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A Glossary
OF
SURREY WORDS.
(A Supplement to No. 12.)

BY
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INTRODUCTION

Nearly eighteen years have passed since I contributed a list of Surrey Provincialisms to the pages of the English Dialect Society. Since that time I have made a note of all the additional words which I have heard, recording carefully the date and occasion on which they were used. The result is this second contribution, not much smaller than the first. I do not pretend to say that these words are peculiar to Surrey and are not in use in the adjoining counties of Kent and Sussex, or elsewhere; all I say is that they are the vernacular idiom of this part of Surrey, and are to be heard in the conversation of every-day life. I have illustrated them principally from three works—works which in respect of provincial language I have found to be absolutely trustworthy—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, by the late L. Jennings, which is mainly concerned with the counties of Surrey and Sussex; *Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, that charming work of the late Rev. J. Coker Egerton, which fortunately for the world has just been reprinted; and *Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, a no less delightful book, with its admirable illustrations by Cruikshank, written by Mr. Chandos Wren Hoskyns. Whether the ‘Clay Farm’ were in the South of England or

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no, the rustic dialect is singularly illustrative of that which prevails in Surrey. In drawing up my list I have had regard to the excellent advice of Professor Skeat (*Notes and Queries*, 4 Ser. xi. 386). I have tried, ‘to put down everything that is not in standard English,’ not to miss a word because it is current in other places, and ‘to note every word’ without stopping to ascertain if it is ‘peculiar to this locality.

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Following the example of the Rev. T. D. Parish, in his *Dictionary of the Sussex Dialect*, I propose to make a few remarks on the Surrey dialect and its pronunciation, which differs very little, if at all, from the former. The pronunciation is broad and drawling, and the following changes in vowel-sounds, most of which he notes, are general.

A or *e* before double *l* is pronounced as *o*; e. g. *foller* for fallow, *yoller* for yellow.

A before *c* or *t* becomes *ea*; e.g. *ple-ace*, *re-ace*, *ge-at*, for place, race, and gate.

E before *ck*, *ct*, or *x*, becomes *a*; e.g. *wrack*, *neglact*, *taxt*, for wreck, neglect, text; and in ‘stem,’ which is pronounced *stam*.

Double *e* becomes *i* in such a word as ‘sheep,’ which is pronounced *ship*.

E before *ea* is pronounced as double *e*; e.g. *peers* for pears, and *a* is pronounced as *e* in such words as *heres*, *mere*, *teres*, for hares, mare, tares.

I becomes *e* in such words as *pet* for pit, *kell* for kiln; and double *e* in the plural, e.g. *meece* for mice.

Oi becomes *i* in boil and spoil; and in like manner a farm in this neighbourhood, Foyle, is always called *File*.

The plurals of words in *st* are formed by adding *es* to the singular; e.g. *frostes*, *nestes*, *postes*, &c. I have even heard them reduplicated, as in the saying, ‘White frosteses never lasteses.’

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The final *sp* is always transposed, as in *hapses*, *wapses*. *Wapses Lodge*, a meet of the old Surrey hounds, near Marden Park, is properly Wasps Lodge.

The final *x* is always pronounced *ck* in such a surname as Knox.

The mispronouncing of certain words deserves to be noted, e. g.—

Batcheldor for bachelor.

Carline for Caroline.

Chimley or *chimbley* for chimney.

Curoosity and *curous* for curiosity, curious.

Disgest for digest.

Gownd for gown.

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Musheroons for mushrooms.

Nevvy for nephew.

Quid for cud.

Refuge for refuse.

Rooshia and *Rooshan* for Russia and Russian.

I remember at the time of the Crimean war being out shooting one day, when a large covey of partridges got up close in front of the Rectory-house here; several barrels were fired, and the keeper said, 'The old gentleman (this was the name the Rector went by) won't know what's up, he'll think the *Rooshans* are coming.' Similarly in *Martin Chuzzlewit*, 'I can feel for them as has their feelings tried, but I am not a *Rooshan* or a *Prooshan*.'—'Some people,' said Mrs. Gamp, 'may be *Rooshans* and others may be *Prooshans*; they are born so and will please themselves.'

Sarment for sermon.

Spartacles for spectacles.

Superfluous for superficial. The Veterinary, in describing an injury to a horse, said, 'It is nothing but a *superfluous* wound.'

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Taters for potatoes.

Varmint for vermin.

Still more amusing is the misapplication of words.

'I know, Sir,' said a man, 'why Mr.— is so ill, he's lost all his teeth, and can't *domesticcate* (masticate) his food.'

I knew of a nurse who always described the children as '*putrefied* (not petrified) with cold.'

Not long ago I was surprised by a woman telling me that the doctor said her husband had got the *dispensaria*; it turned out to be nothing more serious than dyspepsia, and was a compound of that malady and the dispensary where the medicine was obtained.

'This,' said a clerk who was showing me over a church, pointing to a coil of pipes, 'is our warming *apparition*' (apparatus).

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The Surrey grace after meals, as I have heard it at our rural gatherings, if not elegant, is at any rate expressive, ‘Thank God for my good belly-full.’ An old yeoman farmer, whose name will ever be respected in this district, always repeated the following grace with great solemnity, and with a strong accent on the second ‘for’: ‘*For* what we are going to receive, the Lord Jesus Christ make us thankful *for*.’

The vagaries of the impersonal verb are startling:—

I are, He are, We am, You are (abbreviated to you’re), *They am*.

I were, He were, We was, You was, They was.

Mr. Parish notes many French words in the dialect of Sussex, due no doubt to its proximity to the coast. A few linger in Surrey. The word *dishbil*, *deshabille*, must have come from the Norman-French lady’s maid: there is no English word which exactly expresses what a native of Surrey implies by it; the nearest word perhaps is ‘disorder.’

Sally, by which name the willow is known, may be from

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the French *Saule*, though possibly it has an Anglo-Saxon origin.

Prise, for ‘hold,’ is distinctly a French word. A man was describing to me how he fell—‘We was taking the lights off in the peach-house,’ said he, ‘I was at top, and the young man below he pulled too sudden, and I lost my *prise*.’

In this parish is a farm now called Cheverills, of which the natives retain the right pronunciation, *Chivlers*. It is, and is called in old deeds, ‘*Ferma de Chivaler*,’ being two of the knights’ fees in the parish.

To enter into Surrey folk-lore and superstitions would open out too wide a field:—the passing a child naked through a slit in the bark of a holly tree as a cure for rupture; the keeping a piece of cake baked on a Good Friday and hanging it on a string, in the belief that it will never get mouldy, and that a little of it in sop is a sovereign remedy for diarrhoea; the idea that rain water caught on Holy Thursday (i.e. Ascension Day), if put into a bottle and corked down, will keep good for any length of time; the hollowing out a nut, and putting a spider in it, and then hanging it round the neck of a child who has whooping-cough, under the conviction that when the spider dies, the

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cough will disappear,—are all superstitions which have come, and the latter comparatively recently, under my observation.

I have given in my list of words such Surrey proverbs as I have heard; the following I have not noted, and it is expressive. A man was describing to me the untidy way in which a place was kept, and said, ‘they didn’t keep nothing regular, *it was all over the place like a dog at a fair.*’

A list of dialectal words can never be said to be complete, while to enter fully into the force of them one must be conversant with the habits of thought of the speaker, and with his peculiar accent and intonation: my object has been to put

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on record so far as I am able the dialect of my native county. The words are happily still current in the rural districts, though their area becomes daily more circumscribed, and they may be destined to a lingering or a speedy extinction. It is never safe to prophesy; and on this question, as on many others, in the present day, the advice of the poet is the best:—

‘Quid sit futurum eras, fuge quaerere.’

GRANVILLE LEVESON GOWER.

TITSEY PLACE,
January 31, 1894.

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SURREY GLOSSARY

A. Before substantives and adjectives, e. g. *a-plenty*, *a-many*. ‘I’ve seen him along this way *a-many* times.’

‘There be *a-plenty* of them.’—L. Jennings, *Field Paths and Green Lanes*, 1884, ch. iv. p. 44.

A. Before *h* mute, e. g. a hour.

‘I see him about half *a hour* ago.’—Witness, Godstone Bench, May 1891.

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A. Before participle, e.g. *a-done*, *a-going*, &c. We retain it in *a-begging*. 'I'm *a-going*.' 'Have *a-done* there,' i. e. leave off.

"I see you *a-listenin* to the nightingale," said the hedge cutter.'— *Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 62.

'I've been *a-draining* this forty year.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, 1857, p. 16.

'And as he was yet *a-coming*.'—*A. V.*, St. Luke ix. 42.

A'. On. 'Croydon Fair is *a'* Monday next.' '*A'* Wednesday, *a'* Thursday,' &c. 'He need not go *a'*purpose.'

A-bear. Endure, put up with. 'I can't *a-bear* their goings on.'

A-bed. In bed.

Abroad. Away from home.

'We wants a tom turkey very bad, perhaps when you're *abroad* you may hear of one.'—*Farm Labourer*, 1883.

Afore. Before.

'He was took ill jest *afore* harvest time.'

'He's *afore* you entirely.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 183. [Surrey.]

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Aftermath. The grass which grows after the first crop has been mown. Called also 'Rowen.'

Afternoon. Adjectively. Late, behindhand. 'That's an *afternoon* farmer.' 'He's pretty much of an *afternoon man*.'

Agate. In hand, in making. 'I worked on the railway when the new line was *agate*.'

Agesome. Pronounced Ager-some. Old.

'I was talking to an elderly man in Surrey about the age of another man. "He must be getting old," I said, "Yes, sir," said the man, "I should say he's rather *agesome*.'—A. J. M., *Notes and Queries*, 6 Ser. vii. 165

I have never heard the word in this part of Surrey. (G.L.G.)

Agin. *prep.* Against. Illustrations of its use from authors :—

'And then he run *agin* a man at the bottom of the road here.'— *Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 165.

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‘I should like to hear from your own lips what you've got to say *agin* it.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 172.

‘So he’s hind leg flew up and het *agen* t’other horse.’—Egerton, *Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, 1884, p. 26.

Agoo. Pronunciation of Ago. ‘It’s ever so long *agoo*, I can’t justly tell when.’

‘My mother died sixty year *agoo*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, ch. iii. p. 39.

Ain’t. Is not. ‘It ain’t often that the young birds feed the old ‘uns.’ Proverb. Remarked plaintively to me by an old man who was destitute, and neglected by a worthless son.

‘The Gent *ain't* a-going to give us nothing.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 28.

All along of. In consequence of. ‘It’s *all along* of that there drink.’ To the question, How did sin come into the world? a lad replied ‘It was *all along of* Eve eating of that there apple.’

‘And to be in difficulties *all along of* this place which he has planted with his own hands.’—Forster’s *Life of Dickens*, vol. iii. p. 79.

All on. Without stopping. ‘He kept *all on* terrifying.’

‘While the parson keeps *all on* a-preaching.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 104.

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All-one. All the same.

All one as. Just as if.

‘Wearing it was *all one as* if you had your head in the stocks.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 131.

Along with. Pleonastic for ‘with.’ ‘I see him a-coming out of the Public *along with* that there “Sandy.”’ ‘He lived *along with* the Squire for ever so many year.’

Ampery. Decaying, getting rotten. ‘That cheese is middlin’*ampery*.’

Ancley. Ankle.

A-nigh. Near. ‘And for all that I was bad so long he never come *a-nigh* me.’

Any. At all. ‘The cuckoo don’t sing this year scarce *any*.’

Anyways. In any way. ‘We can’t make *anyways* sure of it.’

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‘For if the child everwent *anyways* wrong.’—George Eliot, *Silas Maimer*, ch. xiv. p. 108.

Apse. The aspen-tree. A field in Titsey Parish is called the *Apses* field.

Argy. Pronunciation of Argue.

‘Well I can’t *argy* it, not being a scholar.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 137.

Arter, Arterwards. After, afterwards. Illustrations from authors:—

‘It don’t all come at once *arter* draining.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 91.

‘She was able to eat her Tittles better *artenoards*.’—*Ibid.* p. 91.

As. That, how.

‘History do tell *as* a high tide cameup.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

As. Who.

‘The lady *as* is there.’ ‘I never see’d a gent *as* wasn’t an artist.’ ‘A person *as* came from London.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 23, 169, 222.

‘That old vixen *as* gave you such a run last winter.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 44.

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As his. Whose. ‘That shepherd we had *as his* native were Lewes.’

‘A gentleman, from India *as* you see *his* name wrote up.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 22.

Ash-keys. The seed-pods of the ash-tree.

Aside. By the side of.

As the day lengthens, so the cold strengthens. Proverb, meaning that if a frost sets in as the days are beginning to lengthen, it is likely to be more intense and to last the longer.

Atween. Between. ‘Anywhere *atween* the two Michaelmases is a good time to get the wheat in.’

Atwixt. Betwixt, between.

Axe. Ask. ‘He was *axing* on us the other day.’

‘*Axe* he of God’—Wycliffe, *Translation of Bible*, St. James iv. 5.

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Ay! Interjection. 'Ay ! it be an ungain place to work, I can tell ee.'

'Ay! it be steam everywhere now.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 82.

Backturned. Standing with one's back to any one.

'He was *back turned* when I saw him' See PARISH, *Dict. of the Sussex Dialect*, in *verbo*.

Bad. *adv.* Badly. 'He didn't do it *bad*, nuther.'

'And didn't tell it *bad* either'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 136.

Bagging Hook. A curved hook like a sickle, used in reaping, or in cutting up the rubbish in a hedge.

Baint. Am not, are not.

'No I *baint* said the other'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 33.

'They *be'ent* practical farmers as writes that stuff.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 91.

Ball on the bat. Proverb. The Scapegoat.

'He'd a mind to make me the *ball on the bat* between him and the police.'—*Witness, Godstone Bench*.

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Bannick. *v.* To thrash. Illustration of:—

'If you go and get wet you'll get a *bannicking* when you go home.'—*Boy, Limpsfield Village*, Apr. 1887.

Barway. A gateway where the bars fit into holes in the posts.

Bat. A rough stick.

'Leaning on the two *bats*, i. e. sticks with which he was walking.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 13.

'You bring her in some night a lot of the crookedest *bats* you can get, them as won't lie in no form.'—*Ibid.* p. 76.

Baulky. Anxious to avoid one, to get out of the way.

'I saw the defendant look rather *baulky*.'—*P.C.*, *Godstone Bench*, 1890.

Bedsteddle. Bedstead.

Beeskep. A straw beehive.

Bee-utiful. Pronunciation of Beautiful. ‘The land doos work *bee-utiful* after these frostes.’

‘The effect of the drainage was already most remarkable. The workmen called it *beautiful*; and though nothing can present a more dreary look than a fresh-drained field I could not help feeling the truth of the expression, applied as it was prospectively rather than to the actual scene before the eye.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 168.

Bever. The eleven o’clock meal.

Biggest. Most. ‘I was there the *biggest* part of the day.’

Bin. Been.

‘And for all I’d *bin* a married ’ooman.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 42.

‘In one place he’d *bin* to.’—*Ibid.* p. 138.

Blackthorn winter. Said of the time of year when the blackthorn is in blossom, which is generally about the end of March, when there are cold winds and frosts. It is also called the ‘blackthorn hatch.’

Blackwork. Undertaker’s business.

‘We keep six horses for the *blackwork*’—Innkeeper.

‘A man happened to be in the shop who was employed in *black* work, or who in other words worked for an undertaker.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 85.

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Blare, or Blear. Illustration of:—

‘The band acquitted themselves with taste and propriety not *blairing* like trumpeters at a fair.’—Cowper’s *Letters*, 105.

‘Some years ago the dead body of a murdered lady was discovered in a lonely field solely by the strange movements of the animals which were half maddened by the sight of the blood-stained corpse. The fact was undisputed: “the cows,” as one of the witnesses described it, “went *blaring* about the field.”’—Farrar’s *Life of Christ*, vol. i. p. 338, note 2.

Blessèd. Emphatic for ‘good.’ ‘I should like a bit of that *blessèd* pudding, my dear!’

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Blest. In phrase 'I'm blest.' '*I'm blest* if I ever see sich a set out.'

'*I'm blest* if I don't think they got their own price and ours along.'— *Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 150.

Bly. Likeness. 'He's got a *bly* of his father.' This means he is somewhat like his father. He 'favours' his father means he is very like his father.

Book-learning. Schooling. 'He's getting on with his *book-learning* capital.' 'I don't see the good of all that *book-learning*.'

'There is no class perhaps (i. e. agricultural) in which there is less of what is called *book-learning*.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 181.

Bootlegs. Gaiters, Leggings.

Born. A gentleman *born*, a Baronet *born*, to distinguish between an old family and some one lately emerged from the ranks. A defendant who had lost his cause at the local bench was expostulating thereon, and said, in proof that he was in the right, 'Sir Thomas... a *Baronet born*, he says "What do the justices there know about law."'

Bothered if. Phrase to give intensity to an expression.

'I think we shall get some more snow, *bothered if* I don't.'

'I'll let him have it next time I happen on him, *bothered if* I don't.'

Bottle Brush. The 'mare's tail' or cat's tail, *Equisetum arvense*. 'The primrose raider went down to the stream and cut off every *bottle brush* growing there.'

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Bounce. Bound. 'Cowden first *bounce* out.' See **Cowden** *postea*.

Bourn. An intermittent stream which breaks out of the chalk hills from time to time.

There is a *bourn* which breaks out of the chalk hill above Godstone and flows northwards to Croydon. It generally runs at intervals of about five years, and is supposed to betoken some calamity. These *bourns* are called in Kent 'Nail burns.'

'There breaks out every now and again what we call a *nailburn*.'— Farmer, Alkham, Kent, 1878.

Bowl, Bowler. Pronounced like *fowl* and *fowler*.

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Brave. Fine, good. Illustrations of:—‘If I were to give that riff-raff a lot of beer, they’d call me a *brave* fellow.’

‘A picturesque old Cathedral standing on the brink of the Rhine, and some *brave* old Churches shut up.’—Letter of Charles Dickens, *Life of Dickens*, vol. ii. p. 197.

‘I went to see my grandsons, and carried them a *brave* basket of nectarines.’—*Letter of Hon. Mrs. Boscatoen*, cvi. 1790.

‘And so attending him to his tent, where a *brave* dinner being put upon the table.’—*Life of Lord Herbert of Cherbury*, 4th ed. 1792, p. 102.

Break. Pronounced breek. ‘Get your *breek*-fast first and then come.’

Brencheese. Bread and cheese.

‘Our friend might have stopped to eat his *brencheese* at the Labour-in-Vain.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 135.

Brownchitus or Browntitus. Pronunciation of Bronchitis.

‘He had the inflammation and *brownchitus* so bad’—Witness, Godstone Bench, 1888.

Brush. To trim, to cut; e. g. hedge-brushing, thistle-brushing.

Bruh about. To go to work actively. Pronounced brish. ‘We shall have to *brish about* I rackon to get done afore night.’

Budge. Move; and generally used in place of ‘move.’ ‘He niver *budged* a inch all the time.’

‘The drainers have cast up furtive eyes out of their soaking trenches to see if the Master *budged*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 144.

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Bug. Any hard-winged insect; e. g. Harvest-*bug*, Lady-*bug*, May-*bug*, &c.

‘I am told that most hard-winged insects are commonly called *bugs* as in America; thus we hear of the lady-*bug* (ladybird), the May-*bug* (cockchafer), the June-*bug* (the green beetle), and so forth’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 38.

Burden. Amount, quantity. ‘There ain’t a great *burden* of grass this year.’

Burdock. The large-leaved dock.

Burr. The bloom of the hop. ‘The hops likes still weather when they’re in *burr*.’

Bythat. Thereabouts.

‘I’ll be round at one o’clock or *by that*.’—Ostler, Plough Inn, Burstow, 1881.

Cadlock. Charlock, *alias* Kedlock. *Sinapis arvensis*, the Wild Mustard.

Call. Occasion, reason. Illustrations of:—

‘Especially as you’ve no *call* to be told how to value yourself, my dear.’—
DICKENS, *Mutual Friend*, bk. iii. ch. v. p. 297 ; Charles Dickens Edition.

‘I expect we ain’t no *call* to set so nigh to one another neither.’— American loq.,
Life of Dickens, vol. iii. p. 65.

‘You’ve no *call* to catch cold’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiii. p. 102.

‘There’s no *call* to buy no more nor a pair of shoes.’—*Ibid.* ch. xiv. p. 106.

Candlemas Day. Feb. 2. Proverb relating to:—

‘The old folks used to say that so far as the sun shone into the house on
Candlemas Day so far would the snow drive in before the winter was out.’—
Labourer, Feb. 2, 1882.

Carn. Pronunciation of Corn.

‘The reaping machine do gather up all the stoäns, and mucks the corn all over the
place’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 82.

Carriage Folk. Gentry.

‘A pedestrian’s luncheon, not fit for what the people call *carriage folk*.’—*Field
Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 139.

‘Just below the Church are some old cottages, and some *carriage folks*
houses.’—*Ibid.* p. 173.

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Carry-on. Talk passionately. ‘You should just have heerd him, he did *carry-on*
something like.’

Caterways. For discussion on the word, see *Notes and Queries*, 6 Ser. vii. pp. 88, 354,
396, 476.

Catkins. The blossoms on the hazel.

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Cat's-brains. A kind of soil, a mixture of chalk and clay such as occurs above the gault.

‘That’s what we calls *cat’s brains*’ said a man who was digging it out.

‘The *catsbrainy* clay is sometimes not more than thirty feet from the bottom of the sands’—TOPLEY, *Geology of the Weald*, 1875, p. 76.

Chamber-lie. Urine. ‘What would do these onions good would be some *chamber-lie*.’

Chance-born. Illegitimate.

Change life. Marry. ‘He thinks of *changing his life* shortly’ (i. e. getting married).

Chart. Local name for unenclosed woodland with certain common rights. The old custom in Limpsfield Chart was that the Lord of the Manor was allowed to fence in such portions of the underwood as were newly cut in order to protect it from the cattle on the adjoining waste, and after three years the copyholders had a right to remove the fence, and use it for fuel. (G.L.G.) There are Limpsfield, Westerham, Brasted, Sevenoaks, and Seal Charts, all adjoining.

‘The tops of the hills being all wild common land or *chart*, as a man on the road called it.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 167.

Chay. Chaise. ‘He’s a good *chay* horse.’ ‘It was something of a light *chay* cart.’ See *Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect*, Parish and Shaw, Lewes, 1888, *sub verbo*.

‘The Queen and the Prince seated in a *shay*.’ ‘The *shay* is drawn by four horses all on their hind legs.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 150, 151.

Choosed. Preterite of Chose.

‘Any farmer who wanted a servant come and *choosed* one.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 41.

Christen your own child first. Proverb for ‘Charity begins at home.’ It was used by a Waywarden at a meeting of the Highway Board, May 9, 1879. He was bred and born in Surrey. (G.L.G.)

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Christian. Human being. ‘I never see sich a dog, he’s as sensible as any *Christian*.’ I was speaking of a horse which was growing old and had lost his pace, and the answer came, ‘Just like us *Christians*, we gets slower as we grows older.’

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Churching. Church Service. 'We has *churching* twice a Sunday, mornings and evenings.' I had a calf born on the day that the foundation of Titsey church was laid, which the cowman named 'Churcker,' and it ever after went by that name.
(G.L.G.)

Clean. Quite, altogether.

'Is his mercy *clean* gone for ever.'—*A.V.* Ps. lxxvii. 8.

'Those that were *clean* escaped.'—a Pet ii. 18.

Clim. Pronunciation of Climb. 'We must have Smith before we cut they trees, he's the best *climmer* we've got.'

Clout. A blow with the fist.

Cluck-hen. A hen ready to sit.

Cluddy. Suddenly, all in a heap. Speaking of the elm boughs which fall without any warning, a man said, 'They get so wet and heavy, they come down so *cluddy*.'

Cob. The Horse-chestnut tree. 'The squirrels play old Mag with the *cobs* in the plantation'

Comical. Capricious, uncertain.

'Talking, of turkeys the farm man said, "They're *comical* things," meaning capricious, difficult to rear.'—Feb. 1877.

'The weather has been very *comical* for a long time.'—Boatman, Dover, May, 1877.

'Men's stomicks are made so *comical* they want a change.'—*Silas Marner*, ch. x. 70.

Conclude. Decide, come to the conclusion.

Concoct. Talk over, discuss about.

'We *concocted* about it (i.e. an old fireback), and we judged it to be as old as that.'—Labourer, Nov. 1888.

Coolder. Comparative of Cool. 'The weather seems a bit *coolder*-like to-day.'

Coolthe. Coolness.

[11]

Coom. Pronunciation of Come.

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‘They rooks only *coom* a few year ago. About fi’ year back about ten or a doozen *coom*. Queer birds they be, sometimes *coom* all of a sudden.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 37.

‘The tithes of this parish *coom* to more’n eleven ‘underd poons a-year.’—*Ibid.* p. 38.

Cord. A cord of wood is a pile 3 ft. high and 3 ft. wide by 12 ft. long, the pieces of wood being cut in 2 ft. lengths. *Cord-wood* is wood cut for burning on the hearth.

Court. The principal farm-house in a parish, and in Kent many of the principal seats, are called *Court*. The name attaches to farm-houses in Limpsfield, Oxted, Tatsfield, Titsey, Co. Surrey. The Manor Courts were probably held in them formerly.

Coverlid. Counterpane.

Cowden. In Limpsfield and the district the rustics who are looking on at a cricket-match will always call out *Cowden* if the ball comes to a fieldsman first bound (or ‘bounce’ as it is called), and an appeal is made to the umpire. Cowden is a parish in Kent bordering upon Surrey, and in some match either there or elsewhere, an umpire from Cowden must have given a wrong decision, the recollection of which is still treasured. The remark is always received with laughter. I have heard it for forty years. (G.L.G.)

Crazy. Illustration of:—

‘Though I am becoming yearly more and more stiff and *crazy*.’—*Life of William Wilberforce*, vol. v. p. 331.

Crownation. Coronation. ‘They were a-doing Tatsfield Church, time the Queen was crowned, and they all had a feast on *Crownation* day.’

Crowner. Crowner's quest. Coroner. Coroner's inquest.

Cuckoo. Proverb relating to:—

‘When the *cuckoo* comes to a bare thorn,
Then there's like to be plenty of corn.’

(Labourer, 1883, told him by an old man many years ago.)

i. e. a backward spring generally betokens a fruitful year.

Cuckoo. Saying :—‘With the Cuckoo coming along shortly,’ i. e. the advent of spring.

‘We’d better put that job by this year, *with the cuckoo coming along shortly.*’

Cuckoo oats are late-sown oats, and are never supposed to yield much. ‘There’ll be nothing but *cuckoo* oats this year,’ said a man in the wet spring of 1889.

Cuckoo flower. *Cardamine Pratensis.*

‘I had the satisfaction of spying out among the primroses my first *cuckoo flower* of the season—the lady-smock of Shakespeare.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 41.

‘To-day the flowers offering themselves for selection were the primrose, the wild violet, and the *cuckoo flower*, the “lady smock all silver-white.”’—*Ibid.* p. 60.

Cumbersome. Heavy to carry; in the way.

Dark. Proverb :—*Dark as Newgate Knocker.* Coming from Croydon on a very dark night the driver remarked ‘Ay! it is a dark night, *dark as Newgate Knocker.*’ See *Notes and Queries*, 6 Ser. iii. 248, 298.

Darter. Pronunciation of daughter.

‘One of my wife’s *darters* lives with a son of Mus’er Gladstone, as nurse.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 14.

Daze. Stun, stupefy ; especially by sorrow. ‘I seemed quite *dazed* when I heard on it.’

‘The father is *dazed* like.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 69.

Dib, Dibble. To make a hole with an instrument called a ‘dibber,’ and to plant beans, &c., singly.

‘I shou’d like to see how the *dibb’d* uns come on—you’ll come round to the *dibbing*, depend on it.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 140.

‘A boy goes first, pressing the *dib* in with his foot.’—*Ibid.* p. 148.

Dignify. Identify.

‘Amongst the three I *dignified* that man.’—Witness in a larceny case, Dec. 1883.

Disgest. Digest.

‘Sneezing is a vapour ascending into the head and so to the brayne, and when there more and overmoche abundance ascended to that place, more than nature can *disgest.*’—*Lansdowne MS.* 121, p. 149, temp. Eliz. See *Notes and Queries*, 7 Ser. ii. 165.

[13]

Dishabil. Illustration of:—

‘The Churchyard ain’t tended to as it were in Mr.—’s time, it’s all in *dishbill* now.’—Sexton, Crowhurst, Surrey, May, 1889.

Do. Emphatic before verb. ‘He *do* say’= he says. ‘Mus’r—, he *do* say that it’s more nor three hundred year old.’

‘There is a stone here which they *do* say ...’—*Fidd Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 22.

Do. Third person singular for Does.

‘History *do* tell as a high tide came up.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

Dodder-grass. Totter-grass; the *Briza media*.

Doddle. To walk slowly, stroll. ‘Towards night the policeman comes *doddling* back.’

Do for. Keep house for. The following account of his courtship was given me by a labourer. ‘I can’t justly remember,’ he said, ‘whether I ast’ her fust or she ast’ me, but I know one day I says, “Will you *do for* me,” and she says “Yes”; and then I says, “Will you *do for* me allus,” and she says, “Yes,” and so we got marr’d.’

Doles. The short handles which project from the sneath of a scythe, by which the mower holds it.

Dolphin. A fly which is especially destructive to beans.

Done. Preterite of Do. ‘I went straight home and *done* it.’

‘I *done* the best I could to extinguish the flames.’—Witness, Bench, Nov. 1890.

Doors, out of. Out of fashion. ‘Farming’s gone *out o’ doors* now-a-days.’ ‘I don’t know many of these plants about here, they be *out o’ doors* now.’

Doors, out of. Under heaven. ‘There’s not a better field lies *out o’ doors* than that ‘ere one.’

‘There’ll never be standing still again on this here farm as long as ever it lies *out o’ doors*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

Doos. Pronunciation of Does.

Doo-ur. Pronunciation of Door.

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Dorling. The smallest pig of a litter.

‘In other places it is called the “Nisgull” or “Nestcull” as also the “Ratlin.”’—
REV. E. OWEN, *Collections Hist. and Arch. relating to Montgomery*, pt. xix. p.
409.

Doubt. Illustrations of:—

‘But he’ll want the more pay *I doubt*, said Mr. Glegg.’—*Mill on the Floss*, p. 61.

‘All up with farming *I doubt*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 133.

Dout. Do out, put out.

‘As soon as I see it was a fire I did my best to *dout* it.’—Witness, Grand Jury,
1892.

‘I’ll be sure to *dout* it before I go.’—Tramp, of wayside fire, 1893.

Down with. Laid up with. ‘We’ve got all the children *down with* the measles.’

Drac’ly minute. Directly, at once.

‘You get down *drac’ly minute*.’—Woman to child, May, 1877.

‘But *directly moment* he explains himself.’—Mrs. Gamp with the Strollers, *Life of Dickens*, ii. 350.

Draft or Dray. Squirrel’s nest. Illustrations of:—

‘Whilst he from tree to tree, from spray to spray,
Gets to the wood and hides him in his *dray*.’

BRUNNE’S Pastoral, *The Squirrel Hunt*.

‘Climb’d like a squirrel to his *dray*,
And bore the worthless prize away.’

COWPER, *The Fable*, ll. 28, 29.

See *Notes and Queries*, I Ser. iv. 209, v. 67.

Drop off. Die.

‘When his father and mother *dropped off*, the money came to be divided.’—
Labourer, 1891.

Drove. Past part, of Drive. Hurried, driven into a corner. ‘If he don’t get on no faster
than he’s a doing he’ll get *drove* at last.’

Drove. Past part, of Drive, in sense of Driven away. I found an old potter’s kiln in
which the pots were thrown away in confusion and not completely burnt. The man

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who was excavating said, 'I expect how it was, that while he was a-making of them he got *drove*.'

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Drowneded. Past part, for Drowned.

"To the wery top, Sir!" inquired the waiter, "Why, the milk will be *drowneded*."—*Nicholas Nickleby*, 1st ed. ch. v. p. 35.

'Where everything is either scorched up with the sun, or *drowneded* with the rain.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 141.

Druv. Past part, of Drive.

'Our crest, it is said, is a "hog," and our motto We wun't be *druv*.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 7.

Ducks. Proverb:—'If you see the *ducks a washing themselves*, you may be sure it won't rain.'

Dusting. Dressing. 'Twas the same fox as they found in the mornin' part, and they give him a pretty good *dustin* 'then.'

Earth up. *subs.* To cover with earth. 'It's time they taters were *earthed up*.'

'Ee. Thee.

"Wait till we cooms up to 'em," said he, "and I'll tell 'ee.'"—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 37.

E'er. Ever.

'The clerkship has been in my family ever since the year 1738, without *e'er* a break.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 40.

'I wish we had *e'er* a one to come.'—*Ibid.* p. 64.

'Oh, *e'er* a one you like, said the man.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 38.

Ellinge. Lonely, solitary. 'It's a nice pleasant cottage in summer, but in winter it's cold and *ellinge*.'

'*Elenge* is the hal every day in the weke.'—*Piers Plowman*; PARKER, *Dict. Arch.*, 14th cent. p. 92.

Elt. Handle. (? whether allied to 'hilt.')

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‘He struck me on the side of the head with a mattock *elt*.’—Defendant, Bench, 1881.

'Em. Them. Pronounced 'um.

‘Only no one dares catch *'em*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 137.

‘For they are none of *'em* five years old’—*Ibid.* p. 21.

[16]

'Ere. Here.

‘The sea used to wash right up to this *'ere* precipice.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

‘He says that he loses by this *'ere* estate.’—*Ibid.* p. 137.

Esh. Pronunciation of Ash. ‘It was when that gurt *esh*-tree blowed down.’ ‘*Eshes* is a fine thing to bring clover.’

Even. Good all round. ‘I call Mr.—— as *even* a farmer as any you’ve got.’

Fireplace, too big for. Proverb. Beyond one’s means. ‘I’m much obliged to you for letting me look at the farm; but I think that it’s *too big for my fireplace*.’

Fitting. Fit. ‘That shaw’s not *fitting* to cut yet a while.’ ‘That hay’s noways *fitting* for your coach horses.’

Fitty. Subject to fits.

Flaw, Flay. To skin. Figurative, to be sore as if the skin were taken off. ‘All the shepherd said when they told him some more of the lambs were dead—then there’ll be a lot more for me to *flaw* I reckon.’ ‘I’ve got a very bad cold, almost as if I was *flawed*, so sore.’

‘I’ve walked upon the sands at low-water from this place (i.e. Broad-stairs) to Ramsgate, and sat upon the same at highwater, till I’ve been *flayed* with the cold.’—Letters of Charles Dickens, FORSTER'S *Life*, vol. i. p. 116.

Folks. People. ‘There was a wonderful sight of *folks* there.’

‘I think there’d be a good many *folks* wanting tickets at Etchingham.’—*Sussex Folks and Sussex Ways*, p. 59.

Foller. v. Pronunciation of Follow.

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‘I us’d to love *follering* the plough.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 197.

Foller.v. and *subs.* Pronunciation of Fallow. ‘You’ll never do anything good with that field till you *foller* it.’ ‘It’s bin a fine time for the *follers* this year.’

For all. Although. ‘*For all* it’s kind land he could never make a do there.’

‘*For all* so many hedges are grubbed up.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

‘And *for all* there were so many, yet was not the net broken’—*A. V. St. John* xxi. 11.

[17]

Forced. Obligated. ‘I was *forced* to go for the doctor.’

Form, in no. Phrase. Not properly. ‘The grass don’t grow *in no form*.’ ‘He’s still very lame, he can’t get about *in noform*.’

‘A lot of the crookedest “bats” you can get, them as won’t lie in *no form*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 76.

Forrards. Pronunciation of Forwards.

‘One man told me to go through the churchyard and then go straight *forrards*. I went *forrards*,’ &c.—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 219.

Foundrous. Miry, bottomless. ‘The brickmakers say the Common is too *foundrous* for carting this wet weather.’

Furmety. Heated, sour. Pointing to a tub of flour placed in the chimney-corner, the farmer said, ‘We puts it here in summer so that it should not get *furmety*.’

Furriner. Pronunciation of Foreigner. ‘It’s all along of they *furriners* that prices be so bad nowadays.’

‘You shall abuse the *Furriners* and Free traders over the first two cups.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 152.

Gally. Yellow, sickly. Pronounced gawl-y. Speaking of the wheat plant, which was looking very yellow after some late frosts, the farm-man said, ‘It looks so *gally*.’

Gant rings, Gant wedge. The rings which fasten the blade to the sneath of a scythe. The wedge which tightens it.

Garreting. A species of pointing of stonework with small chips of stone in the joints.

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Gee-wut. *Wut*, wilt thou. Used by carters when they want the horse to come towards them. When they want it to go from them they say ‘T’other we-a’ (the other way). See PARKER, *Glossary of Words used in Oxfordshire*, E. D. S. 1876, p. 112.

Gentlefolks. A strong class distinction, marking them off from the poorer class. On hearing of a lady who had fallen and broken her leg, I heard it said, ‘Why, to be sure, poor thing; well, accidents do happen to *gentlefolks* the same as to we.’ ‘Many *gentlefolks* come here to see these tiles’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 9.
‘Because *gentlefolks* can be buried how they likes.’—*Ibid.* p. 212. [Surrey.]

[18]

Give out. Fail. ‘His leg *gives out*; he’s troubled to get about.’

‘I would come and show you, but my chest *gives out*. “*Gives out*,” a true Americanism if ever there was one.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 64.

An American lady said to me the other day, ‘I asked Mr.——to the ball, and at the last moment he *gave out*.’

Gone. Struck. ‘It’s jest *gone* four by the church clock.’

Go. Pronunciation of Go. ‘I see him *goo* straight away across two fields.’

‘Well, mate, what be you a *gooin*’ to do? be you *gooin*’ to starve?’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 53.

‘Well, gentlemen, I’ll *goo*, I’ll *goo*.’—*Ibid.* p. 55.

Good night! Dear me! exclamation of surprise.

Go out. Toll. ‘The church bell *went out* for somebody to-day.’

Graff. A kind of spade in form of a scoop, such as is used in draining.

‘He had a spade or a *graff* in his hand; I could’nt see which’— Witness, Jan. 1893.

See PARISH, *Dict. of Sussex Dialect*, 1875, p. 50.

Great house. The principal house in a place, albeit it may not be very large.

“‘Why, Sir,” said he, “we be a goin’ to kill him directly after dinner for the *great house*.””—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 148.

Grip. A small open drain.

Growed. Past part, of Grow.

‘How the swedes have *grow’d*, to be sure, on that piece as we drained last year.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

Gu-anner. Pronunciation of Guano. ‘That there *Guanner* is a fine thing for hops; I see it tried at Ridlands, time Mr. George was Stoo-ard.’

‘Though he still called it *Guanner*, and would not have it at any price as a word of two syllables.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 157.

Gurt. Corruption of Great, usually coupled with big. ‘I never see such a *gurt* big place as it is.’

‘Down there, Sir, under that *gurt* oak-tree.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 27.

[19]

Guv'nor. Master, or appellation of a stranger.

‘I see your *Guv'nor* here.’—Man at a sale speaking to my Bailiff.

‘‘I haven’t tasted a drop for a fortnight, *Guv'ner*,’’ replied the man, who could scarcely stand upright.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 152.

Ha’. Have.

‘‘We *ha’* no minister here now,’’ said she.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 64.

‘Many a year they must *ha’* lain here. That must *ha’* rotted away long ago.’—*Ibid.* p. 69.

Hair. Phrase:—A hair, the least.

‘I’ve never been a *hair’s* malice with him.’—Witness, 1892.

Hair. The cloth upon which the hops are dried, above the fire in the oast.

Hand. Trouble. Illustration of:—

‘It’s a very great *hand* to have so many sick people.’—Master of the Workhouse, 1886.

Handy. Easy (generally used for it).

‘If it was nowadays wrong to shorten the name, it ‘ul be a deal *handier*.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p.109.

Hang, or Be hanged. Expletive. ‘He’ll never get me to do another stroke o’work for him, *be hanged* if I do!’

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Happen along. Come along, look in by chance.

Harass. Great trouble or difficulty. ‘It’s a *harass* to get them up they hills.’ Speaking of carting building materials on to the hill.

Harchitect. Architect; pronounced as ‘arch.’

“‘This *harchitect*,” said he, “bärt this place.”—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 37.

Harmless. Fair to both parties.

‘If you make twenty-eight shillings of the pig, it will be a *harmless* price between buyer and seller.’—Cowman, 1883.

Headache, the. The definite article is always prefixed to it, just as to the gout, the dropsy, &c.

‘Mine is a sort of dizziness which generally goes off by *the head-ach*.’—SWIFT’S *Letters*, cccxxxii. May 31, 1733.

‘I have often found it do me good for *the head-ach*.’—*Ibid*, cccli. Lady Betty Germain to Dr. Swift, Feb. 10, 1735-6.

‘A drunkard stupefied by “*the head-ach*” all the next day.’—LORD CHESTERFIELD, *Letters to his Son*, Letter cxxx. 111.

[20]

Heard tell. Illustrations of:—

‘We *heared tell* as he’d sold his own land, to come and take the Warren.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. vi. p. 41.

‘Tennyson? I never *heered tell* of that name.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 107.

‘The only one as we’ve ever *eered tell* on in these parts.’—*Ibid*. p. 173.

Hedgehog. A weed. *Scandix pecten-veneris*.

Hee-ard. Pronunciation of Heard.

‘And *hee-ard* ‘em a yelping and howling.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 44.

‘I *heer’d* of it, Sir; I *heer’d* of it.’—*Ibid*. p. 135.

“‘I never *heered* of it,” said he as he opened the door.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 6.

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Hele. Illustrations of:—

‘Eche man preiynge &c. whanne his heed is *hilid*.’ ‘Ech woman &c, whanne hir heed is not *hilid*.’ ‘*Hile* sche hir heed.’ ‘But a man schal not *hile* his heed.’ ‘The woman schal have an *hiling* on hir heed.’ ‘Beseemeth it a womman not *helid* on the heed.’—*Wicliffe Version of Bible*, 1380. 1 Cor. xi. 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13.

‘By the *hilinge*, that is to say his flesh.’—*Ibid.* Heb. x. 20.

Hem. Illustration of:—

‘The six as be shut out, they just do make a *hem* of a noise till they be let in.’—*Sussex Folks and Sussex Ways*, p. 3.

Higgler. A huckster; one who hawks goods. Applied especially to the dealers who buy up large quantities of poultry.

Himbecile. Idiot. Always aspirated. ‘He’s bin pretty much of a *himbecile* all his time.’ ‘She’s what we calls a *himbecile*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 10.

Hisself. Himself. ‘He’s got *hisself* into trouble over that job.’

Hob-lamb. A pet lamb, reared by hand.

Hold with. Agree with; approve of. ‘I don’t *hold with* these new-fashioned ploughs.’ ‘Good principles, yes, they be the things; I *hold wi*’ them.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 82,

Hop dog. A caterpillar peculiar to hops.

[21]

Hoppers. Hop-pickers.

“‘Well, you see, Sir,” he said, “we’re *hoppers*, and we don’t want to be stopping about here after the hops are done.”’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 96.

Hornbeech. The hornbeam.

Hot. v. **To heat.** ‘I’ll *hot* it over the fire.’ ‘We jist lit a fire to *hot* our kettles.’

House. The workhouse. ‘He most always goes into the *house* in winter.’

‘Feeling, I suppose, aggrieved by being obliged to go into the *house*.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 11.

‘An old man who, being in the Union, was out for a holiday. I was asking him how he got on in the *house*.’—*Ibid.*, p. 13.

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Howsomever. Anyhow.

‘Well, I shall keep you to your promise, Sir, *howsomever*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 140.

‘*Howsomever*, they didn’t give him a chance to stab any more.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 7.

‘*Howsomever*, grumbling won’t help a body, will it?’—*Ibid.* p. 213.

Hurts. Whortleberries.

Idle. Pronunciation of ‘Adle,’ weak, tumble-down. ‘I was promised a new gate when I come.... He said, “You shan’t have that *idle* thing any longer.”’

-ified. Added to adjectives, e. g. It feels *minified, stormified, thundrified, &c.*

If so be. Phrase constantly used. ‘*If so be* as you should have e’er a cottage to let, I should be glad of the offer of it.’

‘We want a young man, *if so be* as we could get one.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 65.

If you like. Equivalent to To be sure. ‘It’s an old-fashioned place, *if you like*.’

[22]

Inclinable. Illustrations of:—

‘Women propense and *inclinable* to holiness.’—*Hooker’s Works*, edited by Keble, 3rd ed. 1845, vol. i. p. 153.

‘Is so *inclinable* rather to shew compassion than to take revenge.’—*Ibid.* vol. iii. p. 9. See also vol. i. pp. 133-146, vol. ii. p. 301.

‘He was always *inclinable* to be passionate’—*Life of Waller*, Waller’s Poems, Lond. 1711, p. lv.

‘He showed he was *inclinable* to bear the sweet yoke of Christian discipline.’—Walton’s Lives, ed. 1833, *Life of George Herbert*, p. 240.

Increasement. Labour pains.

Ingrate. Ungrateful. ‘I never see such a *ingrate* lot as these men.’

Interesting. The third syllable long.

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‘It appeared—from this discourse—that “Agriculture was a most *interesting* hart.”—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 112.

Jacket. Coat. ‘I left it in my *jacket* pocket.’ ‘I’ll fetch my *jacket*.’

Jiniver. Pronunciation of January. ? from the French ‘Janvier.’

‘*Jiniver* poultis never come to no good.’—Poultry woman at farm.

Jumpers. The mites in cheese, called also ‘mints.’

Just about. Certainly, without doubt. ‘He *just about* did get hold of the ball.’

Keeler. A tub used for cooling down beer; also a washing-tub.

‘Item a *Keler* xi^d. Item an old *Keler* viii^d.’—Inventory of the College of Lingfield, 36 Hen. VIII.

Keer. Pronunciation of Care. ‘Have a *Keer!*’

‘I shouldn’t *keer* if only one of my eyes would last my time.—I shouldn’t *keer* if this ’ere left ’un would do a little while longer.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 137, 138.

Kell. Pronunciation of Kiln. ‘We shan’t want no *kell* fagots this year.’

‘Some skilfully drieth their hops on a *kell*.

Kell dried will abide foul weather or fair.’

TUSSER, *Five Hundred Points of Husbandry*, E. D. S. 1878, p. 136.

Kell Coppice, in Limpsfield, Surrey, is the name of a wood with a lime-kiln adjoining it.

[23]

Kelter. Condition. A writer in *Notes and Queries* 7 Ser. x. 506, quotes Mr. Howells, in his novel *The Shadow of a Dream*, p. 17: ‘He had been out of *kilter* for two or three years, but he was getting all right now.’

‘If the organs of prayer be out of *kelter*, how can we pray?’—ISAAC BARROW.

See *Notes and Queries*, 7 Ser. xi. 38, 96, 194.

Ken. Pronunciation of Kin, relation. ‘He ain’t no *ken* to him.’

Keys. The pods of the ash or sycamore are so called.

Kime. A weazel.

King's Evil. Scrofula. 'The *King's Evil* fell in his nose.' Said of a man whose face was eaten away with scrofula.

Kip. Pronunciation of Keep.

'And then a man who'd bin a soldier wanted somebody as could work to *kip* house for him.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 42.

'It's his first year at plough, he was *kiping* craows for the last two or three.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 179.

Kissing-gate. A gate hanging between two bars and shutting upon two posts, so that only one can pass at a time. See PARISH, *Sussex Dialect*, pp. 33, 66.

Know'd. Illustrations of: —

'I never *know'd* the man.'—Witness, Bench, 1871.

'I've *know'd* a litter o' seven whelps reared in this hole.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 44.

Knucker. To neigh after, to whinny.

Lades. The frame or rails which project from the side of a wagon to give it greater width.

Lamentable. Exceedingly; used adverbially. 'If I wanted them they'd be that *lamentable* busy they couldn't come to work.'

'One of them (he was a long, leane, ugly, *lamentable* poor Raskal).'—AUBREY. *Remains of Gentilism and Judaism, MS. Lansdowne 266*, fol. 116. Quoted in BRAND'S *Popular Antiquities*. Hazlitt, 1870, vol. ii. p. 198.

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Lands. When an arable field is in ridge and furrow the spaces between the furrows are called the *lands*.

'It treads a little leathery in some places in the middle o' the *lands*.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

Lay. Bet, predict (constant phrase). 'We'll get rain before morning, I *lay*.'

'"Oh, I *lay* he will," was the reply.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 40.

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Lay in. Said of a meadow which is shut up for hay, from which the stock have been taken out.

Lay up. To lie in watch for. 'I *laid up* ever so long by that wire, but no one never came along.'

'She did so, and with her brother *lay up* to see the results.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 116.

Leastways. Illustrations of:—

'Or *leastwise* that the robber would be made to answer for it.' *Silas Marner*, ch. xvi. p. 122.

'At *leastwise* by the virtues required in the greater.'—HOOKER, *Eccles. Pol.* Book VII. ch. vi. p. 10.

'*Leastwise*, he'm no right to go spying here on our quay.'—KINGSLEY, *Two Years Ago*, ed. 1891, ch. xv. p. 256.

'I am spending too much money, or *leastways* you are spending too much for me.'—CHARLES DICKENS, *Our Mutual Friend*, Book III. ch. v. p. 302. Charles Dickens ed.

'No, *leastways* not so much as it ought to be.' 'Leastways it's their own fault if they ain't.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 165, 170.

Leetle. Pronunciation of Little, diminutive. 'He's a *leetle* matter better to-day.'

'The fall does want a *leetle* easing at the bottom.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 22.

Let who will. Phrase, Whoever may. 'The wood's worth no more than £4 an acre, *let who will* buy it.'

'There'll never be standing still on this here farm, *let who will* farm it!'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

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Leve. Illustrations of:—

'I'd as *liev* do it as I'd fill this pipe.'—*Silas Marner*, ch. vi p. 45.

'I'd as *lieve* you married Lammeter's daughter as anyboby.'—*Ibid.* ch. ix. p. 62.

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‘I had as *lief* my tailor should sew gingerbread nuts on my coat instead of buttons.’—Cowper's *Letters*, No. 55.

‘*Leifer* or *Lifer*, comparative of *leif* or *lif*. I would as *lif* do that as this. Oh! I wudna, I'd *lifer* do the other. The word appears in Stapleton's translation of Bede, “Having *leifer* to submit their cause to open disputing, than to seem to have nothing to say to the defence thereof.”—Archaic Words of Montgomeryshire, REV. ELIAS OWEN, *Collections Hist. and Arch. relating to Montgomeryshire*, Pt. xix. p. 408.

Lews. *subs.* Canvas on poles, put to project or *lew* the hops, or thatched hurdles for sheep-folds.

‘The hop gardens are frequently bordered by rough wooden walls of spare hop-poles, such protections are called *lews*’—*Ag. Geol. of the Weald*, WM. TOPLEY, 1872, p. 27.

Like. Illustrations of:—

‘I have felt lonesome-*like* ever since.’ ‘It be a good bird for singing *like*.’ ‘The father is dazed *like*.’ ‘I feel shiftless-*like*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 23, 63, 69, 137.

‘I remember the time when after wheat-sowing was done the farmer's work was over-*like* for the year.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

‘But I see it plainer-*like* now.’—*Ibid.* p. 137.

Likes. Like. ‘It's all very well for the *likes* of you, but we poor men can't afford it.’

Limber. Long and bare. They will talk of a long *limber* bough, meaning a ragged, straggling branch.

‘those waved their *limber* fans

For wings.’—MILTON, *Paradise Lost*, vii. 467.

Linger. Long for. ‘Being used to hay makes them *linger* more after it.’

Litter. *v.* To come irregularly, at long intervals. ‘The lambs this season come *littering* along so.’

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Lonesome. Lonely, solitary. *Lonesome Lodge* is the name of a secluded farm on the Surrey Hills at Limpsfield.

‘I have felt *lonesome*-like ever since.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 23.

Long. Great. ‘He was a *long* many years older than she was.’

Many’s the time. Many times. ‘He’s passed me *many’s the time* without knowing me.’

Master. The eldest son of the squire. The title of a married labourer, as head of the household.

Masterful. Illustration of:—

‘Else she’ll get so *masterful* there’ll be no holding her.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p. 112.

May be. Mayhap; perhaps. Pronounced *mebbe*.

‘*May be* you’ll finish it to-morrow.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 193.

‘And *mebbe* our harbour could be used.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

Meece. Pronunciation of Mice.

Middling. Somewhat.

‘He’s given to chuck people out *middlin*’ sudden.’—Witness, Bench, 1892.

Middlings. Food given to pigs, being a mixture of bran and pollard.

Mind. Have a mind to. Phrase: Like, wish.

‘People live here as long as *they’ve a mind to*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 26.

Mischievouser. Comparative of Mischievous.

‘She’ll get busier and *mischievouser* every day.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p. 108.

Miss. Want. ‘I feel the *miss* of it every day.’

Miss of. Miss. ‘I *miss of* it terribly.’

‘Which none ever *missed of*, who came up to the conditions of it.’—DR. SOUTH, *Sermons*, London, 1717; Serm. iv. p. 431.

Missus. Wife. ‘You’ll find the *Missus* at home.’

‘A year and a half ago I buried my poor *Missus* over there.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 23.

More. Added to the comparative to make it more emphatic. ‘*More* longer.’ ‘*More* upstandinger,’ &c.

‘One minister of the Gospel may be *more* learned.’—HOOKER, *Eccl. Pol.*, Book VII. ch. iii. p. 1.

Mould-board. Part of a plough.

‘The weight of an ox, or the twist of an improved *mould-board*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 214.

Much as ever. Scarcely; a near thing whether. ‘It’s *much as ever* he’ll clear up to-night.’

Muck. *subs.* Confusion, mess. ‘I’m ashamed you should come in, we are all in a *muck*.’

Muck. *v.* Mess, litter. ‘It *mucks* me about lifting these great logs.’

‘The reaping machine do gather up all the stoäns, and *mucks* the earn all over the place.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 82.

Musheroons. Pronunciation of Mushrooms.

Mus’r. Mister.

“‘Perhaps you have heard of *Muser* Gladstone,” he said. I have often. “One of my wife’s darters lives with a son of *Mus’er* Gladstone.””—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 14.

Nabble. A wrangle, quarrel.

‘I heard a *nabble* going on.’—Witness, Bench, 1887.

Natural, in my. Phrase for ‘in my life,’ ‘at any time.’ With long accent on the *a*.

‘I was never on good terms with her in my *natural*.’—Witness, Bench, 1891.

For the pronunciation of this word, see *Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 139:—

‘They used their handkerchers as *naytral* as *naytral*.’

Near-sighted. Short-sighted.

‘Isn’t it odd, Sir, as a *near-sighted* gent^l should fly around like that on one of them queer things.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 165.

Ne’er. Never.

‘I never touched *ne’er* a one.’—Defendant, Bench, 1891.

¹ The *near-sighted* gent was the late Lord Sherbrook.

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Negative, double. ‘I *didn’t* know *nothing* where ne’er a nest was.’ ‘He *don’t* know *nothing* about my dooties.’

‘Bless ye, them Romans and Antidaluvians *don’t* know *no* more about farming than a lot of cockney tailors.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 178.

‘The gent *ain’t* a-going to give us *nothing*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 28.

‘A poor fellow *don’t* get *no* chance.’—*Ibid.* p. 82.

‘I *ain’t* got *nothing* to do.’—*Ibid.* p. 137.

Nibhook.v. Overlap. ‘It *nibhooks* over so,’ said the brick-maker, speaking of a roof-tile.

Nigh. Nearly always used for Near. ‘It’s just as *nigh*, take which road you will.’

“‘How old are you?’ I asked. ‘*Nigh* upon eighty.’”—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 7.

Nod. subs. Nape of the neck. Illustration of:—

‘As well as a bit of hair from the *nod* (i. e. the nape of the neck.)’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 112.

Nogging. Bricks laid in a projecting course under the eaves of a building, or in the panels of a half-timbered house.

Nooket. A corner, a small projection. ‘The stone changes just beyond that *nooket*,’ said the quarryman, pointing to a small projection in the face of the quarry.

Nor. Than.

‘It was a brick grave and better *nor* any vault.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 23.

‘He would never see me if I did, no more *nor* if I wasn’t theer.’—*Ibid.* p. 166.

Noration. Illustrations of:—‘There’s a great *noration* about... leaving.’ ‘There was quite a *nouration* about it.’ A builder speaking of a drain which had been condemned by the Sanitary Inspector.

‘He made quite a *noration* down the valley from public house to public house.’—P.C.’s evidence, 1888.

Not but what. Although.

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‘The birds do not seem to come here, *not but what* if they did the poachers would not soon have them.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 182.

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Notch.v. and *subs.* Score; a run. The old method of scoring at cricket was by cutting *notches* with a knife on a twig, and hence runs are even now called *notches*. I have seen this method of scoring adopted at rustic matches. (G.L.G.)

Nowadays. Now.

‘Surnames might be anything *nowadays*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, P. 39.

Now and agin. Every now and then, from time to time. ‘I sees him *now and agin* when he’s along this way.’

Noways. Illustration of:—

‘And if you was *noways* unwilling.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p. 108.

Nurt. Entice. ‘The cat got up in the tree and we did all we could to *nurt* her down.’ ‘It’s the little dog which *nurts* the other away hunting.’ In a dog-stealing case at Godstone, 1888, the witness being asked whether the defendants were discouraging the dog from following, answered, ‘They was *nurting* of it all they could.’

Nurt. Nourish, pet up. Speaking of the young cattle, the stockman said ‘We must *nurt* ‘em along a little bit through the winter.’

O’. Of.

‘I’ve knowed a litter *o’seven* whelps reared in this hole.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 44.

‘None *o’* them there long words, as if farmers was a parcel *o’* hold women.’—*Ibid.* p. 92.

Oast, or **Oast-house.** A place for drying hops, Kent, Surrey, Sussex. It formerly signified a kiln of any kind. The ‘Tile-oast,’ the name of a field in Titsey parish, is where a brick-kiln once stood.

Of. Used after severals verbs pleonastically; e. g. bring, clean, find, mend, &c. ‘I’ll clean *of* it presently.’ ‘I can’t find *of* it.’

On. Illustrations of:—

‘The more I thinks *on* it.’ ‘Why he does, with lots *on* ‘em.’ ‘The only one as we’ve ever ‘eerd tell *on* in these parts.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, pp. 6, 165, 173.

‘I shut six *on* ‘em out of the yard while t’other six be sucking.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 3.

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One-eyed. Out of the way, neglected. ‘I come from C... m, it was a *one-eyed* place.’

'Ood. Pronunciation of Wood. ‘There’s a wonderful sight of pheasants in the great ‘*ood* this year.’ Speaking of the corruption which the name of the Uvedale family of Surrey has undergone, Mr. Albert Way, F.S.A., remarks (*Journal of the Arch. Institute*, vol. xiii. p. 70), ‘Strange as *Oodall* may appear, it will be readily intelligible to those who are familiar with the local pronunciation of “wood” as *ood*.’

'Ooman. Pronunciation of Woman. A wife. ‘My old ‘*ooman*’=my old wife.

‘Oh! Sir, it be a poor ‘*ooman* as lived over yonder.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 69.

‘For all I’d bin a married ‘*ooman* I only gotis. 6d.!’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 42.

Open. Not spayed¹, said of a sow.

Orts. Illustrations of:—

‘Besides, their feasting caused a multiplication of *orts*, which were the heirlooms of the poor.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. iii. p. 18.

‘The *orts* and relics of a feast.’—Parody on Eton Montem by W. Stone, 1814, *Etoniana*, p. 228.

Out-and-out. First-rate, expressed also by Tip top. ‘He’s a *out-and-out* farmer.’ ‘They tell me that the last turkey I sent in was a *out-and-out* ‘un.’

Out o’doors. Out of fashion, extinct. ‘Farming has gone *outo’doors* nowadays.’ ‘I don’t know many of these plants about, they be *outo’doors* now.’

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Parcel. Portion, quantity. ‘He’s got a goodish *parcel* o’land about here.’ ‘A *parcel* o’good for nothin’ chaps as wouldn’t work if you paid of them.’

Pargetting. Used substantively. The figured plaster on the outside wall of a house.

Party. Person, individual. ‘A *party* as come from London. I never ‘eered their names.’

‘Some *party* or other has had ‘em all plastered over.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 88.

¹ The barbarous practice of spaying pigs is happily dying out.—G.L.G.

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Pass the time o’ day. To say ‘good morning,’ or salute in passing. See ‘Give time o’ day to.’ ‘I don’t know the man no more than jist to *pass the time o’ day* to him otherwhile.’

Peaky. Unwell. More usual than ‘Peaked’ given in the original Glossary.

Peart. Pert, lively. Illustrations of:—

‘I preached for him three times, and one of his parishioners was kind enough to say, “Your father, Sir! is the *peertest* old gentleman I ever see’d.”’—STEVENS, *Life of Dean Hook*, vol. ii. p. 492.

‘Oi’s more pleasantly looksed when he’s *piert* and merry.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xi. p. 91.

‘I’m *pert* and willing to listen to the proposal of a journey.’—*Letter of Hon. Mrs. Boscawen*, Mar. 11, 1794.

Pedlar. The small wooden hook used to collect the corn in reaping before tying it.

Pelt. *subs.* Ill-temper, irritableness. ‘He can’t a-bear being kept in doors; you can’t think what a *pelt* he gets in.’

Pet. Pronunciation of Pit.

Pitch. Fall forward. ‘When I first gets up from the chair I seems ready to *pitch*-like.’

See *postea* under **Swimy**.

Pitch up. *subs.* Conversation. ‘I happened on him in the street, and had a bit of a *pitch up* with him.’

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Place. The principal house. Pronounced Plääce. Otherwise called ‘The great house.’ A direction will be given thus: ‘You’ll find him up at the *Plaäce*.’

‘As for the *Place*, it was uninhabited when I was there.’—*Field Paths and GreenLanes*, p. 47.

Plaguy. Excessively. ‘My missus *is plaguy* ornary.’

‘I feel *plaguy* queer.’—Witness, Bench, 1892.

‘And yet methinks, to tell you true,
You sell it *plaguy* dear.’

COWPER, *Poem on Yearly Distress in Tithing Time at Stock, Essex*.

‘Three hundred pounds a year for leave to act in town, ‘tis *plaguy* dear.’—SWIFT’S *Poems on several occasions*, The Prologue, 1, 17.

Play upon. Punish. In connexion with pain. ‘The toothache *played upon* me so that I was nearly drove distracted.’

‘Not only undecent, but very dangerous too, in such a way to *play upon them*.’—DR. SOUTH, *Sermons*, 1717, vol. v. p.30.

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Plenty. Quite. Used adverbially. ‘It’s *plenty* big enough for all I want.’

Poke. Pronounced Pook. Illustration of;—

‘Don’t make such a noise there, or the Master’ll put you in the *poke*.’—Woman to child in hop-garden, 1879.

‘He has been to get a *poke* of chaff to help to make up his bed with.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 137.

Pook.v. Pronunciation of Poke, push.

‘They tell me that a man keeps *pooking* (i.e. pushing) a lot of beads over his shoulder, while the parson keeps all on a-preaching.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 104.

Post-es. Pronunciation of Posts. ‘The geät’s good enough, but the *post-es* be rotten.’

‘Look out for the finger *post-es* as you go along.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 44.

Pothery. Said of sheep when they are affected in the head, and run round in circles.

Pound. A stye. e. g. hog-pound, pig-pound.

Pretty. Nice. Illustrations of:—

‘She is a civil *pretty* spoken girl.’ ‘Mr. Elton is a very *pretty* young man.’—MISS AUSTEN, *Emma*, pp. 5, 9.

‘I like Aaron to behave *pretty* to you; he always does behave *pretty* to you, doesn’t he father?’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xvi. p. 130.

“‘The boy sings *pretty*, doesn’t he, Master Marner?’” “‘Yes,’” said Silas, absently, “‘very *pretty*.’”—*Ibid.* ch.x. p. 74.

‘I’m glad you made no abatement in “la centaine,” ‘tis a *pretty* number.’—*Letter of Hon. Mrs. Boscawen*, circ. 1784.

Preamble. Preamble, preface. To make a long *preamble*, is to raise difficulties. ‘He made a long *preamble* about it, and so I declined.’

Principal. For ‘principal thing.’ Used substantively. ‘Get your wheat in forra’d, that’s the *principal*’ (i. e. the principal thing.)

Prole. Pronunciation of Prowl.

Puddle pennies, or Pretty nancies. A flower, the saxifrage.

Put upon. Impose on.

‘I’ll not be *put upon* by no man.’—*Silas Marner*. ch. vi. p. 40.

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Qualify. Become fit or serviceable. ‘The mare turned out a kicker; she wouldn’t never *qualify*.’

Queer. Ill. ‘I felt very *queer*.’ ‘The cow’s took very *queer*,’ &c.

Quidding. Chewing the cud. ‘The heifer’s getting better, she’s *quidding* all right.’

Quirk. To squeal. ‘We put the ferrets into that big bury, and the rabbits did *quirk*, no mistake.’

Rap. Tiff, quarrel.

‘If I had just a *rap* with my wife, to clear the weather, what business was it of yourn?’—Defendant, Bench, 1893.

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Reckon. Guess. Pronounced Rackon. Frequent at the end of a sentence: e. g. 'He'll be there I *rackon*.'

'My Etchingam friend frequently made use of the expression I *reckon*.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 38.

Refuge. Corruption of Refuse. 'It's only a parcel of old *refuge*.'

Regular. Pronounced Reg'lar.

'Well, they're very *reg'lar*, hardly one missed. The drill'd 'uns don't look so *reg'lar*.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 148.

Rheumatiz. Rheumatism.

'His bodily health is pretty good, except it is the *rheumatiz* and rheumatics.'—
Labourer, of his father who was ninety years old.

Rid. Preterite of Ride. 'I got on the engine and *rid* about a quarter of a mile.'

Ride. To rise upon the stomach. 'If I eats cold pork it *rides* so.'

Rod. Measurement of 5 yards; always used where the same would generally be expressed in yards. 'He was about three *rod* from me.'

Rods. The shafts of a wagon or cart.

Rose. Made to rise. 'He walked ever so far, and *rose* a blister on his heel.'

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Round-frook. A smockfrock.

'*Round-frook* will be extinct, and with them the characteristics of mind, thought, and speech which *round-frocks* betokened.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 2.

'We may include the making of these *round-frocks*, which were the pride and glory of an East Sussex labourer fifty years ago.'—*Ibid.* p. 135.

Run. Preterite for Ran.

'He run agin'a man at the bottom of the road here.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 165.

Runagate. Tramp. 'He's no good; he's one of they *runagate* chaps.'

'Ay, they be *runagates*.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 38.

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‘But letteth the *runagates* continue in scarceness.’—Psalm lxxviii. 6, Prayer-Book version.

Runt. To knock off the high stubs in woods. Illustration of:— ‘*Runting* is a fine thing for woods, depend upon it.’

Runts. Welsh bullocks.

Sadly. Ill; of human beings. ‘He’s been rather *sadly* lately.’

Segment, in a. Bent or ‘sagged.’ ‘You must take that gutter out, it’s all in a *segment*.’

Sarment. Corruption of Sermon.

Sartin. Certain.

‘You’ve tapped the dropsy on it, that’s *sartin*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 92.

‘And sometimes I did make ‘em in a fashion, that’s *sartin*.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 41.

‘Now I know they’ve had naun to do wi’ my well down there, that’s *sartin*.’—*Ibid.* p. 52.

Saturday night. Weekly pay. ‘He’s troubled to find work for his men this weather, and they all expect their *Saturday night*.’

Scandal. v. To spread a malicious report; to take any one’s character away. Speaking of a neighbour who had been spreading a false report, a woman said, ‘She’s *scandaled* it everywhere.’

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Scarce. Scarcely. Illustration of:—

‘Not one of ‘em perhaps with the valye of a team o’ horses of his own *scarce*.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 160.

Scholard. Pronunciation of Scholar.

‘I be’nt no *scollard*, Sir.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 92.

‘Noe *schollards* admitted, noe bookes sould.’—Sir Ralph Verney, writing in 1641. *Memoirs of the Verney Family*, 1892, vol. ii. p. 21.

Sciatiky. Pronunciation of Sciatica.

‘And besides I have *sciatiky* very bad.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 13.

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Score. Weight of 20 lbs. Oxen and pigs are often reckoned by the score.

Scratch along. To rub along; just make a living. 'I'm troubled to *scratch along* anyhow.'

Scupput. For this word and the explanation see *Notes and Queries*, 5 Ser. xii. 128, 235.

Seam. A furrow, or seed-bed. 'You've no call to drill it, you've got a capital *seam*.'

'Let 'em plough the ground deep and rough; I don't care for no *seam*, so long as I can bury the seed.'—Saying of an old farmer about the clay land.

Sense, in no. Phrase. So to speak; in any way. 'The hay don't make to-day *in no sense*.'

'The roots don't grow *in nosense*.'

Sensible, to make. Illustrations of:—

'But no sooner had that event taken place than he made the Scottish clergy *sensible* that he had become the sovereign of a great kingdom.'—HUME, *History of England*, vol. vi. xlvii. p. 88.

'Mention me kindly to Mr. Bacon, and *make him sensible* that if I did not write the paragraph he wished for, it was not owing to any want of respect for the desire he expressed.'—COWPER's *Letters*, 133, vol. i. p. 263.

'I learnt very soon how useless all attempts at *making them sensible* (as they themselves call it) were.'—FRANCES KEMBLE, *Ten Tears on a Georgia Plantation*, p. 76.

'And so it went on all day, each one *making me sensible* as he called it.'—*Ibid.* p. 88.

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Set. Settle.

'I had no food all day, and took some cider and a little whisky on the top of it, and it didn't *set* well.'—Defendant, on a charge of drunkenness, 1889.

Shackle. Fasten. Speaking of a wire fence, the blacksmith said, 'I must get a short piece and *shackle* it in.'

Shackle about. Idle about, do anything by halves.

Sharves. Plural of Shaft. 'Both the *sharves* was broken short off.'

'I couldn't lift the *sharves*.'—Defendant, Bench, 1889.

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Shaw. A small wood, equivalent to the spinney of the Midland counties.

‘The quantity of *Shaws* and woods unfits this part of the country for a good run.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 113.

Shay. Shade of colour.

‘Ye Glass painted Rede, Blew, Yoler, and of a Green *Shaye*.’—Coats of Arms in house at Newington, June 17, 1751. *Notes and Queries*, vol. i. p. 197.

Shepherd’s crown or Shepherd’s purse. The fossil Echinus, from the chalk.

Shifty. Untidy, helpless. ‘She was a wonderful *shifty* woman.’

Shinglers, *subs.* **Shingle**, *v.* A man who puts shingles on. To cover a spire.

‘1688. 1500 Shingles £1 17s. 6d., to the *Shingler* £1 14s.—Churchwardens’ Accounts, Westerham, Kent.

‘1670. George Brett and his man *shingling* the steeple.’ ‘1698. Goodman Brett for work about the Steeple for *shingling*.’ ‘1728. For *shingling* and repairing the Church Steeple.’—*Ibid.*

‘1772. 4 Square and 40 feet of new *shingling* done to ye Steeple at £5 10s. per square.’—Churchwardens’ Accounts, Edenbridge, Kent.

Shingles. Small squares of oak, with which the greater part of Surrey church spires are covered.

‘It is cloven into *shingles* for the covering of houses in some places. —EVELYN, *Silva et Terra*, Hunter’s edition, vol. i. p. 315.

‘1688. 1500 *Shingles* £1 17s. 6d.’—Churchwardens’ Accounts, Westerham, Kent.

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Ship. Sheep. ‘Parsnips is a fine thing for *ship*.’ ‘Some of the biggest of them poles would do for *ship* cages.’

‘I never saw *ship* look better, and I remember when there wasn’t a *ship* on this Farm.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

Shire. Pronounced Sheere. Examples of:—

‘Under thy feete interr’d is here

A Native borne in Oxford-*sheere*.’

Epitaph on Tho. Greenhill, 1634, Beddington Church, Surrey.

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‘George Hungerford of this Parish and Katherine his wife daughter of Edward Fabian of Compton in C°. of Barkesheare Esq.’—Mon, Inscription against E. Wall of S. Transept, Windrush Church, Glouc.

‘Even in the *Sheeres*, too (which word a non-Sussex reader may interpret to mean any part of England generally, outside of Sussex, Surrey, or Kent).’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 19.

Shod. Preterite of Shed. ‘The rain come on before he got his peas carr’d, and they *shod* unaccountable.’

‘Ah, Sir, I heard your farewell sermon, and I nearly *shod* a tear.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 103.

Sholl. Illustration of:—

‘Item a busshell and a *shold*.’—Inventory, College of Lingfield, 1548, Loseley MSS.

Shows for. Looks like. ‘It *shows for* wind pretty much.’

Shuckish. Showery. Illustration of:—‘I expect we shall have a *shuckish* time at harvest; we had it so at bark harvest, and they generally follow one another.’

Shuddy. Groggy, weak on his legs. ‘I knew the horse was a bit *shuddy*.’

Sich. Pronunciation of Such. ‘It’s *sich* a while agoo I can’t justly remember.’

Sight. Illustrations of:—

‘It did her a *sight* of good.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 92.

‘It costēs a good *sight* of money.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

‘We catch a *sight* of fish.’—*Ibid.* p. 11.

‘It waāstes a *sight*, I can tellye.’—*Ibid.* p. 82.

Sile. Pronunciation of Soil

‘What’s to be done, Sir, with these clay *siles* ? I like ‘em; I own I like the strong *sile* best.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 149.

‘But that isn’t all, there’s them clay *siles*.’—*Ibid.* p. 165.

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Skep. A bee-skep is a beehive, or the straw cover placed over it.

Slade. A ridge in plough-land.

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Slats. The flat pieces or bars of a gate.—‘I wish you could let me have a few *slats* to mend my gates.’

Sloop. *v.* or *subst.* Pronunciation of Slope. ‘You must *sloop* it off a little.’ ‘The ground lies all on the *sloop*.’

Slurry. Soft surface mud, such as there is on roads after much carting in wet weather.

Smart. Active. ‘He’s a smart young chap.’

‘Dobson said he seemed *smartish*-like.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 136.

Smart. Long. ‘It’s a *smartish* journey from one end of the estate to t’other.’

“‘I used to sit near the pulpit,” said he, “but they have put me back a *smart* ways.”—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 99.

Smart. Good sized. ‘There’s timber, enough in Blockfield house to build a *smart* little village.’

Smoke, up in the. Expression for London. In answer to a question at the Bench to a prisoner, ‘Where have you been since December?’ ‘I’ve been *up in the smoke*.’

‘Tell us what you know of our houses *in the smoke*’ (i. e. in the towns).—Dr. Alexander, Bishop of Derry, in a speech.

Smouch. Smear, lay in lumps. Talking of some manure which had been partly spread but was still in large lumps, the man said, ‘It must dry a little first, else the dredge *smouches* it so.’

So. Term of assent, at the end of a sentence, e. g. ‘Would you like to change your cottage at Michaelmas?’ ‘I would *so*.’

Sod. Sodden. ‘There’s been so much rain, the land’s all *sod*.’ ‘It’s no use getting coke just now, it’s all *sod*.’

Somewhen. Sometime. ‘It happened *somewhen* about Christmas.’

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Spilt. Illustrations of:—

‘Whoso will it knowe

Whoso spareth the spiynges

Spilleth his children.’

—PIERS PLOWMAN, *Illustrated London News*, Oct. 23, 1889, p. 395.

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‘If you’ve got anything as can be *spilt* or broke.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p. 188.

Spoon-meat, Spoon vittles. Broth or soup. ‘He’s not taken nothing but *spoon-meat* for ever so long.’

Spread-bat. The stick or ‘bat’ used to keep the chains or traces of horses apart when at plough.

Spronky. Said of a tree when it is full of short branches like horns. ‘It’s a *spronky* old thing; it ain’t good for much but fire-wood.’

Spun up. Phrase for ‘hard up.’ ‘He’s reg’lar *spun up*.’

Spurt. Bout.

‘I had a little *spurt* of drink, that was all.’—Defendant, Bench, 1889.

Stand, v. and subs. Standstill. ‘We are at a *stand* for more bricks.’ ‘We shan’t *stand* now for ’terials.’

Star-naked. Stark naked.

Start before ready. Proverbial expression. ‘How came —— to go bankrupt?’ ‘*Started before he was ready*, I doubt’ (i. e. embarked in a business without capital).

Statesman. An owner of landed property, an estate’s-man.

‘It’s all very well for you *statesmen* to keep oak-trees for the pleasure of looking at ’em.’—A Surrey farmer, 1878.

Steaning. Illustration of:—

‘The well is four feet six inches in diameter within the *steening*, which is of brick of nine inches laid dry.’—MANNING, *Hist. of Surrey*, 1807, vol. iii. p. 272.

Still. Quiet, well conducted. ‘He’s a nice *still* sort of a man.’

Stive. Hive. ‘He took two *stive* of honey this year.’

Stoän. Pronunciation of Stone.

‘The reaping machine do gather up all the *stoäns*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 82.

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Storm-cook. The missel-thrush.

Strip-shirt. Stripped to his shirt, with coat and waistcoat off. ‘The sun was that hot I was forced to work *strip-shirt*.’

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Stud. Illustration of:— ‘I met our paärson, but he seemed all in a *stud* and not to take no notice of what I said.’

Sub. v. Advance, pay in advance.

“Perhaps you’ll *sub* me something.” “I’ll *sub* you a couple of shillings,” said young Mr. M——.’—Labourer, 1892.

Suffer. Allow, give permission. ‘They could get plenty of water out of the other spring; I don’t know whether they would *suffer* it or no.’

‘*Suffer* it to be so now ... Then he *suffered* him.’—*A. V.*, St. Matt, iii. 15.

‘And ye *suffer* him no more to do ought for his father or his mother.’—*A. V.*, St. Mark vii. 12.

Summut. Somewhat.

‘I ought to know *summut* about it.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 16.

Surelye. Emphatic, and constantly used at the end of a sentence.

‘That’s just it: that’s just what it is, surely.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 161.

Swimy. Giddy. Illustration of:—‘What can be more picturesque,’ asks a Sussex correspondent, ‘than our bailiff’s account of his attack of influenza? “Well, Sir! I felt that *swimy*, I seem’d ’most ready to pitch otherwhile.”’

Tackle. Instruments of husbandry, or of other kinds, and figuratively of food or drink.

Tail. Refuse corn. ‘There’s pretty nigh as much *tail* as head corn this season.’

‘Including rather more than half a bushel of *tail* to the acre.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 79.

Take. v. Redundant. ‘He’d better by odds *take* and give up the farm, than to lose money by it every year, as he’s a-doing.

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Talk his dog’s hind leg off. Proverb. ‘I never see sich a fellow to go on, he would *talk his dog’s hind leg off* any day.’ See *Notes and Queries*, 4 Ser. ii. 488, 591, where it is

‘Talk a horse’s leg off.’ The writer says, ‘I have often heard it in Norfolk and in the Midland counties, “Talk, talk, talk; enough to talk a horse’s hind leg off.”’

Tell. *subs.* Talk.

‘I had’nt heerd no *tell* of it.’—Labourer, 1887.

Tend. *v.* To look after; e. g. sheep-tending, rook-tending.

Terrible. Pronounced Tarrible.

“Well, Shepherd! how be you?” “Pretty middlin’ thank’ee” “And how’s your Missus.” “Oh! *tarrible* ornary sure-ligh, never be no better I doubt.”—Conversation overheard, 1893.

‘We cleaned the ponds out t’other day, and there was some *tarrible* gurtfish.’—Labourer, 1893.

Terrify. Illustration of:—

‘We’ve had a good deal of what I call *terrifying* sickness, colds and such-like, but nothing serious.’—Chemist, May, 1877.

That. *So.* ‘I was *that* put out with him, that I don’t know what I said.’ ‘She’s *that* contrary there’s no managing of her.’

Theer. Pronunciation of There.

‘There was once a town over *theer*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 3.

‘My grandfather and grandmother are *theer*.’—*Ibid.* p. 39.

Them. Their.

‘What’s the use o’ *them* growing turnips?’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 160.

Them. Those.

‘*Them* be my two children.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 39.

‘Do you suppose he would sell one o’ *them* there cottages?’—*Ibid.* p. 137.

‘*Them* French don’t know what good eatin’ means.’—*Ibid.* p. 163.

‘How’s *them* sort o’ farmers to be put an end to.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 161.

‘No, no, none of *them* things for me.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 4.

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Them as. Those who, those which.

“*Them as* has got the money,” said the old man.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 7.

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‘A lot of the crookedest bats you can get, *them as* won’t lie in no form.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 76.

They. Those. ‘She doesn’t give much milk out of *they* quarters.’

‘Get off *they* steps until you pay the money.’—Witness, Bench, 1891.

This here, Them there. Intensive.

‘I’ll never drain so deep as that through *this here* clay.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 18

‘Never yon listen to what *them there* papers says.’—*Ibid.* p. 91.

Thro. Fro; in phrase ‘to and thro.’ ‘He’s to and *thro* a’most every day.’

Threwed. Preterite of Throw.

‘They throw a word to you when they do speak, as if they *threwed* a bone to a dog.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 169.

Throwed. Part, of Throw, in sense of disappointed, worsted. ‘I got *throwed* over that job.’

Tidy. *adj.* and *adv.* Fair, nicely. ‘That there oak’s coming out quite *tidy*.’

‘Our paärson’s a very *tidy* preacher.’—Parish Clerk, 1889.

Time as. At the time when. ‘*Time as* Mr.—— had the Park Farm.’ ‘*Time as* your father was High Sheriff.’

‘*Time as* I used to go Carrier to the Borough.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 119.

Tip-top. First-rate. “How be you, maäte?” “I be *tip top* thank’ee.”

“‘We ha’ a cemetery up yonder, a *tip-top* place.” *Tip-top* was decidedly a modern phrase, and I tried to imagine what a *tip-top* cemetery could be like’.—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 6.

Titus fever. Typhus or Typhoid fever. ‘There was three on ‘em, all down with the *titus* fever at one time.’

‘She says that they’ve had *titus* fever down there.’—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 62.

To. Too. ‘He’s grown *to* big for his shoes.’

‘My largest field’s no longer *to* big for the Farm.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 158.

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To and agin. To and fro. 'My feet gives out, so I can't travel fur; but I goes to the shop *to and agin.*'

Toary. Full of bents, or long grass.

'There's bin a fox in that old *toary* field of mine for ever so long.'—Farmer, 1881.

Too. Pronunciation of To. Emphatic. 'The place is all *too* pieces.'

Took. Part, of Take. 'They was *took* at the police station last night.'

'She was *took* so at two years old.'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p.10.

'If he ain't afeared of being *took* for nothing'.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 82.

Topping. Illustrations of:—

'It blasts a man in that peculiar *topping* perfection of his nature, his understanding.'—Dr. South, *Sermons*, vol. iv. p. 382.

'The great and flourishing condition of some of the *topping* sinners of the world.'—*Ibid.* p. 153.

T'other. The other. *T'other wea*, the other way. Used by carters to turn the horse off to the right.

'One down, *t'other* come on.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 24.

Travish. Refuse, rubbish.

'Those tiles are not good for nothing; they are only what we calls *travish.*'—Bricklayer, 1888.

Trencher-man. One who feeds others well. 'Time I was a boy we used all to live in the Farmhouse, and Mr.——he was always a good *trencherman*¹.'

Turmup or Turmut. Corruption of Turnip. 'The *Turmups* has grow'd wonderful sin'these last 'ere rains.'

Tween-whiles. Between times.

'Un. One.

'A long road, Sir ! and a bad '*un.*'—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 27.

'I'm obliged to wear a patch over this 'ere left '*un.*'—*Ibid.* p. 137.

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'I've got a sow in my yard with twelve little 'uns, and they little 'uns can't all feed at once.'—*Sussex Folk and Sussex Ways*, p. 3.

¹This refers to the good old days when the custom (now almost extinct) was for the farmer to dine with his carters and boys.—G.L.G.

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Uncommon. Used adverbially.

'I should like *uncommon* to have a bit of talk with you.'—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 138.

Undecent. Indecent. 'He went on most *undecent*.'

'It is very *undecent* for a Master to jest or play with his scholars; but not only *undecent*, but very dangerous too.'—DR. SOUTH, *Sermons*, 1717, vol. v. p. 30.

'From this springs the notion of Decency or *Undecency*. It implies a turpitude or *Undecency*.'—*Ibid.* vol. i. pp. 482, 483.

Underminded. Participle for Undermined. 'The place is reg'lar *underminded* by rats.'

'There was a great flood, and the house was *underminded*¹.'

Unplesh. Corruption of Non-plus. Speaking of having to leave his cottage, a labourer said, 'Sometimes it comes on one all in a *unplesh*, just like mother's death did.'

Unsensible. Senseless; without sense.

'I was *unsensible* from loss of blood.'—Witness, Bench, 1891.

'When the drink's out of 'em they aren't *unsensible*.'—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p. 107.

Unsiehtable. Not in sight. Speaking of some trees, the woodman said, 'This 'ere lot is very *unsiehtable* from anywhere.' Up-grown. Grown-up.

'We never get about eight or ten *up-grown* persons at church of a morning.'—Parish Clerk, 1878.

Upset. Knock down. 'I didn't like to tackle him, because there were two on 'em, and I was afraid they would *upset* me.' 'Don't do that again, or I might *upset* you.'

Upset. *subs.* A row, a fight. 'They'd both been a-drinking, and they had a reg'lar *upset*.'

Up with. Raise. 'He *up with* his fist and struck me full in the faäce.'

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‘The boy *up* with his fist and struck her on the breast.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 23.

¹ I was surprised on going into a leading silversmith’s in London, at his assistant’s saying when I showed him a ring, ‘The ring has been worn next to another and the setting has got *underminded*.’

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Us. We.

‘It ain’t *us* as kills ‘em off.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 65.

Valye. Pronunciation of Value. ‘My life’s no *valye*.’

‘If you’d spare me the *val’e* of a half-hour’s walk through those swedes again.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 140.

‘Not one of ‘em perhaps with the *valye* of a team o’ horses of his own.’—*Ibid.* p. 160.

Waps, Wapses. Pronunciation of Wasp, Wasps.

Warrant. Pronounced Warn’t. ‘It ‘ull be a hard winter for the poor, I’ll *warn’t* ye.’

‘It’ll come up as mellow as a garden, I’ll *war’nt* it, in the spring.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p. 90.

Wean-year. Illustration of:—

‘It’m vii *Wanyers* price xxxiiii⁸.’—Inventory, College of Lingfield, Surrey, 1524.

‘Item v *wenyers*.’—*Ibid.* 1544.

Week-a-days. The week is divided into Sunday and week- a-days.

‘I wear it Sundays and *week-a-days*.’—Witness, Bench, 1891.

Wheeler. Wheelwright. ‘That tree will do well for *wheeler*’s work.’

Wift. Quick and noiselessly. Walking with a man in April, 1889, a bicycle passed us, and he said, ‘They come by so *wift*, don’t they?’

Wonderful. Excessively. In constant use, e. g. ‘*Wonderful* weak,’ ‘*wonderful* hot,’ &c. See Halliwell *in verbo*, and conf. German *Wunderbar*.

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‘All things were *wonderful* tumultuous and troublesome.’—HOOKER, *Eccl. Pol.*
Book VII. ch. viii. p. 10.

‘I’ve seen men as are *wonderful* handy wi’ children.’—*Silas Marner*, ch. xiv. p.
107.

A rustic courtship was thus described to me: ‘I don’t know nothing against the
young man, he’s hung on constant to Emma for five years, and walked with her
sister a’fore that; and he’s a *wonderful* handy chap to carry water.’—G.L.G.

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Wore. Participle of Wear. ‘Yes, I’m cripplish; *wore* out, that’s all.’

‘Poor thing! she was fairly *wore* out.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p. 69.

Work-a-days. To distinguish from Sundays.

Worrit. Corruption of Worry.

‘It gripes you, and *worrits* you, and leaves you where you was.’—Mrs. Poyser of
a dose of medicine. *Adam Bede*.

Wun’t. Will not.

‘Our crest, it is said, is a hog, and our motto we *wun’t* be druv.’—*Sussex Folk
and Sussex Ways*, p. 3.

‘No, that I *wun’t*; not if I freeze fust.’—*Ibid.* p. 10.

Wuss. Pronunciation of Worse. ‘She was took *wuss* the other day.’

‘Aye, and the farmer’s business getting *wuss* every year.’—*Chronicles of a
ClayFarm*, p. 160.

Year. Plural for Years.

‘I’ve been a-draining this forty *year* and more.’—*Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, p.
16.

‘The lady as is there was buried fourteen *year*.’—*Field Paths and Green Lanes*, p.
23.

‘She be dead sixty *year*.’—*Ibid.* p. 40.

‘I was a sawyer up in them woods for five and forty *year*.’—*Ibid.* p. 137.

Yeo. Pronunciation of Ewe.



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Yoke round. Turn round sharp. 'He *yoked* it round (i e. the wagon) and it canted over.'

[NP]

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