

The Salamanca Corpus: "Grantchester Words" (1875)

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VIIV Low II / 16

[139]

GRANTCHESTER WORDS.

THE following words, few, if any of which are to be found in the Dictionary, are still used by the older inhabitants, but under the influence of education they will no doubt soon disappear. As many of them are of great antiquity it seems a pity they should be quite forgotten.

Ax, aak. "Out axed? bands of marriage thrice published.

Beezlins, Milk from a cow soon after calving which if baked becomes thick like custard, and is used for that purpose.

Buck, the body of a cart, from the Ssxon 'buc' the body, from which we ge bucket, bucksome etc.

Bud, a yearling calf.

[140]

Cad, the smallest pig in a lifter.

Caller, soil below that usually turned by the plough.

Cave, or Carve, to fall in, as the side of a pit.

Cavings, the refuse unthreshed unripe ears of corn.

Caselty, anything ricketty and likely to give way.



The Salamanca Corpus: "Grantchester Words" (1875)

"This fence wont last long it's very caselty."

Chimble, to crumble.

Clink, a blow. "I'll give you a clink o¹ the head."

Clung, soil when it is sticky and heavy.

Cop, or Cob, to throw or toss gently.

Dint, violence, torce.

"We are just in the dint of the storm."

Doddy, little, small.

Dosh, a cow pushing with the horn, is said "to dosh".

Dunt, to deafen. "Noise enough to dunt one."

Eddish, grass after mowing, the aftermarth.

Fleck, the soft down of rabbits.

Fleet, shallow. "I wand a fleet pie dish.""

Frawn, frozen.

Gambel, or Gambrel, the crooked piece of wood or iron on which butchers hang carcases.

[141]

Gain, handy, convenient.

Gays, pictures in a book.

Gommussing, gadding about.

Gon, gave or given. "I've gon that dog many a bone."

Gotch, a jug.

Grate, piece-work.

Grumpy, rather out of temper.

Hazel, applied to land as it dries after ploughing.

Hide, to flog.

Higgledy-piggledy, intermixed, irregular-heads-and-tails tike cuddling pigs. Moore, in his Suffolk words gives a list of similar words as, Crinkum-crankum, Fiddle-faddle, Gibblegabble, Harum-searum, Helter-skelter, Hocus-pocus, Hodge-podge, Hugger-mugger, Humdrum, Hurry-skurry, Shilly-shally, Topsy-turvy. &c.

Hodmadod, a snail.

Horkey, a feast after harvest.



The Salamanca Corpus: "Grantchester Words" (1875)

Jag, a small load of corn straw &c.

Jet, a large ladle.

Jill, a timber carriage on two wheels.

142 HI8T0BY OF GBANTCHESTER.

Jub, the pace of a horse between a trot and a walk.

Keep, growing food for sheep or other live stock.

Kelter, good condition or arrangement: when a machine will not act properly it is said to be 'out o' kelter.'

Lewcome, a projecting window for drawing up sacks at a mill or warehouse.

Midsummer-daw, the coalchafers.

Mort, a great quantity. "Sich a mort of folk."

Outs, best described by an example, when a man has done his work badly it is said: "He made no outs of it."

Pingle, to eat a little without an appetite.

Plunder-stick, a bar of wood used to secure a cart-body to the shafts, when the bar is removed the cart 'tips' and is said to be 'unplundered.'

Purely, pretty well in health.

Queech, a kind of grass. Titricum repens.

Ringe, a row: hay or loose corn raked into a line.

Routy, rough grass or corn grown on the side of a dung-heap is said to be 'very routy."

[143]

Sizzle, to hiss, as when hot iron is quenched.

Snarth, a scytbe handle.

Sneest, the burnt wick of a candle.

Slon, the sloe, the fruit of the blackthorn.

Slub, Slud, or Slurry, mud, now applied principally to the washings firom coprolites.

Spalt, short-grained, brittle.

Stover, clover hay.

Swingle, the limb of the flail which falls on the corn in threshing.

Ta, this. "Ta year" this year.