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A
GLOSSARY
OF PROVINCIAL WORDS
USED IN

BERKSHIRE

LONDON

JOHN GRAY BELL, BEDFORD STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

MDCCCLII.

[NP]

C. B. DEMAINE,
PRINTER, BEDFORD COURT, COVENT GARDEN.

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[NP]

TO
MR. JOB LOUSLEY,
OF HAMPSTEAD NORRIS, NEAR NEWBURY,
THE FOLLOWING GLOSSARY OF BERKSHIRE WORDS,
COMPILED BY HIM,
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

[5]

GLOSSARY.

ANEoust, just about. (A corruption of even almost.)

ASTOOR, shortly or very quickly.

BARLEYOYLES, the beard or awning of Barley.

BASTE, to tack children's sewing.

BATCH, a certain quantity; part of a number.

BAVIN, a bundle of small wood.

BEDIZEN'D, decorated; dressed very fine.

BITEL, a large wooden hammer used in splitting wood.

BLACK-BOB, a black beetle.

BOWSEY, very large; bulky.

BRAY, to neigh. (Applied to a horse.)

BREVITING, prying; a quick searching about.

BROCK, a badger.

BUCK, a large wash.

BULLOCK, a heifer.

BUNCH, bows of ribbons.

BUNGERSOME, clumsy.

BUNT, to push with the head.

BUZZY or BUZLY, rough; bushy, like a fox's tail.

CADDEL, in a hurry or confused; unsettled.

CADGER, a beggar.

CAWNEY, a silly fool; a half idiot.

CHANGES, shirts and shifts.

CHARM, a dinning noise.

CHIN-MUSIC, chattering; scolding.

CHIT, to sprout out.

CHITTERLINGS, the entrails of a pig.

CIPE, a large basket.

CLAMBER, to climb; to get over.

CLANG, a loud report.

CLINK, upright. (Not quite clink means not quite upright or honest.)

CLOTHIS, clothes.

CLOUT, a box on the ear, or blow.

CLUNG, strong; or in soil, adhesive.

CLUTTERY, applied to the weather, meaning hasty pelting rain.

COLLETS, young cabbages.

COTTERALUGG, a bar across the chimney for the pot hook.

DAAK, dirty; covered with filth,

DAR, a small hasty wash.

DADACKY, rotten.

DAIN, taint or putrid affection.

DALL, the smallest pig in the litter. (A corruption of darling.)

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DEEDY, industrious; very attentive.

DOUT, to extinguish or put out a candle or fire.

DOWSE, to put under water.

DRABBET, an angry expression.

DREW, inactive; sleepy.

DROUTHY, thirsty.

DUMMEL, in animals, dull, inactive; in corn or hay, damp.

DUNCH-PASSAGE, a blind passage.

DUNNY, deaf.

E'ENOMOST, almost.

E'ES, yes.

EFFET or EFT, a lizard or newt.

FEART-SPRANK, a tolerable number or largish parcel.

FEAT, having a nasty taste.

FEATISH or FETE, tolerable; pretty well.

FESS, lively, active; prim. (Probably a corruption of fierce.)

FETE, middling; fair.

FIGARIES, foolish actions or antics.

FIGS, raisons.

FLEW, weak; delicate.

FLOUT, to express anger by actions.

FOGGER, a person who looks after cattle. (A corruption of fodderer or feeder.)

FOOTERY, false; deceitful; slippery.

[8]

FRUM or FROW, crisp; brittle.

FROWSY, an unpleasant smell.

GAAM, to besmear with dirt.

GABBARD, large and old; out of repair.

GARN, garner.

GAWKY, a tall awkward person; uncomely.

GHERN, a garden.

GLADE, to look sly.

GRAMNAERRED, begrimed with dirt.

GRIP, to bind sheaves; a handful of corn.

GRIPE, a small ditch.

GULED, amazed or bewildered.

GUMPTION, common sense.

GUZZLE, a hole for slops near a cottage.

HANKERING, longing.

HAPSE, to fasten.

HAGGA, the fruit of the hawthorn.

IIAGGED, worn out; thin.

HANGLE, a pot hook.

HARL, to entangle.

HEAD, face.

HEAL, to cover.

HEELDEN or HELLDAME, a bad woman.

HEFT, to judge of weight.

HO, to care about; to long.

HOOSET, a horse's head drest up and carried about with rough music for incontinency.

HOOST, to hoist; to lift up.

HOUSEN, houses.

HOOTCHER, a hooked stick used in gathering fruit.

IRE, iron.

KECK, the noise made in the gullet by sickness.

KECKER, the gullet.

KITKEYS, the fruit of the ash.

LAWK, an exclamation of wonder.

LEER, empty; hungry.

LIMMERS, base; low.

LIPSOME, active; pliant.

LITTOCKS, rags and tatters.

LONT-FIGS, figs. (So called from their being introduced in the country at Lent.)

LOPPETING, loitering; lazy; idle.

LOUCHET, a large piece.

LUGG, a pole or perch.

MAGGOTY, fidgetty; frolicsome. (Hence the saying "A maggot in the head.")

MAWING, an implement to clean out the oven.

MAZY, confused in the head.

MERE, a bank or boundary of earth.

MEYESTERFUL, to try for the mastery. (From the Latin majester.)

MIMMAM, a bog.

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MOINE, a dunghill.

MOUCH, to pilfer.

MUNCH, to chew.

NITCH, a bundle of wood, straw, &c.; a burden.

NOT, smooth. (That field is not, i. e. that field is well tilled.)

NUNCHING, a luncheon.

NUDGE, to touch a neighbour confidently with the elbow.

ODMEDOD, a dressed up figure to frighten away birds.

PANCH, broken pieces of crockery.

PEASEN, peas.

PEEL, an implement to put loaves in the oven.

PELT, an animal's skin.

PELT, a term applied to persons very much out of temper.

PIDDLE or PIGHTLE, a small enclosed field.

PLUCK, good courage.

PLYMMED, enlarged; expanded.

POSTIS, posts.

POSTISSER, pots.

POT-DUNG, farm-yard dung.

POP, to clang a whip; a report, or explosion.

PRETTY-FETE, middling quantity.

PUCKER, gathered together; huddled; confusion,

PYCLE, a small field,

[11]

QUAG, to quake.

QUATCH, not speak a word on the subject or utter a sound.

QUEASY, rather sick.

QUILT, to swallow.

QUOP or QUAP, to throb.

RAMPING, eager; a crazy longing.

HANDING, piecemeal.

RANNEL, hungry; voracious.

ROET, pasture ground.

ROUSET, rough grass not eaten by cattle.

ROUT, a track made by wheels.

RUBBEL, a species of hard chalk.

SCALLIONS, old onions planted the next year.

SCREECH, to scream.

SCRABBLE, to scramble with the hands.

SCRIMMAGE, a sort of scuffle.

SERVE, to impregnate.

SHARP, shafts of a wagon or cart.

SHAW, a small wood or wide hedge row.

SHEKEL, a sickle.

SHEWELL, a scarecrow; a thing to frighten birds.

SINKERS, stockings without feet.

SKELING, a sloping attached to a building.

SLACKUMTWIST, an untidy woman; a slattern.

SLAD, a flat piece of ground between two hills.

[12]

SLAER or SLIAR, a sly look.

SLICKET, a thin slice.

SLOCKET, to pilfer.

SMARTISH, middling; tolerable.

SNAPPER, to crackle.

SNOUL, a thick piece.

SOCK, to strike a hard blow.

SPEEL, a spark of fire.

SPLUT, to make a fuss.

SPOUT, spirits. (He is in great spout.)

SPRACK, lively.

SPUD, a worn out tool.

STABBLE, to tread dirt about.

STAGGERS, stumps of wood left as boundaries in woods and hedgerows.

STOCKED, stuck in the mind.

STOUT, a sharp stinging fly.

SWEELING, the singeing of a pig.

SWINGEL, a part of a flail.

TALLET, a loft over the stable where the hay is kept.

TART or TERT, smarting or painful; harsh.

TETTERS, small ulcers or pimples.

THEAVES, two toothed ewes.

THILLER, the last horse in the team, the horse in shafts.

THURT, a cross ill-tempered fellow.

THURTOVER, very contrary.

[13]

TIMBERSOME, timorous; fearful.

TOLE, to entice.

TOADS-CHEESE, a poisonous fungus.

TWIT, to tease another by repeatedly telling them of their faults.

TWITCH, an implement to hold horses by the nose.

UNKID, dull; lonely.

VAMPLETS, short gaiters.

VELTIVER, the bird fieldfare.

VICAR OF BRAY, a term applied to turncoats, originated by the Vicar, during the reigns of Henry VIII., Mary and Elizabeth, changing his religion four times to preserve his benefice.

VINNY, mouldy, spoken of bread or cheese.

VOLK, a number of people.

WAD, a small cock or heap of hay or straw.

WAG, to move.

WANT, a mole.

WAPSY, testy; hot tempered.

WATCHET, wet shod; or wet in the feet.

WAYJOLT, a reciprocating motion; the child's game, see-saw.

WHISKET, a small stick; a twig.

WHIT AND DUB, ancient village music, the pipe and tabor of Scripture.

[14]

WHITTLE, to flog lightly.

WRICK, a sprain.

WHOP, to flog heavily; to thrash.

WIVELMINDED, fickle; capricious.

WUSBARD, a bad fellow. (Probably a corruption of Wizard.)

YELPINGALE, the woodpecker.