters, with the Version and Interpretation of the Editor's on one page; the Original, in Roman Characters, with the literal verbatim Rendering, in italics, on the other, that a just ^a verdict of their merits may be returned by an honest and impartial jurymen.

To trifle away time is not the object of our researches. We shall therefore select a most curious Record for observation, the very first that the learned Hickes has inserted in his *Dissertatio Epistolaris*, and which he considers a valuable ^b document, conveying important information. This reports the Saxon process in an Assize, or the manner of holding a grand Court of Judicature for a County. It has deservedly occupied his peculiar attention and engaged his particular comment. We cannot therefore be accused of acting uncandidly in our selection, since we begin with one of our ablest scholars, take the first occurring Record in this part of his publication, and which he has certainly endeavoured to illustrate with precision. Far is it from our intention likewise to detract from the merit of such men, they have laboured for the great advantage of posterity; but our immediate object is to prove, that the mode of study adopted by them was insufficient to produce a correct knowledge of the Idioms of the Anglo-saxonic Language,

^a Vere-dictum.

^b *Inter hæc autem merito primum locum vendicat Causæ five Litis cujusdam in Comitibus, &c. Dissert. Epist. p. 2.*

which

which has little similarity with a Latin Construction, but is so really and truly our old English Tongue, that Lord Lyttleton so denominates a Saxon Proclamation in the reign of Henry the third, and Warton's Early Extracts in his History of English Poetry, are as pure Saxon, as can be produced at that æra. In the course of this investigation, Specimens will be given, to illustrate, and support, this assertion; for as Scholars, at this period, were generally Priests accustomed to the Romish Ritual, we must necessarily expect a mixture of Latin Phraseology in all their Compositions.

A SAXON MANUSCRIPT, transcribed from the HARLEIAN COLLECTION, with the LATIN VERSION of HICKES.—
Theſaur. Vol. 2. Diſſert. Epiſt. p. 2.

VERSIO HICKESIANA.

Her ſpucelað on ðiſſum
geppite þ̅ an ſcip-geſmot ſæt
æt Ægelnoðer-ſtane be Cnuter
dæge Linc̅er: Ðær ſæt on
Æðelſtan b. Raniꝝ Ealdorſman.
7 Eðpne þær ealdorſmanner. 7
Leoppne Fulſiꝝer ſunu. 7
Ðuncil Hirta. 7 Topiꝝ Pjuda
com þær on þær Linc̅er æpende.
7 þær þær Bryning̅ ſcip-geſepa.
7 Ægelſeard æt Frome. 7 Leop-
pne æt Frome. 7 Godric æt
Stoce 7 ealle þa þegnar on He-
reſorð-ſcipe: Ða com þær pa-
pende to þam gemote Eðpne
Enneapner ſunu. 7 ſpæc þær
on hiꝝ aꝝene modopærter ſumon
dæle Landeſ. þ̅ þer Weolintun.
7 Gyrdelſeah. Ða acrode þe

In hoc ſcripto oſtenditur, Co-
mitatus conventum quendam ha-
bitum fuiſſe Ægelnothes-ſtanc
Rege Canuto regnante. In quo
quidem conventu confidebant
Æthelſtanus Epiſcopus & Rani-
gus Comes & Edwinus Comit̅is
& Leofwinus Wulfigei filius. Eò
etiam convenerunt ad negotia
regis gerenda Thurcilus cui Al-
bus ^a, & Toſigus cui comptus,
cognomen erat, cum Bryningo
vice-comite, Ægelweardo Fro-
menſi, Goodrico Stocenſi, & om-
nibus pagi Herefordenſis liberis
hominibus. Tum ad conventum
profectus Edwinus Ennawnes
filius, agebat contra matrem de
quorundam prædiorum jure, qui-
bus nomina erant Weolintun, &
Cradelſeah. Controverſiâ autem

^a The original is wight—a wife man—a read man—a Counſellor, for all Than̅es
were not Witena. There is not the leaſt authority for the inſertion of Cognomen.
See Diſſertation on Ranks and Cuſtoms.

The SAME MANUSCRIPT ; the SAXON in ROMAN, the
ENGLISH in ITALIC CHARACTERS.

Here ^a *settlet*h on this *Writ*, that one *Shiremot* sat at
Her *fwutelath* on thiffum *Gewrite*, that an *Scir-gemot* sat æt
Ælnoth's Stone, being *Cnutes Day King*. There *fatten* *Æthel-*
Ægelnothes-stane, be *Cnutes Dæge Cinges*. Thær *fiæton* *Æthel-*
stan Bishof, and *Raney Elderman*, and *Edwin this Elderman's*,
stan B. and *Ranig Ealdorman*, and *Edwine thæs Ealdormannes*
and *Leofwin Wulfig's Son*, and *Thurchill Wight*, and ^b *Tofig*
and *Leofwine Wulfiges Sunu*, and *Thurchil Hwita* and *Tofig*
Proud came there on this *King's Errand*, and there was *Bruning*
Pruda com thær on thæs *Cinges Ærende*; and thær was *Bruning*
Shire-reeve and *Egelward at Frome*, and *Leofwin at Frome*,
Scir-gereva and *Ægelweard æt Frome*, and *Leofwine æt Frome*,
and *Godric at Stoke*, and all the *Thanes in Herefordshire*.
and *Godric æt Stoce*, and calle tha *Thegnas* on *Hereford-scire*.
Then came there *fore-hand* to that *Mote* *Edwin Enneawnes*
Tha com thær *fa-rende* to tham ^c *Gemote* *Edwine Enneawnes*
Son, and *spæc* there on his own *Mother*, after some *Deal* of
Sunu, and *spæc* thær on his *agene Modor*, æfter *sumon Dæle*
Lands, that was *Wellington* and *Curdsley*. Then *asked* the
Landes, thæt was *Weolnitun* and *Curdesleah*. Tha *afcode* the

^a Hence our modern Settlement, and it is settled, determined.

^b Hicke's Version "Tofig cui comptus cognomen erat," destroys the idea intended to be conveyed by the Original, of the attendance of the King's Justiciary; and how he could omit such a circumstance, and so render the passage, is astonishing.

^c The Saxon *ge* prefixed, is almost constantly to be left out in modern English.—*Mote* was a County-meeting or Assize—hence moot-point—for the decision of such Court, *dedisse ei Motam de Hereford cum toto Castello*, Rym. Fæd. vol. 1. p. 8.

biſceop. hpa ſceolde and-ſpepian
 ƿop hir modop: Da and-ſpeo-
 pode Ðurcil Hƿita. 7 ƿæde þ
 he ſceolde. 7iƿ he þa talu cuðe.
 þa he þa talu nane cuðe: Da
 ſceopode man þreo þegnar of
 þam gemote þær ðær heo þær.
 7 þæt ƿær æt Fæhlglæh. þæt
 þær æt Fæhlglæh. þæt ƿær
 Leofpinc æt Frome. 7 Ægelſig
 þe Reada. 7 Ðunſig ðææzðman.
 7 þa þa heo to hipe comon þa
 acroðon heo hpýlce talu heo
 hæfde ymbe þa land þe hipe
 ſunu æfter ſƿæc: Ða ƿæde heo
 þ heo nan land hæfde þe him
 aht to gebyrede. 7 gebealh heo
 ſƿiðe eoplice ƿið hipe ſunu. 7
 gecleopade ða Leoflæde hipe
 maƿan to hipe Ðurcilleſ ƿiſ.
 7 beƿopan heom to hipe þur
 cƿæð. heſ ſit Leoflæde min
 mæge þe ic zeann æzðer ze
 mineſ landeſ. ze mineſ zoldeſ
 ze ƿæglæſ. ze ƿeaſeſ. ze ealleſ
 þe ic ah æfter minon ðæge. 7
 heo ſyððan to þam þegnon

ab illo motá, rogavit Episcopus,
 quisnam responsurus esset pro
 matre Edwini, cui statim Thur-
 cilus Albus se pro illa responsu-
 rum ait, si causam, unde actio
 b descenderet, sciret, cujus nullam
 esse sciebat. Tum conspecti erant
 in conventu tres liberi homines,
 nempe Leofwinus Fromensis,
 Ægelſigus Rufus, & Thinsigus
 Stagthmannus, qui erant è vico
 Fæligleahensi, ubi mater Edwini
 habitabat. Hi à curia mandati
 erant, ut ad eam profecti roga-
 rent, de jure quod haberet ad
 terras, de quibus filius ejus con-
 troversiam movisset. His autem
 illa respondens dixit se nullas ter-
 ras habere, quas ille c aliquo juris
 prætextu vendicare posset, & dein
 heroica quadam indignatione in
 suum filium vehementer excau-
 descens, & Leofledam propin-
 quam suam Thurcili uxorem ad-
 vocans, sic coram illis prope se
 sedentem eam allocuta est. Ecce
 Leofledam propinquam meam,
 cui Ego cum prædia mea, tum
 aurum, tum etiam vestes & in-

^b If any man can form an idea, of the original sense intended to be conveyed, from such a version, or any precise idea at all, I am much deceived.

^c How simple, clear and definite the word "birth" when compared with this.

dumenta.

Bishop, who should ^d ante-swear for his Mother. Then ante-Biscop, hwa sceolde and-swerian for his Modor. Then and-sweareth Thurcil Wight and said that he should, if he that Tale sweorote Thurcill Hwita and fæde that he sceolde, gif he tha Talu ^d couth, tho he that Tale none couth. Then sheweth man three cuðe, tha he tha Talu nane cuðe. Tha sceowode man thres Thanas of that Mote there ^c there ^f hoo was, and that was at Thegnas of tham gemote thær thær heo wæs, and that wæs æt Faleylæ. That was Leofwin at Frome and Alfig the Red, Fæliglæh. That wæs Leofwine æt Frome and Ægellig the Reada, and Thinfig Stedman, and they then hie to their ^f Common; then and Thinfig Stægdman, and tha tha heo to hire Comon, tha asked they what Tale hoo had about that Land, that her acsoþon hoo hwulce Tale heo hæfde ymbe tha Land the hire Son after spæc. Then said hoo that hoo no Land had, that Sunu æfter spæc. Tha fæde heo that heo nan Land hæfde, the he ought to birth; and bawled hoo with Earl's Wrath her him aht to gebyrede, and gebealh heo ^e swithe corlice ^h w..th hire Son & yclept there Leoflæde her Kinswoman to her Thurkill's Sunu & gecleopade tha Leoflæde hire Magan to hire Thurcilles Wife, and before them to her thus quoth. Here sit Leofled my Wif, and beforan heom to hire thus cwæth. Her sit Leoflæde min

^d Ante-swear—the Latin ante against. ^d Couth—knew.

^c Modern where.

^f Hoo—the—Hoo-Justice—Female Justice. Lancashire Dialect, by Tim Bobbin, Esq; a Mr. Collier, of Rochdale; a Work of great original humour, and of infinite advantage to the Student of Saxon Literature, relative to Spelling.

^f Common Court of their District.

^e This word our Saxon Lexicographers have always rendered strenue, vehementer, magnoperè, but it certainly is synonymous and of equal power with our modern *with*, as a radical uncompounded word, as *Mihtum jaith*—Might with, or with Might. *Swiþ-fermian* Lyes crudescere with Ferment, &c.

^h The MS. much injured, non sine Mendis plurimis, vid. Hickes, but probably wrath.

cræþ. doð þeƷnlice. 7 þel abeo-
 dað mine aƷende to þam Ʒemote
 beƷoran eallum þam Ʒodan man-
 num. 7 cƷðaþ heom hƷæm ic
 mineƷ landeƷ Ʒeunnen habbe. 7
 ealpe mine æhte. 7 minan
 aƷenan Ʒunu næƷpe nan þuƷ. 7
 biðdað heom beon þiƷreƷ to Ʒe-
 pitneƷre: And heo þa ƷƷæ dƷdon.
 Ʒiðon to þam Ʒemote. 7 cƷðdon
 eallon þam Ʒodan mannum hƷæt
 heo on heom Ʒeled hæƷde. Ða
 aƷtoð ÐuƷcil hƷita up on þam
 Ʒemote. 7 bæð ealle þa þæƷnaƷ
 ƷƷyllan hiƷ ƷiƷe þa landeƷ clæne.
 þe hiƷe maƷe hiƷe Ʒe-uðe. 7 heo
 ƷƷa dƷdon. 7 ÐuƷcill Ʒað ða to

dumenta, tum denique omnia,
 quæ habeo, me mortuâ, fruenda
 concedo. Illis dictis, dein liberos
 homines à curia missos sic adfatur.
 Eja agite, ut liberos homines
 decet, & diligenter perferte man-
 data mea ad Curiam, fideliter
 declarantes coram omnibus pro-
 bis hominibus, cui terras meas
 omnes, & universa bona eâ in-
 tentione dedi, ut filium meum
 exhæredem facerem, & rogate
 eos, ut huic donationi testes esse
 velint. Illi protinus, quod peti-
 erat, præstiterunt. Equis enim
 conscensis, ad conventum re-
 meant, & coram probis homini-
 bus universis, quod se præsentibus
 Enneawne se defendens protu-
 lerat, declaraverunt. Quibus
 quidem declaratis, surgens, in
^d foro Thurcilus Albus ab omni-
 bus liberis hominibus postulabat,
 ut uxori suæ terras a lite im-
 munes adjudicarent, quas illi pro-
 pinqua ejus donaverat. Hi vero
 ita fecerunt, prout rogaverat
 Thurcilus, qui statim consenti-

^d By such versions all historical accuracy has been destroyed; where can be found a term corresponding with "coram probis hominibus universis, et ab omnibus liberis Hominibus in Foro—the Original only specifies the Thanes assembled in the County Court, our present Grand Jury.

*Kinswoman that I've given after yea my Lands, yea my
 Maegē the ic geann ægther ge mines Landes, ge mines
 Golds, yea Pells, yea Ruffs, yea all that I have after my
 Goldes, ge Pæglæs ge Reafes ge calles the ic ah æfter minon
 Davs, & hoo siththen to them Thanas quoth. Do Thanelike,
 Dæge & heo fytthan to tham Thegnon cweth. Doth Thegnlice,
 and well bid mine Errand to that Mote before all
 & wel abeodath mine ærende to tham Gemote betoran eallum
 them good men, and couth them whom I my Lands
 tham godam mannum & ⁱ cythath heom hwæm ic mines Landes
 given have, and all me ^k ought and mine own ¹ Son
 geunnan habbe, & ealre minre æhte, & minan agenan Sunu
 never none Thing, and biddeth them be on this to Witnefs, and
 næfre nan Thing & biddath heom beon thiflæ to gewitneffe &
 they then so didden, ridden to their Mote, and coudden all
 heo tha swæ dydon, ridon to tham Gemote & cyddon eallon
 them good men what hoo on them laid had. Then stood
 tham godan mannum hwæt heo on heom geled hæfde. Tha astood
 Turhill Wight up in that Mote and bid all the Thanas
 Thurcil hwita up on tham Gemote & bæd ealle tha Tlægnas
 shall his Wife the Landes clæne, that her Kins-woman her giveth,
 fyllan his Wife tha Landes clæne, the hire Mæge hire geuthe
 and they so didden, and Turhill rid then to St. Æthelbert's
 & heo swa dydon, & Turcill rad tha to see Æthelberhtes*

ⁱ Couth opposite to uncouth—I am surprized with an uncouth fear—Shakespeare—
 Vid. Skinner.—Uncouth in arms yelad—Spenser.—Unknown, consequently *make*
 make them know.

^k Ought—modern, to me owed.

¹ Alfred's grandfather had entailed many estates on the Spear-half, and had excited
 probably no little animosity and jealousy among the Spindle-half; hence such maternal
 affection.—See hereafter.

ƿæc Æþelberhtes mynstræ be
ealles þes folces leafe. 7 ge-
piterre. 7 let settan on ane
Lijster boc.

entibus universis, qui conventui
interessent, cum omnium testi-
moniiis, equo consensu, ad Sancti
Æthelberhti monasterium tendit,
ad quod profectus, quod actum
erat in quendam Evangeliorum
codicem referri curavit.

*Minster by all those Folks Leave and Witnes and^m let setten
Mynstre be alles thæs Foles Lease & gewitnesse & let settan
in One Christ's Book.
on ane Cristes Boc.*

We entertain little doubt that English Scholars will imbibe more correct ideas of the Original from our homely Version, than from the Latin of Hickes; and the Historian and Lawyer have better notions of Courts of Judicature at this æra. To comment at large on this Record is not our immediate object, for we reserve it for discussion in that Dissertation of our History, where we shall consider Customs as the Common Law of the Realm. The next Specimen we shall exhibit is a Charter of the Conqueror's, published likewise in the Thesaurus, with an antient Latin Version.

^m Let—permitted.

CHARTER

CHARTA WILHELMI REGIS CONQUESTORIS

DE SACA ET SOCNA.

Willm̄ Kinḡ ȝn̄et mine biſcoper
 ȝ minna eopler. ȝ ealle mine
 þeznar ſpencirce ȝ engliſce on
 þan ſcýnan þer ſc̄ur̄ Auguſtīnūſ
 heſð land mine ſp̄eondlice. ȝ ic
 cýðe eop þ̄ ic hadde ȝe-unnan
 Gode and ſc̄e Auguſtīne. ȝ þam
 hiſede þe þer to hýneð. þ̄ heo
 bien heope ſace peopðe ȝ heopa
 ſocna. ȝ ȝriðbrýcer. ȝ ham-
 ſocna. ȝ ſopſtaller ȝ inſangener
 þeoper. ȝ ſlemene-ſepmðe oþer
 heopa agne men binnan burgh
 and butan. toller and teamer.
 on ſtrande ȝ on ſtream̄e. ȝ oþer
 ſpa ſele þezna ſpa ic heom to
 ȝe-leten hadde. ȝ ic nelle þat
 anȝ man anȝ þing þeop on-teo
 butan heom. ȝ hepe ſc̄neþer þe
 hpo hit beo-tecen ſillan. ſop
 þam þe ic hebbe ſop-ȝifen ȝode.
 ȝ ſc̄e Auguſtīne þas ȝerhte
 minne ſaple to alȝredneſſe.
 calſpa Eaðporð kinḡ min meȝ
 ær eſde. ȝ ic nelle ȝehapian þat

Ego Wilhelmus rex ſaluto
 omnes meos epos & comites, &
 omnes meos optimates franci-
 genas & anglicos, in illis comi-
 tatibus ubi Sanctus Auguſtīnus
 terram habet. Notum vobis eſſe
 volo me annuiſſe Sancto Auguſ-
 tīno ſuæque congregationi, ut
 habeant ſuum Sake & Sockne,
 & pacis fracturam & pugnam in
 domo factam, & viæ aſfaltus &
 fures in terra ſua captos, & la-
 tronum ſuſceptionem ſuper ſuos
 proprios homines intra civitatem,
 & extra * ··· in litoribus & in ma-
 rinis fluctibus, quod Anglice di-
 citur teames & ſuper omnes allo-
 diarios ſuos. Et ego nolo con-
 ſentire, ut aliquis de aliqua re ſe
 intromittat exceptis ſemetiſiſ,
 & ſuis præpoſitis, quibus ipſi com-
 miſerunt, vel committere volu-
 erunt. Concedo enim iſtas recti-
 tudines Deo & S. Auguſtīno,
 meæ animæ ad redemptionem,

CHARTER OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

*William King greet my Bishops and mine Earls and all
 Willm King gret mine Bitcopes & mina Forles and calle
 my Thanes french and english in them shire where St. Au-
 mine thegnas frencise & engliose on than scyran wes Stus Au-
 gustine haveth land in ^a friendlike and I ^b couth you, that I
 gustinus hefd land inne freondlice and ic cythe eow, that ic
 have given God and St. Augustine and the Herd that
 hæbbe ge-unnan Gode & See Augustine and tham hirede the
 thereto heireth that they be their Sac worthy and their Soc
 therto hyneth that hæo bien heore Sacc weorthie and heora Socne
 and ^c agreed-break and homestcal and forestcal and within-fanging-
 and Grithbryces and hamfocna and forstalles and infangen
 thief and fleemen ^d frims over their own men within Borough
 theofes and flemene-fermthe ofer heora agene men binnan burgh
 and without.
 and butan.*

^e *Tolles and theam*
 Tolles and teames
 On Strand and in Stream
 On Strande and on Streame

*and over such fealty thanes such I them to let have and I
 and ofer swa fele thegna swa ic heom to ge-leten hæbbe and Ic*

^a Synonymous perhaps with modern Franchise.

^b Contrary to uncouth, make you know.

^c *Agreed-break*—what was settled or established by the grand Council of the Nobility—*Grith*, Agreement. Chaucer.

^d Lincolnshire Dialect—Frim—folk—from fremde—a stranger—hence—from.

^e Doubtless the Poetry of the age.

æmz man þis abþecan be minan
 þrendþcipe. God cop zehelð.
 amen.

sicut Edwardus meus confangui-
 neus, & fui antecessores reges
 fecerunt. Et ego nolo consen-
 tire, ut aliquis istud frangat, qui
 de mea amicitia curet. Valete.

^c will that any man any thing thereunto ³ but them and their nelle that anig man anig thing theor on-teo butan heom, and here Vicars the who it take will, for that that I have Vicneres the hwo hit beo-tecen willan, for tham the Ic habbe fore-given Gode and St. Auguſtine, thus to right my ſoul to for-gifen Gode and See Auguſtine, thaſ gerihite minne ſawle to loofedneſſ all ſo Edward King my Kinſman eer feed and I will alyſedneſſ eaſwa Eadword King min Meg ær efde and ic nelle juſſer that any man this break by mine friendſhip. God gethaſian that ænig man this abrecan be minan frendſcipe. God you hold. Amen.
cow geheld. Amen.

Since the learning of Hickes has hitherto never been questioned, ſince ^h Dr. White Kennet ſtates his “ Inſtructions of Grammar to be methodical and accurate,” ſince Biſhop Nicholſon reports his “ Book as diſcovering an accuracy in this language beyond the attainments of any that had gone before him in this ſtudy;” ſince Gibſon, Smith, and Thwaites have extolled his ability in England; Grævius, Wormius, and the Leipzig Acta Eruditorum on the Continent, we judge it expedient to give other Specimens of his inaccurate Verſions, and unfaithful Tranſlations.

^c Will, not will. Vid. Chaucer paſſim.

^h See Tooke’s Diverſions of Purley.

^h Vide Teſtimonia Auctorum apud Hickes Theſaur. Vol. III. *Grævia*—circa ſingulas pæne voces hæſi, veritus ne iis ſubtellet idiotiſmi neſcio quid, mihi. dñe non quidem plane incogniti, ſed tamen haud fatiſ bene intellecti. Verum cum re prope deſperatâ totum Conſilium tantum non abjeciſſem, omne hoc incommodum opportunè ſuſtulit *Clarus Georgius Hickefius—Smith*—Subſidia & quaſi Mam-ductiones, quæ viam ad abditiffima Penetrabilia (Lingvæ Anglo-Saxonice addiſcendæ) apertam, planam ac facilem muniunt ex Docti Somneri Dictionario & Docti Hicckelii Grammatica ſuppeditantur.—Thwaites—Hicckelii literaruræ hujus omnis Inflauratori maximo—*Grævius*—Vir pereruditus—*Wormius*—Legi iterumque perlegi—*Acta eruditorum* Vir hic doctiffimus.—

EXCERPTA E PSEUDO EVANGELIO NICODEMI.

Hick. Gram. Anglo-Sax. p. 72.

Da cwæþ heo helle to Satane.
 La ðu caldor calpe þorþpýlled-
 ðnýrre. 7 la ðu orþþruma calpa
 ýpela. 7 la ðu þeder ealra flý-
 mena. 7 la ðu þe caldor þære
 ealle deaþer. 7 la orþþruma
 calpe modignýrre. þor hwiz ge-
 dýrretclæhtege ðu ðe þ ðu þ
 zebanc on þ Iudeisce folc aen-
 dege þ hiz dýrne Hælend ahen-
 zon. 7 ðu him nænne zýlt on ne
 oneneope. 7 ðu nu þurh þ trýp
 7 þurh ða mode hæfge ealle þýne
 blýrre þorþpýlled.

Tum inquit Morta [Hecate]
 ad Satanam : ô tu princeps per-
 ditionis ! ô auctor omnium ma-
 lorum ! ô profugorum [aposta-
 tarum] omnium pater ! ô qui
 fuisti princeps omnis interitûs ! ô
 omnis ambitionis auctor ! cur
 præsumebas indere in mentes
 Judæorum, ut Jesum, quem scie-
 bas esse innocentem, crucifige-
 rent, quando quidem per ^a lig-
 neam illam crucem tuam, omnem
 delectationem perdidisti. Evang.
 Nicod. p. 17. §. xxix.

^a Ligneam,—a *wooden* Translation indeed.

EXTRACTS FROM THE FALSE GOSPEL OF NICODEMUS.

*Then quoth she Hell to Satan Lo thou calder Earle of fore-
 Tha cwæth feo Helle to Satane. La thu caldor earle for-
 ſpoilednefs, and lo thou ^a earth-former of all evil, and lo thou
 ſpyllednyffe, and la thu ordfruma ealra yfela and la thu
 father of all fleemen, and lo thou thee ^b the that, thou that ^c Think
 fiæder ealra flymena and la thu the the that, thu that gethanc
 in that Judaiſh folk haſt ſent, that they this Healing one high-king,
 on that Judeiſce folc aſendeſt, that hig thyſne Hælend ahengon,
 that thou him none guilt on never once knew, and thou now
 that thu him nænne gylt on ne oneneowe, and thu nu
 thorough that true one, and thorough that ^d Rood haveſt all thine
 thurh that tryw, and thurh that Rode hæſt ealle thyne
 Blifs fore-ſpoiled.
 blyffe foreſpylled.*

That an accurate Investigator can never be ſatisfied with the
 Vertuous of Hickes, we preſume is clearly eſtabliſhed. The Author
 ſelected for our farther animadverſions is David Wilkins, the labo-
 rious Editor of the Concilia and Leges Saxonica. We ſhall ſelect
 a Section from the Laws of the Confefſour, which we deſy any
 Scholar or Lawyer to comprehend or interpret, from his pretended
 Tranſlation. We wiſh nothence to infer that our Conjectures or
 Rendering are uniformly right, for Saxon Records want the pene-
 tration and judgment, that Bentley diſplayed in Greek and Roman
 Literature, to purify their Text; we pretend to prove, however,
 that our predeceſſors have been groſſly wrong, and that many of
 their errors have proceeded from their purſuing the ſtudy of Anglo-
 Saxon Learning through the medium of the Latin Language.

^a Earth, the Source of every thing, the general Mother, and Cauſe of Life.

^b This. ^c Think—ſynonymous with modern thought. ^d Synonymous with Croſs.

LEGES EDWARDI REGIS.

Wilkins Versio. p. 49. §. 2.

Be ðone þe oþrum rihtes wýrðe.

De eo qui alteri jus denegat.

Eac se crædon hwer se þýrþe
 wære ðe oþrum rihtes wýrðe.
 aþon oþþe on boclande. oþþe on
 folclande. hronne he him rihte
 worhte beforan þæm zerefan :
 Euf he þonne nan rihte nærðe.
 ne on boclande ne on folclande.
 Þ se wære þe rihtes a wýrðe
 seýldig xxx scill. wið ðone
 Lýnung : b Æt oþrum cýrre eac
 swa : æt ðriðdan cýrre. Lýn-
 unges oþerhýrnýrre. Þ is cxx
 scill. buton he ær zerrice.

Item diximus, quod dignum
 esset alteri jus denegare, siue in
 possessione propria, siue in fundo
 populari, quando ei jus datur
 coram Præfecto. Si tunc nullum
 jus habeat nec in possessione pro-
 pria, neque in fundo populari,
 fit ille qui jus denegat reus xxx
 solidorum apud Regem ; altera
 vice eodem modo ; tertia vice
 contumaciæ erga Regem, hoc
 est, cxx solidorum, nisi se prius
 excuset.

LAWS OF EDWARD.

Wilkins. p. 49. §. 2.

Of them that other rights warneth.
Be thone the othrum rihtes wyrnth.

Eke we woud, whofo he worthy were, that other Rights
Eac we cwædon hwæs fe wyrthe wære the othrum rihtes
warneth, eith' oth' on Bookland, oth' on Folkland, whence
wyrnde, athor oththe on Bockland, oththe on Folcland, hwonne
he him rihte worhte beforan tham Gerevan. Gif he thonne nan
riht not have, nay on Bookland, nay on Folkland, that he were
rihte næfde, ne on Boclade, ne on Folclande, that fe wære
the Rights worthy^a *finneth 30 Shill with the King: At*
the Rihtes^b wyrd feyldig xxx feill with thone Cuning: Æt
other^c *Court eke fo; at third Court, Kings overhighnefs,*
othrum Curre eac fwa; æt thriddan Curre, Cuninges oferhyrneffe,
that is 120 shillings.
that is cxx Scil.

^a In the various readings of the Laws of this æra we find feynning and feyldig, in different MS.

^b Lambard thus, pȳpð, certainly more intelligible than pȳpnde.

^c Courts were held every fortnight at this æra

LEGES ÆLFREDI.

Wilkins Versio. p. 43. §. 37.

Be Boclande.

Se mon seþe boclande hæbbe.
 7 him his maȝar læfden þonne
 setton se þ he hit ne moȝte
 ryllan of his mæȝburȝe ȝifðær
 bið ȝerriȝ. oþþe ȝeritnyȝre. þ
 hit þæra manna forbod sære
 ðe hit on fruman ȝertrundon.
 7 ðara ðe hit him sealdon. þ he
 rra ne moȝte. 7 þ ðonne on
 Eȝmȝer. ȝe on Biȝceoper ȝe-
 ritnyȝre ȝerecece beforan his
 maȝum.

Si quis terram hæreditariam
 habeat, quam Parentes ejus ipsi
 reliquerunt, tunc statuimus, ut
 eam non vendat a cognatis hære-
 dibus suis, si adsit scriptura vel
 testis, quod illi viro prohibitum
 sit, qui eam ab initio acquisivit,
 & illi qui eam vendidit, ut ita
 facere nequeat, & hoc tunc in
 Regis vel in Episcopi testimonio
 recitetur coram cognatis suis.

LAWS OF ALFRED.

Wilkins. p. 43. §. 37.

Of Bookland.

*If man be that ^a Bookland have, and him his ^b Elders left,
 Se mon fe the Bockland hæbbe, and him his yldran læfden,
 then set we, that he it not might sell off his ^c Kinsbrother,
 thonne setton we, that he hit ne moſte ſyllan of his Mægburge,
 if there beeth Writ, oth' Witnefs that it there man
 gif thær bith gewrit, oththe gewitneſſe that hit thæra manna
 forbod were, that it in firming reſtrained (they) and there that
 forbod were, the hit on fruman geſtrindon and thara the
 it him ^d ſealed, that he ſo not might and that then in Kings
 hit him ſealdon, that he ſwa ne mote and that thonne on Cuninges
 yea in Biſhops Witnefs be read before his Kinsfolk.
 ge on Biſceopes gewitnyſſe ^e geredde beforan his Magum.*

^a Bookland—Entered in one Chriſt's Book.

^b yldran Textus Roffenſis Wylkins magar.

^c The Spear-half, not the Spindle-half. See this illuſtrated when we examine Alfred's Will.

^d Sealed in a Charter or Book.

^e Very probably geredde for gerece.

PÆNITENTIALE DOMINI ECGBERTI ARCH. EBOR.

Concilia Magnæ Brit. a Davide Wilkins, s. r. p. p. 138.

Lif hƿýlc cƿurten man hƿ
 aȝen bearn. oþþe hƿ nehrtan
 mæȝ ƿiþ amȝum ƿurþe ſýlle.
 næbbe he nanne ȝemanan mid
 cƿurtenum mannum ær he hine
 alýfed hæbbe of ðam þeopdome.
 ȝif he þonne hine beȝýtan ne
 mæȝe. dæle ſƿa mýcel feoh ƿor
 hýnd ſƿa he ær mid him nam. 7
 alýfe oþerne of ðeopdome. 7
 feoȝe ðone. 7 ƿærte feoƿon
 ƿucan on hlafe 7 on ƿætere. 7
 ȝif he ðær ȝerfeoneȝ næbbe þ
 he alýfan mæȝe. ƿærte ðonne
 eahta 7 tƿentiȝ ƿucena on hlafe
 7 on ƿætere.

Si quis christianus infantem
 ſuum vel proximi ſui pro aliquo
 pretio vendiderit, non habeat con-
 fortium aliquod cum christianis,
 antequam eum e ſervitute rede-
 merit; ſi autem ipſum obtinere
 nequeat, tradat tantum pecuniae,
 quantum prius per ipſum acce-
 perat, et redimat eum e ſervi-
 tute, ac liberet illum, et jejundet
 ſeptem ſeptimanas in pane et
 aqua: et ſi facultates non habeat,
 ut eum redimere poſſit, jejundet
 octo et viginti hebdomadas in
 pane et aqua.

PENITENTIAL OF ECBERT ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

David Wilkins. p. 138.

*If ilk Christian man his oxen Barn, oth' his nighest
 Gif hwule Cristen man his agen bearn, oththe his nehstan
 Kinsmans, with any ^aWorth fell, not have he no Communion
 mæg, with anigum wurthe fylle, næbbe he nanne gemanan
 with Christian men, e'er he them loosed have of their
 mid Cristenum mannum, ær he hine alyfed hæbbe of tham
 thraldom, if he then them get not may, deal so mickle
 theowdome, gif he thoune hine begytan ne mæge, dæle swa mycel
 fee for them, so he e'er with them ^bnimmed, and loofe others of
 feoh for hyne, swa he ær mid him nam, and alyfe otherne of
 thraldom, and free thence, and fast seven Weeks on Loaf
 theowdome, and freoge thone, and fæste feofon Wucan on hlafe
 and on Wætere, and if he this strength not have, that he loofe
 and on Wætere, and gif he thæs gestreones næbbe, that he alyfan
 may, fast then eight and twenty weeks on Loaf and on
 mæge, fæste thonne eahta and twentig wucena on hlafe and on
 Wætere.*

^a Synonymous with price.

^b Nimmed his purse.—Shakespeare—Merry Wives of Windsor.

LEGES IN Æ.

Wilkins. Concil. p. 59. §. 6.

Be zereohum.

Eaf þa zereohhte on cýnningeſ
 huſe. ꝛý he ꝛýldiꝝ ealleſ hiſ
 ýrþeſ. 7 ꝛý on cýnningeſ dome.
 hꝛæþeſ he hiſe aꝝe ðe naꝝe :
 Eaf þa on mýnſteſ zereohhte.
 hund tꝛelctiꝝ ꝛeillingeſ. zebete.
 Eaf þa on ealdormanneſ huſe
 zereohhte. oþþe on oþreſ zebun-
 zeneſ witan. ꝛixctiꝝ ꝛeillingeſ
 zebete he. 7 oþeſ ꝛýxtiꝝ ꝛeil-
 lingeſ zereohhte to wite : Eaf he
 ðonne on zafolꝝýlðan huſe oþþe
 on zebuneſ zereohhte. ðꝛictiꝝ
 ꝛeillingeſ to wite zereohhte. 7 ðæm
 zebuneſ ꝛýx ꝛeillingeſ : And ðeah
 hiſ ꝛý on midðan welda zereohhte.
 hund tꝛelctiꝝ ꝛeillingeſ to wite
 ꝛý aꝝýſen : Eaf ðonne on zebe-
 oꝛcipe hi zeciden. 7 oþeſ heopa
 mid zebýlðe hiſ foꝛþeſ, zereohhte
 ꝛe oþeſ ðꝛictiꝝ ꝛeillingeſ to
 wite.

De pugnis. Cap. 6.

Si quis in regis domo pugnet,
 perdat omnem suam haeredita-
 tem, et in regis sit arbitrio, possi-
 deat vitam an non possideat. Si
 quis in templo pugnet, centum
 viginti solidis mulctetur. Si quis
 in senatoris domo pugnet, vel in
 alterius illustris sapientis, sexa-
 ginta solidis mulctetur, et alios
 sexaginta solidos solvat poenae
 loco. Si autem in tributarii domo
 vel coloni pugnet, triginta solidos
 poenae loco solvat, et colono sex
 solidos. Et licet in medio campi
 pugnatum sit, centum viginti
 solidi poenae loco solvantur. Si
 autem in convivio rixati sint, et
 unus horum patienter id sustineat,
 solvat alius triginta solidos poenae
 loco.

Be

LAWS OF INA.

Of Fights.

If ʷha fight in King's House, be he slighted all his
 Gif hwa gefeohte on Cunniges Hufe, fy he feyldig ealles his
^b *Reeves, and be in King's Doom, whether he ʷ Life have the*
 yrfes and fy on Cynniges Dome, hwæther he life age the
 no. *If ʷha in Minster fight, hundred twenty shillings*
 nage. Gif hwa on Mynster gefeohte hund tweltig scillinges
give boot. If ʷha in Alderman's House fight, oth' in
 gebete. Gif hwa on Ealdormannes Hufe gefeohte oththe on
 other ^d *Thanes, a Wight, sixty Shillings give boot he, and other*
 othres Gethungenes, Witan fixtig Scillinges gebete he, and other
sixty Shillings shall to Wight. If he then in Gable-geld
 fyxtig Scillinges gefylle to ʷ Wite. Gif he thonne on gafoldgyldan
 House, oth' in Burgeffes, fight, thirty Shillings to Wight
 Hufe, oththe on Gebures, gefeohte, thrittig Scillinges to Wite
 shall, and that Borough fix Shillings. And tho' it be in
 gefylle, and thaem Gebure fix Scillinges. And theah hit fy on
 mid-field fought, hundred twenty Shillings to Wight be
 midden feldda gefohten, hund twelftig Scillinges to Wite fy
 given. *If then in Borough-ship they chiden, and either of them*
 agyfen. Gif thonne in Gebeorfeipe hi geciden and other heora
 with with-hold it forbear, shall the other thirty Shillings to
 mid gethylde hit forbere, gefylle fe other thrittig Scillinges to
 Wight.

Wite.

^a Wha wants me.—Edinburgh Language.

^b Reeves, synonymous with Rolls—reef the Sails—all his chartered Lands.

^c Whether he be a Lord or not, hlafopð—Life—Source.

^d Some Thanes not Wights.

^e The Lord, who has the Court of Suit and Service, Fines and Forfeitures, or Sac and Soc.

Be ðam ðe heora Ʒepitnýrre be-
Ʒopān biŷceope ƷeleoƷaþ.

VII. Eif hpa beƷopān biŷceope
hiŷ Ʒepitnýrre. Ʒ hiŷ Ʒeð aleoƷe.
Ʒebete mid hund tƷepitƷ Ʒeil-
lunges.

De iis quorum testes coram epif-
copo mentiti ſunt. Cap. 13.

VII. Si alicujus teſtis vel ^avas
coram epifcopo mentiatur, com-
penſet centum viginti ſolidis.

CHRONICON SAXONICUM.

Anno 1137. Gibſon. p. 239.

I ne canne. Ʒ ne mai tellen
alle þe Ʒunder. ne alle þe Ʒiner
þ hi ðiden Ʒreccen men on hiŷ
land. Ʒ þ laŷtede þa XIX. Ʒintre
Ʒile ſtephne Ʒaŷ king. Ʒ æure
it Ʒaŷ uueŷre Ʒ uueŷre. þi læi-
denƷaildeŷ on þe tunes æuŷieū
Ʒile. Ʒ clepeden it tenŷeŷie. þa
þe Ʒreccen men ne hadden nan
moŷe to Ʒuen. þa Ʒæueden hi
and bŷendon alle þe tunes. þ
Ʒel þu mihtes Ʒaŷen all adæŷ
Ʒaŷe Ʒuldeŷt þu neure Ʒinden
man in tune Ʒittende. ne land
tiled. Ða Ʒaŷ corn ðæŷe. Ʒ
Ʒlec. Ʒ cæŷe. Ʒ buteŷe. Ʒon nan
ne Ʒæs o þe land. Ʒreccen men
Ʒturuen of hunƷæŷ. Ʒume Ʒeden

Non autem poſſibile eſt mihi
numerare omnia vulnera, om-
neŷque calamitates, quibus affixe-
runt miſeros incolas hujus terræ :
hoc vero duravit XIX. annos,
quibus Stephanus fuit Rex, &
quotidie deteriore erant condi-
tione. Impoſuerunt tributa op-
pidis valde frequenter, & illud
vocarunt cumque miſeri
homines non haberent quicquam
amplius quod darent, vaſtarunt
& incenderunt omnia oppida ;
adeo ut poſſes inter diei conficere,
nec tamen reperire quemvis ho-
minem in oppido viventem, aut
terram cultam. Hinc fuit fru-
mentum carum, & caro, & caſeus,

^a What is Vas ?

§. 7. *If w̃ha before Biſhop, his Witnefs, and his Wed,*
 Giſ hwa beforan Biſceope, his Gewitnefs and his Wed
cauſe to lye, give boot with hundred twenty Shillings.
 aleoge gebete mid hund twelftig Scillinges.

Any Scholar muſt certainly be convinced of the Inaccuracies of Wilkins, and the impoſſibility of underſtanding the Original from his pretended Tranſlations. The next Extract we ſhall ſelect from the Saxon Chronicle; which has been edited by the learned Gibſon with greater care and fidelity, than we have met with in our reſearches; but ſtill we attempt to prove, even from this beſt Specimen, that the Latin Language cannot convey ideas equally accurate or correct, as may be acquired through the medium of Engliſh Phraſeology.

SAXON CHRONICLE.

I nay can and nay may tell all the Wounds nor all the Pains, that they did wretched men in this Land, and that laſted the 19 Winters, while Stephen was king, and ever it was worſe tha 19 Wintre, wile Stephne was king, and ævre it was werſe and worſe. They laid Gelt on the Towns every while, and and werſe. Hi laiden gaidles on the Tunes æureu wile, and yclept it ^a tenth-penny. ^b Then the wretched men not had any clepeden it tenſeprie. Tha the wrece men ne hadden nan more to give, then ravished they and burnt all the Towns, that more to given, tha raveden hi and brendon alle the Tunes, that

^a Gibſon ſays “quæ ſit hujus vocabuli ſignificatio vidant alii,” but every perſon converſant in ancient Records, where there are frequent contractions, knows that tenſeprie would be tenſepennie, and collateral hiſtorical authority juſtifies our interpretation.

^b Synonymous to modern when.

on ælmes þe þa ren sum þile rice
 men. sum fluzen ut of lande.
 For næure zæt mare þrecched
 on laud. ne næure heðen men
 þer ne diden þan hi diden.
 For ouer riðen ne for-ba ren hi
 nouþer cýrce. ne cýrceærð. oc
 nam al þe zod þ þa inne þar.
 7 þrenden rýðen þe cýrce 7
 altezædeþe.

& butyrum, quippe nihil eorum
 fuit in hac terra. Pauperes peri-
 bant fame : nonnulli ofiatim
 victum petebant, qui fuerant olim
 divites ; & aliqui terram relique-
 runt. Nunquam adhuc erant
 majores calamitates in hac terra,
 neque unquam pagni plus mali
 quam hi fecerunt ; tandem enim
 neque pepercerunt Ecclesiæ, ne-
 que cœmiterio, sed eripuerunt
 quicquid boni inibi fuit, tuncque
 ignes admoverunt Ecclesiæ, &
 rebus quæ superessent.

*wel thou mightest^c far on all a day, fore shouldest thou ever find
 wel thu mihtes faren all adæis, fare sculdest thu neure finden
 man in town sitting, or land tilled. Then was corn dear and
 man in tune sittende, ne land tiled. Tha was corn dære and
 flesh and cheese and butter, for none nay was in the land. Wretched
 flec and cæfe and butere, for nan ne wæs o the land. Wrece
 men starven of hunger, some^d fedden on alms that were some while
 men starven of hunger, fume jeden on ælmes the weren sum wile
 rich men, some fæwn out of the land. Was never yet more
 rice men, sum flugen ut of lande. Wæs næure gæt mare
 wretchednefs in land, nor ever heathen men worfe nay did, than
 wrecehed on land, ne neure hethen men werfe ne diden, than
 they did, for ever siththence not forborne they neither Church,
 hi diden, for over sithon ne for-baren hi nouthen Circe,
 nor Church-yard, but nimmed all the goods that therein was, and
 ne Cyrcjærd, oc nam al the god that thar inne was, and
 burnt siththence the Church and altogether.
 brenden sythen the cyrce and altegædre.*

To prove that Saxon Literature has not been cultivated with greater attention, or success, at a subsequent period; we shall exhibit the Conclusion of Alfred's Will, published by the University of Oxford, with the Annotations and Version of Manning, the Editor of Lye's Saxon Dictionary. And here, we cannot but lament, that the Corrector of the Press should have confounded the Unity of this valuable Document, by printing the Saxon Introduction, in the Register of the Abbey of New-minster, as the Will of the amiable and benevolent Alfred, and confounding the reader by a double preamble, in direct contradiction to the Copy transmitted. As a *literal* English Translation is here attempted, we shall add the Latin Version as a Note, to shew that this Record has been studied through the medium of the Latin Language.

^c Farr-on—advance.

^d Probably an error, *j* for *c*.

EXTRACTS FROM ALFRED'S WILL,

In Bibliotheca Aſtleianâ, p. 24.

ORIGINAL.

7 ic biððe on Ʒodeſ naman.
 7 on hiſ haligra. ƿ miura maƷa
 nan. ne Ʒpfepearða ne Ʒerpence
 nan. nenig cýneliſ þara þe ic
 forþeald. 7 me perƿ-ſeaxena
 riƿan to rihte Ʒerehton þæt ic
 hi moƿ lætan ſpa ſreo ſpa þeore
 ſpaðer ic wille. ac ic for Ʒodeſ
 lupan. 7 for mine ſaple þearfe.
 wille ƿ hý ſýn heora ſreolſer
 wýrðe. 7 hýra cýneſ. 7 ic on
 Ʒodeſ hwiender naman beode þæt
 hý nan man ne bƿocie. ne mid
 feor manuge. ne mid nænigum
 þingum. ƿ hý ne moƿan ceoran
 ſƿýlene manni ſƿýlce hý ſƿýllan.

7 ic wille þæt man aƷýfe þam
 lupum æt ðomra hamme hýra
 land bec. 7 hýra ſreolſ ſƿýlce
 hand to ceorecune ſýlce him
 leofaſt ſý. for me. 7 for æl-

LITERAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION
OF THE EDITOR.

And I beſeech, in God's name,
 and in his Saints', that of my Re-
 lations none, nor of my heirs
 none do obſtrict, none of the
 freedom of thoſe that I have re-
 deemed. And for me the Weſt-
 Saxon Nobles as lawful have pro-
 nounced that I them may leave
 either free or bond whether I
 will. But I, for God's love, and
 for my Soul's advantage, will
 that they be of their freedom
 Maſters, and of their Will, and
 I, in God the living's name in-
 treat that them no man do not
 diſturb, neither by Money-ex-
 action, nor by no manner of
 means, that they may not chuſe
 ſuch Man as they will.

And I will that they reſtore to
 the families at Domerham their
 Land-Deeds, and their free li-
 berty ſuch perſon to chuſe, as to
 them moſt agreeable may be;

EXTRACTS from ALFRED'S WILL, in the Possession of
T. ASTLE, Esq; with a literal verbatim Rendering.

And I bid in God's Name, and in his holy ones, that my

And ic bidde on Godes Naman, and on his haligra, that minra
Mags none no reeveard not sjuench none, nor any Court-leave,
maga nan ne urfewearða ne gefwence nan, nænig Curelif,
there that I fore-seald, and me West-saxon Wights to right
thara the ic foreseald, and me west-seaxena witan to rihte
righted, that I they might let (be) so free so thiefs whether
gerehton, that ic hi mot lætan swa freo swa theorve swather
I will. And I for God's Love, and for my Soul's thrift,
ic wille. ac ic for godes lufan, and for minre sawle thearve
will, that they be their franchise worthy, and their ^a Courts.
wylle, that hy syn heora freolles wyrthe, and hyra Cyres.
And I in God's living Name bid that they no man may
And ic on Godes lifendes Naman beode that hy nan man ne
break, nay with fees manage, nor with not any thing, that
brocie, ne mid feos manunge, ne mid nænigum thingum, that
they not might choose such ^b man, such they will.
hy ne motan ceosan swulene mann swylce hy wyllan.

And I will that man give them high-ones at Domesham

And ic wylle that man agyfe tham hiwum at Domra-hamme
their Land ^c Book, and their ^d free-will such hand to choose,
hyra land bec, and hyra freols swulce hand to ceofenne,

^a *Chairs* approximates nearer to the Original; hence the Chair of Justice, to take
the Chair, to act as President.

^b Patron, or Life Lord.—18 Liberi homines commendati tantum.

Little Domesday, for Norfolk, 249. a.

^c Most probably Land-book or Book-land, since Alfred was not likely to have
disseised them of that land, which Ellseda had conferred.

^d We presume free-will or franchise, for it approximates much nearer than the
variation of spelling in many words—give for instance.

plæde. 7 for þa frýnd þe heo forþingode. 7 ic forþingie. for me, and for Elfreda, and for the friends that she did intercede for, and I do intercede for.

7 ꝥec man eac on epicum ceape ýmbe minre ƿaple þeapfe. ƿpa hit beon mæge. 7 ƿpa hit eac geƿýrne ƿý. 7 ƿpa ge me for-geƿan ƿýlan. * And seek they also, with a living price, for my Soul's health, as it be may, and as it also sitting is ; and as ye me to forgive shall be disposed.

MANNING'S LATIN TRANSLATION.

* Item, Obtestor, in Dei Nomine, et ejus Sanctorum, ut meorum consanguineorum nemo, neque hæredum interpellat nemo, arbitrio suo utendi facultatem eorum quos redemi è servitute. Profecto mihi West-Saxonum Optimates legitimum censuerunt, ut ego istos possem relinquere, sive liberos, sive servos, utrum vellem. At ego, propter Dei amorem, et propter animæ meæ salutem, volo ut sint libertatis suæ compotes et arbitrii. Necnon in Dei viventis nomine obsecro, ut eos nemo vexet, neque pecuniæ exactione, neque alio quovis modo, quo minus possint eligere talem Dominum qualem ipsi velint.

Item, Volo ut reddantur familiis apud Domes Manerium, eorum Chartæ, et eorum licentiã talem Dominum eligendi qualem ipsis placuerit, propter me, et propter Elfredam, et propter amicos pro quibus ipsa intercedebat, atque ego intercedo.

Denique, Imploretur Deus, viventi pretio, pro animæ meæ salute, quantum fieri possit, uti etiam congruum est, et prout vos mihi condonare velitis.

*such them liefest be, for me, and for Elfreda, and for the friend
 swulce him leofast fy, for me, and for Ælflæda, and for tha frynd
 that hoo forethought and I forethink.*

the heo forethingode and ic forethingie.

And seek man eke on ^e cwick ^f Cheap about my Soul's thrift,

And sec man eac on cwicum ceape ymbe minre sawle thearfe,
*so it be may, and so it eke rising be, and so yea me
 swa hit beon mæge, and swa hit eac geryne fy, and swa ge me
 forgiven (it) will.*

forgyfan wyllan.

There are many other passages in this Will, that demand similar Examination and Illustration. The Land which Alfred's Grandfather had entailed on the weaponed half, (that is) the Spear-half, in Opposition to the Spindle-half, and which, if transferred into a Wife's or Female Hand, he orders to be purchased by his Heirs, and restored to the proper Line, is constantly confounded with the Acquisitions he had made, when the word is ^g astryndon, strengthened, restrained, or straitened, not begaton, as in the Introduction of this Record. In confirmation of this interpretation, we find him urging the justice of such restoration of property to the entailed line, because he had bequeathed to his Heirs Male, many more Estates than they would be necessitated to repurchase, that he might have bestowed on Females. But we reserve farther comment to a future opportunity, in our historical Dissertation on Ranks and Services.

The next Specimen we shall exhibit is an antient Proclamation of Henry the third, which Somner considers a Saxon Record, Lord Lyttleton an Old-english Document.—*Som. Dict. ad verbum unnan.*

^o Alive—Northern Dialect—living—

^f Cheap-men—modern Chap-men, selling their wares at a fixed price.

^g For variation of spelling, take *give* an example—Gif, yef, if, yf, yeve, yeoven, given, giffis, geive, gin ye will, gi' me.

ROTUL. PATEN. de Anno 43. Hen. 3. Memb. 15. N^o 40.

SOMNER ad verbum *unman*.

þenr. þurȝ Godeſ ſultume
 King^a on Englene loande. Lhoav-
 verð on Yrland. Duk on Noſm.
 on Aquitain 7 Eopl on Aniou.
 renð iȝneting to alle hiſe^b holde
 ilærde 7 ileped on þuntindonn
 ſchir. þæt riſen ȝe pe alle þæt
 pe pillen 7 unnen þæt þæt ure
 nædermen alle. oþer þe moape
 dæl of heom þæt beoþ ichoren
 þurȝ uſ 7 þurȝ þæt loander
 folk on ure kunerliche hebbeþ
 idon 7 ſchullen don in þe worþ-
 neſſe of Gode 7 on ure tpeopþe
 for þe ſpeme of þe loande.
 þurȝe þe beȝiȝte of þan to
 foren iſeide nædermen beo
 ſtedepærft and ileſtinde in alle
 þingge abutan ænde. And pe
 heaten alle ure tpeope in þe
 tpeopþe þæt heo uſ oȝen. ꝥ
 heo ſtede-pærftliche healden 7
 ſpepen to healden 7 to perien
 þe iſetneſſer þæt beon makede
 7 beon to makien þurȝ þan to
 foren iſeide nædermen. oþer

Henricus Dei adjutorio Rex
 Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ, Dux
 Normanniæ, Aquitainæ, & Co-
 mes Andegaviæ, Salutem mittit
 (i. dicit) omnibus fidelibus ſuis,
 clericis & laicis in Comitatu Hun-
 tindoniæ. Vobis omnibus notum
 facimus, quod volumus & conce-
 dimus ut quod Conſilarii noſtri
 omnes, ſive major eorum pars, qui
 fuerint electi à nobis & à gentis
 plebe in Regno noſtro, fecerint
 & facturi ſint (i. e. decreverint) in
 honorem Dei, & fidelitatis quâ
 nobis obligantur intuitu, pro bono
 gentis, per conſilium antedic-
 torum conſiliariorum, (eo nomine
 ſcilicet) firmum ſit & ſtabile per
 omnia in perpetuum. Et præce-
 pimus omnibus fidelibus noſtris,
 per fidem (vel, fidelitatem) quam
 nobis debent, ut firmiter obſer-
 vent & obſervare (vel, obſerva-
 turos ſe) jurent & tueri, conſulta
 quæ ab antediſtis Conſiliariis, ſive
 à majori ipſorum parte, facta &

^a In Bibliotheca Aſſeianâ uniformly ou, not on.

^b A different diviſion of Letters is adopted.

PATENT ROLL Anno 43. Henry 3. Memb. 15. N^o 40.

SOMNER ad verbum *unnan*.

Henry through God's ^a *fultume, King of Englandland,* ^b *Lord*
 Henr. thurg Godes fultume, King ou Engleneloande, Lhoaverd
of Ireland, Duke of Normandy, of Aquitain, and Earl of Anjou,
 ou Yrland, Duk ou Norman, ou Aquitain, and Earl ou Anjou,
send I grecting to all his whole ^c *servants of the Lord, and* ^d *allowed*
 fend igretinge to alle hife hol theilaerde, and ilewede,
of Huntingdon Shire, that ^e *wen ye well all, that we will*
 ou Huntendon Schir, that witen ge well alle, that we willen
and wull, that that our ^f *Read-men all, or the more Deal of*
 and ^g *wune,* that that our Rædesmen alle othe the moare Dacl of
them, that be chofen thorough us, and thorough that ^h *Landsfolk,*
 heom, that beoh ichofen thurg us, and thurg that Loandesfolk,

^a Fultume, or Future, from Futura, Support.

^b Lif-erth—Life-earth—Source of Life or of Bread, *Loaf*, hence *Bread* is the *Staff*, or *Staff*, of *Life*.

^c From theow Servants, hence modern thief, and the Provincialism, “Do you *thou* me, i. e. call me a slave?”—in Lancashire Dialect still theow.

^d Allowed, lawful—*Pacem Regis habentes* in the Law—neither Villains or Thiefs—hence Alloy, or Allay—lawful Money with a proportion of lawful base Metal.

^e The true Derivation of Words will so easily and naturally appear, from these Sources, that it will be frequently unnecessary to comment on them.

^f Men of Letters—Reading—Witens—or Wifemen.

^g Somner gives this Charter in his *Dictionarium Saxonico-latino-anglicum*, under the Verb *unnan*, a word no where found but in this passage, according to his conception of the passage.—The Original is abbreviated thus, *wune*, and from the common expression in Lancashire, “I will and wull,” we have little doubt that our Interpretation is correct.—Lye is subject to this error.

^h The Folk of that County—Knights of that County—*Communitas*—for similar Writs were directed to each Shire of England and *Ireland*—Tyrrel's Common People is ridiculous, for there never was a Knight from an Irish *Election*, a *Representative* to an English Parliament—but of this in our History.

þurȝ þe moape dæl of heom
 alþro alre hit is be þopen iſeod.
 And þæt æhe oþer helpe þæt
 þor to done bi þam ilche oþe
 apener alle men (paucula qua-
 dam hic deesse videntur, hæc ſci-
 licet aut ſimilia: in alle þinge
 þæt) oȝt þor to done ȝ to
 foangen. And noan ne mine of
 loande ne of eȝtephær þurȝ þiſ
 beriȝte muȝe beon ilec oþer
 ipeſſed on omie þiſe. And ȝif
 oni oþer omie cumen heſ onȝener
 pe pillen ȝ heaten þæt alle ure
 tȝicope heom healden deaðliche-
 iſtan. And þor þæt pe pillen
 þæt þiſ beo ſtedefæſt ȝ leſtinde
 pe ſenden ȝep hiſ þriȝ open
 iſemed þiþ ure ſeel to halden
 amanȝer ȝep me hoþð. Witneſ
 ur ſeluen æt Lundæn. þane
 eȝtetenþe dāy on þe monþe of
 Octobr. in þe tȝro ȝ þopeſtiȝþe
 ȝeape of ure cȝunniȝe. And
 þiſ þar idon ætþopen ure iſpo-
 nen nædeſmen Boneſac. arche-
 biſhop on Kanterbur. Walter
 of Cantelop biſhop on Kipe-
 cheſtȝ. Sim. of Muntfoſt Eoſl
 on Leiſcheſtȝ. Ric. of Clap
 Eoſl on Gloſcheſtȝ. ȝ on þar-
 foþð. Roger Biȝob Eoſl on

facienda ſunt, ſicut prædictum eſt.
 Et quod unuſquiſque, vigore
 ejuſdem juramenti, contra omnes
 homines, in omnibus tum faci-
 endis, tum recipiendis, ut id ita
 fiat & obſervetur, alter alteri ſint
 auxilio. Et (quod) nullus ſive de
 terrâ (vel, gente) meâ, ſive qua-
 cunque aliâ, per conſilium huius-
 modi (huius ſcil. conſilii obeundi
 cauſâ) impediatur, ſive damnum
 patiatur, ullo modo. Et ſi quis,
 ſive vir ſive fœmina, huic (ediçto)
 contravenerit, volumus & man-
 damus ut omnes fideles noſtri eos
 habeant infenſiſſimos. Et quia
 volumus ut hoc firmum ſit &
 ſtabile, mittimus vobis hoc ſcrip-
 tum patens, ſigillo noſtro ſigua-
 tum, penes vos in archivo repo-
 nendum. Teſte nobis ipſis Lon-
 dini decimo octavo die menſis
 Octobriſanno coronationis noſtræ
 (vel, regni noſtri) quadrageſimo
 ſecundo. Hoc autem geſtum fuit
 coram iuratis conſiliariis noſtris,
 Bonifacio, Archiepiſcopo Cantu-
 arienſi, Waltero de Cantilupo,
 Epiſcopo Wigornienſi, Simone
 de Monteforti, Comite de Lei-
 ceſtrenſi, Richardo de Clare,
 Comite Gloceſtrenſi & Hartfor-
 dienſi,

*in our King's Reach, haveth done and shall do, in the Worthi-
on ure Kyneriche habbeth idon and ſchullen don, in the Worth-
neſs of Gode, and in our Truth, for the Freemen of the Lant,
neſſe of Gode, and on ure Treowthe, for the Freine of the Loan le,
thorough the ſight of the heretofore ſaid Read-men, be ſtedfaſt
thurge the beſighte of thantsforen iſeide Rædeſiaen, beo ſtedfaſt
and laſſing, in all things without end. And we¹ ordain all our
and ileſtinde, in alle thing abutan ænde. And we heaten alle ure
true (men) in the Truth that they us owe, that they ſtedfaſt-
treowe in the Treowthe thæt heo us ogen, thæt heo ſtede-ſaſt-
like holden, and ſwearen to holden, and to warden, the² ſettineſſes
lich healden, and ſiveren to healden, and to werien, the iſetneſſes
that bin maked and bin to make, thorough the heretofore ſaid
that beon maked and beon to makæn, thurg than to foren iſeide
Read-men, or thorough the more deal of them, alſo as it
rædeſmen, other thurg the moare dæl of heom, alſwo alſe hit
is beforſaid. And that each other help that for to do by their
is beforen iſeid. And thæt æhe other helpe thæt for to done bi them
¹ ilk Oath, againſt all men right for to do, and to³ ſang. And
ilche othe, agenes alle men rght for to done and to foangen. And
none nor of mine Land, nor of⁴ oughtwhere, thorough his ſetting
noan ne mine of loande, nor of egte-whær, thurg his beſigte
may be lett, or worſed in any wiſe. And if⁵ ony or
muge beon ilet, other iwerſed on onic wiſe. And gif ony other*

¹ Higt, to command—Skinner—hence English ordain—heaten, a thing ordained.

² Setneſſes, things ſet at the Sitting, what was determined at the Sitting or Selliſions, ſynonymous to Aſſize Aſſia—Hence behelt, be ſit, or ſet—what ordained at the Selliſion.

³ Ilk, Spencer the ſame.

⁴ Deſtruction ſang Mankind—Shakeſpeare, Timon.—We ſtill have Dogs-fangs, Teeth, the Holders, conſequently hold.

⁵ Anywhere—a Lancathire provincialiſm.

⁶ Ony, Lancathire for any.—Here ony and onic are the maſculine and feminine gender, Man or Woman.

Norþfolk. 7 Marſchal on Engle
loand. Pepper of Sauueye. Will.
of Fort Eopl on Aubem. Ioh.
Pleſſiz Earl on Faperik. Ioh.
Geppereſſune. Pepper of Munt-
fort. Ric. of Grey. Roger of
Mortemer. James of Aldithel.
7 ætþoren oþre moðe.

And al on þo ilche porþen 7
7rend into aupichte oþre ſchipe
ouer al þare kunerliche on Eng-
lene loand. 7 ek in tel Irelonde.

dienſi, Rogero Bigod, Comite
Norfolcienſi & Angliæ Mareſ-
callo, Petro de Sabaudia, Wil-
lielmo de Fort, Comite Alber-
marliæ, Johanne Pleſſiz, Comite
Warwicienſi, Johanne filio Gal-
fridi, Petro de Monteforti, Ri-
chardo de Grey, Rogero de Mor-
tuomari, Jacobo de Aldithel. &
coram aliis pluribus.

Et omnino eiſdem (vel totidem)
verbis miſſum eſt in unum-
quemque per univerſum reg-
num Angliæ Comitatum, ac
etiam uſque in *Hiberniam*.

any come here against, we will and ordain that all our onic cumen her onenes, we willen and heaten that alle ure truemen them holden ^p deadly. If then, and for that we will treowe heom healden deadliche. If than, and for that we willen that this be stedfast and lasting, we send you this Writ open that this beo stedefeste and lestinde, we senden gew this writ open signed with our Seal to hold amongst you in ^q Herd. Witness ifeined with ure feel to halden amanges gew ine hord. Witness ourselves at London the eighteenth Day in the Monthe of wi selven æt Lundæn thane egtetenthe Day on the Monthe of October, in the two and fortieth year of our crowning. And Octobr, in the two and fowertigthe gear of ure cruminge. And this was done afore our sworn Read-men Boniface Archbishop of Canterbury, Walter of Cantilupe Bishop of Worcester, Simon on Canterbur, Walter of Cantelop Bishop on Wirechestr, Sim. of Montfort Earl of Leicester. of Muntfort Eorld on Leirchestr, &c.

The Saxon Poetry, that has been transmitted to us, admits of a similar Translation. The first specimen we shall exhibit is the conclusion of a Saxon Ode on a Victory of King Athelstan's. In this Poem Henry of Huntingdon complains of certain "*extraneous Words and uncommon Figures,*" which Warton terms "*Scaldic Expressions or Allusions.*" We pretend not to any acquaintance with such Language, but we are certain that he has not "given a literal English Translation of this Poem," as he professes. The Original is extracted from Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, with his Latin, and Warton's English, Version.

^p In the language of that age, wolf-headed, gerentes caput-lupinum.

^q In Congregation—a Number assembled.

CHRONICON SAXONICUM.

Anno 938. ^a Gibſon. p. 114.

Ne pearð pæl mape. on ðiſ
eiglande. aſeþi ƿýta. ƿolceſ ƿe-
pýlled. beƿoran þiſſum. ſƿeoþi-
deſ ecƿum. þaſ þe uſ ſecgað
bec. ealde uðþitan. ſiððan eaſtan
hudeþi Engle 7 Seaxe. uþ beco-
mon. oþeþi þſýmum þrað. Bſý-
tene ſohton. ƿlance ƿiſſmiðar.
Fealleſ oþeþi-comon. eoþlaſ aþi-
þate. eaþð bezeatan. ^b

Non fuit ſtrages major in hac
Infula unquam [plureſive] populi
occiſi antehac gladii acie, (quos
commemorant Liberi veterum
Historicorum) ex quo ab Oriente
huc Angli ac Saxones appellentes,
& per mare latum Britanniam
petentes, inſignes bellorum fabri,
Britannos ſuperabant, Duces ho-
nore praſtantes : [&] terram oc-
cupabant.

^a This Chronicle, edited by Gibſon, before he took his Maſter's Degree, ap-
proaches nearer to the Original, than any Verſion or Tranſlation we have met with.
Gibſon was afterwards Biſhop of London ;—He was a ſound Scholar, an able Divine,
and zealous Friend to our Eſtabliſhment ; he enfor'ed pure practical Piety on true
Chriſtian Principles, not for the grand *ſtentatisus* ſake of “ maintaining the Pre-
eminence of our Church over all Proteſtant States,” * he countenanced not Sectaries,
he encouraged not Schiſmatics.

^b “ Never was ſo great a ſlaughter in this iſland, ſince the Angles and Saxons, the
fierce beginners of war, coming hither from the eaſt, and ſeeking Britain through the
wide ſea, overcame the Britons excelling in honour, and gained poſſeſſion of their
land.” See Diſſertation I. Warton's Poetry.

* See a late circular Letter—and occaſionally one Word, Sentence, or Action gives a
truer Knowledge of the real Character, than the *Actor* diſplays on the Stage.—The bene-
volent, pious, and orthodox Charles Baldwin of Mancheſter, a lay Gentleman, but a ſound
Divine, will probably enlarge on ſuch ſubject.

WARTON'S

SAXON CHRONICLE.

An. 938. Gibbon. p. 114.

^a *Nor were there Wail more, in this Island, ever as yet, (with)*
 Ne wæρθ wæl mare, on this Eighlande, afer gyta,
folks filled, before this, (by) swords edges, thus they us
 folces gefylled, beforan thissum, fweordes eegum, thæs the us
(that) seeketh book, elder oth' wifemen, sith-thence Easterns hither,
 fægath bec, ealde uth witan, siththan eastan hider,
Angles and Saxons, up came, o'er (the) briny broad, Britain
 Engle and Seaxe, up becomon, ofer brynum brad, Brytene
foughten, Lance with Smiths, Welch overcame, earls harrowed,
 fohton, wlance wig Smithas, Wealles ofer-comon, corlas arhwate,
earth they gotten.
 card begeatan.

The numerous Extracts of antient English Poetry, published by Warton in the first Volume of his History, are all copied from Originals in the Saxon Character, and chiefly transcribed from the Thesaurus of Hickes. We shall select a Specimen, to prove the necessity of purifying the Text by conjectural Criticism, on rational principles, in this branch of Literature; and at the same time contradict that arrogant and ignorant assertion of the late Lord ^b Orford, that there “never did exist a more barbarous Jargon than the Dialect, still venerated by Antiquaries, and called Saxon.” Let us oppose “Jonson’s learned Soc,” to this modern butkin’d Hero. In ^c “Composition, our English Tongue, (which we think is

^a They who are acquainted with Saxon Manuscripts will justify this reading.

^b Walpole’s Historic Doubts, p. 10.

^c Ben Jonson’s English Grammar, which we hope some sound Scholar will speedily reprint, with a few necessary alterations, to modernize it for the generality of readers. —To this Work Mr. Tooke is much indebted.

WARTON'S ENGLISH POETRY, Vol. I. p. 13.

<p> Þphen ƿrihtin o domeſdei þind- þeð hiſ hþeate, And þeppeð þæt ƿurta chep to hellene heate, Þe mote beon a corn i ƿoder ƿuldene edene, Ðe ƿurde ðiſ of latin to Engliſh ſche ledene And he þæt heſ leapt onþæt ſþa aſ he cuþe. ÆŒEN. </p>	<p> That is, “ When the judge at Doomſday winnows his wheat and drives the duſty chaff into the heat of hell; may there be a corner in god’s golden Eden for him who turned this book into ^a Latin, &c. </p>
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^a This muſt ſolely be attributed to Warton’s careleſſneſs, ſince, immediately preceding, he ſtates, “ It was tranſlated from the Latin.” The inaccuracy in the Saxon muſt be immediately obvious to the Scholar.

proved to be the Saxon) is above all other very hardy and happy, joining together, after a most eloquent manner, ^d *undry words of every kind of speech.*"

^d Selections from Jonson—Mill-horse, Lip-wife, Self-love, * Twy-light, there-about, not-with-standing, † be-cause, Table-nap-kin, Wood-bind, a Puff-check, Draw-well, Handi-craft, Foot-ball-player, a Tennis-court-keeper; we could subjoin innumerable other instances of its Precision, Accuracy, and Beauty, which entitle it to an Equality with the Grecian Language for combining Ideas, and fully establish its Superiority over the Latin and ‡ French vague Phrases and tautological Idioms. In || *Strength* and Simplicity it is unrivalled—only *two* Declensions of Nouns.

* Tween-light, betwixt Light and Darknes. † Be the Cause, or Cause.

‡ I never see a Gallicism, or French Word anglicised, but I could exclaim with Ben Jonson's Peniboy—"There's a fine new Word Thom, pray God it signify any thing."

Staple of News.

|| Seven Consonants to one Vowel—the Sound an Echo to the Sense.

WARTONS' ENGLISH POETRY, Vol. I. p. 13.

When ^a *Do-right* o' ^b *Dooms-day* winnoweth his wheat,
 Hwhen drightin o domefdei windthreth his hweate,
And throweth the dusty Chaff to Hell's Heat,
 And therweth that dusti Chef to hellen heate,
Ah! might be one Corner in God's golden Eden,
 He mote be ona corn i godes guldene edene,
That throweth this of Latin to English ^c *reading,*
 The turthe this of Latin to lengliſche redene,
An he that her least unthrowed so as he couth.
 And he that her least onthrat swa as he cuth. Amen.

- The Title of our Lord.

^b Doom Judgment—Wind-throweth—wind-thrath. Warton has mistaken the *th* for *w* thrice, and *p* for *w* once, in these five lines.

^c In ancient MS. the *r* approximates in form frequently to a *j* or *i*.

Warton prefaces his Work by a curious assertion that “the Saxon Poetry has no connection with the nature or purpose of his undertaking;” but if any reader will consult Hickes’s learned Thesaurus, he will find “most^d Citations (not) extracted from ancient Manuscript Poems never before printed,” but verbatim et literatim transferred from the Anglo-Saxon printed characters, without amendment, or alteration, in the division or explanation of the Original. We shall exhibit one Extract to facilitate the reading of such Poetry, in Warton’s Language, and our corresponding modern, accented, and divided rhythmically.

Màiden Margaret—one Night in prison lay,
 Meiden Margarete one nitt in prison lai,
Hèr came before Olibrius—on that other Day.
 Ho com biforn Olibrius on that other dai.
Màiden Margaret—left up upon my Lay,
 Meiden Margarete, lef up upon my lay,
And Jesu thou believest on—thou do him all away.
 And Ihu that thou levest on, thou do him al away.
Live in me and be my Wife—full well thou may speed,
 Lef on me ant be my wife, ful wel the mai speede.
Antioch and Asia—shalt thou have to meed:
 Auntioge and Asie scaltou han to mede:
Check-lawn and purple Pall—shalt thou have to wed:
 Ciculauton and purpel pall scaltou have to wede:
With all the Meats of my Land—full well I shall thee feed.
 With all the metes of my lond ful vel I scal the fede.

^d Preface, p. 6.

The accomplished Alfred, in his valuable Translation of Bede's Ecclesiastical History, has transmitted a Chorus, or Burthen of a Hymn, of the presumedly inspired Cædmon. The judgment of this Monarch would not permit him to imitate Bede's affected Version, and he consequently transcribed the Original. Any Scholar that will compare the venerable Author's ^a sense of this passage, or collate the various Readings of different Manuscripts of this Poem, will make great allowance for our imperfections; for we pretend not to be uniformly right, though, we imagine, less incorrect than our predeceffors. We give our Original from the best Edition.

EXTRACT from BEDE'S ^b HISTORY, and a FRAGMENT
of CÆDMON. Smith's Edit. p. 597, and 170.

*Cædmon sing me somewhat, then answereth he and quoth, ne
Cedmon sing me hwæt, tha andswareth he and cwath, ne
can I none thing sing, and I for-that of this Boroughthip
con ic nan thing singan, and ic forthon of thyflum gebeorlicepe
• outed and hither ^d gowed, for that I naught sing may couth. After
uteode and hider gewat, forthon ic noht singan ne cuth. Eft
him quoth he, that with him speaking was, However thou might
he cwæte fe, the mid him sprecende wæs, hwæthere thu meht
me sing, quoth he. What shall I sing, quoth he. Sing me
me singan, cwæth he. Hwæt sceal ic singan, cwæth he. Sing me*

^a Hic est *Sensus*, non autem *Ordo* ipse Verborum.

Bel. Eccles. Hist. Edit. Smith. p. 171.

^b We have taken the privilege of adopting such Readings as we judge the purest, and of modernizing some words.

^c Went out.

^d Modern went.

BEDÆ ECCLESIASTICA HISTORIA CUM FRAGMENTO
CÆDMON. Ed. Smith, p. 579 & 170.

Eedmon. sing me [hpæt] hƿeƿu. Ða ƿƿapeðý he 7 epæþ. Ne con ic nan ðing singan. 7 ic ƿoþþon of ðýſſum zebeoƿſeipe ut eode 7 hider ƿeƿat. ƿoþþon ic nolht [singan ne] cuþe : Eƿt he epæþ ſeþe [mæð] him ƿƿe- ceode ƿæſ. Þƿaþene ðu meahht me singan. epæþ he. Þƿæt ſceal ic singan. epæþ he. Ðing me ƿƿumſceapt : þa he ða ðaſ ƿƿape onſenƿ. Ða ongan he ſona singan in heſeneſſe Eodeſ ſeýppender ða ƿeſſ 7 ða ƿoþð ðe he naſſe ne ƿehýpde. Ðaƿa endeþýpðeneſſe ðiſ iſ.

Nu ƿe ſceolan heſiƿean heo- ƿon ſiceſ ƿeaſð. metodeſ mihte 7 hiſ mod ƿehanc. [ƿeopc] ƿulðoſ ƿædeſ. Ðƿa he ƿulðeſ ƿehƿaſ ece Ðrihten oþð onſtealde. he æpeſt ƿeſcop eorþan beapnum heoƿon to noſe haliz ſeýppend. Ða middan ƿeaſð mon cýnneſ ƿeaſð ece Ðrihtne æpeſt teode ſiſum ƿoldan ƿƿea almihhtiz.

Cædmon, inquit, canta mihi aliquid. At ille respondens, Nescio, inquit, cantare; nam & ideo de convivio egressus huc ſceſſi, quia cantare non pote- ram. Rurſum ille qui cum eo loquebatur, Attamen, ait, mihi cantare habes. Quid, inquit, debeo cantare? At ille, Canta, inquit, principium creaturarum. Quo accepto reſponſo, ſtatim ipſe cœpit cantare in laudem Dei conditoris verſus, quos nunquam audierat, quorum iſte eſt ſenſus :

Nunc laudare debemus aucto- rem regni cœleſtis, potentiarn creatoris, & conſilium illius facta Patris gloriæ. Quomodo ille cum ſit æternus Deus, omnium mi- raculorum auctor exſtitit, qui primo filiis hominum cælum pro culmine teſti, de hinc terram cuſtos humani generis omni- potens creavit.

^c *forming of Creatures.* When he then this answer ¹ unfanged,
 frumfceaert ² Tha he tha thas andfware onfeng,
 then began he soon sing in earnest, God shaping (it), that
 tha ongan he sona fangan in hereneffe, Godes feyppendes, tha
 verfe and that word, that he never nay heard—their end-burthens
 fers and tha word, the he næfre ne gehyrde—thara endeburdneffe
 this is.
 this is.

Now we shall hearen ^b heaven's ¹ Reach word, mighty's might;
 Nu we sceolan herigean heofon Rices weard, mitodes milt;
 and his mode of thought; worked worlds father; so he worlds
 and his mod gethanc; weore wuldor fæder; swa he wuldres
 give was; eke Do-right earth in flilled; ¹ he eorl shaped ¹ elder
 geh wæs; ece Drihten ord onstealde; he cress gefcop ælda
 Barns ^m Heavens to roof holy Shaping; then middle earth
 bearnum heofon to rofe halig Scyppend. tha middan geard
 men's kind ⁿ world eke Do-right after tied, ^o free folds from
 mon cynnes weard ece Drihtne æfter teode, fram foldan frea
 (the) Almighty.

Ælmihtig.

^c From frm, on our system, are derived firm, form, from, farm, formation, &c.

^f Unfanged—opposite to fang—not-hold—let go—delivered.

² The Saxon *f* and *p* are easily mistaken.

^b The concluding *n* the ancient characteristic of the plural number, as *loven*, *chosen*, &c. became obsolete in the time of Henry the eighth, and in the opinion of Ben Jonson this change has produced great confusion and errors in our language.

¹ Synonymous with Realm.

² The Father.

¹ M. S. *Eliens*.

^m To Heaven's Roof.

ⁿ The omission of a letter here, *l*, is sometimes not to be much regarded.

^o Men created free beings.

The numerous errors of Wheloc, the quondam Arabic and Saxon Cambridge Professor, have been so fully proved by the subsequent Editor of Beda, that it might appear unnecessary to give any Extract from his Works : but since he has attempted to translate part of a curious old English Poem into Latin Verse, we will just exhibit a Specimen.

BEDÆ ECCLES. IIIS. PER WHELOC, p. 25.

Poeta quidam nostras & vetus. M. S. Coll. Trin. Cantab. p. 10,
ita cecinit.

of all for one Woman

..... of alle for one Wiman

*That Helen was ycleped this Battle first began ;
That Heleine was icleped this Baitaille first began ;
One high man was there before, that ycleped was Dardan,
On heig man was ther bifore, that ycleped was Dardan,
Of him come the good Brutus, that was the first man,
On him com the Gode Brutus, that was the furste man,
That Lord was in England, as I you tell can.
That Louerd was in Engelond, asc ic eu telle kan.*

Sic Latine dedi—hæc unica fœmina, prima.

*Ante omnes fœvit Trojani fœmina Belli
Hanc Britones dixere Helenam, sed Dardanus ille
Excelsus Bruti pater extitit, unde Britannii
Heroum fumpfere genus ; fortissimus idem
Hunc orbem primus regere & dominarier ansus.*

Having proved the inadequacy of all our best Saxon Scholars to convey accurate ideas of the ^a “ British-Saxon, Anglo-Saxon, or Norman-Saxon Documents,” through the medium of a ^b Latin Translation; and having, as we presume, shewn that the English Tongue is the natural offspring of these Languages, (and Children surely have more Affinity to their Parents, and are better acquainted with them, than Aliens,) we will make an Extract from the Gospel of St. John, to manifest the sound Divinity in the Version edited by Junius, and then briefly suggest some Hints to Students relative to the best mode of cultivating the Knowledge of such Literature.

The GOSPEL of ST. JOHN. CHAP. I.

1. On fruman pær word. 7 þ word pær mid Gode. and Gode pær þ word.

2. Ðæt pær on fruman mid Gode.

3. Ealle þing pæron zepohlte þurh hýne. 7 nan þing næz zepohlte butan hým ðæt zepohlte pær.

4. On him pær lif. and ðæt lif pær manna leohet.

1. In ^c forming was ^d Worth, and the Worth was ^e midst God,

1. On fruman wæs word, and the word was mid Gode, and God was the Worth.

and Gode was the word.

^a Such are the artificial Divisions of the Moderns. Warton's Eng. Poetry.

^b All the beautiful Precision of our Language is lost in their Terms. How is the definite Saxon meaning of *zehlþrumnerre*, *here summonings*, that is, Lanfranc's attempt to make the Archbishop of York swear to obey the Summons of the See of Canterbury, destroyed by Gibbon's obsequium. Sax. Chron. p. 175.—or *Wheloe's professionem*.

^c Forming or firming, i. e. the Creation, or Establishment of things.

^d There is no Article, consequently, it cannot with propriety be rendered Word, and what a train of thought does Worth suggest—first as Goodness or Excellence—then as Price—the Price of Man's Redemption.

^e It may be of no great consequence whether *midst* or *with*, but when we consider the Omnipotence of the Almighty, the former conveys a sublime idea.

2. *That was in forming midſt God.*
 2. That wæs on frumen mid Gode.
 3. *All things were wrought thorough him, and not one thing*
 3. Ealle thing wæron geworhte thurh him, and nan thing
not was wrought be-out him, that wrought was.
 - wæs geworht butan hym, that geworht wæs.
 4. *In him was Life, and that Life was man's Light.*
 4. On him wæs Lif, and that Lif wæs manna Leoht.
-

There never was an Heresiarch, that displays not his want of common sense and judgment, when he attempts to pervert the Doctrine contained in these simple and sublime Verses, whether Arius, Crellius, or Gilbert Wakefield. The Translation of the fourth verse by the last, in his lately edited English Testament, surpasses, if possible, in absurdity, the whimsies of all his predecessors. “What was made had Life in it, and this Life was the Light of Men.” That is, what was itself created, was the Cause of Creation to all created Beings, “All things were wrought thorough him.” But as controversial Divinity is not our immediate Subject, we shall cease farther comment; though we take this opportunity of noticing, that in the twelfth Verse of this Chapter, where our English Translation renders, “to them gave he power to become the *Sons* of God,” the Saxon Version has, “he sealed them one ^e would, that they were God’s *Barns*,” he *realde* him *anpeald* þ̅ hi *pæron* *Loðer* *beapn*. *Children*, not *Sons*, as the learned Dr. Vincent observed to me, that the Original is τέκνα Θεου, not *vios*, for the term “Sons” tends to confound our ideas of the Trinity in this Chapter.—But to resume our immediate object,

The attentive reader must have observed, that the same Saxon word is frequently spelt in a different manner even in a few lines;

^e Would—Power—I would, could, should, &c.

Lily’s Grammar.

and that in our Rendering we have almost totally disregarded the ^f Vowels. We have certainly adopted such system, and we find it to answer far beyond our expectation; not only in the interpretation of Saxon Records, but in appropriating the Scite of Places in the celebrated Book of Domesday. We might more rationally expect classical spelling in a modern Country-fellow, than an uniform mode of writing in our Saxon Ancestors, and we must investigate the meaning of each in the same manner. To this Principle another must be subjoined, that is, the Distinction of Words that have an ^g affinity to each other in sound, or that are pronounced by the same organ, and which are often substituted for each other. The Hebrew Division of Letters will here assist us, that is, their Discrimination into those pronounced by the Tongue, Lips, Palate, Teeth, Throat, or such as are of the serpentine description, or hissing letters. We must farther note the Syllables that are lost in modern pronunciation, as *ge*, *a*, in the beginning of Words, *um*, *un*, *on*, *an*, *n*, *es*, &c. at the end: and also not much regard changing an *m* into a *uu*, or *nn*, and vice versa with each respectively, a *p* into *þ*, or *þ* into *p*, when the sense demands such alteration; because the latter have frequently been mistook for each other, and the first in antient Manuscripts cannot be distinguished. The Specimens we have exhibited will teach more than any instructions we can suggest by *certain* Rules, but we strongly recommend, to the Saxon Student, the actual pronunciation of every word that appears unintelligible to him, and to place particular emphasis on the Consonants. Without pursuing some such plan, it never would have been discovered that ^h Belicolt, Bilefolt, Biliffolt, Briccode, Berifout, Berifcolt, were intended to

^f This mode is now uniformly adopted by Scholars in the Hebrew Language, and Dr. Vincent is of opinion that the Greek Consonants are principally to be relied on.

^g *d* and *t*.

^h See my Specimens and Parts of the History of South Britain.

designate the same Hundred, Byrcholt, in Kent; or that Seward, Ofward, Sewart, Sidgar, Sigar, Siret, distinguished the celebrated Earl of Northumberland; or account for Turbatus being changed into Robertus, in less than three lines.

We will now attempt to sketch out a new Mode of studying Saxon Literature. Mr. Tooke is certainly correct in stating that “our Ancestors were ignorant of the false Divisions and Definitions

ⁱ Diversions of Purley, p. 325.—This Author has certainly great merit, but he assumes more than he is entitled to; he says that “except in *if* and *but* (in one sense of the word) I believe all former Etymologists are against me.” Vol. I. p. 146. What does he say to anan, grant—onleþan—dimittere, hoc dimisso, eac, cacan, aungere, to add, *Skin-er*—געט, געטא, yet *Lye*—along—*on long*. Also, aly—Bote, remedy *bi-utan*, bi-innan—be out, be in—*Tyrchit*—and *Horgeven* first suggested the idea to him, that all Particles were originally Verbs or Nouns.—There is so much extraneous matter in this publication, and he so constantly “seizes every impertinent opportunity of insult *,” talks of being “confined without the most flimsy pretence,” and has conducted himself in such an † inflammatory manner on the Hustings at Covent-garden; that I am stimulated to record a circumstance, omitted in the short-hand Report of his Trial, and which may perhaps a little ‡ embitter his life.—

“Does Mr. Tooke recollect one afternoon at the Old Bailey, about five o’clock, when the Attorney-General had retired from Court for refreshment, and the Solicitor-General was examining Evidence relative to the Proceedings of the Scotch Convention?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect rising indignantly, and wondering how such Evidence could implicate him?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect stating, that he certainly was in the Chair when the two first Resolutions of the Constitutional So-

* This applied to T. Warton, p. 90.

† Such as this to his rabble—“Gentlemen,—Ministers, last year, made you eat Bread with all the Bran in it, this year (if you will let them) they will make you eat Bread made of Bran only—Next year (if you submit to it) they will make you eat Bread made of Bran with chopt Straw in it—Gentlemen—If you will follow my advice, eat nothing but fine white Bread, made of the finest wheaten Flour, and then Ministers will take care you shall have it.”—This stated by an intelligent man, who must have known, that Government, by their Bounty on Importation, had reduced Wheat six shillings per Bushel in a few weeks. To such conduct I cannot help exclaiming,

“That man I hate, as ill as hell,

“Who this can think, and that can tell.”

‡ Whilst I have my life, it will never be embittered for any regret for the past. P. 230.

“ciety,

nitions since received." Later Writers, by adopting the Distinctions of Greek and Latin Grammarians, have confounded our Language and destroyed its simplicity. The Diversions of Purley contain much useful information to the Saxon and English Student, and supply some excellent elementary Rules. As a Scholar, the Author of "Ἐπεα Πτεροεντα is entitled to our respect; as a Member of Society, we pity his fiend-like mind, " whose sole intent is ever to do ill." But the ^k Essence of this huge work, now extending to three quarto volumes, and exceeding the German ^l Hoogeven in bulk, on the Particles of a Language, might have been comprized in fifty pages. Indeed a *Horn-book*, constructed on a similar principle to the one hundred and thirty-fifth page of his work, would contain the substance, though not the proofs.

"ciety, approving of their conduct, were carried, but that he then retired, and Mr. Gerald occupied it?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect his artful insinuation to the Jury, " that it was natural to presume that he withdrew in disgust, because he did not approve of the subsequent Resolutions? &c. &c.—And does he recollect that when " Sir John Scott was sent for into Court—that Sir J. instantly handed a paper to " Mr. Woodfall?—Does he recollect that Mr. Woodfall swore that it was Mr. " Tooke's hand-writing?—Does he recollect that this paper contained every Resolution passed at such Meeting, approving of the Proceedings of the Scotch Convention?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect covering his face with his hand, sinking into " his chair and exclaiming, " AND A FEW COPIES UNFORTUNATELY PRINTED!"—Does Mr. Tooke recollect that he could not again lift up his head that evening?—In your own language to Mr. Windham—" Thou has fac't many things,—thou could not face this!"—Such is the acquitted guiltless innocent.—These things I heard and saw. S. H.—And whatever opinion Judges may have delivered, I ever shall be of the same sentiment with that sound Lawyer Sir John Scott, that not one iota of the Evidence of the Bishop of Gloucester, who had no connection or intercourse with Mr. Tooke twenty years preceding his Trial, could in the least exonerate this Arch-jacobin's actions, for the last five years—though old women, like pigs, " can see where other folks are blind."

^k The Quotations are generally frivolous; he still reads Greek Authors, through French Translations; and when *triumphing* over the ingenious Harris, an excellent Grecian, and boasting of " Authorities in his Favour, if you please Mr. Harris's favourite Authority," (Greek) gives a stinky French Translation of Plutarch. P. 283.

^l Hoogeven de Græcis Particulis, 2 vols. 4to.

The reader must long have observed, that we consider the Learning of Hickes, in his Anglo-Saxon Grammar misemployed; and the Introduction to Lye's Dictionary of little authority. Indeed we are convinced, that they have increased the difficulty of acquiring a knowledge of this language. For in our native tongue there are only two variations of the Substantive's Termination, into s. the mark of the concurrence of two Nouns, or the sign of the Plural Number, as ^m Land-scapes, Self-freedom's Love; which in combination is frequently omitted, for we might say Self-freedom-love, as Self-love; or an addition of en, another mode of forming the Plural, as Ox, Oxen; or a change of the Vowel, as Man, Men, in the Saxon generally um, as Man, Mannum, Manig, Monegum.

The construction of the Verb is the most simple and easy, that can be found in any language. There are only two Inflections in the active Verb, the present, and the past, *do, did*. With the assistance of these two simple Actives, and other Verbs, equally simple, yet significant, every complex variation of the Greek, or Latin, can be clearly expressed. We will exemplify this from the Latin, premising, that, originally, when an idea of the present was intended to be conveyed, our forefathers pronounced the d soft, th—ðo, when the past, hard, ðo, did—*Present* Singular, I love. or do love, thou love-in-is, or lovenest, by abbreviation lovest, and loves,—he love-do or loveth. Plural, we ⁿ love-in, ye love-in, they love-in. *Past*—I love did, by contraction lovedd, written loved. *Past* and *present joined*, with the assistance of the Verb *have*. I

^m Land-shape.

ⁿ In Love—from the Saxon on, the act of loving. Ben Jonson says, The persons plural were wont to be formed by adding en, (softened from in,) thus loven, fayen, complainen, but now, whatsoever is the cause, (one will be suggested) it hath quite grown out of use, and that other so generally prevailed, that I dare not presume to set this afoot again: Albeit (to tell you my opinion) I am persuaded that the lack hereof, well considered, will be found a great blemish to our Tongue. Jonson's Gram. *Since this Book is not easily found, it may be proper to note, that it begins at page 670 of his Works in Folio, though omitted in the Catalogue of Contents.*

have

have loveth, or d, that is, I have love do, or been in the act of loving, and continue to love. *The conditional past*, I had loveth, or ð, that is, I had love do, or been in love, if such a circumstance had not occurred. *The future* is expressed by the Verbs will and shall, whose various significations give our language a manifest superiority over the Greek and Latin. What is termed the commanding Mood, is expressed with peculiar energy and propriety—first, love thou, that is, þeop, love slave; then by the assistance of many Verbs, as *let* him love, *permit* him to love, *suffer* him to love, *allow* him to love, *grant* him to love, he *shall* love. In the Moods generally termed *Optative*, *Potential*, and *Subjunctive*, our language has an astonishing pre-eminence and wonderful precision. We can use God *grant*, *give*, *cause*, *permit*, &c. ° may might, ° can could, shall should, will would, owe ought, which with do as th, and did dd, and the Verbs *is*, *are*, *was*, *have*, &c. will convey more accurate ideas, than any language in the world. What has been termed the Infinitive Mood, and always been written *to love*, should be, we believe, *do love*, that is, be in the act of loving—*do hear*, to be in the act of hearing, probably written to, that distinction might be made betwixt the indefinite do hear, and when a Pronoun is prefixed, I do hear.—Doth is formed from *do* doubled *do-do*, a Provincialism in many counties. Love-ing, Participle from love-in, the act of love-ing. For *of loving*, *in loving*, &c. we refer to ἕπεα Πτερουίτα.

In what is termed the passive Voice PRESENT, (i. e.) loveth, *I am loved by* RIGHT-WISE men, converse, *righteous men love do me*. PAST, *I was loved or lovedd by* time-serving-men, converse, "time-serving-men did love me." Have, had, will, be, been, &c. will explain the rest, when the distinction betwixt *do* ð, and did ðð hard,

° Originally ματ, past, ματθιδεν, hence, probably, the ματτ, those who have power, which is translated Kinsmen.

° Can—can diden, in the plural originally then coulden, I, a letter half-vowel^h ab, according to B. Jonson.

is understood. The Past completed in some Verbs, as taken, broken, was, we think, originally, take-end, break-end; but when the pronunciation, in the time of Henry the Eighth, had softened these to taken, broken, it then became necessary, for distinction's sake, to drop the final n plural. On the same principle done, do-end, in the northern counties it is still pronounced as do-ant—spoken, spoke-end. Indeed our slow-speaking ancestors always annexed ideas, or common sense, to their words, and this nation, happily, has retained the language that can convey them; but the Norman and French innovators, “talking like popinjays,” have so apostrophized, abbreviated, or cut short our Mother Tongue, to give volubility to *their tongue*, that labour and penetration are necessary to discover the Parent-Root from the altered Form of the Off-spring. But Prudence commands me to desist, for ^a Experience has convinced

^a This Essay has been written subsequent to the publication of my Specimens and Parts of the History of South Britain; the second number of which I am prepared to send to the press instantly; but I certainly will not injure myself by the expence of engraving Maps, nor print one syllable, till I have two hundred Subscribers. No money is paid till the delivery.—And here I take leave to let a Right Honourable genealogical-loving President again *hear* from me. At the request of an antiquarian Friend, I sent my Specimens of the History of South Britain to this exalted Character. A month subsequent I called in Grosvenor-square for this Nobleman's opinion, and left my card. In a few days I was informed by the Porter, that his Lord knew no such person, but if I had any business I might signify it by a Letter. I wrote as respectful an Epistle as I could indite. I called again, and again, and again, and again. At last the Lacquey informed me, that it required no answer. Seeing no necessity why the Insulter should keep my Book, I wrote stating, that as my Specimens were of no value to him, I would thank him to return it by the Porter.—I called for it again and again. No answer. I then apprehended that the Letters might not have been delivered, for want of a proper fee. In consequence I again wrote to this Noble F. R. S. &c. stating these circumstances, and my suspicions, and gave him still an opportunity of examining it. It was then sent to Mr. Faulder, either from his Lordship or his servant, with, “Let me hear no more from him.”—Such is the patronage received from the President of a learned Body, incorporated for ancient Research, the Subject of my Work—Or such the rascality of Porters.—I am not an F. S. A — There are other literary and exalted characters of a similar description.

me,

me, that, in general, the present age is fond only of frivolous investigation.

To the Saxon Students, especially the junior Members of the University of Oxford, and those particularly from the northern side of the Trent, we take leave to suggest a few brief observations on the mode of cultivating a knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon language. When thoroughly acquainted with the characters, and capable of easily discriminating betwixt þ and p, f and þ, consider ð and þ or even d as of the same power, and m, n, u, as frequently requiring reciprocal changing, from the blundering of transcribers. (After reading this Essay with some little attention,) begin with the Saxon Gospel of St. John, without any Translation, and pronounce the Consonants of each word distinctly, that is not understood. In long words attend principally to the strong Consonants r, s, n, d, or þ in the centre; for this language, like the Hebrew, has numerous prefixes and suffixes, and a person skilled in the pronunciation of that tongue, will derive great advantage from such circumstance. To the Greek Scholar we recommend the plan, on which Scapula's Lexicon is formed. First find the Root, as frm—from whence we have ^r forme, form, from, frame, firm, all implying a Beginning, then firmēd, whence farmēd, secured to the Tenant on such conditions—and thence farm—farmer—and its dependancies—its modern affixes, affirm, confirm, and suffixes, firmness^r, &c. Thus from the Stream with which we are acquainted we may trace the Source, and derive satisfaction from the investigation. If a corresponding word does not immediately occur to the mind, we may frequently recur with benefit to Skinner, the Glossary of Chaucer, the History of English Poetry by Warton, Spenser, Douglas, our

^r Adam our forme Father—Chaucer—Mr. Tooke's from—beginning.

^s *Nefs*, when used in Topography, implies uniformly a Curvature, from the Latin *Nafus*, our nose, *nefs*; annexed to other words it corresponds with *nasus*, and may be borrowed from Nest, or the Seat, or Residence of that Quality it is coupled with. We still say *Nest of Robbers*.

antient Chroniclers, black-lettered Characters, and for the last resource to Lye; but he certainly pays too much attention to Vowels. The Dictionary of Johnson may often be resorted to with great advantage, for antique or classical authorities, and the sense affixed to the word by different Writers; for though we are convinced that his Etymologies are little to be depended upon, the Work is certainly not a “disgrace to the Nation,” or to the Author; his Collection from the Antients has been of great use to the man who abuses him, and his gigantic mind could never be exercised fruitlessly. He certainly has done more for Literature, for Happiness, for Virtue, than that self-consequential Snarler, the venomous “Viper of Democracy, once well-nigh strangled by our herculean Monarch, and whose hissings, and forked tongue, dare not now so openly threaten the Royal abode.

An acquaintance with the Lancashire Dialect of Mr. Collier will greatly facilitate the reading of Saxon Authors, and his short Glossary may be of some service, though his pretended distinctions of the derivations from Saxon, Belgic, Dutch, or British, are to be totally disregarded. We have selected a few Words from his Dialogue, which certainly displays original Humour, where the Consonants correspond nearly with our modern Terms, at least in Power or Sound, and which may serve to elucidate the original Derivation and confirm our system—*arnt*, Errand, *rnt*, or run it—*Beawt*, Mr. Tooke’s be-out—*blend it*, be-laid it—*awlung*, all-along, Mr. Tooke’s along—*staw*, stand all, all at a stand—*stangs*, fittings, whereon they sit—*down*, do-on—*doff*, do-off—*fair-faw*,

‘ The petulant Mr. Tooke’s assertion, who terms his own Enquiry about the Conjunctions, Prepositions, and Adverbs of our Language his “*Diversions*.”—What are his grand literary pursuits, or *grand objects*, that he only occasionally *deviates* from ?

“ Mr. Tooke knows the metaphor, who is allied to that sibilant Race

— — — whose forked Tongues
Are steep in Venom, as their Hearts in Gall.

Ben Jonson’s Speech of Envy.

fair-fall, or fair happen it unto—*faigh*, *faw*, connecting *light* and *fec*—*shiar*, *share*, *Division*, modern *thire*—*greadly*, *go rightly*—*ogreath*, *on-go-right*—*lack-o-day*, *ah-luck-o 'th day*—and we have some Consonants that convey the same Idea with every Vowel, *clack*, *cleck*, *click*, *clock*, *cluck*—the Note of our domestic Fowl to her Brood.—This mode of study will occasionally require great exertions of the mind, but it will ultimately be attended with more certainty and satisfaction.

The Scholar will soon find, that the Saxon radical words are in general monosyllables, and that most of the terms in our language, (the * richest, most copious, and definite in the universe) convey a distinct meaning, if that meaning could be discovered. Thus *Spinster* is placed in opposition to *Wife*. Search for the distinction—*wif*—*wives*—*weave*, *wove*, *weft*, *woof*—*spindle-stir*, (i. e.) *move*—*Spindster*, modern *Spinster*—Hence we obtain information that the Matrons superintended the Loom, the Virgins the Spinning of the Wool. The word *ʸ Lady* in a similar manner conveys an Idea,

* This the learned Michaelis allows.—See Prize Dissertation on the Influence of Opinions on Language and of Language on Opinions, p. 36.—And here I cannot omit the compliment to our nation by this general Scholar, “ the false ornaments of the French language are never more striking, than on comparing them with the beautiful Simplicity of English Writers, who seem to mind only things.”

Translation, p. 68.

ʸ At the fest of Estre tho Kyng fend ys fonde
That heo comen alle to London, the hey men of this Londe
And the Lovedys al fo god, to ys noble fest wyde
For he schulde crowne here, for the hyc tyde.

Warton. Vol. I. p. 53.

MODERN ENGLISH, with nearly the same CONSONANTS in SOUND.

At the feast of Easter—the King sent his • Command
That they come all to London—the high men of this Land
And the Ladies all so good—to this noble feast hied
For he should crown there—for the high tide.

• Sent his *fend*, or *fonde*, corrupted by Latin Scholars to *firmened*, *s*, and *c*, easily changed in Pronunciation—Command.

the

the beloved. The whole of our Mother Language, we entertain little doubt, will admit of similar illustration; and if a few sound Scholars, well versed in English Literature, would thus dedicate a few months attention to the cultivation of Saxon Learning, there is little question, but we should speedily obtain, not only a Grammar superior to those of Lowth, and Jonson; not only a Saxon Lexicon, on the principle of Scapula, with English Notes and Illustrations, but a Dictionary, not indeed more voluminous; though far more valuable, than that of our late respectable, learned, laborious, and conscientious Lexicographer. The literary object to which we have pledged ourselves, if supported, is of no less moment; but should we be discouraged, that study, perhaps, may be continued by us at some future period, which at present we only pretend to have cultivated subserviently to a faithful Knowledge, of our antient British History.

THE END.



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