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COLLECTIONS
TOWARDS THE
History and Antiquities
OF THE
COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

By JOHN DUNCUMB, A. M.

Terra antiqua, potens armis atque ubere glebæ. —

VOL. I.

HEREFORD:
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1804
PROVINCIAL WORDS AND PHRASES

To arg, to argue.

Anunt, opposite.

Backer, further back.

To bag peas, to cut them in harvest; to hack them.

A bannut, the fruit of the common walnut; the growing tree is called also bannut, but the converted timber, walnut.

A bath, a female pig.

Beesom or besom, a broom made of birch.

Beethy, withered.

Bren it! burn it! an exclamation. Spencer.

To buck, to wash coarse linen, by beating it with a flat wooden mallet on a (bucking) stool, placed in shallow water, or by the side of a pool or river.

A cantle, a piece of bread or cheese.

To colloque, to join together (in a bad sense) in league or conversation. —Shakespeare terms it to colleague.

Colly, black; from coal. —Shakespeare. See a note on Shakespeare by Dr. Farmer.

A cornel, a corner.

A cot, a barn for folding sheep. Spencer calls them cotes.

Cottage, obstinate, unmanageable.

A cratch, a rack for hay in a stable.

The cream of the well, the first pail-full of water taken from particular wells on each New Year’s Day.

Daddock, dead oak, but applied to any other wood, so dry and decayed as to be easily pulverized.

Daffish, embarrassed, easily abashed.

Dank, damp.

Dawney, damp.

To delve, to dig.

To d’off, to do off or put off, like clothes. Shakesp.

A doit, a small coin; from the French. Ibid.

Donnings, fine clothes. —Spencer.

To dure, To endure for a time; hence the word durable.

To fadge it, to go on, or proceed. —Shakes.

To fear a person, to frighten a person. Ibid.

Fellows, servants employed in husbandry.

To find to a child, to be sponsor at a christening.

A fitchock, a pole-cat; from Shakespeare’s fitschew.

A flitchen, a flitch of bacon.

Floatsome, timeber & c. accidentally carried down a river by a flood. —See Jacob’s Dict.

A fold, a farm yard.

Frightful, easily frightened.

Frum, early and luxuriant in vegetation.

Fund, found. —Spencer.

A gawn, a gallon.

Geers, harness for horses. Shakespeare uses it for attire in general.

A gib, a male cat, castrated.

To give the time of day, to shew any little civility or respect to others; to tell a person the time of day is one of the easiest civilities, and one very frequently required; hence, perhaps, others, of a similar description, became included under the same phrase.

A glat, a gap in a hedge.

To glean, to lease corn.

Gorse, or gost, furze.

Gorstly, abounding with furze.
A graff, a graft. —Shaksp. Evelyn, &c.

Groats, oats hulled, but not ground. In the glossary of Lancashire words it is derived from an Anglo-Saxon word, signifying, *far*, meal.

Half-saved, half-witted.

Her, vulgarly used for *she*, and vice versa.

Him, vulgarly used for *he*.

To incense, to inform.

A Johnny, a silly fellow. —*Shakesp*. Thus also our word *Zany*, from the Italian *Zane*, a diminutive of Giovanni (John) in some of their dialects. —*Capell’s Glossary of Shakesp*.

Kilt, killed. —Spencer.

To make the door, to make fast the door.

A mantle, a cloak.

Mewed, cooped up. —*Shakesp*.

A millard, or millet, a miller.

A mixen, a dunghill.

Mosey, decayed; from the French *moisi*.

A nail-passed, a gimlet.

Neshe, tender; “the neshe cowslip.” *Shakesp*.

To nose, to smell. —*Ibid*.

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Observant, observing, attentive. —Shaksp.

The odd-mark, one-third of the arable land of a farm; thus if a farm comprised 150 acres, under tillage, it was divided according to the old mode of husbandry, into three equal parts; one under fallow, another under wheat; and a third under Lent grain; the odd-mark particularly applies to the fallow, as under preparation for wheat.

To overlook, to bewitch, in a bad sense; thus any animal which, from unknown causes, has ceased to thrive, is supposed to have been overlooked.

An orchat, orchard. —Philips, Evelyn, &c.

Orl, the wood alder.
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Over, compared with; this thing is far better over that.

To overlight, to alight from a horse, or carriage.

Peas-eddis, peas-stubble.

To pen, to shut up or confine.

Penn’d up, shut up or confined.

A plock, a small meadow.

Prodigal, proud.

Powse, pulse, beans, peas & c. —Drayton.

A queer quist, a quiz, or queer fellow.

A quist, a wood-pidgeon.

A riddle, a sieve.

To scog, to boast.

A scogging fellow, a braggadocio.

Sollers, upper chambers, nearest the sun.

Stound, stunned. —Spencer.

Suity, uniform; also, well suited.

A spittle, a spade.

Sweltered, much heated. Spencer uses swelt, whence, perhaps, sultry.

A tack, grass or clover for horses and cattle, hired by the week, month, or quarter.

A taking, a swelling on the body not visibly occasioned by external injury.

To tang, to tinkle. Shakespeare: it is particularly applied to the noise made whilst bees are in the act of swarming.

To tap a shoe, to renew the sole of a shoe.

To tear to mammocks, to tear into pieces. Shakesp.

To tedd, to spread new mown grass. Dict. Rust. f. 1669.

To tine a hedge, to finish a new-made hedge by entwining stronger wood on the top of it.

Tinnet, or tinning, wood proper for tinning.

A tolet, a hay-loft.

A translator, a cobler.

A try, a wire screen for cleansing wheat from the chaff.

A tump, a hillcock, tumulus.

To tush, to drag, as timber.
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A wake, a parish fest, held on the Sunday after the day of the Saint to whom the church is dedicated.

A wain, a cart drawn by oxen only, worked abreast.

A walnut, the tree or fruit of the double walnut only.

Will you go along? will you go along with me or him?

A wig, a small cake.

A woont, a mole.

A worthine, quantity of land, so called in the manor of Kingsland; the tenants of such lands have been styled worthies. —Jacob's Dictionary.

A yat, a gate. —Dict. Rust.