

**Author:** Duncumb, John (1765-1839)

**Text type:** Glossary

**Date of composition:** 1804

**Editions:** 1804

**Source text:**

Duncumb, John. 1804. "Provincial Words and Phrases". *Collections towards de History and Antiquites of the County of Hereford*. Vol. I. Hereford: Printed by E. G. Wright: 212-214.

e-text

**Access and transcription:** October 2014

**Number of words:** 1,051

**Dialect represented:** Herefordshire

**Produced by** Maria F. Garcia-Bermejo Giner

**Copyright** © 2014- DING, The Salamanca Corpus, Universidad de Salamanca

VNiVERSITAS  
STVDII  
SALAMANIINI

—  
—  
—

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:

PRINTED BY E. G. WRIGHT,

AND SOLD BY JOHN ALLEN, HEREFORD, AND ALL OTHER BOOKSELLERS IN THE CITY AND COUNTY;

ALSO BY R. H. EVANS, AND I. JEFFREYS, PALL-MALL, LONDON.

1804

[212]

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 collogue*, 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.

[213]

*A cornel*, a corner.

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

*Cotting*, 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.

*A crust fellow*, "ferox, contumax, morosus, irritabilis." . —*Etymol. Ang. Oxford, qto.* 1743.

**The Salamanca Corpus: "Provincial Words and Phrases" (1804)**

*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.

**The Salamanca Corpus: "Provincial Words and Phrases" (1804)**

*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-passer*, a gimlet.

*Neshe*, tender; "the neshe cowslip." *Shakesp.*

*To nose*, to smell. . —*Ibid.*

[214]

*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.

**The Salamanca Corpus: "Provincial Words and Phrases" (1804)**

*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 tollet*, a hay-loft.

*A translator*, a cobbler.

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

*A tump*, a hillcock, *tumulus*.

*To tush*, to drag, as timber.

**The Salamanca Corpus: "Provincial Words and Phrases" (1804)**

*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.*