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VNiVERSITAS
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SALAMANIINI

RUTLAND WORDS.

COLLECTED BY

THE REV. CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH. M.A.,

RECTOR OF TYNEHAM, DORSET

(And lately of Glaston, Rutland).

London:

PUBLISHED FOR THE ENGLISH DIALECT SOCIETY
BY KEGAN PAUL, TRÜBNER & CO., PATERNOSTER HOUSE,
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1891.

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INTRODUCTION.

The following collection of words and phrases has been made during a twelve years' incumbency in the county of Rutland (Wrangdike Hundred). Several items have been contributed by the Rev. P. G. Dennis, rector of N. Luffenham, and others by the late rector of Stretton, the Rev. Edward Bradley, more widely known as "Cuthbert Bede."

I have neither time nor confidence to attempt a scientific introduction. I will add a very few random hints as to local peculiarities.

'Come', 'Butter', &c., are pronounced '*Coom*', '*Booter*'.

'Chance', 'Mince', are '*Chanch*', '*Minch*'.

'Quench', 'Quince', are '*Squenck*,' '*Squinck*' or '*Quincē*'.

'Cornice' is '*Cornish*'.

The final *e* is pronounced as a sort of possessive termination in '*Princē-feathers*', '*Rosē-tree*', and sometimes '*Quincē-tree*'.

'Bladder', 'Ladder', 'Ivy', are '*Blether*' or '*Blather*,' '*Lether*', '*Ivory*'.

'While' is used as equivalent with 'till'.

'At-a night', 'Of-a Thursday', 'Of-a night'.

'Me-thinks'. F- is sounded th- in 'from', 'furrow'; on the other hand we have 'fistle' for 'thistle'. -T- is suppressed in place-names: Ays'on, Gläs'on; -th- in Edi'weston. We have Market O'erton, Mar'st'rop; the eastern and western corner lordships of the little county are Essendine and Whissendine.

'*Who' be them ship?*' means 'Whose are those sheep?' 'Whoh can say 'er lessings?' ('Who can say her lessons?')

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Dāle = deal,

Sarvice, Clargyman = service, clergyman.

Cayzed = cast.

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Fuzz or Fooz = furze.

Goss = gorse.

'Frit', 'Glent', 'Pept', as preterites, speak for themselves.

Oi've, yo've, we'm = I am, you are, we are.

For plurals we have 'Beast', 'Pōses' (*i.e.*, posts), 'Clozen', 'Housen', 'Plazen', 'Nesses', 'Frosses'.

We often drop (1) the preposition and (2) the possessive case inflexion. 'He goes Uppingham of-a Wednesday,' Joe Sumpter' grandson'. 'The Queen' childer.' I found examples of these latter peculiarities (as of several others mentioned in the *Glossary*) alike in the eighteenth century parish accounts and in the mouths of my late parishioners.

FIELD-NAMES.

The old field-names mentioned in the rectorial terrier of Glaston parish, then unenclosed or 'open fields', in 1635 are as follows: The Northe Fielde; the Myllne Fielde; the West Fielde; Parte of the Myllne Fielde; and the Southe Fielde.

Gorgimer: Little Gorgimer, Great Gorgimer Close, and Top Gorgimer Close, the names of three fields in map of 1841.

Holmes: 'South Holmes', the name of two closes or fields in parish plan, 1841.

Lings: The name of two closes in the Glaston parish map, 1841.

Muxwells: The name of two closes in map of 1841.

The Rev. P. G. Dennis sends me the following lists of

(i.) *Danish words in use in Rutland*: Brig, clep. flit, frem, kittlin', muck, rig, thack.

(ii.) *Words used in Rutland in a peculiar sense, etc.*: Acquainted (courting), balk, con-tent, disannul (not elsewhere in everyday

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use), gain, a-joisting, stall, teem. Mr. Dennis remarks that the number of peculiar forms of words or pronunciation is in this part of the Midlands comparatively small.

(iii.) *Place-names in Rutland* (almost all of them having A.S. terminations, such as cote, -den, -ham, -ton, -wick, -worth; some of them, as -den, suggestive of forests and outlying pastures in woods): -Cote (a mud hut), Caldecote, Morcott, Tickencote. -Den

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(outlying pasture in woods), Barrowden, Essendine and Whissendine (the eastern and western parishes); perhaps, also, Hambledon *alias* Hambleton, and Lyndon. -Ham, Clipsham, Empingham, Greetham, Langham, Luffenham, Oakham, Uppingham. -Ley (pasture), Burley-on-the-hill, Leafield Forest, Wardley, Witchley. -More, Cottesmore. -Ton, Ayston, Belton, Braunston, Casterton *or* Brig-Casterton, Edithweston *or* Edywesson, Egleton *or* Eglinton, Exton, Glaston, Glaiston *or* Gladeston, Ketton, Lydington *or* Liddington, Manton, Market Overton (*or* Orton), Normanton, Pilton, Preston, Ridlington, Seaton *or* Seyton, Stretton, Snelston, Thistleton, and possibly Lyndon. -Well, Ashwell, Tinwell, Whitwell. -Worth (property, farm), Pickworth.

Besides the above, we find, either in actual use or in Speed's map, the names following:—

-Thorpe, Thorpe-by-water, Alesthorp, Barleythorpe, Belmesthorpe, Gunthorpe, Ingthorpe, Martinsthorp *or* Marstrop, Tolthorpe.

Barrow, Barnsdale, Beaumont, Bisbrook *or* Bittlesbrook *or* Pisbrook, Brooke, Catmose, Deepdale, Drystoke *or* Stokedry, Flitteris, Rakesborough, Ryall *or* Ryhall, Stocken *or* Stocking, Tixover *or* Tichessoure, Teigh *or* Tyghe, and Wing *or* Weng *olim* Veyinge.

Hundreds: Alstoe, Martinsley, and Wrangdike, the East Hundred, and the Soke of Oakham.

Our streams are: The Eye, Chater, and Guash *or* Wash, running into the Welland.

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The names, as given in Domesday Book, are: Grethan, Cotesmore, Overtune, Tistertune, Wichingedene, Exentune, Witewelle, Alestanestorp [Alstoe Hundred], Burgelai, Exwelle, *in Alinodestov Wapentake*; Ocheham, Hameldune, Redlinton, *in Martinslei Wapentac*, attached to 'Ledecestrescire'.

Under the head of 'Northantone scire' we find Chetene, Techessoure, Berchedone, Seietone, Segestone *or* Segentone, Torp, Morcote, Bittlesbroch and Gladestone, Luffenham and Sculetrop, Castretone, Toltop, Epingeham, Riehale, Tichescote and Horn, *in Gisleburg Hundred, Wiceslea Wapentac*.

Lidentone, Stoche, Smelistone, Caldecote, and Esindone, in *Gisleburg Hundred*.

The Wapentakes Alinodestov and Martinsleie, ‘adiacent uicecomitatui Snotigeham ad gl’d regis’.

CHR. WORDSWORTH.

TYNEHAM, DORSET, *May*, 1891.

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GLOSSARY.

The following abbreviations are used: —

adj. = adjective

adv. = adverb

cf. = compare

conj. = conjunction

expl. = expletive

interj. = interjection

part. - participle

pec. = peculiar idiom or usage

phr. = phrase

p. = preterite

p.p. = past participle

pr. = pronoun

prep. = preposition

sb. = substantive

v.a. = verb active

var. pron. = various pronunciation

v.n. = verb neuter

ACKURN, *sb. var. pron.* of “acorn.”

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ACQUAINTED, *part.* in the first stage of courting.

ADDLE, *v.a.* to earn wages.

ADLAND, *sb.* headland; the strip in a field where the plough turns.

AFORE LONG, *adv.* before long.

AGAIN, *prep.* near.

“Agen the hedge.”

AGE, *pec.* In Rutland the same peculiarities as in Leicestershire. Examples: “Shay’s in ‘er ten”, “A’s gooin’ thootain”, “Gooin’ o’ twelve”, “Gooin’ fur eeghty.”

AGREEABLE, *adj.* ready and willing.

“Shay’s agreeable, I’m be bound!”

AJOISTING, *sb.* and *pr.* a payment for feeding and depasturing of cattle. *Agistment* (‘*agistamentum*’, ‘*agistare animalia*’, Du Cange, *Gloss.*).

“Them bisn’t his own ship (sheep); them’s on’y som’ as Mr. X. has got *ajoisting*.”

ALL, AND ALL, *adj. pec.* an expletive or emphatical phrase.

“He’s not very well, and the weather’s rather inferial *and all*.”

“Who should come by just then but the Honourable *and all*” (though the Hon. A. B. who came up so inopportunately was unaccompanied).

“We had a reg’lar good holiday *an’ all*.”

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ALL AS IS, *phr.* the sum total; everything imaginable.

ALLUS, *adv. var. pron.* of “always.”

ALONG OF, *adv.* because of.

“He come downstairs shedding, an’ went oop back’ards *along of* his rheumatiz.”

AN, the indefinite article, is seldom used before a vowel. We say “a orange”, “a egg”, or, as a friend of mine always spells it, “a ag.”

AND ALL. See ALL.

ANEW or ENEW, *adv.* enough.

“I suppose we shall have seed potatoes *anew* this turn.”

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I find that Professor Conington, who came from a neighbouring district (South Lincolnshire), more than once, in his *Translation of Horace*, makes “enow” rhyme with “due.”

APPRALITOR, *sb. var. pron.*, the bishop’s apparitor.

“Given the *Appralitor* to Excuse us from going to ye Visitacion, 2s. 6d’.—
Churchwarden’s Account, 1720.

APPROBATION, *sb.* opinion.

“I can’t make out what’s wrong wi’ her; so I shall send for Clark [we never call doctors ‘ Mr.’, but treat them all as if they were at the head of their profession], and get his *approbation* of it” (*i.e.*, his opinion on it).

ARRAWIG, *sb.* an earwig.

“Them *arrawigs*!”

ARCH-ITECT, *var. pron.* of “architect.” An elegant classical scholar of my acquaintance similarly speaks of the University arch-hives.

ARK, *sb.* clouds shaped like the *vesica piscis*.

“They say, when you see the *hark*, it mostly tokens rain.”

AS, *var. pron.* for “that”:

“The last time *as* ever I see him he called me all *as* is.”

ASHLAR, *sb.* hewn stone.

“For work done at Glaston Wire. For 52 foot of Parpen *Ashler* and Copping, and for mending the Sluce, 1l. 8s.” — *Accounts*, 1743.

AT-A, *pec.*

“When I do get to bed *at-a* night my joy passes subscription.”

I am not sure that this is not the common -e termination, as in Chaucer’s language.

AUDOCITY. See DOCITY.

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AUST’. “Paul’s *Aust*”, the name of a field in the tithe award, 1841: now (1885) known as “Paul’s Orts.”

AX, *v.a.* to ask.

BACKEN, *v.a.* to retard.

“These frostes hev *backened* ‘em a bit.”

BACKING, *sb.* small coal.

“Your stoves will take a good deal of *backing*.”

BACK-END, *phr.*

“The *back-end* o’ the year.”

BACK-LANE, *sb.* a by-way leading from the main street.

BAD, *adj.* behindhand.

“She got a quarter *bad* in her rent.”

BADGE, *v.*

“It’s a *badging* job” (*quære*, var. pron. of “*botching*”).

BADGE, *v. n.* ? to beg, on pretence of hawking.

“To be allowed to John Baines for causing Two parts of the Act of Parliament for *Badging* paupers to be wrote, one for the Justices and the other upon the Church Door of this parish, 2s.” — *Overseer’s Account*, 1759.

BADLY, *adv.* sickly.

“Pepper’ child *Baddly*: gave them 4s. 6d.” — *Glaston Parish Accounts*, 1708.

BAG, *v.a.* to put up hay in small heaps before putting it into cocks.

BALK, *sb.* (A.S. “*balc* ‘) a strip of grass which divides one portion of land from another. This is used especially in unenclosed lordships.

BARM, *sb.* brewer’s yeast; also “Balm.”

“For *Balm* for Baking.” — *Overseer’s Accounts*, 1767.

BALDRACK, *sb.*

“For making a new *Baldrack* to Bell Claper, 2s.” — *Accounts*, 1764.

BASS, *sb.* a hassock for kneeling. This name is now used regardless of what the material used for covering may be.

“Some of the *basses* in Church want mending.”

“Them *basses* are wore all to muck” (of some old coarse straw hassocks rotted with damp).

“To a Communion *Bass*, 2s. 8d.” — *Church Account*, 1754.

“Paid pro 3 *Basses*, 2 pro the Communion table, the other for the Clark, 1s. 2d.” — 1720.

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BASTILLE, *sb.* the Union Work-house. “Cuthbert Bede” reports that he has heard this term, a relic (as he says) of France in 1789, used in Rutland as Mr. Hughes records it in Cockneydom in the *Scouring of the White Horse*.

BATTUS or ? BATTERS, *sb.*

“I was on the *battus* of the railway an’ my fut slipped.”

BEACON, *sb.* a hillock in Glaston on which the beacon-fire was formerly lighted. In recent times this name is corrupted into “the Deaten.” But in Speed’s map the old name occurs. Also “Two loads against the *Beacen* in Barrowden Lane.” — *Highway Accounts*, 1744.

BEÄNS survives as a dissyllable in Rutland.

BEAUTY, a common name for a horse in Rutland; such also are “Bonny” and “Captain.”

BEAST, *sb. pl.* horned cattle. This plural appears even in print in auctioneers’ notices, &c.

“Paid (by the Churchwarden) to the Inspectors for taking an account of the *Beast*, 10s.” — 1748.

BEESNINS, *sb.* beestings, the milk after a cow has calved.

BEES, *sb.* used not of honey bees only but wasps, if not large flies.

BEESOM, *sb.* a gardener’s broom.

“The Clark for shovling of snow and going Uppingham had 3 pints of ale and a new *Beasam*, 9d.” — *Church Accounts*, 1766.

“Paid ffox pro *Beesome*, 6d.” — *Church Accounts*, 1722.

“A *Beasan*, 6d.” — 1728.

BEING. This word is used as equivalent to “seeing” (somewhat as in Hooker’s *Ecclesiastical Politie*).

“Why shouldn’t you use it, *being* as it’s yourn?”

BELCHING, *adj.* bragging, like an empty wind-bag.

“But I doant think nowt to what he say: he’s a *belching* sort of a man.”

BENTS, *sb. phr.* blades of grass.

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“There was nothing staunch where I stood on’y *bents*, and the stoopid boy runned the tine of a fork into my guides. Dr. E. ought me to keep a bit of reasty bacon to it.”

BESOM, *sb.* a birch broom.

BIS, *i.e.*, BES, *sb.* third person singular of “I be”=is

“She *bis* fifteen year old.”

BLAME IT, *v.a.* a common imprecation.

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BARM! *excl.* another form of the last-named expletive.

BLATHER, *sb.*, *var. pron.* of “bladder”; also “Blether.”

BLEE, *adj.* bleak.

“The wind an’ the frostes makes fine work with the blackberries, partic’lar where the *blee* comes” (*i.e.*, wherever there is an exposed place).

The late rector of Lyndon spelt the word “bly”, “bly weather.”

BLETHER, *sb. var. pron.* of “bladder.”

BODGE, *v.a.* to botch or patch up.

BONES, *phr.* to fall abusing one.

“She fell a-*bones* o’ me and call’d me ever so.”

BONNY, *adj.* pretty.

“But she’s a *bonny* woman, she is!” exclaimed a farmer, when a candidate (not successful) came in to be examined by the Board of Guardians for the office of matron.

BOON, *v.n.* to help another in an emergency in expectation of a like good turn, *e.g.*, in getting in hay.

“We’ve come a-*booning*.”

BOUT, *sb.* a turn.

“You have a try, Mr. N——.” “Not this *bout* thank you!”

BOY’S-LOVE, *sb.* (*i.q.*, lad’s-love) the popular strong-scented herb southernwood.

BRANGLE *v.a.* to wrangle or quarrel.

BREER, *sb. monosyllabic, var. pron.* of “brier,” a hedge.

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“I’ll clean up they *breers*”.

“Cuthbert Bede” notes that “brier” rhymes with “here” in the old ballad of the Battle of Otterbourne.

BRIG *sb.* bridge.

BRONTITIS, *sb. var. pron.* of “bronchitis.”

BROOSH, *var. pron.* of “brush”, a broom.

“A new *Broosh*, 1s. 6d.” — *Church Accounts*, 1768.

BULLY, *sb.* a tadpole (? bull-head).

“We us’d to call ‘em *bullies* when I wur a boy.”

BUNCH, *sb.?* mouth, jaw.

“Hold your *chelp!*” “You hold your *bunch!*”

BUNTER, *sb.* a disreputable woman.

“She stood at the gate and called me a *bunter*.”

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BUT, *v.a.* to abut.

“2 rods *butting* vppon greate Coppie leas.” — *Glaston Terrier*, 1635.

BUTT, *sb.* a narrow “land” (as in Leicestershire).

CADE, *sb.* a pet animal brought up by hand in the “house” (i.e., kitchen). Also *adj.*

“Eddie Thorpe has a *cade* lamb, and farmer Mason’s wife she hev a little *cade* pig.”

“She’s quite a *cade*” (a pet child).

The word is applied to tame doves, or even to a sociable cat.

CADELING, *part. n.* coaxing, as accustomed to be petted.

“The master’s dog, he’s such a *cadeling* thing; he comes *cadeling* and making a fuss ever so. He comes with me into the room, and ‘wow, wow’, says he. Thinks I, ‘He’s through the glass at the dead (*i.e.*, stuffed) fox, for sure!’”

CALL, *sb.* occasion, necessity.

“You’ve no *call* to walk all them miles.”

CALL, *v.a.* to miscall, abuse.

“She *called* him no end.”

CAMPHOR, *v.a.* to give camphor in medicine.

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“I says to her, ‘He’ll be a-*camphorin*’ of you, Martha’.”

“Oh yes, sir, he’s a deadly man for *camphorin*’, is Dr. Brown.”

CANTLIN, *sb.* See SCANTLING.

CARLOCK, *sb. var. pron.* of “charlock” and “cadlock”, *sinapis arvensis*.

“That’s *carlock* — some calls it ‘charlock’.”

CARPET, *v.a.* to have a subordinate into one’s *sanctum* for a scolding.

“The squire called him into his own room and *carpeted* him a good ‘un.’”

CARRY, *v.n.* to carry hay or corn home.

“We shall soon be having the gleaning, farmer Woodcock’s a-*carryin*’ to-day.”

CAZ’D or CAYZ’D, *vat. pron.* of “cast.”

“I feel quite *cayz*’t down.”

“There is a *caz*’d sheep in the pasture” (*i.e.*, flung on its back).

CASUALTY, *adj.* in a ticklish or precarious state.

“Horses is *casalty* things, you’re sure!”

CAT-HEARTED, *adj.* cowardly.

“He cries every time: he’s so *cat-hearted*, you see!”

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CAUSEY, *sb. var. pron.* of “causeway.”

“A man one Days Work at the *Corsey*, 1s.” — *Parish Accounts*, 1766.

CA’VE-IN, *v.a. var. pron.* of “cave-in” (pronounced like “calve,” to rhyme with “halve”).

“The well *ca’ved-in*, and all the town was in an uproar.”

“They’m had a big *carve-in*, I soopoäse, by that grave that they’re digging for Mr. N——.”

—CC—is pronounced soft in such words as “assept”, “asseptable”, “vassinate.”

“Dr. Bell’s Bill for 12 months attendance on the Poor, and 24 Paupers *Vassinating* for the Cow Pox, 9l. 12s.” — *Parish Account*, 1819.

CESSSES, *sb. var. pron.* (quasi plural) of “narcissus”, a flower.

“Them’s *cesses*.”

CHANCH, *sb. var. pron.* of “chance.”

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CHARM, *sb.* several combined noises, not necessarily melodious.

“A *charm* of birds.” A fox gets into a henroost: “The fowls clucked, the cocks crowed, turkeys gobbled, geese hissed, dogs barked, men shouted, and, my word! there was a *charm*!”

CHATS, *sb. phr.* twigs or sticks for fuel.

“I’ve been picking oop these little bits of *chats* in my apern.”

CHEER, *sb. var. pron.* of “chair.”

“Set a *cheer* agin the foire.”

CHEL *P. v.n.* to chirp like young birds; to chatter or speak pertly.

“If you think to correct them, children now-a-days will *chelp* at you and sauce you.”

CHELP, *sb.* chatter.

“Hold your *chelp*!”

CHIMBLE, *v.a.* to nibble.

“The ow’d doe rot wur *chimbling* the gress up of the trap, an’ it ketcht her jest of the nose.”

CHIMLY, *sb. var. pron.* of “chimney.”

CHINE, *sb.* a splint or stave.

“The doctor put my leg in pieces of wood like bucket-*chines*.”

CHIP OUT, *v.a.* to quarrel.

“He lodged with his own broother while they *chipped out*; and then he come here.”

CHIT, *v.a.* to sprout.

“The wheat bust afore it *chitted*.” “His potatoes were more *chitted* than ourn.”

“The turps (turnips) is banning to *chit*.”

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CHITTY WHITE-THROAT, *sb.* a bird— the white-throat.

See also PEGGY and STRAW-SUCKER.

CHORCH, *var. pron.* for “church.”

“Fetching the *Chorch* Doore, 2s. 9d.”— *Parish Accounts*, 1769.

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“For Glaston *Chorch.*’ — *Parish Accounts*, 1749.

CHUMP, *sb.* a thick log of wood. Applied metaphorically to a sturdy child.

“He were a great chump of a boy.”

CHURCHING, *sb.* any service in church not confined, as it is by custom in some classes, to the Thanksgiving of Women.

“Is there *churching* to-night?”

CLARGYMAN, *sb. var. pron.* for “clergyman.”

“If you touches them, all I can say is, you’re no *clargyman!*.”

CLAP, *v.a.* to lay, place, or cast.

“*Clap* a loomp o’ coal on the foire.”

CLAT, *sb. pron.* of “clot” and “clod”, a piece of dirt or filth.

CLAT, *v.a.* to stick together or clog.

“It *clats* in my throat.”

CLAYPER, *sb.* the clapper of a bell.

CLIFF-MAN, *sb.* a stake used to support a stack. The local etymology derives this name from the fact that these props come from King’s Cliffe, in Northamptonshire.

“We call’s ‘em *cliff-men*, ‘cos they’re mostly cut in Cliffe woods.”

CLIP, *sb.* the quantity of wool shorn in one season from one flock.

CLONGY, *adv. or adj.* applied to stiff clay soil.

“It works *clongy*.”

CLOSE, *sb.*, CLOSEN *pl. (pron.* “dozen”) an enclosed field.

Pasture, Gate, Dale, North, Old, New, Preston Lane, Spinney (Top and Bottom), Fox’s, Parker’s, Cook’s, Broughton’s, Bryan’s, Townsend’s, Allen’s, Bellair’s, Oat, Plank, Furze, Drove, Dry, Coneygear, Coppice, Wheat, Stable, Long, Barn (First, Far, To *p.* Bottom, Middle), Bottom, Furze, The Seven Acre, Mere, Gorgimer (Great and Top), Forty Acre, Bridge, Dark Lane, Hazle Gate, Home (Glebe and Lord Harboro’s), Wier, Fishpond, Far (bis). How, Middle, Nether, Glaston, are the names of closes in the Glaston Map of 1841.

CLOT, *sb.* a clod.

“Mr. B. he give me a day or two work, knocking *clots*, an’ sooch.”

COACH UP, *v.a.* to keep one up to the work.

“I don’t know as how you’d get much by taking out a summons; you’d best go on *coaching* him up.”

COAL-HOD, *sb.* a coal-scuttle. What Dr. Evans says of Leicestershire holds good for the most part in Rutland, that the coal-scoop is unknown. Glaston Rectory is the exception, where a town architect has constructed an underground cellar with a trap suited for sea-coal.

COBBLES, *sb. pl.* pieces of coal of medium size.

COCKLES, *sb. pl.* the white campion.

CONEYGEAR CLOSE, a field in Glaston famous for rabbits.

Thus spelt in 1841. Now “Cunniger Close”, 1890; “Coneygree”, 1721; “Coneygroof”, 1720; “Coneygreys”, 1749; “Coneygrays”, 1774.

CONFIRMANT, *sb.* persons brought to the bishop to be confirmed by him; now vulgarly called confirmees.

“For my own charges at the Confirmation, 1s. Paid Mr. Belgrave for his trouble at the Bishop’s confirmation attending the churchwarden and young *Confirmants*, 4s. 6d.”— *Accounts*, 1748.

CONSARN, *vav. pron.* for “concern.”

“Going in with the List *consarning* the Militior, 2s.” — *Constable’s Account*, 1769.

CONSARN! *excl.* a softened form of imprecation.

CONTEND, *v.n.* to come to terms, agree, get on, jog on together.

“She’s in sarvice with her coosen, an’, being acquainted, they know how to *contend* with one another.”

CONTENT, *v. refl.* to settle down.

“She begins to *con-tent* herself.”

CONTRIVE ! *excl.* a softened expletive or disguised imprecation.

CONVENIENCE, *va.* to accommodate.

“The chamber’s not *convenienced* with a fire-place.”

CORKEY, *adj.* left-handed. A common nickname.

CORN-DRAKE, *sb.* the landrail or corn-crake, *rallus crex*.

CORNISH, *sb. var. pron.* of “cornice.”

COW-COTTAGER, *sb.* a class of peasants.

“What they call in our village (Ridlington) a *cow-cottager*.”

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COWHOLD WAY. “Upper *Cowholdway*” and “Nether *CowHoldway*”, names of fields in Glaston, 1841.

CRAW, *sb.* throat. Used in Rutland sometimes of the throat of a human being.

CREED, *v.a.* to boil, *e.g.*, rice for making “plum-boil rice.” (Halliwell gives the form to “cree”).

CREW-YARD, *sb.* a farm-yard.

“The well in the *crew-yard* caaved in.”

CROFT. “Nettle *Croft*”, a field in the plan of 1841.

CROOKLE, *adj.* curling.

“He wur all for his *crookle* stench-traps. ‘No, sir’, says I, ‘I beg your pardon. It don’t want no confining. What you want is stench-pipes. You run ‘em up as high as your chimney, and they’ll be no eyesore’.”

CROW-FLOWER, *sb.* the common buttercup.

CRUSH, *v.n.* to crowd or press rudely.

“Don’t you crush, now!”

CUBBY-HOUSE and CUBBY-HUTCH, *sb.* a coop or hutch.

CUCKOO, *sb.* purple orchis.

“Them’s *cuckoos*” (in a May-garland, 1881).

CUDGEL, *v.a.* to manage.

“I can’t *cudgel* it nohow.”

CURB, *sb.* a two-handled windlace.

“They swung him in a ski *p.* and joost wound him up to the top of the steeple with a *coorb*.”

DAHN, *sb. var. pron.* of “dawn.”

DALE, *sb. var. pron.* of “deal”; spruce fir, timber, or pine.

“For Two Duple *Dales*, price 6s.” — *Accounts*, 1739.

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“For Bringing some *Dales* over, 1s. 6d. — 1744.

“Dale Close”, a field in the Glaston maps, seems to have a different derivation. In a *Terrier* of the last century it is “the Close lying in the Dale.”

DAY, *phr.* to “pass the day” or “pass the time of day”, to give an ordinary greeting.

“I don’t know him: only just to pass the time o’ day.”

“It don’t seem nat’ral when a neighbour doesn’t *pass* the day.”

[11]

DAWDLER, *sb.* a loungee.

“He’s a reg’lar *dawdler*, he is.”

I should not have thought it worth while to record this as a provincialism, were it not that so experienced a writer as “Cuthbert Bede” has reckoned it as a Rutlandism.

DEADLY, *adv. superlative.*

“I was always *deadly* soft-hearted, I was.”

“He’s a *deadly* man for camphorin’ us, is Doctor Brown.”

DENIAL, *sb.* privation, trial.

“Deafness is a great *denial*”

DEPASTURE, *v.a.* to feed cattle.

“For Taking an account of the sevrall Horned Cattle *Depastured* in the Lordship, 5s.” — *Glaston Constable’s Account*, 1747.

DIKE, *sb. var. pron.* of “ditch.”

“February fill-*dyke*” (proverb).

“He coom over the *dike*.”

DIKE; *v.n.* to be a ditcher.

“He can hedge, an’ grip an’ *dyke*, an’ all soorts.”

DING, *v.a.* to worry or deafen by noise or scolding.

“You may go if you please; only don’t go on *dinging* me. I don’t want to be *dung* to death.”

“He had sold out all his oranges, and then he almost *ding’d* me to death to buy his basket” (of an itinerant vendor).

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DINGE or DINGY, *v.a.* to soil or dirty.

“It *dinges* (or ? *dingies*) my hands, sitting in the house’.

DINGLE, *v. var. pron.* of “tingle.”

“A *dingling* pain.”

“It’s a-*dingling* now: a kind of nettle feel” (in a painful leg).

DISANNUL, *v.a.* to abolish. As in Leicestershire, this word is used in Rutland in more commonplace connexions than in some other districts.

DISBOSTMENT or DISBORSMENT, *var. pron.* for “disbursement.” In Glaston parochial accounts from 1760 to 1795 these are the favourite modes of spelling, and they fairly represent the varying pronunciations of similar syllables at the present day. *Disboasted* occurs once in 1770.

DISGEST, *v.a.* DIGESTION, *sb. var. pron.* of “digest”, “digestion.”

“I can’t eat, not so as to *disgest* them.”

DITHER, *v.n.* to shiver with cold; also *sb.pl.* fright, excitement.

“Those children keep me in the *dithers*, they do.”

[12]

DOCITY; also ODOCITY, *sb.* ability, gumption, ? audacity.

“He had lost all his *docity*.”

“I seems as if I hadn’t the *odocity* to work, or to eat, or anything.”

“You ought to have gone out in the forenoon when the weather was warm.”

Invalid Convalescent: “Yes; but I hadn’t the *dossity*.”

DOCK, *v.a.* to lower wages.

“Mr. A has *docked* his men as last Saturday, I suppose.”

DODDERIL, *sb.* or *adj.* a pollard tree.

“The boundary is by yon old *dodderil* oak.”

DODDERS, *sb. pl.* coarse reeds and rushes in swampy land.

DOSSITY, *sb.* See DOCITY.

NOTE, ? *v. n.* to rot; DOTED, *part. adj.*

“The wood in the belfry’s all *doted*”

DOWN -FALL, *phr.* a fall of rain or snow.

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“Theer’ll be soom *downfall* of soom sort ere long.”

DRABBIT! *expl.* a disguised imprecation. *Cf.* Colman’s *Heir-at-Law*, v. 3.

DRAW, *sb.* a drive, distance.

“It’s a long *draw* to Melton’.

DRUGS, *sb.* a timber-wagon.

“No *drug*-way here” (a notice on a bridle-road).

DRUSHPITTS, *pr. n.* a place-name in Glaston *Terrier*, 1635.

“2 ro. in *Drushpitts*.”

DUMMEL, *sb.* a dolt.

EARNEST, *sb.* a hanel or customary payment of first-fruits or “footing.”

“Paid William peson, Mr. Tryon’s servant, *Earnest* at taking up the wood and for Dinner, 6s. 8d. — *Church Account* (respecting a great oaken beam), 1750.

EDDISH, *sb.* the second crop or after-math.

“There wur no *eddish* this turn.”

EDIE, *proper name*. This is not a shortened or endearing form of a woman’s name here, but the most usual pronunciation. Similarly the name of the village Edithweston is pronounced “Edi’wesson.”

ELVER, *v.a.* to grow soft.

“Her bag *elver*’d, and ‘er milk-pokes came down” (of a sick cow).

[13]

EGGS AND BACON, *sb.* a common name for the wayside flower of our lanes, *lotus corniculatus*.

ENEW, *adv. var. pron.* of “enough.” See ANEW.

ERRIFF, *sb.* cleavers, a weed, *galium aparine*.

“The crop wur half *erriff*”

EYABLE, *adj.* pleasant to the eye.

FALLINGS, *sb. pl.* windfall apples.

“There’s a nice mess o’ *fallings* in your orchard.”

FAR, *adj.* comparative in respect of place. “Far Close”, “Far Pan Close”, “Far Wier”, “Far Barn Close”, are names occurring in the Glaston tithe award plan, 1841.

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FALSE or FAUSE, *adj.* sly-looking, cunning, knowing; not necessarily with any ill connotation.

“Your little girl [three-year-old] looked as *false* at me when I passed her in the road!”

FEAST *sb.* the parish wake or *festum dedicationis ecclesiae*. This is not always the Patron Saint’s Day (*festum loci* as it was called), but more generally the anniversary of the church opening, dedication, or consecration. Before the Reformation both occasions had a special local celebration, and the Ordinary had power to authorize a transference of the latter if it fell at an inconvenient or inclement season.

“She’ll be thirteen come Glas’ on *feast*.”

FECK, FECKT? *v.* or *adj.* the opposite of “feckless”.

“He’s not quite *feckt*” (*i.e.*, not quite all his wits).

FEELTH, *sb.* feeling, sensation.

“Had his feet any more *feelth* in ‘em when you seed him to-day?”

FETTLE, *v. n.* and *a.* to make fit, settle down.

“It’s a nice *fettling* day, sir; the road is settling nicely after the storm.”

FEZZLE, *sb.* a litter of pigs.

FIELD, *sb.* a parish or lordship. This term carries us back to the days before Enclosure Acts. There was “an Act for dividing and inclosing part of the Common Fields in the parish of Uppingham” in 1770.

“I us’d to manage Bisbrooke *Field*.”

FILL-HORSE, *sb.* Perhaps the same as “Thill-horse.” *Cf.* THROM.

“One team one day, and a shill [ing] for a *Fill-horse*.” — *Parish Accounts*, 1730

[14]

FIR-DALES, *sb.* deals, fir trees.

FIRE-TAIL, *sb.* the redstart, *motacilla phænicurnis* L.

FIRK, *sb.* commotion, irritation, fret.

“She wur all in a fidget and a *firk*.”

FISTLE, *sb. var. pron.* of “thistle”.

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FLACK-IN, *v.* to rake hay in a long row.

FLAPPER, *sb.* a young duck.

FLEAK, *sb.* a wattled hurdle.

“The end o’ the house were nought but *fleaks* some years back.”

FLIT, *v.a.* to remove, bag and baggage.

“For *fliting* sarah Hails, 1s. 6d.”— *Overseer’s Account*, 1807.

FLIT, *v.a.* to tether.

FLOAT, *v.*

“That was a bad sprain he got of-a Tuesday, when he was *floating* Grass.”

(Making a lawn-tennis court on a rough grass field).

FLOATING-PLOUGH, *sb.* a breast-plough for cutting turf.

FLUKE, *sb.* an entozoon found in sheep’s livers.

“The ship (*i.e.*, sheep) gets the *fluke* seemingly off the grass in the low-lying pastures.” (So-called from the apparent resemblance to a fluke or flounder).

FOOL’S PARSLEY, *sb.* the lesser hemlock.

“He’s eaten a green head of *fool’s parsley* or some other poisonable thing, you’re sure!”

FORM, *sb.*

“You’ve got the tackle all in no *form*, my lad!”

FREM, *adj.* fresh and vigorous.

FRIT, *p.* of “to frighten.”

“She *frit* Sally, getting out o’ bed at fower o’clock.”

FRIZZLE, *v.a.* to fry.

“The doctor says as how he’s to hev some *frizzled* mootton.” What the doctor actually said was “fried”).

FROSSES, *sb.pl.* of “frost.”

FRUMETY, *sb.* furmety, a mess composed of wheat, flour, raisins, &c.

FUZ-BALL, *sb.* a puff ball, *lycoperdon*.

[15]

GAFFER, *sb.* the master (literally, grandfather).

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“He’s hoeing turnips for the *gaffer*.”

GAIN, *adj.* handy.

“That’s not very *gain* stuff”, said a carpenter, rejecting building materials.

“George is a *gain* boy.”

GAP-MOUTHED, *adj.* (of infants who have not cut their teeth).

GAWMING, *adj.* lanky and ragged.

“You won’t like the looks of them flowers in that border, they looks so *gawming*’.” (Viz., gladiolus).

GIBB, *sb.*?

“Paid Jolley for use of his *Gibb*, 1s.” — *Glaston Accounts*, 1750.

GIFFS or GIFFSES, *sb. pl.* of “gift.” Commonly used of doles and charitable benefactions.

“A lot o’ those people attend at Lady Bountiful’s no-but for the *giffs*.”

“I don’t hold with such people as B—— taking the *giffses* from them as is really poor.”

GLENT, *p.* and *p.p.* of “glean.”

“I *glent* thirty-two stone of barley an’ better ner six strike of wheat myself with the baby.”

“I like to give ‘em *glent* corn.”

GO, *v.n.* (the preposition being suppressed before the name of a place).

“They hev to *go* Uppin-g’am for everything a’moost.”

“The old hoss is bad: he’s like to *go* pot.”

GOAL, *sb. var. pron.* for “gaol”; possibly only an erroneous, though very common spelling, as it occurs in early editions of the *Pilgrim’s Progress*.

“For the *Goal* and Martialsey, 19s. 11d.” — *Parish Accounts*, 1753.

Also “For the *Geale* and Quarterage, and other County Use.” — 1754.

GOODING, *pec.* “Going a-*goodin*”, the same as THOMASING, begging for doles on St. Thomas’ Day.

GOODISH, *adv.* “A *goodish* few” in Rutland (says “Cuthbert Bede”) means a moderate number, neither scanty nor yet crowded.

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GOOD YEAR! *excl.* I know only one sexagenarian farmer who still (1890) makes use of Mrs. Quickly's favourite expletive when I tell him anything that astonishes him. See *Shakspeare*, 2 Hen. IV., Act ii.

[16]

GOSS, *sb. var. pron.* of "gorse"= furze.

GOTTEN, *p.p.* of "get".

"A piece o' wood had *gotten* a-top of it."

GOVEL or GOVER, *var. pron.* of "gable."

"Tis a thick *gover*-end between this and the next house; not a thin partition."

GRACE or GRASE; also GRESS, *var. pron.* of "grass."

"I was working in the *grāse*-cuckery" (a field).

GRAVES, *sb.* the sediment of tallow, sold as food for dogs.

GREAT or GRET, *adj. phr.* "By the *gret*" is equivalent to work done by the piece.

"I could earn more, working by the *gret*."

GREEN LINNET, *sb.* the greenfinch, *fringilla chloris*.

GRIP. *sb.* and *v.n.* a trench or surface drain; to work at draining.

"He can hedge, an' *grip*, an' dyke, an' all'.

GUIDES, *sb. pl.* tendons.

"The pain's all in my *guides* an' sinners."

HADE, *sb.* a term in field mensuration.

"6 rodes with *hades* at both ends;"

"2 Landes 4 ro. with *hades*." — Terrier, 1635.

HAD OUGHT, *v.n.* ought.

HAG, *sb.* a stiff clump of coarse grass.

"How did you get on with the mowing?"

"Very well, sir, if it wunt for them *hags*; they do turn the scythe so."

(Called also "tussocks "and" hassocks' .)

HAGWAYS, *sb. pl.* narrow paths through the thick undergrowth in the woods, used by the beaters when engaged in driving game.

HAMES, *sb.* the pieces of bent wood let into a horse-collar for fastening the traces.

HANCE, *v.a.* to give one a handsel or earnest money.

HAND AND FOOT, *phr.*

“I have to wait of her *hand an’ foot*.”

HAGHOG, *sb. var. pron.* of “hedgehog.”

“Paid for a haghog, *2d.*” — *Churchwarden’s Accounts*, 1720.

[17]

HANDFUL, *phr.* an encumbrance, giving plenty of work.

“He’s quite a *handful*, you’re sure!”

HAPPEN ON, *v.a.* to light upon by chance.

“I thought I’d ask the doctor to call in next door, if I should *happen on* him to-day or to-morrow.”

HASSOCK, *sb.* a tuft of coarse grass; an ant-hill. (Called also “hags” and “tussocks”).

“Cuthbert Bede” has heard the word in the sense of footstools made of plaited rushes over hay, but I think “basses” is the general term in this latter sense in Rutland.

HASSOCK-HOEING, *part.* taking off the tops of ant-hills (not mole-hills) with a hoe.

HAZARDOUS, *adj.*

“Pears is a *hazardous* thing, unless you gets ‘em joost at the time.”

HEAD, *phr.* the best.

“The *head way*” (*i.e.*, the best method).

HEADACHES, *sb.* common corn poppies.

“Can that patch of red in yonder field be poppies?” asked “Cuthbert Bede” of a Rutland labourer.

“No, sir”, was the answer, “they are *head-aches*”, He did not know the word “poppy.” I have found in Cornwall that “poppy” is the name of the foxglove, because children blow up the blooms like a paper-bag and pop them. In Notts, it is said of corn poppies, “We calls ‘em yeddocks, ‘cause they make your yeddock” (*i.e.*, head ache).

HEÄP (a dissyllable in Rutland), a large quantity.

HEIT! *excl.* to a horse to go on. “*Heit!* Jack!” So we find in *Chaucer*: —

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“*Heit, Scot! Heit, Brock!*”

What? spare ye for the stones.”

HEWING CRY, *sb. pec.* The usual spelling (and probable pronunciation) in constable’s accounts in the eighteenth century for “Hue and Cry.”

“For a *hewing cry*, 2*d.*” — 1720.

“For 2 *huin cries*, 4*d.*” — 1724.

“too *Hewing cries*, 4*d.*” — 1725.

“For a *huimchry*, 2*d.*” — 1731.

HIGGLER, *sb.* a huxter or petty dealer owning a cart. The term is recognized in local directories.

“A coal-*higgler*.”

“Her son’s a *higgler*, and oughtn’t to let her come on the parish for relief.”

[18]

HILTER-WILTER and HILTHA-WILTHA, *adv.* come what may, at all hazards.

HOASE and HOAST, *sb.* a cough; HOASTY, *adj.* hoarse, husky, *hüsten*,

“I can’t get shoot o’ my *hoast*.”

HOLD, *phr.*

“How do you *hold* yourself, mister?” Comment vous portez vous?

HOLPEN, *p.* of “help.” “Cuthbert Bede” heard this, in 1881, in the mouth of a cottager just as it is used in the Prayer-Book version of Psalm xxij., 5.

HOLT, *sb, var. pron.* of “hold.” “Ketch *holt!*” Also a small plantation, as in *Tennyson*:—

“He lets the cherry-*holt* separate.”

HOME-CLOSE, *sb.* (in the *pl.* –”closen”) the field nearest the farm-house.

There are two *home-closen* and twelve homesteads in the Glaston parish map attached to the tithe award, 1841.

HOOK, *sb.* a term in land measuring.

“One *Hooke* at Wynge Dike.” — *Glaston Terrier*, 1635.

HOPPER, *sb.* a seed basket used in hand sowing.

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HOPPER-CAKE, *sb.* a round, flat cake, given by farmers to their men at the end of both the seed-times in the days before sowing out of a “hopper” went out of fashion, about 1850.

HOT, *v.a.* to heat. *In p. tense.*

“I *hot* her a few broth.”

HOUSE, *sb. pec.* the best kitchen or inner living room in a farm or good-sized cottage. A stranger is often invited to “Joost step into the house” when he is under the impression that he is in the house already.

HOUSEN, *sb. pl.* of “house.”

HULL, *v.a.* and *n.* to hurl or throw; to throw up; to fell a tree,

“Hull oop that ball, will ye?”

“David Clarke *hulled* the little cat out of yewr loft”.

“Now, child, I’ve done *hulling-oop*; yewr moother’s a new woman” (recovering after nausea).

“When [the tenant] *hulls* his trees, you must set a man to kid-up the tops, an’ get ‘em carried away.”

“X.Y. always *hulls* for Lord A—.”

“Will you have the popple *hulled*?”

[19]

HUNCH, *sb.* a lump.

“A hoonch o’ bread.”

ILL-CONVENIENCE, *v.a.*; also ILL-CONVENIENT *adj.* *var. pron.* of “inconvenience”, “inconvenient.”

“I don’t want to *ill-convenience* you, sir.”

IMPERT, *adj.* pert, saucy, impertinent.

“I don’t think I was at all *impert* to him.”

IMPROVE, *v.a.* or *n.* to learn as a ‘prentice-hand.

IMPROVER, *sb.* a ‘prentice or one learning a trade.

“Has Fred got a butcher’s place?” “Well, not joostly: he’s no-but an *improver*. He has to go out with the meat and that, and to improve killing and such.”

INDENTERS, *var. pron.* for “indentures.”

“*Indenters.*” — *Overseer’s Account*, 1768.

INDULGE, *pec.* to be too much given to liquor.

“Doos shay *indoolge* now?”

INDITE, *v.n.* to compose.

“Miss Smith wrote that hymn.” “What! to *indite!*”

INFARNAL, *adj.* (probably in the sense of “formal”).

“He did say something about it at toimes; but he never gave ‘em no *infarnal* answer.”

INTERMIT, *v.a. var. pron.* of “admit” or “intromit.”

“They allus *intermits* ‘em of-a Tuesday” (*i.e.*, patients at the Infirmary).

INTRUST, *sb. var. pron.* of “interest.”

“A year’s *Intrust.*” — *Accounts*, 1728.

IRISHMAN, *phr.* for hay-harvest work. See PADDY.

IVORY, *sb. var. pron.* of “ivy.”

“I can’t attend to you now, miss: I’m got to coot the *ivory.*”

JACK-UP. *v.n.* to throw up a situation.

JAY-BIRD, *sb.* the jay.

A lad, writing me a description of Mr. Thring’s aviary in 1882, said “I saw Bulfinch, Pink [*i.e.*, chaffinch], Linet, two parrot, yellowhammer, hedge Sparrow, Lark, Thrush, Nightgale, *Jabird.*”

JIB, *sb.*

“He comes in here for a *jib* of tea; and that’s better than going to the public-house.”

[20]

JOIST, *v.n.* to receive cattle to pasture at a certain charge. See AJOISTING.

“It’s on’y some ship [*i.e.*, sheep] he’s got a-*joisting.*”

JUSTLY, *adv.* exactly.

“Ah doon’t *joostly* know.”

KEEP. *sb.* provender.

“How are you off for *keep* this turn, Mr. B——?”

KERB, *sb.*

“The town-well was a *kerb*-well some years back.” It was worked with a windlace and rope or chain. Possibly with a *curb* round the edge?

KID, *sb.* a faggot.

“For 2 Wood *Kids*, 4s. 6d.” — *Accounts*, 1749.

KIL'DRY, *v.a.* to dry in a kiln or by artificial heat.

KINDELL, *sb.* an oblong washing-tub. See WASHING-TRAY.

KINDLING, *sb.* small firewood.

“I was thinking as you'll want some more *kindling* soon.”

KITLIN^e, *sb.* a kitten. A “little cat” is the more usual expression.

KITTLE, *v.n.* to produce young (of cats or rabbits).

KIVER, *v.a. var. pron.* of “cover.”

“Before pitting came in, he used to take a load o' 'oss-litter an' *kiver* his potatoes down.”

KNOW TO, *v.a.* to know of a thing; to be familiar with.

An old man had been using a liniment for some time past: “He'd miss it now: he knows to it.”

LAD'S-LOVE, *sb.* southernwood, often called “old-man”, a favourite point in town and country nosegays.

LAND, *sb.* a term in *Glaston Terrier*, 1635, &c.

“Two Landes 4 ro. with hades.”

LAP. *v.a.*, to wrap.

“You don't *lap* yourself up enough about the neck.”

LATHER, *sb. var. pron.* of “ladder.” The form “Lether” is also used.

“For a *lather* mendin of Thomas bansis [? Baines's] one shelin and six pence.” — *Accounts*, 1754.

Also “the top of y^e *Ledor*.” — *Accounts*, 1760.

[21]

LAY, *v.a.* to allay; to beat down; to prepare.

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“The bit of fish as you sent me *laid* my appetite. . . It *laid* my foundation for food.”

LEASON, *sb. pl.* of “ley.”

“Item 5 *Leason* the whittes furlonge called Swynke leas.”

LEATHER, *sb. var. pron.* of “ladder.”

“For two Rounds for y^e uper *lether*, 2d.”— *Churchwarden’s Accounts*, 1741.

LEY, *n.* a field; a division of grass land.

“Coppice Close *Leys* “a field in Glaston map of 1841.

“Smithy *Lees*”, two closes in the same parish. — *Terrier*, 1723.

LIEF, *adj. and adv.* willing, soon, willingly.

“I’d as lief work for you as for him.”

LIFE, *sb.* a rogue, imp.

“You young *life*, you!” (to a naughty child).

LIMB, *sb.* (limb of Satan) a term of opprobrium.

“You young *limb!*” (to a child).

LOGARAMS, *sb. pl.* balderdash.?

“They’ve been saying ever such *logarams*. I should say they’d call’d me everything from a beast to a dog”.

LOLLOP. *v.a. and sb.* to loll or sprawl idly.

LONGBREATCHES, *sb. pr. n.* a place-name in Glaston *Terrier*, 1635. So also

“Shortbreatches.”

LORDSHIP. *sb.* a manor or parish.

“There’s not another pheasant in this *lordship* since the railway was about.”

“You may look through all Glas’on *lordship* now and not see a basket-fern”(*polystichum aculeatum*).

LUMBER, *sb.* gossip rubbish.

“She’s been a-talking *lumber* with my woman “(gossiping with my wife).

MAIN, *adv.* very.

“I be *main* sorry.”

MASS! *expl.* I once heard this præ-Reformation adjuration from an old man who believed that he was a blameless Protestant. If my memory does not deceive me, I have heard “By’r Leddy!” also.

MARRIAGE-LINES, *sb.* a marriage certificate.

MARTLEMAS, *sb.* Martinmas, November 11, a common time for changing farm servants.

[22]

MATCH, *v.a.* to manage, master, comprehend.

“I can’t match that!”

An old man, learning netting from my boy, said, “I think I can match it.”

MAUL, *v.a.* to harass, fatigue.

“I’m clean *maul’d* out.”

MAY, *prov.*

“A cold *May*

Is good for corn and bad for hay.”

MAY-BLOBS, *sb.* marsh marigolds, marybuds.

ME, *pr.* I occasionally hear the old classical phrases, spoken, however, deliberately, and not as one word: “Me seems”, “Me thinks.”

MEBBY, *var. pron.* of “may be”, “perhaps.”

MESS, *sb.* a quantity, lot; predicament.

“We’*m* had a nice mess of rain.”

“Doctor W——, he says to me, ‘People tells you as how they don’t want no beer nor nowt; but *I* says, John, as how they wants a good *mess*.’”

“A tidy *mess* o’ people.”

“A nice *mess* of children.”

A lad, looking at a picture of the Giant Cormoran with sheep and swine slung round his waist, exclaimed, “It looks like a *mess* o’ little rabbits tied about him an’ all!”

“She’s a poor *mess*. She can’t go out to sarvice: she’s a weakly *mess*” (a poor lot).

“I got inflammation when I was over my *mess* of Mary” (at her birth).

MEZE, *sb.* a labyrinth or maze cut in the turf.

“When I wur a boy we us’d to call it Wing *meze*.”

MIMMOCKING, *adj.* tiny, minikin (applied to a delicate baby).

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MINCH, *v.a. var. pron.* of “mince.”

“I won’t *minch* it “(will not “mince matters”).

MOLLUCK, *v.a.* to injure, mess about.

“I wouldn’t take it up with my fingers, for fear I should *molluck* it’.

MOLLY-WASP. *sb.* a mole, *talpa*.

MOST-IN-GENERAL, *adv.* usually.

MOTHER, *sb.* a prolific fungus generated by beer, and nourished with sugar and water.

It produces a liquor which certainly smells exactly like malt vinegar, and a woman who showed me one of the scions propagated under her care assured me that it had the serviceable properties of vinegar.

“I kep’ the *mōther* in a saucer o’ purpose to show you.”

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MOULD, *sb. var. pron.* of “mole”, *talpa*.

MOULDY-WARP. *sb.* a mole. I heard this name used by an old man in Glaston on the same day that I heard a child in Bisbrooke (the next parish) use the form “molly-wasp” as its equivalent.

“A *mouldiwarp* rootled oop the white clemātis.”

MOULTER, *v.a.* to moult, as birds.

“We allus reckons it’s best for the hens to *moulter* early in the season.”

MUCK, *sb.* and *v.a.* dirt, mud.

“They boys make such a *muck*.”

“I bain’t fit to coom into your house: I’ve all over *muck*.”

“If my daughter don’t coom soon I shall be *mucked* to death.”

MUCKY, *adj.*

“Wonderful *mucky*.”

MUMMERS, *sb.* performers in a traditional Christmas drama. I have never seen these since I left Berkshire and Worcestershire, but the Rector of Lyndon, near Oakham, tells me that the Edithweston mummers performed in his parish on Saturday, December 22, 1888.

NAME, *v.a.* to christen.

“This un’s not been *named* yet.”

NEMMONIES, *sb. var. pron.* “wood anemones.”

NESSEN; also NESSES, pl. of “nest.”

NEVER-NO-MORE, *adv.* never again.

NIP. *v.a. and n.* to move quickly, pick up.

“Yew *nip* off!” “She *nips* along down the road.”

“When my sight was good, if I had a minute in the field or anywhere, I used to *nip* a little book up: but now I’m done.”

NODDING, *sb.* short-bread made in a pan with dripping or butter.

“Put in a bit of *nodding* into the ooven.”

NOINTED, *p.p. var. pron.* of “anointed.”

“The Lord’s *nointed*.”

NOISINGy *part.* annoying.?

“She’s been *noising* me: she’s allus *noising* me.”

NOIST, *adj. var. pron.* of “nice.”

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NOTCHES, *sb.* runs at cricket, still so-called from the primitive mode of scoring on a stick.

NOTIFIED, *adj.* famous.

“My good man’s a *notified* man for mowing.”

NOT-WELL, *adj.* unwell. The latter word is said to have been coined by Horace Walpole.

“I’m very *not-well*, thank you!”

OÄTS, *sb. var. pron.* (surviving in Rutland as a dissyllable).

OBLEEGE, *v.a. var. pron.* “Cuthbert Bede” says: “A survival of once fashionable pronunciation. Earl Russell said ‘obleege’. So did Lady Elizabeth Wells, of Holme Wood, who also said ‘sparrow-grass’ and ‘yallow as gold’. Mr. Heathcote, of Conington Castle, also says this.”

ODOCITY. SEE DOCITY.

OF, *prep.* and *adv.* on; UP OV, upon.

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“He happened *ov* his ooncle in Stahmford.”

“*Up ov* a wagon.”

OFF, *prep.* of, from; also OFF OF.

“Oi bought it *off* Mr. Berridge.”

“She got it *off* of Mr. Clarke.”

OLD-ANCIENT, *adj.* antiquated.

“You might like to see this old-ancient book, sir?” It proved to be an early edition of Keble’s *Christian Year*, getting its character from its quotations from Greg. Nazianzen, &c. Meanwhile, it’s owner was daily reading his “Breeches Bible” and his Speed’s *Great Brittain* without any inconvenience from their old antiquity.

ONKED, *adj.* awkward.

“Everything went *onked*.”

“It’s the *onkedest* road as ever you see.”

OOKEM, *var. pron.* of the place-name “Oakham.” “This”, as the late Mr. Bradley (“Cuthbert Bede”) has noted, “was the pronunciation of Mr. G. Wingfield.”

A jingle which I have heard runs thus: —

“Nottingham [perhaps Cottingham], where
they knock ‘em down:

Ookem, where they cook ‘em:

Bringhurst, where they bury ‘em,

And Cottesmore, where they cry.”

ORTS. SEE AUST.

LOUDACIOUS, *adj. var. pron.* of “audacious.”

“Them *oudacious* boys!”

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OVER GIT and OVER LIVE, *v.a.* to survive.

“She won’t *over git* it, not loightly.”

OWN-TO, *v.a.* to confess.

PAD, *sb. var. pron.* of “path”

PADDY, *phr.*

“I cut my finger when I was doing a bit of *Paddy*” (*i.e.*, mowing).

PARPEN ASHLAR. See above, ASHLAR. *Perpendaschler*, *parpin aschler*, or *perpoynt*, is explained in Willis and Clark’s *Archit. Hist. Cambridge* (Glossary) as “hewn or squared stone faced on both sides.”

PARVIL, *sb.*

“*Parvills* for the pinfold gate.” — *Parish Accounts*, 1750.

PANSHON, *sb.*, *var. pron.* of “pancheon”, a large round pan.

PASSER, *sb.*, or NAIL-PASSER, a gimlet.

“The poor beast run a *passer* into his fut.” “What! You mean a gimlet?” “A *nail-passer* we calls it, your reverence.”

PASS THE TIME OF DAY, *phr.* to exchange a passing greeting. See DAY.

PEAKIN, *adj.* pining.

“A poor *peakin* little thing.”

PEARL, *sb.* the head of a rivet.?

“Six nine-inch *Riuets* and *perls*, 2s.” — *Accounts* (for the town stocks), 1756.

PEERT, *adj.* lively.

“He looked quite *peert*.” “I felt quite *peert* this morning.”

PECK, *phr.*

“Oi’ve had my *peck* o’ trouble.”

PEGGY, *sb.* a bird, a common name for the white-throat.

PEPT, *p.* of “to peep.”

“She joost *pept* in at the window.”

PEN, *sb.* a hen-pen, a hen-coop. I found that Rutland boys were not familiar with the word “coop” or “rabbit-hutch.”

PENDLE, *sb.* a pendulum.

“Board for the *pendel* case, 4d.” — *Church Account*, 1739.

“Allowed fox [the carpenter] for cutting way for the *pendle*, 1s..” — *Church Account*, 1742.

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PEW-IT, *sb. var. pron.* of “peewit” the lapwing. Similarly, the great Lincolnshire poet makes it rhyme with “cruet” in Will Waterproofs apostrophe of the plump head-waiter.

PICKNICKLE, *v. n.* to put up a wattle-fence.

“Where’s your husband?” “He’s *picknichling* to-day.”

PIG, *sb.* a woodlouse. Called a “sow” in some places.

PIGGLE, *v. freq.* of “pick.” Particularly of rooting up potatoes with the hand.

PIGHTLE, *sb.* a small field.

PILL, *v.a. var. pron.* of “peel.”

“Mr. M——wur very choice of his Cambridge kidney potatoes, as if they was goold. But they took some *pilling*, they did” (required careful and laborious peeling).

PINDER, *sb.* a parish officer appointed by the vestry to impound estrays in the pin-fold.

PINE, *v.a.* to starve.

“It’s no use *pining* them” (the recipients of out-door relief).

“I tell Jane not to water the clemātis. It’s making too much wood; it needs to be *pined*.”

PINFOLD, *sb.* a pen for sheep and (more commonly) a pound for stray cattle.

“For mending the *pinfould* Yeat, 2s. 3d.” — *Accounts*, 1721.

“For a Hook for y^e *pinfold* door, and putting in, 1s.” — *Accounts*, 1749.

The ordinary term also occurs in the same accounts: “The *Pound* wall repairing.”— 1738. “For mending the *Pound* gate, 1s.” — 1764.

PINGLE, *sb.* (A.S.) a small enclosure of land. The small paddock by Stretton Church is called “the *Pingle*” in old deeds.

PINK, *sb. var. pron.* of “spink”, the chaffinch.

PINNER, *sb.*; also PINNY, a pinafore.

PINSHOT, *sb.* (A.S.) the fine paid to redeem an impounded beast.

PIT, *sb.* a pond.

PLAUM, *v.*; also PLIM, to cut up a path or road.

“They *plaumed* it oop so, who could keep it tidy?”

PITCH, *v.n.* to load hay, &c., on a wagon with a fork.

“He hurt his side, *pitching*”

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PLAZEN, *sb. pl.* of “place.”

“The land’s still cracked in *plazen* from the drought.”

PLIM, *v.a.* to plump, fill out (*e.g.*, a pillow); raise up in furrows a path (which ought to be beaten flat) by wheels, frost, &c.

PLOUGH MONDAY, *sb.* the first Monday after Twelfth Day, On the Monday after the Sunday in the Octave of Epiphany, the twelve days of Christmas being over, and good-cheer and wages spent, the labourers went round with a plough decked out, to ask for donations after their first day’s work. Now they go round — men, lads, or little boys — in small companies, sometimes with a small attempt at disguise or dressing up, but without the plough.

PLOUGH-WITCHERS, *sb.* men and lads dressed up with blacked faces, strips of paper in their hats, carrying a holly bush, on Plough Monday.

“He (a little boy) was so set on the *plough-witching*” — 1888.

POKE, *sb.* a bag or pocket.

“What wur that *poke* as you wore of yewr back?” (a question asked by a farmer of a Cambridge graduate after the first occasion when he had worn in church his master-of-arts’ hood, he having been a ten-year-man previously under the old *régime*).

“Her milk-*pokes*” (of a cow).

POOR MESS, *sb. phr.*

“O, sir, I’m a *poor mess!*” (in wretched health).

POPLIN, *adj.* belonging to poplar trees. “Upper *Poplin* Spring” and “Nether *Poplin* Spring”, fields in Glaston, 1841.

POPPLE, *sb.* a poplar tree.

“Will you have the *popple* hulled?”

PO’SES, *sb. pl.* of “post”; also in the sing, a “pos.”

“For two *poses* of wood, 8*d.* — *Accounts*, 1721.

“Set the gat *pos* at Church, 3*d.*” — *Waywarden’s Account*, 1721.

PRETTY, *adj.* pronounced as with -e-, not as “pritty.”

“The music is very *pretty*”

PRICK-OUT, *v.n.* to push out, lengthen.

“The days begin to *prick-out* already in January.”

PRINCĒ-FEATHERS, *sb.* (the possessive “prince” as a dissyllable), the lilac-tree bloom.

PUNCH, *sb.* a short, stumpy figure.

“He wur sooch another little *poonch*” (a fat, little boy).

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PUMPTIAL, *adj. var. pron.* of “punctual.”

“Mr. Roberts, the clerk, wur sooch a *pumptial* old gentleman.”

PURELY, *adv.* or *adj.* well in health.

PUT, *phr.* (of an apprentice).

“I should like to *put* him to the butchering or the shoemaking.”

QUINCĒ, *sb.* (the final -e is still pronounced); also SQUINCH.

“That tree’s a *quincey*”

QUOCKEN, *v.a.* to choke.

“My cough is fit to *quocken* me.”

RADDLEM AN, *sb.* a digger of raddle, or ruddle (red ochre).

“And little Rutlandshire is termed *Raddleman*.” — Drayton’s *Polyolbion*, xxiii.

RAMMIL, *sb.*

“Goodman Woodcock, for Raming *Rammil* out of the church porch, 6*d.*” — *Church Account*, 1766.

I find in the same year a charge of 2*s.* for “my man Raming the Greaves” (*i.e.*, graves).

RAMPER, *sb.*; also RAMPERWAY, the highway.

RAMSHACKLE, *adj.* ill-repaired.

“Quite a *ramshackle* place.”

RARE, *adj. var. pron.* of “raw”, underdone (of meat).

“I’d as lief eat it a little *ra*.”

RAUCHY, *adj.* (*au* as in “baulk”, *ch* as in “chemist”) cold, raw (of the atmosphere).

“It’s very *rauchy* an’ cold this marning.”

RAY or REYE, *sb.*

“Paid Mr. Gibson for Rush *Reye*, 2s. 2d.”—*Parish Accounts*, June, 1744 (for rebuilding a cottage at Ufford).

REAR, *v.n.* to expectorate.

REEK, *v.n.* to smoke or steam, as wet clothes drying before the fire.

“How it *reeks!*”

RECKLING, *sb.* the smallest or weakliest in a brood.

RIG or RIG-TREE, *sb.* and *adj. var. pron.* of “ridge”, the ridge-beam, &c., of a roof. I find, however, in the *Churchwarden’s Account*, 1744, “For a *ridg* tile, 3d.”

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RIGHT, *sb. pec.* (expression of duty and obligation rather than privilege).

“You’ve a *roight* to coom in proper toime.”

RIGHTLE, *v.a.* to set to rights, alter, adapt. “I’ll take one o’ thay old toobs an’ *rightle* it oop for the children’s rabbits.”

RIP, *sb.* a profane reprobate.

“Cuthbert Bede” says: “I have heard of a man looking at a tomb- stone on which were the usual initials for the inscription, *Requiescat inPace*, and, after spelling it over, remarking, ‘Ah! he wur an old *rip*, that he wur!’”

ROGUE-HANDLED, *past. part.*

I have heard it said of one who had once possessed 800*l.*, but who came at last to be an inmate of the Work-house, “He’s either been very extravagance, or else he’s been *rogue-handled*, you’re sure!”

ROOTLE, *v.n.* to turn up the ground (used of a pig; also of a mole).

ROSE-TREE, *sb. var. pron.* (“rose” dissyllabic) of “rose-tree.”

RUDDLEMAN, *sb. var. pron.* of “raddleman.” Dr. Sebastian Evans quotes this from Burton’s *Anatomy of Melancholy*, III., ii., 2, 2, and, though belonging rather to Leicestershire, I repeat it here because the name is proverbially attached to Rutlanders by Ray, &c.

RUNLET, *sb.* a water-drain.

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“Paid Herbert for two days Work at scowring Wire Lane *Runlett*, 20 June, 1755, 1s. 6d.” — *Parish Accounts*.

SAD, *adj.* heavy (of things sodden or badly cooked); also used of stiff, heavy soil.

“Them potatoes ain’t a bit *sad* this year: not if you eat them hot.”

“The *sad* land.”

SAIM or SEAM, *sb.* the lard of a pig’s “leaf.”

“If you take out the *saim*, and mix it with milk, and strain it, you won’t know it from milk with the cream on it.” So I have been told; I cannot say, *experto crede*.

SAMMY, *adj.* sappy.

“The hay is *sammy*.”

SARVE, *v.a. var. pron.* of “serve.”

SAW’D, *p.p. var. pron.* of “seen.”

“I should like to ‘a *saw’d* it.”

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SCANTLING, *sb.* light joists of wood.

“To 26 feet of *scantling* at 2d. per foot, for filling up the old seate att the Church.”— 1727.

“For 30 foot of dale (*i.e.*, deal) . . . 5s.

to 15 foot of *cantlen*, 3 by 4 . . . 2s. 6d.” — 1751.

SCHEME, *v.a.* to contrive.

“I don’t joost see how you *scheme* it.”

SCRAT, *v.n.* to scramble along, make shift.

“As long as I can *scrat*, I’ll do without the ‘lieving officer.”

“If we can’t get him to help with the job, we must make shift to *scrat* along.”

SCROLL, *sb. pec.*

“He’s got on the wrong *scroll*!” a boy exclaims, seeing his neighbour writing on the wrong line of his copy-book.

SCUFFLE, *v.n.* to pull the soil about with a bit of iron.

SEN, *pr.* equivalent to –”self” in the forms “*mysen*”, “*hersen*.”

SENNERS; also SINNERS, *sb. var. pron.* of “sinews.”

SHACK, *sb.* a worthless, idle fellow.

“He went Ookem with some o’ them *shacks*, an’ they drew all the money out of his pocket, I sopoase”.

SHACKLE, *v.a.* to shake, disorder, lay standing corn.

After some heavy rain the corn is “so *shackled* that you cannot reap it.”

SHALE, *v.a. var. pron.* of “shell”

“I’ve *shaled* the beans.”

SHEAR-HOG, *sb.* a teg, or full-grown lamb, after its first shearing.

SHEPS, *sb. pl.* places in an ear of corn where the kernel of wheat ought to be. Perhaps a *var. pron.*, of “shapes”,

“The ear is a’most all *sheps*.”

SHEDDER, *var. pron.* of “shudder”.

SHIMMY, *sb. var. pron.* of “chemise.”

“She’d joost got her little *shimmy* on.”

SHIP, *sb. var. pron.* of “sheep.”

“Who’ be them *ship*?”

SHIP-HOOKS and TAR-BOTTLES, *pec.* a boy’s name for “pot-hooks and hangers”, the curves produced in elementary copy-book practice.

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SHITTLES, *sb. var. pron.* of “shuttles” (from the shape), lozenge-shaped buns with currants and carraway-seeds, given to children and old people on St. Valentine’s Day. They are becoming obsolete. The last I saw was in 1879.

SHOOT, *sb.*; also SHOOT or SHOOL, *v.a.* to mend a rope.?

“Paid for a Bell Rope and *shooting* another, 2s. 6d.”— Church Account, 1720.

“For the Bell Rope and six *shoots* of y^e old, 8s.”— 1730.

SHOOT, SHIT, SHET, SHUT, to get; *v.n.* to throw off, get rid of.

“I ha’n’t not no peace while I can *get shoot* o’ my food.”

SHUFT, *sb.* a blast of wind.

“I heer’d the *shoofts*, an’, thinks I, ‘Theer’s a slate blowed off!’”

SILLY, *adv.* foolishly.

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“How can you talk so *silly*!”

SIN, *adv.* and *prep.* var. *pron.* of “since.”

“Ever *sin* I’ bin here.”

SINNERS; also SENNERS, *sb.* var. *pron.* of “sinews.”

“Oh I my poor *sidders* and my guides!”

SIPPLEUS, *sb.* var. *pron.* of “erysipelas.”

SIZES, *sb. pl.* var. *pron.* of “assizes.”

“A *sises* bill, 1s.” — *Constable’s Account*, 1720.

“Fore [*i.e.*, 4] Sessions Bills, 2 *Size Bills*.” — *Constable’s Account*, 1764.

SLABBY, *adj.* soaked (of earth).

“The land wur that *slabby*, it wur all of a soak.”

SLAT, *sb.* a spline or thin strip of wood rather stouter than a lath.

“The door didn’t fit, so the man coom’d an’ put a bit o’ *slat* joost theer.”

SLEERY, *adj.* var. *pron.* of “slithery”; slippery, muddy.

SLIP-COAT-CHEESE, *sb.* a cream-cheese something like the ‘thin Cottenham’ of Cambridgeshire, but not so good.

SLOOMY, *adj.* slovenly.

“Some horses gets into *sloomy* ways.”

SLOPE, *v.n.* to decamp stealthily; elope.

“Their lodger *sloped* last week, I suppose.” (This is perhaps a vulgarism rather than a provincialism, but I note its *habitat*).

[32]

SLUSH; also SLUSHWAYS, *adv.* slanting.

“Turn it *slushways*!” “Is that *slush* enow?”

SLUTHERING, *part.* walking loiteringly along.

“He (the postman) coom *sluthering* along, as though he’d half an hour to spare.”

SNIB, *v.a.* var. *pron.* of “snub.”

“Them fox-terriers takes a deal of *snibbing*.” (The word occurs in “the margent” to the old editions at least of Bunyan’s *Pilgrim’s Progress*).

SOFT, *adj.* foolish, imbecile. A Rutland children’s rhyme runs thus: —

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“You know my brother Willy?

He’s *soft* an’ you’re silly.”

SOIL, *v.a.* to strain liquids.

SOLID, *adj.* something between solemn and stolid; grave. Also *adv.* in a good sense, in earnest, verily: “Honour bright!” as the saying is.

“That I am! *Solid!*”

SOMETHING BETTER, *pec.* convalescent.

SOODLING, *part.* (perhaps *var. pron.* of “sideling”), of a shy, hesitating manner.

“She wur *soodling* about.”

SPEAK AFTER, *phr.*

“It doesn’t do to speak after her”, implying that the person mentioned is (to put it mildly) an inaccurate random talker and untrustworthy as an authority.

SPECTABLE, *adj. var. pron.* of “respectable.”

“There wur some woonderful *spectable* people in Glas’on then.”

SPELCH, *v.n.* to splinter.

“When he broke his thigh the second bout, it warn’t the old break, d’ye see, but it *spelched* down to where it broke afore.”

SPINNEY, *sb.* a small plantation, *spinetum*.

“They’re agin Fox-hole *Spinney*.”

“*Spinney* Close”, “Top *Spinney* Close”, “Fox earth *Spinney*”, “North Gate *Spinney*”, “Pond Gate *Spinney*”, &c., appear in Glaston map, 1841.

SPLUNGE, *v.n. var. pron.* of “plunge.”

“The pony *splunged* wi’ me.”

SPRAG, *v.a.* to stop a wagon with a spar of wood. I have heard this used by farm labourers, but I suspect that it is an importation by the railway navvies.

[33]

SPUR, *sb. pec.* When banns of marriage are published at the first time of asking there is said to be “a *spur* on.”

SPURRINGS, *sb.* the three publications of the banns of matri-mony.

SQUANDERING, *adj.* straggling.

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“They calls it ‘Long Lyddington’ ‘cause it’s sooch a large *squandering* village.”

SQUENCH, *v.a. var. pron.* of “quench.”

“We’ m not roightly *squenced* our thirst.”

SQUITCH, *sb.* twitch, or couch grass, *triticum repens*.

STAIL, *sb. var. pron.* of “tail”, a handle or stalk.

“A *stail*’s wanting for the Turk’s-head broosh.”

STALL, *v.a.* to hinder, set fast.

A labourer on the roads tells how he had made it too rough for his bitter enemy, the traction-engine, to ascend the hill: “I *stalled* her!”

“The engine was *stalled* on Uppingham Hill, seemingly.”

STICKY-FINGERED, *adj.* thievish.

“He’s a *sticky-fingered* chap, an’ all. The very fust day he’s out of prison he steals a bag of potatoes out of Widow Baines’ garding.”

STANDARD, *pec.* an old inhabitant.

“There’s less done for the old *standards* than for them as cooms new to the town; so I tell them.”

STARNEL, *sb. var. pron.* of “starling”, *sturnus vulgaris*.

STATTIS, *sb. pl.* a statute-fair. The following extracts from old parish accounts of constables and overseers illustrate the modern pronunciation: —

“Charge at the *Statiss*, 1s. 2d.” — 1720.

“Paid to the Clerk for speaking of y^e *Stattis* in y^e Church, 2d.” — 1739.

“For going to the *Statyce*, 1s. 6d.” — 1743.

“For giving notice of the *Statyces*, 2d.” — 1746.

“For *Stattius* Calling and Attendance, 1s. 4d.” — 1749.

“Paid for a *Stattis* Bill, 4d.” — 1752.

STAUBENS or STAWBENS, *sb.* brushwood which springs up from stumps of roots,

STAUNCH, *adj.* thick, stout: as of a pitch of hay or straw to be taken up with a fork.

STEER, *adj.* steep. I have heard this used of hilly ground; also of a high-pitched roof.

“We needn’t have the new roof to the barn so *steer* as it is at present.”

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STICK, *v.n.* to pick up sticks for firewood.

“I’ve been *sticking* all the morning.”

STENCH-PIPES, STENCH-TRAPS, *sb.* appliances for sanitation. For an example, see above, under CROOKLE.

STILL, *adj.* sober, peaceable, respectable.

“Her husband’s a *still* quiet man.” ‘

STINT, *sb.* a written agreement usually made from time to time (under the old *régime* of “open fields”) among those who claimed common rights. It defined and limited the number of “beast”, sheep, etc., that each was entitled to turn in on the unenclosed field.

STOCK, *sb.* cattle.

“It makes it bad for the *stock*.”

STOUK (and STOOK, the less common pronunciation in Rutland), *sb.* a shock of corn-sheaves.

“It may joost as well grow-out in the *stook* as where it stands.”

“When they took they tithes, they used to gether the tenth *stouk* o’ wheat and the tenth shock o’ barley.”

STRAME, *v.a.* to stride, to measure by pacing.

“I could soon *strame* it, if you want to know the length.”

STRAW-SUCKER, *sb.* the white-throat, a bird which makes her nest of straw, &c.; known also as “Peggy” or “Chitty White-throat.”

STREET, *sb.* The principal road through a village is distinguished as “the *street*” however sparse the houses may be. Compare the use of TOWN and “town’s-end.”

STRIKE, *sb.* a bushel (with the superabundance having been stricken off level).

“Better nur ten *strike* o’ barley.”

“For half a peck of slate pins . . . 6*d.*

For a *strike* of hair 6*d.*” — *Accounts*, 1744.

STRINKLING, *sb.* a sprinkling.

STUBBY, *adj.* short, stunted.

“A poor, *stubby*, little child.”

STUNT, *adj.* short-tempered, crusty, stubborn.

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“She coom in very *stunt* joost now. One time she’s fit to put you in her pocket; an’ another she ‘ve all at var’ance.”

SUMMERINGS, *sb. pl.* Quarrenden apples are so-called.

[35]

SUPPER, *v.a.* to cause to supurate.?

“My leg’s very bad. I fancy I want something to *sooper* it more.”

SUPPER, *v.a.* and *n.* to “fother” horses in the evening; to give the last meal at night.

“Coom and help me to *sooper* up.”

SUPPOSE, *pec.* “I suppose” and “So I suppose” are occasionally, with an excess of caution, used to introduce, and more frequently brought in to comment on, statements known for fact by the speaker.

“I *suppose* Lord C——coom back a-Friday” (the speaker having spoken to his lordship on the day named). I have selected this as an extreme case of non-committal. A more familiar and typical instance is, “He was preaching at Uppingham yesterday, I *suppose*.”

SURE, *pec.* “For sure” and “You’re *sure*” are common equivalents for “You may take that for a certainty.”

SWALLOW-PIT, *sb.* an eddy or whirlpool. ?

“He got into a *swallow-pit* in Harringworth river and was drowned, poor thing!” (*i.e.*, in the little river Welland, which *swells* rapidly and treacherously, as its name implies).

SWIMMER, *sb.* a piece of wood put in a pail to prevent the milk, or other liquid, from easily splashing over.

TATCHET-END, *sb.* a cobbler’s end of thread.

TAIL-WHEAT, *sb.* the inferior grain, blown further than the heavier corn when winnowed by hand.

“To make the carn averages fair, you’ve a roight to tek the *tail-wheat* an’ not the best samples only.”

TAKE-UP. *pec.* of weather, to clear up.

TANE or TAEN, *p. var. pron.* of [has] “taken.”

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“Jim *ta'en* it to the station a fortnight was Monday.”

TARRIER, *sb.* a tarrar, or terrier, the survey of ecclesiastical estates; a small dog, a terrier.

“For a *tARRIER* of the gleb land, 2*s.*” — *Churchwarden's Accounts*, 1720.

TAWER, *sb.* a leather-dresser. SEE WHITTIRE.

TEAR, *v.a.*

“For Ale for the worck man at Mary Joyces Chimny, 6*d.*

Do. Tearing of the Chimney 2*s.*, 0*d.*

For hay to *Tear* it with 1*s.* 3*d.*”

Overseer's Accounts, 1720.

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TEEM, *v.n.* to pour down with rain, &c.

“It *teems* down.” “The bloud *teemed* through my shawl.”

“Where the slates is broken, the wet *teems* down ever so, into our tea-cups at wer tea, an' all.”

TELEGRAFT, *sb. var. pron.* of “telegraph.”

“I reckons that the old beacon wur a *telegraft*. It says in the history as how they was invented by Potelmy”, said a well-read septuagenarian, referring, no doubt, to Ptolemy.

TENNIS, *v.a.* to strike with a rebound.

“I think she must ‘a fell ovr the scraper, for if she'd hit against the corner of the house it would ‘a *tennised* her agin the soft-water tub.”

TEST CASE, *phr.* “Make it a *test case*, and give him an order for the house”, is the course frequently recommended by Guardians of the Poor when they have to deal with an application for out-door relief where the circumstances are of a suspicious character.

THACK, *sb. var. pron.* of “thatch.” Used sometimes of the “hackle” covering a beehive.

“The roofs very bad. I must get Johnny Clarke to *thack* it.”

“For *thacking*” — *Parish Accounts*, 1720.

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THAT...AS, *adv.* corresponding to “so...that” in scholars’ English.

“She were *that* drenched, as you might have draw’d the water from her apurn.”

THEY, *var. pron.* of “those.”

“They boys!”

THIS-AWAY, *adv.* in this direction.

THOMASING, *phr.* going round begging on St. Thomas’ Day (December 21st).

A man-servant, who objected to answering so many summons to the door, asked, as a poser: “Do you know why you call it *Thomasing*?” “I suppose as he wur the gen’leman as left us the gifs”, was the reply.

THROM, *prep. var. pron.* of “from.”

THROPPUNSE, *var. pron.* of “threepence.”

THRONG, *adj.* crowded.

THURROW, *sb. var. pron.* of “furrow.”

TICKET, *phr.*

“How’s your wife?” “Well, she’s joost not the *ticket*” (not as right as might be).

Used of persons or things.

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TIDD, *adj.* fond.

“The child’s so *tidd* of her least brother.”

TIDDY, *adj.* tiny.

“Her wur the *tiddiest* little thing. I know’d her wur not long for the world.”

TILL, *adv.* while. (*Per contra*, “while” is used to represent the received sense of “till”).

TINE, *sb.* the prong of a fork.

“He run the *tine* of the fork into my fut.”

TINKER, *n.* and *v.* of bungling repairs.

“He’s been *tinkering* at it a long time, that he’ll never make a good job of it.”

“He promised to mend it as good as new, but he’s but a poor *tinker* after all.”

TIPE, *v.a.* to turn (a load of coal) out of a cart.

TISTLE, *sb. var. pron.* of “thistle.”

“I could match sooch a job as hassock-hoeing or spooding *tistles*.”

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TO, *prep.* for; of a relish, &c., vegetables, drink; of, concerning; but, except (up to, *exclusive*).

“Oi’d nobbut dry bread *to* my dinner, toimes an’ toimes Oi hev’n’t.”

(*Cf.* “They had John *to* their minister’. — *Acts of the Apostles*, A.V).

“Will you take any mustard *to* your beef?”

“Mother sometimes takes a little drop *to* her supper.”

“What will you take *to* your dinner, Mr. S——?”

“What do you think *to* it yoursen?”

“The last letter she wrote— no! I won’t tell a lie if I can help it! — the last letter *to* one.”

TONG, *sb. var. pron.* of “tongue.”

TOTING, *part.* to peep or pry.

“She come *toting* in at the window”.

TOT-OUT, *v.a.* to carry round and pour out the allowance of ale.

“Who’s going to be *totter-out*?” (I am not sure that this is not of Cambridgeshire extraction. However, “*tot* it up” has been commonly used in Rutland in the sense of “count it up” in generations which knew nothing of “the Ajax long tot cards” and such like educational implements).

TOTTER-GRASS, *sb.* “quaking-grass”, *briza media*.

“If you want to gether *totter-gress*, you med go down Press’on Lane.”

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TOWN, *sb. pec.* often applied to villages or townships of two hundred population or so, while Uppingham (containing some thousands) I once heard called “the village of Uppingham.”

“The *town-end*.” “The top of the *town*”

“The *town-stocks*”. — *Old Accounts*.

“Received of the *Towne* of Glayston.” — *Ibid.*

“The *town’s-end*” is the phrase now in use at Luffenham for the end of the village. There is a monument in the chancel there to the memory of John Digby, Esq.

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(who died in 1758), “lineally descended from an Antient Family whose Residence has been at *this Town* near Four Hundred Years.”

TRADE, *sb.* fuss, trouble,

“She made such a *trade* of it.”

TRAY, *sb.* a wattled-hurdle.

“I’ll put a *tray* to keep the ship out o’ the gap.”

TRIG, *sb.* a narrow path in a wood.

TURPS, *sb. pl. var. pron.* of “turnips.”

TUSHES, *sb. pl. var. pron.* of “tusks.”

TUSSOCK, *sb.* a tuft of coarse grass.

UP OF, *prep.* upon.

VALENTINE-BUNS, *sb.* the baker’s name for “shittles”, *q.v.* At Lyndon (1889) children go round to various houses, as on May Day, singing songs and asking the inmates to “Remember Saint Valentine.”

VIPER’S DANCE, *pec. var. pron.* for “Saint Vitus’s Dance.”

I have heard “*invitus*” hazarded as the etymology of the name of this malady. As there is a vulgar error current that St. Vitus is a saint invented by the Protestant imagination, I may mention that he appears as a martyr, in company with SS. Modestus and Crescentia, in antient kalendars and modern martyrologies, on June 15th. He was a noble Sicilian saint, patron of dancers and of those who have a difficulty in early rising. Angels came and danced in his prison, A.D. 303.

WANKLING, *adj.* weakly.

WARBLE, *sb.* a sore place (from the bite of a fly?).

“The brown mare’s got what they call a warble on her neck, just where the collar goes. They come at this time of year — in July and August.”

WARRANT, *sb. var. pron.* of “warrant’.

“A *Warend.*” — *Constable’s Accounts*, 1720.

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WAS, *v.n. pec.* went away, have been gone (as we say “I *was* from home”).

“I never *was* from Thorpe to Stahmford afoor.”

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WASH-DYKE, *sb.* a pit for sheep-washing.

WASHING-TRAY, *sb.* a wooden tub for laundry-work, considered a more genteel expression than “kim’nel.”

WATER-BLOBS, *sb.* a marsh weed.

WE, or WEER, and WER; *pr. possessive var. pron.* of “our.”

“We’m not ‘ed *weer* loonch.”

WELT, *sb.* a seam.

“The *welts* is all undone.”

WELT, *v.a.* to beat.

“A hound coom over the dyke, an’ my aunt! how the hoon’sman did welt him!”

WER; also WUR, *pr. possessive.* See WEER.

“We’m had *wer* teas.”

WESH, *v.a. var. pron.* of “wash.”

In old parish accounts I find: —

“For *whising* the tabill cloth.” — 1717, 1719.

“*Surplis whasing*”, — 1720.

“*Whasing* the tabell cloth. “—1729.

“For *weshing* the lining, and Cleening Plate, 5s.” — 1768.

“For *Weashing* of the Communong Linning, 5s.” — 1776.

WHĒAT, *sb.* The old dissyllabic pronunciation of “wheat” still survives.

WHILE, WHILES, or WHILST, *adv.* until.

“The North Weste windeoor, I was 2 dayes; And my Son was 2 days. And the third day *wile* three a Clock, 6s. 4d.” — *Mason’s Account*, 1722.

WHINGELING, *adj.* whining, fretful.

WHIPPET, *sb.* a thin, slightly-made person.

WHIRLY-PUFF, *sb.* a whirling eddy of dust.

“*Whirly poofs* mostly tokens dry weather”.

WHISSUNTIDE, WHISSUN, *var. pron.* of “Whitsun”, or, as Professor Skeat would have us write, “Whit.”

“*Whissun* Sunday is our feast-Sunday.”

“So many folks keeps the *Whissun* holidays.”

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WHISSUN-BOSSSES, *sb.* the round blossoms of the guelder rose; called also “snowballs.”

WHITTIRE, *sb.* one who works and “taws” whit-leather for coarse purposes. As Dr. Evans expresses it, the relation of the tradesman is as follows; Cobbler: shoemaker:: *whittower*: harness-maker.

“Name, A. B——. Place of Residence, North Luffenham. Trade or Occupation, *Whittower*.” — *Parish Register*.

WHITTLE, *sb.* a clasp-knife.

WHO, *pr. interrogative var. pron.* of “whose?”

“*Who*’ be them ship?”

WHULL, WHULLY, *adj. and adv. var. pron.* of “whole”, “wholly.” Sometimes the *h* is aspirated in this word, and in “who”, &c., likewise.

WHUM, *adv. and sb. var. pron.* of “home.”

“I’m a-goin’ *whum*.”

WINDMILL, *phr.* An inferior caligraphist making “Bill Stumps, his mark”, with a cross, is said to “do the *windmill*.”

WINDORE, *sb. var. pron.* of “window’.

“The North Weste *windeoor*.” — *Accounts*, 1722.

WINDOW-PEEPER, *sb.* an obsolete office, whether connected with the window-tax or the watchman’s duty I cannot say.

“Spent with the *window peeper*, 1s.” — *Constable’s Account*, 1720.

“Paid Lawrence pickreing for going with *Windowpeeper*, 6d.” — 1744.

WIN’-SHAKE, *sb.* (long *-i-* as in “wine”, “time”, &c). a windfall; a bough of a tree blown down.

“There’s a *win-shake* in the choorch yard”.

WIRE or WYRE, *sb.* a weir or sluice in a stream; a pond with a hatch.

“For wood at the *wire*, 2d.” — *Highway Account*, 1719.

“For two days Worke in *Wyre* Lane and the Townsend, 1s. 6d.” — 1743.

“Middle *Wier*”, “*Wier* Close”, “Far *Wier*”, “The *Wire* Hill”, appear in Glaston maps, &c.

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WOH, *pr. interrogative*, aspirated *pr.* of “who?” I have heard a local catechist begin by asking a child, “*Wo* made you?”

WORK, *v.n.* and *a.* to manage; to go on.

“It *works* well enoo.”

“It doan’t *work* as it ought’n *work*” (said of garden soil).

“It’s o’ no use, I can’t *work* it!” exclaimed the old clerk of R——, after a third false start at raising a hymn.

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WORRIT, *sb.* and *p. var. pron.* of “worry” (both of persons and things).

“Her’s a bit o’ a *worrit*.”

WUR, *pr. possessive*. See WE.

WUTS, *sb. var. pron.* of “oats”; originally pronounced as a dissyllable, “oäts”, from which form “wuts” is reached by quicker pronunciation,

YAH, *pr. var. pron.* of “you.”

“No, *yah* doant!”

YATE, *sb. var. pron.* of “gate.”

“The pinfould *Yeat*.” — *Overseer’s Accounts*, 1721.

YOURN, *pr.* (in absolute construction), *var. pron.* of “yours.”

“It bisn’t *yourn*.”

[42]

ADDENDA.

A few additions have reached me too late for insertion above.

BUG, *adj.* big, in the sense of “conceited.”

“She is too *bug*” (she thinks too much of herself).

CAR, *sb.*, and CARFUL, *adj.*, *var. pron.* for “care” and “careful.”

“I must ta’ *car*.” “I must be *carful*”

CLUNGY (the same as CLONGY).

CRAP, *sb. var. pron.* of “crop.”

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“We’ve had a good *crap* this year.”

DOITED, *part. adj.* dazed, stupid.

GAIN (add the further equivalents, “cheap”, “inexpensive”).

“I will do the job as *gain* as I can.”

HAS is often used where we should use “is” in common English. And, *vice versa*, —

IS is frequently used where we should say “has” in common English. Rutland thus preserves the use handed down from Teutonic ancestry.

“I *am* been wonderful bad.” (I have been very ill).

LEAD, *v.a.* and in common use absolutely. To cart or carry hay or corn.

“They are *leading* to-day.”

LEATHER, *v.a.* to beat. (I cannot tell whether the true derivation is from using the leathern strap or from tanning the hide).

“I’ll *lether* you!”

MOUSE’S EAR, *sb.* the name of a plant, unfortunately not identified.

NOWT, *sb. var. pron.* of “naught” or “nought”, nothing.

“It’s *nowt o’* the kind!”

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ODDLY, *adv. pec.* now and then; here one and another there.

“You only see hares in the Field now *oddly*.” (The “Field” refers to the “open field” before Inclosure).

OWT, *sb. var. pron.* of “aught” or “ought”, anything.

“I don’t owe *owt*!”

SHACKING, *part. adj.* idle good-for-nothing.

“He’s a *shacking* chap.” This statement was made by a witness at the assizes at Oakham, and the judge asked what it meant. Dr. Abdy gave a full explanation of the phrase. Witness then deposed that the prisoner said to him, “I’ll ‘ave yur blud.”

SHARP, *pec. adj. adverbial*, strictly.

An old woman in Rutland about thirty years ago gave this tersely accurate and expressive description of her short and decisive, though possibly not easy, method

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with her family when they had been young: “I kept them sharp, belly and carcase”, meaning that they had had no more to eat than was strictly necessary, and that the rod was not spared.

P. vi., line 4 from bottom, *for* “clep· read “clip.”

P. 4. “Beäns” is given rightly as a dissyllable in the GLOSSARY. Other like instances might have been given, as “heäp”, “leäves”, “meät”, “oäts”, “spre’d” (which is the old-fashioned pronunciation of “spread”, the later and more polite pronunciation in Rutland being “spreed” as a monosyllable), “wheät.”

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