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APPENDIX
OF
LISTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS.

PROVINCIAL WORDS
OF
WILTSHIRE, AND THE ADJACENT
COUNTIES.

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In pronunciation, the Peasantry of North Wiltshire, as well as those of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, very generally substitute *v* for *f*, and *z* for *s*, as *veather* for father, and *zun* for son. The *a* is always broad, as in *hall*, *all*, &c. The disphong *oi* is pronounced like *wi*, as *spwile* for *spoil*; *bwile* for *boil*; &c. *Theaze* for *this*; *theazum* and *theazomy* for *these*: the adverbs *here* and *there*, are often added as pleonasms: *theazom here* and *themmen there*.

This list is respectfully offered to the literary Critic and Glossarist, merely as slight hints for a more extended and elaborate essay. It does not profess to embrace etymology or disquisition; but only to be the reminiscences of boyish days and early associations. I trust it may induce others, who have more leisure and talent for the inquiry, to extend and complete the slight sketch here exhibited. We may then hope to see the provincialisms and lingual localisms of Wiltshire, recorded and published, in a form and manner, to class with the following very amusing and interesting volumes:—"Suffolk Words and Phrases," by Edward Moor, F.R.S. & F. S. A., 1823. "A Glossary of North Country Words, in use," By J. T. Brockett, F.S.A., 1825, and "Observations on some of the Dialects of the West of England, particularly Somersetshire," by James Jennings, 1825. The latter volume contains much elucidatory information respecting the provincialisms of Wiltshire.

A.

AFEARD, 'VRAID. Afraid, frightened.

AFORE. Before. Used by Chaucer.

AFTERMATH. The feed left on meadow or grass-land after having been mown. Also called *lattermath*.

AGG. To hack, to cut.

AGOG. Eager, desirous.

ALL-A-HOH. Awry, untrue.

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ALLEMANG, or ALL-OMONG. Mixed together: a Wiltshire saying, when two flocks of sheep are accidentally driven together. (G.) *

ANAN, 'NAN. What? What do you say? See Brockett's "Glossary of North Country Words."

ANCHOR. The chape of a buckle; the part by which it is first fastened: opposed to the tongue, which holds it when fixed.

ANEUST, ANOUST. Nearly, almost the same. (G.) "Noust of a noustness," nearly alike.

ANONT, ANUNT. Opposite. The Northern corresponding term is *ayont*. See Brockett's "Glossary of North Country Words."

APAST. After, beyond.

ATHIN. Within.

ATHOUT. Without.

ATTERY. Irritable, choleric.

A-TWO. Separated, divided in the middle.

AUVERDRO. To overthrow.

AX. To ask, to inquire.

AXEN. Ashes. (G.)

B.

BACHELORS'-BUTTONS. A name given to the wild scabious; and in Suffolk to the wild campion. See Moor's "Suffolk Words and Phrases."

BACKSIDE. The court, or yard at the back of a house.

BAD, BOD. To take off the husk of walnuts.

BADGER. A corn-dealer.

BAG. The udder of a cow.

BANE. To afflict with a mortal disease: a term applied to rotten sheep.

BANNIS, or BANNISTICKLE. A small fish; the stickleback.

BANNUT. A walnut.

BARKEN. The inclosed yard for cows, &c. near a farm-house.

BARM. Yeast.

BASTE. To beat or flog.

BAVINS. Faggots of brushwood.

BEEN, BIN. Because, since. Probably a corruption of *being*.

BEESOM. A birch broom.

BEET. To supply fire with fuel. (G.)

BELLOCK. To cry and roar, as a child when beaten.

BENNETS. Long coarse grass, or rushes; bents.

BE-TWIT. To upbraid.

BIBBLE. To drink frequently, to tope.

BIBBLER. A tippler, a drunkard.

BILL, or BILL-HOOK. A small axe with a hooked point.

* The articles marked (G.) are from Grose's "Provincial Glossary."

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BIRD-BATTING. A method for taking birds by night. See Jenning's "Observations on the Dialects of the West of England, with Glossary."

BLATCH. Black. "That is all over *blatch*."

BLATHER. A bladder.

BLEEDING-HEART. The wall-flower.

BLINK. A spark of fire; a ray of light.

BLOBBS (WATER). Yellow water-lilies.

BLOODY-WARRIOR. The dark-blossomed wall-flower.

BLOOMY. Hot.

BLOOMY-HOT. Excessive heat, sultriness. "How the sun *blooms* out between the clouds!"

BLOWINGS. Blossoms.

BOBBISH. Well in health and spirits.

BOBBANT, BOCHANT. A *bochant* wench, is a forward, romping girl; (G.), and *bobbant* in North Wiltshire, a forward girl.

BOLDERSTONES. Large insulated stones on Marlborough Downs, called also *sarsens*.

Grose says, "round flint stones used in building are called *bolders* in Sussex."

BOY'S-LOVE. The herb southernwood.

BRAN NEW. Quite new. See Brockett's "Glossary."

BRAVE. Healthy, well.

BROW. Brittle; something that will break short.

BURROW. A hollow under a hill, or hole in the ground; as, rabbits' *-burrow*.

BUTTRY. A cottage pantry.

C.

CADDLE. A term signifying confusion or embarrassment. To be in a *caddle*, means to be overwhelmed with business. "Don't *caddle* me," don't tease me. A *cad'ling* fellow, means an impertinent or troublesome companion.

CANKER. A poisonous fungus.

CANTANKEROUS. Quarrelsome. This word, used by Sheridan in "The Rivals," is said by Grose, who spells it *contankerous*, to be a Wiltshire term.

CARRIAGE. A drain. (G.) Never used with the addition of water, as a *water-carriage*.

CAT'S-CRADLE. A game played by children with a piece of string stretched over the fingers. See Moor's "Suffolk Words." This game, in the London Schools, is called *Scratch-scratch*, or *scratch-cradle*.

CHAM. To chew. Probably a corruption of *champ*.

CHAP. A person. Generally used with some reproachful epithet; as, a drunken *chap*, a quarrelsome *chap*.

CHISM. To germinate. *Chisom*, Jennings.

CHIT. To spring, or bud.

CHITTERLINGS. The plaited frill of a shirt. See Jenning's "Observations," &c. Also the entrails of a pig cleaned and boiled.

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CHOP. To exchange; as, "Wool ye *chop* wi' I, this thing for thuck?"

CHUMP. A block of wood.

CLAVY. A mantle-piece, or shelf over a fire-place.

CLEET. A patch.

To CLEET. To mend with a patch.

CLOUT. A blow; as, "I'll gie thee a *clout* o' the head."

CLUM. To handle roughly.

CLYTEN. A term to express an unhealthy appearance, especially in children.

CLYTENISH. Sickly, pale.

COB-NUT. A game played by children with nuts.

COLLEY. The soot from a kettle.

CRAISEY. The king-cup, or crow-foot, a small flower. Perhaps from *crow's eye*.

CREENY. Small, diminutive.

CRIM. A small quantity. Probably a corruption of *crumb*.

CROCK. An iron pot.

CROSS-GRAINED. Fretful, ill-tempered.

CROUSTY, or CRUSTY. Figuratively used for surly.

CROWNER. A coroner. Used by Shakspeare in Hamlet; as, "*crowner's quest-law*," for coroner's inquest.

CULL. A small fish; the bull-head, or miller's thumb.

CUTE. Quick, clever, sharp; as, "a *cute lad*," a sharp boy.

D.

DADDICKY. Dry, decayed.

DADDOCK, DADDICK. Rotten wood. (G.)

DAIN. Infectious effluvia.

DESPERD. Very, extremely; as "*desperd*" fine. A corruption of the adjective *desperate*, used adverbially.

DEWSIERS. Valves of a pig's heart, always cut off and thrown away. A corruption of *Jew's ears*. (G.)

DEY-HOUSE, DAUS, DAYUS. A dairy, or room, in which the cheese is made.

DOFF. To pull off; to *doff* the hat.

DON. To put on.

DONNINGS. Dress, clothes.

DOUT. To put out; as, “*dout* the clandle,” *i.e.* put it out.

DOWN-ARG. To contradict in an overbearing manner.

DOWSE. A blow; as, *dowse* in the chops.

DOWSTY. Dusty.

DROUTH. Thirst,

DROUTHY. Dry, thirsty.

DROWNING-BRIDGE. A sluice for letting in water to overflow meadows. (G.)

DUBBED. Blunt, pointless.

DUBBIN OF DRINK. A pint of beer.

DUDGE. A barrel; as, “peg the *dudge*,” *i.e.* tap the barrel. (G.)

DUMBLE, DUMMIL, or DOMEL. Stupid, dull.

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DUMBLEDORE. A bumble bee.

DUMPY. Dwarfish, short and clumsy.

DUNCH. Deaf. “As *Dunch* as a beetle.”

DUNCH-DUMPLING. A dumpling made of flower and water only, boiled hard.

DUTHER, DUDDER. To deafen with noise, to confuse.

E,

EARNEST. Money given to bind a bargain; generally pronounced *yernest*.

EATH, or YEATH. Earth.

ELMIN. Made of elm: as, *elmin*-bowl.

EMPT. To pour out, to empty.

ETH, or HETH. A hearth.

ETHER, EDDER. Flexible wands of hazel, &c. twined along the top of a hedge, to keep it compact. Moor’s “Suffolk Words.”

EVET. An eft, a small lizard.

F.

FACKS, I'FAGS. Truly, indeed; an expletive expression.

FAGGOT. A bundle of wood.

FANG. To strangle, to bind a limb so tight as to stop the blood.

FEATISH. Middling; as, "How do you do?" Answer, "*Featish*," tolerable.

FEN. To prevent or object to; a term used by boys at play. See Moor's "Suffolk Words;" and FEND, in Todd's "Johnson's Dictionary."

FITTEN. A feint, a pretence.

FLEM. A farrier's instrument for bleeding cattle.

FLICK, or VCLICK. The fat of a pig previously to its being melted down to make lard. See Moor's "Suffolk Words."

FLOOK, FLUKE. A worm of the *hydatid* kind, found in the livers of rotten sheep.

FLUMP. To fall, or be thrown down hastily.

FLUSH. Fledged.

FOOTY. Paltry, trifling, of no value.

FRACTIOUS. Fretful, quarrelsome.

FROAR. Frozen.

FRUM. Fresh and juicy; applied to vegetables.

FUSTY. Thirsty. "I am *fusty*."

G.

GABBORN. Large, ill-contrived, and comfortless rooms, or houses.

GABY. A stupid, or silly person.

GARNE. A garden.

GALLERD, GALLOWED. Frightened.

GALLY. To frighten.

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GEE, or JEE. To agree; to go on well together.

GIE. To give.

GIX. See KECKS.

GLOX. A term used to denote the motion and sound of liquids, when shaken in a barrel.

GLUTCH. To swallow.

GOSS, GORSE. furze,

GRAINTED. Dirty. See Jennings's "Glossary."

GRAMFER. Grandfather.

GRAMMER. Grandmother.

GROM. A forked stick used by thatchers for carrying bundles of straw. (G.)

GUBBORN. A filthy place, a gutter, a nasty drain.

GUMPTION, or GAWMTION. Wit, understanding. See Jamieson's "Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language."

GUSS. A girth of a saddle.

GUZZLE. A filthy drain, or the filth of the drain; also to drink freely.

H.

HAIN. To preserve a field of grass for mowing.

HALLANTIDE. All-Saints' Day.

HALLOO-BALOO. Noise, riotous confusion.

HANDY. Clever, skilful; also, near at hand.

HARL. Something knotted, or entangled.

HARREST. Harvest.

HASH. Rough, harsh, severe.

HASP, HAPS. A fastening of a gate or door.

HATCH. A half door.

HAULM, HELM, or HAM. Straw or stalks of vegetables. See Moor's "Suffolk Words."

HAZON. To scold, to threaten.

HEFT. Weight. Participle of the verb *heave*; formed like *left*, from *leave*.

HELE, or HEEL. To pour from one vessel to another.

HERENCE. Hence.

HERERIGHT. On the spot.

HIKE OFF. To decamp hastily.

HIRE. To hear.

HOB-LANTERN. A Will-with-a-wisp; an *ignis fatuus*. See Jennings's "Observations," Art.

JACK-IN-THE-LANTERN.

HODMANDOD, HODMEDOD. Short and clumsy. See Moor's "Suffolk Words,"—The

London *Humpty-dumpty*.

HOLT. Hold, stop.

HOOP. A bullfinch.

HOP-ABOUT. An apple dumpling.

HORSE-STINGER. The dragon-fly.

HOUZEN. Plural of *house*.

HOWED FOR. "To be howed for," is to be well provided for, or taken care of.

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HUCKMUCK. A kind of strainer used in brewing.

HUDGY. Clumsy, thick.

HUFF. Strong beer. (G.)

HUFF'D. Offended.

INON. An onion.

INWARDS, INNERDS. The entrails of a hog.

IRE. Iron.

JACK-A-LANTERN. See HOB-LANTERN.

JANDERS. The jaundice.

JIFFY. A moment, a short space of time.

K.

KEACH, KETCH. To congeal.

KECKS, KECKSY. The dry stalks of hemlock, &c.; "as dry as *kecks*," is a common phrase.

KEEP. Growing food for horses, kine, or sheep.

KERF. A layer of hay, turf, &c.

KEYS. The seed-pods of the ash, or sycamore.

KIT. A quantity; a collective term.

KIVER, COVER. A flat vessel used in brewing; a cooler.

L.

LADY'S NIGHT-CAP. A species of bind-weed.

LATHER, LEATHER. To beat.

LEAR, LEER. Empty.

LEASE, or LEAZE. As much pasture as will keep a cow. Many fields adjoining farm-houses are called cow-*leazes*.

LENT. Loan; the use of a thing borrowed.

LEW. "To get in the *lew*," means to get in a place sheltered from the wind.

LEWTH. Warmth.

LIELF, LIEVER. Rather.

LILL. To *lill* out the tongue.

LIMBER. Thin and pliable.

LIMP. Flaccid, loose.

LITHESOME, or LISSOME. Soft, pliable; expert in action.

LOCK. A small quantity of hay.

LONGFUL. Long, tedious; as a "*longful* time."

LORDS AND LADIES. The common arum.

LOWLE. A *lowle*-eared-pig—a thick, long eared pig. (G.)

LUG. A pole for fowls to roost on, or to hang clothes on.

LUG. A pole or perch in measure.

LUMMAKIN. Heavy, awkward.

M.

MAIN. Very; as, "*main* good," excellent.

MANDER, MAUNDER. To grumble, to mutter.

MANDY. Frolicksome, saucy.

MAY. The blossom of the hawthorn. See Moor's "Suffolk Words."

MAY-BE. Perhaps, possibly.

MAY-BEETLE. The cock-chafer.

MIFF. An offence. "To take *miff*," to be offended.

MILLARD. A miller.

MIXEN, MUXEN. A dung-heap.

MOOCHER. A truant; as, "a blackberry-*moocher*," a boy who absents himself from school to rove in the fields. Shakspeare used the expression, "a *micher* of blackberries."

MOP. A statute-fair for hiring servants.

MORE. A root; as strawberry-*more*. (G.)

MOST-IN-DEAL. In general, commonly; as, "Where do you live?" Ans. "*Most-in-deal* at the Vise," *i.e.* Devizes.

MOTHERY. Thick, muddy; as beer or vinegar when spoilt.

MOUGHT. Might, pret. of *may*.

MUDDLE. Confusion; as, "A *muddle*-headed fellow," a man of confused and bewildered ideas.

MUGGY. Hot, moist weather.

MULLOCK. A confused heap.

MUXEN. See MIXEN.

N.

NAN. See ANAN.

NASH, or NESH. Tender, chilly. "The *nesh* cowslip" occurs in Shakspeare.

NASHUN, NATION. Very, extremely; as, "*nation* dark."

NITCH. A burthen of wood, straw, or hay. "He has got a *nitch*," means, figuratively, he is intoxicated.

NORRA-ONE. Never a one.

NUNCLE. An uncle.

NUR, NOR. Than; as, "better *nur* that."

O.

ONGAINLY. Unsteady, awkward.

ONPOSSIBLE. Impossible.

ORGANY. Pennyroyal.

P.

PAYZE. To raise with a lever.

PEASEN. Plural of pea.

PEEL. A cushion or pillow for making lace.

PEWIT. The lapwing; so called from its note.

PICK. A two-pronged fork for haymaking.

PIP. A small seed, the bud of a flower; sometimes used for any other diminutive object.

PLIM. To swell, to increase in thickness.

POLT. A blow; as, "I'll gie thee a *polt* presently." *Polting-lug*, according to Grose, is used in Gloucestershire to signify a long pole to beat down apples, walnuts, &c.

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Q.

QUAMP. Still, quiet. (G.)

QUARR. A stone-quarry. (G.)

QUARREL. A square of window-glass, from the French *quarré*, square. See Nare's "Glossary."

QUAVING-GOG. A quagmire.

QUILT. To swallow. (G.)

QUIRKING. Complaining. (G.)

QUIST. A wild or wood-pigeon.

QUOP. To throb. (G.)

R.

RACE, (CALVES'). The heart, liver, and lungs of a calf: the same parts of a sheep or pig are termed the *hinge*.

RAFTY, RASTY. Rancid.

RATHE. Early. *Rathe*-ripes signifies early peas. This word is used by Spencer, and other old English poets.

“Bring the *rathe* primrose, which forsaken dies.”

MILTON’s *Lycidas*.

RAUGHT. Preterite of to *reach*.

REVEL. A parochial festival, a wake; called in Gloucestershire a *feast*.

RIDDLE. A coarse sieve. See Moor’s “Suffolk Words.”

RONG. The step-rail of a ladder.

ROUGH. To *roughen* the shoes of a horse in frosty weather.

ROWNY, RAWNY. Thin, uneven; applied to cloth badly manufactured.

RUBBLE. Rubbish.

RUDDERISH. Hasty, passionate. (G.)

RUDDLE. A red ochreous composition for marking sheep.

RUMPLE. To press, or ruffle.

RYMOUSE. A bat; probably a corruption of rere-mouse.

S.

SAACE. Sauciness, impertinence.

SARSENS. See BOLDERSTONES.

SCROUNGE. To squeeze, to press, to crowd.

SCRUNCH, or CRUNCH. To make a noise by crushing or bruising, as in eating a hard biscuit. Dr. Southey, in his “*Thalaba*,” uses the word *crunching*:—“The snow *crunching* under his feet.” See Jennings’ “Glossary,” and Moor’s “Suffolk Words.” SKRANSH.

SEWENT, SHEWENT, SUITY. Even, regular.

SHARD. A gap in a hedge; and *pon-shard*, a piece of broken earthenware.

SHIM. It seems. “He is a fine fellow, *shim*;” *i.e.* he is, it seems, a fine fellow.

SHOG OFF, or SHIRK OFF. To go away hastily, or slyly: used by Shakspeare for a precipitate and forced departure.

SHOWL. A shovel.

SHRAMMED. Chilled.

SKIEL. A beer cooler used in brewing. (G.)

SLAT. To split, to crack.

SLEEPY. An apple or pear beginning to decay, is said to be sleepy. (G.)

SLEEZY. Thin, slight, applied to cloth.

SLINK. To retreat in a cowardly manner.

SLIZE. To look sly.

SLOX. To waste or pilfer anything.

SPADE. The congealed gum of the eye.

SPANKY. Showy

SPRACK, SPRAG. Lively, active.

SPRAWING. A sweetheart,

SPREATHED. Chapped by cold.

SPREETH. Active, able. "A *spreeth* young fellow."

SPUDDLE. To stir about.

SQUAT, SQUOT. To bruise by compression.

SQUELCH. To fall heavily.

STADDLE. The foundation of a corn or hay-rick. See Moor's "Suffolk Words."

STALE. The long handle of any husbandry tool.

STARKY. Stiff, dry.

STONE-DEAD. Quite dead; dead as a stone.

STONEN. Made of stone.

STOWLS. The roots of timber trees in the ground after the stem or trunk is cut off; called MOOTS on the eastern side of the county.

STOUT. A gad-fly. Æstrus, or breeze.

STROMMELLING. Awkward, unruly; as, "a *strommelling* child."

SULTEDGE. A term used to signify a coarse apron worn by poor women.

SWANKEY. Strutting, boisterous.

SWATH. Grass lying in lines after the mower.

SWILTER. To consume slowly to ashes: used by Shakspeare.

SWINGEING. Violent, great, forcible.

SWOP, SWAP. To barter, or make an exchange.

SYTHE. To sigh. In Essex, to *syke*.

T.

TACK. A shelf. *Tack* also means pasture for horses, kine, &c.

TAIL-ENDS. The refuse of wheat or other corn, not saleable in the market, but kept by the farmers for their own use. (G.) Pronounced *tailings*.

TALLOT. A hay-loft. (G.)

TEEL, TILE. To place in a leaning position.

TEFT, or HEFT. To judge of the weight of any thing by poizing it with, or in, the hand.
“Teft this, wul ye?”

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THIC, THEESUM, THUC, THEMMIN. This, that, these, those. *Thilk* is used by Chaucer, and other early writers.

TID. Lively, playful. (G.)

TIN'D. To light a fire or candle.

TINE. To finish making a hedge, by twining branches of trees on the top of it. To *tine* a field, signifies to divide it with a hedge.

TINEY. Small, diminutive. Used by Shakspeare.

TODGE. A coarse, thick composition, as gruel.

TO-DO. Hurry, confusion:—”They make a fine *to-do*.”

TONGUE. A part of a buckle. See ANCHOR.

TUMP. A hillock.

TUN. The top of a chimney.

TURF. Cakes for firing, made by tanners from the refuse of oak bark.

TROUNCE. To punish by means of the law.

TWIRE. To look at any thing wistfully.

TWIT. To reproach a person repeatedly for some error.

U.

UNKERD, UNKET. Lonely.

UPPING-STOCK. A horse-block.

V.

VAUGHT, FOT. Pret. of to *fetch*.

VLICK. See Flick.

VUDELDS. A spoilt child.

VUDDLED. Groggy, intoxicated, fuddled.

W.

WANT, WOONT. A mole.

WAR. Beware, take care.

WAR. Preterite of the verb to *be*; was.

WASSAIL*. A drinking song, sung at Christmas by persons who go about begging money or liquor.

WASSET-MAN. A scare-crow.

WEIGH-JOLT. See-saw; a kind of swing.

WEETH. Tough and pliable; a twisted green willow stick for binding a faggot, &c.

WITHWIND. A climbing plant, common in hedges; a species of the convolvulus, or bindweed.

*The custom of Wassailing is still continued in North Wiltshire. A party of men assemble in the evening, and having obtained a cheese bowl, decorate it with two intersecting hoops covered with ribands, and proceed to the principal farm-houses, &c. of a parish, at the doors of which they sing the common wassailing song, after which they are generally regaled with strong beer and toas.

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WITHY. The willow.

WORTHINE. This word in Herefordshire signifies a certain quantity of land. See Duncumb's "History of Herefordshire," 4to. p. 214. Near Malmesbury is a large field called "the Worthies," probably a corruption of *Worthines*.

Y.

YAT. A gate.

YOUMATH, YEEMATH. An after crop of grass.

Z.

ZATE, or ZOFT. Soft.

ZARTIN. Certain; "*zartin shure*," and, "*eez zartinly*;" expressive of approval, confidence.

ZOAP. Soap.

ZOONER. Rather.

ZOUND. To faint, to swoon.

The old Saxon plural, made by affixing *en* to the noun singular, is very common in North Wiltshire: such as *wenchen*, *peasen*, *house*, &c.; but such phraseology appears gradually to be giving way to the more unpleasant *is*, by which we now form our plurals. Every person, however, that attends to the euphony of our language must admit, that the Saxon plural, if reinstated, would be an improvement.