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LOCAL DIALECT.

PECULIAR EXPRESSIONS AND WORDS HEARD AND NOTED IN THE
PARISH OF FRESTON, SUFFOLK, BY REV. C. R. DURRANT,
BETWEEN 1881 AND 1893

1. "Agin," for "again."
2. "To *romant*," for "to romance." (Forby notes "roment" as substantive.)
3. "Two *on* them," for "two of them."
4. "To *reckon*," meaning to think or believe, as in American, "I *reckon* that it will be so."
5. "He *smacked* in after me," meaning "He dashed in after me."
6. "Do, *ti don't matters*."
7. "*Nannicking*," meaning "larking about."
8. "A *clout*," meaning "a blow." F.
9. "To *green*," meaning "to strangle."
10. "A *rafty* day." F. Z.

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11. "*Dag*," meaning "Dew and Mist." F.
12. "To *lug*," meaning "to move."
13. "*Sapy* look," meaning "unhealthy look." F.
14. "*Doak*," is the hollow in the back above the thigh.
15. "I kept *mocking* across the road to find a clean path," meaning "crossing and recrossing." This expression was used by a woman from the South Western part of Suffolk.
16. "A *gaty* boy," meaning "a troublesome boy." Perhaps "gartless". See *East Anglian Notes and Queries*. New Series. Vol. I., p. 109. Z.
17. "*Nut*," meaning "Head."
18. "*He is wonderful tittery*," meaning "He is very weak in body."
19. "That is *enow*," for "enough."
20. "*The last Saturday as ever was*," meaning "last Saturday."
21. "*He didn't ought to*."
22. "I'd *as lief* do one as the other," meaning "as soon."
23. "It is *tidy cheap*," meaning "pretty cheap."
24. "A *goodish few*," meaning "a fair number."
25. "To *snug*," meaning "to pet, to coddle."
26. "*Ruff*," for "roof."
27. "*Unkivered*," meaning "uncovered." "To kiver," F.
28. "The roads are very *luggersome*," meaning "heavy, lugsome." F.
29. "*It fares ill, it do*," meaning "it is ill."
30. "*Bent*," a coarse grass.
31. "*Brank*," buckwheat. F.
32. "*Haysel*," the haymaking season. F.
33. "No man *durst* go," for "no man dare go."
34. "*I like myself very well*," meaning "I am very well satisfied with my present position or state."
35. "*There was a precious sight of them*," meaning "there were a great many of them."

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36. "A great *sight*," meaning "a great may." F.
37. "He may do it *a time or two*," once or twice.
38. "*Goodly tight*," meaning "in tolerably good condition" (in modern slang, "pretty fit").
39. "*I ain't (or hain't) finished*," for "I have not finished." F.
40. "*To backen*," meaning "to put back. The Governess backened him," meaning "The Schoolmistress put him back from a higher standard to a lower one. The weather has backened the harvest."
41. "*He has a stinking hide*," meaning "he has an unpleasant smell."
42. "I am wholly *stammed*," "astonished." F.
43. "I must see if I can *scheme* anything for it," meaning "if I can plan or contrive."
44. "He *hued*, he *wed*, he *sued*," for "he hoed, he weeded, he sowed."
45. "Such a thing *wastes*," that is "diminishes, shrinks."
46. "I shall be *on to you again* when I see you," meaning "I shall ask (or remind) you again."
47. "I am very *botty* about my school," meaning "I feel an esprit de corps, I look back with pride, I stand up for my school."
48. "I will *nip over* to see you," meaning "I will come and see you."
49. "This is a *weather breeder*," used of a time of unseasonable weather.
50. "He is *pingly*," meaning fastidious and difficult to please about his food.
51. "*Coarse*," rough, referring to weather. F.
52. "*There-ti-be*," there it is.
53. "To *scour*," to wash thoroughly.
54. "*Tradesman*," an artizan or mechanic in contra-distinction to a labourer.
55. "*Come along wi' you together*," "together" being used simply to emphasize "come along." F. thinks it means "the gathering."
56. "To *slither*," to split lengthways.
57. "*He is out*," meaning "he is away from home on a visit."
58. "To *whittle*," to make smaller.
59. "I will *axe* him his name," for "ask." F. says that "axe" is the original Saxon.
60. "*I tell ye*."

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61. "Put them things away."
62. "It is *all along o' you* that this happened," meaning "it is your fault."
63. "Waps," the Wasp. Anglo-Saxon Woeps. F.
64. The Green Woodpecker is here known as the *Woodsprite*, the common Whitethroat and the *Hayjack*, the Spotted Flycatcher as the *Wallbird*, the common *Wren* as the *Ovenbird*, the long-tailed Tit as the *Pudding poke*, the Pied Wagtail as the *Penny Wagtail*, the Goldfinch as *King Harry*, and the *Bullfinch* as the *Olp*.

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65. The river Orwell, on which the parish is situated, is known as "*The Water*," and I was surprised to find on enquiry among the children at the school some years ago, that not one of them had ever heard of the Orwell, or knew the river by any other name than "the Water."
66. People here still say *housen* for houses, *your'n* for your's, and *her'n* for her's.
There is a curious expression in an epitaph upon a stone in memory of Barzillai Hare (died 1777) in the Churchyard of the neighbouring parish of Woolverstone. The epitaph reads:—

"O cruel Death that would no longer spare
A loving Husband, and tender Father dear.
Great is the loss to *those whose* left behind."

In the above list F. denotes that the word is to be found in Forby's *Vocabulary of East Anglian Words*: and Z. that it is to be found in Zincke's *Materials for a History of Wherstead*. 1st edition.

C. R. DURRANT.