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At the Wordface: J.R.R. Tolkien's Work on the Oxford English Dictionary

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Abstract

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Additional Keywords

lexicographer; Oxford English Dictionary

At the Wordface: J.R.R. Tolkien's Work on the Oxford English Dictionary

Peter M. Gilliver

Abstract: A description of J.R.R. Tolkien's time working on the Oxford English Dictionary together with a detailed analysis of the evidence for his contribution to the entries for individual words.

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That Tolkien considered his involvement in the compiling of the Oxford English Dictionary in 1919-20 to have been time well spent is shown by his observation that he "learned more in those two years than in any other equal period of my life" (quoted in Carpenter, 1977, p. 101). That he also conceived an abiding affection for the Dictionary is evident from the episode in Farmer Giles of Ham where "Four Wise Clerks of Oxenford", consulted as to the meaning of blunderbuss, reply with the OED definition (the Clerkes being of course the four original Editors of the OED).¹ As a lexicographer at work on the same dictionary some seventy years later, I was interested to learn what I could about Tolkien's tasks and working methods.

Long before the completion of its first edition in 1928, the Oxford English Dictionary was already justly famous as the largest survey of the English language ever undertaken.² Work began in the 1850s under the auspices of the Philological Society, and publication began in 1884 with the first instalment, or fascicle, under the editorship of its first and most famous Editor, James Murray. To increase the rate of progress Henry Bradley was appointed as a second Editor in 1887; he was later joined by William Craigie and Charles Onions. Sir James Murray died in 1915, so that when Tolkien arrived there remained three teams of lexicographers proceeding through separate swathes of the alphabet, each headed by an Editor. At the beginning of 1919 the letters U-Z and parts of S had not yet appeared in print: Tolkien was assigned to Henry Bradley's team, which had just begun work at the beginning of W. Tolkien's background and philological training suited him particularly well for work on vocabulary of Germanic origin, in which W was probably the richest of the remaining letters.

Having been unable to consult the diary which, uncharacteristically, Tolkien kept from the beginning of

1919, I have had to rely instead on the available OED working papers. The Dictionary was passed to press in the form of bundles of slips, each bearing either illustrative quotations (most of which were sent in by members of the public) or portions of editorial text. Much of this copy was donated to the Bodleian Library, along with some slips discarded in the course of the editorial process, but not before the extraction and dispersal of three components of the text: materials relating to Scottish, Middle English, and early Modern English were (somewhat haphazardly) separated out and dispatched to the historical dictionary projects concerned. Various other contemporaneous bodies of material still reside in the archives of Oxford Dictionaries, including slips intended for use in the preparation of the 1933 Supplement. The standard "Dictionary slip" was a quartersheet of foolscap, but some contributors sent in quotations on more or less any similarly-sized piece of paper that came to hand, and many of the lexicographers did likewise: in their case this included torn-up proofs of earlier OED fascicles and, crucially, discarded earlier drafts of editorial material.³ (Of course, a slip of paper discarded by Tolkien might not be re-used until it was picked up years later by another lexicographer.) Some slips must have been destroyed altogether, and many others are presently unavailable because of the aforementioned dispersal of the slips; but by examining the remaining material for the letter W, I hope that I have managed to reconstruct a reasonably full picture of Tolkien's involvement in the creation of Dictionary text. (Although he could conceivably have been involved in the coverage of words beginning with other letters, the manuscript evidence available to me suggests otherwise, at least as far as the first edition of the OED is concerned.)

Precise dating of most of Tolkien's lexicographical work is difficult, since very few slips (and none of Tolkien's) bear

¹ Another passage in Tolkien's creative writing which contains a concealed reference to the OED occurs in the Notion Club Papers, where "Michael Ramer" ponders the implications of an 1877 definition of the word *crystal* by Thomas Huxley, which is cited in the OED entry for the word (Tolkien, 1992, p. 208).

² For a more comprehensive account of the history of the OED see Murray, 1977.

³ Tolkien also made use of these for other purposes: parts of a revision of *The Fall of Gondolin* were written on drafts of the etymology of *wariangle* (Tolkien, 1984, p. 147). The versos of slips are also informative about other *OED* workers: see Dutton, 1987.

1 1 warm (wǫsm), ady. [Com. Teut. : OE. wearm = OFris. warm (mod. WFris waerm NFris, waren) MDu., Du. warm (OS. warm (MLG. warle)m. LG. warm), OHG. war(a)m (MHG., G. warm), ON. varmer (Norw., Sw., Da. Varm.) Gott. warm- in warnijan 16 warm, cherish :--- OTeut. * Warmon , also * werm - (in ON. verme WE mase warment, OHG. Wirma, MHG. wirm(e) fem. warmith). The further relationship of it is now is some what doubtful. Inspite of the difficulties attending such on etymology it is probably To be compared with Pre-Tent. * gw hormon, or *gwhermon & found in Skr. gharmán heat, Avesta garamo hot, Gk. Ospuós hot, L. formus warm, OPrussian gorme heat, Albanian zjarm heat, Armenian yern warm, derivatives of graner - will aradical sense of heat. For puoliter possible grample of wihad w- in Tent. from * grh - or * ghur - see WILD ady. Compare also the Dimitar phonetic phenomena in Latin whereby order gw- gave g- Gefore is, and consonants, V - Ocfore other vowels (Vorare Agurges)

Figure 1: OED slips, headword Warm, etymology. (Reproduced by permission of the Bodleian Library)

any indication of when they were written. A certain amount can be deduced from the dates stamped on bundles of slips when they were sent for typesetting: for example, Tolkien must have started writing definitions before 3 April 1919, which is when the first bundle to which he contributed was sent to press. Beyond this, all that is certain regarding the start of his work is that by the end of March 1919, according to Oxford University Press accounts, he had been paid oneand-a-half months' salary, although this may have been for work begun late in 1918 and carried out part-time. (Humphrey Carpenter's biography states that Tolkien joined the staff of the Dictionary in November, soon after the Armistice.) The OUP accounts also show that he ceased to be paid out of Dictionary funds at the end of June 1920, but that for the last month he was engaged in work connected with an anthology of Middle English texts (Sisam, 1921)⁴

rather than the OED – although, as we shall see, this work did in fact continue to benefit the Dictionary. Tolkien remained in touch with Henry Bradley after ceasing to work for OUP, as is shown by a postcard from Leeds, dated 26 June 1922, in which he quotes an Anglo-Saxon riddle (which he describes as *enigma saxonicum nuper inventum*), but it seems unlikely that the contact was more than social.⁵ As for the order in which Tolkien performed the main body of his lexicographical work – the drafting of Dictionary entries – I have had to assume that work proceeded through the alphabetical sequence, as it does in Oxford Dictionaries today, and have therefore described it in alphabetical order by headword, except where there is good reason to do otherwise.

According to Humphrey Carpenter, in his first weeks Tolkien "was given the job of researching the etymology of

⁴ Tolkien's contribution was the preparation of a glossary, which appeared separately as A Middle English Vocabulary (1922) – his first published book.

⁵ Later in 1923 Tolkien's riddle was published in the anthology A Northern Venture (Leeds University English School Association, 1923) under the heading "Enigmata Saxonica Nuper Inventa Duo". The cordiality of Tolkien's relations with Bradley are vividly conveyed in the heartfelt obituary (signed "J.R.R.T."): "To see him working in the Dictionary Room at the Old Ashmolean and to work for a time under his wise and kindly hand was a privilege not at that time looked for. [. . .] The Memory of more recent years recalls with a sense of great loss his piled table in the Dictionary Room; and many, whether occasional visitors, or workers in that great dusty workshop, that brownest of brown studies, preserve a picture of him as he sat writing there, glimpses of him momentarily held in thought, with eyes looking into the grey shadows of the roof, pen poised in the air to descend at last and fix a sentence or a paragraph complete and rounded, without blot or erasure, on the paper before him" (Tolkien, 1923). The obituary ends with an alliterative verse tribute to Bradley, once again in Anglo-Saxon.

warm, wasp, water, wick (lamp), and winter" (Carpenter, 1977, p. 101). The extent to which Tolkien's work on these etymologies was made use of by later editors is, unfortunately, uncertain, since many of the relevant slips are missing: however, most of the etymology of warm at least is in Tolkien's hand, and although it is completed in Henry Bradley's hand, it is likely that this is based on an earlier draft by Tolkien (see figure 1).

Probably even before this etymological research, and certainly before he began to draft entries on a substantial scale, Tolkien embarked on an ancillary task which drew upon his thorough knowledge of Old English, and whose results were made use of long after he had given up work on the Dictionary. At some stage during the collection of quotation evidence, numerous important Old and Middle English texts had been examined by readers who copied out illustrative quotations but were unable to lemmatize the words illustrated, that is, to convert the form occurring in the text to the form with which a dictionary entry would be headed. Tolkien was one of a small number of people who lemmatized these slips by writing the correct lemmas alongside the cited forms noted by the less able readers, thereby allowing the slips for each lemma to be placed together. Quotations of this type exist for words in the range waedle to wursien.

Somewhat surprisingly, I have found very little evidence that Tolkien habitually wrote out quotations encountered during his everyday reading, as his colleagues certainly did: slips sent in by readers from all over the English-speaking world were, of course, still flooding in - as they do to this day - and it must surely have been as automatic for lexicographers in Tolkien's time as it is now for myself and my colleagues to contribute quotations from their own reading in the same way. However, apart from a single quotation for the word smirkle, taken from Lewis Carroll's Sylvie and Bruno, no quotations in Tolkien's handwriting for words outside the letter W have come to light. The existence of one slip, nevertheless, does suggest that there were others which simply cannot be found; which is a pity, since they would have provided an interesting glimpse of Tolkien's recreational reading habits.

After some little time spent in learning his job, then, Tolkien at last started work on the drafting of Dictionary entries. This central task seems to have been organized much as it is today: each assistant was allocated an alphabetical range by his or her Editor, and would deal with all aspects of the final text – pronunciation, spelling variants, and etymology, as well as the defining of the various senses and the selection and copy-editing of illustrative quotations. The text prepared in this way would eventually be revised by the Editor, who frequently made substantial changes such as reclassifying the senses (and rewriting the definitions accordingly), choosing different quotations, and even deciding to reject a word entirely, often because of a paucity of quotation evidence. Variations to this routine were made when some assistants were not competent to deal with certain aspects of particular entries, such as the etymology of a word derived from an unusual language (in some cases these were even left to be added in proof).

The raw material for the creation of Dictionary text, namely the quotation slips, would have already undergone some initial processing by the time an assistant such as Tolkien came to work on it: this included sorting into alphabetical order (no small task) and, in the case of more complex words, preliminary arrangement of slips approximately by sense. Some of the sub-editors who carried out this work went further, and wrote first drafts of definitions.⁶ A great many of these editorial slips were, however, rejected by the "official" lexicographers, including Tolkien, as is shown by the fact that definitions by these later workers are frequently written on the backs of the earlier drafts.

Tolkien's first editorial range appears to have been a short one consisting of the verb waggle and its cognates. Quite what training he will have received is not at all clear: it seems most likely to me that once embarked on drafting proper, assistants would be expected to learn from their mistakes. Certainly these early slips show an incomplete grasp of "house style", as can be seen from the number of corrections made by Bradley, who also rewrote the etymology of waggle v. completely (see figure 2). This initial range (waggle to waggly) was evidently returned with annotations to Tolkien, who made some further corrections. Tolkien also wrote out two quotations for an unrelated word (dealt with for the most part by Bradley), wag(g)el "a name for the Black-backed Gull, Larus marinus, in its immature state", probably through finding misfiled references to them among the evidence for waggle.

His next task, alphabetically, was to work on parts of the entry for the noun *wain* (wagon). He may have dealt with the whole entry, but all slips relating to the three main published senses show evidence only of Bradley's hand, and it seems more likely that Tolkien was assigned only the etymology and the end of the entry (where combinations such as *wainhouse* and *wain-trees* are dealt with). Characteristically, the long etymological note contains a speculation about the ultimate derivation of the word, which Bradley felt obliged to tone down (see figures 3a and 3b).

The same division of labour between Tolkien and Bradley is observed in the case of *waist*: here, however, several of the *waist*- combinations require entries of their own, and in some cases division into senses. Thus having organized the final paragraphs of the entry for the main noun, Tolkien proceeded to write full entries for *waistband* (two senses), *waist-cloth* (three senses), and – after considerable deliberation (surely to be expected of a future connoisseur of the garment) – *waistcoat* (see figure 4). In fact Tolkien identified no less than four distinct varieties of garment denoted by this word, two of which he further subdivided into several subsenses (including at least three senses omitted from the published

⁶ For a full account of the various stages of the editorial process, see the article "The history of the Oxford English Dictionary" which appears in the prefatory matter to the Second Edition of the OED. See also Murray, 1977.

a to weater WAGGLE ±. waggle wagg Ajuc RECEIVED ENTERED UNIVERS waggle, y.) 916 trans To move (anything held tor d

fixed out one end) to and for with short word quick espan 10 shake (any movable undulation bigarde division caro . or animals). In sports persons part of the Gody) or yames of (Collog. or humorous), to wield or manipulate held in the hand. (a bab, main elc.)

Figure 2: OED slips, headword Waggle, (a) noun (start); (b) verb (first sense). (Reproduced by permission of the Bodleian Library)

(Wain, 36.) 654 [OE. wzzen & wzn & str. masc. = OFris. wein str. masc. (mod. WFris. wein, woin, win NFris. wein, wa(1)nj ODu. min reidi-wagan MDu. waeghen, Du. waren) OHG. wagan str. masc. (MHG., G. en , ON. vagn str. mase. cart, barnow (Norw. vogn cart, Da. vogn, Sw. vagn Was 20-2. The Pro. Ten was probably weethos OIr worker not-ablant form with the same Jufix is immobable lone PAT muitivez Tent. a bullet o UCON Causon Alli va hanat aing vahanan wayou ÉE

Figure 3a: OED slips, headword Wain, etymology. (Reproduced by permission of the Bodleian Library)

entry), with two historical notes in small type completing the thorough description. (The note attached to sense 1a is in Bradley's hand, but is probably based on a first draft by Tolkien.)

After waistcoat follow several other waist- compounds and derivatives (waisted, waist-rail and the like). The complex word wait was dealt with by Bradley, but he once again allowed Tolkien to "mop up" the related words, including waiting (together with combinations such as waiting-room and waiting-woman), wait-a-bit (a South African plant, whose diversity of spelling received comprehensive treatment before the simplifying touch of Bradley's pen) and waiter, whose eleven senses were left much as Tolkien drafted them. In a dictionary the size of the OED even nonce-words can find room; however, at this stage in the project the Editors were under considerable pressure to keep the volume of text down as much as possible, and so Tolkien's original full-scale entries for waiterage ("the performance of a waiter's duties"), waiterdom ("waiters considered as a class, or collectively"), waiterhood ("the state or condition of a waiter") and waitering ("the occupation of a waiter") were subsequently condensed into a subentry under waiter, and his definition of waiterful ("as much of anything as can be carried on a waiter, or tray") was omitted entirely.

With the exception of *waith* and *waive* and their cognates, the next five pages of the published Dictionary are closely based on Tolkien's work, including entries for the various kinds of *wake* – the nouns, that is: Bradley apparently considered the main verb too important or difficult for Tolkien at this stage, wrote the etymology himself and left the senses to be defined by another assistant. The nouns

were, in any case, something of a handful, there being possibly as many as five etymologically distinct words, of which three were eventually included. It may be worth examining some of the evidence left by Tolkien of his deliberations about two of these (see figure 5). The senses to do with vigils and wakefulness go back to Middle English, although now surviving only in connection with funerals (especially in Irish contexts) and some rural English merrymaking. Once again Tolkien's impulse was to say more about the history of the word and its connotations than Bradley could allow space for: the final draft of the published sense 3 carried a small-type note in which Tolkien observed, "This custom (cf. next sense) appears never to have been free from frivolous or disorderly tendencies. It now survives most vigorously in Ireland, or colonies of Irish." This (deleted) note represents the last stage in a long struggle to convey a sense of the word's overtones: earlier drafts of sense 4b (originally further subdivided into two subsenses by Tolkien) show a whole succession of attempts to capture aspects of a rural English wake:

very frequently mentioned with disapproval as characterised by riot, drunkenness, and dissolute conduct

a typical scene of uncultured excess or of unsophisticated simple speech

associated with the preservation of certain rustic sports as wrestling, single-sticks etc. [. . .] also used as a typical scene of boorish, sometimes unsophisticated or simple, speech and manners

the holiday-making marked by fairs, sports and often riot and drunkenness incident to such annual local

WAIN.

+ Waiming. Obs. Also 4 wamming, 5 waymynge. [Perh. a corruption of WAYMENT sb. or

Mynge. [Pern. a comption of wATMENT 50. of WAYMENTING vbl. sb., perh. an alteration of wain-ing, WONING vbl. sb.] Lamentation. a 1300 Cursor M. 5721 He herd bair waiming and vn-quert. Ibid. 14314 Iesus bair waiming [Gott. waining] vnderstod. c 1420 Auturs of Arth. 87 (Douce MS.), Hit haules, hit handres, with waymynges wete.

Waimto, obs. form of WAME-TOW.

Wain (wein), sb.1 Forms: I weegn, (wegn), wæzen, wæn, 2-3 Orm. wazzn, 3-7 way ne, waine, 4-7 wayn, (5 wayen, 6 waayne, 4 Sc. vayn), 4-5 weyne, (5 wene, 6 weene, weare, 7 wean, whene), 5-7 wane, 3- wain. [OE. wzgen, wan, str. masc. = OFris. wein str. masc. (mod. WFris. wein, woin, win, NFris. wein, wa(i)nj), OLow Frankish reidi-wagan (MDu. waeghen, Du. wagen), MLG., LG. wagen. OHG. wagan str. masc. (MHG., G. wagen), ON. vagn str. masc. cart, barrow (Norw. vagn the Great Bear, vogn cart, Da. vogn, Sw. vagn cart):-OTeut. *wagno-z:-pre-Teut. woghno-s f. Indogermanic root *wegh-, *wogh- to carry, etc. : cf. WEIGH, WAW 20s., WAY sb. Outside Teut. cognate words of similar meaning are Irish fen (:- pre-Celtic *weghno-s) wagon, Gr. oxos (foxos :-*wogho-s), chariot, Skr. vahana neut., vahana neut., chariot.

The pre-Teut, form may possibly have been *ueghno-s, corresponding with the pre-Celtic form; there is some evi-dence of an O'Teut, change of we- to wa- before consonant groups.]

1. A large open vehicle, drawn by horses or oxen, for carrying heavy loads, esp. of agricultural produce ; usually four-wheeled (but see 1 b) ; a wagon. The word does not occur in the Bible of 1611, though Wy lif and the 16th c. translators use it. As a colloquial word it survives only in dialects, but in poetry it is com-monly used instead of *vuagon*.

Beotonly used instead of *volgom*. *Beotonly* 3134 fær wæs wunden gold on wæn hladen. c 725 *Corpus Gl.* (Hessels) U 143 *Ueniculum* [read *Uehiculum*], wæzn. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2362 He bad cartes and waines nimen, And fechen wines, and childre, and men, And gaf hem dor al lond gersen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8596 Pat ber nas non so heuy charge of wayn ne of ober binge bat me ne mixte our grete wateres hole lede & binge a trong per has non so heuy charge of wayn ne of ober pinge pat me ne miate ouer grete wateres bobe lede & bringe. a 1300 *Cursor M.*, 5229 His suns all and pair flitting...In weynis war bai don to lede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce x.* 164 That apon his cowyn gat he Men that mycht [ane] enbuschement ma, Quhill that he vith his vayn suld ga Till lede thaim hay in to the peill. *Ibid. xt.* 24 A litill stane oft, as men sayis, May ger weltir ane mekill wane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R. xvit.* [xxii. (1495) 646 And at the laste heye is led home in cartes and in waynes and broughte in to bernes for dyuers yse and nedes. 1422-50 tr. *Hirden* (Rolls) L. 127 Thei haue In cartes and in waynes and broughte in to bernes for dyners vse and nedes. 1433-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 137 Thei have noo how-es, caryenge theire wyfes and children in waynes [L. *in plaustris*]. 1449 *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 92 For custom for our wene to Bristowe warde comyng and goyng, iiijd. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 182 The said tenandis..sal led to the abbay vii score of fuderic of neite the abbai fundand wanis meit and drink to of fuderis of petis the abbai fyndand wanis meit and drink to the ledaris. **1521** Lincoln Wills(1914) I. 88 To William my son my bonden wane, ij oxen that cam from Hornecastell, [etc.]. 1523 34 FITZHERB. Husb. § 5 And or he shall lode his corne, he must have a wayne, a copyoke, [etc.] 1576 Act 18 Elia. c. 10 § 1 Everye person ...shalbe charged to finde ...one Carte Wayne Tumbrell ...Carres or Dragges furnished for thamend-ment...of the Highe wayes within the severall Parishes. 1588 in Archrologia LXIV. 366 For viij weanes of Pillese-ley which ladd Timber from Pentiridge, xvjd. 1617 Mory-son *ltin*. II. 19 Alexander the great set on fier with his owne hands the waper of carried to have to have from Darius ...for owne hands the wanes of carriage taken from Darius. 1627 MAY Lucan v. Ii, The horses trample ore Safely where ships have saild; the Bessians Furrow Mæotis frozen backe with waines. 1641 BEST Farm. Eks. (Surtees) 46 Wee leade in our winter corne usually with three waines. 1688 W Scot Hist. Name Scot 1. (1894) 35 According to the old Proverb, They but fell from the Wains tail. 1731 T. Bostow Mem. vii. (1899) 106 On Thursday..came the wains with the household-furniture from Dunse. 1784 Cowreg Task

Figure 3b: OED, fascicle W-Wash, p. 19 (part).

feasts.

The second etymologically distinct noun wake gave Tolkien problems of a different kind, to do with the arrangement of the senses. At one point he copied out the OED definitions of several senses of the words rear and train onto separate slips, presumably as models on which to base his own treatment of the corresponding senses: indeed his final draft of the preamble to the phrase "in the wake of" suggested that "in these expressions WAKE is often practically synonymous with TRAIN" - a remark deleted by Bradley as not in keeping with the usually self-contained style of OED entries, with minimal cross-referencing. Tolkien was clearly still learning.

The words following wake (except for an entry for wakerobin) belonged to the ranges of other assistants. Tolkien's next word was wallop: both the relatively straightforward noun, and the verb, concerning the etymology of which Tolkien provides no less than five paragraphs of scholarly speculation, hardly altered at all by Bradley, who by this stage clearly had considerable confidence in him (see figure 6) - sufficient confidence to entrust him with the Old English word walm (synonymous in some senses with wallop, which is perhaps why Tolkien was given both to do). Incidentally, Tolkien apparently had sufficient evidence for the bizarre expression "the right to wallop one's own nigger" to draft a slip for it, but must have excised it from his entry at a fairly early stage, judging from its provisional sense number.

In the next few pages of the Dictionary, most of which is the work of others, Tolkien contributed to three other isolated words: walnut, walrus and wampum. I am sure that the reason for this departure from the usual assignment of a continuous alphabetical range is that all three words turned out to have unusually tricky etymologies. Frustratingly, the entire entry for wampumpeag (the Algonquian word from which wampum derives) is missing; but Tolkien's deliberations over walnut and walrus have certainly left their mark.7 In the case of walrus at least six neatly written versions (of which figure 7 is probably one of the earliest) of the etymology precede the final printed form, all attempting to reconstruct the route by which Old Norse rosmhvalr or rosmall arrived in Dutch (from which it was borrowed into English in the seventeenth century) as walrus. Bradley was obviously pleased with the result since when the fascicle W-Wash was published in October 1921, walnut, walrus and wampum were amongst the few entries singled out in its Introduction as containing "etymological facts or suggestions not given in other dictionaries".

Tolkien seems next to have been assigned the whole of the range containing the challenging words wan, wander and wane. Whether or not there is any truth in the suggestion, often made, that in his creative writing Tolkien brings particular enthusiasm to his descriptions of "bad things", he certainly relished the task of working out the sensedevelopment of wan and wane. In particular he was intrigued that wan, which in Old English had meant "dark, gloomy,

⁷ Tolkien's daughter Priscilla has kindly informed me that he was sufficiently exercised by these two words in particular to discuss them at home.

WAISTCOAT.

well for the ...grace of the ship, as to cover the men for being seene. rafe Perrs Diary 16 May, We..had our gens ready to fire, and our scarlet waist-costhes ont and silk perdants. Also Hon. Swirth O. Crowneed I. 284 Hundreds of lighters, pinnaces, and longboats, dressed up with waist-cloths and with streamers. 2. Naut. A hammock-cloth stowed in the waist

Naud. A hammock-cloth stowed in the waist of a vessel.
 Bit Falconer's Dict. Marine (ed. Burney), Waist-cloths, coverings of canvas or tarpauling for the hammocks, which are stowed on the gang-ways, between the quarter-deck and fore-castle. 1867 SwyTH Sailor's Word-bk., Waist-cloths, the painted canvas coverings of the hammocks which are stowed in the waist-nettings.
 A loin-cloth that the natives of hot climates

wear round the waist, either hanging down in front

wear round the waist, either hanging down in front or passed between the thighs. Bits T. WILLIAMSON E. Ind. Vade Mecum L 247 The dress of the dely is generally very plain, consisting of a turban, a visit.cloth, and a chudder, (or sheet), styp Court Mag. VI. 65/3 Sometimes black glazed jackets formed part of their attire; but generally it consisted of solhing more than a blue checquered dotee, or waistcloth, styp Low Lings Low Source of the deceased is then brought up attired in bis waistcloth and ornaments. Waistcoat (we's(t)kowt; collog. or vulgar we'skat). For forms see WAIST and COAT so. laso 6 waasooat 7 waisoot. wasecoat. -code. wase

6 wascoat, 7 waiscot, wascoat, -cote, wascoat, -cote, -cot

A garment covering the upper part of the body down to the waist.

1. A garment forming part of ordinary male

1. A garment forming part of ordinary male attire, worn under an outer garment (a doublet, later a coat, jacket, or the like), and intended to be partly exposed to view when in wear. The earliest waistcasts, intended to show shoongh the slashings and other openings of the doublet, were often extremely claborate and costly. They were sometimes pro-vided with sleeves, and appear to have reached to or below the hips. The waistcast has now armholes, but not sleeves; it may be made of the same insteries a but not sleeves; it may be made of the same insteries embroidered or of dif-ferent materials, and is sometimes embroidered or other-wise ornamented. The back is now of inferior or thinner material.

wise ornamented. The back is now of inferior or thinner material. **359** Nottingham Rec. 111. 354 For makyng of a waste cotte. 1599 B. Jonson Crathia's Rev. 11. i, Hee bas a rich wrongth was-coat to entertaine his visitants in. 1669 K. Chast. S. S. Scafold 7 The King. being in his Wastoat, put his Cloak on again. 1666 Perves Diary as June, I have of late taken too much cold by washing my feet and going in a thin sike waistoate, without any other coate over it, and open-breasted. 1718 SWIFT Jirn. Is Stella as Nov. Domville aw Savage in Italy, and says he is a coarcomb, and half mad : he goes in red, and with yellow waistcoats rich laced ruffles. 1892 Dickness Pickov. 8, He was habited in a coarse-striped waistcoat, with black calico sleeves, and blue glass buttoms. T866 'Lenws CARPOLL' Phantasma-roria 71 He would keep his right-hand buried (Like Napo-leon) in bis waistcoat. † b. Applied to a plainer and less costly par-

+ b. Applied to a plainer and less costly gar-ment, usually of knitted wool, worn chiefly for

ment, usually of knitted wool, worn chiefly for additional warmth. Obs. z58; Horus Junius Nomenci. 163/a Indusium, ... a waste coate, or wollen peticoate. z50; FLORID sud Fraziers 7. Giue meny wastecoate. R. Which will you haue, that of flamnel? T. No, giue me that which is knit. z519 Moreson 1010. 1.68; I having for the cold at Dantize, in the begin-ning of September, put on a wollen wastecoat, was forced now at the entring of Italy, for the great heat in the end of October, to put off the same. 1698 Ogilby's Brit., 1110, 4/T Doncaster... Enjoys a good Trade for Stockings and Knit Wastecoaty, &c. zyzz Swirr Jrnd. to Stella 5 Oct., It grows bloody cold, and I have no waistooat here.

c. phr. † In one's waiscoat; est, as the typical undress of exercise implying the casting aside of an upper garment (cf. mod. in one's shirt-sleeves).

an upper garment (ct. mod. twome's harr-interes), 'obs.) Under one's waistcoat : in one's breast. tooy B. BARNES Divils Charter 1V. V. Isb, Enter Astor and Philippo in their wast-cotes with rackets. rigg H. KINOSLEV G. Hamilyn xxxix, With all our vanity and ab-surdity, we Irishhave good warm hearts under our waistcoats.

+d. Applied to a child's first garment. Obs. 1538 ELVOT Dict., Crepundia., the fyrst apparayle of chyldren, as swathels, wastcotes, and such lyke.

e. *transf.* Applied to the plumage of birds, or the coat of animals, about the breast or stomach,

the coat of animals, about the breast or stomach, esp. where this is strikingly different in colour or marking from that of the rest of the body. rag8 J. D. RERS in 10th Cent. June 1024 A woodpecker with black wings, a white waistcoat, and a crimson crest. 12. A short onter coat or jacket; a 'jersey'. a ross F. GREVIL Lif2 Sidary (152) at His wast-coat, not unlike the best sort of those woollen knit ones, which our ordinary watermen row us in. ryög in Sizth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec. App. In. 124 Floats made of cork in the form of seamen's waistcoats...to prevent drowning. 3. A short (woollen) garment worn next the skin.

3. A SLOTT (WULLE, 5---skin.
1606 HOLLAND Suctor. 75 In winter time clad he went against the colde with foure coates, together with a good thick gowne, and his Wastcoate or Peticoate bodie of woollen.
1760 W. BUCHAN Down. Med. (1790) 347 A finned waistcoat worm next the skin has often a very good effect in the dysentery. 1806-7 J. BERRSTOR Miteries Hum. Life xx. § 38 Putting on a cold shirt, for the first time after throwing off the under flammel waistcoat.
4. As an article of feminine attire.

23

+a. A short garment, often elaborate and costly, worn by women about the upper part of the body (usually beneath an outer gown, but so as to be seen). Obs.

(usually) othermal an outer gown, but so a to the seen). Obs. In the roth and early ryth c. the waistocat was one of the normal garments of women, having supersected the *placard* and *stomacher*. Later in the ryth c. (when going out of fashion). et al. if women without an upper gown, at appears to have been considered a mark of a low-class woman of ill-repute (see WAISTCOATERRY). 1547 Boonse Bres. Health cxxxviii (1555) 51, I cause a man to lye in his doublet, and a woman in ner waste cote. Figo Deckress Batch, Barg, ill Cab, Thene comes downe mistresse Nurse, as fine as a farthing fiddle, in her peticoate and kerdle, having on a white wastcoate, with a flaunting cambricke ruffe about her nock, 1688 HoLME Armoury IL opticate to Waistcoat...is an Habit or Garment gene-rally worn by the middle and lower sort of Women. 1971 Aontson Spect. No. 19 4 A Furbelow of precious Stones, an Hat buttoned with a Diamond, a Brocade Waistcoat or Peticoat, are standing Topicks.

Petitionat, are standing Topicks. † b. Applied to garments of foreign women that resembled the contemporary feminine waistcoat. son HARLUYT Vay. III. 369 The [Indian] women ware of the sayd Turqueses at their nostrils and ears, and very good wast-coats and other garments. sold Gars West Ind. sit. 55 Their Wascoats made like bodies, with skirts, laodd likewise with gold or silver. sof53 Guravas Scrafter 130 They [the women] likewise sleep as the men do, in their linnen breats. sold quilted wast-coats. Joy FONREL Dambier's Vor. iz. 256 [the Malayan women] war a Linnen Wast-coat, which reaches no lower than the lower part of their Breasts. † C. A. short (sleeveless) underpartment work

+ c. A short (sleeveless) undergarment worn † C. A short (sleeveless) undergarment worn about the upper part of the body; a camisole. Obs. s560 HOLLYBAND Trees. Fr. Tong, Vac Chemise de drag, or chemiselle, a washcoat. 1749 LADV M. W. Mouragu Yarun Eck. Sl. Samuels Caffee Assue 75 Her night-chaths tumbled with resistless grace, And her bright hair play'd oweless round her face; Reaching the kettle, made her gown unpin, She wore no waistcoat, and her shift was thin rfdg Miss FittDisg Oddella I. vii, 1 [a womae] had never worn any thing round my wais but thin waitcoats. d. A garment or a bodice-front designed in imitation of the masculine waistcoat. Tota Kinsti, Merchard N. Og # 2. Mass Sourt Red.

imitation of the masculine waistcoat. 2712 Tockets 1. Spectator No. 704 P 3. 3824 Scorr Red-gaustizet ch. xvii, Teoloping things our mathers must have looked fin riding dress of the 18th c.l, with long square-cut coats, and with waistcoats plentifully supplied with a length of pocket, which fetc. 1883 Truth 31 May 789/2 The bodice had a sweet little waistcoat, over which the edges of the embroidered linen almost met. 2013 Play Pictorial No. 134 p. ii./1 Waistcoats (for ladies) are growing more and more in popularity, and the waistcoat blouse is one of the less noveline.

5. attrib. and Comb., as waistcoat button, -piece,

Deter noveries. 5. attrib. and Comb., as waistcoal button, -piece, -pocket (hence -pocketful), -string. 'ngo in Sixth Red Det Kir - Public Rec. App. H. 198 Of a new method of making. Coat and "Waistcoat Buttons, 1859 Habits of Gel. Society iii. 143 Eleborate studds, waist-coat-buttons, and write-links, are all aborninghic. 1853 Hr. MARTNRAD Hill & Valley i. (ed. 4) 12 There is not a shop within twenty miles that would furnish me with such a "waistcoat-piece as I should choose to war. 1960 Jourson Idler Na of P 28 He now openly declares his Resolution to become a Gerdemans...carries Silver, for Readiness, in its "Waistcoat pocket. 2839 Rotsen Prateria II. 133 The portress receiving a nort of dirty flattened sizpence...and returning me a waistcoat-pocketful of the loveliest clean-struck centimes. 1835 Dickens S.S. Bez, Mr. Watkins 70116 ii, Waikins falling hump on his knees, and breaking two brace-buttons and a "waistcoatstring in the act. Hence Wal stocoatful nord-crowd, as much (of anything) as would fill, or cover, the waistcoat. Wal "tocoating, a textile fabric made esp for men's waistcoats. Wal stocatless, a., wearing no waist-coat.

coat. 1842 LANDON Imag. Conv., Can. Puntomickino & Mr. Taicranagh Wks, 1853 I. 171/a The people...would have added new decorations to his "waistcoatful of orders. 1809 MAR. Econwornt Taicf Fash. Life II.Dur 91; Mrs. Carver bespoke from him two pieces of "waistcoatings" and skirtings. as 287 M. Contras Par St. (189) L. ro, I sat in his courtyard, coalless and "waistcoatless. Waistcoatless. Waistcoatless.

The net courty and the same "wastcoartees. **Waistcoarted** (w?) * (t)kosted), a. [f. WAIST-COAT + -ED ².] Provided with a waistcoart. 798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ymg. Phillor.* L #7 He...was panta-loomed and waistcoarted after the very newest fashion. 1897 MARIE COERLLI Ziska i, His paunch... a kind of waistcoarted air holloon air balloo

air balloon. b. with defining word prefixed. 1838 DICKENS O. Twist ii, As I purpose to show in the sequel whether the white-waistcoated gentleman was right or not 1866 R. B. MANSFIELD Chips 224 Magpies..the black-coated and white-waistcoated gentry. **Waistcoates T.** Also wastecoateer.coater,

Waistcoates T. Alsoy wastecoatesr. coater, wastecoatesr, o coatier, westecoatesr. 8 waste-cateer, 9 waistcoateer. [f. WAISTCOAT + - EER.] + 1. A low-class prostitute. Obs. exc. Hist. a toto Brouw. & F. L. Wit without Money ru. iv, Luce. Doe you thinks you are here sir amongst your vancoaters, your base Wenches that scratch at such occasions? tors (Char. Tours. Gallant 3 Every thing with him is an Incentive to Lust, and every Woman Dewi enough to tempthim, Covent-Garden, Sikegowns, and Wapping Wastcoaters, are equally bis Game. riss Scorr Nigel will, 'I know the face of yonder waistcoateer', continued the guide. **2.** nonze-use. A person wearing a waistcoat of a specified fashion.

b home said a person stating -specified fashion. zdsg T. L. Benoors Let. 11 Jan. (1804) 49 Here followed a long Bratta & Cassing discourse between a abiling-buttoned waist-conter of a poster and myself.

WAIT.

Waisted (wF sted), a. [L. WAIST + -ED².] Having a waist (usu of specified size or form). (For parasynthetic formations, as deep, fair.,

(For parasynthetic formations, as decp, fair, long., short-wasitled, see the first element.) Sa Starrawast Ænsis etc. (Ath.) 141 Shee limps in the going...And as a cow wasted plots on, with an head like a lutcosse. Sha, New Monthly Mag. Xi, 143 Benutivul as youth; Waisted like Hebe; and with Dian's step. 1573 E.T. Luxens Archaol. Angle-Xat. Settlements va. 123 Peculiar wasted beaker with rounded base often terminating in an excrement hob. Wasister (wei-ster). Naut. [f. WAIST + -En 1.]

Waister (weister). Naut. [f. WAINT + -EB *.] (See quots. sits Falcour's Dict. Marine (ed. Burney), Waisters, a name given, to the men stationed in the waist in working the ship. rRef A. Youno Naut. Dict., Waisters, 'green hands, or broken-down seamen', placed in the waist of a ship of war, to do duty not requiring a knowledge of seamanship. rRef A. Youno Naut. Jick. Waisters, 'green hands, or broken-down seamen', placed in the waist of a ship of war, to do duty not requiring a knowledge of seamanship. at the fore and main-sheets, besides being subject to ignoble duties; attending to the drainage [etc.]. rRef J. HAWAN Sand & Skells 13 Mr. Crabb relieved his feelings by peg-ging into an idle 'waister' with his 'colt. Waistlesse (w2-stles), a. [f. WAIST + -LESS.] Having no waist ; having the appearance of being

Having no waist ; having the appearance of being

Having no waist; having the appearance or being without a waist; roo-ad DORAR Poems xxvi. or Full mony a waistless wallydrag With wamis vnweildable, did furth wag. In conform to fashion's sway, Betsey is become waistless. appo Miss Bootextrow Rev as Rass 1 nas Their little, bustless, waistless, hipless figures. 1300 Surfume Eng. Ch. Brasses rast It is a life size figure. Any Surfume Eng. Ch. Brasses rast It is a life size figure. Bailted in a long flowing gown, waistless and without ornament of any kind.

valides and without ornament of any kind.
Waist-rail.
Naut. (See quot. 1867.)
zdo Duncas Mariner's Chros. Prof. p. xix, Defit-rails, file-rails, theer-rails, whist-rails, &c. 1867 Swyrn Sailor's Word-bh, Waist-rail the channel-rail or moulding of the silps side.
2. Carriage-buildars Dick (See quot.)
xda forwary Car-buildars Dick (Sect.), Waist-rail, a barinontal piece in the framing of the side of a passenger-carriage.

Carriage Waist-tree, Nawl. (See quot. 1846.) 1485 Naw. Acc. Hen. VII (1860 50 Wast trees. ij. rfsr Carr. J. Swirn Sca Grant. ii. of The Waist boards are set up in the Ships wait, betwirt the Gun-waile and the waist trees. 1704 J. HAWAS Lex. Techu. J. Wast-Treet, are those Timbers of a Ship which lie in the Waste. 1866 A. Youro, Nawl. Dict., Waist-Tree or Rough-Tree, a spare spar placed along the side of a ship's waist where there happens to be no lulwark, in order to protect persons from falling overboard. Wasit. (with) ch. Former a start

Wait (wat), sb. Forms : 3-7 wayte, waite, Wait (wêt), sb. Forms: 3-7 wayte, waite, (5 wayet, whayte), 4-7 wayt, 4, 7 weyte, (6 weytte, wette), 5-6 wate, (5 watte), 6 waytte (waitte, wayght, weyght, wyethe, whet), 7 waight, (waight), 4-wait. [Parly a ONF. wait, wet masc. (= OF. guait, gait, guet, mod. F. guet, Pr. guett, gait), vbl. noun f. maitier (see Warr s.) and ONF. waite fem. (OF. guaite, gaite, mod.F. guette, guète, Pr. gacha, gaita); it is uncertain whether the fem. sb. is f. the vb., or a direct adoption from Teut. (cf. OHG. wahta, Goth. watuw): see WAIT v. The word adopted from Ft. has coalesced with an Ene. formation on WAIT Fr. has coalesced with an Eng. formation on WAIT **1**. Cf. AWAIT sb.

U. Cf. AWAIT 50. Many apparent examples of this word in texts of 14-16th c. really belong to the synonymous Awart så, which, like other words beginning with a prefix, was often written as two words. It is possible that the a was in the 16th c sometimes apprehended by writers and readers as the indefinite article, but distinct evidence of this is wanting.] I. The action of WAIT 20.1

1. In various phrases with the general sense : To take up a concealed position in order to make an unforeseen attack, or to be in readiness to intercept one's enemy or intended prey in passing ; to lurk in ambush.

one's enemy or intended prey in passing ; to lurk in ambush. + 8. To sit in waii(s. Obs. rare. (cf. Awarr sb.) a 1300 E. E. Peatter ix, 30 He sites in waites [Vuig. in im-siditi) with riche of land la derne, to sla be vaderand. 1669 Mirrow P. L. 10. 835 Wby saist thou like an enemie in waite Here watching at the head of these that sleep? b. To lie (or +lay) in wait. + Also, to lie at (the) wait, to lie on wait. C1400 Pallad. on Husb. 10. 157 For moldywarpes cattes in to kepe To ligge in wayte to touche hem with her cle. 2149 PROOK Fort. 1 xit. 13 As if persventure in oon of thilk weise a man liggith in wait for to ale my seid seruant. 4300-1530 Myrr. our Ladye 317 The faythild saynge of the crede chaseth away fendes whiche lye on wayte to hynder men. 1593-4 Act 19 Hen. V/1, c. 30 Framb, Stanhop..lay in wayte uppon the seid sir William and hym grevonsly wounded. 1530 Planca. 605(3, 11 lev in wayte of one to do him a displeasure. a 1396 Linpsave the chancellaris folkis lyand in the wait for him he was invisonit and circuatt round about with thame. 1561 Bins. Korie, x. 5, 46 liet hi waite secretly as a 1500 in its denne, he lieth in waite to each the poore. 1668 H. Roule. Morio, Moro Low 7, Sept. (D. H.S) I. 103 Some of their partie were upon London road gener Thame to lay in wait for poorison or wine that came form Layton us up case sist. a 659 Wood Life Sept. (D. H.S) I. 103 Some of their partie were upon London road gener Thame to lay in wait for poorison or wine that came form London towards Aylesthery. 3700 Strat. 7500 Mer. Kancurere Myst. Udolpho xxviii, His friend advected that

Wake (weik), sb.1 Forms: 4 wak, woke, Sc. welk, 6 wacke, also pl. (sense 4) waakes, wakessees, waks, 2- wake. [In form the word corresponds to OE. *wacu str. fem., occurring once in corresponds to OE. Waau striken, occurring once in nih/waco night-watch. Compare also the wk. fem. forms, MDu. wake (Du. waak), MLG. wake, OHG. wacha (MHG., modG. wache), wakeful-ness, watching, watch, ON. vaka (MSw., Sw. vaka, Norw. voka) watch, vigil, eve of a feast; related to WAKE v. In the sense 'state of wake-current's the chi is reach is more for wakefulness', the sb. is prob. in part a new formation in ME on the stem of WAKE v., on the analogy of sleep vb. and sb. In sense 4 adop-tion from ON. is possible; the sense 'merry-making' is found in ON. and Norw.; cf. ON. *Jonstraka*, Norw. *Jons(v) oka* St. John's Eve, Midsummer festivities.] 1. The state of wakefulness esp. during normal

hours of sleep. Obs. exc. in sleep and (or) wake, wake and dream.

wake and dream. a 1350 Out 4 Night. 1500 Al for hire lowerdes take Haueb daies kare and nijtes wake. 1506 Shaks. 1 Hen. 1V. 11. 1. 219 Making such difference betwixt Wake and Sleepe, As is the difference betwixt Day and Night. 1833 Jon BEE' Dict. Turf a. v., At Bristol one eye is ever upon the wake while the other nappeth. 2844 MRS. BROWNING Brown Rosary 11, Repeat the vow-declare its cause and kind Which, not to break, in sleep or wake, thou bearest on thy mind. 1808 J. B. CROIER My Inner Life 1, iv. 33 In that half-conscious state between sleep and wake. 1933 Edin. Ros. Jan. 194 Their beauty is the beauty of a kind of mirage that haunts the borders between wake and dream. + D. A state or period of wakefulness. Chr.

+b. A state or period of wakefulness. Obs. 1511 BEAUM. & FL. Philaster II. (1500)22 What thinke you of a pleasing dreame to last till morning? Gal. I shall chose

Church of Westminster. a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU Acts 4 Mon. (1642) 434 Alter this Supper ended followes (among the Essenes) a sacred wake, or vigill, kept in this manner. 3. The watching $(e_{22}, by night)$ of relatives and friends beside the body of a dead person from

death to burial, or during a part of that time; the drinking, feasting, and other observances incidental to this. Now chiefly *Anglo-Irish* or with refer-ence to Irish custom. Also applied to similar funeral customs in other times or among pagan peoples.

funeral customs in other times or among pagan peoples.
1473-80 LVDC. Chron. Troy IV. 3267 What shulde I now any lenger dwelle.. for to telle.. of pe pleies called palestral, Nor be wrastelyng bat was at be wake? a 3589 SKELTON P. Sparow 437 The gose and the gander. The oucke and the drake, Shall watche at this wake. 2572 Inv. Ketshange (Somerset Ho.), Her wacke and buriall xilj!. 1700 DNVDEN Pal. 4 Arc. III. 908 The warlike Wakes continu'd all the Night. And Funral Games were played at new-returning Light. 1724 SWIFT A.C. Waol's Ersc. Misc. (1735) V. 317 When he was cut down, the Body was carried through the whole City to gather Contributions for his Wake. 1726-31 When he was cut down, the Body was carried through the whole City to gather come to sit up with him, which they call the Wake. 2778 Phill Swirt. Swirt. S. Irel. at The series of ceremonies used on the night, ...that the corpse remains unburied, is what they call a wake. 1814 W. S. Mason Statist. 468 A poor man and his wife were accused of having bewitch the mate over him, and the willsed cut with wake over him, and the willse... 1874 C. E. Norts J. eff. Iteland. 1827 LIVINGSTONE Tran. XXIII. 468 A poor man and his wife were accused of having bewitched the man, whose wake was now held in the village.
1874 C. E. Nortos J. eff. (1913) II. 42 Summer is dead. We have had a great wake over him, and the echoes of it have scarcely yet died away. 1894 GLADSTONE Oldes Hor. II. xviii. 18 New contracts for new marble: thou dost make, But thou art near thy wake.
4. The vigil of a festival (and senses thence derived).

4. The vigil of a festival (and senses thence derived).

In this use wake is a translation of Eccl. I. rigilia, primarily referring to the rule of the early church that cer-tain feast-days should be preceded by services lasting through the night. When this rule had ceased to exist, the vigil continued to be a pretext for nocturnal festivity, and the use of the word *wake* was extended to denote not only the eve but also the feast-day itself, and the whole period during which festivities continued.

a. The vigil or eve of a festival, and the observances belonging to this. Also, a festival. Obs. exc. dial.

exc. dial. 15... Part of a Register (1593) 64 Their Saints dayes and their prescript seruice. Their waakes, and idolatrous bankets. 1533 BERNERS Froits. (1812) 1. clxix. 207 Great solernnytes were made in all churches, and great lyers and wakes, throughout all Englande. 1600 SURFLIT Country Farm 11. 2011,

Figure 5: OED, fascicle W-Wash, pp. 31-2 (part).

b. The local annual festival of an English (now chiefly rural) parish, observed (originally on the foast of the patron saint of the church, but now usually on some particular Sunday and the two or three days following) as an occasion for making holiday, entertainment of friends, and often for

holiday, chieriainment of friends, and offen for village sports, dancing, and other amusements. In modern rustic use chiefly \$1, in sing, sense and often with sing, construction (cf. the double pl. wokerst, in 16th c, wokerstell, The word is now current only in certain districts, mainly northern and west midland; elsewhere the equivalent term is fast or revers. a 1325 Ancr. R. 314 Heo hefde ileaned one wunmone to one wake on of hore weaden. c. 1250 S. Eng. Leg. 413/381 Furnish a constitution and the communication of the second state of the

Wake (wek), so.2 Also 6 ? walk, 7 wack. [Not found before the 16th c., but possibly much older; either directly or mediately a. ON. (*vaku) vok str. fem., vaka wk. fem., hole or opening in ice. The ON. word was probably applied to the path made for itself by a vessel through ice, and from this use the sense 'trace or track of a vessel in the water' may have been developed by Scandinavian navigators in British seas. Sense 5, ' line of hay', if it really belongs to the same word,

* line of hay ', if it really belongs to the same word, may be a transferred use of the nautical sense. The word is represented in all the Scandinavian dialects, and has been adopted in Du., Fris., and Ger. The sense 'track of a vessel' is found, outside Eng., only in Norw. wok (dial.reak), N Fris. (S)1) maak; the older sense, 'hole or channel in ice' (sometimes, 'a piece of water kept un-frozen by wind or current') belongs to MSw. waak, wak, Sw. wak (cf. Sw. räcka to cut a hole in ice), Norw. wek, Da onage, WFris. wok, unjektke, Du. wook neut, MLG., LG (whence mod.G.) wake fem. The word is commonly supposed to be connected with ON, op's-r, Du. was', moist, damp: see WAX a. This view in-volves some difficulty, as the ON. adj. has the stem wok-with WAXE a. and v. seems not impossible: the freeing of the water from ice may have been regarded as an awakening.] I. 1. The track left on the water's surface by a ship (in the sea often marked by a smooth appear-

ship (in the sea often marked by a smooth appearance).

Shifp (III the Sca Otter Marked by a smooth appear-ance).
[ar547: see 4 a.] 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH Sca Grant. iz. 42 The wake of a ship is the smooth water a sterne shewing the way shee hath gone in the sca. ryon DANNER Voy. III. 1. 07 In the Wake of the Ship (as 'is calid) or the Smoothness which the Ship's passing has made on the Sca. ry68-74 TUCKER LA. Nat. (1834) I. 412 The wake of a ship. (by which, I think, the sailors understand the stream drawn after the stern by its motion.) follows the ship throughout her voyage. 1820 W. Scorksay Acc. Arctic Regions II. 240 An 'eddy' having somewhat the resemblance of the 'wake' or track of a shin. 1852 CLOUGH POEMS, 'Where lies the land' 8 Or, o'er the stern reclining, watch below The foaming wake far widening as we go. 1861 DICKENS GJ. Expect. liv, Both steamers were drifting away from us, and we were rising and falling in a troubled wake of water. 1832 W. H. WHITE Namal Archit. (ed. 2) 553 The actual wake of a ship combines the stream line motions with those due to the firitional drag of the skin upon the water. 1032 Emgl. Rev. Nov. 506 Her wake was without foam and clowed sluggishly behind her. Attrib. 1865 MACGREGR 'Rob Roy' Baltic 239 A canoe was pulled at a rapid pace in the two wake waves astern of this great smack. 1909 BRINGES Parapher. Virg. JEn. VI 342 What God., Pluckt you away and drown'd i' the swift wake water abandon'd?
* b. Phrases. To fetch (get, get into, have) the

+ b. Phrases. To fetch (get, get into, have) the make of (a pursued vessel): to get so close to her

11. 5. A line of hay prepared for carting. dial. 1847 HALLIWELL Wake, hay placed in large rolls for the convenience of being carried. West. Ikid., Wakes, rows of green damp grass. 1872-4 JEFFERES Toilers of Field (1802) 250 The waggon safely jolted over the furrow, and on between the wakes of light-brown hay. 1879 - Wild Life in S. Co. vii. 143 Watching that the 'wallows' may be turned over properly, and the 'wakes' made at a just distance from each other. III 6 An open hole on professor divide the

III. 6. An open hole, or unfrozen place in the

III. 6. An open hole, or unfrozen place in the ice. dial. (East Anglia.) 1895 P. H. Ewesson Birds etc. Norf. Broadland 11. xiii. 379, I passed a 'wake '-or open space in the ice-where the swans were swimming like sentries on duty. **† Wake**, sb.3 Obs. rare⁻¹. [Possibly a. some native Alrican word, but evidently regarded by Jobson as onomatopceic.] A North African bird. 1893 Josson Golden Trade 155 The next [bird] in great-nesse, is called a Wake, in regard of the great noyse hee makes when hee flyeth, which resemblet what he is called by :.. [it] is a bird of great stature, having the vpper part of his head carrying a beautifull shew, with a pleasing tuft on his Crowne, which I have seene worne by great personages here at home.

WALLOP.

(Boxing) His opponent. . has a prodigious " wallop ", but no great amount of skill.

b. dial. (Sc.) A (violent) beat of the heart or of the pulse.

1787 BURNS Addr. Unco Guid iv, Think, when your casti-gated pulse Gies now and then a wallop, What ragings must his veins convulse, That still eternal gallop. 1824 MACTAG-GART Gallov. Encycl. 484, I thought it [my hear1] wad hae jumped clean out o'my brisket; lord I what wallops it gaed.

5. A flapping or fluttering rag. Sc. 1776 C. KEITH Farmer's Ha' xxxiv, Beggars they come in gelore, Wi'wallops flapping in great store. 1866 GREGOR Banfish. Glass., Wallop, a rag hanging loose and fluttering. Wallop (wolsp), v. Inflected walloped

(wo lept), walloping. Forms: 4-5 walop(e, 5 walloppe, 5-6 walap, wallope, 5-7 walopp(e, 9 wallup, whallup, wollup, 6- wallop [a. ONF. *waloper = F. galoper (see GALLOP v.1). The existence of this form is evidenced in addition to the English forms by OF. walos sb. pl. and the adopted form Flem. walop(pe, MHG. walop, -ap sb. MHG. walopiren vb., and probably by mod. Walloon (Sigart) waloper to rinse linen in water. Cf. Norw. (Aasen) val(l) hoppa vb., app. an etymologizing alteration, after Norw. hoppa to leap, dance. A satisfactory origin for this word in French has not been suggested. It is probably purely echoic, or an echoic altera-

suggested. It is probably purely echoic, or an echoic artera-tion of some Teut, element or elements. The Provencal form galaupar has suggested Teut. *ga-klaupan (OE, gehléapan, 1.ge-Y-prefix + hleapan to LEAR), but the evidence for original w-precludes the comparison of the initial element. In English the onomatopœic suggestion of the word has

In this is a state of the state

movements, more especially since the form GALLOPOUSEG it from the more elevated uses (in the course of the 16th c.). The sense 'to boil rapidly' is probably derived directly by transference from sense x (cf. GALLOP v_*^2 to boil) in spite of the close resemblance of the word to WALL v_*^1 +UP (cf. *vuell* $w \beta$, and Du. *opticalizers*). The relation of PorwALLOPER to PorwALLER indicates that some such association was active. The sense 'to bet' move be ultimately due to the causative

The sense 'to beat' may be ultimately due to the causative use (sense 2, and cf. F. galoper trans.), or may be entirely due to onomatopocic extension.]

+L. 1. intr. To gallop. Obs.

a. of horses.

8. of horses. a 1400 [see WALLOPING ppl. a.]. c 1430 Syr Gener. (Roxb.) 3642 Al this folk of mych price in feire armes, and helmes shene, ... withe feire stedes walopand. c 1440 Promp. Parv. 514/2 Waloppon, as horse, volopic. c 1480 CAXTON Sources of Aymon xiv. 346 Cam there kyng charlemagn, as fast as his horse myghte walop. 1513 DougLAS Ænets xi. x. 23 (1710). He [the course] sprentis furth, and ful proude waloppis he, Hie strekand vp his hede with mony ane ne. 1570 LEVINS Manip. 169/34 To gallop, fundere gradus, to Wallop, idem, cursitare. b. of a rider.

b. of a rider.

D. Of a fider. 1375 BABOUR Bruce II. 440 To this word thai assentyt all, And fra thaim walopyt owyr mar. c1420 WYNTOUN Cron. 1V. 234 (Cott.) De cursoure he straik wibe be spuris, And walapande our floyis and furis Al befor he ost he rade. c1440 Generydes 3335 He founde anon The kyng of kynggez vppe and down rideng, And he anon to hym com waloping. c1500 Melusing xxi, 130 And thenne the Knight broched bys hors, ord wnload toward hym Galavies area two for the founder. Metusine XX, 130 And theme the Knight broched bys hors, and waloped toward bys felawes. 1529 LYNDESAY Compl. 79 And sum, to schaw thare courtlie corsis, Wald ryid to leith, and ryn thare borssis, And wychtlie wallope ouer the sandis. 1721 RAMSAY Up in Air i, And witches wallop o'er to France, Up in the air On my bony grey mare. +2. trans. To let gallop, put to the gallop. Obs.

rare. (Cf. GALLOP v.1 3.)

c 1489 CAXTON Blanchardyn xi. 42 Blanchardyn wyth a glad chere waloped his courser as bruyauntly as he coude. 1490 — Encydos lxi. 161 A knyghte..came ayenste bym as faste as he myghte spore and waloppe his horse. II. 3. intr. To boil violently and with a noisy

bubbling. Also fig. 1579 Tomson Calvin's Serm. Tim. 191/2 Oure affections boyle within vs. & wallop, frothing as a seething potte. 1617 J. MOORE Mappe Mans Mortalitie 1. iii, 25 This corruption ...sendeth out the filthy scum of all vncleannesse, which con-tinually broyleth and walloppeth in our nature. a 1649 S. Croover Div Charget 4. vxviii (568) on There is light 5. tinually broyleth and walloppeth in our nature. a 1649 S. CROOKE *Div. Charact.* 1. xxxiii. (1658) 499 There is little to choose between a boyling pot unscummed, and the pot that,

Figure 6: OED, fascicle W-Wash, p. 53 (part).

black", should have come to be applied to pale or faint things: the published entry represents his final conclusions (see figure 8), and is once again largely unchanged by Bradley, but it does not suggest the welter of different versions Tolkien considered, some of which are barely more than strings of near-synonymous words, apparently jotted down in an attempt to clarify his thinking (e.g. "with connot[ations] of fading foulness unnatural pallor"; "anaemic emaciated"): the various versions between them contain approximately forty "bad" adjectives and nouns, and even the final form of the entry is unusually plentiful in these. The verb wane may not have been all Tolkien's work, although the etymology is in his handwriting (a number of the senses are defined in Bradley's hand, and I could find no rejected versions by Tolkien): he did, however, deal with the archaic and obsolete nouns and adjective. By far the largest component of this range, however, was the work required on the verb wander and its cluster of related words. Once again Tolkien's final versions reach the printed page with little or no alteration. (On the back of one quotation for wandering are some rather curious jottings in Tolkien's hand, which appear to be rapidly-noted examples of some consonantal changes occurring in Indo-European languages (see figure 9). I regret to say that I cannot connect this philological doodle with either his lexicographical work or the invented languages he was working on at this time: it more probably relates to an incidental rumination or discussion with a colleague. Some of the Greek jottings appear to be an illustration of the philological rule known as Grassmann's Law.) Two of Tolkien's other entries in this range reflect his awareness of the poetical qualities of words: early draft entries for the obsolete nouns wan "bruise" and wandreth "adversity" include a note of the other w- words which frequently co-occur with each of them in alliterative writing - something not often commented on in OED definitions (and in fact deleted from wan by Bradley). In the case of wandreth Tolkien perceived in these co-occurring words (grouped as woelwrakelwer and welelwelthelworldes riches) a basis for distinguishing two senses, denoting respectively "evil circumstances, affliction, misery" and "embarrassment of circumstances, poverty": once again this was too expansive for the OED, and Bradley collapsed them into one definition, although a brief comment on the word's alliterative companions remains.

Tolkien's next word was want - one of the twenty or so commonest verbs in English, and surely ample evidence of Bradley's willingness to let him tackle even the most significant entries more or less without intervention or correction. Of the twenty-eight separate definitions for the verb, nineteen of Tolkien's slips went to press, including those for most of the main senses, and at least two more formed the basis of revised slips by Bradley. The early part of the entry for the noun is missing, but most of what remains in the manuscript is also Tolkien's largely unaltered text.

Isolated words, rather than alphabetical ranges, make up the rest of Tolkien's contribution to the first edition of the OED. He dealt with the etymologically troublesome

CE. also eartier G. roszwal, ruszwal Norw. russhval ? OFr. what (what , later what by association with roche) watrus-ivory (what Ou Cange rohanlum - allum This formation has been inliemented as horse-whale 'f chidi is 2007 logically monthapped and appears to be only one of the popular ety mologies tent house influenced the formes of the word. The pristence of an ON. akind quehale (not wathus) your have asisted this and have been the might even of the BE. form accorring as it dos in Alfred's record of the Scandination Outhere's uport. An clement in the purgle catany secus the tiat speakers of. Doutern Tent. Tany nages heard and forfused this word into

Figure 7: OED reject slips, headword Walrus. (Reproduced by permission of the Bodleian Library)

wariangle (a name for the shrike, found in Chaucer), and with the once almost obsolete word *warlock*, which seems to have been revived by its use in the novels of Walter Scott: unfortunately many slips for this entry are missing, but from what remains it is clear that the etymology and sensedivision, and most of the definition text, are Tolkien's work. Finally there are a small number of words which, while scattered across the letter W, are sufficiently similar in form for their early spellings to coincide, thus making it sensible for someone to work on them as a group. The main members of the group are Weald, wield, wild and wold: apart from Weald (much of which is missing, although the word itself and several derivatives were at least started by Tolkien), all of these lie in ranges edited not by Bradley but by his colleague C.T. Onions, who seems to have preferred rewriting a slip to attempting to annotate it with his corrections - thus leaving frustratingly few of Tolkien's own slips. However, discarded slips for most of the entry for wold have survived, as has Tolkien's etymology for wild, and I suspect that he in fact dealt with these words in their entirety, although to judge from the example of wold the definitions in the printed text are probably mainly the work of Onions: very little of Tolkien's definitions of wold, or even of his division of it into senses, escaped alteration. The etymologies, however, are vintage Tolkien, complete with long lists of cognates in other European languages living and dead, speculations about the ulterior origins of Old Teutonic *wilbijaz and *walbuz, and some general remarks about the sense-development of wold which are unusually chatty even for Tolkien:

The primitive meaning of this word was probably "wild, unexplored, or untilled land; wilderness". In early Northern Europe these senses would easily interchange with the sense "forest". In OE. this later is the only evidenced meaning, and the occasional application of the word to mountainous districts appears to be a translation of L. saltus (e.g. Pireni weald). Some of the senses that appear later in English seem more easily derivable from an original meaning "wilderness", but this development is probably connected solely with the historical deforestation of England, which has produced districts of very varying character in place of former woodlands.

WOLD (and its different forms) appears generally speaking to have become obsolete during the 15th., or early in the 16th., century, except locally or dialectally (especially as applied as a fixed name to certain definite localities). From the seventeenth century onwards its use is largely artificial, and its senses apparently due either to the changed character of the localities where the name had become fixed, or to knowledge of the word in OE. or ME. The distinction drawn in quot[ation] 1577 (Sense 1) between the forms *Wald* and *Wold*, and so by implication between Northern and

61

a Shell Fish..: t whose Shell has the fincture of Pearl colour, flame colour, and white, some part thereof being taken out, the Indians make of it their Wampam Pieg; which Shell is a staple Commodity. Jogo Locar Further Consult Value Money 27 Among the Indians, when it [zc. Coro] will sell for more yards of Wampompeal, which is their Money. 1705 T. M. Bacon's Rebellion (1835) ra The Queen of Pamunky ...having round her head a plat of black and white wampun peage three inches broad in imitation of a crown. 1760 T. HUTCHNSON //int. Col. Maxs. Bay v. (ed.) 473 Good store of wampompag to purchase some peculiar lavors or the North American Indians is a case in point, as it certauly served as jewellery.

wellery. ow, Wamtye, obs. ff. WAME-TOW, Wantow, WANTY.

Wamus (wæmzs), U.S. Also waumus, w Walling (we miss), 0.5. Also walling, wall mus. [a. Du woarnes, contracted f. wambuis, a. OF. wambois, -eis: see WAMBARS, GAMBEON. Cf. G. wams, wamms, woollen jacket (MHG. wambes, -eis, jacket worn under the armour)] In southern and western U.S., a warm knitted jacket resembling a cardigan.

cardigan. 1805 in Thornton Amer. Gless. 024, I got up, and found that my wounus was bloody. 1824 H. H. KILAW Puddleford 14 (Thornton) He was attired with a red flannel 'wamus'. 1859 Philadelishis Telegraph 6 July 6/6 His attire was characterized by a long linsey 'wamus'. 1838 E. Ecour-stron Graysons xxviii. 300 This (wagon-spoke) he put into the bagry part of his 'wamus', or bunting-jacket. Wamylle, obs. form of WAMELE. † Wan, sb.¹ Sc. Obs. 6 pl. wannis, wannys. [Perb, a subst. use of WAM a.¹ But cf. WEN.] A dark or livid mark produced by a blow : a bruise

⁴ Wan, sb.¹ Sc. Obs. 6 pl. wannis, wannys. [Perb. a subst. use of WAN a.¹ But cf. WEN.] A dark or livid mark produced by a blow; a bruise. 1533 BELIENDEN Livy (S.T.S.) I. idy He. had done gress vasilage bails for be honoure & defence of be cicte, as well appent be sindh for be honoure & defence of be cicte, as well appent be sindh for wannys & markis in his face and wher paris of his body. 1560 ROLLAND SERES Segreg 50 The incht. fand his sone withoutine wan or wound. 1557 Guide 4 Godii Ballady (S.T.S.) 32 He it is, qubik geuis wan and wound, And suddanlie he will make hail and sound. ⁴ Wan, sb.² Obs. Also 7 wanne, 8-9 erron. wand [7 a. Du. wanne (now wans): see VAN sb.¹ I. sing CHAPPARA O'JTZ. X. 163 What doat thou with that wanne (Gr. ädenphöviçöv, viancowing fanl, ypon thy neckel? ². The sail of a windmill: = VAN sb.¹ S. Commonly spelt wasce, the word being wrongly supposed to be a corruption of WAND 25. Commonly spelt wasce, the word being wrongly supposed to be a corruption of WAND 25. ²Toble Ak. 9. of The sails or wands of the mill..struck her so violently on the bead, as to fracture her skull. 1883 BROCKETT N. C. Gloss. Wans do the. .wind mill. were forced round with such velocity, that by the friction of the machingry, the mill was set on free. 1896 Whit/9 Gloss., Wands pl., long flexible rods. The sail frames of a windmill. ⁴Wan (won), a. Forms: 1 Wan(n, Won(n, 3-Wan), long flexible rods. The sail frames of a windmill. ⁴Man (won), a. Forms: 1 Wan(n, Won(n, 3-Wan), sol found in any of the other Teut. Ianguages. Its original sense appears to have been 'dark in hue', with especially frequent applications. Relationships to Wine Coleu. *Summa sec.* is possible (cf. Cleic 'wasnas, O'J. *Awan*, words in have the other teut. Ianguages. Its original sense appears to thave been 'dark in hue', with especially frequent applications. Relationships to Wine X. O'Deu. 'winewas to strive, tol, mifter, etc.), or to Wonn ak, or Wan, Wesh greasen fain, weak, feelele, but association of the two wor

In addition to this association the application to heavenly

connexion.
 In addition to this association the application to heavenly bodies, when obscured, or when compared to others more bright, possibly aided the general application to pale things. The application to the human face etc., when of nuwbole-some or nunsual colour (through various emotions, disease, or death), also provided a possible occasion of sense-change. The senses 'livid' 'sallow', and 'pale, sickly' are often indistinguishable.]
 † L. Lacking light, or lastre ; dark-hued, dusky, gloomy, dark. Obs. Chiefly foet.
 Becoulf you Com on warre niht acridan sceadugenga stoom boets. Meter, is it Hwere, have wonth is bettere a bribt iscinct. E. P. (1860) 8 As fair and brigt as you seest ham hi worp becom as blak as cole and be of hiwe durke and wan for mania sin bat hi sul pole. craco Dastr. Troy yos So dang he bai dog with dyn't bis wappon, bat be warlag was wete of his wan atter. Ibid. 6000 Mony chivalrous Achilles choppit to dethe: All his wedis were wete of bairs wan blode. Cracy Hanky Wallace via As har and win wedder wan and weit. a 1500 Skettow P. Skettow go With Core to the other weat and anon.
 D. esp. in conventional application in poetry to the send.

SAVILE 1221183, AFTICOL 244 The OCCAN princes form pearle also, not orient, but duskish and wanne. D. 252, in conventional application in poetry to the sea (waves, etc.) or other waters. The original significance was perh, that of "dark-hued", but the sense often approaches, or is blended with, the next. In more recent poetry the word is probably (sec. by our clous archaism) to bundershood rather as "grey, pale", but the gloomy connotation remains. Becomed, 137, Donon 362-blond up satired won to wolenum. cr306 CHAUCER Knt.'s T. 1508 Myn is the drenchyng in the storme. wait vp the wilde se ar popular of the wate storme. wait vp the wilde se ar popular of the young of 240 HUMAY Wallace vu. Sr. Her is mappen son like, of 240 HUMAY Wallace vu. Sr. Her is mappen wan its bleve, of 240 HUMAY Wallace vu. Sr. Her is mappen wan is got Doucous Pel. How, 11. iii, Ouir waters wan, throw worthie woldig grene. 135 STEWART Cross. Soci. 1. 9 Quhair that tyme

WAN.

almost tha had all bene lost. Throw wan tydis so stark ran by the land. a 1980 *fokuit Geek* xwii. in Child *Bellada* 111. (17 She'd ha wet her foot ith wan water, And sprinkled it oer my bras. 1866 Swinnumer *Chastelaws* 1. ii. 32 Do you yet mind at landing how the quay Looked like a Dilnd wet lace in waste of wind And washing of wan waves? 1. 1865 Kinesitzw Herrw. xriii, Looking outside across the wan water for the sails which never came.

Applied to lead, or things compared to it

T. O. Applica to lease, or things compute to re-(in colour), Obs. 1398 Thereias Barth. De P. R. XIX. XX. (1495) By6 Leed is whyte by kynds though it be wan wythout. 1497 Nonrow Ord. Alch. v. in Ashmole (1652) 56 Colour wan as Lead. 1500 Winthrood Walk, (1537) 34 His typpes he as wanne as lede. 1653 R. SANDERS Physiogra. 183 A wan leadiab colour.

+2. transf. or fig. Sad, dismal; also awful,

T 2. Irdnif. or Jg. Sad, dismai; also awuu, kearful, deadly, cruel, wicked, etc. (Cf. uses of dark, gloomy.) Obs. poet. craco Destr. Troy 3602 There is no worship in weping, ne in wan teres! crace of ork Myst. vii. 38 Me for to were fro warken wante. 1535 STRWART Crow. Scot. II. 40° Grailus Gud that hes all thing in erd, At his weilding to weild or 3it was ward.

wan werd. +3. Of an unhealthy, unwholesome colour; livid, leaden-hued. Applied ep. to wounds, to the human face discoloured by disease, and to corpses. Obs.

the numan size discoloured by disease, and to corpose. Obs. crose Estimal Gless. sys Livida taxica: the unannan seria-nan. cross Carlos 2440 (Fairld) bit hold is wanne as bou-ware dede. radio WrcLur 1 Fet. ii. 24 And he hym silf har ours synnes in his bodi on a tre, that we be ded to synnes, and lyue to riprissees, bi whos wan wounde as hen heelid. radio the synta Berth. De P. R. vul. xxviii and the synnes and lyue to riprissees, bi whos wan wounde as hen heelid. radio to the synta Berth. De P. R. vul. xxviii and the syntae colour betokenyth ang wyrshe and passion of the heris whan colour betokenyth ang wyrshe and passion of the heris wanne colour betokenyth ang wyrshe and passion of the heris wanne colour betokenyth ang wyrshe and passion of the heris wanne drawyth inwarde the bette of blood. xadi Carlo and a syntae colour betokenyth ang wyrshe and passion of the heris wanned drawyth inwarde the bette of blood. A Scort Passes xxiii. 16 Evill blook beatynges. cristis Of woandis wan, sync Lavnes Manne, with bis beatynges. cristis Of woandis wan, sync Lavnes Manne, zor Wann. ... the Noblez for syntae test Riversus it. is zrj 11. the wan and deadly colar of he Face. be restored, here is hope of Health. 4. Pallid, inded, sickly; unusually or un-healthily pale. Most frequently applied to the human face (or to things with conscious metaphor force whit as undirection).

human face (or to things with conscious metaphor

healthing pale. Most frequently applied to the human face (or to things with conscious metaphor from this application). a 1300 Cursor M. 4547 For lene be was, and wan be face loid. 4471 bits application). Construction of the set of the set of the set of the logic transform of the set of the set of the set of the wankyde he wel wan and wolde haue ydroke. C 1400 Desire. Troy Bog4 All wan was the weghe for his wete teres. C 1460 in Ketrask, Rev. (1833) Nov. 160 Cn a greene hylle he sawe a tree. Pale byt was and wanne of like. 1500 Palson 2016 in Ketrask, Rev. (1833) Nov. 160 Cn a greene hylle he sawe a tree. Pale byt was and wanne of like. 1500 Palson 2016 in Ketrask, Rev. (1833) Nov. 160 Cn a greene hylle he sawe a tree. Pale byt was and wanne of like. 1500 Palson 2016 in Ketrask, Rev. (1833) Nov. 160 Cn a greene hylle he sawe a tree. Pale byt was and wanne of like. 1500 Palson 2016 in Ketrask, Rev. (1833) Nov. 160 Cn a greene hylle he sawe a tree. Sawe and the same of coloure 1 systs T. Hoav tr. Castiglione's Castigree it. (1970) Cl, ln fike manner where what pale and wanne of coloure 1 systs T. Hoav tr. Castiglione's Castigree it. (1970) Cl, ln fike manner where where is somewhat fatter or leaser than reasonable size, or wanner, or borower, to helpeit with garmentes. 1580 Sraw-wurst Kewis 11. (Arb.) 77 Theire face wan withred in hun-ger. 1590 Mastrow Aristaid's Castigree Line and still. 2697 Davons Kewis 11. (Arb.) 77 Theire face wan withred in hun-ger. sage Mastrow Aristaid's I. 630 YM is thy check so wann and wild, Sit Leoline 1 steg Scorr Castyswe Castific trew. She Construct Castificatific for Why is thy check so wan and wild, Sit Leoline 1 steg Scorr Castyswe Castific trew. She Construct Castificatific for Why is thy check so wan and wild, Sit Leoline 1 steg Scorr Castyswe Castific terw. She Construct Castificatific for Why is thy check so wan and wild, Sit Leoline 1 steg Scorr Castyswe Castific trees. 1857 Dickmus Pickwa Xivii, The crowd of wan, emaci-atest, wan and hear in the south. 1807 Allbuit's S

b. etc. as Why failed hall look 1
b. etc. as the set of the set of the set of the set within that look 1
b. etc. as the set of the set of

C. A wan smile, a faint or forced smile (as of

L A way smith, i faint of three same (as of one sick or unbappy). 1977 Mas. Foarastras Mignon I. 217 With a wan smile as a he sees her friend's grived face. 1866 Consul Itorus, Z., Moit General v. (1901) 100 'But, he added, with a wan smile, 'my Lotten fare is always somewhat meagre'. d. Applied to the (light of) heavenly bodies,

WAN.

etc.: Faint, sickly, partially obscured. Also, of white objects, etc.: Dull, Instreless. sfor Houtano Play, ut.xxz, L. 7 In the warren of Antonie, the Sunne continued almost a years long with a pala and wan octour. Softy P. Furchars Powple Isl xz, 1 The Moon grows wanne and starres file all away, Whom Larifer locks up in wonted folds. soft Mutrue P. L. x, 4s The Moon grows wonted folds. soft Mutrue P. L. x, 4s The Moon grows wonted folds. soft Mutrue P. L. x, 4s The Moon grows wonted folds. soft Mutrue P. L. x, 4s The Moon grows wonted that with House Minute. I. xxv, Ye mildews wan, rogs Wonnows. Nigel Added they is overeast. Heavy and wan, all whitehed by the Moon all's J. THORSON Lasties of Distic xrii, Moonless mights when stars are new and wann-ing of sunshine across the sea. soft Bernocus Some. Ivi, In astrone moonlight, when the white air was Some. Ivi, in astrone moonlight, when the white air was forgrant is the wake of sammet. to the wake of sammet.

in the wake of sammer. + 6. Of colour : 7 Pale, light. Obs. 1557 MarLar Ge. Porat 3 b. Whose interchanged greene colour resembleth almost the wan and yelow colour of Golds.

1507 Marter Gr. Forst 1 5 Whose interchanged groome colour resembleth almost the wan and yelow colour of Golds.
 5. absol. (quasi-sb.) Wan huc, wanness. pool.
 1828 JOANNA BALLIE Metr. Lec., Lady G. Beillivir, She saw a faint glow tinge the sickly wan. sky Transvaou Princess us, 9 Meliasa, tinged with wan from lack of aleep.
 6. Comb. : chiefly parasynthetic, as war-rolowred, -faced, visaged; also complementary and advb., with pples., as wans-looking, -silvering, -worn: ; rarely qualifying other adjs. descriptive of colour, as wan-sallow, +-while.
 1830 WOARCH Istrad. Conchol. 12 Which. seldom exhibits may other appearance than that of a livid or "wan-colored surface. 1851 FIRA' My Lady Coguettes, It is a sorrowful "wan-faced girl. 1913 Blackw. Mar. Aug. Abj. Wan-faced men and towsel-haired women. 1852 'Outa' Maramma I. 58 Wated and "wan-looking fils. 192 Thurston Careth & Lynette 413 Aman of mien "Wanesllow as the plant that feels itself Root birtue by white lichen. 1869 I'vran-faced men signed widdelow, out of thy wit game wyid. c1530 'Jwan-faced, vizing the succours mys that "wan-whyte colour in vryn. shewsh begrannyng of digeniyon. 1969 W. Bantow Amra. Nameshe begrannyng of digeniyon. 1969 W. Bantow Amra. Nameshe barg that "wan-whyte widd from ber rivald brows and "wan-worn chesks.
 Want (won), v. Inflected wanned, wanning.

Wan (won), p. Inflected wanned, wanning.

checks.
Wan (won), v. Inflected wanned, wanning.
Also 3 wonne. [OE. wanniam, f. Wan a.]
+1. intr. To become dark, discoloured, or livid.
coso Verselli MS. 33 b/7 ponne wannes be & dozab;
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte hwile he bið blæc & mine. crays Hell Mirid. 35
ofte shure schulen doskin & under pon vonnes. at a wap be weding gloumes. Hid. 400 Quent it [pold] walows & wannes all ours thestres. 3st ere we toghed to & fra be uurnyng of eldris.
2. To grow pale. poct.
rafs Starreutur Ænsis iv. (Arh.) 1:8 Alber visage waning with murder aproching [1. skallda morte future]. 1990
Massrow Art. A Mid. 10: (1600) E. J. hans a good head of haire, a checke Not as yet warld. 1600 Stars. Hear. 11
ii. 560 (Q 1604) Is it not monstrous that this player heere..
Could fore his soule so to his owne conceil That from her vorking all the visage wand foldi warmid. 1847 Thornson Princess 1: 140 All and warnd and shook. 1852 *Masson 1: ii*. And ever he mutter'd and maddend, and ever wanned with despint. 1865 Consuctow Resid vi. 1: 1875 The queen. . soot 14 Sowns do van with brand by and by The wide winged sunset wanned and waned. 3906 F. Thomson To English Alsariptin 18 The troubled hearma do wan with care.
Hence Wanned \$\$\nother home. The forming robl. 55.

Hence Wanned \$\$\$. a., Warning \$\$\$. s. sign Farran Carva, vil. 63 Whoom delt noo stern wyth his wannyd have Haith now pursynd xfood Staats. Ast. 4 Cl. 11. 21 All the charmes of Loos Salt Cleopara soften thy wind lip. (20.8: see WAND \$\$\$. 1 1000 Long masses Mag. Feb 30 Many (lactors) assert that the 'wanning' of the vinage is a common .. accompaniment of imagined terror. Wan: see ONS. WAND \$\$\$. WHEN S. WHOM, WIN 7., WONE \$\$.

What, Win D., Wone Jo. Wan- (woo), a prefix expressing privation or negation (approximately equivalent to Un-1 or Mie-), repr. OE. wans, wors, corresponding to OFris, was, wors, OS. wans (only in wanshefts misfortune = OE. wansctoff), MLG., MDa. wan-(mod.Du. in many new formations, esp. in the sense 'wrong', 'mis-', as in voardesthuur misgovern-ment, maniuid discordant sound), OHG. wan-, vaana (only in wanudfan unarmed, wanakei unbealthy, infirm, wanawissi lacking wit, insane), MHG. wan- (only in wanwitzs inherited from OHG.), mod.G. wahn- (in wahnwits, wahnsinn insanity, commonly apprehended as compounds of zoahn sb., delusion; also in some dialect words, chiefly adopted from LG.); ON., Sw., Da. zan-ion any old formations, to which mod Sw. and Da. have added many more, chiefly adopted from LG.).

have added many more, chiefly adopted from LG.). The prefix is in origin identical with WANZ a. In OE the number of words formed with the prefix is con-siderable, but none of them has survived into modern English, and only one (varays/4, ill-success) into ME. Of the many new formations that arose in ME., only wasztogen, undisci-plined, WANTON, still survives in use (with no consciousness of its etymological meaning); wasztogen and meastogen, undisci-bave been suggested by the equivalent MDa. forms. It was in the north that the prefix was most prolific, and is probably continued to be productive far into the modern period. The following words, peculiar to the Scottish and porthern dis-surples (or references to glosaries etc.) from the slith c., but few if any of them are now in current use :--measurest adj. = un-couth, waszted y adj., mischierons, Wasnowerst adj. = un-couth, waszted y adj., mischierons, Wasnowerst adj.

Figure 8: OED, fascicle W-Wash, pp. 61-2 (part).

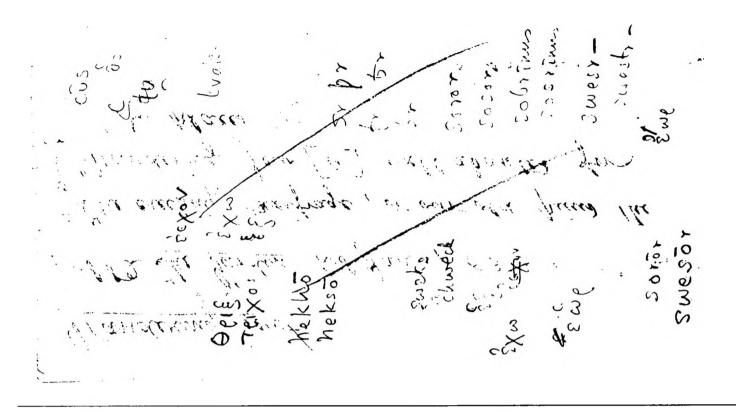


Figure 9: OED slips, headword Wandering, verso of quotation for wandering Jew. (Reproduced by permission of the Bodleian Library)

Midland or Southern usage, is not consistently borne out by the rest of the material.⁸

This brings us to the end of Tolkien's work on those fascicles of the OED on which he was directly engaged; but there is also a significant body of work left by him specifically for use in revising, expanding and updating the Dictionary, the necessity of which had long been recognised. Materials for the preparation of a Supplement had been accumulating for some time; and when this supplementary volume was published in 1933, the OED was re-issued in twelve volumes (it had until then only been available in the form of fascicles) which incorporated a number of minor corrections and revisions. Some material intended for the Supplement was written on slips and filed; much more was written into the margins of the various working copies of the Dictionary which the lexicographers consulted, and it is here that, thanks once again to Tolkien's highly distinctive handwriting, I have been able to identify a number of his suggestions.

Often work on a word towards the end of the alphabet would cast light on words nearer the beginning, which had already been dealt with in print. Thus, for example, in the course of his struggle with the derivation of *walrus* Tolkien discovered the etymology of the obscure word *rossome* "redness". He wrote a slip for the *Supplement* file suggesting that the published etymology "Obscure" be replaced by

a. early mod. G. roseme :- OHG. rosamo rubor, lentigo, MHG. roseme. (See Diefenbach s.v. Lentigo)

which Bradley subsequently approved and wrote in as marginalia, and which was incorporated in the corrected reissue of 1933 (although drastically shortened to "G. troseme", to allow it to be added to the entry without causing it to spill over onto a new line). Similarly, his work on the wild/wold group brought to light some errors and omissions, such as the interpretation of one Middle English passage as evidence for a supposed compound noun roodwold whereas it was in fact an instance of a variant form of the past tense of quell "to kill", and the absence of crossreferences to wold under its variant spellings. He would also make comments on the etymologies of (mainly) Germanic words, often adducing further evidence in support of etymological hypotheses described by the OED as unlikely; and occasionally he would make observations on modern English, as in his suggestions for updating the definition of

⁸ In fact Tolkien was later able to have his say about the interrelatedness of these words: in *The Year's Work in English Studies* for 1924, the chapter on "Philology: General Works" (which Tolkien compiled for three years after moving to Leeds) includes a review of the newly-published *OED* fascicle *Whisking-Wilfulness* in which, as well as noting one or two errors and discussing the word whole at some length, Tolkien complains that in the etymology of *wild* "the connexion with **walpus* (*wold*, *weald*, forest) is rejected" (Tolkien, 1926, p. 48) – a connection which his own earlier draft etymologies had asserted.

brigade ("now a subdivision (usually a 3rd or 4th part) of a 'division', and consisting of 3-6 battalions" – obviously based on his own recent experiences), and his observation that, in addition to the entry for the Middle English diminutive -kin, the suffix -kins should be included because of its modern colloquial use "in endearing forms of address" (an entry along these lines did indeed appear in the 1933 *Supplement*).

But the vast majority of Tolkien's marginal annotations originate in the work he did on a number of fourteenthcentury texts for Kenneth Sisam during the spring of 1920. The publication of "Sisam's 14th Cent[ur]y reader" (as it appears in the OUP ledger) entailed the careful examination of many important texts of the period, which are excerpted or given in their entirety in the book: in the course of this scrutiny Tolkien came across several dozen antedatings (instances of particular words being used earlier than their first date as given in the OED). So, for example, whereas in the OED the verb hem "to edge or border (a garment or cloth); to decorate with a border, fringe, or the like" is recorded no earlier than 1440, Tolkien noted the phrase "be gurdel bat is golde-hemmed" in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, which constitutes an antedating of at least forty years: in a few cases words were antedated by over a century.

Perhaps surprisingly, most of these marginalia have not been acted on: thus the second edition (1989) of the OED contains entries for brigade and hem which are unchanged as far as Tolkien's comments are concerned. The explanation of this lies in the two decades following the publication of the 1933 Supplement, during which OUP disbanded the OED team and work on maintaining the Dictionary ceased completely. Operations recommenced in 1957 with the appointment of Robert Burchfield to oversee the expansion of the 1933 Supplement into what eventually became four volumes, later to be combined with the original twelve together with about 5000 new entries to form the twentyvolume second edition of 1989; but this expanded edition is not a comprehensive revision of the original work, and many

Appendix: Entries in the OED worked on by Tolkien

(Wag(g)el)
Waggle sb., v.; Waggly
Wain sb.
Waist; Waistband, Waist-cloth, Waistcoat, Waistcoated, Waistcoateer, Waist-rail, Waist-tree; Waisted, Waister, Waistless
Wait-a-bit
Waiter; Waitership
Waiting-maid, Waiting-man, Waiting-room, Waiting-woman
Waitress
Wake sb., v.; Wake-robin, Wake-wort
Waldend
Wallop sb., v.; Walloper, Walloping sb., a.
Walm sb., v.; Walloper, Walloping sb., a.

of the materials assembled for the task of revision have yet to be taken into account. In consequence, these handwritten notes by Tolkien may be made use of well into the next century, as work proceeds toward the third edition of the *OED*.

Conclusion

The significance of Tolkien's work on the OED at the beginning of his academic career is not easy to assess. His publications in the years immediately following 1920 include much in terms of philology that follows on directly from his work with Henry Bradley and Kenneth Sisam,⁹ and his own statements indicate the value he himself placed on what he learnt while at work on the Dictionary. It is perhaps sufficient to say that without such an early and extensive opportunity to nurture his native fascination with words as individuals to be studied, the course of his subsequent academic career might have been very different. Certainly there are clear early signs of familiar tendencies in Tolkien's approach to writing of any kind: repeated and increasingly hasty re-drafting, a desire to say more than practical constraints allow, and an acute sensitivity to the impact words can have in addition to their apparent meanings.

I have not attempted to trace in detail the influence of Tolkien's lexicography on the vocabulary he used in his creative writing, but I would suggest that such research has the potential to cast considerable light on his creative processes. To take an obvious example, his use of the word wold – a fairly unusual word in modern English – to denote the grassy uplands of Rohan becomes more significant when we know how thoroughly he studied and puzzled over its origins and meanings. His writings of the 1920s, in particular the fragmentary *Lay of the Fall of Gondolin* and the various alliterative poems of that period, may contain evidence that other words assigned to him by Bradley continued to loom large in his vocabulary. I hope that by mapping out the extent of his work on the *OED* I have made available the raw materials on which such further research may be conducted.

⁹ Indeed, with the exception of the edition of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (1925), which he prepared with E.V. Gordon, all of his scholarly output up to 1932 can be described as philological: see Hammond, 1993.

J.R.R. TOLKIEN CENTENARY CONFERENCE

Walrus Wampum (?Wampumpeag?) Wan sb., a., v. Wander sb., v.; Wanderable, Wandered, Wanderer, Wandering sb., a., Wanderment; Wander-year Wandreth Wane sb., a., v. Want sb., v; Want-louse Wariangle Warlock sb., v.; Warlockry Warm a. (?Wasp, Water?) Weald; Wealden, Wealding (?Wick?) Wield Wild (?Winter?) Wold

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186