

**Authors:** William Douglas Parish (1833-1904) & William Francis Shaw (1839-1904)

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**Produced by** Gaia Ciceri & Carlota Soto-Abraham.

**Revised by** María F. García-Bermejo Giner

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VNIVERSITAS  
STVDII  
SALAMANTINI

A DICTIONARY  
OF THE  
KENTISH DIALECT

AND  
PROVINCIALISMS  
IN USE IN THE COUNTY OF KENT.

BY

W. D. PARISH,

CHANCELLOR OF CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL AND VICAR OF SELMESTON;

AND

W. F. SHAW,

VICAR OF EASTRY, KENT.

London:

PUBLISHED FOR THE ENGLISH DIALECT SOCIETY  
BY TRÜBNER & CO., LUDGATE HILL.

1887.

[NP]

INTRODUCTION.

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THE KENTISH DIALECT finds its expression in peculiarities of phrase and pronunciation rather than in any great number of distinctly dialectical words. In many respects it closely resembles the dialect of Sussex, though it retains a distinctive character, and includes a considerable number of words which are unknown in the neighbouring County.

The Kentish pronunciation is so much more coarse and broad than that of Sussex, that many words which are common to both dialects can scarcely be recognised a few miles away from the border; and many words of ordinary use become strangely altered. As an instance, the word *elbow* may be taken, which first has the termination altered by the substitution of *ber* [ber] for *bow* [boa], and becomes *elber* [el·ber]. The *e* is next altered to *a* and in Sussex the word would be generally pronounced *alber* [al·ber], in which form it is still recognisable; but the Kentish man alters the *al* into *ar* [aa], and knocking out the medial consonant altogether, pronounces the word *arber* [aa·ber], and thus actually retains only one letter

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out of the original five. The chief peculiarities of pronunciation are these,—

Such words as *barrow* and *carry* become *bar* and *car* [baa, kaa].

*a* [a] before double *d* is pronounced *aa*; as *laader* [laa·der] for *ladder*.

*a* [a] before double *l* becomes *o*; as *foller* [fol·er] for *fallow*.

*a* [ai] before *t* is lengthened into *ēa*; as *pleät* [plee·h't] for *plate*.

Double *e*, or the equivalent of it, becomes *i*; as “*ship in the fil*” [ship in dhu' fil] for “*sheep in the field*.”

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Then, by way of compensation, *i* is occasionally pronounced like double *e*; as “The meece got into the heeve” [Dhu’ mee·s got in·tu’ dhu’ hee·v] for “*the mice got into the hive.*”

*i* appears as *e* in such words as *pet* [pet] for *pit*.

*o* before *n* is broadened into two syllables by the addition of an obscure vowel; as “Doänt ye see the old poäny be all skin and boäns” [doa·h’nt ye see dhu’ oald poa·h’ny bee aul skin un boa·h’ns].

*ou* is lengthened by prefixing *a* [a]; the resulting sound being [aew]. “The haöunds were raöund our haöuse yesterday.” [ Dhu’ haewnds wer raewnd our haews yes·terdai.]

The voiced *th* [dh] is invariably pronounced *d*; so *that*, *this*, *then*, *though* become *dat*, *dis*, *den*, *dough* [dat, dis, den, doa].

In words such as *fodder* (A.S. *födor*), where the old *d* comes between two vowels, the dialect has *th* [dh], as [fodh·er].

The final letters are transposed in *wasp*, *hasp*, and many words of similar termination. Hence these become [wops, haps].

*w* and *v* change places invariably when they are initial; as “*wery veil*” for *very well*.

Peculiarities of construction appear in the case of a large class of words, whereof “*upgrown*,” “*outstand*,” “*no-ought*,” “*over-run*” and others may be taken as types.

Almost every East Kent man has one or two special words of his own, which he has himself invented, and these become very puzzling to those who do not know the secret of their origin; and as he dislikes the intrusion of any words beyond the range of his own vocabulary, he is apt to show his resentment by taking so little trouble to pronounce them

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correctly, that they generally become distorted beyond all recognition. *Broad titus*, for instance, would not easily be understood to mean bronchitis.

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The East Kent man is, moreover, not fond of strangers, he calls any newcomers into the village “furriners,” and pronounces their names as he pleases. These peculiarities of speech and temper all tend to add to the difficulty of understanding the language in which the Kentish people express themselves.

The true dialect of Kent is now found only in the Eastern portion of the County, and especially in the Weald. It has been affected by many influences, most of all, of course, by its geographical position, though it seems strange that so few French words have found their way across the narrow streak of sea which separates it from France.

The purity of the dialect diminishes in proportion to the proximity to London of the district in which it is spoken. It may be said that the dialectal sewage of the Metropolis finds its way down the river and is deposited on the southern bank of the Thames, as far as the limits of Gravesend Reach, whence it seems to overflow and saturate the neighbouring district. The language in which Samuel Weller, Senior and Junior, express themselves in the pages of the *Pickwick Papers*, affords an excellent specimen of what the Kentish dialect is, when it is brought under the full influence of this saturation.

Our collection of Kentish words and provincialisms has been gathered from various sources. Much has already been done to rescue from oblivion the peculiarities of the dialect. As long ago as 1736 Lewis published a glossary of local words in the second edition of his *History of the*

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Isle of Tenet; this was reprinted by Prof. Skeat for the English Dialect Society as ‘Glossary B II,’ in 1874. Dr. Pegge’s attention was drawn to the subject at the same time, and he compiled a glossary entitled ‘Kenticisms,’ which remained in manuscript till it was communicated, in 1876, by Prof. Skeat, to the English Dialect Society and to the IX. Vol. of the *Archæologia Cantiana*. The MS. was purchased by him at Sir F. Madden’s sale, and will be presented to the English Dialect Society.

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A large number of Kentish words were found in the pages of Holloway's General Dictionary of Provincialisms (1839), and also in Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial words (1872); and when Professor Skeat suggested to us a more complete glossary of the dialect, we found that these publications had aroused such a considerable interest in the collection of Kentish words, that several collectors were at work in different parts of the County, all of whom most kindly placed their lists of words at our disposal. (One peculiarly interesting collection was given to the Society many years ago by Mr. G. Bedo.) The learned Professor has never for a moment abated his interest in our work, and has been always ready with a helping hand. Meanwhile the great local professor of the Kentish language, Mr. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P., has given us the full benefit of his thorough knowledge of the subject.

In order to exhibit the modern dialect more clearly, references to the specimens of Kentish in the Early and Middle English Periods have been avoided. It may, however, be well to observe here that the peculiarities of the phonology of the old dialect are well shown in some of these. The most important are the following:

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1. The inscription in the Codex Aureus, printed in Sweet's Oldest English Texts, p. 174, and reprinted (very accessibly) in Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Reader, Part II., p. 98. This inscription is of the Ninth Century.

2. Some Glosses in a copy of Beda (MS. Cotton, Tib. c. 2), apparently in Kentish. Printed in Sweet's Oldest English Texts, p. 179. Of the end of the Ninth Century.

3. Some of the Charters printed in Sweet's Oldest English Texts, pp. 425—460. See, in particular, a Charter of Hlothere, No. 4; of Wihtried, No. 5; of Æthelberht, Nos. 6 and 7; of Eardwulf, No. 8; and the Charters numbered 33—44, inclusive. Of these, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 34—42, inclusive, are reprinted in Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Reader, Part II., pp. 174—194.

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4. Kentish Glosses of the Ninth Century, first printed by Prof. Zupitza in Haupt's Zeitschrift, and reprinted in Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Reader, Part II., pp. 152—175.

5. Five Sermons in the Kentish dialect of the Thirteenth Century, printed in Morris's Old English Miscellany, pp. 26—36. Two of these are reprinted in Morris's Specimens of English, Part I., pp. 141—145. The grammatical forms found in these Sermons are discussed in the Preface to the Old English Miscellany, pp. xiii.—xvi.

6. The Poems of William, of Shoreham (not far from Sevenoaks), written in the former half of the Fourteenth Century, edited for the Percy Society by T. Wright, London,

1849. An extract is given in Specimens of English, ed. Morris and Skeat, Part II., pp. 63—68.

7. The Ayenbite of Inwyt, or Remorse of Conscience, finished A.D. 1340, by Dan Michel, of Northgate, edited by Morris for the Early English Text Society in 1866. An

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extract is given in Specimens of English, ed. Morris and Skeat, Part II., pp. 98—106.

It may be added that the Psalter, known as the Vaspasian Psalter, printed in Sweet's Oldest English Texts, is now ascertained to be Mercian. It was first printed by Stevenson for the Surtees Society in 1843-4, under the impression that it was "Northumbrian" a statement which will not bear even a hasty test. Mr. Sweet at first claimed it as "Kentish" (Trans. of the Phil. Soc. 1877, Part III., p. 555), but a closer investigation proves it to be Mercian, as Mr. Sweet has himself shown.

It may be mentioned that the collection of words presented in this Dictionary has been in process of formation for no less than fourteen years, and in the course of that time we found many instances of folk lore and proverbial

expressions, which have been retained in expectation that they may form the nucleus of a separate work to be published hereafter.

At the end of this book a few blank pages will be found perforated so as to be detached without injuring the rest, and upon these we hope that many notes on Folk Lore and Local Proverbs, and quaint words and anecdotes, illustrative of Kentish dialect and character, may be jotted down from time to time and forwarded to Rev. W. F. Shaw, Eastry Vicarage, Sandwich, in whose hands they will help to the completion of a work which promises to be one of considerable interest.

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LIST OF BOOKS

*From which Quotations are frequently made in the course of this Work.*

LAMBARDE, WILLIAM. A PERAMBULATION OF KENT. 1596.

LEWIS, REV. J. HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES, AS WELL ECCLESIASTICAL AS CIVIL, OF THE ISLE OF TENET, IN KENT. 1736.

SANDWICH BOOK OF ORPHANS. 1586 TO 1685. PUBLISHED IN ARCHÆOLOGIA, VOL. XVI.

MS. ACCOUNTS OF S. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, CANTERBURY. 1511 TO 1647. COMMUNICATED BY MR. J. M. COWPER.

MS. ACCOUNTS OF THE CHURCHWARDENS OF S. DUNSTAN'S, CANTERBURY. 1484 TO 1580. ARCHÆOLOGIA CANTIANA, VOL. XVI.

OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, HOLY CROSS, CANTERBURY. 1642. TAKEN FROM "OUR PARISH BOOKS," VOLS. I. AND II, BY MR. J. M. COWPER.

THE BARGRAVE DIARY AND VARIOUS MS. ACCOUNTS OF THE BOTELER FAMILY HAVE BEEN KINDLY PLACED AT OUR DISPOSAL BY THE MISSES BOTELER, OF BROOK STREET, EASTRY.

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LISTS OF KENTISH WORDS

*Have been kindly placed at our disposal by the following Collectors*

REV. PROFESSOR SKEAT.

MR. C. ROACH SMITH.

MR. H. KNATCHBULL HUGESSEN, M.P.

MR. GEORGE BEDO.

SIR FREDK. MADDEN (THE LATE).

MR. J. M. COWPER.

MR. HUMPHREY WICKHAM.

REV. G. R. BAKER.

MR. J. G. GOODCHILD.

MR. R. C. HUSSEY.

REV. CANON W. A. SCOTT ROBERTSON.

REV. J. BOODLE.

REV. F. HASLEWOOD.

MR. F. T. ELWORTHY.

Much information has also been given by Mrs. WHITE (Preston, Salop), Capt. W. H. TYLDEN-PATTENSON, Rev. A. M. CHICHESTER, and many others, to whom the Editors desire to offer their best thanks.

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DICK AND SAL  
AT CANTERBURY FAIR.

The following was written by the late Mr. John White Masters, who was brought up in the neighbourhood of Faversham, under circumstances which gave him special facilities for making notes upon the Kentish Dialect as it was spoken in the early part of the present century. There seems to be internal evidence that the hero and heroine of the tale started from the village of Sheldwick (with which

Mr. Masters was connected). The Verses were first published before 1821, but the exact date is unknown.

---

1. THE bailiff's boy had overslept,  
The cows were not put in;  
But rosy Mary cheerly stept,  
To milk them on the green.

2. Dick staggered with a carf of hay,  
To feed the bleating sheep;  
Proud thus to usher in the day,  
While half the world's asleep.

3. And meeting Mary with her pail,  
He said, "If you will stay,  
I'll tell you jest a funny tale,  
About my holerday."

4. 'Twas then by some auspicious hap,  
That I was passing near 'im,  
And as he seem'd a likely chap,  
Thinks I, I'll stop and hear 'im.

5. Now, Mary broke her steady pace,  
And down she set her pail;  
Dick brush'd the hay seeds off his face,  
And thus began his tale:

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6. "Ya see when Michaelmas come roun,

I thought dat Sal and I,  
Ud go to Canterbury town,  
To see what we cud buy.

7. For when I lived at Challock Lees,  
Our second-man had bin;  
And wonce when he was carring peas,  
He told me what he'd sin.

8. He sed dare was a teejus fair,  
Dat lasted for a wick;  
And all de ploughmen dat went dare,  
Must car dair shining-stick.

9. An how dat dare was nable rigs,  
An merriander's jokes;  
Snuff-boxes, shows, and whirligigs,  
An houghed sight o' folks.

10. But what queer'd me, he sed, 'twas kep  
All round about de Church;  
And how dey had him up de steps,  
And left him in de lurch.

11. At last he got into de street,  
An den he lost his rōad;  
And Bet and he come to a gēate,  
Whar all de soagers stud.

12. Den she ketcht fast hold av his han',  
For she was reythur scar'd;  
Tom sed when fust he see 'em stan',

He thought she'd be afared.

13. But one dat had a great broad soord,  
Did 'left wheel' loudly cry;  
And all de men scared at his word,  
Flew roun ta let dem by.

14. And den de drums dey beat ya know,  
De soagers dey was prancin;  
Tom told me dat it pleased 'em so,  
They coud'n kip from dancin.

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15. So I told feyther what I thought  
'Bout gooin' to de fair;  
An den he told me what he bought,  
When moder and he was dare.

16. He bought our Jack a leather cap,  
An Sal a money-puss;  
An Tom an Jem a spinnin tap,  
An me a little hoss.

17. Den moder drummin in my ear,  
Told all dat she had done;  
For doe she liv'd for fifty year,  
She'd never sin such fun.

18. So Sal and I was mighty glad,  
Ta hear sudge news as dat;  
An I set off ta neighbour Head,

Ta get a new straa hat.

19. An Thursday momin Sal an I,  
Set out ta goo ta fair;  
An moder an day wish't us good bye,  
An told Sal ta taak care.

20. But jest as o'er the stile we got,  
She call'd har back agin,  
An sed, 'Ya taak yer milkin cöat,  
Fer I're afared 'twull rain.'

21. Sal got de cöat, an we agin,  
Did both an us set sail;  
An she sed, 'Was she sure 'too'd rain,  
She never oo'd turn tail.'

22. De clover was granable wet,  
Sa when we crast de medder,  
We both upan de hardle set,  
An den begun concedir.

23. De Folkston gals looked houghed black,  
\*Old Waller'd roar'd about:  
Ses I ta Sal, 'Shall we go back!'  
'Na, na,' says she, 'kip out.'

\* This expresion cannot be clearly explained.

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24. 'Ya see the lark is mountain high,

De clouds ta undermine;  
I lay a graat he clears de sky,  
And den it wull be fine.'

25. An sure enough old Sal was right,  
De Folkston gals was missin;  
De sun and sky begun look bright,  
An Waller'd stopt his hissin.

26. An so we sasselsail'd along,  
An crass de fields we stiver'd,  
While dickey lark kep up his song  
An at de clouds conniver'd.

27. De rain an wind we left behind,  
De clouds was scar'd away;  
Bright Pebus he shut-fisted shin'd,  
And 'twas a lightful day.

28. We tore like mad through Perry 'ood,  
An jest beyand Stone Stile,  
We got inta de turnpik röad,  
An kep it all de while.

29. An den we went through Shanford Street,  
An over Chartham Down;  
My wig! how many we did meet,  
A coming from de town.

30. An some sung out, 'Dare's Moll and Jan,'  
But we ne'er cared for it;  
Through thick an thin we blunder'd an,

An got ta Wincheap Street.

31. I sed, ‘We’r got here sure enough,  
We’ll kip upon de causeway;’  
But Sal sed, ‘Tis sa plagued rough,  
Less get inta de hossway.’

32. And so we slagger’d den ya know,  
And gaap’t and stared about;  
Ta see de houses all a row,  
An signs a hanging out.

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33. An when a goodish bit we’d bin,  
We turn’d to de right han’;  
An den we turned about agin,  
An see an alus stan.

34. Sal thought it was de Göat or Hine—  
I didn’ know for my part;  
But when we look’t apan de sign,  
De reading was de ‘White Hart.’

35. Den we went through a gëat ya see,  
An down a gravel walk:  
An’s we stood unnerneath a tree,  
We heard de people talk.

36. So Sal, ya know, heav’d up her face,  
Ad see ‘em al stan roun,  
Upon a gurt high bank an plëace,

An we apan de groun.

37. Den I gaapt up and see ‘em all,  
An wonder’d what could be—  
Sa I turns round an says to Sal,  
‘Less clamber up an see.’

38. But she was rather scared at fust  
Fer fear a tumblin down;  
An dey at tap made game an us,  
An told us ta goo roun.

39. Jigger! I wooden give it up,  
So took her roun de nick,  
An holl’d her pattens ta de top,  
An dragged her through de quick.

40. An den she turn’d erself about,  
An sed ‘twas rather rough;  
But when we found de futway out,  
We went up safe enough.

41. An when we got to de tip top,  
We see a marble mountain—  
A gurt high stone thing histed up,  
Jest like a steeple countin.

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42. An dare we see, ah! all de town,  
Houses, an winmills grindin;  
\*An gospels feeding on de groun,

An boys de dunnocks mindin.

43. How we was scared—why, dam my skin!

I lay dat dare was more

Houses an churches den we'd sin

In all 'ur lives afore.

44. An when we'd stared and gaap'd all roun,

And thought we'd sin 'em all;

We turned about for ta come down,

But got apan a wall.

45. An Sal look't over as we past,

Ta see de ivy stick,

An if I had'en held her fast,

She would a brok'er nick.

46. Den on we went, an soon we see

A brick place, where instead,

A being at top, as't ought to be,

De röad ran unnernead.

47. An dare we pook't and peek'd about,

Ta see what made it stick up;

But narn o' us cou'den' find it out,

What kep the middle brick up.

48. An Sal sung out, 'Why dis here wall,

It looks sa old an hagged;

I'm mortally afared 'twill fall:'

And I was deadly shagged.

49. An when we got into de street,  
A coach dat come from Dover,  
Did gran nigh tread us under feet,  
An Sal was ‘most run over.

50. And so we stiver’d right across,  
And went up by a mason’s;  
An come down to a gurt big house—  
I lay it was de Pason’s!

\* It is supposed that some error in printing may have created the two words *gospels* and *dunnocks*, which occur in this stanza, for the most careful enquiries have failed to identify them.

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51. And den we turn’d to de left han,  
An down into de street,  
An see a gurt fat butcher stan,  
Wid shop chuck full o’ meat.

52. Den all at once we made a stop,  
I thought Sal would a fainted;  
When lookin in a barber’s shop,  
Sa fine de dolls was painted.

53. And dare was one an ‘em I’ll swear  
Jest like de Pason’s wife;  
Wid nose, an eyes, an teeth, an hair,  
As nat’ral as life.

54. So dare we stopt a little space,  
An sed ‘How queer it looks;’

But soon we see anudder place,  
And dat was crammed wid books.

55. I sed ta her ‘What books dare be,  
Dare’s supm ta be sin;’  
Den she turn’d round, and sed to me,  
‘Suppose we do go in.’

56. Now, Sal, ye see, had bin ta school—  
She went to old aunt Kite;  
An so she was’en quite a fool,  
But cud read purty tight

57. She larnt her A B C, ya know,  
Wid D for dunce and dame,  
An all dat’s in de criss-crass row,  
An how to spell her name.

58. Sa in we went an down we squot,  
An look’t in every carner;  
Den ax’t de ooman if she’d got  
De book about Tom Harner.

59. It put Sal almost out a breath,  
When fust we went in dare;  
De ooman was sa plaguey death,  
She cou’den mak ‘ar hear.

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60. At last de man he hard us bawl,  
So out ya know he coom;

An braught de book, an gin't ta Sal,  
An sa we carr'd it hoom.

61. An Sal 'as red it throo and throo,  
An lint it to 'er brudder;  
An feyther loike to have it too,  
An wisht we'd bought anudder.

62. Den we came to anudder street,  
Where all was butcher's shops;  
Dare was a tarnal sight of meat,  
An steeks, an mutton-chops.

63. An dare was aluses by swarms—  
I lay dare was a duzen!  
An he dat kep de Butcher's Arms,  
Was old Jan Hillses cousin.

64. And so as Sal lookt purtty fine,  
We thoft we'd goo in dare;  
An hav a sup a beer ar two,  
Afore we went ta fair.

65. De landlord he lookt moighty brave,  
Wid his gurt rosy cheeks;  
An axt us if we loike to have  
A pound ar two a steeks.

66. Sa when we lickt de platters out,  
An yoffled down de beer,  
I sed ta Sal, 'Less walk about,  
An try an find de fair.'

67. An's went prowling down de street,  
We met old Simon Cole;  
He claa'd hold on her round de nick,  
An 'gun to suck har jole.

68. Now, dash my wig! dat put me out,  
For dare was Sal a squallin;  
I fedge him sich a tarnal clout,  
Dat down I knockt him spraalin.

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69. Dare he lay grumblin in de gutter,  
De folks day gathered roun' us,  
An crowdin in wid such a clutter,  
De same as if dey'd poun' us.

70. An dis was jist aside de shop,  
Where all de picters hung;  
An books an sich like mabbled up,  
An now an tan a song.

71. An dare we strain'd, an stared, an blous'd,  
An' tried ta get away;  
But more we strain'd, de more they scroug'd,  
An sung out, 'Giv 'em play.'

72. Den Simon swore by all dats good,  
He'd knock me inta tinder;  
An blow'd if I did'en think he ood,  
Fer 'e knockt me throught de winder.

73. An tore my chops most cruelly,  
De blood begun ta trickle;  
You wou'den a know'd it had bin me,  
I was in such a pickle.

74. Now jigger me tight! dat rais'd my fluff,  
I claw'd hold av his mane;  
An' mint ta fetch his head a cuff,  
But brok anudder pane.

75. Den I was up, den I gun swear,  
De chaps dey did jist laugh,  
An Sal she stompt, an tore har hair,  
An beller'd like a calf.

76. I thoft I'd fetch him one more pounce,  
So heav'd my stick an meant it,  
Jist to a' broke his precious sponce,  
But through de winder sent it.

77. De books and ballets flew about,  
Like thatch from off de barn;  
Or like de stra dat clutters out  
De 'sheen a thrashing carn.

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78. An den de chaps dey laugh'd agin,  
As if old Nick had seiz'd 'em;  
An burn my skin! if I did'en grin,  
A'cause I seed it pleased 'em.

79. But paid gran dearly far my fun,  
An dat ya knows de wust an't;  
I sed old Simon right ta pay,  
A'cause he was de fust an't.

80. But when de master coom hissself,  
He 'gun to say 'is prayers;  
'Twas ya', said he, 'ya stupid elf,  
I'll ha' ya ta de Mayer's.

81. Yees, ya shall pay, ya trucklebed,  
Ya buffle-headed ass;  
I know 'twas ya grate pumpin 'ead,  
First blunnered thro de glass.'

82. So den I dobb'd him down the stuff,  
A plaguey sight ta pay;  
An Sal an I was glad enuff,  
At last ta git away.

83. But when we got ta de Church-yard,  
In hopes ta fine' de Fair;  
Ya can't think how we both was scared  
A'cause it was'n dare!

84. So we was cruelly put out;  
An den de head pidjector  
Av some fine shop, axt what we thoft  
About his purty pictur.

85. Sal said she cou'den roightly tell,

An as you're there alive;  
Doe unnernead dey wrote it Peel,  
I're sure it was a hive.

86. I cou'd a gin de man a smack.  
He thought we cou'den tell;  
Sa often as ya know we baak,  
A beehive from a peel.

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87. So den we stiver'd up de town,  
An found de merry fair;  
Jest at de place dat we coom down,  
When fust we did git dare.

88. Den I took Sarer by de han',  
An wou'den treat her scanty;  
An holl'd down sixpence to de man,  
An gin her nuts a plenty.

89. An den, ya know, we seed de show,  
An when we'd done and tarn'd about,  
Sal sed to me, 'I think I see  
Old Glover wid his round-about;

90. An dat noo boät dat Akuss made,  
And snuff-boxes beside;  
So den we went to him an sed  
We'd loike to have a ride.

91. An up we got inta de boat,

But Sal began to maunder;  
For fare de string, when we'd gun swing,  
Shud brake an cum asunder.

92. But Glover sed 'It is sa tuff,  
'Tud bear a duzn men;'  
An when he thoft we'd swung enuff,  
He tuk us down agin.

93. An den he lookt at me and sed,  
'It seems to please your wife;'  
Sal grinn'd, and sed 'She never had  
Sudge fun in all her life.'

94. De snuff-boxes dey did jest fly,  
And sunder cum de rem;  
Dangle de skin an't! sed I  
I'll have a rap at dem.

95. My nable! there was lots of fun,  
An sich hubbub an hollar;  
De donkeys dey for cheeses run,  
An I grinn'd through a collar.

[xxiv]

96. Den Sal she run for half-a-crown,  
An I jumpt in a sack,  
An shou'd a won, but I fell down,  
An gran nigh brok my back.

97. Den we went out inta de town,

An had some gin an stuff;  
An Sal bought her a bran noo gown,  
An sed she'd sin enuff.

98. Jigger! I wou'd buy har a ribb'n;  
So when we'd bin and got it,  
I told 'er dat 'twas almost sebb'm,  
An thoft we'd better fut it.

99. An somehow we mistook the röad,  
But axt till we got right,  
So foun our way throo Perry 'ood,  
An got home safe at night,"

100. Thus Dick his canister unpack'd—  
I heard his oratory;  
And my poor sides were almost crack'd,  
With laughing at his story.

[1]

DICTIONARY  
OF  
THE KENTISH DIALECT.

A.

A. Used as a prefix with a verbal sb., taken actively.

“She's always *a* making mischief about somebody or another.”

ABED [ubed·] *adv.* In bed.

“You have not been *abed*, then?”

ABIDE [ubed·] *vb.* To bear; to endure; to tolerate; to put-up-with. Generally used in a negative sentence, as:

“I cannot *abide* swaggerers.” —*II. Henry IV.* act ii. sc. 4.

ABITED [ubei·tid] *adj.* Mildewed.

ACHING-TOOTH, *sb.* To have an aching-tooth for anything, is to wish for it very much.

“Muster Moppett’s man’s got a terr’ble *aching-tooth* for our old sow.”

ACT-ABOUT, *vb.* To play the fool.

“He got *acting-about*, and fell down and broke his leg.”

ADLE [ad·l] *adj.* Unwell; confused.

“My head’s that *adle*, that I can’t tend to nothin’.”

[2]

ADRY [udrei·] *adj.* In a dry or thirsty condition.

AFEARED [ufee·rd] *adj.* Affected with fear or terror.

“Will not the ladies be *afeared* of the lion?”

—*Midsummer Night’s Dream* act iii. sc. I.

AFORE [ufoa·r] *prep.* Before.

AFTERMEATH [aaft·urmee·th] *sb.* The grass which grows after the first crop has been mown for hay; called also, Roughings.

AGIN [ugin·] *prep.* Against; over-against; near.

“He lives down de lane *agin* de stile.”

AGREEABLE [ugree·ubl] *adj.* Consenting; acquiescent.

“They axed me what I thought an’t, and I said as how I was quite *agreeable*.”

AKERS [ai·kurz] *sb.pl.* Acorns.

ALEING [ai·ling] *sb.* An old-fashioned entertainment, given with a view to collecting subscriptions from guests invited to partake of a brewing of ale.

ALE-SOP [ai·lsop] *sb.* A refection consisting of toast and strong ale, hot; customarily partaken of by the servants in many large establishments in Kent on Christmas day.

ALL-A-MOST [au·lumoast] *adv.* Almost.

ALLEMASH-DAY [al·imash] *sb.* French *à la mèche*. The day on which the Canterbury silk-weavers begin to work by candle-light.

ALL-ON, *adv.* Continually.

“He kep *all on* actin’-about, and wouldn’t tend to nothin’.”

ALLOW, *vb.* To consider.

“He’s *allowed* to be the biggest rogue in Faversham.”

ALLWORKS, *sb.* The name given to a labourer on a farm, who stands ready to do any and every kind of work to which he may be set.

[3]

ALONGST [ulongst·] *prep.* On the long side of anything.

ALUS [ai·lus] *sb.* An ale-house.

“And when a goodish bit we’d bin  
We turned to de right han;  
And den we turned about agin,  
And see an *alus* stan.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 33.

AM. Used for are; as—

“They’*m* gone to bed.”

AMENDMENT [u’men·munt] *sb.* Manure laid on land.

AMMUT-CAST [am·ut kaa·st] *sb.* An emmet’s cast; an ant-hill.

AMON [ai·mun] *sb.* A hop, two steps, and a jump. A half-*amon*, is a hop, step, and jump.

AMONGST THE MIDLINS, *adv. phr.* In pretty good health.

“Well, Master Tumber, how be you getting’ on now?”

“Oh, I be *amongst the middlins!*”

AMPER [amp·ur] *sb.* A tumour or swelling; a blemish.

AMPERY [amp·uri] *adj.* Weak; unhealthy; beginning to decay, especially applied to cheese. (See *Hampery*.)

AN. Frequently used for of.

“What do you think *an't*?”

“Well, I thinks I wunt have no more *an't*.”

ANDIRONS [and·eirnz] *sb. pl.* The dogs, brand-irons, or cob-irons placed on either side of an open wood fire to keep the brands in the places. Called end-irons in the marginal reading of Ezek. xl. 43.

ANENTS [unents·] *prep.* Against; opposite; over-against.

ANEWST [uneu·st] *adv.* Over-against; near.

ANOINTED [unoi·ntid] *adj.* Mischievous; troublesome.

“He’s a proper *anointed* young rascal,” occasionally enlarged to:  
“The devil’s own *anointed* young rascal.”

[4]

ANOTHER-WHEN, *adv.* Another time.

ANTHONY-PIG [ant·uni pig] *sb.* The smallest pig of the litter, supposed to be the favourite, or at any rate the one which requires most care, and peculiarly under the protection of St. Anthony.

ANVIL-CLOUDS, *sb. pl.* White clouds shaped somewhat like a blacksmith’s anvil, said to denote rain.

APS [aps·] *sb.* (1) An asp or aspen tree; (2) a viper.

“The pison of *apses* is under their lips.”

AQUABOB [ai·kwu’bob] *sb.* An icicle.

ARBER [aa·ber] *sb.* Elbow.

ARBITRY [aa·bitri] *adj.* Hard; greedy; grasping; short for arbitrary.

AREAR [u’ree·r] *adj.* Reared-up; upright.

ARRIVANCE [urei·vuns] *sb.* Origin; birthplace.

“He lives in Faversham town now, but he’s a low-hill (below-hill) man by *arrivance*.”

ARTER [aa·tur] *prep.* After.

“Jack and Jill went up the hill

To fetch a pail of water;

Jack fell down and broke his crown,

And Jill came tumbling *arter*.”

AS. Is often used redundantly.

“I can only say *as* this—I done the best I could.”

“I reckon you’ll find it’s *as* how it is.”

ASHEN-KEYS [ash·nkee·z] *sb. pl.* The clustering seeds of the ash-tree; so called, from their resemblance to a bunch of keys.

ASIDE [usei·d] *prep.* By the side of.

“I stood *aside* him all the time.”

ASPRAWL [usprau·l] *adj.* Gone wrong.

“The pig-trade’s all *asprawl* now.”

[5]

ASTRE [aast·ur] *sb.* A hearth.

Lambarde (*Perambulation of Kent*, Ed. 1596, p. 562) states, that in his time this word was nearly obsolete in Kent, though still retained in Shropshire and other parts.

AUGUST-BUG [au·gust·bug·] *sb.* A beetle somewhat smaller than the May-bug or July-bug.

AV, *prep.* Of.

“I ha’ant heerd fill nor fall *av* him.”

AWHILE [u’wei·l] *adv.* For a time.

“He wunt be back yet *awhile*, I lay.”

AWLN [au·ln, au·n] *sb.* A French measure of length, equalling 5-ft. 7-in., used in measuring nets.

AX, *sb.* An axletree.

AX, *vb.* To ask.

This is a transposition—aks for ask, as waps for wasp, haps for hasp, &c. “I *axed* him if this was the way to Borden.”

“Where of the seyde acomptantis *ax* allowance as hereafter foloyth.”

—*Accounts of the Churchwardens of St. Dunstan’s, Canterbury.*

B.

BACKENING [bak·uning] *sb.* A throwing back; a relapse; a hindrance.

BACKER [bak·ur] *sb.* A porter; a carrier; an unloader. A word in common use at the docks.

BACK-OUT [bak·out] *sb.* A backyard.

BACKPART [bak·paart] *sb.* The back, where *part* is really redundant. “I shall be glad to see the *backpart* of you,” *i.e.*, to get you gone.

“I will take away Mine hand and thou shalt see My *backparts*; but My face shall not be seen.”—Ex. xxxiii. 23.

[6]

BACKSIDE [bak·seid] *sb.* A yard at the back of a house.

1590—1592.—“It’m allowed to ffrencham for mendinge of a gutter, and pavement in his backside . . . xix<sup>d</sup>.”—*Sandwich Book of Orphans.*

1611.—“And he led the flock to the *backside* of the desert.”—Ex. iii. 1.

BACKSTAY [bak·stai] *sb.* The flat piece of wood put on the feet in the manner of a snow-shoe, and used by the inhabitants of Romney Marsh to cross the shingle at Dungeness.

A stake driven in to support a raddle-fence.

BACKSTERS [bak·sturz] *sb. pl.* (Same as *Backstay*.)

BACKWAY [bak·wai] *sb.* The yard or space at the back of a cottage.

BAG, *vb.* To cut with a bagging hook.

1677.—The working-man taking a hook in each hand, cuts (the pease) with his right hand, and rolls them up with that in his left, which they call bagging of pease.—Plot, Oxfordshire 256.

BAGGING-HOOK [bag·ing-huok] *sb.* A curved cutting implement, very like a sickle, or reaping hook, but with a square, instead of a pointed, end. It is

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

used for cutting hedges, &c. The handle is not in the same plane as the hook itself, but parallel to it, thus enabling those who use it to keep their hands clear of the hedge.

BAIL [bail] *sb.* The handle of a pail, bucket, or kettle. A *cake-bail* is the tin or pan in which a cake is baked.

BAILY [bai·li] (1) *sb.* A court within a fortress. The level reen place before the court at Chilham Castle, *i.e.*, between the little court and the street, is still so called. They have something of this sort at Folkestone, and they call it the *bale* [bail]. The *Old Bailey* in London, and the *New Bailey* in Manchester, must have been originally something of the same kind, places

fenced in. O.F. *baille*, a barrier.

[7]

BAILY [bai·li] (2) *sb.* Bailiff is always pronounced thus.

At a farm, in what is called “a six-horse place,” the first four horses are under the charge of the wagoner and his mate, and the other two, of an *under-baily*.

BAILY-BOY [bai·liboi·] *sb.* A bailiff-boy, or boy employed by the farmer to go daily over the ground, and to see that everything is in order, and to do every work necessary.—*Pegge*.

BAIN'T [bai·nt] *phr.* For *are not* or *be, not*.

“Surely you *bain 't* agoin' yit-awhile?”

BAIST [baai·st] *sb.* The frame-work of a bed with webbing.—*Weald*. (See also, *Beist*, *Boist*.)

BAIT [bai·t] *sb.* A luncheon taken by workmen in the fields.

BALD-PATES [bau·ld-pai·ts] *sb. pl.* Roman coins of the lesser and larger silver were so called in Thanet, by the country people, in Lewis's time.

BALK [bau·k] (1) *sb.* A raised pathway; a path on a bank; a pathway serving as a boundary.

BALK [bau·k] (2) *sb.* A cut tree.

BALLET [bal·et] *sb.* A ballad; a pamphlet; so called because ballads are usually published in pamphlet form.

“Use no tavernys where the jestis and fablis;

Syngyng of lewde *ballette* rondelettes, or virolais.”

—*M., Laud*, 416, civ. *Written by a rustic of Kent*, 1460.

“De books an *ballets* flew about,

Like thatch from off the barn.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 77.

BALLOW [bal·oa] *sb.* A stick; a walking-stick; a cudgel.

“Keep out che vor’ye, or ise try whether your Costard or my *Ballow* be the harder.”

—*King Lear*, act iv. sc. 6. (first folio ed.)

BALL SQUAB [bau·lskwob] *sb.* A young bird just hatched.

BANNA [ban·u], BANNER [ban·r] *phr.* For be *not*.

“*Banna* ye going hopping this year?”

[8]

BANNOCK [ban·uk] *vb.* To thrash; beat; chastise.

BANNOCKING [ban·uking] *sb.* A thrashing; beating.

“He’s a tiresome young dog; but if he don’t mind you, jest you give him a good *bannocking*.”

BANYAN-DAY [ban·yun-dai] *sb.* A sea-term for those days on which no meat is served out to the sailors.

“Saddaday is a *banyan-day*” “What do’ye mean?” “Oh! a day on which we eat up all the odds and ends.”

BARBEL [baa·bl] *sb.* A sort of petticoat worn by fishermen at Folkestone. (See also *Barvel*.)

BARGAIN PENCE [baa·gin pens] *sb. pl.* Earnest money; money given on striking a bargain.

BAR-GOOSE [baa·goos] *sb.* The common species of sheldrake.—*Sittingbourne*.

BARM [baa·m] *sb.* Brewer’s yeast. (See *Sizzn*.)

BARREL DREEN [barr'·l dre·un] *sb.* A round culvert; a sewer; a drain.

BARTH [baa·th] *sb.* A shelter for cattle; a warm place or pasture for calves or lambs.

BARVEL [baa·vul] *sb.* A short leathern apron used by washerwomen; a slabbering-bib. (See also *Barbel* above.)

BAR-WAY [baa-wai] *sb.* A gate constructed of bars or rails, so made as to be taken out of the posts.

BASH [bash·] *vb.* To dash; smash; beat in.

“His hat was *bashed* in.”

BASTARD [bast·urd] *sb.* A gelding.

BASTARD-RIG [bast·urdrig·] *sb.* The smooth hound-fish, *mustelus lævis*.—*Folkestone*.

BAT [bat] *sb.* French *Bâton*. A piece of timber rather long than broad; a staff; a stick; a walking-stick. The old Parish book of Wye—34, Hen. VIII.—speaks

[9]

of “a tymber-bat.” *Boteler MS, Account Books cir. 1664*—”pd. John Sillwood, for fetching a *batt* from Canterb[ury] for a midle piece for my mill, 0 10<sup>s</sup> 0.”

Shakespeare, in the *Lover's Complaint*, has, “So slides he down upon his grained *bat*;” *i.e.*, his rough staff.

Some prisoners were tried in 1885, for breaking out of Walmer Barracks; when the constable said, “One of the prisoners struck at me with a *bat*;” which he afterwards defined as being, in this case, “the tarred butt-end of a hop-pole.”

BAT [bat] *sb.* The long handle of a scythe. A large rough kind of rubber used for sharpening scythes. The stick used for keeping the traces of a plough-horse asunder is called “a *spread bat*.”

BAULLY [bau·li] *sb.* A boat. (See *Bawley*.)

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BAVEN [bav·in] BAVIN, *sb.* A little fagot; a fagot of brushwood bound with only one wiff, whilst a fagot is bound with two.

“The skipping king, he ambled up and down  
With shallow jesters, and rash *bavin* wits  
Soon kindled and soon burned. . . .”

—*Henry IV.* act iii. sc. 1.

And

“It yearly cost five hundred pounds besides,  
To fence the town from Hull and Humber’s tides:  
For stakes, for *bavins*, timber, stones, and piles.”

—*Taylor’s Merry Wherry Voyage.*

BAWLEY [bau·li] *sb.* A small fishing smack used on the coasts of Kent and Essex, about the mouth of the Thames and Medway. *Bawleys* are generally about 40-ft. in length, 13-ft. beam, 5-ft. draught, and 15 or 20 tons measurement; they differ in rig from a cutter, in having no boom to the mainsail, which is consequently easily brailed-up when working the trawl nets. They are half-decked with a wet well to keep fish alive.

“Hawley, Bawley—Hawley, Bawley,  
What have you got in your trawley?”

is a taunting rhyme to use to a *bawley*-man, and has the same effect upon him as a red-flag upon a bull—or the poem of “the puppy pie” upon a bargeman.

[10]

BAY-BOARDS [bai·bordz] *sb. pl.* The large folding doors of a barn do not reach to the ground, and the intervening space is closed by four or five moveable boards which fit in a groove—these are called *bay-boards*.

BE [be] *vb.* For *are, am, &c.* “Where *be* you?” *i.e.*, “Where *are* you?” “I *be* comin’,” *i.e.*, “I *am* coming” This use of the word is not uncommon in older English; thus, in 1st Collect in the Communion Office, we have—”Almighty God, unto Whom all hearts *be* open, all desires known, and from Whom no

secrets are hid;” and in S. Luke xx. 25. “Render, therefore, unto Cæsar the things which be Cæsar’s, and unto God the things which *be* God’s.”

BEAN-HOOK [bee·nhuok] *sb.* A small hook with a short handle, for cutting beans.

BEARBIND [bai·rbeind] *sb.*, BEARBINE [bai·rbein] *sb.* Same as *Bindweed*.  
*Convolvulus arvensis*.

BEARERS [bai·rr’urz] *sb. pl.* The persons who bear or carry a corpse to the grave.  
In Kent, the bier is sometimes called a *bearer*.

BEASTS [bee·sts] *sb. pl.* The first two or three meals of milk after a cow has calved. (See *Biskins*, *Bismilk Poad-milk*.)

BECAUSE WHY [bikau·z whei] *interog. adv.* Why? wherefore? A very common

controversy amongst boys:—

“No it ain’t”—

“Cos why?”

“Cos it ain’t.”

BECKETT [bek·it] *sb.* A tough bit of cord by which the hook is fastened to the snood in fishing for conger-eels.

BEDSTEDDLE [bed·stedl] *sb.* The wooden framework of a bed, which supports the actual bed itself. “Item in the best chamber, called the great chamber, One fayer standing *bedsteddle*, one feather-bedd, one blanckett one covertleed.”—*Boteler Inventories in Memorials of Eastry*, p. 224, *et seq.*  
(See also, *Steddle*.)

[11]

BEE-LIQUOR [bee·likur] *sb.* Mead, made of the washings of the combs.

BEETLE [bee·tl] *sb.* A wooden mallet, used for splitting wood (in conjunction with iron wedges), and for other purposes. Each side of the *beetle*’s head is encircled with a stout band or ring of iron, to prevent the wood from splitting. The phrase—”as death [deaf] as a *beetle*” refers to this mallet, and is equivalent to the expression—”as deaf as a post.”

BEFORE AFTER [bifoa·r’aaft·r] *adv.* Until; after.

BEHOLDEN [bihoa·ldun] *vb.* Indebted to; under obligation to.

“I wunt be *beholden* to a Deal-clipper; leastways, not if I knows it.”

BEIST, *sb.* A temporary bed made up on two chairs for a child.—*Sittingbourne*,  
(Same as *Baist*.)

BELATED [bilai·tid] *vb.* To be after time, especially at night, *e.g.*, “I must be off,  
or I shall get *belated*”

BELEFT [bileft·] *vb.* For *believed*.

“I couldn’t have *beleft* it.”

BELOW LONDON, *phr.* An expression almost as common as “the Sheeres,”  
meaning simply, “not in Kent.”

BENDER AND ARRS [bend·ur-un-aarz] *sb. pl.* Bow and arrows.

BENERTH [ben·urth] *sb.* The service which the tenant owed the landlord by plough  
and cart.

BERBINE [bur·been] *sb.* The verbena.

BERTH [burth·] *vb.* To lay down floor boards. The word occurs in the old Parish  
Book of Wye—31 and 35, Henry VIII.

BEST, *vb.* To best, or get the better of.

“I shall *best* ye.”

BESTED [bistid·] *adj.* Destitute; forlorn; in evil case.

[12]

BETTERMY [bet·urmi] *adj.* Superior; used for “*bettermost*.”

“They be rather *bettermy* sort of folk.”

BEVER [bee·vur] *sb.* A slight meal, not necessarily accompanied by drink, taken  
between breakfast and dinner, or between dinner and tea.

BIB [bib] *sb.* Name among Folkestone fishermen for the pouter.

BIBBER [bibu·r] *vb.* To tremble.

“I saw his under lip *bibber*”

BIDE [bei·d] *vb.* To stay.

“Just you let that *bide*,” *i.e.*, let it be as it is, and don’t meddle with it.

BIER-BALKS [bee·r-bauks] *sb. pl.* Church ways or paths, along which a bier and  
coffin may be carried.

BIGAROO [big·ur'oo] *sb.* The whiteheart cherry.

BILLET [bil·it] *sb.* A spread bat or swingle bar, to which horses' traces are fastened.

BINDER [bei·ndur] *sb.* A long stick used for hedging; a long, pliable stick of any kind; thus, walnuts are thrashed with a *binder*. Also applied to the sticks used in binding on the thatch of houses or stacks.

“They shouted fire, and when Master Wood poked his head out of the top room window, they hit him as hard as they could with long *binders*, and then jumped the dyke, and hid in the barn.”

BING-ALE [bing·ail] *sb.* Ale given at a tithe feast.

BIRDES NESTES [bir·diz nes·tiz] *sb. pl.* Birds' nests. This old-world phrase was constantly used some few years back by some of the ancients of Eastry, who have now adopted the more modern pronunciation.

BISHOP'S-FINGER, *sb.* A guide post; so called, according to Pegge, because it shows the right way, but does not go therein. (See also, *Pointing-post*.)

[13]

BISKINS [bisk·inz] *sb. pl.* In East Kent, they so call the two or three first meals of milk after the cow has calved. (See also *Beasts*, *Bismilk*, *Poad-milk*.)

BISMILK [bis·milk] *sb.* (See *Biskins*.)

BLACK-RIND [blak·reind] *sb.* A small oak that does not develop to any size.

“Them *blackrinds* won't saw into timber, but they'll do for postes.”

BLACKIE [blak·i] *sb.* A black bird.—*Sittingbourne*.

BLACK-TAN [blak·tan] *sb.* Good for nothing.

“Dat dere pikey is a regler *black-tan*.”

BLAR [blaar], BLARE [blair] *vb.* To bellow; to bleat; to low.

“The old cow keeps all-on *blaring* after her calf.”

BLEAT [bleet] *adj.* Bleak.

BLIGH [blei] *adj.* Lonely; dull.

BLIV, or BLUV (corruption of Believe) *vb.* Believe; believed.

“I *bliv* I haant caught sight of him dis three monts.”

BLOOD [blud] *sb.* A term of pity and commiseration. In East Kent, the expression, *poor blood*, is commonly used by the elder people, just as the terms—  
"poor body," "poor old body," "poor soul," or "poor dear soul," are used elsewhere.

BLOODINGS [blud·ingz] *sb. pl.* Black puddings.

BLOOMAGE [bloo·mij] *sb.* Plumage of a bird.

BLOUSE [blouz] (1) *vb.* To sweat; perspire profusely. "I was in a *blousing* heat," is a very common expression.

"An dare we strain'd an stared an *bloused*

And tried to get away;

But more we strain'd, de more dey scroug'd

And sung out, 'Give 'em play.'

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 71.

BLOUSE [blouz] *sb.* A state of heat which brings high colour to the face; a red-faced wench.

[14]

BLOUSING [blou·zing] *adj.* Sanguine and red; applied to the colour often caused by great exertion and heat, "a *blousing* colour."

BLUE BOTTLES [bloo bot·lz] *sb.* The wild hyacinth. *Scilla nutans*.

BLUE-SLUTTERS [bloo-slut·rz]. A very large kind of jelly fish.—*Folkestone*.

BLUNDER [blund·ur] (1) *sb.* A heavy noise, as of a falling or stumbling.

"I knows dere's some rabbits in de bury, for I heerd de *blunder* o' one."

BLUNDER [blund·ur] (2) *vb.* To move awkwardly and noisily about; as, when a person moving in a confined space knocks some things over, and throws others down.

"He was here just now *blundering* about."

BLUSTROUS, *adj.* Blustering.

"Howsomever, you'll find the wind pretty *blustrous*, I'm thinking."

BLY [blei] *sb.* A resemblance; a general likeness. [A.S. *bleo* hue, complexion.]

(See *Favour*, which is now more commonly used in East Kent to describe a resemblance.)

“Ah! I can see who he be; he has just the *bly* of his father.”

BOAR-CAT [boa·rkat] *sb.* A Tom-cat.

BOBBERY [bob·uri] *sb.* A squabble; a row; a fuss; a set out.

BOBBIN [bob·in] *sb.* A bundle of firewood (smaller than a fagot, and larger than a pimp), whereof each stick should be about 18 inches long. Thus, there are three kinds of firewood—the fagot, the bobbin, and the pimp. (See also, *Bavin, Kilnbrush, &c.*)

BOBBIN-TUG [bob·in-tug·] *sb.* A light frame-work of wheels, somewhat like a timber-wagon, used for carrying *bobbins* about for sale. It has an upright stick at each of the four comers, to keep the bobbins in their places.

[15]

BOBLIGHT [bob·leit] *sb.* Twilight.

BO-BOY [boa·boi] *sb.* A scarecrow.

BODAR [boa·dur] *sb.* An officer of the Cinque Ports whose duty it was to arrest debtors and convey them to be imprisoned in Dover Castle.

BODGE [boj] (1) *sb.* A wooden basket, such as is used by gardeners; a scuttle-shaped box for holding coals, carrying ashes, &c. (See also *Trug.*) The *bodge* now holds an indefinite quantity, but formerly it was used as a peck measure.

1519.—”Paied for setting of iij busshellis and iij *boggis* of benys and a galon . . . xvj<sup>d</sup>.”

—*MS. Accounts St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

BODGE [boj] (2) *sb.* An uncertain quantity, about a bushel or a bushel and a half.

“Just carry this *bodge* of corn to the stable.”

BODILY-ILL [bod·ili-il] *adj. phr.* A person ill with bronchitis, fever, shingles, would be *bodily-ill*; but of one who had hurt his hand, sprained his ankle,

or broken his leg, they would say: “Oh, he’s not, as you may say, *bodily-ill*.”

BOFFLE [bof·1] (1) *vb.* To baffle; to bother; to tease; to confuse; to obstruct.

“I should ha’ been here afore now, only for de wind, that’s what *boffled* me.”

BOFFLE (2) *sb.* A confusion; a blunder; a thing managed in a confused, blundering way.

“If you both run the saäme side, ye be saäfe to have a *boffle*.”—*Cricket Instruction*.

BOIST [boist] *sb.* A little extempore bed by a fireside for a sick person. *Boist*, originally meant a box with bedding in it, such as the Norwegian beds are now. (See *Baist*.)

[16]

BOLDRUMPTIOUS [bo·ldrumshus or bold·rumshus] *adj.* Presumptuous.

“That there upstandin’ *boldrumptious* blousing gal of yours came blarin’ down to our house last night all about nothin’; I be purty nigh tired of it.”

BOND [bond] *sb.* The wiff or wisp of twisted straw or hay with which a sheaf of corn or truss of hay is bound.

“Where’s Tom? He’s with feyther making *bonds*.”

BONELESS [bo·nlus] *sb.* A corruption of Boreas, the north wind. “In Kent when the wind blows violently they say, ‘*Boneless* is at the door.’”

BOOBY-HUTCH [boo·bi-huch] *sb.* A clumsy, ill-contrived, covered carriage or seat.

BOOTSHOES, *sb pl.* Thick boots; half-boots. “*Bootshoe* high,” is a common standard of measurement of grass.

“Dere an’t but terr’ble little grass only in de funder eend of de fill, but ‘tis *bootshoe* high dere.”

BOP, *vb.* To throw anything down with a resounding noise.

BOROW [bor·oa] *sb.* A tithing; the number of ten families who were bound to the king for each other’s good behaviour.

“That which in the West country was at that time, and yet is, called a tithing, is in Kent termed a *borow*.”—*Lambarde, Perambulation of Kent, p.27.*

BORSHOLDER [boss·oaldur] *sb.* A head-borough; a petty-constable; a constable’s assistant. At Great Chart they had a curious custom of electing a *dumb borsholder*. This is still in existence, and is made of wood, about three feet and half an inch long; with an iron ring at the top, and four rings at the sides, by means of which it was held and propelled when used for breaking open the doors of houses supposed to contain stolen goods. (There is an engraving of it in *Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. ii. p. 86.)

BORROW-PENCE, *sb. pl.* An old name for ancient coins; probably coins found in the tumuli or barrows.

[17]

BORSTAL [bor·stul] *sb.* “A pathway up a hill, generally a very steep one.” (Perhaps from A.S. *beorg* a hill, *stal* a seat, dwelling.) *Bostal Heath*, acquired by the Metropolitan Board of Works for an open space in 1878, is situated in the extreme south-eastern suburb of London, and is one of the most beautiful spots in Kent, abounding in hills, ravines, glens, and woods. Snakes, owls, and hawks abound in its vicinity, and the Heath was formerly occupied by a pure race of gipsies. At Whitstable there is a steep hill called *Bostal Hill*.

BOSS-EYED [boss·eid] *adj.* Squinting; purblind.

BOSTAL [bost·ul] *sb.* The same as *Borstal*.

BOSTLER [bost·ler] *sb.* A borsholder or constable.

“I reckon, when you move you’ll want nine men and a *bostler*, shaän’t ye?”

BOULT [boalt] *vb.* To cut pork in pieces, and so to pickle it.

BOULTING TUB [boa·lting tub] *sb.* The tub in which the pork is pickled.

1600.—“Item in the Buntinghous, one *boultinge*, with one kneadinge trofe, and one meal tub.”

BOUNDS, *sb.* The phrase, *no bounds*, is probably the one of all others most frequently on the lips of Kentish labourers, to express uncertainty.

“There ain’t no *bounds* to him, he’s here, there, and everywhere.”

BOUT [bout] *sb.* A period of time; a “go,” or turn. In Sussex, it answers to a “day’s work;” but in East Kent, it is more often applied to a period of hard work, or of sickness, *e.g.*, “Poor chap, he’s had a long *bout* of it.”

BOY-BEAT [boi-beet] *adj.* Beaten by a person younger than oneself.

“My father, he carried the sway at stack building for fifteen year; at last they begun to talk o’ puttin’ me up; ‘Now I’ve done,’ the ole chap says—

‘I wunt be *boy-beat*,’ and so he guv up, and never did no more an’t.”

[18]

BRACK [brak] *sb.* A crack; a rent; a tear, in clothes.

1602.—“Having a tongue as nimble as his needle, with servile patches of glavering flattery, to stitch up the *bracks*, &c.”

—Antonio and Mellida.

“You tiresome boy, you! when you put on dat coat dare wasn’t a *brak* in it, an’ now jest see de state ids in!”

BRAKE-PLOUGH [brai·k-plou] *sb.* A plough for braking, or cleaning the ground between growing plants.

BRAKING [brai·king] *vb.* Clearing the rows betwixt the rows of beans with a shim or brake-plough.

BRAND-IRONS [brand·ei·rnz] *sb. pl.* The fire-dogs or cob-irons which confine the brands on an open hearth.

“In the great parlor . . . one payër of cob-irons or *brand-yrons*.”—Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry, p. 225.

BRANDY COW [brand·i kou] *sb.* A cow that is brindled, brinded, or streaked.

BRAUCH [brauch] *sb.* Rakings of straw.

BRAVE [braiv] *adj.* Large.

“He just was a *brave* fox.”

BRAWCHE [brauch] *sb. pl.* Same as *Brauch*, above.

BREAD-AND-BUTTER [bren-but·ur] *sb.* In Kent these three words are used as one substantive, and it is usual to prefix the indefinite article and to speak of a *brenbutter*.

“I’ve only had two small *brenbutters* for my dinner.”

BRENT [brent] *adj.* Steep. In a perambulation of the outbounds of the town of Faversham, made in 1611, “the Brent” and “the Brent gate” are mentioned. The Middle-English word *Brent* most commonly meant “burnt;” but there was another *Brent*, an adjective, which signified steep, and it was doubtless used here in the latter sense, to describe the conformation of the land.

BRET [bret] (1) *sb.* To fade away; to alter. Standing corn so ripe that the grain falls out, is said to *bret out*. (See *Brit.*)

[19]

BRET [bret] (2) *vb.* A portion of wood torn off with the strig in gathering fruit. (See *Spalter.*)

BRIEF [breef] (1) *sb.* A petition drawn up and carried round for the purpose of collecting money. Formerly, money was collected in Churches, on *briefs*, for various charitable objects, both public and private; and in some old Churches you may even now find a Brief Book, containing the names of the persons or places on whose behalf the Brief was taken round, the object, and the amounts collected. Public briefs (see *Communion Office*, rubrics after the Creed), like Queen’s Letters, have fallen into disuse; and now only private and local *Briefs* are in vogue.

BRIEF [breef] (2) *adj.* Common; plentiful; frequent; rife.

“Wipers are wery *brief* here,” *i.e.*, Vipers are very common here.

BRIMP [brimp] *sb.* The breeze or gad fly which torments bullocks and sheep.

BRIMS [brimz]. The same as above.

Kennett, *MS. Lans.*, 1033, gives the phrase—“You have *brims* in your tail,” *i.e.*, “You are always restless.”

BRIMSEY [brimz·i]. The same as above.

BRISH [brish] *vb.* To brush; to mow over lightly, or trim.

1636.—"For shreddinge of the ashes and *brishinge* of the quicksettes . . . vj<sup>d</sup>."

—*MS. Accounts St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

BRIT [brit] *vb.* To knock out; rub out; drop out. Spoken of corn dropping out, and of hops shattering. (See *Bret.*)

BROACH [broach] *sb.* A spit. This would seem to be the origin of the verb, "to *broach* a cask," "to *broach* a subject."

BROCKMAN [brok·man] *sb.* A horseman. (See *Brok.*) The name *Brockman* is still common in Kent.

[20]

BROK, BROCK [brok] *sb.* An inferior horse. The word is used by Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*, 7125.

BROKE [broak] *sb.* A rupture.

BROOK [bruok] *vb.* To *brook* one's name, is to answer in one's disposition to the purport of one's name. In other places they would say, "Like by name and like by nature."

"Seems as though Mrs. Buck makes every week washin' week; she *brooks* her name middlin', anyhow."

BROOKS [bruoks] *sb. pl.* Low, marshy ground, but not necessarily containing running water or even springs.

BROOM-DASHER [broom-dash·ur] *sb.* One who goes about selling brooms; hence used to designate any careless, slovenly, or dirty person. "The word *dasher* is also combined in *haberdasher*."

BROWN-DEEP [brou·n-deep] *adj.* Lost in reflection.

BROWSELLS [brou·zlz] *sb. pl.* The remains of the *fleed* of a pig, after the lard has been extracted by boiling.

BRUCKLE [bruk·l] *adj.* Brittle.

BRUFF [bruf] *adj.* Blunt; rough; rude in manner.

BRUMPT [brumpt] *adj.* Broken; bankrupt.

“I’m quite *brumpt*,” *i.e.*, I have no money.

BRUNGEON [brunj·yun] *sb.* A brat; a neglected child.

BRUSH [bruosh and brush] *vb.* To trim hedges; to mow rough grass growing thinly over a field.

“Jack’s off hedge-*brushing*.”

1540.—”To Saygood for *brusshyng* at Hobbis meadow . . . . vj<sup>d</sup>.”

—MS, *Accounts St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

BRUSS [brus] *adj.* Brisk; forward; petulant; proud.

“Dese ‘ere bees be middlin’ *bruss* this marnin’, there ain’t no goin’ into de garden for ‘em, they’ve bit me three times already.”

[21]

BRUT [brut] (1) *vb.* To browse or nibble off young shoots.

In the printed conditions of the sale of Kentish cherry-orchards, there is generally a clause against “excessive *brutting*,” *i.e.*, that damage so done by the purchasers must be paid for.

BRUT [brut] (2) *vb.* To shoot, as buds or potatoes. “My tatures be *bruted* pretty much dis year.”

BRUT [brut] (3) *vb.* To break off the young shoots (*bruts*) of stored potatoes.

BUCK [buk] (1) *vb.* To wash.

BUCK [buk] (2) *sb.* A pile of clothes ready for washing. It is now (1885) some 60 years ago since the farmers washed for their farm servants, or allowed them a guinea a year instead. Then the lye, soap, and other things were kept in the bunting house; and there, too, were piled the gaberdines, and other things waiting to be washed until there was enough for one *buck*.

Shakespeare uses the word *buck-basket* for what we now call “a *clothes basket*.”

“*Fal* . . . They conveyed me into a *buck-basket*. Ford.—A *buck-basket!* *Fal*.—By the Lord, a *buck-basket*; rammed me in with foul shirts and smocks, socks, foul stockings, greasy napkins. . . .”

BUCK [buk] (3) *vb.* To fill a basket.

BUCKING [buk·ing] CHAMBER, *sb.* The room in which the clothes were bucked, or steeped in lye, preparatory to washing.

BUCK-WASH [buk-wash] *sb.* A great washing-tub, formerly used in farm-houses, when, once a quarter, they washed the clothes of the farm servants, soaking them in strong lye.

BUD [bud] *sb.* A weaned calf that has not yet grown into a heifer. So called, because the horns have not grown out, but are in the *bud*.

“His cow came to y<sup>e</sup> racks a moneth before Christmas, and went away y<sup>e</sup> 21 of January. His *bud* came at Michaelmas.”—*Boteler MS. Account Book of 1652.*

[22]

BUFF [buf] *sb.* A clump of growing flowers; “a tuft or hassock.”

“That’s a nice *buff* of cloves” (pinks).

BUFFLE-HEADED [buff·l-hed·id] *adj.* Thick-headed; stupid.

“Yees; you shall pay, you truckle bed,

Ya *buffle-headed* ass.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 84.

BUG [bug] (1) *vb.* To bend.

BUG [bug] (2) *sb.* A general name for any insect, especially those of the fly and beetle kind; *e.g.*, *May-bug*, *Lady-bug*, *June-bug*, *July-bug*.

BULL-HUSS [bul·hus] *sb.* The large spotted dog-fish. *Scyllium catulus*.

BULLOCK [bul·uk] *sb. pl.* A fattening beast of either sex.

BULL-ROUT [bul·rout] *sb.* The goby.

BUMBLE [bumb·l] *vb.* To make a humming noise. Hence, *bumble bee*, a humble bee.

BUMBLESOME [bumb·lsum] *adj.* Awkward; clumsy; ill-fitting.

“That dress is far too *bumblesome*.”

“You can’t car’ that, you’ll find it verry *bumblesome*.”

BUMBULATION [bumbulai·shn]. A humming noise.

BUNT [bunt] (1) *vb.* To shake to and fro; to sift the meal or flour from the bran.

BUNT [bunt] (2) *vb.* To butt.

“De old brandy-cow *bunted* her and purty nigh broke her arm.”

BUNTING [bunt·ing] (1) *adj.* The *bunting* house is the out-house in which the meal is sifted. (See *Bunt* above.)

“Ite in the chamber over the *buntting house*, &c.” “Item in the *Buntinge* houss, one boulting with one kneading trofe, and one meale tub.”—*Boteler Inventory*; in *Memorials of Eastry*, pp. 225, 228.

[23]

BUNTING [bunt·ing] (2) *sb.* A shrimp.

BUNTING [bunt·ing]-HUTCH [huch] *sb.* A boulting hutch, *i.e.*, the bin in which the meal is bunted or bolted.

1600.—“Ite in the *buntting* house, one *Bunting hutch*, two kneading showles, a meale tub w<sup>th</sup> other lumber there prized at yj<sup>s</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>.—*Boteler Inventory*; *Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226.

BURR [bur] (1) *sb.* A coagulated mass of bricks, which by some accident have refused to become separated, but are a sort of conglomerate.

BURR [bur] (2) *sb.* The halo or circle round the moon is so called, *e.g.*, “There was a *burr* round the moon last night.”

The weather-wise in East Kent will tell you, “The larger the *burr* the nearer the rain.”

BURR [bur] (3) *sb.* The blossom of the hop.

“The hops are just coming out in *burr*.”

BURRY [berr·i] *sb.* A rabbit burrow.

BUSH [bush] *sb.* Used specially and particularly of the gooseberry *bush*. “Them there *bushes* want pruning sadly.”

BUTT [but] *sb.* A small flat fish, otherwise called the flounder. They are caught in the river at Sandwich by spearing them in the mud, like eels. But at Margate they call turbot *butts*.

BY-BUSH [bei·bush] *adv.* In ambush, or hiding.

“I just stood *by-bush* and heard all they said.”

BYSACK [bei·sak] *sb.* A satchel, or small wallet.

BYTHE [beith] *sb.* The black spots on linen produced by mildew. (See *Abited.*)

BYTHY [bei·thi] *adj.* Spotted with black marks left by mildew.

“When she took the cloth out it was all *bythy.*”

BYST [beist] *sb.* A settle or sofa. (See *Baist, Boist*, above.)

[24]

VNiVERSITAS  
STVDII  
SALAMANTINI

C.

CAD [kad] *sb.* A journeyman shoemaker; a cobbler; hence a contemptuous name for any assistant.

“His uncle, the shoemaker’s *cad.*”

CADE [kaid] *sb.* A barrel containing six hundred herrings; any parcel, or quantity of pieces of beef, less than a whole quarter.

“*Cade.*—We John Cade, so termed of our supposed father.

*Dick.*—Or rather, of stealing a *cade* of herrings.”

—*II. King Henry VI*, act iv. sc. 2.

CADE-LAMB [kaid-lam] *sb.* A house-lamb; pet lamb.

CADLOCK [ked·luk] *sb.* Charlock. *Sinapis arvensis.*

CAILES [kailz] *sb. pl.* Skittles; ninepins.

CAKE-BAIL. A tin or pan in which a cake is baked.

CALIVER [kal·ivur] *sb.* A large pistol or blunderbuss.

1600.—”It in Jonathan Boteler’s chamb<sup>r</sup> fower chestes w<sup>th</sup> certain furniture for the warrs, viz., two corsletts, one Jack, two musketts, fur one Horseman’s piec, fur one case of daggs, *two caliurs*, fur w<sup>th</sup> swords and daggers prized at . . . . iiij<sup>li</sup>.”—*Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 225.

CALL [kaul] (1) *sb.* A word in every-day use denoting necessity, business, but always with the negative prefixed.

“There ain’t *no call* for you to get into a passion.”

CALL-OVER [kaul·oa·vur] *vb.* To find fault with; to abuse.

“Didn’t he *call me over* jist about.”

CALLOW [kal·oa] *adj.* Smooth; bald; bare; with little covering; also used of underwood thin on the ground.

“‘Tis middlin’ rough in them springs, but you’ll find it as *callow* more, in the high wood.”

In Sussex the woods are said to be getting *callow* when they are just beginning to bud out.

[25]

CARF [kaaf] *sb.* A cutting of hay; a quarter of a stack cut through from top to bottom.

“Dick staggered with a *carf* of hay,  
To feed the bleating sheep;  
Proud thus to usher in the day,  
While half the world’s asleep.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 2.

CANKER-BERRY [kank·ur·ber·i] *sb.* The hip; hence *canker-rose*, the rose that grows upon the wild briar. *Rosa canina*.

“The *canker*-blooms have full as deep a dye  
As the perfumed tincture of the roses.”

—*Shakespeare—Sonnets*, liv.

CANT [kant] [1] *sb.* A portion of corn or woodland.

Every farm-bailiff draws his *cant* furrows through the growing corn in the spring, and has his cant-book for harvest, in which the measurements of the *cants* appear, and the prices paid for cutting each of them.

CANT [kant] (2) *vb.* To tilt over; to upset; to throw.

“The form *canted* up, and over we went.”

CANT [kant] (3) *sb.* A push, or throw.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

“I gave him a *cant* jus’ for a bit of fun, and fancy he jus was spiteful, and called me over, he did.”

CANTEL [kant·l] *sb.* An indefinite number; a cantel of people, or cattle; diminutive of *cant* (1). A corner or portion of indefinite dimension; a *cantel* of wood, bread, cheese, &c.

“See how this river comes me cranking in,  
And cuts me, from the best of all my land,  
A huge half moon, a monstrous cantle out.”

—*King Henry IV*, pt. I. act iii. sc. 1.

CANTERBURY-BELLS, *sb. pl.* The wild campanula. *Campanula medicus*. The name is probably connected with the idea of the resemblance of the flowers to the small bells carried on the trappings of the horses of the pilgrims to the shrine of S. Thomas, at Canterbury. There are two kinds, large and small; both abound in the neighbourhood of Canterbury.

[26]

CAP [kap] *sb.* Part of the flail which secures the *middle-band* to the *hand-staff* or the *swingel* as the case may be. A flail has two *caps*, viz., the *hand-staff cap*, generally made of wood, and the *swingel cap*, made of leather.

CANPONS [kai·punz] *sb. pl.* Red herrings. (See the list of *Nicknames*—Ramsgate.)

CAR [kaa] *vb.* To carry.

“He said dare was a teejus fair  
Dat lasted for a wick;  
And all de ploughmen dat went dare,  
Must *car* dair shining stick.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 8.

CARD [kaad]. (See *Cade*.)

*Lewis*, p. 129, mentions a *card* of red-herrings amongst the merchandise paying rates at Margate harbour.

CARPET-WAY [kaa·pit-wai] *sb.* A green-way; a smooth grass road; or lyste way.

CARRY-ON [kar·r’i-on] *vb.* To be in a passion; to act unreasonably.

“He’s been *carrying-on* any-how.”

CARVET [kaa·vet] *sb.* A thick hedge-row; a copse by the roadside; a piece of land carved out of another. Used in the neighbourhood of Lympne, in Dr. Pegge’s time; so also, in *Boteler MS. Account Books*, there are the following entries—“Y<sup>e</sup> Chappell *caruet* at Sopeshall that I sold this year to John Birch at 5 0 0 y<sup>e</sup> acre, cont[ained] beside the w[oo]dfall round, 1 acre and 9 perches, as Dick Simons saith, who felled it.” “I have valued one *carvet* at Brinssdale at 7<sup>l</sup> 0 0 y<sup>e</sup> acre, y<sup>e</sup> other *caruet* at 6 0 0 the acre.” “Y<sup>e</sup> one *caruet* cont[ained] i yerd and i perch; y<sup>e</sup> other halfe a yerd want[ing] i perch” [*i.e.*, one perch wanting half a yard].

CAST [kaast] *sb.* The earth thrown up above the level of the ground by moles, ants, and worms, and therefore called a worm-*cast*, an emmet-*cast*, or a mole-*cast*, as the case might be.

“Them *wum-caastes* do make the lawn so verry unlevel.”

[27]

CAST [kaast] *vb.* To be thwarted; defeated; to lose an action at law.

“They talk of carr’ing it into court, but I lay he’ll be *cast*”

CATER [kai·tur] *vb.* To cut diagonally.

CATERWAYS [kai·turwaiz] *adv.* Obliquely; slantingly; cross-ways.

“He stood aback of a tree and skeeted water *caterways* at me with a squib.”

CAVING [kai·vin] *sb.* The refuse of beans and peas after threshing, used for horse-meat.—W. Kent. Called *tauf*, *toff*, in E. Kent.

CAWL [kaul] *sb.* A coop.

CAXES [kaks·ez] *sb. pl.* Dry hollow stalks; pieces of bean stalk about eight inches long, used for catching earwigs in peach and other wall-fruit trees.

CEREMONY [ser·r’imuni] *sb.* A fuss; bother; *set-out*. Thus a woman once said to me, “There’s quite a *ceremony* if you want to keep a child at home half-a-day.” By which she meant that the school regulations were very

troublesome, and required a great deal to be done before the child could be excused.—*W. F. S.*

CHAMPIONING [champ·yuning] *partc.* The lads and men who go round as mummers at Christmastide, singing carols and songs, are said to go *championing*. Probably the word is connected with St. George the Champion, who is a leading character in the Mummers' play.

CHANGES [chai·njiz] *sb.pl.* Changes of raiment, especially of the underclothing; body-linen, shirts, or shifts.

“I have just put on clean *changes*,” *i.e.*, I have just put on clean underclothing.

1651.—“For two *changes* for John Smith's boy, 0 4 0.

For two *changes* for Spaynes girle, 0 2 10.”

—*MS. Overseers' Accounts, Holy Cross, Canterbury.*

[28]

CHANGK [chank] *vb.* To chew.

CHARNELL, CHARNAIL, *sb.* A hinge. Perhaps *Char-nail*, a nail to turn on.

1520.—“For ij hookis and a *charnelle* ij<sup>d</sup>.”—*M.S. Accounts St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

1631.—“For *charnells* and hapses for the two chests in our hall.”—*M.S. Accounts St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

CHARRED [chaa·d] *adj.* Drink that is soured in the brewing. If, in brewing, the water be too hot when it is first added to the malt, the malt is said to be *charred* and will not give its strength, hence beer that is brewed from it will soon turn sour. The word charred thus first applies properly to the malt, and then passes to the drink brewed from it. To *char* is to turn; we speak of beer being “turned.”

CHART [chaa·t] *sb.* A rough common, overrun with gorse, broom, bracken, &c. Thus we have several places in Kent called *Chart*, *e.g.*, Great *Chart*, Little *Chart*, *Chart Sutton*, *Brasted Chart*.

CHARTY [chaa·ti] Rough, uncultivated land, like a *chart*.

CHASTISE [chastei·z] *vb.* To accuse; to examine; cross question; catechize.

“He had his hearings at Faversham t’other day, and they *chastised* him of it, but they couldn’t make nothin’ of him.”

CHAT, *sb.* A rumour; report.

“They say he’s a-going to live out at *Hoo*, leastways, that’s the *chat*”

CHATS [chats] *sb. pl.* Small potatoes; generally the pickings from those intended for the market.

CHATSOME [chat·sum] *adj.* Talkative.

CHAVISH [chai·vish] *adj.* Peevish; fretful.

CHEE [chee] or HEN-CHEE [hen-chee] *sb.* A roost.

“The fowls are gone to *chee*.”

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CHEEGE [cheeg] *sb.* A frolic.

CHEER [cheer] *sb.* Constantly used in N. Kent, in the phrase, “What *cheer*, meät?” as a greeting; instead of “How d’ye do, mate?” or “How ‘re ye getting on?”

CHEERLY [chee·rli] *adv.* Cheerfully.

“The bailiff’s boy had overslept,  
The cows were not put in;  
But rosy Mary *cheerly* stept  
To milk them on the green.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 1.

CHEESE-BUG [chee·z-bug] *sb.* The wood-louse.

CHEF [chef] *sb.* The part of a plough on which the share is placed, and to which the *reece* is fixed.

CHERRY APPLES [cher·r’i ap·lz] *sb. pl.* Siberian crabs, or choke cherries.

CHERRY-BEER, *sb.* A kind of drink made from cherries.

Pudding-pies and *cherry-beer* usually go together at these feasts [at Easter].

—*Brand’s Popular Antiquities*, ed. Ellis i. 180.

CHIDLINGS [chid·linz] *sb. pl.* Chitterlings.

CHILLERY [chil·uri] *adj.* Chilly.

CHILL-WATER [chil·wau·tr] *sb.* Water luke-warm.

CHILTED [chilt·id] *pp.* Strong local form of *chilled*, meaning thoroughly and injuriously affected by the cold.

CHINCH [chinch] *vb.* To point or fill up the interstices between bricks, tiles, &c., with mortar.—*E. Kent.*

CHITTER [chit·ur] *sb.* The wren.

“In the N. of England they call the bird *Chitty Wren*.”

CHIZZEL [chiz·l] *sb.* Bran.

CHOATY [choa·ti] *adj.* Chubby; broad faced.

“He’s a *choaty* boy.”

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CHOCK [chok] *vb.* To choke. Anything over-full is said to be *chock*-full.

CHOFF [chof] *adj.* Stern; morose.

CHOICE [chois] *adj.* Careful of; setting great store by anything.

“Sure, he is *choice* over his peas, and no mistake!”

CHOP-STICKS [chop·stiks] *sb. pl.* Cross-sticks to which the lines are fastened in pout-fishing.

“Two old umbrella iron ribs make capital *chop-sticks*”—*F. Buckland*.

CHRIST-CROSS [kris·kras] *sb.* The alphabet. An early school lesson preserved in *MS. Rawl.*, 1032, commences “Christe crosse me speed in alle my worke.”

The signature of a person who cannot write is also so called.

“She larnt her A B C ya know,  
Wid D for dunce and dame,  
An all dats in de *criss-cross* row,  
An how to spell her name.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 57.

CHUCK [chuk] *sb.* A chip; a chunk; a short, thick clubbed piece of wood; a good thick piece of bread and cheese; the chips made by sharpening the ends of hop-poles.

CHUCK-HEADED [chuk·hed·id] CHUCKLE-HEADED [chuk·l-hed·id] *adj.* A stupid, doltish, wooden-headed fellow.

CHUFF [chuf] *adj.* Fat; chubby. (See *Choaty* above.)

CHUMMIE [chum·i] *sb.* A chimney sweep.

CHUNK [chungk] *sb.* A log of wood.

CHURCHING, *sb.* The Church service generally, not the particular Office so called.

“What time’s *Churchin*’ now of afternoons?”

CLAM [klam] *sb.* A rat-trap, like a gin.

CLAMP [klamp] *sb.* A heap of mangolds, turnips, or potatoes covered with straw and earth to preserve them during the winter. It is also used of bricks.

“We must heal in that *clamp* afore the frostes set in.”

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CLAMS [klamz] *sb. pl.* *Pholades*. Rock and wood-boring mollusks.

CLAPPERS [klap·urz] *sb. pl.* Planks laid on supports for foot passengers to walk on when the roads are flooded.

CLAPSE [klaps] *sb.* A clasp, or fastening.

1651.—”For Goodwife Spaynes girles peticoate and waistcoate making, and *clapses*, and bindinge, and a pockett, 0 1 8<sup>d</sup>.”

—*Overseers’ Accounts, Holy Cross, Canterbury.*

CLAT [klat] *vb.* To remove the clots of dirt, wool, &c., from between the hind legs of sheep. (Romney Marsh.) (See also *Dag*.)

CLAVEL [klav·l] *sb.* A grain of corn free from the husk.

CLAYT [klaait] *sb.* Clay, or mire.

CLEAN [kleen] *adv.* Wholly; entirely.

“He’s *clean* gone, that’s certain.”

1611.—”Until all the people were passed *clean* over Jordan.”—Joshua iii. 17.

CLEANSE [klenz] *vb.* To tun, or put beer up into the barrel.

CLEDGE [klej] *sb.* Clay; stiff loam.

CLEDGY [klej·i] *adj.* Stiff and sticky.

CLEVEL [klev·l] *sb.* A grain of corn, clean and free from husk. As our Blessed Lord is supposed to have left the mark of a Cross on the shoulder of the ass' colt, upon which He rode at His triumphal entry into Jerusalem (St. Mark xi. 7); and as the mark of a thumb and fore-finger may still be traced in the head of a haddock, as though left by St. Peter when he opened the fish's mouth to find the piece of money (St. Matthew xvii. 27), even so it is a popular belief in East Kent that each clevel of wheat bears the likeness of Him who is the True Corn of Wheat (St. John xii. 24). As a man said to me at Eastry (1887)—"Brown wheat shews it more than white, because it's a bigger *clevel*." To see this likeness the *clevel* must be held with the seam of the grain from you.—*W.F.S.*

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CLEVER [klev·ur] *adj.* In good health.

Thus, it is used in reply to the question, "How are you to-day?" "Well, thankee, not very *clever*," *i.e.*, not very active; not up to much exertion.

CLITE [kleit] *sb.* Clay.

CLITEY [klei·ti] *adj.* Clayey.

CLIMBERS [klei·murz] *sb.* The wild clematis; *clematis vitalba*, otherwise known as *old man's beard*.

CLINKERS [klingk·urz] *sb. pl.* The hard refuse cinders of a furnace, stove, or forge, which have run together in large clots.

CLIP [klip] *vb.* To shear sheep.

CLIVER [kliv·r] *sb.* Goose-grass; elsewhere called cleavers. *Gallium aperine*.

CLODGE [kloj] *sb.* A lump of clay.

CLOSE [kloas] *sb.* The enclosed yard, or fenced-in field adjoining a farm house.

Thus, at Eastry we speak of Hamel *Close*, which is an enclosed field immediately adjoining Eastry Court. So, a Kentish gentleman writes in

1645: “This was the third crop of hay some *closes* about Burges had yealded that yeare.”—*Bargrave MS. Diary*.

The word is often met with in Kentish wills; thus, Will of Thomas Godfrey, 1542, has, “My barne . . . with the *closses* to the same appertayning.”

CLOUT [klout] (1) *sb.* A blow with the palm of the hand.

“Mind what ye’r ‘bout or I will gie ye a *clout* on the head.”

(2) A clod, or lump of earth, in a ploughed field.

CLUCK [kluk] *adj.* Drooping; slightly unwell; used, also, of a hen when she wants to sit.

“I didn’t get up so wery early dis mornin’, as I felt rather *cluck*.”

CLUNG [klung] *adj.* Withered; dull; out of temper.

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CLUTHER [kluth·r], CLUTTER [klut·r] (1) *sb.* (i.) A great noise, (ii.) A litter.

“There’s always such a lot of *clutter* about his room.”

CLUTHER [kludh·ur], CLUTTER [klut·ur] (2) *vb.* To make a noise generally, as by knocking things together. Used also of the special sound made by rabbits in their hole, just before they bolt out, *e.g.*, “I ‘eerd ‘im *cluther*” *i.e.* I heard him make a noise; and implying, “Therefore, he will soon make a bolt.” A variant of *clatter*.

COAL-SHOOT [koa·l-shoo·t] *sb.* A coal scuttle.

COARSE [koars] *adj.* Rough, snowy, windy weather.

COB [kob] *vb.* To throw gently.

COBBLE [kob·l] *sb.* An icicle.

COB-IRONS [kob-eirnz] *sb. pl.* And-irons; irons standing on the hearth, and intended to keep the brands and burning coals in their place; also the irons by which the spit is supported.

“One payer of standing *cob-yrons*.” “One payer of *cob-irons* or brand-irons.” . . . “Item in the Greate Hall . . . . a payer of *cob-irons*.”—*Boteler Inventories in the Memorials of Eastry*.

COCK-BELL [kok-bel] *sb.* An icicle.

The *Bargrave MS. Diary*, describing the weather in France in the winter of 1645 says, "My beard had sometimes yce on it as big as my little finger, my breath turning into many *cock-bells* as I walked."

COCKER [kok·ur] *vb.* To indulge; to spoil.

Ecclus. XXX. 9.—"*Cocker* thy child and he shall make thee afraid."

COCKLE [kok·l] *sb.* A stove used for drying hops.

COG-BELL [kog-bel] *sb. pl.* An icicle. (See *Cock-bell* above); Lewis writes *cog-bells*; and so the word is now pronounced in Eastry.

"There are some large *cog-bells* hanging from the thatch."

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COGUE [koag] *sb.* A dram of brandy.

COILER-HARNESS. The trace harness.

COLD [koald] *sb.* In phrase, "Out of *cold*."

Water is said to be *out of cold* when it has just got the chill off.

COLLAR [kol·ur] *sb.* Smut in wheat.

COLLARMAKER [kol·ur-mai·kur] *sb.* A saddler who works for farmers; so called, because he has chiefly to do with the mending and making of horses' collars.

COMB [koam] *sb.* An instrument used by thatchers to beat down the straw, and then smooth it afterwards.

COMBE [koom] *sb.* A valley. This word occurs in a great number of place-names in Kent.

COME [kum] *prep.* *On* such a day, or *at* such a time when it arrives.

"It'll be nine wiks *come* Sadderday sin' he were took bad."

COMPOSANT [kom·puzant] *sb.* The luminous appearance sometimes seen on the masts and yards of ships at sea, the result of electricity in the air.

"Besides hearing strange sounds, the poor fisherman often sees the *composant*. As he sails along, a ball of fire appears dancing about the top of his mast; it is of a bluish, unearthly colour, and quivers like a candle

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

going out; sometimes it shifts from the masthead to some other portion of the vessel, where there is a bit of pointed iron; and sometimes there are two or three of them on different parts of the boat. It never does anybody any harm, and it always comes when squally weather is about.

“Englishmen are not good hands at inventing names and I think the Folkestone people most likely picked up the word from the Frenchmen whom they meet out at sea in pursuit of herrings.”—*F. Buckland*.

CONCLUDE [konkleu·d] *vb.* To decide.

“So he *concluded* to stay at home for a bit.”

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CONE [koan] *vb.* To crack or split with the sun, as timber is apt to do; as though a wedge had been inserted in it. A derivative of Anglo-Saxon *cinan*, to split.

CONE-WHEAT [koan-weet] *sb.* Bearded wheat.

CONNIVER [konei·vur] *sb.* To stare; gape.

“An so we sasselsail’d along

And crass de fields we stiver’d,

While dickey lark kept up his song

An at de clouds *conniver’d*.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 26.

CONTRAIKY [contrai·r’i] *adj.* Disagreeable; unmanageable.

“Drat that child, he’s downright *contrai*ky to-day.”

CONTRAIKIWIKE [contrai·r’iweiz] *adv.* On the contrary.

CONYGARTHE [kun·igaath] *sb.* A rabbit warren.

*Lambarde*, 1596.—“The Isle of Thanet, and those Easterne partes are the grayner; the Weald was the wood; Rumney Marsh is the meadow plot; the North downes towards the Thaymse be the *conygarthe* or warreine.”

COOCH GRASS, *sb.* *Triticum repens*, a coarse, bad species of grass, which grows rapidly on arable land, and does much mischief with its long stringy roots.

COOL-BACK [kool-bak] *sb.* A shallow vat, or tub, about 12 or 18 inches deep, wherein beer is cooled.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

“Item in the brewhouse, two brewinge tonns, one *coole-back* two furnisses, fower tubbs with other . . . . vj<sup>li</sup>. xiiij<sup>s</sup>.”—*Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226.

COP [kop] *sb.* A shock of corn; a stack of hay or straw. *vb.* To throw; to heap anything up.

COPE [koap] *vb.* To muzzle; thus, “to *cope* a ferret” is to sew up its mouth.

COPSE [kops] *sb.* A fence across a dyke which has no opening. A term used in marshy districts.

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CORBEAU [kor·boa] *sb.* The fish *Cottus gobio*, elsewhere called the miller’s thumb, or bull-head.

CORD-WOOD [kord·wuod] *sb.* A pile of wood, such as split-up roots and trunks of trees stacked for fuel. A *cord* of wood should measure eight feet long x four feet high x four feet thick.

CORSE [kors] *sb.* The largest of the cleavers used by a butcher.

COSSET [kos·it] *vb.* To fondle; to caress; to pet.

COSETY [kos·iti] *adj.* Used of a child that has been petted, and expects to be fondled and caressed.

COST [koast] *sb.* A fore-quarter of lamb; “rib.”

COTCHERING [koch·uring] *partc.* Gossiping.

COTERELL [kot·ir’el] *sb.* A little raised mound in the marshes to which the shepherds and their flocks can retire when the salterns are submerged by the tide.

COTTON [kot·on] *vb.* To agree together, or please each other.

“They cannot *cotton* no-how!”

COUCH-GRASS [kooch·grass] *sb.* (See *Cooch-grass*.)

COUPLING BAT [kup·lin bat] *sb.* A piece of round wood attached to the bit (in W. Kent), or ringle (in E. Kent), of two plough horses to keep them together.

COURT [koart], or COURT LODGE [koart loj] *sb.* The manor house, where the court leet of the manor is held. Thus, *Eastry Court* is the old house, standing on the foundations of the ancient palace of the Kings of Kent, wherein is held annually the Court of the Manor of Eastry.

COURT-CUPBOARD [koart-cub·urd] *sb.* A sideboard or cabinet used formerly to display the silver flagons, cups, beakers, ewers, &c., *i.e.*, the family plate, and distinguished from “the livery cupboard,” or wardrobe.

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In the *Boteler Inventory* we find that there were in the best chamber “Half-a-dowson of high joynd stooles, fower low joynd cushian stooles, two chayers, one *court cubbard* &c.”—*Memorials of Eastry*, p. 225; and again on p. 227: “In the greate parler, one greate table . . . one *courte cubbard*, one greate chayer, &c.”

“Away with the joint-stools, remove the *court cupboard*, look to the plate.”—*Romeo and Juliet*, act i. sc. 5.

COURT FAGGOT [koart fag·ut] *sb.* This seems to have been the name, anciently given, to the best and choicest kind of fagot.

1523.—”For makyng of x loodis of *court fagot*, iij<sup>s</sup> ., iij<sup>d</sup>.”

—*Accounts of St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

COVE [koav] *sb.* A shed; a lean-to or low building with a shelving roof, joined to the wall of another; the shelter which is formed by the projection of the eaves of a house acting as a roof to an outbuilding.

COVERED [koa·vd] *adj.* With sloping sides; used of a room, the walls of which are not perpendicular, but slant inwards, thus forming sides and roof.

“Your bedsteddle couldn’t stand there, because the sides are *coved*.”

COVE-KEYS [koa·v-keez] *sb. pl.* Cowslips. (See also *Culver keys*, *Horsebuckle*, *Peigle*.)

COVEL [kov·l] *sb.* A water tub with two ears.

COVERTLID [kuv·urtlid], COVERLYD [kuv·urlid] *sb.* The outer covering of the bed which lies above the blankets; a counterpane.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

In the *Boteler Inventory* we find “In the best chamber . . . one fether bedd, one blanckett, one *covertleed*. Item in the lower chamber . . . two *coverleeds*. Item in the midell chamber . . . a *coverlyd* and boulster.”—*Memorials of Eastry*, p. 224.

COVEN [koa·vn] *adj.* Sloped; slanted.

“It has a *coven* ceiling.” (See also, *Cove*, *Coved*.)

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COW [kou] *sb.* A pitcher.

COW [kou], COWL [koul] *sb.* The moveable wooden top of the chimney of a hop-oast or malt-house.

COW-CRIB [kou-krib] *sb.* The square manger for holding hay, &c., which stands in the straw-yard, and is so constructed as to be low at the sides and high at the corners.

CRACK-NUT [krak-nut] *sb.* A hazel nut, as opposed to cocoa nuts, Brazil nuts, &c.

CRAMP-WORD, *sb.* A word difficult to be understood.

“Our new parson, he’s out of the sheeres, and he uses so many of these here *cramp-words*.”

CRANK [krangk] (1) *adj.* Merry; cheery.

CRANK [krangk] (2) *vb.* To mark cross-wise.

CREAM [kreem] *vb.* To crumble. Hops, when they are too much dried are said to *cream*, *i.e.*, to crumble to pieces.

CREET [kreet] *sb.* A cradle, or frame-work of wood, placed on a scythe when used to cut corn.

CRIPS [krips] *adj.* Crisp. Formed by transposition, as Aps for Asp, &c. (See *Crup* below.)

CRIPT [kript] *adj.* Depressed; out of spirits. (See also, *Cruppish*.)

CROCK [krok] (1) *sb.* An earthen pan or pot, to be found in every kitchen, and often used for keeping butter, salt &c. It is a popular superstition that if a man s to the place where the end of a rainbow rests he will find there a *crock* of gold.

A.D. 1536.—"Layd owt for a *crok*. . . ."

—*Accounts of St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

CROCK [krok] (2) *vb.* To put away; lay by; save up; hide.

"Ye'd better by half give that butter away, instead of *crocking* it up till it's no use to nobody."

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CROCK BUTTER [krok but·ur] *sb.* Salt butter which has been put into earthenware *crocks* to keep during the winter.

CROFT [krauft] *sb.* A vault.

CROSHABELL [krosh·ubel] *sb.* A courtesan.

CROW [kroa] *sb.* The fat adhering to a pig's liver; hence, "liver and *crow*" are generally spoken of and eaten together.

CROW-FISH [kroa-fish] *sb.* The common stickleback. *Gasterosteus aculeatus*.

CRUMMY [krum·i] *adj.* Filthy and dirty, and covered with vermin.

CRUP [krup] (1) *sb.* The crisp, hard skin of a roasted pig, or of roast pork (crackling); a crisp spice-nut; a nest.

"There's a wapses *crup* in that doated tree."

CRUP [krup] (2) *adj.* Crisp.

"You'll have a nice walk, as the snow is very *crup*."

CRUPPISH [krup·ish] *adj.* Peevish; out of sorts. A man who has been drinking overnight will sometimes say in the morning: "I feel *cruppish*."

CUCKOO BREAD, *sb.* The wood sorrel. *Oxalis acetosella*.

CUCKOO'S BREAD AND CHEESE, *sb.* The seed of the mallow.

CUCKOO-CORN, *sb.* Corn sown too late in the spring.

CULCH [kulch] *sb.* (i.) Rags; bits of thread; shoddy. (ii.) Any and every kind of rubbish, e.g., broken tiles, slates, and stones. (See also, *Pelt*.)

"Much may be done in the way of culture, by placing the oysters in favourable breeding beds, strewn with tiles, slates, old oyster shells, or other suitable *culch* for the spat to adhere to."—*Life of Frank Buckland*.

CULL [kul] (1) *vb.* To pick; choose; select.

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CULL [kul] (2) The *culls* of a flock are the worst; picked out to be parted with.

CULVER KEY [kulv·urkee] *sb.* The cowslip. *Primula veris*.

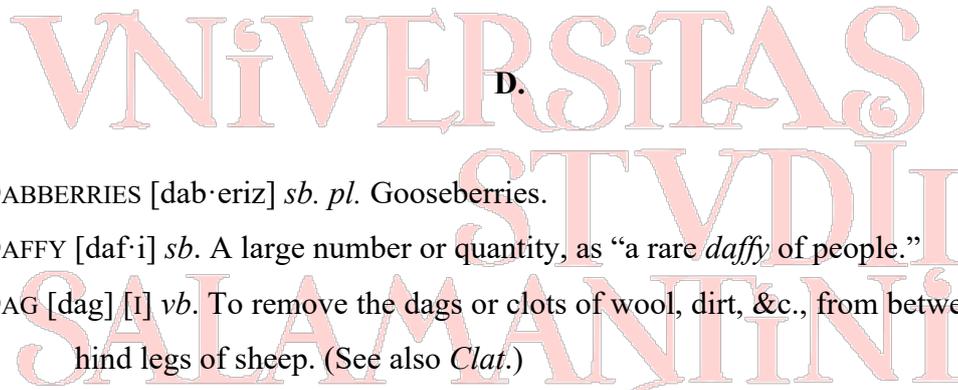
CUMBERSOME [kumb·ursum] *adj.* Awkard; inconvenient.

“I reckon you’ll find that gurt coät mighty *cumbersome*.”

CURRENTBERRIES [kur·r’unt·ber·r’iz] *sb.pl.* Currants.

CURS [kurs] *adj.* Cross; shrewish; surly.

CYPRESS, CYPRUS [sei·prus] *sb.* A material like crape.



DABBERRIES [dab·eriz] *sb. pl.* Gooseberries.

DAFFY [daf·i] *sb.* A large number or quantity, as “a rare *daffy* of people.”

DAG [dag] [1] *vb.* To remove the dags or clots of wool, dirt, &c., from between the hind legs of sheep. (See also *Clat*.)

DAG [dag] (2) *sb.* A lock of wool that hangs at the tail of a sheep and draggles in the dirt.

DAGG, *sb.* A large pistol.

*Boteler Inventory*, 1600.—“It. in Jonathan Boteler’s chamb<sup>r</sup>: fower chestes w<sup>th</sup> certain furniture for the warrs, viz., two corsletts, one Jack, two muskets fur[nished], one horseman’s piec fur[nished] one case of *daggs*, two caliu<sup>rs</sup> w<sup>th</sup> swords and daggers, prized at . . . . . iiij<sup>li</sup>.”—*Memorials of Eastry*, p. 225.

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DAG-WOOL, *sb.* Refuse wool; cut off in trimming the sheep.

DANG [dang] *interj.* A substitution for “damn.”

“*Dang* your young boänes, doänt ye give me no more o’ your sarce.”

DAWTHER [dau·dhur], or DODDER [dodh·ur] (1) *vb.* To tremble or shake; to move in an infirm manner.

“He be getting’ in years now, and caant do s’much as he did, but he manages jus’ to *dawther* about the shop a little otherwhile.”

DAWTHER [dau·dhur], or DODDER [dod·ur] GRASS (2) *sb.* A long shaking grass, elsewhere called *Quaker* or *quaking, grass. Briza media.*

DAWTHERY [dau·dhur’i] *adj.* Shaky; tottery; trembling; feeble. Used commonly of old people—“He begins to get very *dawthery.*”

DEAD-ALIVE [ded·ulei·v] *adj.* Dull; stupid.

“It’s a *dead-alive* place.”

DEAL [deel] (1) *sb.* A part; portion. Anglo Saxon *dael*, from *daelan*, to divide; hence our expression, to *deal* cards, *i.e.*, giving a fair portion to each; and *dole* a gift divided or distributed.

Leviticus xiv. 10.—“And on the eighth day he shall take two he lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish, and two tenth *deals* of fine flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, and one log of oil.”

DEAL [dee·l] (2) *sb.* The nipple of a sow, bitch, fox or rat.

DEATH [deth] *adj.* Deaf.

“It’s a gurt denial to be so werry *death.*”

“De ooman was so plaguey *death*  
She cou’den make ‘ar hear.”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 59.

DEATHNESS [deth·nes] *sb.* Deafness.

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DEEK [dee·k] *sb.* A dyke, or ditch.

The *i* in Kent and Sussex is often pronounced as *i* in French.

DEEKERS [dee·kurz] *sb. pl.* Men who dig ditches (*deeks*) and keep them in order.

DENCHER-POUT [dench·ur-pout], DENSHER-POUT [den·shur-pout] *sb.* A *pout*, or pile of weeds, stubble, or rubbish, made in the fields for burning, a *cooch-fire*, as it is elsewhere called.

DENE [dee·n], DENNE [den]. DEN [den] *sb.* A wooded valley, affording pasturage; also a measure of land; as in Somner, *Antiquities of Canterbury*, p. 27, ed. 1703, where we read: “The Manor of Lenham, consisting of 20 ploughlands and 13 *denes*.” This word *den* is a very common one as a place-name, thus there are several *Denne* Courts in East Kent; and in the Weald especially, *den* is the termination of the name of many parishes, as well as of places in those parishes, thus we have Biddenden, Benenden, Bethersden, Halden, Marden, Smarden, Tenterden, Ibornden, &c.

DENIAL [denci·ul] *sb.* A detriment; drawback; hindrance; prejudice.

“It’s a *denial* to a farm to lie so far off the road.”

DESTINY [dest·ini] *sb.* Destination.

“When we have rounded the shaw, we can keep the boat straight for her *destiny*.”

DEVIL-IN-THE-BUSH, *sb.* The flower otherwise called *Love-in-a-mist*. *Nigella damascena*.

DEVIL’S THREAD, *sb.* A weed which grows out in the fields, among the clover; it comes in the second cut, but does not come in the first. Otherwise called *Hellweed*. *Cuscuta epithimum*.

DEWLAPS, *sb. pl.* Coarse woollen stockings buttoned over others, to keep the legs warm and dry.

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DIBBLE [dib·l], DIBBER [dib·ur] *sb.* An agricultural implement for making holes in the ground, wherein to set plants or seeds.

DICK [dik] *sb.* A ditch. (See *Deek*, above.)

DICKY-HEDGE-POKER [dik·i-hej-poa·ker] *sb.* A hedge-sparrow.

DICKY [dik·i] *adj.* Poorly; out of sorts; poor; miserable.

“When I has the *dicky* feelins’, I wishes I hadn’t been so neglackful o’ Sundays.”

DIDAPPER and DIVEDAPPER. The dab-chick.

DIDOS [dei·doaz] *sb. pl.* Capers; pranks; tricks.

“Dreckly ye be backturned, there he be, a-cutting all manners o’ *didos*.”

DIN-A-LITTLE, *adv.* Within a little; nearly.

“I knows *din-a-little* where I be now.”

DISABIL [dis·ubil] *sb.* Disorder; untidy dress. Fr. *Déshabillé*.

“Dear heart alive! I never expected for to see you, sir! I’m all in a *disabil*.”

DISGUISED, *adj.* Tipsy.

“I’d ráather not say as he was exactly drunk, but he seemed as though he was jes’ a little bit *disguised*.”

DISH-MEAT [dish·meet] *sb.* Spoon meat, *i.e.*, soft food, which requires no cutting up and can be eaten with a spoon.

DISHWASHER [dish·wash·r] *sb.* The water wagtail. Generally called “Peggy Dishwasher.”

DISSIGHT [disei·t] *sb.* That which renders a person or place unsightly; a blemish; a defect.

“Them there tumble-down cottages are a great *dissight* to the street.”

DO [doo] *vb.* To *do* for anyone is to keep house for him.

“Now the old lady’s dead, Miss Gamble she goos in and *doos* for him.”

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DOATED [doa·tid] *adj.* Rotten. Generally applied to wood.

“That thurruck is all out-o’-tilter; the helers are all *doated*. (See also *Doited*.)

DOB [dob] *vb.* To put down.

“So den I *dobb*’d him down de stuff,

A plaguey sight to pay.” —*Dick and Sal*, st. 82.

DOBBIN [dob·in] *sb.* Temper.

“He lowered his *dobbin*,” *i.e.*, he lost his temper.

DODDER [dod·ur] *vb.* (See *Dawther*, above.)

DODGER [doj·ur] *sb.* A night-cap.

DOG [dau·g or dog] *sb.* An instrument for getting up hop-poles, called in Sussex a pole-puller.

DOGS [dogz] *sb. pl.* Two pieces of wood connected by a piece of string, and used by thatchers for carrying up the straw to its place on the roof, when arranged for thatching.

DOGS' DAISY, *sb.* The May weed, *Anthemis cotula*; so called, “Cause it blows in the dog-days, ma'am.”

DOG-WHIPPER [dog-wip·ur] *sb.* The beadle of a church, whose duty it was, in former days, to whip the dogs out of church. The word frequently occurs in old Churchwardens' accounts.

DOINGS [doo·ingz] *sb. pl.* Odd jobs. When a person keeps a small farm, and works with his team for hire, he is said to do *doings* for people.

DOITED [doi·tid] *adj.* Decayed (used of wood).

“That 'ere old eelm (elm) is reglar *doited*, and fit for nothin' only cord-wood.” (See *Doated*.)

DOLE [doa·l] (1) *sb.* A set parcel, or distribution; an alms; a bale or bundle of nets.

“60 awlms make a *dole* of shot-nets, and 20 awlms make a *dole* of herring-nets.”—*Lewis*, p. 24.

DOLE [doa·l] (2) *sb.* A boundary stone; the stump of an old tree left standing.

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DOLES [doa·lz] *sb. pl.* The short handles which project from the *bat* of a scythe, and by which the mower holds it when mowing. The several parts of a scythe are: (i.) the scythe proper, or cutting part, of shear steel; (ii.) the trai-ring and trai-wedge by which it is fastened to the bat; (iii.) the bat or long staff, by which it is held when sharpening, and which is cut peaked, so that it cannot slip; and (iv.) the *doles*, as above described.

DOLEING [doa·ling] *sb.* Almsgiving. (See *Deal*.)

DOLE-STONE [doə·l·stoa·n] *sb.* A landmark.

DOLING [doə·ling] *sb.* A fishing boat with two masts, each carrying a sprit-sail.

Boys, in his *History of Sandwich*, speaks of them as “ships for the King’s use, furnished by the Cinque Ports.”

DOLLOP [dol·up] *sb.* A parcel of tea sewn up in canvas for smuggling purposes; a piece, or portion, of anything, especially food.

“Shall I gie ye some?” “Thankee, not too big a *dollop*.”

DOLLYMOSH [dol·imosh] *vb.* To demolish; destroy; entirely spoil.

DOLOURS [dol·urz] *vb.* A word expressive of the moaning of the wind, when blowing up for rain.

DOLPHIN [dol·fin] *sb.* A kind of fly (*aphis*) which comes as a blight upon roses, honeysuckles, cinerarias, &c.; also upon beans. It is sometimes black, as on beans and honeysuckles; and sometimes green, as on roses and cinerarias.

DOODLE-SACK [doo·dl·sak] *sb.* A bagpipe.

DORICK [doə·rik] *vb.* A frolic; lark; spree; a trick.

“Now then, none o’ your *doricks*!”

DOSS [dos] *vb.* To sit down rudely.

DOSSET [dos·it] *sb.* A very small quantity of any liquid.

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DOUGH [doə] *sb.* A thick clay soil.

DOVER-HOUSE [doə·vur·hous] *sb.* A necessary house.

DOWAL [dou·ul], DOWL [dou·l] *sb.* A boundary post. (See also *Dole-stone*, above.)

1630.—”Layd out for seauen *dowlstones* . . . xviiij<sup>d</sup>. For . . . . to carrye these *dowl stones* from place to place, ij<sup>s</sup>.”—*MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury*.

DOWELS [dou·lɜ] *sb. pl.* Low marshes.

DOWN [daʊn] *sb.* A piece of high open ground, not peculiar to Kent, but perhaps more used here than elsewhere. Thus we have *Up-down* in Eastry; *Harts-down*

and North-down in Thanet; Leys-down in Sheppey; Barham Dawns &c. The open sea off Deal is termed the *Downs*.

DOWNWARD [dou·nwur'd] *adv.* The wind is said to be downward when it is in the south.

DRAB [drab] *vb.* To drub; to flog; to beat.

DRAGGLETAIL [drag·ltail] *sb.* A slut, or dirty, untidy, and slovenly woman.

DRAGON'S TONGUE [drag·unz tung] *sb.* *Iris fœtidissima*.

DRAUGHT [dr'aa·ft] *sb.* The bar, billet, or spread-bat, to which the traces of all the horses are fixed when four are being used at plough.

DRAWHOOK [drau·uok] *sb.* An implement for cleaning out dykes, and freeing them of weeds, consisting of a three-tined fork, bent round so as to form a hook, and fitted to a long handle.—*E. Kent*.

1627—"For mending on of the *drawe hooches*."

—*MS, Accounts, St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

DRAW-WELL [drau·wel] *sb.* A hole or well sunk for the purpose of obtaining chalk.

DRAY [drai] (1) *sb.* A squirrel's nest.

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DRAÏ [drai] (2) *sb.* A word usually applied to places where there is a narrow passage through the slime and mud.

DREÄN [dree·un] (1) *sb.* A drain.

DREÄN [dree·un] (2) *vb.* To drip.

"He was just *dreäning* wet when he came in."

DRECKLY-MINUTE [drek·li·min·it] *adv.* Immediately; at once; without delay; contracted from "directly this minute."

DREDGE [drej] *sb.* A bush-harrow. To drag a bundle of bushes over a field like a harrow.

DRILL [dril] *vb.* To waste away by degrees.

DRIV [driv] *vb.* To drive.

“I want ye *driv* some cattle!” “Very sorry, but I’m that *druv* up I caan’t do’t!”

DRIZZLE [driz·1] *vb.* To bowl a ball close to the ground.

DROITS [droit·s] *sb. pl.* Rights; dues; customary payments.

DROKE [droa·k] *sb.* A filmy weed very common in standing water.

DROPHANDKERCHIEF [drop·angk·urchif] *sb.* The game elsewhere called “kiss-in-the-ring.”

DROP-ROD, *sb.* “To go *drop-rod*,” is an expression used of carrying hay or corn to the stack, when there are two wagons and only one team of horses; the load is then left at the stack, and the horses taken out of the rods or shafts, and sent to bring the other wagon from the field.

DROSE [droa·z] *vb.* To gutter. Spoken of a candle flaring away, and causing the wax to run down the sides. Also spelt, *Drosley*.

“The candlestick is all *drosed*,” *i.e.*, covered with grease.

DROASINGS [droa·zingz] *sb. pl.* Dregs of tallow.

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DROVE WAY [droa·v wai] *sb.* A road for driving cattle to and from the marshes, &c., wherein they pasture.

DRUV [druv] *vb.* Driven.

“We wunt be *druv*.”

DRYTH [drei-th] *sb.* Drought; thirst.

“I call cold tea very purty stuff to squench your *dryth*.”

DUFF [duf] *sb.* A dark coloured clay.

DULL [dul] *vb.* To make blunt.

“As for fish-skins—’tis a terr’ble thing to *dull* your knife.”—*Folkestone*.

DUMBLEDORE [dumb·ldoar] *sb.* A bumble bee; an imitative word allied to *boom*, to hum.

DUN-CROW [dun-kroa] *sb.* The hooded or Royston crow, which is found in great numbers in North Kent during the winter. *Corvus cornix*.

DUNES [deu-nz] *sb. pl.* Sand hills and hillocks, near the margin of the sea. At Sandwich, thieves were anciently buried alive in these *dunes*, or sand-hills. Boys, in his *History of Sandwich*, pp. 464-465, gives us the “Customal of Sandwich,” from which it appears that “. . . in an appeal of theft or robbery if the person be found with the goods upon him, it behoves him to shew, on a day appointed, how he came by them, and, upon failure, he shall not be able to acquit himself. . . . If the person, however, upon whom the goods are, avows that they are his own, and that he is not guilty of the appeal, he may acquit himself by 36 good men and true . . . and save himself and the goods. When the names of the 36 compurgators are delivered to the Bailiff in writing they are to be distinctly called over . . . and, if any one of them shall be absent, or will not answer, the appellee must suffer death. But if they all separately answer to their names, the Bailiff, on the part of the King, then puts aside 12 of the number, and the Mayor and Jurats 12 more, thereby agreeing together in fixing of the 12 of the 36 to swear

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with the Appellee that he is not guilty of the matters laid to his charge. . . . The Accused is first sworn that he is not guilty, kissing the book, and then the others come up as they are called, and separately swear that the oath which the Appellee has taken is good and true, . . . and that he is not guilty of what is alleged against him, kissing the book, . . . by which the Appellee is acquitted and the Appellant becomes liable to an attachment, and his goods are at the disposal of the King. If, however, one of the 12 withdraws his hand from the book and will not swear, the Appellee must be executed; and all who are condemned in such cases are to be buried alive, in a place set apart for the purpose, at Sandown [near Deal] called ‘The Thief Downs,’ which ground is the property of the Corporation.”

DUNNAMANY [dun·umeni] *adj. phr.* I don’t know how many.

“‘Tis no use what ye say to him, I’ve told him an’t a *dunnamany* times.”

DUNNAMUCH [dun·umuch] *adj. phr.* I don’t know how much.

DUNTY [dunt·i] *adj.* Stupid; confused. It also sometimes means stunted; dwarfish.

DURGAN-WHEAT [durg·un-weet] *sb.* Bearded wheat.

DWARFS-MONEY, *sb.* Ancient coins. So called in some places on the coast.

DWINDLE, *sb.* A poor sickly child.

“Ah! he’s a terr’ble poor little *dwindle*, I doänt think he wun’t never come to much.”

DYKERS [dei·kurz] *sb. pl.* Men who make and clean out dykes and ditches. (See also *Deekers* above.)

1536.—”Paid to a man for helping the *dykers*.”

—*MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

DYSTER [dei·str] *sb.* The pole of an ox-plough. (See *Neb.*)

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E.

EAR [ee·r] *vb.* To plough.

“*Eryng* of land three times.”—*Old Parish Book of Wye*, 28 Henry VIII.

“Cæsar, I bring thee word:

Menocrates and Menas, famous pirates,

Make the sea serve them, which they *ear* and wound

With keels of every kind . . . .”

—*Anthony and Cleopatra*, act. i. sc. 4.

EARING [eer·r’ing] *sb.* Ploughing, *i.e.*, the time of ploughing.

. . . “And yet there are five years in the which there shall be neither *earring* nor harvest.”—Gen. xlv. 6.

EARTH [urth] *vb.* To cover up with earth.

“I’ve *earthed* up my potatoes.”

EÄXE [ee·uks] *sb.* An ax, or axle.

ECKER [ek·ur] *vb.* To stammer; stutter.

ECHE [ee·ch] (1) *sb.* An *eke*, or addition; as, an additional piece to a bell rope, to *eke* it out and make it longer. So we have *Eche-End* near Ash-next-Sandwich.

1525.—”For ij ropes for *eches* for the bell ropys, ij<sup>d</sup>”

—*Accounts, St. Dunstan’s, Canterbury.*

(2) *vb.* To eke out; to augment.

EELM [ee·lm] *sb.* Elm.

EEL-SHEER [ee·lsheer] *sb.* A three-pronged spear for catching eels.

E’EN A’MOST [ee·numoa·st] *adv.* Almost. Generally used with some emphasis.

EEND [ee·nd] *sb.* A term in ploughing; the end of a plough-furrow. Two furrows make one *eend*. Always so pronounced.

“I ain’t only got two or three *eends* to-day, to finish the field.”

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EFFET [ef·it] *sb.* An eft; a newt. Anglo-Saxon, *efete*.

ELDERN [eld·urn] *sb.* The elder tree, and its wood.

ELEVENSES [elev·nziz] *sb.* A drink or snack of refreshment at eleven o’clock in the forenoon. Called in Essex, *Beevors*; and in Sussex, *Elevener*.

ELLINGE [el·inj] *adj.* Solitary; lonely; far from neighbours; ghostly.

1470.—”Nowe the crowe calleth reyne with an *eleynge* voice.”

—*Bartholomæus de proprietatibus rerum.*

ELVIN [el·vin] *sb.* An elm. Still used, though rarely.

EMMET [em·ut] *sb.* An ant.

EMMET-CASTES [em·ut kaa·stiz]. Ant hills. (See *Cast*.)

END [end] *sb.* (See *Eend* above.)

ENOW [enou·] *sb.* Enough.

“Have ye got *enow*?”

ENTETIG [ent·itig] *vb.* To introduce.

EPS [eps] *sb.* The asp tree.

ERNFUL [urn·ful] *adj.* and *adv.* Lamentable. “*Ernful bad*,” lamentably bad; “*ernful tunes*,” sorrowful tunes.

ERSH [ur·sh] *sb.* The stubble after the corn has been cut.

ESS [es] *sb. pl.* A large worm.

EVERYTHING SOMETHING [ev·rithing sup·m] *sb.* Something of everything; all sorts of things.

“She called me *everything something*” *i.e.*, she called me every name she could think of.

EYESORE [ei·soar] *sb.* A disfigurement; *dissight*; something which offends the eye, and spoils the appearance of a thing; a detriment.

“A sickly wife is a great *eyesore* to a man.”

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EYLEBOURNE [ai·lboarn] *sb.* An intermittent spring.

“There is a famous *eylebourn* which rises in this parish [Petham] and sometimes runs but a little way before it falls into the ground.”—*Harris’s History of Kent*, p.240. (See *Nailbourn*.)

F.

FACK [fak] *sb.* The first stomach of a ruminating animal, from which the herbage is resumed into the mouth.

FADER [faa·dur] *sb.* Father.

Extract from the will of Sir John Spyoer, Vicar of Monkton, A.D. 1450. . . .

“The same 10 marc shall he for a priest’s salary; one whole yere to pray for my soule, my *fadyr* soule, my *modyr* soul, and all *crystyn* soules.”—*Lewis*, p.12. This pronunciation still prevails.

FAGS [fagz], FAGGS, *interj. adv.* A cant word of affirmation; in good faith; indeed; truly.

Shakespeare has: “I’ *fecks*” = in faith, in *Winter’s Tale*, act i. sc. 2, where we see the word in process of abbreviation.

FAIRISIES [fai·r'iseez] *sb. pl.* Fairies. This reduplicate plural of fairy—fairyses—gives rise to endless mistakes between the fairies of the story-books and the Pharisees of the Bible.

FAIRY-SPARKS [fai·r'i-sparks] *sb. pl.* Phosphoric light, sometimes seen on clothes at night, and in former times attributed to the fairies. Otherwise called *shell-fire*.

FAKEMENT [fai·kmu'nt] *sb.* Pain; uneasiness; distress.

“Walking does give me *fakement* to-day.”—*Sittingbourne*.

FALL [faul] (1) *vb.* To fell; to cut down.

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FALL [faul] (2) *sb.* A portion of growing underwood, ready to fell or cut.

FANTEEG [fanteeg·] *sb.* A state of worry; excitement; passion.

“We couldn't help laughing at the old lady, she put herself in such a *fanteeg*.”

FANTOD [fan·tud] *adj.* Fidgetty; restless; uneasy.

FARDLE [faa·dl] *sb.* A bundle; a little pack.

Amongst the rates or dues of Margate Pier and Harbour, Lewis gives—  
”For every *fardle* . . . . i<sup>d</sup>.” Italian, *fordello*.

FAT [fat] *sb.* A large open tub; a vat; a *ton* or *tun*.

“And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the *fats* shall overflow with wine and oil.”—Joel ii. 24.

FATTEN [fat·un] *sb.* A weed.

FAVOUR [fai·vur] *vb.* To resemble; have a likeness to another person.

“You *favour* your father,” *i.e.*, you have a strong likeness to your father.

(See also *Bly*.)

“Joseph was a goodly person and *well-favoured*.”—Genesis xxxix. 6.

FAZEN [fai·zn] *adj.* The *fazen* eel is a large brown eel, and is so called at Sandwich in contradistinction to the silver eel.

FEAR [feer] *vb.* To frighten.

“To see his face the lion walk'd along

Behind some hedge, because he would not fear him.”

—Shakespeare—*Venus and Adonis*.

FEASE [feez] (1) *vb.* To fret; worry. (See also *Frape*.)

FEASE [feez] (2) *sb.* A feasy, fretting, whining child. Formed from *adj. feasy*.

FEASY [fee·zi] *adj.* Whining; peevish; troublesome.

“He’s a *feasy* child.” (See also *Tattery*.)

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FEETENS [fit·nz] *sb. pl.* Foot-marks; foot-prints; hoof-marks.

“The rain do lodge so in the horses’ *feetens*.”

FELD [feld] *sb.* A field.—*Sittingbourne*. In other parts of Kent it is usually *fill*.

“Which is the way to Sittingbourne?” “Cater across that ere *feld* of wuts (oats).”

FELLET [fel·it] *sb.* A portion of a wood divided up for felling; a portion of felled wood.

FELLOWLY [fel·oali] *adj.* Familiar; free.

FENNY [fen·i] *adj.* Dirty; mouldy as cheese.

FET [fet] *vb.* To fetch.

FEW [feu] *adj.* This word is used as a substantive in such phrases as “a good *few*,” “a goodish *few*”, which mean “pretty many,” or “a nice little lot.”

FICKLE [fik·l] *vb.* To *fickle* a person in the head with this or that, is to put it into his head; in a rather bad sense.

FID [fid] *sb.* A portion of straw pulled out and arranged for thatching. Four or five *fids* are about as much as a thatcher will carry up in his dogs.

FIDDLER [fid·lur] *sb.* The angel, or shark-ray.

“We calls these *fiddlers* because they’re like a fiddle.”

The following couplet is current in West Kent:

“Never a fisherman need there be,  
If fishes could hear as well as see.”

FILD [fild] *sb.* A field. (See also *Feld*.)

FILL [fil] *sb.* A field.

FILL-NOR-FALL [fil·nor·faul]. An expression frequently used as to any person or anything lost.

“My old dog went off last Monday, and I can’t hear neither *fill-nor-fall* of him.”

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FINGER-COLD [fin·gur koal·d] *adj.* Cold to the fingers; spoken of the weather, when the cold may not be very intense, and yet enough to make the fingers tingle. (See also *Hand-cold*.)

“We shall very soon have the winter ‘pon us, ‘twas downright, *finger-cold* first thing this marning.”

FINKLE [fin·kl] *sb.* Wild fennel. *Faniculum vulgare*.

FIRE-FORK, *sb.* A shovel for the fire, made in the form of a three-pronged fork, as broad as a shovel, and fitted with a handle made of bamboo or other wood.

“Item in the kitchen . . . . one payer of tongs, one *fire-forke* of iron, &c.”  
—*Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 227.

FLABERGASTED [flab·urgastid] *adj.* or *pp.* Astonished and rather frightened.

FLAM *vb.* To deceive or cheat; *sb.* a falsehood.

FLAW [flau] *vb.* To flay; to strip the bark off timber.

“I told him to goo down into de wood *flawin*’, and he looked as tho’ he was downright flabbergasted.”

FLAZZ, *adj.* Newly fledged.

FLECK [flek] *sb.* Hares; rabbits; ground-game.

“They killed over two hundred pheasants, but not but terr’ble little *fleck*.”

FLEED [flead] *sb.* The inside fat of a pig, from which lard is made.

FLEED-CAKES [flead·kaiks] *sb. pl.* Cakes made with the fresh *fleed* of a pig.

FLEEKY [flee·ki] *adj.* Flaky; in flakes.

FLEET [fleet], FLETE (1) *sb.* A creek; a bay or inlet; a channel for the passage of boats and vessels, hence the name of *North-fleet*. Anglo-Saxon, *fleot*.

“A certain Abbot . . . made there a certain *flete* in his own proper soil, through which little boats used to come to the aforesaid town [of Mynster].”—*Lewis* p. 78.

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The word is still used about Sittingbourne, and is applied to sheets of salt and brackish water in the marshes adjoining the Medway and the Swale. Most of them have no communication with the tidal water, except through water-gates, but they generally represent the channels of streams which have been partly diverted by draining operations.

FLEET [fleet] (2) *vb.* To float. The word is much used by North Kent bargemen, and occasionally by “in-landers.”

“The barge *fleeted* about four o’clock to-day.”

FLEET [fleet] (3) *vb.* To skim any liquor, especially milk.

FLEET [fleet] (4) *sb.* Every Folkestone herring-boat carries a *fleet* of nets, and sixty nets make a *fleet*.

FLEETING-DISH, *sb.* A shallow dish for cream. (See *Fleet*, 3.)

FLEET MILK, *sb.* Skimmed milk. (See also *Flit milk*.)

FLICK [flik] *sb.* The hair of a cat, or the fur of a rabbit. (See *Fleck* above.)

FLICKING-TOOTH-COMB [flik·in-tooth-koam] *sb.* A comb for a horse’s mane.

FLIG, *sb.* The strands of grass.

FLINDER [flind·ur] *sb.* A butterfly.

FLINDER-MOUSE [flind’ur-mous] *sb.* A bat.

FLINTER-MOUSE [flint·ur-mous] *sb.* A bat. This form is intermediate between *flinder-mouse* and *flutter-mouse*. The plural form is *flinter-mees*.

FLIT-MILK [flit-milk] *sb.* Skim milk; the milk after the cream has been taken off it. (See *Fleet milk* above.)

FLITTERMOUSE [flit·ur-mous] *sb.* (See *Flinter-mouse* above.)

FLOAT [float] *sb.* A wooden frame, sloping outward, attached to the sides, head, or back, of a cart, enabling a larger load than would otherwise be possible.

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FLOWER [flou·r] *sb.* The floor (always pronounced thus).

FLUE [floo] *adj.* Delicate; weak; sickly. In East Kent it is more commonly applied to persons than to animals.

FLUFF [fluff] *sb.* Anger; choler.

“Dat raised my *fluff*.”—*Dick and Sal*, st. 74.

FLUMP, *sb.* A fall causing a loud noise.

“She came down with a *flump* on the floor.”

FOAL’S FOOT, *sb.* Colt’s foot. *Fussilago farfara*.

FOGO [foa·goa] *sb.* A stench.

FOG [fog] *sb.* The second crop of grass. (See *Aftermeath*.) From Low Latin, *fogagium*, or *foragium*.

FOLD-PITCHER [foald-pich·r] *sb.* An iron implement, otherwise called a *peeler*, for making holes in the ground, wherein to put wattles or hop-poles.

FOLKS [foa·ks] *sb. pl.* The men-servants.—*East Kent*.

“Our *folks* are all out in de fill.”

FOLKESTONE-BEEF [foa·ksun beef] *sb.* Dried dog-fish.

“Most of the fishermen’s houses in Folkestone harbour are adorned with festoons of fish hung out to dry; some of these look like gigantic whiting. There was no head, tail, or fins to them, and I could not make out their nature without close examination. The rough skin on their reverse side told me at once that they were a species of dog-fish. I asked what they were? ‘*Folkestone-beef*,’ was the reply.”—*F. Buckland*.

FOLKESTONE GIRLS [foa·ksun galz] *sb. pl.* Folkestone girls; the name given to heavy rain clouds.—*Chilham*.

“De *Folkston gals* looked houghed black;

Old Waller’d roar’d about;

Says I to Sal ‘shall we go back?’

‘No, no! says she, ‘kip out.’”

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 23.

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FOLKESTONE LASSES [foa·ksun las·sez] *sb. pl.* FOLKESTONE WASHERWOMEN, *sb. pl.* Same as the above.

FOR [for] *prep.* Used in adjectival sense, thus, “What *for* horse is he?” *i.e.*, What kind of horse is he? “What *for* day is it?” *i.e.*, What kind of day is it?

FORCED [foa·st] *vb.* Obliged; compelled.

“He’s kep’ going until last Saddaday he was *forced* to give up.”

FORE-ACRE [for·u’-kur] *sb.* A headland; the land at the ends of the field where the furrows cross.

FORECAST [foa·rkaast] *sb.* Forethought.

FORE-DOOR [foa·r·doar] *sb.* The front door.

“He come to the *fore-door*.”

FOREIGNER [fur·inur] *sb.* A stanger who comes out of the sheeres, and is not a Kentish man.

FOREHORSE [foa·r-hors] *sb.* The front horse in a team of four.—*East Kent.*

FORE-LAY [foa·r-lai] *vb.* To way-lay.

“I slipped across the field and *fore-laid* him.”

FORERIGHT [foa·rr’eit] *adj. or adv.* Direct; right in front; straight forward. “It (*i.e.*, the river Rother) had heretofore a direct and *foreright* continued current and passage as to Appledore, so from thence to Romney.”—Somner, *Ports and Forts*, p. 50.

FORICAL [forikl] *sb.* A headland in ploughing. (See *Foreacre*.)

FORSTAL [for·stul], FORESTAL [foa·rstul], FOSTAL [fost·ul] *sb.* A farm-yard before a house; a paddock near a farm house; the house and home-building of a farm; a small opening in a street or lane, not large enough to be called a common. As a local name, *forestalls* seem to have abounded in Kent; as for instance, Broken *Forestall* near Buckley; Clare’s *Forestall* near Turowley, and several others.

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FOUT [fou·t] *vb.* Fought; being *p.t.* and *pret.*, of to fight.—*Sittingbourne.*

“Two joskins *fout* one day in a chalk pet, until the blood ran all over their gaberdines.”

POWER [fou·ur] *num. adj.* Four. So pronounced to this day in East Kent, and constantly so spelled in old documents.

FOY [foi] *sb.* A treat given by a person on going abroad or returning home.

There is a tavern at Ramsgate called the *Foy Boat*.

“I took him home to number 2, the house beside ‘The Foy;’

I bade him wipe his dirty shoes, that little vulgar boy.”

—*Ingoldsby Legends, Misadventures at Margate.*

FOYING [foi·ing] *part.* Victualling ships; helping them in distress, and acting generally as agents for them.

“They who live by the seaside are generally fishermen, or those who go voyages to foreign parts, or such as depend upon what they call *foying*.”—

*Lewis*, p. 32.

FRAIL [frail] (1) *sb.* A small basket; a flail. The flail is rapidly disappearing and going out of use before the modern steam threshing machine. It consists of the following parts:—(i.) the *hand-staff* or part grasped by the thresher’s hands; (ii.) the *hand-staff-cap* (made of wood), which secured the thong to the *hand-staff*; (iii.) the *middle-bun* or flexible leathern thong, which served as the connecting link between *hand-staff* and *swingel*; (iv.) the *swingel-cap* made of leather, which secured the *middle-bun* to the *swingel*; (v.) the *swingel* [swinj·l] itself, which swung free and struck the corn. There is a proverbial saying, which alludes to the hard work of threshing:

“Two sticks, a leather and thong,  
Will tire a man be he ever so strong.”

FRAIL [frail] (2) *adj.* Peevish; hasty.

FRAPE [fraip] (1) *vb.* To worry; fidget; fuss; scold.

“Don’t *frape* about it.”

FRAPE [fraip] (2) *sb.* A woman of an anxious temperament, who grows thin with care and worry.

“Oh! She’s a regular *frape*.”

FRENCH MAY [french mai] *sb.* The lilac, whether white or purple. *Syringa vulgaris*.

FRESH CHEESE [fresh cheez] *sb.* Curds and whey.

FRIGHT-WOODS, *sb. pl.* (See *Frith*.)

FRIMSY [fimz·i] *adj.* Slight; thin; soft.

FRITH, *sb.* A hedge or coppice. A thin, scrubby wood, with little or no timber, and consisting mainly of inferior growths such as are found on poor soils, intermixed with heath, &c. Though some of the old woods bearing this name may now, by modern treatment, have been made much thicker and more valuable, they are also still called, as of old, *fright-woods*, as the *Fright Woods*, near Bedgebury.

In the *MS. Accounts of St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury*, we find *frith* used for a quick-set hedge—“To enclose the vij acres wt. a *quyk fryth* before the Fest of the Purification.”

FRORE [froa·r] *pp.* Frozen.

“ . . . The parching air  
Burns *frore* and cold performs the effect of fire.”

—Milton, *Paradise Lost*, ii. 595.

FRUZ [fruz] *pp.* Frozen.

FURNER [furn·r] *sb.* A baker. French, *fournier*.

FURRICK [fur·r’ik] *vb.* Same as *furrige* below.

FURRIGE [fur·r’idj] *vb.* To forage; to hunt about and rummage, and put everything into disorder whilst looking for something.

GABERDINE [gab·urdin] *sb.* A coarse loose frock; a smock frock, sometimes called a *cow-gown* formerly worn by labouring men in many counties, now fast disappearing.

“You call me misbeliever, cut-throat dog,  
And spit upon my Jewish *gaberdine*.”

—*Merchant of Venice*, act i. sc. 3.

“Next he disrob’d his *gaberdine*  
And with it did himself resign.”

—*Hudibras*, pt. I. canto iii.

GADS [gadz] *sb. pl.* Rushes growing in marshy ground.

GAFFER [gaf·ur] *sb.* A master.

“Here comes our *gaffer*!”

GALLIGASKINS, *sb. pl.* Trowsers.

GALLON [gal·un] *sb.* Used as a *dry* measure for corn, flour, bread, potatoes. In Kent these dry goods are always sold by the gallon.

“I’d far rather pay a shilling for a *gallon* of bread than have it so very cheap.”

GALLS [gaulz] *sb. pl.* Jelly fish.

GALORE [guloa·r] *sb.* Plenty.

GALEY [gai·li] *adj.* Boisterous; stormy. “The wind is *galey i.e.*, blows in *gales* by fits and intervals.”

GAMBREL [gamb·ril] or GAMBLE STICK [gamb·l-stik] *sb.* A stick used to spread open and hang up a pig or other slaughtered animal.

GAMMY [gam·i] *adj.* Sticky; dirty.

GANCE [gaans or gans] *adj.* Thin; slender; gaunt.

“Them sheep are doing middlin’, but there’s here and there a one looks rather *gance*.”

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GANGWAY [gang·wai] *sb.* A thoroughfare; a passage; an entry. Properly a sea term.

GARBAGE [gaa·bij] *sb.* A sheaf of corn, Latin *garba*; a cock of hay; a fagot of wood or any other bundle of the product or fruits of the earth.

GARRET [gar·r'it] *vb.* To drive small wedges of flint into the joints of a flint wall.

GARRETED, *adj.* The phrase, “not rightly *garreted*,” means, something wrong in “*the top storey*.” Spoken of a weak and silly person, whose brain is not well furnished.

GASKIN [gas·kin] *sb.* *Prunus avium*, a half-wild variety of the damson, common in hedgerows, and occasionally gathered to send to London, with the common kinds of black cherry, for the manufacture of “port wine.”

GATE [gait] *sb.* A way from the cliffs down to the sea:—*Ramsgate*, *Margate*, *Sandgate*, *Westgate*.

“Through these chalky cliffs the inhabitants whose farms adjoin to them, have cut several *gates* or ways into the sea, for the conveniency either of fishing, carrying the sea ooze on their land, &c. But these *gates* or passages, they have been forced to fill up in time of war, to prevent their being made use of by the enemy to surprise them, and plunder the country.”—*Lewis, Tenet* p. 10.

GATTERIDGE TREE [gat·ur'ij tree] *sb.* Prickwood. *Euonymus Europæus*.

GAU [gau], GEU [geu], or GOO [goo], *interj.* An exclamation, in constant use, expressive of doubt; surprise; astonishment.

GAUSE [gaus] *adj.* Thin; slender.

GAVELKIND [gav·l·kend] *sb.* An ancient tenure in Kent, by which the lands of a father were divided among all his sons; or the lands of a brother, dying without issue, among all the surviving brothers; a custom by which the female descendants were utterly excluded, and bastards inherited with legitimate children.

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GAY [gai] *adj.* Lively; hearty; in good health.

“I don't feel very *gay* this morning.”

GAYZELS [gai·zlz] *sb. pl.* Black currants, *Ribes nigrum*; wild plums. *Prunus communis*.

GEÄT [ge·ut] *sb.* Gate.

GEE [jee] *sb.* A lodging; roost. (Same as *Chee*.)

GEE [jee] *interj.* Go to the off side; command to a horse.—West Kent.

GENTAIL [jen·tail] *sb.* An ass.

GENTLEMAN, *sb.* A person who from age or any other cause is incapacitated from work.

“He’s a *gentleman* now, but he just manages to doddle about his garden with a weedin’-spud.”

GIBLETS [jib·lets] *sb. pl.* Rags; tatters.

GIFTS [gifts] *sb. pl.* White specks which appear on the finger nails and are supposed to indicate something coming, thus—

A *gift* on the thumb indicates a present.

“ on the fore-finger indicates a friend or lover.

“ on the middle finger indicates a foe.

“ on the fourth finger indicates a visit to pay.

“ on the little finger indicates a journey to go.

—W. F. S.

GIG [gig] *sb.* A billet, or spread bat, used to keep the traces of plough horses apart.

GILL [gill] *sb.* A little, narrow, wooded valley with a stream of water running through it; a rivulet; a beck.

GIMMER [gim·ur] *sb.* A mistress.

“My *gimmer* always wore those blue and white checked aprons” (1817).

GIN [gin *not* jin] *vb.* Given.

“I cou’d a *gin* de man a smack.”—*Dick and Sal*, st. 86.

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GIVE [giv] *vb.* To give way; to yield; to thaw. “It *gives* now,” *i.e.*, it is thawing.

So, too, the phrase, “it’s all on the *give*” means, that a thaw has set in.

GIVE OVER [give oa·vur] *vb.* To leave off; to cease; to stop.

“Give over! will ye! I wun’t have no more an’t.”

GIVEY [giv·i] *adj.* The ground is said to be *givey* when the frost breaks up and the roads become soft and rotten.

GLEAN, *sb.* A handful of corn tied together by a gleaner.

GLIMIGRIM, *sb.* Punch.

“Tom Julmot, a rascalion souldier, and Mary Leekin, married by license, January 4th, 1748-9. Caspian bowls of well acidulated *glimigrim*.”

—Extract from Parish Register of Sea Salter, near Whistable.

GLINCE [glins], GLINCEY [glins·i] *adj.* Slippery.

“The ice is terr’ble *glincey*.”

GO [goa] *vb.* To get about and do one’s work.

“He’s troubled to *go*” *i.e.*, he has great difficulty in getting about and doing his work. “He’s *gone* in great misery for some time,” *i.e.*, he has gone about his work in great pain and suffering.

GOD’S GOOD [Godz good] *sb.* Yeast; barm.

It was a pious custom in former days to invoke a benediction, by making the sign of the cross over the yeast.

GOFF [gof] *sb.* The commonest kind of apple.

GOING [goa·in] *sb.* The departure.

“I didn’t see the *going* of him.”

GOING TO’T [goa·in tuot] *i.e.*, going to do it; as “do this or that;” the answer is “I am *going to’t*.” The frequency with which it is used in some parts of Kent renders the phrase a striking one.

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GOL [gol], GULL, *sb.* A young gosling. (See *Willow-gull*.)

GOLDING [goa·lding] *sb.* A lady-bird, so called from the golden hue of its back.

(See *Bug*.)

GOLLOP [gol·up] *vb.* To swallow greedily; to gulp.

“You *golloped* that down as if you liked it.”

GOODING [goud·ing] *sb.* The custom of going about asking for gifts on St. Thomas' Day, December 21. Still kept up in many parts of Kent.

GOODMAN, *sb.* An old title of address to the master of a house.

1671.—"To *Goodman* Davis in his sicknes . . . . 0 0 6.—*Overseers' Accounts, Holy Cross, Canterbury.*

". . . If the *goodman* of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched."—St. Matthew xxiv. 43.

GOODY [guod·i] *sb.* The title of an elderly widow, contracted from goodwife.

"Old *Goody* Knowler lives agin de stile."

GO-TO [goa too] *vb.* To set.

"The sun *goes to.*"

GOULE [goul] *sb.* Sweet willow, *Myrica gale.*

GOYSTER [goi·stur] *vb.* To laugh noisily and in a vulgar manner. A *goystering* wench is a Tom-boy.

GRABBY [grab·i] *adj.* Grimy; filthy.

GRAN NIGH [gran nei] *adv.* Very nearly.

GRANABLE [granai·bl] *adv.* Very.

"De clover was granable wet,  
So when we crast de medder,  
We both upan de bardie set,  
An den begun concedir."

—*Dick and Sal*, st. 22.

GRANADA [gran·aada] *sb.* A golden pippin.

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GRANDLY [grand·li] *adv.* Greatly: as, "I want *grandly.*"

GRANDMOTHER'S NIGHT CAP, *sb.* The flower called monk's hood or aconite.  
*Aconitum napellus.*

GRAPE-VINE [graip·vein] *sb.* A vine which bears grapes. In other counties, when they say *vine*, they mean a *grape-vine*, as a matter of course; so, when they use the word *orchard*, they mean an *apple-orchard*; but in Kent, it is

necessary to use distinguishing terms, because we have *apple-orchards*, and *cherry-orchards*, *hop-vines* and *grape-vines*.

GRATTAN [grat·un], GRATTEN [grat·un], GRATTON [grat·un] *sb.* Stubble; a stubble field, otherwise called *ersh*, or *eddish*, *grotten*, *podder-grotten*.

GRATTEN (2) *vb.* To feed on a *gratten*, or stubble field.

To turn pigs out *grattening*, is to turn them out to find their own food.

GRAUM [grrau·m] *vb.* To grime; dirty; blacken.

GREAT [grait] (1) *adv.* Very; as “*great* much,” very much. Commonly pronounced *gurt*.

GREAT [grait] (2) *sb.* “To work by the *great*,” is to work by the piece.

GREAT CHURCH [grait church] *sb.* The Cathedral at Canterbury is always so called at Eastry.

“That fil belongs to the *Great Church*,” *i.e.*, is part of the possessions of the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.

GREATEN [grai·tn] *vb.* To enlarge.

GREEDS [greedz] *sb. pl.* Straw thrown on to the dung-hill.

GREEN-BAG, *sb.* The bag in which the hops are brought from the garden to the oast. (See also *Poke*.)

GREYBIRD [grai·burd] *sb.* A thrush.

GRIDGIRON [grij·eirn] *sb.* Gridiron.

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GRINSTONE [grin·stun] *sb.* A grindstone.

GRIP [grip] *sb.* A dry ditch; but about Sittingbourne it is applied to natural channels of a few feet in width, in the *saltings* on the Kentish coasts.

“I crawled along the *grip* with my gun in my hand until I got within a few rods of ‘em.”

GRIPING [grei·pin] *vb.* The name given in North Kent to the operation of groping at arms’ length in the soft mud of the tidal streams for dabs and flounders.

GRIST [greist] *sb.* Anything which has been ground—meal, flour.

GRISTING [grei·sting], GRYSTING, *sb.* The flour which is got from the lease-wheat.

GRIT [grit] *vb.* To set the teeth on edge; to grate.

GRIZZLE [griz·l] *vb.* To fret; complain; grumble.

“She’s such a *grizzling* woman.”

GROSS [groas] *adj.* Gruff, deep-sounding.

GROVETT [groa·vit] *sb.* A small grove or wood.

“Just by it is a *grovette* of oaks, the only one in the whole island.”—*Lewis*, p.115.

GRUBBY [grub·i] *adj.* Dirty.

“You are *grubby*, and no mistake.”(See also *Grabby*.)

GRUPPER [grup·ur] *sb.* That part of the harness of a cart-horse which is called elsewhere the *quoilers*; the breeching.—*East Kent*.

GRUPPER-TREE [grup·ur-tree] *sb.* That part of a cart horse’s harness which is made of wood, padded next the horse’s back, and which carries the *redger*.—*East Kent*.

GAGEY [gai·ji] *adj.* Uncertain; showery; spoken of the weather.

“Well, what d’ye think o’ the weather? will it be fine? It looks to me rather *gagey*.”

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GUESS-COW [ges-kou] *sb.* A dry or barren cow.

GUESTING [gest·ing] *vb.* Gossiping.

GUESTLING [ges·lin] (1) *sb.* An ancient water-course at Sandwich, in which it was formerly the custom to drown prisoners.

GUESTLING [gest·ling] (2) *sb.* The ancient court of the Cinque Ports, held at Shepway, near Hythe, and other places.

“In July, 1688, the Common Council of Faversham commissioned their Deputy-Mayor, two Jurats, the Town Clerk, and a Commoner ‘to go to a *guestling*, which was summoned from the ancient town of Winchelsea, to be holden at the town and port of New Romney, on Tuesday, July 21st;’ and ‘there to act on the town’s behalf, as they should find convenient’ They were absent at the *guestling* five days.”

GUILE-SHARES [gei·l-shairz] *sb. pl.* Cheating shares; division of spoils; or shares of “wreckage.”

“Under the pretence of assisting the distressed masters [of stranded vessels] and saving theirs and the merchant’s goods, they convert them to their own use by making what they call *guile-shares*.”—*Lewis*, 34.

GULLIDGE [gul·ij] *sb.* The sides of a barn boarded off from the middle; where the caving is generally stored.

GUMBLE [gumb·l] *vb.* To fit very badly, and be too large, as clothes.

GUNNER [gun·ur] *sb.* A man who makes his living by shooting wild fowl, is so called on the north coast of Kent and about Sheppey.

GURT [grurt] *adj.* Great.

GUTTER GRUB [gut·ur-grub] *sb.* One who delights in doing dirty work and getting himself into a mess; a low person.

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GUTTERMUD [gut·urmud] *sb.* The black mud of the gutter, hence any dirt or filth.

“As black as *guttermud*.”

GUT-WEED, *sb.* *Sonchus arvensis*.

## H.

HAAZES [haa·ziz] *sb. pl.* Haws. (See also *Harves*.) Fruit of *Cratægus oxyacantha*.

HADN’T OUGHT [had·nt aut] *phr.* Ought not. (See also *No ought*.)

“He *hadn’t ought* to go swishing along as that, no-how.”

HAGGED [hag·id] *adj.* Thin; lean; shrivelled; haggard.

“They did look so very old and *hagged*,” spoken of some maiden ladies living in another parish, who had not been seen for some time by the speaker.

HAGISTER [hag·ister] *sb.* A magpie.

HAIR [hair] *sb.* The cloth on the oast above the fires where the hops are dried.

HALF-AMON [haaf-ai·mun] *sb.* (See *Amon*.)

HALF-BAPTIZED. Privately baptized.

“Can such things be!” exclaimed the astonished Mr. Pickwick. “Lord bless your heart, sir,” said Sam, “why, where was you *half-baptised*?—that’s nothin’, that a’nt.”

—*Pickwick Papers*, chapter xiii.

HALM [haam], HAULM [haum], HELM [helm] *sb.* Stubble gathered after the corn is carried, especially pease and beans’ straw; applied, also, to the stalks or stems of potatoes and other vegetables.

HALMOT [hal·mut] *sb.* The hall mote; court leet or manor court; from the Saxon *heal-mot*, a little council.

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HAME [haim] *sb.* Pease straw. (See *Halm*.)

HAMPER [hamp·ur] *vb.* To injure, or throw anything out of gear.

“The door is *hampered*.”

HAMPERY [ham·pur’i] *adj.* Shaky; crazy; rickety; weak; feeble; sickly.

HAND-COLD, *adj.* Cold enough to chill the hands. (See also *Finger-cold*.)

“There was a frost down in the bottoms, for I was right-down *hand-cold* as I come up to the great house.”

HANDBAST, *adj.* Able to hold tight.

“Old George is middlin’ *handfast* to-day” (said of a good catch at cricket).

HANDFUL, *sb.* An anxiety; *to have a handful* is to have as much as a person can do and bear.

“Mrs. S. says she has a sad *handful* with her mother.”

HAND-HOLD, *sb.* A holding for the hands.

“‘Tis a plaguey queer job to climb up there, there an’t no *hand-hold*.”

HANDSTAFF [hand·staaf] *sb.* The handle of a flail.

HANGER [hang·r] *sb.* A hanging wood on the side of a hill. It occurs in the names of several places in Kent—*Betteshanger*, *Westenhanger*, &c.

HANK [hangk], HINK [hingk] *sb.* A skein of silk or thread.

So we say a man has a *hank* on another; or, he has him entangled in a skein or string.

HAPPY-HO, *adj.* Apropos.

“My father was drowned and so was my brother; now that’s very *happy-ho!*” meaning that it was a curious coincidence.

HAPS [haps] (1) or HASP [haasp] *sb.* A hasp or fastening of a gate.—*P.* (See *Hapse.*)

1631.—“For charnells and *hapses* for the two chests in our hall.”—*MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

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HAPS [haps] (2) *vb.* Happens.

“Now *haps* you doänt know.”

HAPSE [haps] *vb.* To fasten with a hasp; to fasten. In the Weald of Kent *hapse* is used for the verb, and *hasp* for the noun, *e.g.*, “*Hapse* the gate after you!” “I can’t, the *hasp* is gone.”

HARCELET [haa·slit], HASLET [haz·lit], *sb.* The heart, liver, and lights of a hog.  
(See *Acelot, Arslet, Harslet.*)

HARD-FRUIT, *sb.* Stone-fruit; plums, &c.

HARDHEWER [haa·dheur] *sb.* A stonemason.

The word occurs in the articles for building Wye Bridge, 1637.

HARKY [haa·ki] *interj.* Hark!

HARSLEM [haa·zlum] *sb.* Asylum.

“When he got to settin’ on de hob and pokin’ de fire wid’s fingers, dey thought ‘twas purty nigh time dey had him away to de *harslem.*”

HARSLET [haa·zlet] *sb.* (See *Acelot.*)

HARVES [haa·vz] *sb. pl.* Haws. (See *Haazes.*)

HARVEST [haa·vist] *vb.* To gather in the corn; to work in the harvest-field, *e.g.*,  
“Where’s Harry?” “Oh! he’s *harvesting* ‘long with his father.”

HARVESTER [haa·vistur] *sb.* A stranger who comes into the parish to assist in the harvest.

HASSOCK [has·ok] *sb.* A large pond.

HASTY [hai·sti] *adj.* Heavy; violent. Often used of rain.

“It did come down *hasty*, an’ no mistake.”

HATCH [hach] *sb.* A gate in the roads; a *half-hatch* is where a horse may pass, but not a cart.

HATCH-UP [hach up] *vb.* To prepare for.

“I think it’s *hatching up* for snow.” “She’s *hatching up* a cold.”

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HAUL [hau·l] *vb.* To halloo; to shout.

HAULMS AND FIGS [hau·mz und figz] *sb. pl.* Hips and haws, the fruit of the hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacantha*) and the dog-rose (*Rosa canina*).

HAVE [hav] *vb.* To take; lead; as, “*Have* the horse to the field.”

“*Have* her forth of the ranges and whoso followeth her let him be slain with the sword.”—2 Chron. xxiii. 14.

HAW [hau] *sb.* A small yard or inclosure. Chaucer has it for a churchyard.

HAWK [hauk] *vb.* To make a noise when clearing the throat of phlegm. An imitative word.

“He was *hawking* and spetting for near an hour after he first got up.”

HAWMELL, *sb.* A small close or paddock.

HAYNET, *sb.* A long net, often an old fish net, used in cover shooting to keep the birds and flick from running out of the beat.

HEAF [heef] *sb.* The gaff-hook used by fishermen Folkestone.

HEAL [heel] *vb.* To hide; to cover anything up; to roof-in.

“All right! I’ll work ‘im; I’ve only just got this ‘ere row o’ tatures to *heal*.”

HEART [haat] *sb.* Condition; spoken of ground.

“My garden’s in better *heart* than common this year.”

HEARTENING, *adj.* Strengthening.

“Home-made bread is more *heartening* than baker’s bread.”

HEART-GRIEF, *sb.* Severe grief.

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HEARTH [heerth] *sb.* Hearing; hearing-distance.

“I called out as loud’s ever I could, but he warn’t no wheres widin *hearth*.”

HEARTS ALIVE! [haats ulei·v] *interj.* An expression of astonishment at some strange or startling intelligence.

“*Hearts alive!* what ever upon *ëarth* be ye got at?”

HEAVE [heev] *vb.* To throw; to *heave* a card; to play it; it being, as it were, lifted up or *heav’d*, before it is laid down upon the table.

HEAVE-GATE [heev-gait] *sb.* A gate which does not work on hinges, but which has to be lifted (*heaved*) out of the sockets or mortises, which otherwise keep it in place, and make it look like a part of the fence.

HEAVENSHARD [hevz-haa·d] *adv.* Heavily; said of rain.

“It rains *heavenshard*.”

HEAVER [hee·vur] *sb.* A crab.—*Folkestone*.

“Lord, sir, it’s hard times; I’ve not caught a *pung* or a *heaver* in my stalkers this week; the man-suckers and slutters gets into them, and the congers knocks them all to pieces.”

HEED [heed] *sb.* Head.

HEEVE [heev] (1) *sb.* A hive; a bee-hive.

“I doänt make no account of dese here new-fangled boxes and set-outs; you may ‘pend upon it de old *heeves* is best after all.”

HEEVE [heev] (2) *vb.* To hive bees.

HEFT [hef·t] *sb.* The weight of a thing, as ascertained by *heaving* or lifting it.

“This here *heve* ‘ll stand very well for the winter, just feel the *heft* of it.”

HEG, *sb.* A hag; a witch; a fairy.

“Old coins found in Kent were called *hegs pence* by the country people.”

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HELE [heel] *vb.* To cover. (See *Heal*.)

HELER [hee·ler] *sb.* Anything which is laid over another; as, for instance, the cover of a thurrick or wooden drain.

HELL-WEED, *sb.* A peculiar tangled weed, without any perceptible root, which appears in clover, sanfoin or lucerne, and spreads very rapidly, entirely destroying the plant. Curiously enough, it appears in the second cut of clover, but does not come in the first. (See *Devil's Thread*.) *Cuscuta epithymum*.

HELVING [helv·in] *partc.* Gossiping, or “hung up by the tongue.”—*Tenterden*.

“Where have you been *helving*?”

HEM, *adv.* An intensitive adverb = very, exceedingly.

“*Hem* queer old chap, he is!”

HEMWOODS [hem·wuodz] *sb. pl.* Part of a cart-horses' harness which goes round the collar, and to which the tees are fixed; called *aines* (hames) in West Kent.

HEN AND CHICKENS, *sb.* The ivy-leaved toad-flax, otherwise called *Mother of Thousands*; and sometimes *Roving Sailor*. *Linaria vulgaris*.

HERE AND THERE A ONE, *adj. phr.* Very few and scattered.

“There wasn't nobody in church to-day, only *here and there a one*.”

HERNSHAW [hurn·shau] *sb.* A heron. (See also *Kitty Hearn*, *Kitty Hearn Shrow*.)

HERRING-FARE [her·r'ing-fair] *sb.* The season for catching herrings, which begins about the end of harvest.

HERRING-HANG, *sb.* A lofty square brick room, made perfectly smoke-tight, in which the herrings are hung to dry.

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HERRING-SPEAR, *sb.* The noise of the flight and cries of the red-wings; whose migration takes place about the herring fishing time.

“I like's to hear it,” says an old Folkestone fisherman, “I always catches more fish when it's about.”

HETHER [hedh·ur] *adv.* Hither.

“Come *hether*, my son.”

HEYCOURT [hai-koart] *sb.* The High Court, or principal Court of the Abbot's Convent of St. Augustine's, Canterbury.

HICKET [hik·it] *vb.* To hiccup, or hiccough.

HIDE, *sb.* A place in which smugglers used to conceal their goods. There were formerly many such places in the neighbourhood of Romney-marsh and Folkestone.

HIDE AND FOX [held und foks] *sb.* Hide and seek; a children's game.

“*Hide* fox, and after all.”—*Hamlet*, act iv. sc. 2., means, let the fox *hide* and the others all go to seek him.

HIGGLER [hig·lur] *sb.* A middleman who goes round the country and buys up eggs, poultry, &c., to sell again. So called, because he *higgles* or *haggles* over his bargains.

HIKE [heik] *vb.* To turn out.

“He *hiked* ‘im out purty quick.”

HILL [hil] *sb.* The small mound on which hops are planted; a heap of potatoes or mangold wurzel.

HINK [hingk] *sb.* A hook at the end of a stick, used for drawing and lifting back the peas, whilst they were being cut with the pea-hook. The pea-hook and *hink* always went together.

HIS-SELF, *pron.* Himself.

“Ah! when he's been married two or three weeks he won't scarcely know *his-self*. He'll find the difference, I lay!”

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HOATH [hoa·th], HOTH [hoth] *sb.* Heath; a word which is found in many place-names, as *Hothfield*, *Oxenhoth*, *Kingshoth*.

HOBBLE [hob·l] *sb.* An entanglement; difficulty; puzzle; scrape.

“I'm in a reg'lar *hobble*.”

HOBBL'D [hobl·d] *pp.* Puzzled; baffled; put to a difficulty.

HOCKATTY KICK [hok·utikik·] *sb.* A lame person.

HOCKER-HEADED [hok·ur-hed·id] *adj.* Fretful; passionate.

HODENING [hod·ning] *partc.* A custom formerly prevalent in Kent on Christmas Eve; it is now discontinued, but the singing of carols at that season is still called *hodening*. (See *Hoodening*.)

HOG-BACKED [hog·bakt] *adj.* Round backed; applied to a vessel when, from weakness, the stem and stern fall lower than the middle of the ship.

HOG-HEADED, *adj.* Obstinate.

“He’s such a *hog-headed* old mortal, ‘taint no use saying nothing to him.”

HOG-PAT, *sb.* A trough made of boards.

HOILE [hoi·l] *sb.* The beard or stalk of barley or other corn. (See *Iles*.)

HOLL [hol], HULL [hul] *vb.* To throw; to hurl.

“Ha! there, leave off *hulling* o’ stones.”

HOLLY-BOYS AND IVY-GIRLS, *sb. pl* It was the custom on Shrove Tuesday in West Kent to have two figures in the form of a boy and girl, made one of holly, the other of ivy. A group of girls engaged themselves in one part of a village in burning the *holly-boy*, which they had stolen from the boys, while the boys were to be found in another part of the village burning the *ivy-girl*, which they had stolen from the girls, the ceremony being, in both cases, accompanied by loud huzzas.

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HOLP [hoalp] *vb.* Helped; gave; delivered.

“Assur also is joined with them, and have *holpen* the children of Lot.”—  
Psalm lxxxiii.8.

“What did you do with that letter I gave you to the wheelwright?” “I *holp* it to his wife.”

HOLP-UP, *vb.* Over-worked.

“I dunno as I shaänt purty soon look out another plääce, I be purty nigh *holp-up* here, I think.”

HOLT [hoa·lt] *sb.* A wood. Much used in names of places, as *Bircholt*, *Knockholt*, &c.

HOMESTALL [hoa·mstaul] *sb.* The place of a mansion-house; the inclosure of ground immediately connected with the mansion-house.

HOMMUCKS [hom·uks] *sb. pl.* Great, awkward feet.

HOODENING [huod·ing] *sb.* The name formerly given to a mumming or masquerade. Carol singing, on Christmas Eve, is still so called at Monckton, in East Kent.

The late Rev. H. Bennett Smith, Vicar of St. Nicholas-at-Wade, the adjoining parish to Monkton, wrote as follows in 1876,—”I made enquiry of an old retired farmer in my parish, as to the custom called *Hoodning*. He tells me that formerly the farmer used to send annually round the neighbourhood the best horse under the charge of the wagoner, and that afterwards instead, a man used to represent the horse, being supplied with a tail, and with a wooden [pronounced ooden or hooden] figure of a horse’s head, and plenty of horse-hair for a mane. The horse’s head was fitted with hob-nails for teeth; the mouth being made to open by means of a string, and in closing made a loud crack. The custom has long since ceased.” (See *Hodening* above.)

HOOGOO [hoo·goo] *sb.* A bad smell; a horrible stench; evidently a corruption of the French *haut gout*.

“A Kentish gamekeeper, noticing a horrible stench, exclaimed: “Well, this is a pretty *hoogoo*, I think!”

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HOOK [huok] *sb.* An agricultural tool for cutting, of which there are several kinds, viz., the *bagging-hook*, the *ripping-hook*, &c.

HOP [hop] (1) *vb.* To pick hops.

“Mother’s gone out *hopping*.”

HOP (2) *sb.* Wood fit for hop-poles.

HOP-BIND [hop-beind] *sb.* The stem of the hop, whether dead or alive. (See also *Bine*.)

HOP-DOG [hop·dog] (1) *sb.* A beautiful green caterpillar which infests the hop-bine, and feeds on the leaves.

(2) An iron instrument for drawing the hop-poles out of the ground, before carrying them to the hop-pickers.

HOPE [hoap] *sb.* A place of anchorage for ships.

HOPKIN [hop·kin] *sb.* A supper for the work-people, after the hop-picking is over.

Not often given in East Kent now-a-days, though the name survives in a kind of small cake called *huffkin*, formerly made for such entertainments.

(See *Huffkin*, *Wheatkin*.)

HOPPER [hop·ur] *sb.* A hop-picker.

“I seed the poor *hoppers* coming home all drenched.”

HOPPING [hop·ing] *sb.* The season of hop-picking.

“A fine harvest, a wet *hopping*.”—*Eastry Proverb*.

HOP-PITCHER [hop·pitchur] *sb.* The pointed iron bar used to make holes for setting the hop-poles, otherwise called a *dog*, a *hop-dog*, or a *fold-pitcher*.

HOP-SPUD, *sb.* A three-pronged fork, with which hop grounds are dug.

HORN [haun] *sb.* A corner.

HORN-FAIR, *sb.* An annual fair held at Charlton, in Kent, on St. Luke's Day, the 18th of October. It consists of a riotous mob, who, after a printed summons, disperse through the adjacent towns, meet at Cuckold's Point, near Deptford, and march from thence, in procession,

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through that town and Greenwich to Charlton, with horns of different kinds upon their heads; and, at the fair, there are sold ram's horns, and every sort of toy made of horn; even the ginger-bread figures have horns. It was formerly the fashion for men to go to *Horn-fair* in women's clothes.

HORNICLE [hom·ikl] *sb.* A hornet.

HORSE [hors] (1) *sb.* The arrangement of hop-poles, tied across from hill to hill, upon which the pole-pullers rest the poles, for the pickers to gather the hops into the bins or baskets.

HORSE [hors] (2) *vb.* To tie the upper branches of the hop-plant to the pole.

HORSEBUCKLE [hor·sbuk·l] *sb.* A cowslip. *Primula veris*.

HORSE EMMETS [hor·s em·utz] *sb. pl.* Large ants.

HORSE-KNOT, *sb.* The knap-weed; sometimes also called hard-weed. *Centaurea nigra*.

HORSE-LOCK [hors-lok] *sb.* A padlock.

A.D. 1528.—"Paid for a *hors lok* . . . vj<sup>d</sup>."—*Accounts of St. John's Hospital, Canterbury*.

HORSENAILS [hors·nailz] *sb. pl.* Tadpoles. Probably so called because, in shape, they somewhat resemble large nails.

HORSE PEPPERMINT [hors pep·r·mint] *sb.* The common mint. *Mentha sylvestris*.

HORSE-ROAD [hors-road] *sb.* In Kent, a road is not divided as elsewhere, into the *carriage-road* and the *footpath*; but into the *horse-road* and the *foot-road*.

This name carries us back to the olden times when journeys were mostly made on horseback.

HORSES, *sb. pl.* To set horses together, is to agree.

"Muster Nidgett and his old 'ooman can't set their *horses* together at all, I understan'."

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HORT [hort] *vb.* Hurt.

"Fell off de roof o' de house, he did; fell on's head, he did; *hort* 'im purty much, I can tell ye."

HOTCH [hotsh] *vb.* To move awkwardly or with difficulty in an irregular and scrambling way. French, *hocher*, to shake, jog, &c. "He *hotched* along on the floor to the top of the stairs." "I hustled through the crowd and she *hotched* after me." So, when a man walking with a boy keeps him on the run, he is described as keeping him *hotching*.

HOUGHED [huff·id] *vb., past p.* from *hough*, to hamstring, but often used as a mere expletive.

"Snuff boxes, shows and whirligigs,

An *houghed* sight of folks.”—*Dick and Sal*, st. 9.

HOUSE [houz] *vb.* To get the corn in from the fields into the barn.

“We’ve *housed* all our corn.”

HOUSEL [hous·l] *sb.* Household stuff or furniture.

“I doänt think these here new-comers be up to much; leastways, they didn’t want a terr’ble big cart to fetch their *houzel* along; they had most of it home in a wheelbar’.”

HOVEL [hov·l] (1) *vb.* To carry on the business of a *hoveler*.

HOVEL [hov·l] (2) *sb.* A piece of good luck; a good haul; a good turn or time of *hovelling*.

In some families, the children are taught to say in their prayers, “God bless father and mother, and send them a good *hovel* to-night.”

HOVELER [hov·iler] *sb.* A *hoveler’s* vessel. A Deal boatman who goes out to the assistance of ships in distress, The *hovellers* also carry out provisions, and recover lost anchors, chains and gear. They are first-rate seamen, and their vessels are well built and well manned.

HOVER [hov·r] *adj.* Light; puffy; raised; shivery; hunched-up. Hence, poorly, unwell.

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HOVER [hovr] *vb.* To throw together lightly. There is a special use of this word with regard to hops. In East Kent it is the custom to pick, not in bins, but in baskets holding five or six bushels. The pickers gather the hops into a number of small baskets or boxes (I have often seen an umbrella used), until they have got enough to fill the great basket; they then call the tallyman, who comes with two men with the *green-bag*; one of the pickers (generally a woman) then comes to *hover* the hops; this is done by putting both hands down to the bottom of the great basket, into which the hops out of the smaller ones are emptied as quickly but gently as possible, the woman all the while raising the hops with her hands; as soon as they reach the top, they are quickly shot out into the green bag before they have time

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

to *sag* or *sink*. Thus, very inadequate measure is obtained, as, probably, a bushel is lost in every tally; indeed, *hovering* is nothing more than a recognized system of fraud, but he would be a brave man who attempted to forbid it.

HOWSOMEDEVER [hou·sumdev·r], HOWSOMEVER [hou·sumevev·r] *adv.* Howsoever.

“But *howsomdever*, doänt ram it down tight, but hover it up a bit.”

HUCK [huk] (1) *sb.* The husk, pod, or shell of peas, beans, but especially of hazel nuts and walnuts.

HUCK [huk] (2) *vb., act. and neut.* To shell peas; to get walnuts out of their pods.

“Are the walnuts ready to pick?” “No, sir, I tried some and they won’t *huck*.”

HUFFKIN [huf·kin], HUFKLN, *sb.* A kind of bun or light cake, which is cut open, buttered, and so eaten. (See *Hopkin*.)

HUFFLE [huf·1] *sb.* A merry meeting; a feast.

HUGE [heuj], HUGY [heuj·i] *adv.* Very. “I’m not *huge* well.” Sometimes they make it a dissyllable, *hugy*. The saying *hugy* for *huge* is merely the sounding of the final *e*, as in the case of the name Anne, commonly pronounced An·ni. It is *not* Annie.

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HULL [hul] (1) *sb.* The shell of a pea.

“After we have sheel’d them we throw the *hulls* away.”

HULL [hul] (2) *vb.* To throw; to hurl. (See *Holl*.)

“He took and *hulled* a gurt libbet at me.”

HUM [hum] *vb.* To whip a top.

HUNG UP [hung up] *vb.* Hindered; foiled; prevented.

“He is quite *hung up*,” *i.e.*, so circumstanced that he is hindered from doing what otherwise he would.

HURR [hur] *adj.* Harsh; astringent; crude; tart.

“These ‘ere damsons be terr’ble *hurr*.”

HUSBAND [huz·bund] *sb.* A pollard.

HUSS [hus] *sb.* Small spotted dog-fish. *Scyttium canicula*.

HUSSLE [hus·l] *vb.* To wheeze; breathe roughly.

“Jest listen to un how he *hussles*.”

HUSSLING [hus·ling] *sb.* A wheezing; a sound of rough breathing.

“He had such a *hussling* on his chest.”

HUSSY [hus·i] *vb.* To chafe or rub the hands when they are cold.

HUTCH [huch] *sb.* The upper part of a wagon which carries the load. A wagon consists of these three parts: (1) the *hutch*, or open box (sometimes enlarged by the addition of *floats*) which carries the corn or other load, and is supported by the wheels; (2) the *tug*, by which it is drawn; and (3) the wheels on which it runs.

HUXON [huks·n] *sb. pl.* The hocks or hams.

HYTE [heist] *sb.* A call; a signal.

“Just give me a *hyste*, mate, when ‘tis time to goo.”

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I.

ICE [eis] *vb.* To freeze.

“The pond *iced* over, one day last week.”

ICILY [ei·sili] *sb.* An icicle.

IKEY [ei·ki] *adj.* Proud.

ILES [eilz] *sb. pl.* Ails, or beards of barley. (See also *Hoile*.)

ILLCONVENIENT [il·konveen·yunt] *adj.* Inconvenient.

INNARDLY [in·urdli] *adv.* Inwardly.

“He’s got hurt *innardly* som’ere.”

“He says his words *innardly*,” *i.e.*, he mumbles.

INNARDS [in·urdz] *sb.* The entrails or intestines; an innings at cricket.

“They bested ‘em first *innards*.”

INKSPEWER [ink·speu·r] *sb.* Cuttle-fish.

INNOCENT [in·oasent] *adj.* Small and pretty; applied to flowers.

“I do always think they paigles looks so *innocent*-like.”

IN ‘OPES [in·oaps] *phr.* For *in hopes*. It is very singular how common this phrase is, and how very rarely East Kent people will say *I hope*; it is almost always, “I’m *in ‘opes*.” If an enquiry is made how a sick person is, the answer will constantly be, “I’m *in ‘opes* he’s better; “if a girl goes to a new place, her mother will say, “I’m *in ‘opes* she’ll like herself and stay.”

IN SUNDEERS [in sun·durz] *adv.* Asunder.

“And brake their bands *in sunder*.”—Psalm cvii. 14.

INTERFERE [in·turfee·r] *vb.* To cause annoyance or hindrance.

“I was obliged to cut my harnd tother-day, that’s what *interferes* with me.”

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INTERRUPT [in·turrup·] *vb.* To annoy; to interfere with anyone by word or deed; to assault.

A man whose companion, at cricket, kept running against him was heard to say: “It does *interrupt* me to think you can’t run your right side; what a thick head you must have!”

ISLAND [ei·lund] *sb.* In East Kent *the island* means the Isle of Thanet.

“He lives up in the *island*, som’er,” *i.e.*, he lives somewhere in Thanet.

ITCH [ich] *vb.* (i.) To creep; (ii.) to be very anxious.

IVY GIRL [ei·vi gurl] *sb.* (See *Holly boys*.)

## J.

JACK IN THE BOX, *sb.* A reddish-purple, double polyanthus.

JACK-UP [jak-up] *vb.* To throw-up work; or give up anything from pride, impudence, or bad temper.

“They kep’ on one wik, and then they all *jacked-up*!”

JAUL [jau·l] *vb.* To throw the earth about and get the grain out of the ground when it is sown, as birds do.

“The bothering old rooks have *jauled* all de seeds out o’ de groun’.”

JAWSY [ja·zi] *adj.* Talkative. From the *jaws*.

JOCK [jok] *vb.* To jolt; (the hard form of *jog*).

JOCKEY [jok·i] *adj.* Rough; uneven.

JOCLET [jok·lit] *sb.* A small manor, or farm.

JOIND-STOOL, JOYND-STOOL [joi·nd-stool] *sb.* A stool framed with joints, instead of being roughly fashioned out of a single block.

“It. in the great parlo<sup>r</sup>, one table, half-a-dowsin of high *joind-stooles* . . . “—  
*Memorials of Eastry*, p. 225.

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JOKESY [joa·ksi] *adj.* Full of jokes; amusing; full of fun.

“He’s a very *jokesy* man.”

JOLE [joal] *sb.* The jowl, jaw or cheek; proverbial expression, “cheek by *jole*”= side by side.



“He claa’d hold on her round de nick

An ‘gun to suck har *jole*” [i.e., to kiss her.]

— *Dick and Sal*, st. 67.

JOLLY [jol·i] *adj.* Fat; plump; sleek; in good condition, used to describe the condition of the body, not of the temperament.

JOSKIN, *sb.* A farm labourer (more especially a driver of horses, or carter’s mate,) engaged to work the whole year round for one master.

JOSS-BLOCK [jos-blok] *sb.* A step used in mounting a horse.

JOUN [jou·n] *vb.* joined.

“He *jouned* in with a party o’ runagate chaps, and ‘twarn’t long before he’d made away wid all he’d got.”

JOY [jau·i] *sb.* The common English jay.

JUDGMATICAL, *adj.* With sense of judgment.

JULY-BUG [jeu·lei-bug] *sb.* A brownish beetle, commonly called elsewhere a *cockchafer*, which appears in *July*. (See also *Bug*.)

JUNE-BUG [jeu·n-bug] *sb.* A green beetle, smaller than the *July-bug* which is generally to be found in *June*.

JUSTLY [just·li] *adv.* Exactly; precisely; for certain.

“I cannot *justly* say,” i.e., I cannot say for certain.

JUST, *intensive adv.* Very; extremely.

“I *just* was mad with him.” “Didn’t it hurt me *just*?”

JUST-SO [just-soa] *adv.* Very exactly and precisely; thoroughly; in one particular way.

“He’s not a bad master, but he will have everything done *just-so*; and you wunt please him without everything is *just-so*, I can tell ye!”

JUT [jut] *sb.* A pail with a long handle.

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K.

KARFE [kaa·f] *sb.* The cut made by a saw; the hole made by the first strokes of an axe in felling or chopping wood; from the verb to carve. (See *Carf* which is out of place on p. 25.)

KEALS [kealz] *sb. pl.* Ninepins.

KEEKLEGS [kee·klegz] *sb.* An orchis. *Orchis mascula*. (See *Kites legs*.)

KEELER [kee·lur] *sb.* A cooler; being the special name given to a broad shallow vessel of wood, wherein milk is set to cream or wort to cool.

In the *Boteler Inventory*, we find: “In the milke house one brinestock, two dozen of trugs, ix. bowles, three milk *keelers* one charne and one table.”

— *Memorials of Eastry*, p. 228.

“Half a butter-tub makes as good a *keeler* as anything.”

KEEN, *sb.* A weasel.

KEEP-ALL-ON, *vb.* To continue or persevere in doing something.

“He *kep-all-on* actin’ the silly.”

KEG-MEG [keg-meg] *sb.* A newsmonger; a gossip; a term generally applied to women.

KELL [kel] *sb.* A kiln.

KENTISH MAN, *sb.* A name given by the inhabitants of the Weald to persons who live in other parts of the county.

KEPT GOING [kep· goa·ing] *vb.* Kept about (*i.e.*, up and out of bed); continued to go to work.

“He’s not bin well for some time, but he’s *kep’ going* until last Saddaday he was forced to give up.”

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KERN [kur·n] *vb.* To corn; produce corn.

“There’s plenty of good *kerning* land in that parish.”

KETTLE-MAN [ket·l-man] *sb.* *Lophius piscatorius*, or seadevil.

KEYS [keez] *sb. pl.* Sycamore-seeds.

“The sycamore is a quick-growing tree, but troublesome near a house, because the *keys* do get into the gutters so, and in between the stones in the stableyard.”

KICK-UP-JENNY [kik-up-jin·i] *sb.* A game played, formerly in every public-house, with ninepins (smaller than skittles) and a leaden ball which was fastened to a cord suspended from the ceiling, exactly over the centre pin; when skilfully handled the ball was swung from the extreme length of the cord, so as to bring down all the pins at once.

KIDWARE [kid·wair] *sb.* Peas; beans, etc.

KILK [kilk], KINKLE [kingk·l] *sb.* Charlock. *Sinapis arvensis*, the wild mustard.

KILN-BRUSH [kil·n-brush] *sb.* A large kind of fagot, bound with two wiffs or withs, used for heating kilns. (See *Bobbin*, *Pimp* and *Wiff*.)

KINDLY [kei·ndli] *adj.* Productive; used with reference to land which pays for cultivation.

“Some on it is *kindly* land and som’ on it ain’t.”

KING JOHN’S MEN, one of. A term applied to a short man.

“He’s one of King John’s men, six score to the hundred.”

Six score, 120, was the old hundred, or long-hundred.

KINK [kingk] (1) *sb.*, KINKLE [kingk·l] *sb.* A tangle; a hitch or knot in a rope.

“Take care, or you’ll get it into a *kink*.”

KINK [kingk] (2) *vb.* To hitch; twist; get into a tangle.

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KINTLE [kint·l] *sb.* A small piece; a little corner. So *Bargrave MS. Diary*, 1645.

— “Cutt owt a *kintle*.” (See also *Cantle*.)

KIPPERED [kip·urd] *adj.* Chapped; spoken of the hands and lips, when the outer skin is cracked in cold weather.

“My hands are *kippered*.”

KIPPER-TIME, *sb.* The close season for salmon.

A.D. 1376. — “The Commons pray that no salmon be caught in the

Thames between Gravesend and Henly Bridge in *kipper-time*, *i.e.*, between the Feast of the Invention of the Cross [14 Sept.] and the Epiphany [6 Jan.] and that the wardens suffer no unlawful net to be used therein.” — *Dunkin’s History of Kent*, p. 46.

KITE’S LEGS [keets·legs]. *Orchis mascula*.

KITTENS [kit·nz] *sb. pl.* The baskets in which the fish are packed on the beach at Folkestone to be sent by train to London and elsewhere.

KITTLE [kit·l] (1), KIDDLE [kid·l] *vb.* To tickle.

KITTLE [kit·l] (2), KITTLISH [kit·lish] *adj.* Ticklish; uncertain; difficult to manage.

“Upon what *kittle*, tottering, and uncertain terms they held it.” — *Somner, of Gavelkind*, p. 129.

KITTY-COME-DOWN-THE-LANE-JUMP-UP-AND-KISS-ME, *sb.* The cuckoo pint is so called in West Kent. *Arum maculatum*.

KITTY HEARN [kit·i hurn] *sb.* The heron.

KITTY HEARN SHROW [kit·i hurn shroa] *sb.* The heron. — *Chilham*.

KITTY-RUN-THE-STREET, *sb.* The flower, otherwise called the pansy or heartsease. *Viola tricolor*.

KNOLL [noa·l] *sb.* A hill or bank; a, *knole* of sand; a little round hill; used in place names — *Knowle, Knowlton*.

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KNOWED [noa·d] *vb.* Knew.

“I’ve *knowed* ‘im ever since he was a boy.”

KNUCKER [nuk·r] *vb.* To neigh

## L.

LACE [lais] *vb.* To flog. The number of words used in Kent for chastising is somewhat remarkable.

LADY-BUG [lai·di·bug] *sb.* A lady-bird. (See *Bug*.) This little insect is highly esteemed. In Kent (as elsewhere), it is considered unlucky to kill one, and its name has reference to our Lady, the blessed Virgin Mary, as is seen by its other name, *Marygold*.

LADY-LORDS [lai·di·lordz] *sb. pl.* Lords and ladies; the name given by children to the wild arum. *Arum maculatum*.

LADY-KEYS [lai·dikee·z] *sb. pl.* Same as *Lady-lords*.

LAID IN [lai·d in] *vb.* A meadow is said to be *laid in* for hay, when stock are kept out to allow the grass to grow.

LAIN [lain] *sb.* A thin coat (a laying) of snow on the ground.

“There’s quite a *lain* of snow.”

LANT-FLOUR [lau·nt·flou·r] *sb.* Fine flour.

LASHHORSE [losh·us] *sb.* The third horse from the plough or wagon, or horse before a *pinhorse* in the team. — *East Kent*.

LASH OUT [lash out] *vb.* To be extravagant with money, &c.; to be in a passion.

“Ye see, he’s old uncle he left ‘im ten pound. Ah! Fancy, he jus’ did *lash out* upon that; treated everybody, he did.”

[90]

LAST [laast] (1) *sb.* Ten thousand herrings, with a hundred given in for broken fish, make a *last*.

LAST [laa·st] (2) *sb.* An ancient court in Romney Marsh, held for levying rates for the preservation of the marshes.

LATHE [laidh] (Anglo-Saxon, *læth*) *sb.* A division of the county of Kent, in which there are five *lathes*, viz., Sutton-at-Hone, Aylesford, Scray, St. Augustine's, and Shepway.

LATHE [laidh] (2) *vb.* To meet.

LATH [ʔ laidh or lath] *sb.* The name of an annual court, held at Dymchurch. One was held 15th June, 1876, which was reported in the *Sussex Express* of 17th June, 1876.

LATHER [lad'hur] *sb.* Ladder.

“They went up a *lather* to the stage.” — MS. *Diary* of Mr. John Bargrave, Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, 1645. Mr. Bargrave was nephew of the Dean of Canterbury of that name, and a Kentish man. The family were long resident at Eastry Court, in East Kent. This pronunciation is still common.

LAVAST [lav'ust] *sb.* Unenclosed stubble.

LORCUS-HEART [lau'kus-hart] *interj.* As “*O lorcusheart*,” which means “O Lord Christ's heart.”

LAWYER [laa'yur] *sb.* A long thorny bramble, from which it is not easy to disentangle oneself.

LAY, LEY [lai] *sb.* Land untilled. We find this in placenames, as *Leysdown* in Sheppey.

LAY-INTO, *vb.* To give a beating.

“It's no use making friends with such beasts as them (bulls), the best way is to take a stick and *lay into* them.

[91]

LAYSTOLE [lai'stoal] *sb.* A rubbish heap.

“Scarce could he footing find in that fowle way  
For many corses, like a great *lay-stall*  
Of murdered men, which therein strowed lay  
Without remorse or decent funerall.”

— *The Faerie Queene*, I. v. 53.

LEACON [lee'kun] *sb.* A wet swampy common; as, Wye *Leacon*, Westwell  
*Leacon*.

LEAD [leed] (1) *sb.* The hempen rein of a plough-horse, fixed to the halter by a chain, with which it is driven.

LEAD [leed] (2) *sb.* Way; manner.

“Do it in this *lead*” *i.e.*, in this way.

LEARN [lurn] *vb.* To teach.

“O *learn* me true understanding and knowledge.” — Psalm cxix. 66  
(Prayer Book version).

LEASE [leez] *vb.* To glean; gather up the stray ears of corn left in the fields.

LEASE-WHEAT [lee'zweet] *sb.* The ears picked up by the gleaners.

LEASING [lee'zing] *parte.* Gleaning.

LEASTWISE [lee'stweiz] *adv.* At least; at all events; anyhow; that is to say.

“Tom’s gone up int’ island, *leastwise*, he told me as how he was to go a wik come Monday.”

LEATHER, *vb.* To beat. “Caught ‘im among de cherries, he did: and *leathered* ‘im middlin’, he did.”

LEAVENER [lev'unur, lev'nur] *sb.* A snack taken at eleven o'clock; hence, any light, intermediate meal. (See *Elevenes*.)

LEER [leer] *sb.* Leather; tape.

“I meane so to mortifie myselfe, that in steede of silks I wil weare sackcloth; for owches and bracettes, *leere* and caddys; for the lute vse the distaffe.” — *Lilly’s Euphues*, ed. Arber, p. 79

[92]

LEES [leez] (1) *sb.* A common, or open space of pasture ground. The *Leas* [leez] is the name given at Folkestone to the fine open space of common at the top of the cliffs.

LEES [leez] (2) *sb.* A row of trees planted to shelter a hopgarden. (See *Lew*.)

LEETY [lee'ti] *adj.* Slow; behind-hand; slovenly. Thus they say:

“Purty *leety* sort of a farmer, I calls ‘im.”

LEF-SILVER, *sb.* A composition paid in money by the tenants in the wealds of Kent, to their lord, for leave to plough and sow in time of pannage.

LEG-TIRED, *adj.*

“Are ye tired, maate?” “No, not so terribly, only a little *leg-tired*.”

LERRY [lerr·i] *sb.* The “part” which has to be learnt by a mummer who goes round *championing*. — *Sittingbourne*. (See *Lorry*.)

LET, *vb.* To leak; to drip.

“That tap *lets* the water.”

LETCHE [let·ch] *sb.* A vessel, wherein they put ashes, and then run water through, in making lye.

LEW [loo] (1) *sb.* A shelter. Anglo-Saxon *hléow*, a covering; a shelter.

∨ (2) A thatched hurdle, supported by sticks, and set up in a field to screen lambs, &c., from the wind.

“The lambs ‘ud ‘ave been froze if so be I hadn’t made a few *lews*.”

LEW [loo] (3) *adj.* Sheltered.

☪ “That house lies *lew* there down in the hollow.”

LEW [loo] (4) *vb.* To shelter, especially to screen and protect from wind.

“Those trees will *lew* the house when they’re upgrown,” *i.e.*, those trees will shelter the house and keep off the wind when they are grown up.

[93]

LIB, *vb.* To get walnuts off the trees with libbats.

LIBBAT, *sb.* A billet of wood; a stick.

1592. — “With that he took a *libbat* up and beateth out his braines.”

—*Warner, Albion’s England*.

LID [lid] *sb.* A coverlet.

LIEF [leef] *adv.* Soon; rather; fain; gladly.

“I’d as *lief* come to-morrow.”

LIEF-COUP [leef-koop] *sb.* An auction of household goods.

LIGHT [leit] (1) *sb.* The whole quantity of eggs the hen lays at one laying. (2) The droppings of sheep. (See also *Treddles*.)

LIGHT UPON [leit·upon] *vb.* To meet; to fall in with any person or thing rather unexpectedly

“He *lit on* him goin’ down de road.”

LIGHTLY [lei·tli] *adv.* Mostly.

LIKE [leik] (1) *vb.* To be pleased with; suited for; in phrase, *to like one’s self.*

“How do you *like yourself?*” *i.e.*, how do you like your present position and its surrounding?”

LIKE [leik] (2). Adverbial suffix to other words, as pleasant-*like*, comfortable-*like*, home-*like*, &c.

“It’s too clammy-*like.*”

LINCH, LYNCH [lin·ch] *sb.* A little strip of land, to mark the boundary of the fields in open countries, called elsewhere landshire or landsherd, to distinguish a share of land. In Eastry the wooded ridge, which lies over against the church, is called by the name of the *Lynch*.

LINGER [ling·ur] *vb.* To long after a thing.

 “She *lingers* after it.”

LINGERING [ling·uring] *adj.* Used with reference to a protracted sickness of a consumptive character.

“He’s in a poor *lingering* way.”

[94]

LINGY [linj·i] *adj.* Idle and loitering.

LINK [link] *vb.* To entice; beguile; mislead.

“They *linked* him in along with a passel o’ good-for-nothin’ runagates.”

LIRRY [lir·ri] *sb.* A blow on the ear.

LISHY [lish·i] *adj.* Flexible; lissome. Spoken of com, plants and shrubs running up apace, and so growing tall and weak.

LISSOM [lis·um] *adj.* Pliant; supple. Contracted from lithesome.

LIST, *adj.* The condition of the atmosphere when sounds are heard easily.

“It’s a wonderful *list* morning.”

LITCOP [lit·kup] *sb.* Same as *Lief-coup*.

LITHER [lidh·ur] *adj.* Supple; limber; pliant; gentle.

LIVERY [livur·i] *adj.* The hops which are at the bottom of the poles, and do not get enough sun to ripen them are called white *livery* hops.

LOB [lob] *vb.* To throw underhand.

LODGE [loj] (1) *sb.* An outbuilding; a shed, with an implied notion that it is more or less of a temporary character. The particular use to which the *lodge* is put is often stated, as a cart-*lodge*, a wagon-*lodge*.

“The daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a *lodge* in a garden of cucumbers.” — Isaiah i. 8.

“As melancholy as a *lodge* in a warren.”

— *Much Ado About Nothing*, act ii. sc. 1.

LODGE [loj] (2) *vb.* To lie fast without moving.

“That libbat has *lodged* up there in the gutter, and you can’t get it down, leastways not without a lather.”

[95]

LODGED [loj·d] *adj.* Laid flat; spoken of corn that has been beaten down by the wind or rain.

“We’ll make foul weather with despised tears,  
Our sighs, and they shall *lodge* the summer corn.”

— *Richard II* act iii. sc. 3. (See also *Macbeth*, iv. 1.55.)

LOMPY [lomp·i] *adj.* Thick; clumsy; fat.

LONESOME [loa·nsum] *adj.* Lonely.

LONG-DOG [long-dog] *sb.* The greyhound.

LONGTAILS [long·tailz] *sb. pl.* An old nickname for the natives of Kent.

In the library at Dulwich College is a printed broadside entitled “Advice to the Kentish *long-tails* by the wise men of Gotham, in answer to their late sawcy petition to Parliament.” — Fol. 1701.

LOOKER [luok·ur] (1) *sb.* One who looks after sheep and cattle grazing in the marshes. His duties with sheep are rather different from those of a shepherd in the uplands.

LOOKER [luok·ur] (2) *vb.* To perform the work of a looker.

“John? Oh! He’s *lookering*.”

LOOKING-AT [luok·ing-at] *sb.* In phrase, “It wants no *looking-at*”, *i.e.*, it’s plain; clear; self-evident.

LOOK UPON [luok unpun·] *vb.* To favour; to regard kindly.

“He’s bin an ole sarvent, and therefore I dessay they *look upon* ‘im.”

LOPE-WAY [loap-wai] *sb.* A private footpath.

LORRY [lor·r’i], Lurry [lur·r’i] *sb.* Jingling rhyme; spoken by mummers and others. (See *Lerry*.)

LOSH-HORSE, *sb.* The third horse of a team. (See *Rodhorse*)

[96]

LOVE [luv; loov] *sb.* A widow.

“John Stoleker’s *loove*.” — *Burn’s History of Parish Registers*, p. 115.

1492. — “Item rec. of Belser’s *loue* the full of our kene xvj<sup>8</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>.

“Item rec. of Sarjanti’s *loue* xij<sup>8</sup> iyj<sup>d</sup>.

“Item payde for the buryng of Ellerygge’s *loue*  
and her monythis mynde iiij<sup>8</sup>.

— *Churchwardens’ Accounts of St. Andrew’s, Canterbury*.

1505. — “Rec. of Chadborny’s *loove* for waste  
of ij torchys [at his funeral] viij<sup>d</sup>.

“Rec. of Chadborny’s *widow* for the bequest  
of her husband iij<sup>8</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>.

— *Churchwardens’ Accounts of St. Andrew’s, Canterbury*.

‘LOW [lou] *vb.* To allow; to suppose, *e.g.*, “I *low* not,” for “I *allow* not.”

‘LOWANCE [lou’ans] *sb.* An allowance; bread and cheese and ale given to the wagoners when they have brought home the load, hence any recompense for little jobs of work. (See *Elevenses*.)

LOWEY [loa·i] *sb.* The ancient liberty of the family of Clare at Tunbridge, extending three miles from the castle on every side.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

“The arrangements made by the King for the wardship of Richard de Clare and the custody of the castle appear to have given umbrage to the Archbishop, who (*circa* A.D. 1230) made a formal complaint to the King that the Chief Justiciary had, on the death of the late Earl, seized the castle and *lowey* of Tunbridge, which he claimed as fief of the archbishopric.”

— *Archaeologia Cantiana*, xvi. p. 21.

LOWS [loaz] *sb. pl.* The hollows in marsh land where the water stagnates.

LUBBER HOLE, *sb.* A place made in a haystack when it is three-parts built, where a man may stand to reach the hay from the men in the wagon, and pitch it up to those on the top of the stack.

[97]

LUCKING-MILL, *sb.* A fulling-mill.

LUG-SAND [lug·-sand] *sb.* The sand where the lugworm is found by fishermen searching for bait.

LUG [lug], SIR PETER, *sb.* A person that comes last to any meeting is called *Sir Peter Lug*; *lug* is probably a corruption of *lag*. (See *Peter Grievous* below.)

LUSHINGTON, *sb.* A man fond of drink.

“He’s a reg’lar *lushington*, ‘most always drunk.’”

LUSTY [lust·i] *adj.* Fat; flourishing; well grown; in good order.

“You’ve growed quite *lusty* sin’ we seed ye last.”

LYSTE-WAY [list-wai] *sb.* A green way on the edge of a field. This word occurs in a MS. dated 1356, which describes the bounds and limits of the parish of Eastry, “And froo the weye foreseyd called wenis, extende the boundes and lymmites of the pische of Easterye by a wey called *lyste* toward the easte.”

— *Memorials of Eastry*, p. 28

**M.**

MABBLED [mab·ld] *vb.* Mixed; confused.

“An books and such like *mabbled up*.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 70.

MAD [mad] *adj.* Enraged; furious.

“Being exceedingly *mad* against them, I persecuted them.”—Acts xxvi. 11

MAGGOTY [mag·uti] *adj.* Whimsical; restless; unreliable.

“He’s a *maggoty* kind o’ chap, he is.”

MAID [maid] *sb.* A little frame to stand before the fire to dry small articles. (See *Tamsin*.)

[98]

MAN OF KENT, *phr.* A title claimed by the inhabitants of the Weald as their peculiar designation; all others they regard as Kentish men.

MANNISH [man·ish] *adj.* Like a man; manly.

“He’s a very *mannish* little chap.”

MAN-SUCKER [man-suk·r] *sb.* The cuttle fish. — *Folkestone*.

MARCH [mar·ch] *sb.* Called in East Kent “*March* many weathers.”

MARM [maam] *sb.* A jelly.

MARSH [maa·sh] *sb.* In East Kent *the Marsh* means Romney Marsh, as *the Island* means the Isle of Thanet in East Kent, or *Sheppy* in North Kent.

*Romney Marsh* is the fifth quarter of the world, which consists of Europe, Asia, Africa, America and *Romney Marsh*. (See *Mash*.)

MARYGOLD [mar·r’igold] *sb.* A lady bird. The first part of the name refers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the latter, *gold*, to the bright orange, or orange-red, colour of the insect. This little insect is highly esteemed in Kent, and is of great service in hop-gardens in eating up the fleas and other insects which attack the hops. (See *Golding*.)

MASH [mash] *sb.* A marsh. (See *Marshy Mesh*.)

MATCH-ME-IF-YOU-CAN, *sb.* The appropriate name of the variegated ribbon-grass of our gardens, anciently called our lady’s laces, and subsequently painted laces, ladies’ laces, and gardener’s garters. *Phalaris arundinacea*.

MATCH-RUNNING, MATCH-A-RUNNING, *sb.* A game peculiar to Kent, and somewhat resembling prisoner’s base. (See also *Stroke-bias*.)

MATE [mait, and also mee·ut] *sb.* A companion; comrade; fellow-labourer; friend; used especially by husband or wife to one another.

[99]

MAUDRING [mau·dring] *vb.* Mumbling.

MAUND (1) [maand, maund], MAUN [maun], MOAN [moan], *sb.* A large, round, open, deep wicker basket, larger at top than bottom, with a handle on each side near the top (some have two handles, others of more modern pattern have four); commonly used for carrying chaff, fodder, hops, &c., and for unloading coals.

! Shakespeare uses the word —

!     “A thousand favours from a *maund* she drew,  
Of amber, crystal and of braided jet.”

— Lovers’ *Complaint*, st. vi.

MAUND (2) *sb.* A hay-cock is called a *maund* of hay (? a mound of hay).

MAUNDER [mau·nder] *vb.* (i.) to scold; murmur; complain. (ii.) To walk with unsteady gait; to wander about with no fixed purpose.

MAXUL [maks·l] *sb.* A dungheap; also called *maxhill*; *maxon*; *mixon*; *misken*.

MAY-BUG [mai·bug] *sb.* A cockchafer, otherwise called a *July-bug*.

MAY HILL [mai·hil] *sb.* Used in the phrase, “I don’t think he’ll ever get up *May hill*,” *i.e.*, I don’t think he will live through the month of May. March, April and May especially, owing to the fluctuations of temperature, are very trying months in East Kent. So, again, the uncertain, trying nature of this month, owing to the cold east or out winds, is further alluded to in the saying —

“Ne’er cast a clout  
Till May is out.”

MAY-WEED, *sb.* *Anthemis cotula*.

MAZZARD [maz·urd] *sb.* *Prunus avium*.

MEAL, *sb.* Ground wheat or any other grain before it is bolted. In bolting, the bran is divided into two qualities, the coarser retains the name of bran, and the finer is called pollard.

[100]

MEASURE-FOR-A-NEW-JACKET, TO, *vb.* To flog; to beat.

“Now, you be off, or I’ll *measure you for a new jacket.*”

MEASURING-BUG, *sb.* The caterpillar.

MEECE [mees] *sb. pl.* Mice.

“Jus’ fancy de *meece* have terrified my peas.”

MEACH [mee·ch] *vb.* To creep about softly. (Sometimes *Meecher.*)

MEEN, *vb.* To shiver slightly.

MEENING [meen·ing] *sb.* An imperfect fit of the ague.

MEGPY [meg·pi] *sb.* The common magpie.

MELT [melt] *sb.* A measure of two bushels of coals.

MENAGERIE [menaaj·uri] *sb.* Management; a surprising and clever contrivance.

 “That is a *menagerie!*”

MENDMENT, *sb.* (Amendment.) Manure.

MENNYS [men·is] *sb.* Same as *Minnis.*

MERCIFUL [mer·siftil] *adj.* Used as an intensive expletive, much in the same way as “blessed” or “mortal” are used elsewhere.

“They took every merciful thing they could find.”

MERRIGO [mer·r’igoa] *sb.* A lady bird. (Corruption of *Marygold.*)

MESH [mesh and maish] *sb.* A marsh. (See *Mash.*)

MESS-ABOUT, *vb.* To waste time.

“Don’t keep all-on *messing-about* like that, but come here directly-minute.”

METT [met] *sb.* A measure containing a bushel. Anglo-Saxon *metan*, to measure.

1539. —”Paid for a *mett* of salt xj<sup>d</sup>.” — *MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

[101]

MEWSE [meuz] *sb.* An opening through the bottom of a hedge, forming a run for game.

MIDDLEBUN [mid·lbun] *sb.* The leathern thong which connects the hand-staff of a flail with the swingel.

MIDDLEMAS [mid·lmus] *sb.* Michaelmas.

MIDDLING [mid·ling] *adj.* A word with several shades of meaning, from very much or very good, to very little or very bad. The particular sense in which the word is to be taken for the time is determined by the tone of the speaker's voice alone.

MIDLINGS, *sb.* An instalment of shoe-money, sometimes given to the pickers in the middle of the hopping time.

MILCH-HEARTED [milch·haat·id] *adj.* Timid; mild; tenderhearted; nervous.

“Jack won't hurt him, he's ever so much too *milchhearted*.”

MILL [mil] *vb.* To melt.

MILLER'S EYE [mil·urz·ei] *sb.* To put the *millers eye* out is when a person, in mixing mortar or dough, pours too much water into the hole made to receive it; then they say, “I reckon you've put the *millers eye out* now!” — *Eastry*

MILLER'S EYES [mil·urz·eiz] *sb. pl.* Jelly-fish. — *Dover*

MILLER'S THUMB [mil·urz·thum] *sb.* A fish which is otherwise known as bull-head. *Cottus gobio*.

MIND [meind] (1) *sb.* To be a *mind* to a thing; to intend; purpose; design it. The complete phrase runs thus, “I'm a *mind* to it.”

MIND [meind] (2) *vb.* To remember.

“Do you *mind* what happen'd that time up in Island?”

MINE [mein] *sb.* Any kind of mineral, especially iron-stone.

[102]

MINNIS [min·is] *sb.* A wide tract of ground, partly copse and partly moor; a high common; a waste piece of rising ground.

There are many such in East Kent, as Swingfield *Minnis*, Ewell *Minnis*, &c.

MINT [mint] *sb.* The spleen.

MINTY [mint·i] *adj.* Full of mites, used of meal, or cheese.

MINUTE [min·it] *sb.* A Kentish man would say, “a little *minute*,” where another would say, “a *minute*.” So, “a little *moment*,” in Isaiah xxvi. 20, “Hide thyself as it were for a little *moment*, until the indignation be overpast.”

MINUTE [min it] *sb.* Directly-*minute*, immediately. (See *Dreckly-minute*.)

MISCHEEVIUS, *adj.* Mischievous.

MISERY [miz·ur·i] *sb.* Acute bodily pain; not sorrow or distress of mind, as commonly.

“He’s gone in great *misery* for some time.”

MISHEROON, *sb.* A mushroom.

MISKEN [mis·kin] *sb.* A dunghill. (See *Mixon*, *Maxon*, *Maxul*.)

MISS, *sb.* Abbreviation of mistress. Always used for Mrs., as the title of a married woman.

MIST [mist] *impers. vb.* “It *mists*,” *i.e.*, rains very fine rain.

MISTUS [mis·tus] *sb.* Mistress; the title of a married woman.

“My *mistus* and me’s done very well and comfortable together for ‘bove fifty year; not but what we’ve had a misword otherwhile, for she can be middlin’ contrairy when she likes, I can tell ye.”

MISWORD [mis·wurd] *sb.* A cross, angry, or abusive word.

“He’s never given me one *misword*.”

[103]

MITHERWAY, *inter. phr.* Come hither away. A call by a wagoner to his horses.

MITTENS [mit·nz] *sb. pl.* Large, thick, leathern gloves without separate fingers, used by hedgers to protect their haads from thorns.

MIXON [miks·un] [Anglo-Saxon, *mix*, dung; *mixen*, a dung-hill] *sb.* A dung-heap; dung-hill. Properly one which is made of earth and dung; or, as in Thanet, of seaweed, lime and dung. Otherwise called *maxon*; in Eastry, *maxul*.

MIZMAZE, *sb.* Confusion; a puzzle.

“Time I fell off de stack, soonsever I begun to look about a little, things seemed all of a *mizmaze*.”

1678. — “But how to pleasure such worthy flesh and blood, and not the direct way of nature, is such a *mizmaze* to manhood.” — *Howard, Man of Newmarket.*

MOAN, *sb.* A basket, used for carrying chaff or roots for food; and for unloading coals. (See *Maun, Maund.*)

MOKE [moak] *sb.* A mesh of a net.

MOLLIE [mol'i] *sb.* A hedge sparrow; otherwise called *dicky hedge-poker*.

MONEY [muni] *sb.* The phrase, “good *money*,” means good pay, high wages.

“He’s getting good *money*, I reckon.”

MONEY-IN-BOTH-POCKETS, *sb.* *Lunaria biennis*. The plant otherwise known as *honesty*, or *white satin-flower*, as it is sometimes called from the silvery lustre of its large circular-shaped saliques, which, when dried, were used to dress up fire-places in summer and decorate the chimney-mantels of cottages and village inns. The curious seed-vessels, which grow in pairs, and are semi-transparent, show the flat disc-shaped seeds like little coins within them, an appearance which no doubt originated the name, *Money-in-both-pockets*.

[104]

MONEY-PURSE [mun'i-pus] *sb.* A purse.

“He brought our Jack a leather cap

An’ Sal a *money-puss*. “ — *Dick and Sal*, st. 16.

MONEY-SPINNER, *sb.* A small spider supposed to bring good luck.

MONKEY-PEA [mun'kipee] *sb.* Wood-louse; also the *ligea oceanica*, which resembles the wood-louse, and lives in the holes made in the stone by the pholades.

MONT [munt] *sb.* Month.

MOOCH [mooch] *vb.* To dawdle.

MOOR [moor] *sb.* Swampy and wet pieces of ground.

MOORNEN [moo'neen] *sb.* A moor hen.

MOOT [moo't] *sb.* The root or stump of a tree, which, when felled, is divided into three parts; 1st, the *moot*; 2nd, the stem; 3rd, the branches.

MORE [moa'r] *adv.* Used of size or dimensions; as, "as big *more*" *i.e.*, as big again.

MORT [mor't], MOT [mot] *sb.* Abundance; a large quantity; a multitude. A *mort* of money, apples, birds, men, &c.

MOSES [moa'ziz] *sb.* A young frog. — *East Kent*

MOST-TIMES [moa'st-teimz] *adv.* Generally; usually.

MOSTEST [moa'stist] *adv.* Farthest; greatest distance.

“The *mostest* that he's bin from home is 'bout eighteen miles.”  
East Kent people seldom travel far from home.

MOTHER OF THOUSANDS [mudh'ur uv thou'zundz] *sb.* *Linaria cymbularia*.

[105]

MOTHERY [mudh'ur'i] *adj.* Out of condition; muddy; thick; with a scum or mould upon it.

“The beer's got pretty *mothery*, seeminly.”

MOVE, *sb.* An action or plan.

“Well, that's a middlin' silly *move*, let be how 'twill.”

MOWL [moul] *sb.* Mould.

MUCH [much] (1) *vb.* To fondle; caress; pet.

“However did you manage to tame those wild sheep?” “Well, I *mutched* 'em, ye see.”

MUCH [much] (2) *adj.* Used with regard to the state of the health.

“How are ye to-day?” “Not *much*, thank ye.”

MUCH AS EVER [much az ev'r] *adv.* Hardly; scarcely; only just; with difficulty.

“Shall you get done (*i.e.*, finish your job) to-day?”

“*Much as ever.*”

MUCH OF A MUCHNESS, *advl. phrase.* Very much alike; as like as two peas.

MUCK [muk] (1) *vb.* To dirty; to work over-hard.

MUCK [muk] (2) *sb.* A busy person.

“De squire was quite head *muck* over this here Jubilee job.”

MUCK ABOUT [muk ubou't] *vb.* To work hard.

“He’s most times *mucking about* somewhere’s or another.”

MUCKED UP [muk't-up] *adv.* All in confusion and disorder.

“I lay you never see such a place as what master’s study is; ‘tis quite entirely *mucked-up* with books.”

MUDDLE ABOUT [mud'l ubou't] *vb.* To do a little work.

“As long as I can just *muddle about* I don’t mind.”

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MULLOCK [mul'uk] *vb.* To damp the heat of an oven. A diminutive of Old English *mull*, which is merely a variant of *mould*.

MUNTON [munt'n] *sb.* The mullion of a window. This is nearer to the medieval form *munnon*.

MUSH [mush] *sb.* A marsh.

MUSHEROON [mush'iroon] *sb.* A mushroom. French, *moucheron*.

MUSTER [must'r] *sb.* Mister (Mr.), the title given to an employer, and often contracted into *muss*. The labourer’s title is *master*, contracted into *mass*.

“Where be you goin’. *Mass* Tompsett?”

“Well, I be goin’ ‘cross to *Muss* Chickses.”

## N.

NABBLER [nab'lur] *sb.* An argumentative, captious person; a gossip; a mischief-maker.

NAIL [nai'l] *sb.* A weight of eight pounds.

NAILBOURN [nai'lburn or nai'lboarn] *sb.* An intermittent stream.

Harris, in his *History of Kent*, p. 240, writes, “There is a famous *eylebourne* which rises in this parish [Petham] and sometimes runs but a little way before it falls into the ground;” and again at p. 179, Harris writes, “Kilburn

saith that A.D. 1472, here (at Lewisham) newly broke out of the earth a great spring;" by which he probably meant an *eylebourn* or *nailbourn*.

"Why! the *nailbourn*'s begun to run a' ready."

NATCHES [nach'ez] *sb.* The notches or battlements of a church tower.

NATE [nait] *sb.* Naught; bad.

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NATIVE [nai'tiv] *sb.* Native place; birthplace.

"Timblestun (Tilmanstone) is my *native*, but I've lived in Eastry nearly

forty years come Michaelmas."

NATURE [nai'chur] *sb.* Way; manner. "In this nature," in this way.

NAWN STEERS [naun steerz] *sb. pl.* Small steers. Cf. French *nain*, dwarf.

NEAT [neet] *vb.* To make neat and clean.

NEB [neb] *sb.* A peg used to fasten the pole of an ox-plough to the yoke. (See *Dyster*.)

NE'ER A ONCE, *adv.* Not once.

NEIGHBOUR, *vb.* To associate.

"Though we live next door we don't *neighbour*."

NESS [nes] *sb.* A promontory; a cape; a headland. Seen in place names as *Dungeness*, *Sheerness*, &c. French, *Nez*; Scandinavian, *Naze*. So the English sailors call Blanc *Nez*, opposite Dover, Blank-*ness* or Black-*ness*.

NET [net] *sb.* A knitted woollen scarf.

NEWLAND [neu'lund] *sb.* Land newly broke up or ploughed.

NICKOPIT [nik'upit] *sb.* A bog; a quagmire; a deep hole in a dyke.

NIDGET [nij'it] *sb.* A shim or horse-hoe with nine irons, used for cleaning the ground between the rows of hops or beans.

NIGGLING [nig'lin] *adj.* Trifling; petty; troublesome on account of smallness.

"There, I tell ye, I aint got no time for no sich *nigglings* jobs."

NIMBLE DICK [nimbl' dik] *sb.* A species of horse-fly or gad-fly, differing somewhat from the *Brim*s.

NIPPER [nip'ur] *sb.* A nickname given to the youngest or smallest member of a family.

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NISY [nei si] *sb.* A ninny; simpleton.

NIT, *sb.* The egg of a louse or small insect.

“Dead as a *nit*,” is a common expression.

NOD [nod] *sb.* The nape of the neck. With this are connected *noddle*, *noddy*; as in the nursery rhyme —

“Little Tom Noddy,  
All head and no body.”

NOHOW [noa'hou] *adv.* In no way; not at all.

“I doant see as how as I can do it, not *nohow*.”

NONCE [nons] *sb.* The phrase, “for the *nonce*” means for the once, for that particular occasion; hence, on purpose with design or intent.

NONE [nun] *adj.* “None of ‘em both,” i.e., neither of ‘em.

NONE-SO-PRETTY, *sb.* The name of the little flower, other- wise known as London pride. *Dianthus barbatus*.

NOOKIT, *sb.* A nook.

NO OUGHT [noa aut] *advbl. phrase.* Ought not.

“The doctor said I *no ought* to get out.” The expression “you ought not” is seldom used; it is almost invariably *no ought*. A similar use of prepositions occurs in such phrases as up-grown, out-asked, &c.

NO PRINCIPLE. This expression is only applied in Kent to people who do not pay their debts.

NORATION [noar'ai'shun] *sb.* A fuss; a row; a set out or disturbance by word or deed. (See also *Oration*.)

“What a *noration* there is over this here start, surelye!”

NO SENSE, *adj. phr.* Nothing to speak of; nothing to signify.

“It don’t rain; leastways, not *no sense*.”

[109]

NOTCH [noch] *vb.* “To *notch up*,” to reckon or count; alluding to the old method of reckoning at cricket, where they used to take a stick and cut a notch in it for every run that was made.

NOYES [noiz] *adj.* Noisome; noxious; dangerous; bad to travel on.

“I will it be putt for to mende fowle and *noyes* ways at Collyswood and at Hayne.” — *Lewis*, p. 104

NUNCHEON [nunch'yun] *sb.* A mid-day meal. The original meaning was a noon-drink, as shewn by the old spelling, none-chenche, in *Riley's Memorials of London*, p. 265

“When laying by their swords and truncheons  
They took their breakfasts or their nuncheons. “

— *Hudibras*, pt. I. canto 1

NURITY [neu'r'iti] *sb.* Goodness.

“The bruts run away with all the *nurity* of the potato.” — *West Kent*

NUTHER [nudh'ur] *conj.* Neither; giving an emphatic termination to a sentence.

“And I'm not going to it, *nuther*,” *i.e.*, I am not going to do it, you may be sure!

## O.

OARE [oar] *sb.* Seaweed; seawrack. This is the name of a parish in North Kent, near Faversham, which is bounded on the north by the river Swale, where probably great quantities of seaweed collected.

“. . . . . To forbid and restrain the burning or taking up of any sea *oare* within the Isle of Thanet.” — *Lewis*, p. 89

OAST [oast] *sb.* A kiln for drying malt or hops, but anciently used for any kind of kiln, as a *bryk-host*, *i.e.*, brick-kiln. — *Old Parish Book of Wye*, 34 Henry VIII.

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Canon W. A. Scott-Robertson, says, "This name for a kiln was used in Kent long before hops were introduced." In a deed, dated 28 Edward I. (copied by Mr. Burt, in the Record Office), we find, "Roger de Faukham granting to William de Wykewane, and Sarah, his wife, 3 acres of land which 'jacent apud le Lymoste in parochia de Faukham." "During Wat Tyler's insurrection, some of the insurgents went to a place called the *Lymost*, in Preston-next-Faversham, on the 5th of June, 1381, and ejected . . . goods and chattels of Philip Bode, found there, to wit, lime, sacks, &c." — *Archeologia Cantiana*, III. 90. In a lease, dated 1455, and granted by the

Churchwardens of Dartford to John Grey and John Vynor, we read, "The tenants to build a new lime-*oast* that shall burn eight quarters of lime at once." — *Landale's Documents of Dartford*, p. 8. Limehouse, a suburb of London, seems to have been named from a lym-*oste*; it was not formed into a parish until the 18th century. In a valuation of the town of Dartford, 29 Edward I., we find mention of "John *Ost*, William *Ost* and Walter *Ost*."

OBEDIENCE [oabee'dyuns] *sb.* A bow or curtsy; an obeisance.

"Now Polly, make your *obedience* to the gentleman; there's a good girl."

'OD RABBIT IT [od rab'it it] *interj.* A profane expression, meaning, "May God subvert it." From French *rabattre*.

OF [ov] *prep.* Used for *with*, in phrase, "I have no acquaintance *of* such a person."

OFFER [of'ur] *vb.* To lift up; to hold up anything for the purpose of displaying it to the best advantage.

I once heard a master paperhanger say to his assistant, when a customer was inspecting some wall-papers, "Just *offer* this paper up for the lady to see."

OFF FROM, *vb.* To avoid; prevent.

"I couldn't be *off from* going, he made such a point of it."

OLD, *adj.* This word is constantly applied to anything or anybody without any reference to age.

OLD MAN, *sb.* Southernwood. *Artemisia abrotanum.*

One-eyed, *adj.* Inconvenient; a general expression of disapproval.

“That’s a middlin’ *one-eyed* place.”

“I can’t make nothin’ of these here *one-eyed* new-fashioned tunes they’ve took-to in church; why they’re a’most done afore I can make a start.”

OO [oo] *sb.* In phrase, “I feel all of a *oo*,” *i.e.*, I feel ill; or, “That’s all of a *oo*,” *i.e.*, that is all in confusion.

OOD [ood] *sb.* Seaweed; also wood.

ORDER, *sb.* To be “in order” is a common expression for being in a passion.

“When the old chap knows them cows have been out in the clover he’ll be in middlin’ *order*; he’ll begin to storm and no mistake!”

ORNARY [aun’ur’i] *adj.* Ordinary; common; poor; inferior; bad.

“Them wuts be terr’ble *ornary*. “

OTHERSOME [udh’ursum] *phr.* Some others.

“And some said, what will this babbler say? *Other-some*, he seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods.” — Acts xvii. 18

OTHER WHERE-ELSE [udh’urwair’els’] *adv.* Elsewhere.

OTHERWHILE [udh’ur-wei’l] *adv.* Occasionally. “Every *otherwhile* a little,” *i.e.*, a little now and then.

“And *otherwhiles* with bitter mocks and mowes

He would him scorne.” — *Faerie Queen*, b. 6, c. vii. xlix

OURN [ou’urn] *poss. adj.* Ours. (See *Hisn.*)

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OUR SAVIOUR’S FLANNEL [Our Saiv’urz flan’l] *sb.* At Bridge, near Canterbury, this name is given to *Echium vulgare* (L.), and at Faversham to *Verbascum thapsus* (L.) — *Britten’s Dictionary of English Plant Names.*

OUT [ou’t] *adj.* A north, north-east, or east wind.

“The wind is *out* to-day,” *i.e.*, it is in the east, north-east, or north. (See also *Upward*.)

OUT-ASKED [ou'traa'st] *adj. phrase*. Used of persons whose banns have been *asked* or published three times, and who have come *out* of that stage unchallenged.

OUTFACE [outfai's] *vb*. To withstand; resist face to face; brazen it out.

OUT-OF-DOORS, *adj*. Out of fashion.

“I played de clarrynet, time we had a band in church and used to sing de psalms; but 'tis all upset now; dere's nothing goos down but a harmonium and a passel o' squallin' children, and dese here new-fangled hymns. As for poor old David, he's quite entirely put *out o' doors*.”

OUTROOPE [outroo'p] *sb*. An auction of household goods.

— *Sandwich Book of Orphans*.

OUTRUNNINGS, *sb. pl*. Stragglings wood beyond a hedge-row, not measured-in with the part to be cut.

OUTSTAND [outstand] *vb*. To oppose; to stand out against, either in making a bargain or an assertion. (*Foreright, Upstand, &c.*)

“He *outstood* me that he hadn't seen him among de currants.”

OVEN [uv'n] *sb*. “To go to *oven*,” is to bake. (See also *Forge*.)

OVER [oa'vur] *prep*. To. “I'm gooin' *over* Oare,” *i.e.*, I'm going to Oare.

OVER-RUN [oa'ver'un] *vb*. To overtake and pass.

OXBIRD [oks'burdj] *sb*. The common dunlin. *Tringa variabilis*. Called *Oxybird* in Sheppy.

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## P.

PADDOCK [pad'uk] *sb*. A toad.

PADDY [pad'i] *adj*. Worm-eaten.

PAIGLE [pai'gl] *sb*. Cowslip. — *East Kent*. (See also *Pegle*.)

PALM-TREE [paa'mtree] *sb*. The yew tree.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

Dr. Pegge says: “They will sometimes, on Palm Sunday, dress a church with yew-branches, which I think very strange, because this was always esteemed a funeral tree, but after they once called it the *palm-tree*, the other mistake followed as it were on course.” — See *Gentleman’s Magazine*, December, 1779, p. 578.

To this day (1885) the old people in East Kent call the yew-tree the *palm-tree*, and there is, in the parish of Woodnesborough, a public-house called “The *Palm-tree*” which bears for its sign a clipped yew tree. — See *Memorials of Eastry*, p. 116.

PALTER [pau’ltur] To wreck or pilfer stranded vessels and ill-use shipwrecked sailors.

PANDLE [pand’l] *sb.* A shrimp. (Low Latin, *pandalus*.)

PARCEL [paa’sl] *sb.* A portion; a quantity; as “a *parcel* of bread and milk.” (See also *Passel*)

“He took a good *parcel* of bread and milk for breakfast.”

PARGE [paa’j] *vb.* To put on an ordinary coat of mortar next to brick-work and tiling.

PARGET [paa’jit] *sb.* Mortar.

PAROCK [par’r’uk] *sb.* A meeting to take an account of rents and pannage in the Weald of Kent.

“When the bayliff or beadle of the lord held a meeting to take account of rents and pannage in the Weilds of Kent, such meeting was called a *parock*.” — *Kennett MS.* *Parock* is literally the same word as *paddock*.

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PART [paat] *sb.* This word is frequently used redundantly, especially after back, e.g., “You’ll be glad to see the back *part* of me,” *i.e.*, to see my back, to get me gone.

PARTIAL [paa’shul] *adj.* Fond of.

“I be very *partial* to pandles.”

PASS THE TIME O' DAY, *vb.* To salute those you meet on the road with "good morning," "good afternoon," or "good evening," according to the time of day.

"I don't know the man, except just *to pass the time o' day.*"

PASSEL [pas'l] *sb.* A parcel; a number.

"There was a *passel* o' boys hulling stones."

PATTERN [pat'rn] *vb.* To imitate.

"I shouldn't think of *patterning* my mistress."

PAWL [pau'l] *sb.* A pole; a stake; a strut or prop, placed against a lodge or other building to support it.

PAY-GATE [pai-gait] *sb.* A turnpike gate.

PEA-BUG, *sb.* The wood-louse. (See *Monkey-pea.*)

PEA-HOOK [pee-huok] *sb.* The implement used in conjunction with a hink for cutting peas. It was like a ripping-hook, only mounted on a longer handle. (See also *Bagging-hook, Sickle.*)

PEART [pi'urt] *adj.* Brisk; lively.

☾ "He's bin out of sorts for a long time, but he's gettin' on better now ever s'much; he's quite *peart* this momin'."

1592. — "There was a tricksie girle, I wot, albeit clad in gray,

As *peart* as bird, as strait as boulte, as freshe as flowers in May." — *Warner, Albion's England.*

PECK [pek] *sb.* A heading knife, used by fishermen.

PEDIGREE [ped'igree] A long story; a rigmarole.

"He made a middlin' *pedigree* over it."

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PEEK [peek] *vb.* To stare; gape; look at.

"An dare we pook't and *peek'd* about

To see what made it stick up." — *Dick and Sal, st 47.*

PEEKINGS [pee'kingz] *sb. pl.* Gleanings of fruit trees.

PEEKY [pee'ki] *adj.* Looking ill, or poorly; often used of children when out of sorts. French, *pique*.

“He’s peart enough to-day agin’, but he was terr’ble *peeky* yesterday.”

PEEL [peel]. Peal, *sb.* A long-handled, broad, wooden shovel, used for putting bread into the oven.

1637. — “Payed for a *peale* for the kitchen, j<sup>8</sup> iij<sup>d</sup>.”

— MS. *Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

PEELER [pee’lr] *sb.* A round iron bar, used for making the holes into which hop-poles or wattles are placed. (See also *Fold-pitcher*.)

PEGGY [peg’i], PEGGY-WASH-DISH [peg’i-wash-dish] *sb.* A water-wagtail.

PEGLE [pee’gl] *sb.* A cowslip. *Primula veris*. (See *Culverkeys, Horsebuckle*.)

“As yellow as a *pegle*.”

PELL [pel] *sb.* A deep place or hole in a river.

PELT [pelt] *sb.* Rags; rubbish, &c. (See *Culch*.)

PENT [pent] *sb.* (French, *pente*, a slope or declivity.) There is a place called “The *Pent*,” on a hill-side, in the parish of Postling.

PERK [purk] *vb.* To fidget about restlessly.

“How that kitten doos keep *perking* about.”

PESTER-UP, *vb.* To bother; to hamper; to crowd.

“He’d got so much to carry away, that he was reg’lar *pestered-up*, and couldn’t move, no form at all.”

PET, *sb.* A pit.

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PETER-GRIEVOUS [pee’tur-gree’vus] *adjl. phr.* Fretful; whining; complaining. (See *Sir Peter Lug*, where the name, *Peter*, is also introduced; hence, it would seem not unlikely that the words were first used sarcastically of ecclesiastics.)

PETH [peth] *vb.* To pith; to sever the spinal cord or marrow of a beast.

PETTYCOAT [pet’ikoat] *sb.* A man’s waistcoat.

PHARISEES [far’r’iseez] *sb. pl.* Fairies. (See *Fairisies*.)

PICK UPON [pik up'on] *vb.* To tease; annoy; make a butt of.

“They always *pick upon* my boy coming home from school.”

PIG-POUND [pig-pou'nd] *sb.* A pig-sty.

PIKY [pei'ki] *sb.* A turnpike traveller; a vagabond; and so generally a low fellow.

PILCH [pilch] *sb.* A triangular piece of flannel worn by infants.

PITTER [pit'ur] *vb.* To loosen the earth or throw it up lightly; to throw it up gently;

also in phrase “To *pitter* about,” meaning to go about fussing or fidgetting.

Sometimes miswritten *pither*.

PILLOW-BERE [pil'oa-bee'r] *sb.* A pillow case.

PILLOW-COOTS [pil'oa-koo'ts] *sb. pl.* Pillow coats or pillow cases.

Amongst other linen in one of the chambers at Brook-street, we find “*six pillow-coots*.” — *Boteler Inventory in Memorials of Eastry*, p. 229.

PIMP [pim'p] *sb.* A small bundle of cleft wood, used for lighting fires. (See *Kilnbrush, Wiff*.)

PIN-HORSE [pin'us] *sb.* The second horse of a team, next in front of the rod-horse.

— *East Kent*.

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PINIES [pei'niz] *sb.pl.* Peonies. *Pænia*.

PINNER [pin'ur] *sb.* The little button or fastening of a cupboard door. Allied to pin and pen.

PINNOCK [pin'uk] *sb.* A wooden drain through a gateway. (See *Thurrock*)

PITTERING-IRON [pitur'ing-eirn] *sb.* A poker.

PLACE [plais] *sb.* A barton; a courtyard.

PLAGUESOME [plai'gsum] *adj.* Troublesome.

PLANETS [plan'its] *sb. pl.* “It rains by *planets*,” when showers fall in a small compass, in opposition to general rain.

PLASH [plash] *vb.* To repair a live hedge, by cutting half through some of the stems near the ground and then bending the upper parts down, and keeping them so by means of hooked sticks driven into the bank.

1536. — “ Payd . . . for dykyng and *plasshing* off a hedg.” —*MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

PLATTY [plat’i] *adj.* Scattered; uncertain; here and there; uneven; fastidious. Used of a thin crop of corn, or of a child who is sickly and dainty.

PLAY [plai] upon, *vb.* To dwell upon; to work; to worry.

“It *plays upon* her mind.”

PLAYSTOOL [plai’stool] *sb.* An old word which apparently meant a public recreation ground, though certainly lost as such now, yet the word is very common throughout Kent as the name of a field which was once parish property. It is easy to see that *playstool* is a corruption of playstall, *i.e.*, a play place, exactly as laystole is a corruption of laystall. The plestor at Selborne, mentioned by Gilbert White, is the same word.

PLAY THE BAND, *phr.* Instead of saying “The band is going to play,” it is common to hear “They are going to *play the band.*”

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PLENTY [plent’i] *sb.* A plenty; enough.

“There, there, that’s a *plenty*”

PLOG [plog] (1) *sb.* The block of wood at the end of a halter, to prevent its slipping through the ring of the manger. An intermediate form between plug and block. Elsewhere called a clog.

PLOG [plog] (2) *vb.* To clog; to hamper; to retard; to be a drawback or disadvantage.

“I reckon it must *plog* him terribly to be forced to goo about wid a ‘ooden-leg.”

PLOT [plot] *sb.* A plan; design; sketch; drawing.

“Given to Mr. Vezy for drawing a *plot* for an house, 02 00 00.” — *Expense Book of James Master, Esq., 1656-7.*

PLUMP [plump] *adj.* Dry; hard.

“A *plump* whiting,” is a dried whiting. “The ways are *plump*” the roads are hard.

POACH [poach] *vb.* To tread the ground into holes as the cattle do in wet weather.

(See *Putch.*)

POACHY [poachi] *adj.* Full of puddles. Description of ground which has been trampled into mud by the feet of cattle.

POAD MILK [poa'd milk] *sb.* The first few meals of milk that come from a cow lately calved. (See also *Beasts, Biskins, Bismilk.*)

POCKET [pok'it] *sb.* A measure of hops, about 168-lbs.

PODDER [pod'r] *sb.* A name given to beans, peas, tares, vetches, or such vegetables as have pods.

PODDER-GRATTEN [pod'r-grot'n] *sb.* Podder-stubble; the stubble of beans, peas, &c. (See *Grotten.*)

PODGE [poj] *sb.* A pit or hole; a cesspool.

POINTING-POST [poi'nting-poast] *sb.* A sign-post, finger-post, direction post, standing at a corner where two or more ways meet, and *pointing* out the road travellers should take.

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POKE [poak], POOK [pook] *sb.* (i.) A sack. Hence, the proverbial phrase, "To buy a pig in a *poke*," *i.e.*, to buy your pig without seeing it; hence, to make a bad bargain.

"His meal-poke hang about his neck

Into a leathern whang,

Well fasten'd to a broad bucle,

What was both stark and Strang."— *Robin Hood, i. 98.*

The word is also specially used for the "green-bag" in which hops are conveyed from the garden to the oast.

(ii.) A cesspool.

POLDER [poa'ldur] *sb.* A marsh; a piece of boggy soil.

"In Holland the peat *polders* are rich prairies situated below the level of the sea, containing a stratum of peat more or less thick." There is in Eastray a

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

place now called Felder land, but anciently "*Polder* land." There is also a place still called *Polders*, between Sandwich and Woodnesborough.

POLP [poa'lp] *sb.* Pulp. The name given to a modern food for cattle, consisting of roots, chaff, grains, fodder, Sec, all mashed and cut up small, and mixed together. — *East Kent.*

POLRUMPTIOUS [polrum-shus] *adj.* Rude; obstreperous.

POLT [poa'lt] (1) *vb.* To knock; to beat; to strike.

(2) *sb.* A peculiar kind of rat-trap.

(3) *adj.* Saucy; audacious.

PONGER [pong'ur] *sb.* The large edible crab, *Cancer-pagtirus*, is best known by this name in North Kent; the name crab being restricted to the common shoe-crab. (See *Pung.*)

POOCH OUT [poo'ch out] *vb.* To protrude. Rarely used except in speaking of the lips.

"When I axed him for a holiday, I see his lip *pooched out* purty much; didn't like it much, he didn't."

POOCHY [poo'chi] *sb.* A bathe; a paddle in shallow water.

"Let's go and have a *poochy.*"

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POOK [poo'k] *sb.* The poke or peak of a boy's cap.

POOR [poo'r] *adj.* Bad. As, "*poor* weather;" "*poor* day." "'Tis terr'ble *poor* land."

POPEING [poa'ping] *parte.* To go *popeing* is to go round with Guy Fawkes on the 5th of November.

"Please, sir, remember the old *Pope!* "

POPY [poa'pi] *sb.* The poppy. *Papaver.*

POST-BIRD [poa'st-burd] *sb.* The common spotted flycatcher. *Muscicapa grisola.*

POST HOLES [poa'st hoalz] *sb. pl.* Holes dug in the ground for the insertion of gate or fencing posts; it is used in North Kent as a comic word for nothing.

"What have ye got in the cart there?" "Oh! only a load of *post-holes.*" — *Sittingbourne.*

POTHER-HOOK [podh`ur-huok] *sb.* A hook used for cutting a hedge. (See also  
*Hook, Bagging-hook, &c.*)

POTHERY [podh`uri] *sb.* Affected by a disease to which sheep and pigs are liable;  
it makes them go round and round, till at last they fall down.

POUNCE [pou`ns] *sb.* A punch or blow with a stick or the closed fist.

“I thoft I`d fetch him one more pounce.

So heav`d my stick an` meant it.”

— *Dick and Sal*, st. 76.

POUT [pou`t] (1), POWT, *sb.* A small round stack of hay or straw. In the field hay is  
put up into smaller heaps, called cocks, and larger ones, called *pouts*; when  
carted it is made into a stack.

POUT [pou`t] (2) *sb.* The phrase, “Plays old *pout*,” seems equivalent to “Plays old  
Harry,” and similar expressions. Probably a variant of *pouk*, which, in  
Middle English, means “the devil.”

“I`ve been out of work this three days, and that old *pout* with you when  
you`ve got a family.”

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POUTERS [pou`turz] *sb. pl.* Whiting-pouts. — *Folkestone*.

PREHAPS [pree`hapz] *adv.* Perhaps.

PRESENT [prez`unt] *adv.* Presently; at present; now.

PRETTY BETTY, *sb.* Flowering *Valeriana rubra*.

This plant grows luxuriantly at Canterbury, on some of the walls of St.  
Augustine`s College.

PRETTY NIGH [purt`i nei] *adv.* Very nearly.

“`Tis *purty nigh* time you was gone, I think.”

PRICK UP THE EARS, *vb.* A proverbial saying is “You *prick up your ears* like an old  
sow in beans.”

PRICKLE [prik`l] *sb.* A basket containing about ten gallons, used at Whitstable for  
measuring oysters. Two *prickles* equal one London bushel. One *prickle*

equals two wash (for wheelks). But the *prickle* is not exact enough to be used for very accurate measuring.

PRICKYBAT [prik'ibat] *sb.* A tittlebat.

PRIM [prim] *sb.* The privet. *Ligustrum vulgare*.

PRINT [print] Bright; clear; starlight; light enough to read by.

“The night is *print*,” “The moon is *print*,” “The moonlight is very *print*”

PRITCHEL [prich'1] *sb.* An iron share fixed on a thick staff for making holes in the ground.

PRODIGAL [prod'igl] *adj.* Proud.

“Ah! He’s a proper *prodigal* old chap, he is.”

PROLE [proa'1] *vb.* To prowl, *sb.* A stroll; a short walk, such as an invalid might take.

“He manages to get a liddle *prole* most days, when ‘tis fine.”

PROPER [prop'ur] *adj.* Thorough; capital; excellent; beautiful; peculiarly good or fitting.

“Moses . . . was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a *proper* child.” — Heb. xi. 23.

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PROPERLY [prop'urli] *adj.* Thoroughly.

“We went over last wik and played de Feversham party; our party bested ‘em *properly*, fancy we did!”

PRULE [proo'1] *sb.* A gaff-hook. — *Folkestone*.

PUCKER [puk'er] *sb.* A state of excitement or temper.

“You’ve no call to put yourself in a *pucker*”

PUDDING-PIE, *sb.* A flat tart made like a cheese-cake, with a raised crust to hold a small quantiy of custard, with currants lightly sprinkled on the surface. These cakes are usually eaten at Easter — but a Kent boy will eat them whenever he can get them.

1670. — “ALB. And thou hadst any grace to make thyself a fortune, thou wou’dst court this wench, she cannot in gratitude but love thee, prethee court her.

“LOD. I’ll sell *pudding-pies* first.”

— *Benjamin Rhodes. Flora’s Vagaries* (a comedy).

PUDDOCK [puḍ’uk] *sb.* A large frog. (See also *Paddock* and *Puttock*.)

PUG [pug] *sb.* Soft ground; brick-earth, ready for the mould.

PULL [pul] *vb.* To *pull* up before the magistrates; to debilitate.

“If he knocks me about again I shall *pull* him.”

“The ague’s properly *pulled* him this time.”

PULL-BACK [pul’bak] *sb.* A drawback; a hindrance; relapse after convalescence.

PUMPIN [pump’in] *sb.* Pumpkin.

“I know ‘twas ya grate *pumpin* ‘ead

Dust blunnered through de glass.”

— *Dick and Sal*, St 81.

PUNG [pung], PUNGER [punj’ur] *sb.* The same as *ponger*.

PUNET [pun’it] *sb.* A pottle, or small basket, in which strawberries are sold.

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PURTY TIGHT [purt’i tei’t] *adv. phrase.* Pretty well; very fairly.

“Now, Sal, ya see had bin ta school,

She went to old aunt Kite;

An’ so she was’en quite a fool,

But cud read *purty tight*.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 56.

PUTCH [puch] *sb.* A puddle; pit or hole.

A *putch* of water.

PUTTICE [put’is], PUTTAS [put’us] *sb.* A weasel; a stoat.

PUTTOCK [put’ok] *sb.* A kite.

So *Puttock’s-down*, a place in the ancient parish of Eastry, now in Worth parish, means kite’s-down.

PUTTOCK-CANDLE [put'uk-kand'l] *sb.* The smallest candle in a pound, put in to make up the weight.

PUT-UPON [put'-upon-] *vb.* To worry and bother a person by giving him an unfair amount of work, or exacting from him time, strength, or money, for matters which are not properly within his province.

“He’s so easy, ye see, he lets hisself be *put-upon* by anybody.”

## Q.

QUANT [kwont] *sb.* A young oak sapling; a walking stick; a long pole used by bargemen.

QUARRELS, *sb. pl.* Quarries, or panes of glass.

“Item for newe leadinge of the wyndow and for *quarreles* put in in Tomlyn’s hale [hall] wyndowe, beinge 20 foote of glasse and 28 panes . . . vij<sup>8</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>.” — *Sandwich Book of Orphans*.

QUEER [kwee'r] *vb.* To make or cause to feel queer; to puzzle.

“It *queers* me how it ever got there.”

“I’ll *queer* ‘em.”

“But what *queer*’d me, he said, ‘twas kep

All roun about de church. “ — *Dick and Sal, st. 10*.

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QUEER-STREET [kwee'r-street] *sb.* An awkward position; great straits; serious difficulties.

“But for that I should have been in *queer-street*.”

QUERN [kwurn] *sb.* A handmill for grinding grain or seed.

“Ite in the mylke house . . . two charnes, a mustard *quearne* . . . .”

—*Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*.

QUICK [kwik] *sb.* Hawthorn, *e.g.*, a *quick* hedge is a hawthorn hedge.

QUICKEN [kwik'en] *sb.* The mountain ash. *Pyrus aucuparia*.

QUID [kwid] *sb.* The cud.

“The old cow’s been hem ornary, but she’s up again now and chewing her *quid*.”

QUIDDY [kwid’i] *adj.* Brisk.

QUILLY [kwil’i] *sb.* A prank; a freak; a caper.

QUITTER FOR QUATTER [kwit’r fur kwat’r] *phr.* One thing in return for another.

(See *Whicket*.)

QUOT [kwot] *pp.* or *adj.* Cloyed; gluttoned.

## R.

RABBIT’S MOUTH [rab’its mouth] *sb.* The snap-dragon. *Antirrhinum majus*.

RACE MEASURE [rais mezh’r] *sb.* Even measure; as distinguished from full measure, which is 21 to the score, as of corn, coals, &c.; while *race measure* is but 20. But full in this case has reference to the manner of measurement. When the bushel is heaped up it is full; when struck with strickle and made even it is *race measure*.

RACKSENEED [raks’nd] *adj.* Overrun with; given up to.

“That oast yonder is *racksened* with rats.”

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RAD [rad] *sb.* A rod; a measure, 16 1/2 feet. A *rod* of brickwork is 16 1/2 feet square; but the ancient *rod* seems to have been 20 feet.

“And then also the measurement of the marsh [*i.e.*, Romney Marsh] was taken by a *rod* or perch, not of 16 1/2 feet, which is the common one now, but of 20 feet in length.” —*Harris’s History of Kent*, p. 349.

RADDIS-CHIMNEY [rad’is-chim’ni] *sb.* A chimney made of rods, lathes, or raddles, and covered with loam or lime.

RADDLE-HEDGE [rad’l-hej] *sb.* A hedge made with raddles.

RADDLE [rad’l] *sb.* A green stick, such as wattles or hurdles are made of. In some countries called *raddlings*. *Raddle* is simply the diminutive of rad or rod.

RADE [raid] *adj.* or *adv.* Coming before the usual time; early. Milton has *rathe*.

“Bring the *rathe* primrose that forsaken dies.”

— *Lycidas*, 1. 142.

RADICAL [rad'ikl] *sb.* A wild, ungovernable, impudent, troublesome fellow.

“He’s a rammed young *radical*.”

RAFF [raf] *sb.* Spoil; plunder.

RAFT [raa'ft] *sb.* A crowd of people; a rabble.

“There was such a *raft* of people there.”

RAGGED JACK [rag'id jak] *sb.* Meadow lychnis. *Lychnis flos-cuculi*.

RAMMED [ram'id]. A substitute for a worse word.

RAN [ran] *sb.* A Folkestone herring net, which is about thirty yards long, is made four rans deep; and there are sixty meshes to a *ran*.

RANGERS [rai'njurz] *sb. pl.* The bars with which the herring-hangs are fitted. Upon these *rangers* are placed the spits upon which the herrings are hung up.

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RAPID, *adj.* Violent; severe; as applied to pain.

An old woman in Eastry Union Workhouse, who was suffering from sciatica, told me that “It was *rapid* in the night;” where there was no allusion to quickness of movement, but to the severity of the pain.

RASTY [raa'sti] *adj.* Rank; rancid; rusty; spoken of butter or bacon.

RATTLEGATE [rat'lgait] *sb.* A hurdle or wattle. (See *Raddle-heage* above.)

RAVEL-BREAD [rav'l-bred] *sb.* White-brown bread.

RAW [rau] *adj.* Angry. — *Sittingbourne*.

REACH [reech] *sb.* A creek.

REASTY [ree'sti] *adj.* Rusty; rancid; rank. (See *Rasty*.)

RECKON [rek'un] *vb.* To consider; to give as an opinion.

“I *reckon*” is an expression much used in Kent to strengthen observations and arguments.

“I *reckon* we shall have rain before night.”

REDGER [rej'r] *sb.* A ridge-band; a chain which passes over a horse’s back to support the rods.

RED PETTICOAT, *sb.* The common poppy; sometimes also called red-weed.

*Papaver.*

REECE [ree's] *sb.* A piece of wood fixed to the side of the chep, *i.e.*, the part of a plough on which the share is placed.

REEMER [ree'mur] *sb.* Anything very good.

“I wish you'd seen that catch I made forty year agoo, when we was playin' agin de Sussex party. Ah! that just was a *reemer*, I can tell ye! Dey all said as how dey never seed such a catch all their lives.”

REEMING [ree'ming] *adj.* Very good; superior.

REEVE [reev] *sb.* A bailiff. (See *Reve.*)

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REFFIDGE [ref'ij] *adj.* Refuse; good-for-nothing; worth- less.

“I never see so many *reffidge* tatur's about as what there is this year.”

REFUGE [refeuj] *adj.* Refuse; the worst of a flock, &c. (See *Reffidge.*)

“I sold my *refuge* ewes at Ashford market for thirty shillings.”

REMEMBERING, *parte.* To go round with Guy Fawkes on 5th November is called *remembering*. (See also *Hoodening* and *Popeing.*)

“George and me went round *remembering* and got pretty nigh fower and threepence.”

RENTS [rents] *sb. pl.* Houses; cottages.

A.D. 1520. — “For a key to Umfrayes dore in the *rentis.*” — *Accounts of St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

There is a street in London named Fullwood's Rents.

REVE [reev] *sb.* A bailiff.

1596. — “In auncient time, almost every manor had his *reve*, whose authoritie was not only to levie the lord's rents, to set to worke his servants, and to husband his demesnes to his best profit and commoditie; but also to governe his tenants in peace, and to leade them foorth to war, when necessitie so required.” — *Lambarde's Perambulation*, p. 484.

REXON [reks'n] *pp.* To infect, as with the small-pox, itch, or any other disorder.

(See *Wrexon*.)

REZON [rezun] *sb.* A wall-plate; a piece of timber placed horizontally in or on a wall, to support the ends of girders or joists.

RIB [rib] *sb. pl.* A stick about 5-ft. long and the thickness of a raddle. *Ribs* are done up into bundles, with two wiffs, and are used for lighting fires and making raddle-fences.

RIBSPARE [rib'spair] *sb.* The spare rib.

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RICE [reis] *sb.* Small wood; a twig; a branch. (See *Roist*.) Hamble, in Hants, is called Hamble-le-*rice*.

RID [rid] *vb.* Rode.

“He *rid* along with him in the train o' Tuesday.”

RIDDLE-WALL [rid'l-waul] *sb.* A wall made up with split sticks worked across each other.

RIDE [reid] (1) *vb.* To rise upon the stomach.

“I caan't never eat dese here radishes, not with no comfort, they do *ride* so.”

RIDE [reid] (2) *vb.* To collect; to *ride* tythe, is to *ride* about for the purpose of collecting it.

RIDE [reid] (3) *sb.* An iron hinge on which a gate is hung, and by which it swings and rides.

“It'm p<sup>d</sup> for makings a newe doore in John Marten's house, the *rydes*, nayles and woork, ij<sup>8</sup>, viij<sup>d</sup>.” — *Sandwich Book of Orphans*.

(See also *Archæologia Cantiana* iv. 220)

RIDER [rei dur] *sb.* A saddle-horse.

“He rips several *riders*. “

RIG [rig] *sb.* The common tope. *Galeus vulgaris*. — *Folkestone*

RIGHT, *sb.* The phrase, “To have a *right* to do anything,” means, it is right that such a thing should be done.

“I sed old Simon *right* to pay

A’cause he was de fust an’t.”—*Dick and Sal*, st. 79.

RIGHTS [reits] *sb.pl.* To go to rights; to go the nearest way.

To do anything to *rights*, is to do it thoroughly.

RING [ring] *sb.* A row. (See *ringe*, 2.)

RINGE [rinj] (1) *sb.* A large tub containing 14 or 16 gallons, with which two servants fetch water from a distant place; a pole, which lies upon the shoulders of the bearers, being passed through two iron rings or ears.

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RINGE [rinj] (2) *sb.* (i.) Wood, when it is felled, lies in *ringes* before it is made up into fagots, &c.

(ii.) A long heap in which mangolds are kept for the winter.

RINGE [rinj] (3) *vb.* To put up potatoes, mangolds, &c., into a *ringe*.

“Well, Job, what have you got to do to-morrow?”

“I reckon I shall be *ringeing* wurzels.”

RINGLE [ringl] (1) *sb.* A ring put through a hog’s snout; and generally for any ring, such as the ring of a scythe.

A.D. 1531.—”Paid for a rynge to a cythe . . . . j<sup>d</sup>.”

— *Accounts of St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

RINGLE [ringl] (2) *vb.* To put a ring through a pig’s snout.

RINGLE [ring-l] (3) *sb.* An iron ring which forms the bit of a horse at plough.

RIP [rip] (1) *vb.* To reap. So pronounced to this day. In one of the *Boteler MS. Account Books* (1648-1652), we have, “Disbursed fro<sup>m</sup> y<sup>6</sup> beginning of harvest . . . It. more for *ripping* of pease, 6 shil . . . . It. for *ripping* of wheat at 3 shil. and 4<sup>d</sup>.” (See *Ripping-hook*.)

RIP [rip] (2) *vb.* To cover a roof with laths and tiles, &c. Thus, to *unrip* the roof of a stable or outbuilding, is to take off the tiles, slates, &c., and to *rip* it, or new *rip* it, is to put on fresh laths and replace the tiles.

May 3rd, 1850. — “Visited and ordered the north and south side of the chancel roofs to be *ripped* and relaid; a window in the south side of the

church to be generally repaired once every year . . . . James Croft, Archdeacon.” —*Memorials of Eastry*, p. 206.

1640. — “For *ripping* of Broth. Vause’s house.” —*MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury*.

RIP [rip] (3) *sb.* A pannier or basket, used in pairs and slung on each side of a horse for carrying loads, such as fish, salt, sand, &c. (See *Ripper* below.)

“Two payer of *ripps*, five payells, &c.” —*Boteler Inventory, in Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226.

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RIPE [reip] *sb.* A bank; the sea shore, as “Lydd *Ripe*.” In East Kent, the village of *Ripple* derives its name from the same Latin word, *ripa*.

RIPPER [rip`r] *sb.* A pedler; a man who carries fish for sale in a *rip* or basket.

RIPPING-HOOK [rip`ing-huok] *sb.* A hook for cutting and reaping (*ripping*) corn. Unlike the sickle, the *ripping-hook* had no teeth, but could be sharpened with a whetstone.

RISH [rish] *sb.* A rush.

“There be lots o’ *rishes* in them there meyshes.”

RIT [rit] *vb.* To dry hemp or flax.

RITS [rits] *sb. pl.* The ears of oats are so called, and if there is a good crop, and the ears are full and large, they are said to be well *ritted*.

RIVANCE [rei`vuns] *sb.* Last place of abode. “I don’t justly know where his *rivance* is,” *i.e.*, where he came from or where he lived last. — *East Kent*. Short for *arrivance*.

ROAD-BAT [roa`d-bat] *sb.* A bat or piece of wood that glides the coulter of a plough. (See *Bat* (1), *Spreadbat*.)

ROAD-PROUD, *adj.* Crops which look well from the road, but are not so good as they look, are said to be *roadproud*.

ROBIN-HUS [rob`in`hus] *sb.* The small spotted dog-fish. *Scyllium canicula*. — *Folkestone*.

ROBIN-ROOK [rob`in`ruok] *sb.* A robin redbreast. (See *Ruddock*)

RODFALL, *sb.* Sometimes in a wood there is a belt of wood about a rod (16  $\frac{1}{2}$  ft.)

deep, not belonging to the same owner as the bulk of the wood, and felled at a different time; as,

“The wood belongs to Mus’ Dean, but there’s a *rodfall* joins in with Homestall.”

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ROD-HORSE [rod’us] *sb.* A horse in the shafts or rods.

The four horses of a team are called — (1) The *rod-horse*; (2) the pin-horse; (3) the losh-horse; (4) the fore-horse.

RODS [rodz] *s.pl.* The shafts of a cart or wagon.

“He was riding on the *rods* when I see’d him.”

ROIL [roil] *vb.* To make a disturbance; to romp in a rough and indecent manner.

ROIST [roi’st] *sb.* A switch; brushwood, before it be made up into fagots. Called also *Rice*.

ROMANCE [roamans’] *vb.* To play in a foolish manner; to tell exaggerated stories.

“My son never *romances* with no one.” — *Weald*.

ROMNEY MARSH [Rum’ni Maa’sh] *sb.* Romney Marsh is considered to be a place so completely by itself, that there is a saying in Kent and in East Sussex, that the world is divided into five parts — Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Romney Marsh.

ROOKERY [ruok’ur’i] *sb.* A dispute accompanied with many words; a general altercation.

“He knocked up a hem of a *rookery*.”

ROOK-STARVING, *parte.* Scaring rooks.

“The boy, he’s *rook-starvin*’ down in the Dover field.”

ROOMS [roomz] *sb. pl.* Mushrooms; as they say grass for (asparagus) sparrowgrass.

ROOTLE [roo’tl] *vb.* To root up.

“The pig must be ringled, or else he’ll *rootle* up all the bricks in the sty.”

ROUGH [ruf] (1) *sb.* A small wood; any rough, woody place.

ROUGH [ruf] (2) *adj.* Cross; of uncertain temper; difficult to please.

“I lay you’ll find ‘im pretty *rough*.”

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ROUGHET [rufit], ROUGHIT, *sb.* A small wood.

ROUNDLE [roundl] *sb.* Anything round; the part of a hop-oast where the fires are made, which is generally circular.

ROUND-TILTH, *sb.* The system of sowing of land continuously without fallow.

ROWENS [rou'inz] *sb. pl.* Stubble. (See *Ersh.*)

† The second mowing of grass; the third cut of clover. — *East Kent.*

1523. — “Rec. of Cady for the rowen gras, xiiij<sup>d</sup>.”— *Accounts of St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

ROYSTER [roi'stur] *vb.* To play about roughly and noisily. From *sb. roister*, a bully; French, *rustre*, a ruffian. — *Cotgrave.*

☾ “That there old Tom-cat has been *a-roysterin'* all over de plaace, same as though he was a kitten; I reckon we shall have some weather before long.”

RUBBER [rub'r] *sb.* A whetstone. The mowers always carry one in a leathern loop attached to the back of their belts.

RUBBIDGE [rub'ij] *sb.* Rubbish; weeds.

RUCK [ruk] *sb.* An uneven, irregular heap or lump; a wrinkle or uneven fold in cloth, linen, silk, &c.

About Sittingbourne, when a man is angry, he is said “to have his *ruck* up.”

RUCKLE [ruk'l] *sb.* A struggle.

RUDDLE [rud'l] *vb.* To make a fence of split sticks plaited across one another.

RUDDLE-WATTLE [rud'l-wa'tl] *sb.* A hurdle made of small hazel rods interwoven.

(See *Raddles.*)

RUDDOCK [rud'uk] *sb.* The robin redbreast.

“The *ruddock* would

With charitable bill — O bill, sore-shaming

Those rich-left heirs that let their fathers lie

Without a monument! — bring thee all this.”

— *Cymbeline*, act iv. sc. 2, 224.

[133]

RUDE HEART, *adv.* By heart.

“She read the psalms down; but lor! She didn’t want no book! She knowed ‘em all *rude heart*.”

RUDY [reu:di] *adj.* Rude.

RUGGLE ABOUT [rug:l-ubou:t] *vb.* A term used by old people and invalids to express walking or getting about with difficulty.

“I’m troubled to *ruggle-about*.”

RUMBAL WHITINGS [rum:bul wei:tingz] *sb. pl.* “The present minister, Mr. Sacket, acquainted me with an odd custom used by the fishermen of Folkestone to this day. They choose eight of the largest and best whittings out of every boat, when they come home from that fishery, and sell them apart from the rest; and out of this separate money is a feast made every Christmas Eve, which they call *rumball*. The master of each boat provides this feast for his own company, so that there are as many different entertainments as I there are boats. These whittings they call also *rumball whittings*. He conjectures, probably enough, that this word is a corruption from *rumwold*; and they were anciently designed as an offering for St. Rumwold, ‘to whom, a chapel,’ he saith, ‘was once dedicated, and which stood between Folkestone and Hythe, but is long since demolished.’” —*Harris’s History of Kent*, p. 125.

RUNAGATE [run:ugait] *sb.* A wild, reckless, dissolute young man; a good-for-nothing fellow. Corruption of *renegade*. French, *renegat*.

“But let the *runagates* continue in scarceness.” —Psalm lxxviii. 6. (Prayer Book version.)

RUN AGIN [run ugin:] *vb.* To run against, *i.e.*, to meet.

“I’m glad I *run agin ye*.”

RUN-A-HEAD [run'uhed'] *vb.* To be delirious.

“He was *running-a-head* all night long.”

RUNNET [run'it], RENNET, *sb.* The herb *Gabium verum*, yellow bed-straw.

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RUNNING [run'ing] *sb.* (See *Stroke-bias*.)

RUNT [runt] *sb.* A small pig; a diminutive or under-sized person.

RUSH [rush] *sb.* The rash, or spotted fever.

RUSTY [rust'i] *adj.* Crabbed; out of temper.

RUT [rut] *vb.* To keep a rut. To be meddling and doing mischief.

RUTTLE [rut'l] *vb.* To rustle; to rattle.

“I doänt like to hear him *ruttle* so in his throat o' nights; I am most feared  
he wun't be here long.”

## S.

SAFE-SOWN [saif-soan] *adj.* Self-sown; said of corn which comes up from the  
previous year's crop.

SAG [pron. sag; saig; seg] *vb.* To sink; bend; give way; to be depressed by weight.

A line or rope stretched out *sags* in the middle. The wind *sags*. Compare  
Anglo-Saxon *ságan*, to cause, to descend.

“The mind I sway by and the heart I bear,  
Shall never *sag* with doubt nor shake with fear.”

— *Macbeth*, act v.sc. 3.

SAGE [saij] *sb.* They have a saying round Appledore that when a plant of *sage*  
blossoms or flowers then misfortune is nigh. It rarely flowers, because house-  
hold requirements generally keep it well cut. My informant told me of a  
man who saw the *sage* in his garden in bloom; he was horrified, and told his  
daughter to cut off all the blossoms, but before she could do so, he met with  
an accident, by which he was killed.

SAIME [saim] *sb.* Lard. (See also *Seam*.)

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SAINT'S-BELL [sai'nts-bel] *sb.* The small bell, which is rung just before the service begins.

“The only *Saint's-bell* that rings all in.”

— *Hudibras III.* c. 2, 1224.

1678. — In the *Character of a Scold* we have — “Her tongue is the clapper of the Devil's *saint's-bell*, that rings all into confusion.”

*Saint's-bell*, is simply the old *sanctus-bell*, formerly rung at the elevation of the host, and now put to a different use.

SALTERNS [sau'turnz] *sb. pl.* Marshy places near the sea, which are overflowed by the tide. — *North Kent.* (See also *Saltings, Salts.*)

SALTINGS [sau'tingz] *sb. pl.* Salt marshes on the sea-side of the sea-walls; generally rich alluvial land, but too much cut up by grips to be of much use for grazing. — *North Kent.*

SALTS [salts] *sb. pl.* Same as *Salterns*.

SALVEY [sal'vi and saav'i] *adj.* Close; soapy; spoken of potatoes that are not floury.

SAND-RATE [sand-rait] *sb.* The Ray. *Raia clavata.* — *Folkestone.*

SAP [sap] *vb.* To catch eels with worms threaded on worsted; elsewhere called *Bobbing*.

SARE [sair] *adj.* Tender; rotten; worn; faded; as “My coat is very *sare*.” (See *Sere*.)

SARTIN [saat'in] *adj.* Stem; severe; stedfast.

“He knowed there was something up, he did look that *sartin* at me.”

SAUCE, *sb.* For sauciness.

“I don't want none o' your *sauce*.”

SAY [sai] (1) *vb.* To try; to essay.

“When a hog has once *say'd* a garden, you'll be troubled to keep him out.”

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SAY [sai] (2) *vb.* “Give us something to *say*,” means, give us a toast.

SAY SWEAR [sai swair]. In the phrase, “Take care or I shall *say swear*” *i.e.*, don’t exasperate me too much, or, “if you go on, I shall *say swear*” *i.e.*, I shall be thoroughly put out and use any amount of bad language.

SCAD, SKAD [skad] *sb.* A small black plum, between a damson and a sloe; a bastard damson, which grows wild in the hedges. The taste of it is so very harsh that few, except children, can eat it raw, nor even when boiled up with sugar.

SCADDLE [skad’l] *adj.* Wild; mischievous; spoken of a dog that worries sheep; of a cat that poaches; of a cow that breaks the fences; and of a boy that is generally thievish, inclined to pilfer, mischievous and troublesome. From the verb to *scathe*.

SCALLION [skal’yun] *sb.* The name given to the poor and weakly plants in an onion bed, which are thinned out to make room for the growth of better ones.

SCARCEY [skai’rsi] *adj.* Scarce.

SCAREFUL [skai’rfl] *adj.* Frightful; that which tends to scare.

SCEDDLE [sked’l] *adj.* Another form of *Scaddle*.

SCHOAT [shoat] *sb.* A kneading trough.

SCIMMINGER [skim’injur] *sb.* A piece of counterfeit money.

SCITHERS [sith’urz] *sb.* Scissors.

SCITTLE [sit’l] *adj.* Skittish.

SCOASE [skoa’us] *vb.* To exchange.

“I’ll *scoase* horses with you.”

SCOPPEL [skop’ul] *sb.* A broad wooden shovel used by the threshers. (See *Scubbit*, which is the word used in East Kent.)

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SCORF [skau’f] *vb.* To gobble; eat greedily. (See also *Scoff*.)

“You’ve *scorfed* up all the meat purty quick, ain’t ye?”

SCORSE [pron. skoa'us] *vb.* To exchange, (See *Scoase*.)

SCORE, *sb.* In East Kent oxen and pigs are sold by the *score*; sheep and calves by the stone of 8-lbs.

*Score* was properly a cut; hence, twenty was denoted by a long cut on a notched stick.

SCOTCHEN, *sb.* A badge; shortened from *escutcheon*.

“For ij dosen *skotchens* of lede for the poore people of the cite [of Canterbury], that they myght be knowen from other straunge beggars.”

—*Historical MSS. Commission, Appendix to Ninth Report, 155a.*

SCOURGE [skurj] *vb.* To sweep with a besom.

SCOUT [skou't] *sb.* A kneading trough. Also called a shoat.

SCRAN [skran] *sb.* A snack of food; the refreshment that labourers take with them into the fields.

“What *scran* have ye got?”

SCRAP [skrap] *vb.* To fight; restricted to the encounters between children.

Scraps [skraps] *sb.* Herrings which, being broken, cannot be hung up by their heads to dry. Also called tie-tails. —*Folkestone.*

SCRATCH [skrach] (1) *vb.* To do anything in a hurried, hasty, scrambling way.

“I *scratched* out of bed and struck a light.”

SCRATCH [skrach] (2) *sb.* A rough pronged prop, used to support a clothes' line; a pole with a natural fork at the end of it. An older form of the word *Crutch*.

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SCRATCH ALONG [skrach ulong] *vb.* To pull through hard times.

“Times is bad, but I just manage somehows to keep *scratching along*.”

SCREECH-OWL [skreech-oul] *sb.* The common swift. *Cypsellus apus.* —  
*Sittingbourne.*

SCROOCH [skrooch] *vb.* To make a dull, scraping noise.

SCROW [skroa] *sb.* A cross, peevish, ill-natured person.

SCROUGE [skrou'j], SCROOGE [skrooj] *vb.* To squeeze or crowd; to push rudely in a crowd.

“An dare we strain’d an’ stared an’ blous’d,  
An tried to get away;  
But more we strain’d de more dey *scroug’d*  
An sung out, ‘Give ‘em play.’ “

—*Dick and Sal*, st 71.

SCRUMP [skrump] *sb.* A stunted, badly-grown apple; a withered, shrivelled, undersized person. —*North Kent*.

“This orchard isn’t worth much, one sieve out of every föur ‘ull be *scrumps*.”

“The old gen’lman does look a little *scrump*, doänt he?”

SCRUNCH [skrunch] *vb.* To crunch.

SCRY [skraai and skrei] *sb.* A large standing sieve, against which, when it is set up at an angle on the barn floor, the corn is thrown with a *scubbit* to clean and sift it. It is used also for sifting coal.

SCUBBIT [skub’it] *sb.* A wooden shovel. That form of *scubbit* now used by maltsters and hop driers has a short handle; that formerly used by farmers for moving corn on the barn floor, prior to the introduction of the threshing machine, had a long handle.

SCUFFLING [skuf’ling] *adj.* A scuffling apron is one to do hard or dirty work in.

SCULCH [skulsh], SCULTCH [skulch] *sb.* Rubbish; trash. Generally used with reference to the unwholesome things children delight to eat. A variant of *Culch*.

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SCUPPER [skup’ur] *sb.* A scoop or scooper.

SCUT [skut] *sb.* The tail of a hare or rabbit.

SCUTCHEL [skuch’ul] *sb.* Rubbish. (See also *Scultch*.)

SEA COB [see kob] *sb.* A sea gull.

SEA GRAPES, *sb. pl.* The eggs of the cuttle-fish.

SEA KITTY [see kit’i] *sb.* A sea gull.

SEAM [seem] (1) *sb.* Hog’s lard.

SEAM [seem], SEME (2) *sb.* A sack of eight bushels is now called a *seam*, because that quantity forms a horse-load, which is the proper and original meaning of *seam*. The word is used in Domesday Book.

“To Mr. Eugh, a twelve *seames* of wheate at twenty shillings the *seame* . . . . It. vnto Mr. Eugh, a twenty *seames* of peas and tears [*i.e.*, tares] at thirteene the *seame*.” — *Boteler MS. Account Books*.

SEA-NETTLES, *sb.* Jelly-fish. — *Dover*.

SEA SNAIL [see snai 1] *sb.* A periwinkle.

SEARSE [seers] *vb.* To strain or shift, as through a sieve or strainer.

SEASON [see'zn] *vb.* To sow com. Also said of the condition of land for sowing.

“I'm going wheat *seasoning* to-day.”

“That Dover fill's nice and plump now after the rain. We shall get a *season*.”

SEA STARCH, *sb.* Jelly-fish. — *Dover*.

SEA-WAUR [see-waur] *sb.* The wrack, ore or sea weed used largely in the Island of Thanet and elsewhere, for making maxhills.

SECOND-MAN, *sb.* Amongst farm servants there is a regular gradation of ranks; the first-man is the wagoner, *par eminence*, who has charge of the first

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team and is assisted by his “mate;” the *second-man* has charge of the second team and is assisted by his “mate,” and so on; whilst there is generally a “yard man,” whose duty it is to look after the stock in the yard, and an odd man whose title, “all work,” describes his duties. When a number of men are going along the road with their respective teams the first man will be found leading, the second man next, and so on; each walking with his horses.

SEE [see] *pt. t.*, SEED [see'd, sid] *vb.* Saw.

“I *see* him at Canterbury yesterday.”

SEED-CORD [seed'-kord], SEED-KOD [seed'-kod] [*Boteler MS. Account Book, 1653*] *sb.* A box or basket used by the sower for holding the seed, and suspended

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

from his neck by a cord or strap. It was an instrument of husbandry in common use before the invention of the seed drill, and generally contained some five or six gallons of seed.

SEED-LIP [seed-lip] *sb.* The wooden box, fitting the shape of the body in which the sower carries his seed. (See *Seed-cord*.)

SEEMING [se'e'ming], SEEMINGLY [see'mingli] *adv.* Apparently.

SEEN [seen] *sb.* A cow's teat.

SELYNGE [sel'inj] *sb.* Toll; custom; tribute.

“The Prior of Christ Church, Canterbury . . . used to take in the stream of the water or river Stoure, before the mouth of the said Flete, a certain custom which was called *Selynge*, of every little boat which came to an anchor before the mouth of the said Flete.” —Lewis, p. 78.

The parish of *Sellindge*, near Hythe, probably takes its name from some such ancient payment.

SEN [sen] *vb. pp.* Seen.

“Have ye *sen* our Bill anywheres?”

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SENGREEN [sin'grin] *sb.* Houseleek. *Sempervivum tectorum*. Anglo-Saxon *singrène*, ever-green; the Anglo-Saxon prefix *sin*, means “ever.”

SENSE [sen's] *adv. phr.* Used with the negative to mean “Nothing to signify;” anything inadequately or faultily done.

“It don't rain, not no *sense*,” *i.e.*, there is no rain to speak of.

SEP [sep] *sb.* The secretion which gathers in the corners of the eyes during sleep. Allied to *sap*. — Eastry.

SERE [seer] *adj.* Dry, as distinct from green wood; not withered, as sometimes explained. The term is generally applied to firewood.

“They say that Muster Goodyer has a lot of good *sere* fagots to sell.” (See *Sare*.)

SERVER [surv'ɪr] *sb.* Where there are no wells, as in the Weald of Kent, the pond that serves the house is called the *server*, to distinguish it from the horse-pond.

SESS, SESSE [ses] *sb.* A levy; a tax; a rate; an assessment.

1648-1652. — “It. to John Augustine, 18s., for a church *sesse* . . . . It. to Mr. Paramore, 17s. and 6d., for a *sesse* to y<sup>e</sup> poore.” — *Boteler MS. Account Book*.

SESSIONS [sesh'ɪnz] *sb.* A disturbance; a fuss.

“There’s goin’ to be middlin’ *sessions* over this here Jubilee, seemin’ly.”

SET [set] (1) *vb.* To sit; as, “I was *setting* in my chair.”

SET [set] (2) *sb.* A division in a hop-garden for’picking, containing 24 hills.

SET [set] (3) *adj.* Firm; fixed in purpose; obstinate.

“He’s terrible *set* in his ways, there ain’t no turning an ‘im.”

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SET-OUT [set-out] *sb.* A great fuss and disturbance; a grand display; an event causing excitement and talk.

“There was a grand *set-out* at the wedding.”

SET UP, *vb.* A word expressing movement of several kinds, *e.g.*, a man “*Sets up* a trap for vermin,” where they would ordinarily say, “*Sets* a trap;” a horse *sets up*, *i.e.*, he jibs and rears; whilst the direction to a coachman, “*Set up* a little,” means, that he is to drive on a yard or two and then stop.

SEVEN-WHISTLERS, *sb.* The note of the curlew, heard at night, is called by the fishermen the *seven-whistlers*.

“I never thinks any good of them, there’s always an accident when they comes. I heard ‘em once one dark night last winter. They come over our heads all of a sudden, singing, ‘Ewe-ewe,’ and the men in the boat wanted to turn back. It came on to rain and blow soon afterwards, and was an awful night, sir; and, sure enough, before morning a boat was upset and seven poor fellows drowned. I knows what makes the noise, sir; it’s them long-billed curlews; but I never likes to hear them.”

SEW [soo] (1) *adj.* Dry. “To go *sew*,” *i.e.*, to go dry; spoken of a cow.

SEW [soo] (2) *vb.* To dry; to drain; as, “To *sew* a pond,” *i.e.*, to drain it and make it dry.

SEWELLS [seu'elz] *sb.pl.* Feathers tied on a string which is stretched across a part of a park to prevent the deer from passing.

SHADDER [shad'ur], Shatter [shat'ur] *vb.* To be afraid of.

SHAGGED [shag'id] *adj.* Fatigued; fagged; tired out.

“An' I was deadly *shagged*.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 48.

SHALE [shail] *sb.* The mesh of a fishing-net.

SHALINGS [shai'lingz] or SHALES'S [prob. shailz] *sb. pl.* Tenements to which no land belonged. — *Lewis*, 75.

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SHATTER [shat'ur] (1) *vb.* To scatter; blow about; sprinkle.

 “*Shatter* your leaves before the mellowing year” — *Milton, Lycidas*, 5.

SHATTER [shat'ur] (2) *sb.* A sprinkling, generally of rain.

“We've had quite a nice little *shatter* of rain.”

“There'll be a middlin' *shatter* of hops.”

SHATTER (3) *vb.* To rain slightly.

SHAUL [shau'l] (1) *adj.* Shallow; shoal.

SHAUL [shau'l], SHOWLE [shou'l] (2) *sb.* A wooden tub with sloping sides. The *shaul* was of two kinds, viz. — (1) The kneadinge *showle*, used for kneading bread, generally made of oak, and standing on four legs, commonly seen in better class cottages. Of which we find mention in the *Boteler Inventories* — “Ite. in the bunting house one bunting hutch, two kneding *showles*, a meale tub w<sup>th</sup> other lumber ther, prized at vj<sup>s</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>.” — *Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226. And 2nd, the washing *shaul*, made of common wood, without legs.

SHAW [shau] *sb.* A small hanging wood; a small copse; a narrow plantation dividing two fields.

SHAVE [shaiv] *sb.* Corrupted from *shaw*, a wood that encompasses a close; a small copse of wood by a field-side, (See also *Carvet.*)

SHAY [shaai] (1) *adj.* Pale; faint-coloured.

“This here ink seems terr’ble *shay*, somehows.”

SHAY [shaai] (2) *sb.* A shadow; dim or faint glimpse of ‘ a thing; a general likeness or resemblance.

“I caught a *shay* of ‘im as he was runnin’ out of the orchard, and dunno’ as I shaänt tark to ‘im next time I gets along-side an ‘im.”

SHE [shee] *sb.* In phrase, “A regular old *she*,” a term of contempt for anything that is poor, bad or worth-less; often applied to a very bad ball at cricket.

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SHEAD [sheed] *sb.* A rough pole of wood.

“*Sheads* for poles.”

SHEAR [sheer] *sb.* A spear; thus they speak of an eel-*shear*.

SHEAT [sheet] *sb.* A young hog of the first year.

“John Godfrey, of Lidd, in his will, 1572, gave his wife one sowe, two *sheetes*.”

SHEEL [shee'l], SHEAL, *vb.* To peel; scale off; used of the scales or flakes of skin peeling off a person who has been ill of measles, scarlet fever, &c. Allied to *scale*, *shell*; and used in the sense of *shell* in *Bargrave MS. Diary*, 1645: “Before they come to the press the walnuts are first *shealed*, then dried in the sunne.”

‘SHEEN [shee'n] *sb.* Machine.

“Or like de stra dat clutters out,

De ‘*sheen* a thrashing carn.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 77.

SHEEP-GATE [ship'gait] *sb.* A hurdle with bars.

SHEEP’S TREDDLES [shipz tred'lz] *sb. pl.* The droppings of sheep.

“There’s no better dressing for a field than *sheep’s treddles*.”

SHEER [shee'r] *adj.* Bright; pure; clear; bare. Thus, it is applied to the bright, glassy appearance of the skin which forms over a wound; or to the

appearance of the stars, as an old man once told me, “When they look so very bright and *sheer* there will be rain.”

SHEERES [sheerz]. SHIRES [sheirz] *sb. pl.* All parts of the world, except Kent, Sussex or Surrey. A person coming into Kent from any county beyond London, is said to “Come out of the *sheeres*,” or, if a person is spoken of as living in any other part of England, they say, “He’s living down in the *sheeres* som’ ‘ere’s.”

SHEER-MOUSE [shee’r-mous] *sb.* A field or garden mouse. Probably a mere variation from *shrew-mouse*.

SHEER-WAY [shee’r-wai] *sb.* A bridle-way through groimds otherwise private. So Lewis writes it, *Shire-way*, as a way separate and divided from the common road or open highway.

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SHELL-FIRE [shel-feir] *sb.* The phosphorescence from decayed straw or touchwood, &c., sometimes seen in farmyards. (See *Fairy sparks*.)

SHENT, SHUNT, *vb.* To chide; reprove; reproach.

“Do you hear how we are *shent* for keeping your greatness back?” — *Coriolanus*, act v. sc. 3.

SHEPPEY [shep’i], sheep-island, *sb.* The inhabitants of the isle at the mouth of the Thames call themselves “sons of *Sheppey*,” and speak of crossing the Swale on to the main land, as “going into England;” whilst those who live in the marshes call the higher parts of *Sheppey*, the Island, as indeed it once was, being one of the three isles of *Sheppey*.

SHIDE [sheid], SHYDE, *sb.* A long slip of wood; a plank; a thin board, &c.

1565. — “For a tall shyde and nayle for the same house, j<sup>d</sup>.” — *Accounts of St. Dunstan’s, Canterbury*.

SHIFT [shift] (1) *vb.* To divide land into two or more equal parts.

SHIFT [shift] (2) *sb.* A division of land. (See above.)

SHIM [shim] *sb.* A horse-hoe, used for lightly tilling the land between the rows of peas, beans, hops, &c.

SHINGLE [shing'l] *sb.* A piece of seasoned oak about 12 inches long by 3 inches wide, 1/4 inch in thickness; used in covering buildings, and especially for church spires in parts of the country where wood was plentiful, as in the Weald of Kent.

SHINGLER [shing'lur] *sb.* A man who puts on shingles; a wood-tiler.

In the Parish Book which contains the *Church-wardens' Accounts of the Parish of Biddenden*, we find the following entries: —

March, 1597, "To Abraham Stedman, for nayles for the *shingler* to use about the *shingling* of the church at Biddenden, at iiiij<sup>d</sup>. the hundred . . . 2 8

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August, 1600, "To the *shingler* for 2000 *shingles* at 16s.

the thousand	32	0
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To him for the laying of the two thousands	12	4
--	----	---

July, 1603, "It <sup>m</sup> payde to Newman the <i>shingler</i> for 2000 [?] of <i>shingles</i>	2	8	0
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It may be noted that one of the Editors has before him a *shingler's* bill for repairing a church spire in the present year (1887), in which the following items will shew that the prices have "riz" considerably in 300 years: —

20 3/4 -lbs. copper nails, at 1s. 7d.	1	12	8
---------------------------------------	---	----	---

150 new <i>shingles</i> , at id.	1	9	2
----------------------------------	---	---	---

Time, 14 1/2 days, at 4s.; 12 1/2 days, at 5s	6	0	6
---	---	---	---

SHINING STICK [shei'ning stik] *sb.* A thin peeled stick, formerly carried by farm labourers at statute fairs, to shew that they sought work for the coming year.

"He sed dere was a teejus fair

Dat lasted for a wick;

An all de ploughmen dat went dare

Must car dair *shining stick*."

— *Dick and Sal*, st. 8.

SHINY-BUG, *sb.* The glow-worm. (See also *Bug*.)

SHIP [ship] *sb. pl.* sheep. The word sheep must have been pronounced in this way in Shakespeare's time, as we see from the following: —

“Twenty to one, then, he is *shipp'd* already,  
And I have play'd the *sheep* [pronounced ship] in loving him.”

— *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, act i. sc. 1.

SHIP-GATE [ship'gait]. A sheep-gate or moveable hurdle in a fence.

SHIRE-WAY [sheir-wai] *sb.* A bridle-way. (See *Sheer-way*.)

SHOAL-IN, *vb.* To pick sides at cricket or any game.

“After the match, they had a *shoal-in* among theirselves.”

SHOAT [shoat]. SCOUT [skout] *sb.* A kneading trough.

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SHOAVE [shoav] *sb.* A kind of fork used to gather up oats when cut.

SHOCK [shok] *sb.* A sheaf of corn.

“I see that the wind has blowed down some *shocks* in that field of oats.”

SHOE-MONEY, *sb.* When strangers pass through a hop-garden their shoes are wiped with a bundle of hops, and they are expected to pay their footings under penalty of being put into the basket. The money so collected is called *shoe-money*, and is spent on bread and cheese and ale, which are consumed on the ground the last day of hopping. The custom of wiping the shoes of passers-by is also practised in the cherry orchards, in the neighbourhood of Faversham and Sittingbourne.

SHOOLER [shoo'lr] *sb.* A beggar.

SHOOLING [shoo'ling] *part.* Begging. “To go a *shooling*.”

SHOOT [shoot] *sb.* A young pig of the first year (See *Sheet*.)

SHOP-GOODS, *sb. pl.* Goods purchased at a shop, especially groceries.

SHORE [shoar] (1) *sb.* A prop; a strut; a supports.

“ME. *schore* — Icel. *skorda*, a prop; stay; especially under a boat . . . so called, because *shorn* or cut off of a suitable length.”

SHORN BUG [shorn' bug], SHARN BUG [sharn' bug] *sb.* The stag beetle. (See also *May bug*, &c.)

SHORT-WORK [shaut'wurk] *sb.* Work in odd corners of fields which does not come in long straight furrows.

SHOT [shot] *sb.* A handful of hemp.

SHOT-FARE [shot-fair] *sb.* The mackerel season, which is the first of the two seasons of the home fishery. It commonly commences about the beginning of May, when the sowing of barley is ended.

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SHOT-NET [shot-net] *sb.* A mackerel net.

SHOTTEN [shot'n] *adj.* "The proprietor of the Folkestone hang told me that at the beginning of the season all the fish have roes; towards the end they are all *shotten*, *i.e.*, they have no roes." — *F. Buckland*.

SHOTVER-MEN [shot'vur-men] *sb. pl.* The mackerel fishers at Dover; whose nets are called *shot-nets*.

 There is an old saying —

 "A north-east wind in May  
Makes the *shotver-men* a prey,"

The N.E. wind being considered favourable for fishing.

SHOUL [shou'l] *sb.* A shovel (not to be confounded with *shaul*).

SHOUN [shou'n] *vb.* Shone.

"And glory *shoun* around."

SHOWS FOR [shoa'z fur] *vb.* It looks like.

"It *shows* for rain."

SHOY [shoi] *adj.* Weakly; shy of bearing; used of plants and trees.

SHRAPE [shraip] *vb.* To scold or rate a dog.

SHREAP [shreep], SHRIP [shrip] *vb.* To chide; scold.

SHRIVE [shreiv] *vb.* To clear the small branches from the trunk of a tree.

"Those elm-trees want *shriving*."

SHROCKLED [shrokl'd], SHOCKLED [shokl'd] *pp.* Shrunk; shrivelled; wrinkled; puckered up; withered.

"A face like a *shrockled* apple."

SHRUGGLE [shrugl] *vb.* To shrug the shoulders.

SHUCK [shuk] (1) *sb.* A husk or shell; as bean *shucks*, *i.e.*, bean shells. (See also *Huck*.) It is sometimes used as a contemptuous expression, as, “A regular old *shuck*.”

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SHUCK [shuk] (2) *vb.* To shell peas, beans, &c.

SHUCK [shuk] (3) *vb.* To do things in a restless, hurried way, as, *e.g.*, to *shuck* about.

SHUCKISH [shuk'ish] *adj.* Shifty; unreliable; uncertain; tricky.

“Looks as though we be going to have a lot of this *shuckish* weather.”

SHUCKLE [shukl] *vb.* To shuffle along, or slink along, in walking. (See *Shuck*.)

SHUT [shut] (1) *sb.* A young pig that has done sucking. (See *Sheet*.)

SHUT [shut] (2) *vb.* To do; to manage.

SHUT-OF [shut-of] *vb.* To rid oneself of; to drive away.

“I lay you wun't get *shut-of* him in a hurry.”

SHUT-OUT [shut-out] *phrase.* Exceedingly cold.

“You look quite *shut-out*.”

SICKLE [sikl] *sb.* A curved hook for cutting corn. The *sickle* or wheat-hook [whit-uok] had a toothed blade, but as it became useless when the teeth broke away, the reaping-hook [rip'-ing'-uok], with a plain cutting edge, took its place, only to give way in its turn to the scythe, with a cradle on it.

SIESIN [see'zin] *sb.* Yeast; barm. (See *Sizzing*.)

SIEVE [siv] *sb.* A measure of cherries, containing a bushel, 56-lb. In West Kent, *sieve* and half-*sieve* are equivalent to bushel and half-bushel.

SIFTER [sift'ur] *sb.* A fire shovel.

SIG [sig] *sb.* Urine.

SIGHT [seit] *sb.* A great number or quantity.

“There was a *sight* of apples lying on the ground.”

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SIMPLE [simp'l] *adj.* Silly; foolish; stupid; hard to understand.

“Doan’t be so *simple*, but come along dreckly minnit.”

SIMSON [sim'sun] *sb.* The common groundsel. *Senecio vulgaris*.

SIN [sin] *adv.* Since.

“Knowing his voice, although not heard long *sin*.”

— *Faerie Queen*, b. 6. cxi. xliv.

SINDER [sind'ur] *vb.* To settle or separate the lees or dregs of liquor.

SINDERS [sind'urz] *adv.* Asunder.

SPID [sip'id] *adj.* Insipid.

“I calls dis here claret wine terr’ble *sipid* stuff.”

SISSLE [sis'l], SISSLING [sis'ling] *vb.* To hiss or splutter.

“De old kettle *sissles*, ‘twun’t be long before ‘tis teatime, I reckon.”

SIVER [sei'vur] *sb.* A boat load of whittings. — *Folkestone*.

SIZING [sei'zing] *sb.* A game with cards, called “Jack running for *sizing*.”

SIZZING [siz'ing] *sb.* Yeast, or barm; so called from the sound made by beer or ale in working.

SKARMISH [skaam'ish] *sb.* A fight; row; bit of horseplay.

SKEER'D [skee'rd] *adj.* Frightened.

“Dractly dere’s ever so liddle bit of a skirmish he’s reglur *skeer’d*, he is.”

SKENT [skent] *vb.* To look askant; to scowl.

SKEVALMEN [skev'ulmen] *sb.pl.* From *scuffle*, a shovel. Men who cleaned out the creek at Faversham were so called in the town records of the seventeenth century.

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SKILLET [skil'it] *sb.* A stewpan or pipkin.

SKIP-JACK [skip-jak] *sb.pl.* The sand-hopper. *Talitrus saltator*. — *Folkestone*.

SKIVER [skiv'ur] *sb.* A skewer. In East Kent, in winter time, men come round, cut the long sharp thorns from the thorn bushes, then peel, bleach and dry them, and sell them to the butchers to use in affixing tickets to their meat.

SKUT [skut] *vb.* To crouch down.

SLAB [slab] *sb.* A rough plank; the outside cut of a tree when sawn up.

SLACK [slak] *adj.* Underdressed; underdone; insufficiently cooked; applied to meat not cooked enough, or bread insufficiently baked.

“The bread is very *slack* to-day.”

SLAGGER [slag'ur] *vb.* To slacken speed; to walk lame; to limp.

“An so we *slagger'd* den ya know,

An gaap't an stared about;

To see de houses all a row.

An signs a-hanging out.” — *Dick and Sal*, st 32.

SLANT [slan't], Slaint [slai'nt] *vb.* To miscarry; to give premature birth; to slip or drop a calf before the proper time. In Eastry it is pronounced *slaint*.

SLANK [slangk] *sb.* A slope or declivity.

SLAPPY [slap'i] *adj.* Slippery through wet. The form *sloppy*, meaning wet but not slippery, is common everywhere.

SLATS [slat's] *sb. pl.* Thin; flat; unfilled pea-pods.

SLAY-WATTLE [slai-wat'l] *sb.* A hurdle made of narrow boards.

SLICK [slik] *adj.* Slippery.

SLIMMUCKS [slim'uks] *sb.* A slinking fellow.

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SLIPPER [slip'ur] (1) *sb.* A curious eel-like fish, with an ugly pert-looking head, and frill down the back (like the frill to an old beau's dining-out shirt), and a spotted and exceedingly slimy body. So called at Heme Bay, because it *slips* from the hand so easily. (See *Life of Frank Buckland*, p. 171.)

SLIPPER [slip'ur] (2) *sb.* The small sole. — *Folkestone*.

SLIVER [sliv'ur] (1) *sb.* A thin piece of split wood; a slice; a stiff shaving; a splinter. Allied to *Slice*, from *Slit*. Anglo-Saxon *sléfan*, to cleave.

“There, on the pendent boughs her coronet weeds

Clambering to hang, an envious *sliver* broke.”

— *Hamlet*, act iv. sc 7.

SLIVER [sliv'ur] (2) *vb.* To slice; cut off a thin portion.

SLOBBED [slob'd] *pp.* Slopped; spilt.

SLOP [slop] *sb.* A short, round smock frock, of coarse materials, slipped over the head, and worn by workmen over their other clothes.

SLORRY [slor'r'i] *sb.* A slow-worm, or a blind worm.

SLOSH [slosh], SLUSH [slush] *sb.* Dirty water; a muddy wash; liquid mud. They are both formed from the sound, hence *slosh* represents rather “a muddy wash,” which makes the louder noise when splashed about, and *slush*, “liquid mud,” which makes a duller sound.

SLOY-WORM [sloi-wurm] *sb.* A slow-worm. *Anguis fragilis*. (See *Slorry*.)

SLUB [slub] *sb.* A slimy wash; liquid mud.

Lord Hale, in his work, *De Jure Maris et Brachiorum Ejusdem*, pt. i. c. 7., alludes to “The *jus alluvionis*, which is an increase of land by the projection of the sea, casting and adding sand and *slub* to the adjoining land whereby it is increased, and for the most part by insensible degrees.”

SLURRY [slur'r'i] *sb.* Wet, sloppy mud.

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SLUTHERS [sluth'urz], SLUTTERS [slut'urz] *sb. pl.* Jelly-fish; also called water-galls, miller' s-eyes and sea-starch.

SMAAMER [smaa'mur] *sb.* A knock.

SMACK-SMOOTH [smak'smooth] *adv.* Flat; smooth; level with the ground.

“The old squire had the shaw cut down *smack-smooth*.”

SMART, *adj.* Considerable.

“I reckon it'll cost him a *smart* penny before he's done.”

SMICKERY [smik'ur'i] *adj.* Uneven; said of a thread when it is spun.

SMIRK [smurk] *vb.* To get the creases out of linen, that it may be more easily folded up.

“Oh! Give it a *smirking*, and you'll get it smooth.”

SMITHERS [smidh'urz] *sb. pl.* Shivers, or splinters.

SMOULT [smoa'lt] *adj.* Hot; sultry.

SMUG [smug] *vb.* To steal.

SNAG [*pron.* snag; snaig; sneg. — *East Kent*] *sb.* A name applied to all the common species of garden-snails, but especially to the *Helix aspersa*. (Anglo-Saxon *snæg-el*; *snag* is a variant of *snake*, a creeping thing.) In West Kent the word is applied to a slug, whilst snails are called shell-*snags*.

SNAGGLE [snag'ɪ] *vb.* To hack, or carve meat badly; to nibble.

SNATAGOG [snat'ugog] *sb.* A yewberry.

SNEAD [sneed] *sb.* The long handle or bat of a scythe. — *West Kent*.

The family of Sneyd, in Staffordshire, bear a scythe in their arms.

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SNIGGER [snig'ur] *vb.* To cut roughly, or unevenly.

SNIRK [snurk] *vb.* To dry; to wither.

“You had better carry your hay or it will all be *snirked* up, sure as you’re  
 alive.”

SNIRKING [snurk'in] *sb.* Anything withered.

“As dry as a *snirking*.”

SNOB [snob] *sb.* A cobbler. By no means a term of contempt.

SNODGOG [snod'gog] *sb.* A snodberry, or yewberry; just as a goosegog is a gooseberry.

SNOODS [snoodz, or snuodz] *sb. pl.* Fishing lines.

The lines laid for ness-congers are seventy-five fathoms long, and on each line are attached, at right angles, other smaller lines called the *snoods*; twenty-three *snoods* to each line, each snood nine feet long. — *Folkestone*.

SNYING [snei'ing] *adj.* Bent; twisted; curved. This word is generally applied to timber.

SO [soa'] *interj.* of correction or assent. Thus it is used in the way of correction, “Open the door, the window so, “*i.e.*, open the door, I mean the window. It is also used for assent, *e.g.*, “Would you like some drink?” “I would *so*.”

SOB [sob] *vb.* To soak, or wet thoroughly.

“The cloth what we used to wipe up the rain what come in under the door is all *sobbed* with the wet.”

SOCK [sok] (1) *sb.* A pet brought up by hand; a shy child that clings to its nurse, and loves to be fondled.

SOCK [sok] (2) *vb.* To shroud or wrap a corpse in grave-clothes; to sew a body in its winding sheet.

1591. — “Paid for a sheet to *sock* a poor woman that died at Byneons, 1s. 6d.” — *Records of Faversham*.

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1643. — “Bought 2 ells of canvass to *sock* Margaret Abby in, 0 2 6.”

1668. — “For Dorothy Blanchet’s funeral, for laying her forth and socking, 0 08 0.” — *Overseers’ Accounts, Holy Cross, Canterbury*.

SOCK-LAMB [sok-lam] *sb.* A pet-lamb brought up by hand.

SOCKLE [sok-lj] *vb.* To suckle.

SOIL [sokl] (1) *sb.* Filth and dirt in corn; as the seeds of several kinds of weeds and the like.

SOIL [soil] (2) *vb.* To scour or purge. The use of green meat as a purge gives rise to this old East Kent saying—

“King Grin (*i.e.*, green),  
Better than all medcin’.”

SOLE [soal] *sb.* A pond, or pool of water, Lewis says, “A dirty pond of standing water;” and this it probably was in its original signification, being derived from Anglo-Saxon *sol*, mud, mire (whence E. *vb.* *sully*), allied to the Danish word *söl*, and German *suhle*, mire. It enters into the name of several little places where ponds exist, e.g., Barnsole, Buttssole, Maidensole, Sole-street, &c. The Will of Jno. Franklyn. Rector of Ickham, describes property as being “Besyde the wateringe *sole* in thend (*i.e.*, the end] of Yckhame-streete.”

SOME’RS [sum’urz] *adj.* Somewheres, for somewhere.

“Direckly ye be back-turned, he’ll be off *some’rs* or ‘nother.”

SOME-ONE-TIME, *adv.* Now and then.

“Taint very often as I goos to Feversham, or Lunnon, or any such place, but *some-one-time* I goos when I be forced to it.”

SONNIE [sun'i] *sb.* A kindly appellative for any boy.

“Come along *sonnie*, you and me ‘ll pick up them tatures now ‘tis fine and dry.”

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SOSS [sos] (1) *sb.* A mess. If anyone mixes several slops, or makes any place wet and dirty, we say in Kent, “He makes a *so*ss.”

SOSS [sos] (2) *vb.*, SOSSEL [sos'ul] *vb.* To mix slops, or pour tea backwards and forwards between the cup and the saucer.

“When we stopped at staashun, dere warn't but three minuts to spare, but howsumdever, my missus she was forced to have a cup o' tea, she was, and she *sossed* it too and thro middling I can tell ye, for she was bound to swaller it somehows.”

SOTLY [sot'li] *adv.* Softly.

SOW BREAD [sou-bred] *sb.* The sowthistle, or milkthistle. *Sonchus oleraceus*.

SOWSE-TUB [sous-tub] *sb.* A tub for pickling meat.

SPADDLE [spad'l] *vb.* To make a dirt or litter; to shuffle in walking.

SPALT [spau'lt or spolt] *adj.* Heedless; impudent.

SPALTER [spolt'ur] *vb.* To split up and break away, as the underside of a branch when it is partially sawn or cut through, and then allowed to come down by its own weight. (See *Spolt*.)

SPAN [span] *vb.* To fether a horse.

SPANDLE [spand'l] *vb.* To leave marks of wet feet on the floor like a dog. The Sussex word is spannel.

SPANNER [span'ur] *sb.* A wrench; a screw-nut.

“Hav' ye si'n my *spanner* anywheres about?” “Yis, I seed it in the barn jest now.”

SPANISH [spanish] *sb.* Liquorice.

“I took some *Spanish*, but my cough is still terrible bad, surely.”

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SPARR [spar'] *sb.* The common house-sparrow; as, arr for arrow, barr for barrow.

“Who killed cock-robin?

I said the *sparr*,

With my bow and arr.”

SPAT [spat] *sb.* A knock; a blow.

“He ain't no ways a bad boy; if you gives him a middlin' *spat* otherwhile,

he'll do very well.”

SPATS [spats] *sb. pl.* Gaiters, as though worn to prevent the spattering of mud.

SPEAN [speen] *sb.* (See *Speen*.) (i.) The teat of an animal. (ii.) The tooth or spike of a fork or prong.

SPEAR [spee'r] (1) *sb.* A blade of grass, or fresh young shoot or sprout of any kind.

SPEAR (2) *vb.* To sprout.

“The acorns are beginning to *spear*.” (See *Brut*.)

SPEAR [spee'r] (3) *vb.* To remove the growing shoots of potatoes.

“Mas' Chuck's, he ain't got such a terr'ble good sample of tatures as common; by what I can see, 'twill take him more time to *spear* 'em dan what 'twill to dig 'em up.”

SPECK [spek] *sb.* The iron tip or toe of a workman's boot.

SPEEN [spee'n]. (See *Spean*.)

SPEER-WORTY [spee'rwurt'i] *adj.* The liver of a rotten sheep when it is full of white knots, is said to be *speer-worty*. There is a herb called *speer-wort* [*Rangniculus lingua*, great spear-wort; R. *flammula*, lesser spear-wort], which is supposed to produce this disorder of the liver, and from thence it has its name.

SPILED [spil'd] *pp.* Spoilt. And so the proverb, “Better one house filled than two *spill'd*.”

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SPILT [spil't] *vb.* Spoilt.

“I are goin’ to git a new hat; this fell into a pail of fleet-milk that I was giving to the hogs and it got *spilt*.” — *Sittingbourne*.

SPINDLE [spin'dl] *sb.* The piece of iron which supports the wreest (or rest) of a tum-wreest plough. (See *Underspindled*.)

SPIT [spit] (1) *sb.* A double or counterpart.

“He’s the very *spit* of his brother.”

SPIT (2) *sb.* The depth of soil turned up by a spade or other tool in digging.

“The mould is so shallow that it is scarce a *spit* deep.”

SPITS [spit's] *sb. pl.* Pieces of pine-wood, about the length and thickness of a common walking-stick, on which the herrings are dried. (See *Herring-hang* and *Spit*.)

SPLASH [splash] *vb.* To make a hedge by nearly severing the live wood at the bottom, and then interweaving it between the stakes: it shoots out in the spring and makes a thick fence.

SPLUT [splut] *vb.* Past of split.

“It was *splut* when I seed it.”

SPLUTHER [spludh'ur] *vb.* To sputter.

SPOLT [spol't]. To break.

“A terr’ble gurt limb *spolted* off that old tree funder een de laane las’ night.” (See *Spalter*.)

SPONG [spong] *vb.* To sew; to mend.

“Come here and let me *spong* that slit in your gaberdin.”

SPONSIBLE [spons'ibl] *adj.* Responsible; reliable.

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SPOTTY [spot'i] *adj.* Here and there in places; uneven; scattered; uncertain; variable. Said of a thin crop.

“The beans look middlin’ *spotty* this year.”

SPRAT-LOON [sprat-loon] *sb.* The red-throated diver; a bird common on the Kentish salt waters. — *North Kent.*

SPREAD-BAT [spred-bat] *sb.* The bat or stick used for keeping the traces of a plough-horse apart.

SPRING, *sb.* A young wood; the undergrowth of wood from two to four years old.

SPRING-SHAW [spring-shau] *sb.* A strip of the young undergrowth of wood, from two to three rods wide.

SPROCKET [sprok'it] *sb.* A projecting piece often put on at the bottom or foot of a rafter to throw the water off.

1536. — “Payed for makyng *sproketts* and a grunsyll at Arnoldis . . . ij<sup>d</sup>.”

— *MS. Accounts, St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

SPROG [sprog] *sb.* A forked sprig of a tree. — *Sittingbourne.*

SPROLLUCKS [sprɒl'uks] *sb.* One who sprawls out his feet.

SPRONKY [sprɒnk'i] *adj.* Having many roots.

SPRY [sprei] (1) *sb.* A broom for sweeping the barn-floor; formerly used in the threshing of com. (See also *Frail, Scubbit, Toff-sieve.*) Allied to *sprig*.

SPRY [sprei] (2) *adj.* Smart; brisk; quick.

SPRY-FOOT [sprei-fuot], SPRAY-FOOT [sprai-fuot] *adj.* Splay foot.

SPRY-WOOD [sprei-wuod] *sb.* Small wood; spray-wood.

SPUD [spud] (1) *sb.* A garden tool for getting up weeds.

SPUD [spud] (2) *vb.* To get up weeds with a spud.

SPUR-FISH [spur-fish] *sb.* The pike dog-fish. *Spinax acanthias.* — *Folkestone.*

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SQUAB [skwɒb] (1) *sb.* A pillow; a cushion; especially the long under-cushion of a sofa.

Lewis, p. 158, in his account of the way in which Mrs. Sarah Petit laid out £146 towards the ornamenting of the parish church of S. John Baptist, Thanet, mentions,

“Cushions or *squabs* to kneel on, 05<sup>l</sup>. 08<sup>s</sup>. 00<sup>d</sup>.”

SQUAB [skwɒb] (2) *sb.* An unfledged sparrow.

SQUASHLE [skwosh 1] *vb.* To make a splashing noise.

“It was so wet, my feet *squashed* in my shoes.”

SQUAT [skwot] (1) *vb.* (i.) To make flat.

(ii.) To put a stone or piece of wood under the wheel of a carriage, to prevent its moving.

SQUAT [skwot] (2) *sb.* A wedge placed under a carriage-wheel to prevent its moving.

SQUATTED [skwotid] *pp.* Splashed with mire or dirt.

SQUIB [skwib] (1) *sb.* A squirt; a syringe.

“He stood back of the tree and skeeted water at me caterwise with a *squib*.”

SQUIB [skwib] (2) *sb.* Cuttle-fish; so called, because it squirts sepia. (See *Squib* above.) *Sepia officinalis*.

SQUIRREL-HUNTING, *sb.* A rough sport, in which people used formerly to assemble on S. Andrew’s Day (30th November), and under pretence of *hunting squirrels*, commit a good deal of poaching. It is now discontinued.

STADDLE [stad 1] *sb.* A building of timber standing on legs or *steddles*, to raise it out of the mud. Poor dwellings of this kind were formerly common enough in small fishing towns, such as Queenborough. The word occurs repeatedly in the *Queenborough Records* of the time of Queen Elizabeth, as for instance, “*De viginti sex domibus que vulgariter vocantur*, the old

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*staddeles*, or six and twentie houses.” *Staddle* is now used only for the support of a stack of corn (see *Steddle* below.) It is a derivative of the common word *stead*. Anglo-Saxon *stéde*, Icel. *stadr*, a stead, place; and Anglo-Saxon *stathol*, a foundation, Icel. *stödull*, a shed. *Stead* can still be traced in *Lynsted*, *Frinsted*, *Wrinsted*, *Bearsted*, and other names of places in Kent, and in such surnames as *Bensted*, *Maxsted*, &c.

STADEL, *sb.* The step of a ladder. (See also *Stale*, *Stath*.)

STALDER [stau’ldur] *sb.* A stillen or frame to put barrels on.

STALE [stall] *vb.* To put stales or rungs into a ladder.

1493. — “Item payde to John Robart for *stalyng* of the ladders of the church, xx<sup>d</sup>.” — *Accounts of Churchwardens of St Dunstan’s, Canterbury.*

STALES [stailz] *sb. pl.* The staves, or risings of a ladder, or the staves of a rack in a stable. From Anglo-Saxon *stael, stel*, a stalk, stem, handle. Allied to *still*, and *stall*; the *stale* being that by which the foot is kept firm.

STALKER [stau’kur] *sb.* A crab-pot, or trap made of hoops and nets. — *Folkestone.*

STAND [stand] *vb.* To stop; to be hindered. “We don’t *stand* for weather.”

STANMEL, STAMMEL, *adj.* The name given to a kind of woollen cloth of a red colour.

“It’m paied to George Hutchenson, for a yard and a half of *stanmel* cloth to make her a petticoate, at x<sup>s</sup>. vj<sup>d</sup>. the yard, xv<sup>s</sup>. ix<sup>d</sup>.” — *Sandwich Book of Orphans.*

STARF TAKE YOU, *interj. phr.* An imprecation in Kent, from Anglo-Saxon *steorfa* (a plague). “What a starf be ye got at now?” is also another use of the same word.

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START [staat] *sb.* A proceeding; a business; a set-out.

“This’s a rum *start*, I reckon.”

STARVE-NAKED [staav’-nai’kid] *adj.* Stark naked. Starved in Kent, sometimes means extremely cold, as well as extremely hungry.

STATH [stath] *sb.* A step of a ladder.

STAUNCH [stau’nsh] *vb.* To walk clumsily and heavily.

STEADY [sted’i] *adv.* and *adj.* Slow.

“I can git along middlin’ well, if I go *steady*.”

STEAN [steen], STEENE, *vb.* To line, or pave with bricks or stones. Hence the name of the *Steyne* at Folkestone and at Brighton.

In Faversham Churchyard we read, “In this *steened* grave rest the mortal remains, &c.”

STEDDLE [stedl] *sb.* A frame on which to stand anything, *e.g.*, a *bedsteddle*, *i.e.*, a bedstead; especially a framework for supporting corn stacks.

“Item in the best chamber, called the great chamber, one fayer standing *bedsteddle*.” “Item in the chamber over the buntting house, two boarded *bedsteddles*.”— *Boteler Inventory in Memorials of Eastry*, p. 224, 225.

STEEP [steep] *vb.* To make anything slope. To *steep* a stack, is to make the sides smooth and even, and to slope it up to the point of the roof.

STENT [sten't] *sb.* A word used by the oyster dredgers in North Kent, to denote that amount or number of oysters, fixed by the rules of their association, which they may dredge in one day. This quantity, or number, is much less than it would be possible to get up; hence, *stent* is probably formed from *stint*, and means, a restricted amount.

STILLEN [stil'in] *sb.* A stand for a cask, barrel, or washing-tub. (See *Stalder*.)

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STILT [stil't] *sb.* A crutch.

In 1668 we find the following entry: “For a paire of *stilts* for ye tanner, 00 3<sup>d</sup>.” — *Overseers' Accounts, Holy Cross, Canterbury*.

STINGER [sting'ur] *sb.* A jelly-fish. — *Dover*.

STINK-ALIVE [stink-ulei'v] *sb.* The whiting pout; so called because it soon becomes unfit to eat after being caught. — *Folkestone*.

STIPERS [stei'purs] *sb. pl.* The four poles at the sides of a bobbin-tug, which stand up two on each side, and keep the bobbins in their places. — *East Kent*.

STIVER [stiv'ur] *vb.* To flutter; to stagger; to struggle along.

“An so we *stivered* right acrass,

An went up by a mason's.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 50.

STOCH [stoach] *vb.* To work about in the mud and dirt; said of cattle treading the ground when it is wet.

“He's always *stochin'* about one plaace or t'other from momin' to night.”

STOCK [stok] (1) *sb.* Cattle of all sorts.

(2) The udder of a cow.

STOCK [stok] (3) *sb.* A trough; a stoup; usually in composition, as a holy water-*stock*; a brine-*stock*; a pig-*stock*. Probably so called because it was originally made by hollowing out the stock of a tree.

“For a *stock* of brass for the holy water, 7<sup>8</sup>.”— *Fuller’s History of Waltham Abbey*, p. 17.

“Item in the milke-houss, one brine-*stock*, &c.” — *Boteler Inventories*.

STOCK [stok] (4) *sb.* The back of the fireplace. And since this is generally black with soot, hence the phrase, “Black as a *stock*” is a very common one.

STOCK-BOW [stok’boa] *sb.* A cross-bow.

STOCK-LOG [stok-log] *sb.* The larger piece of wood which is laid behind the rest on a wood fire to form a back ing for it.

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STODGER [stoj’ur]. A sturdy fellow able to get about in all sorts of weather.

STODGY [stoj’i] *adj.* Thick; glutinous; muddy.

☾ “The church path’s got middlin’ *stodgy*.”

STOLDRED [stoa’ldurd] *sb.* Stealth.

1657. — “Some little corn by *stoldred* brought to town. — *Billingsley’s Brady-martyrologia*, p. 107

STOLT [stoalt] *adj.* Brisk and hearty; stout (Anglo-Saxon *stolt*, firm). This is a word in common use among poultry keepers.

“This here lot of ducks was doin’ onaccountable bad at first going off, but now they’m got quite *stolt*.”

STONE [stoan] *sb.* A weight of eight pounds.

STONE-FRUIT, *sb.* Plums, peaches, cherries, &c.

Fruit is classed as — *Hard-fruit*, apples and pears. *Stone-fruit*, as above, and *Low-fruit*, gooseberries, currants, &c.

STONE-REACH, *sb.* A portion of stony field, where the stones for a considerable distance lie very much thicker than in any other part. These *stone-reaches* are fast disappearing in East Kent; the stones have been so thoroughly

gathered off the fields, that stones for road purposes are scarce, and have risen considerably in price during the last twenty years.

STOTCH [stoch] *vb.* To tread wet land into holes. (See *Stoch, Poach.*)

STOUNDED, *adj.* Astonished.

STOVE [stoa'v] *vb.* To dry in an oven.

STOW [stoa]. Same as the above.

STOW-BOATING [stoa-but'in] *vb.* Dredging up stone at sea for making Roman cement.

STRAIGHT [strait] *adj.* Grave; serious; solemn; shocked; often used in phrase, "To look straight," *i.e.*, to look grave or shocked.

“He looked purty *straight* over it, I can tell ye.”

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STRAMMERLY [stram'urly] *adj.* Awkwardly; ungainly.

STRANDS, *sb. pl.* The dry bents of grass run to seed.

STRAY [strai] *sb.* A winding creek.

STRIKING-PLOUGH, *sb.* A sort of plough used in some parts of Kent.

STRICKLE [strikl'1] *sb.* A striker, with which the heaped-up measure is struck off and made even. The measure thus evened by the *strickle* is called race measure, *i.e.*, razed measure.

STRIG [strig] (1) *sb.* The footstalk of any flower or fruit, as the *strigs* of currants, gooseberries, &c.; the string of a button.

“Now doan't 'ee put the cherry-*strig* in's mouth.”

STRIG (2) *vb.* To take the fruit from off the stalk or *strig*; as to *strig* currants, gooseberries, &c.

“Will you help me *strig* these currants?”

STRIKE [streik] (1) *sb.* The same as *Strickle* above.

STRIKE [streik] (2) *vb.* “To *strike* a bucket,” is to draw a full bucket towards the side of the well as it hangs by the chain of the windlass, and land it safely on the well-side.

STRIKE [streik] (3) *vb.* To melt down, to re-cast, and so make smooth (as of wax).

One sense of *strike*, is to stroke; to make smooth.

1485. — “Item for *strykyng* of the pascall and the font taper, ij<sup>8</sup>, iij<sup>d</sup>.”

— *Churchwardens’ Accounts, St. Dunstan’s, Canterbury.*

STRIKE-BAULK [streik-bauk] *vb.* To plough one furrow and leave another.

STRIP-SHIRT [strip’shur’t] *adv.* In shirt sleeves, A man is said to be working *strip-shirt* when he has his coat and waistcoat off.

STROKE-BIAS [stroak’bei’us] *sb.* An old sport peculiar to Kent, and especially the eastern part of the county;

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it consisted of trials of speed between members of two or more villages, and from the description of it given in *Brome’s Travels over England* (1700), it appears to have borne some resemblance to the game of prisoners’ base.

STROOCH [stroo’ch] *vb.* To drag the feet along the ground in walking.

“Now then! How long be ye goin’ to be? D’ye think the train ‘ll wait for ye? *Stroochin* along!”

STUB [stub] (1) *vb.* The stump of a tree or plant.

“Ye’ll find a pretty many *stubs* about when ye gets into de wood. Ye must look where ye be goin’.”

STUB [stub] (2) *vb.* To grub up; used of taking up the stubble from a field, or of getting up the roots of a tree from the ground.

STUD [stud] (1) *vb.* A stop; a prop; a support. The feet on which a trug-basket stands are called *studs*.

STUD [stud] (2) *sb.* The name given to a row of small trees cut off about two feet from the ground, and left to sprout so as to form a boundary line. (See *Dole*.)

STULPE [stuolp] *sb.* A post; especially a short stout post put down to mark a boundary. Sometimes also spelt *stoop* and *stolpe*.

1569. — “Ij greate talle shydes for *stulpes*, iiij<sup>d</sup>.” — *Accounts, St. Dunstan’s, Canterbury.*

STUNT [stunt] *adj.* Sullen; dogged; obstinate.

STUPPIN [stup'in], Stupen [stup-in] *sb.* A stew-pan or skillet.

STUPPNET [stup'nit] *sb.* A stew-pan or skillet. (See *Stuppin* above.)

In *Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226, amongst other kitchen furniture, we find, "Fower *stuppnetts*, five brass candlesticks, five spitts, &c."

"In the *Sandwich Book of Orphans*, it is spelled *stugpenet*."

"It. Rc'd for a brass *stugpenet*, 00 02 00."

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STURM [sturm] *adj.* Stern; morose.

SULING [seu'ling], SULLING [sul'ing], SOLIN [solin] *sb.* A Domesday measure of land which occurs only in that part of the *Domesday Record* which relates to Kent. It is supposed to contain the same quantity of land as a carucate. This is as much land as may be tilled and laboured with one plough, and the beasts belonging thereto, in a year; having meadow, pasture and houses for the householders and cattle belonging to it. The hide was the measure of land in the reign of the Confessor; the carucate, that to which it was reduced in the Conqueror's new standard. From Anglo-Saxon *sulky* a plough.

"The Archbishop himself holds Eastry. It was taxed at seven *sulings*." — *Domesday Book*.

SULLAGE [sul'ij], SUILLAGE [swil'ij] *sb.* Muck; dung; sewage; dirty water.

1630. — "To the Prior and his sonne for caryinge out the duste and *sullage* out of Sr. [Sister] Pett's house . . . . vj<sup>d</sup>. — MS. *Accounts, St. John's Hospital, Canterbury*.

SUM [sum] *vb.* To reckon; to cast up accounts; to learn arithmetic. So the French *sommer*.

SUMMER-LAND [sum'r-land] *sb.* Ground that lies fallow all the summer.

SUMP [sum'p] *sb.* A small cove; a muddy shallow. The Upper and Lower *Sump* in Faversham Creek, are small coves near its mouth where fishing vessels can anchor. The word is the same as swamp.

SUMMUT [sum`ut] *sb.* Something.

SUNDAYS AND WORK-DAYS, *i.e.*, all his time; altogether.

A phrase used when a man's whole time is taken up by any necessary duties.

“*Sundays or worky-days* is all one to him.”

SUN-DOG [sun-dog] *sb.* A halo round the sun; seen when the air is very moist; generally supposed to foretell the approach of rain. The same as *Sun-hound*.

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SUN-HOUND, *sb.* Same as the above.

SUPM [sup`m] *sb.* Something.

“I sed ta her ‘what books dere be,

Dare’s *supm* ta be sin;’

Den she turn’d round and sed to me,

☾ ‘Suppose we do go in.’”

☾ — *Dick and Sal*, st 55.

SURELYE [sheu`rlei] *adv.* Surely.

“Well, that ain’t you, is it? *Surelye!*”

SWALLOWS [swal`oaz] *sb. pl.* Places where a stream enters the earth and runs underground for a space, were formerly so called in the parish of Bishopsbourne.

SWAP [swop] (1) *vb.* To reap with a swap-hook.

SWAP [swop] (2) *sb.*, or Swap-hook [swop-huok] *sb.* An implement used for reaping peas, consisting of part of a scythe fastened to the end of a long handle.

SWART [swaurt], SWARTH [swaurth] (Anglo-Saxon *swært*) *adj.* Of a dark colour.

“The wheat looks very *swarth*.”

SWARVE [swor`v] *vb.* To fill up; to be choked with sediment. When the channel of a river or a ditch becomes choked up with any sediment deposited by the water running into it, it is said to *swarve* up.

SWATCH [swoch] (1) *sb.* A channel, or water passage, such as that between the Goodwin Sands.

“As to the Goodwin, it is by much the largest of them all, and is divided into two parts, though the channel or *swatch* betwixt them is not navigable, except by small boats.” — *Lewis*, p. 170.

SWATCH [swoch] (2) *vb.* A wand.

SWATCHEL [swoch'1] *vb.* To beat with a *swatch* or wand.

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SWATH [swau'th], Swarth [swau'rth], Sweath [swee'th] *sb.* A row of grass or corn, as it is laid on the ground by the mowers.

“And there the strawy Greeks, ripe for his edge,  
Fall down before him like the mower's *swath*.”

— *Shakespeare* — *Troilus and Cressida*, act v. sc. 5.

SWAY [swai] *sb.* To carry the *sway*, is to excel in anything; to be the best man.

“No matter what 'twas, mowin', or rippin', or crickut, or anything, 'twas all the same, I always carried the *sway*, time I was a young chap.”

SWEAL [sweel] *vb.* To singe a pig.

SWEEPS [sweep's], SWIPS [swip's] *sb. pl.* The sails of a windmill.

SWEET-LIQUOR [sweet-lik'r] *sb.* Wort; new beer unfermented, or in the process of fermentation.

SWEET-WORT, *sb.* Same as the above.

SWELKED, *pp.* Overcome by excessive heat.

SWELTRY, *adj.* Sultry; excessively close and hot.

SWIFTS [swift's] *sb. pl.* The arms, or sails of a windmill. (See *Sweeps*.)

SWILLING-LAND, *sb.* A plough land. Same as *Suling*.

SWIMY [swei'mi], SWIMMY [swim'i], SWIMMY-HEADED [swim'i-hed'id] *adj.*

Giddy; dizzy; faint. (Anglo-Saxon *swima*, a swoon; swimming in the head.)

“I kep' on a lookin' at de swifts a gooin' raöund and raöund till it made me feel quite *swimy*, it did.”

SWINGEL [swinjʊl] *sb.* The upper part of the flail which swings to and fro and beats the corn out of the ear. (Anglo-Saxon *swingel*, a beater.)

SWISH-ALONG [swish-ulong] *vb.* To move with great quickness.

SWOT [swot] *sb.* Soot.

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T.

TAANT [taa'nt, taa'unt] *adj.* Out of proportion; very high or tall. This is a nautical word, usually applied to the masts of a ship.

TACK [tak] *sb.* An unpleasant taste.

TAFFETY [tafi'ti] *adj.* Squeamish; dainty; particular about food. — *East Kent.*

TAG [tag] *sb.* *Tagge*, a sheep of the first year.

TAKE [taik] *vb.* A redundant use is often made of this word, as “He’d better by half *take* and get married.” — *East Kent.*

TALLY [tal'i] *sb.* A stick, on which the number of bushels picked by the hop-picker is reckoned, and noted by means of a notch cut in it by the tallyman.

TALLYMAN [tal'imun] *sb.* The man who takes the tallies, notches them, and so keeps account of the number of bushels picked by the hop-pickers.

TAMSIN [tam'zin] *sb.* A little clothes’ horse, or frame, to stand before a fire to warm a shirt or a shift, or child’s linen. *Tamsen*, *Thomasin*, *Thomasine*, is a woman’s name, and is here used as though the “horse” did the work of the servant of that name. For the same reason it is otherwise called a maid, or maiden. It is not only called *Tamsin*, but Jenny, Betty, Molly, or any other maiden name; and if it is very small it is called a girl.

TAN [tan] (1) *sb.* The bark of a young oak.

TAR-GRASS [taa'graas] *sb.* The wild vetch. *Vicia cracca*.

TARNAL [taa'nl] *adj.* A strong expletive, really “eternal,” used to denote something very good or very bad, generally the latter.

“Dare was a *tarnal* sight of meat.”

— *Dick and Sal*, st 62.

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TAS [tas], or TARSE [taas] *sb.* A mow of corn.

In Old English *taas* was any sort of heap.

“An hundred knyghtes slain and dead, alas!

That after were founden in the *taas*. “

— *Chaucer, Troilas and Cressede*, 1. iv. c. 30.

TASS-CUTTER [tas-cut'r] *sb.* An implement with which to cut hay in the stack.

TATTER [tat'r], TATTERY [tat'ur'i] *adj.* (i.) Ragged, (ii.) Cross; peevish; ill-tempered; ill-natured.

“The old ‘ooman’s middlin’ *tatter* to-day, I can tell ye.”

TATTY [tat'i] *adj.* Testy. (See above.)

TAULEY [tau'li] *sb.* A taw or marble.

TEAM [teem] *sb.* A litter of pigs or a brood of ducks.

TEAR-RAG [tair-r'ag] *sb.* A rude, boisterous child; a romp; one who is always getting into mischief and tearing his clothes, hence the name. — *East Kent*.

TED [ted] *vb.* To make hay, by tossing it about and spreading it in the sun.

1523. — “For mowyng and *teddyng* of y<sup>e</sup> garden, xij<sup>d</sup>.”

— *Accounts of St, John’s Hospital, Canterbury*.

TEDIOUS [tee'jus] *adj.* and *adv.* Acute; violent; excessive; “*tedious* bad;” “*tedious* good.” Also, long, but not necessarily wearisome, as we now commonly understand the word.

“Within me grief hath kept a *tedious* fast.” — *Shakespeare — Richard II.*  
act ii. sc. 1.

“He sed dare was a teejus fair

Dat lasted for a wick.” — *Dick and Sal, st 8*.

TEEN [teen] *vb.* To make a hedge with raddles.

1522. — “Paied for *tenying* of a hedge [*i.e.*, trimming it], yj<sup>d</sup>.” — *MS. Accounts, St. John’s Hospital, Canterbury*.

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TEENER [tee'nur], TENER, *sb.* A man who *teens* or keeps in order a raddle-fence.

1616. — “For bread and drink for the *teners* and wood-makers.”

— *MS. Accounts St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

TEES [teez] *sb. pl.* A part of a cart-horse's harness; the draughts which are fixed to the hem woods of the collar and to the rods of the cart. — *East Kent.* (Literally, ties.)

TEG, *sb.* A sheep of the first year. (See *Tag.*)

TELL [tel] *vb.* To count. “Here's the money, will you *tell* it out on the table?” The *teller* in the House of Commons is one who counts the number of members as they go into the lobby.

“And every shepherd *tells* his tale

Under the hawthorn in the vale.” — *Gray's Elegy.*

TENTER-GROUND [tent'r-grou'nd] *sb.* Ground where *tenterhooks* were placed in former times for stretching skins, linen, &c.

TERRIBLE [ter'bl or tar'bl] *adv.* Extremely; exceedingly.

“He's a *terrible* kind husband, and no mistake.”

“Frost took tops *terrible*, but 'taint touched t' roots o' taters.”

TERRIFY [terr'ifei] *vb.* To annoy; to tease; to disturb. A bad cough is said to be “very *terrifying*.” And the flies are said “to *terrify* the cattle.” The rooks also “*terrify* the beans.”

TETAW [tet'au] *sb.* A simpleton; a fool.

THAT [dhat] *adv.* So; to such a degree.

“I was *that* mad with him, I could have scratched his eyes out.”

“He's *that* rude, I doant know whatever I shall do with him.”

THEM [dhem] *phr.* Contraction from *they'm*, *i.e.*, they am.

“How be um all at home?” “*Them* all well, without 'tis mother, and she be tedious bad wid' de brown titus. “ (See *Am.*)

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THICK THUMB'D [thik'thumd] *adj.* Sluttish; untidy; clumsy.

THIS-HERE, *den. pron.* This. (An intensive form.)

“That there man was a sittin’ on *this-’ere* wery chair, when, all of a sudden, down he goos in one of these ‘ere plexicle fits. ‘Who’d ‘ave thoft it!’ said the missus.”

THOFT [thoft] *vb.* Thought.

THOVE [thoa v] *vb.* Stole. (The perfect tense of thieve.)

THREDDLE [thred l] *vb.* To thread a needle.

THRIBLE [thrib l] *adj.* Trebl; threefold.

THRO [throa] *prep.* Fro; from.

THROT [throt] *sb.* Throat.

“He’s *throt* was that bad all last week, that he was troubled to go to and thro to work.”

THROWS [throaz] *sb.* A thoroughfare; a public way. The four-*throws*, a point where four roads meet.

THUNDERBUG [thun durbug] *sb.* A midge.

“The *thunderbugs* did terrify me so, that I thought I should have been forced to get up and goo out of church.”

THURROCK [thur r’uk] *sb.* A wooden drain under a gate; a small passage or wooden tunnel through a bank.

In Sheppy, if the hares gain the refuge of a *thurrock*, before the greyhounds can catch them, they are considered to have gained sanctuary and are not molested. (See *Pinnock*.)

TICKLER [tik lur] *adj.* Particular.

“I lay he’s not so *tickler* as all that.”

TIDE [teid] *sb.* The tith. This is a remarkable instance of the way in which *th* is converted into *d* in Kent, as *wid* for with, &c.

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TIDY [tei di] *adv.* Considerable. “A *tidy* few,” means a good number.

“It’s a *tidy* step right down to the house, I lay.”

TIE [tei] *sb.* A foot-race between two competitors. The expression, “Ride and *tie*,” is commonly interpreted to mean, that when two people have one horse, the first rides a certain distance and then dismounts for the second to get up, so that they always *tie* or keep together.

“Sir Dudley Diggs, in 1638, left the yearly sum of £20, to be paid to two young men and two maids, who, on May 19th, yearly, should run a *tie* at Old Wives’ Lees, in Chilham, and prevail. The lands, from the rent of which the prize was paid, were called the *Running Lands*.” —*Hasted, ii.* 787.

TIE-TAILS [tei'tailz] *sb. pl.* Herrings, which being gillbroken cannot be hung up by their heads; they are therefore tied on the spits by their tails. Though they are just as good eating as the others, they fetch less money; and when I was in the hang, a tiny child came in and addressed the burly owner thus, “Please, sir, mother wants a farthing’s worth of *tie-tails* for her tea.” She got two or three, and some broken scraps into the bargain. — *F. Buckland.*

— *Curiosities of Natural History*, 2nd series, p. 274.

TIGHTISH LOT [tei'tish lot] *phr.* A good many. (See also *Tidy*.)

TIGHT-UP, *vb.* Make tidy. (*Dight*.)

“My missus has gone to *tight-up*.”

TILL [til] *adj.* Tame; gentle.

TILLER [til'ur] *sb.* An oak sapling, or other young timber tree of less than six inches and a quarter in girth. In other places it is called *teller*. Anglo-Saxon *telgor*, a branch, a twig.

TILT [til't] (1) *sb.* The moveable covering of a cart or wagon; generally made of sail-cloth or canvas.

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TILT [til't], TILTH [tilth] (2) *sb.* Condition of arable land.

“He has a good *tilth*,” or, “His land is in good *tilth*.”

TILTER (out-of) *sb.* Out of order; out of condition.

“He’s left that farm purty much out o’ *tilter*, I can tell ye.”

TIMANS [teimunz] *sb. pl.* Dregs, or grounds poured out of the cask after the liquor is drawn off. Literally *teemings*, from the Middle-English word *temen*, to pour out, to empty a cask.

TIMBERSOME, *adj.* Tiresome; troublesome.

TIME-O'-DAY [teim-u-dai] *sb.* "To pass the *time-o'-day*," is to salute a person whom you chance to meet on the road, with "Good-morning;" "A fine day;" "Good- night," &c.

"I an't never had no acquaintance wid de man, not no more than just to pass de *time-o'-day*."

TIMMY [tim'i] *adj.* Fretful. (See *Timbersome*, from which this is probably abbreviated.)

TIMNAIL [tim'nail] *sb.* A vegetable-marrow. — *East Kent.*

TINE [tein] (1) *sb.* The tooth, or prong of a rake, harrow, or fork.

TINE [tein] (2) *vb.* To shut; to fence.

TIPTOE [tip'toa] *sb.* An extinguisher. — *West Kent.*

TIP-TONGUED [tip-tung'd] *adj.* Inarticulate; indistinct in utterance; lispings.

☾ "He tarks so *tip-tongued* since he've come back from Lunnon, we can't make nothin' o' what he says otherwhile."

TIRYEN [tir'yun] *sb.* An anagrammatical form of Trinity. Thus, "*Tiryen Church*," Trinity Church. — *East Kent.*

TISSICK [tis'ik] *sb.* A tickling cough.

TISICKY, *adj.* Tickling. "A *tisicky* cough."

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TITHER [tith'ur] *vb.* To trifle; e.g., to *tither* about, is to waste time.

TIVER [tiv'ur] *sb.* Red ochre for marking sheep.

TO-AND-AGIN [too-und-u'gin] *prep. phr.* Backwards and forwards; to and fro.

"Ah, I likes to goo to church o' Sundays, I doos; I likes to set an' look at de gurt old clock, an' see de old pendylum goo *to-and-agin*; *to-and-agin*; *to-and-agin*, all de while."

TOAR [toar] *sb.* Long, coarse, sour grass in fields that are understocked.

TOBIT, *sb.* A measure of half a bushel. (See *Tovet.*)

TOFET or TOVET [tof'it or tov'it] *sb.* (See above.)

TOFF [tau'f] *sb.* The pods of peas, and the ears of wheat and barley, after they have been threshed. — *East Kent.* (See *Cavin.*)

TOFF-SIEVE [tauf-siv], TOFT-SIEVE [tau'ft-siv] *sb.* A screen or sieve for cleaning wheat.

TOFT [toft] *sb.* A messuage; a dwelling-house with the adjacent buildings and curtilage, and the adjoining lands appropriate to the use of the household; a piece of ground on which a messuage formerly stood.

TO IT [too't or tu'ut] *phr.* Omitting the verb *do*, which is understood. Remind a Kentish man of something he has been told to do, but which you see is still undone, and the chances are he will reply, "I'm just a going *to it*," *i.e.*, I am just going to do it.

TOLL [toal] *sb.* A clump; a row; generally applied to trees; so a rock-*toll*, is a rookery.

“There was a *toll* of trees at Knowlton which was blown down in the great November gale.”

TOLVET [tolv'it] *sb.* (See *Tovet.*)

1522. — “Paied for vj busshellis and a *tolvett* of grene esen, price the bushell, x<sup>d.</sup>, sm., v<sup>s.</sup> v<sup>d.</sup>” — *Accounts of St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

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TOM *sb.* A cock.

“I bought a *tom* and three hens off old farmer Chucks last spring, but I never made but very little out of 'em before the old fox came round.”

TOMMY [tom'i] *sb.* A workman's luncheon.

“One of these here pikeys come along and stole my *tommy*, he did.”

TON [tun], TUN, *sb.* The great vat wherein the beer is worked before it is *tunned*, or cleansed.

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

“Item in the brewhouse, two brewinge *tonns*, one coolbacke, two fornisses, fower tubes with other lumber, *vj*<sup>li</sup>. *xiiij*<sup>8</sup>.” —*Boteler Inventory, in Memorials of Eastry*, p. 238.

TONGUE [tung] (1) *vb.* To use the tongue in a pert, saucy and rude way; to scold; to abuse.

“Sarcy little hussey! I told her she shouldn’t go out no more of evenings; and fancy, she just did turn round and *tongue* me, she did.”

TONGUE [tung] (2) *sb.* The projecting part of the cowl of an oast, which causes it to turn round when acted on by the wind.

TOOAD [too`ud] *sb.* A toad.

TOOAT [too`ut] *sb.* All; an entirety.

“The whole *toaat* av’t.” (? the total.)

TORF [tauf] *sb.* Chaff that is raked off the com, after it it is threshed, but before it is cleaned. (See *Toff*.)

TORTOISE [tau`tus] *sb.* The cuttle-fish. — *Folkestone*.

TOTHER DAY [tudh`r dai] *sb.* The day before yesterday. A most correct expression, because *other*, in Early English, invariably means second, and the day before yesterday is the second day, reckoning backwards. It is remarkable that second is the only ordinal number of French derivation; before the thirteenth century it was unknown, and *other* was used instead of it.

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TOVET [tov`it] *sb.* Half a bushel. (See *Tofet*.) Etymologically, *vet* is here the Anglo-Saxon *fatu*, pl. of *faet*, a vessel, a native word now supplanted by the Dutch word *vat*. A *vat* is now used of a large vessel, but the Anglo-Saxon *faet* was used of a much smaller one. In the present case, it evidently meant a vessel containing a peck. The Middle-English *e* represents the Anglo-Saxon *æ*.

TOVIL [toa`vil] *sb.* A measure of capacity. This word looks like a corruption of *two-fill*, *i.e.*, two fillings of a given measure.

TO-YEAR [tu`yur`] *adv.* This year; as, *to-day* is this day.

TRACK [trak] *vb.* To tread down; mark out the road; as is the case with a snow-covered road, if there has been much traffic on it. At times, after a heavy fall of snow, you may hear a person say, "I couldn't get on, the snow isn't *tracked* yet."

TRAY RING [traai ring] *sb.*, TRAY WEDGE [traai wedj] *sb.* The fastenings by which the scythe is secured to its bat.

TREAD [traid, or tred] *sb.* A wheel-tread; a rut; a track. Called in Sussex the *trade* [traid].

TREDDLES [tred'lz] *sb. pl.* The droppings of sheep.

TREVET [triv'it] *sb.* A trivet; a three-legged stand whereon to set a tea-kettle, or saucepan. "As right as a *trivet*," because, unless the *trivet* be placed just upright, it will lob, or tilt over. Literally, "three feet." Compare *Tovet*, "two vats."

"Ite. in the kitchen, seavin brass kettells . . . two greedyrons, one *trivett* with other lumber there, &c."—*Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226.

TRILL [tril] *vb.* To trundle a hoop, &c.

TROLE [troa'l] *vb.* To trundle a hoop.

TROUBLED TO GO [trub'ld tu goa] *phr.* Hardly able to get about and do one's work.  
"Many time he's that bad, he's *troubled to go*."

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TRUCKLEBED [truk'l-bed] *sb.* Abed that runs on *truckles*, or low-running' wheels, *i.e.*, castors, and is thus easily run in and out under another and higher bed. In the day-time the *trucklebed* was stowed away under the chief bed in the room, and at night was occupied by a servant or child. Hence, the word is used contemptuously of an underling or low bred person.

"Yees, ya shall pay, ya *trucklebed*;  
Ya buffle-headed ass;  
I know 'twas ya grate pumpkin 'ead.  
First blunnered thro' de glass."

TRUG [trug], TRUGG, *sb.* A kind of basket, much used by gardeners and others; formed of thin slivers of wood, with a fixed handle in the middle, somewhat like the handle of a bucket, and with studs at the bottom to keep it steady. (See also *Sliver*, *Stud*.) Etymologically connected with (or the same word as) *trough*.

“Ite. in the mylke house, a bryne stock, a table, two dowsin of bowles and *truggs*, three milk keelars, two charnes, a mustard quearne with other lumber, then prized at xx<sup>8</sup>.” — *Boteler Inventory, Memorials of Eastry*, p. 226. (See also p. 228.)

TRULL [trul] *vb.* To trundle. (See *Trole*.)

TRUSH [trush] *sb.* A hassock for kneeling in church. In the old *Churchwarden's Accounts* for the parish of Eastry the entry frequently occurs, “To mending the *trushes*;” and the word is still occasionally used.

TRUSSEL, *sb.* A tressel; a barrel-stand.

TRY [trei] *vb.* To boil down lard. (See *Browsells*.)

TUG [tug] *sb.* The body of a wagon, without the hutch; a carriage for conveying timber, bobbins, &c. (See *Bobbin-tug*.)

TUKE [teuk] *sb.* The redshank; a very common shore-bird on the Kentish saltings. — *Sittingbourne*.

TUMBLING-BAY [tumb'ling-bai] *sb.* A cascade, or small waterfall. — *West Kent*.

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TUMP [tump] *sb.* A small hillock; a mound, or irregular rising on the surface of the pastures. Often, indeed nearly always, an old ant-hill. — *Sittingbourne*.

“Ye caan't make nothin' o' mowin', all de while dere's so many o' dese here gurt old *tumps* all over de plaäce.”

TUNNEL [tun'l] *sb.* A funnel for pouring liquids from one vessel into another.

TURN-WRIST-PLOUG [pro., turn-rees-plou] *sb.* A Kentish plough, with a movable mould-board.

TUSSOME [tus'um] *sb.* Hemp or flax. — *West Kent.*

TWANG, *sb.* A peculiar flavour; a strong, rank, unpleasant taste; elsewhere called a *tack*.

TWEAN-WHILES [twee'n-weilz] *adv.* Between times.

TWIBIL [twei'bil] *sb.* A hook for cutting beans. Literally, "double bill."

TWINGE [twinj] *sb.* An ear-wig.

TWINK, *sb.* A sharp, shrewish, grasping woman.

"Ye've got to get up middlin' early if ye be goin' to best her, I can tell ye; proper old *twink*, an' no mistake!"

TWITTER [twit'r] (1) *vb.* To twit; to tease.

TWITTER [twit'r] (2) *sb.* A state of agitation; a flutter. Thus, "I'm all in a *twitter*," means, I'm all in a flutter, or fluster.

TWO [too] *adj.* "My husband will be *two* men," *i.e.*, so different from himself; so angry, that he won't seem to be the same person.

TYE [tei], Tie, *sb.* An extensive common pasture. Such as Waldershare *Tie*; Old Wives' Lees *Tie*.

1510. — "A croft callid Wolnes *Tie*." — *MS. Accounts, St. Dunstan's Canterbury.*

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## U.

UMBLEMENT [umb'ulumunt] *sb.* Complement.

"Throw in another dozen to make up the *umblement*." — *Hundred of Hoo.*

UNACCOUNTABLE [un'ukount'ubl] *adj.* and *adv.* Wonderful; excessive; exceedingly.

"You've been gone an *unaccountable* time, mate."

UNCLE-OWL [unk'l-oul] *sb.* A species of skate. — *Folkestone.*

UNCOUS [un'kus] *adj.* Melancholy. (See *Unky*.)

UNDERNEAD [un'durneed'] *prep.* Underneath.

"Den on we went, and soon we see

A brick place where instead

A bein' at top as 't ought to be,

De road ran *undernead*." — *Dick and Sal*, st. 46.

UNDER-SPINDLED [und'r-spind'ld] *adj.* Under-manned and under-horsed, used of a man who has not sufficient capital or stock to carry on his business.

In Sussex the expression is *under-exed*; *ex* being an axle.

UNFORBIDDEN [un'furbid'n] *adj.* Uncorrected; spoiled; unrestrained; troublesome.

"He's an *unforbidden* young mortal."

UNGAIN [ungain'] *adj.* Awkward; clumsy; loutish.

"He's so very *ungain*."

UNHANDY [unhand'i] *adj.* Inconvenient; difficult of access.

! "Ya see 'tis a werry *unhandy* pleace, so fur away fro' shops."

UNKY [un'ki] *adj.* Lonely; solitary; melancholy. (See *Ellinge*.)

"Don't you feel a bit *unky* otherwhile, livin' down here all alone, without ne'er a neighbour nor no one to come anigh?"

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UNLEVEL [unlev'l] *adj.* Uneven; rough.

UNLUCKY [unluk'i] *adj.* Mischievous.

"That child's terr'ble *unlucky* surelye! He's always sum'ers or 'nother, and into somethin'."

UNTHRUM [unthrum'] *adj.* Awkward; unhandy.

UPGROWN [up'groan] *adj.* Grown up. "He must be as old as that, because he's got upgrown daughters." (See *Foreright*.) — *East Kent*.

UPSET [upset'] *vb.* To scold.

"I *upset* her pretty much o' Sunday mornin', for she kep' messin' about till she got too late for church."

UPSETTING [upset'in] *sb.* A scolding.

"His missus give him a good *upsettin'*, that she did."

UPSTAND [up-stand] *vb.* To stand up.

“That the members shall address the chair and speak *upstanding*.” —  
*Rules of Eastry Cottage Gardeners’ Club*.

UPSTANDS [up’standz] *sb. pl.* Live trees or bushes cut breast high to serve as marks for boundaries of parishes, estates, &c.

UPWARD [up’wurd] *adj.* The wind is said to be *upward* when it is in the north, and downward when it is in the south. The north is generally esteemed the highest part of the world.

*Cæsar’s Commentary*, iv. 28, where “*inferiorem partem insulæ*” means the south of the island; and again, V. 13, “*inferior ad meridiem spectat*.”

URGE [urj] *vb.* To annoy; aggravate; provoke.

“It *urges* me to see anyone go on so.”

USE [euz] (1) *vb.* To work or till land; to hire it.

“Who *uses* this farm?” “He *uses* it himself,” *i.e.*, he keeps it in his own hands and farms it himself.

To *use* money is to borrow it.

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USE [euz] (2) *vb.* To accustom.

“It’s what you *use* ‘em to when they be young.”

USE-POLE [euz-poyal] *sb.* A pole thicker than a hop-pole, and strong enough to use for other purposes.

## V.

VALE [vail] *sb.* A water-rat; called elsewhere a *vole*.

VAMPISHNESS, *sb.* Frowardness; perverseness.

VAST [vaast] *adv.* Very; exceedingly. This word is often used of small things: “It is *vast* little.” “Others of *vastly* less importance.”

VIGILOUS [vij’ilus] *adj.* Vicious, of a horse; also fierce, angry.

VILL-HORSE [vil’urs] *sb.* The horse that goes in the rods, shafts, or thills. The *vill*-horse is the same as the *fill-horse*, or *thill-horse*.

VINE [vein] *sb.* A general name applied to the climbing bine of several plants, which are distinguished from one another by the specific name being prefixed, as the *grape-vine*, *hop-vine*, &c. (See *Grape-vine*.)

W.

WACKER [wak'ur] (1) *adj.* Active "He's a *wacker* little chap." (2) Angry; wrathful.  
"Muster Jarret was *wacker* at his bull getting into the turnip field."  
Anglo-Saxon, *wacor*, vigilant.

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WAG [wag] *vb.* To stir; to move. The phrase, "The dog *wags* his tail," is common enough everywhere; but to speak of *wagging* the whole body, the head, the tongue, or the hand, is local. "There he goes *wagging* along."

☪ "Everyone that passeth by her shall hiss and *wag* his hand." — Zeph. ii.  
☪ 15.

WAI [wai] *vb.* Word of command to a cart-horse, meaning  
"Come to the near side." — *East Kent*.

WAISTCOAT [wes'kut] *sb.* This word, now restricted to a man's garment, was formerly given to an under-coat worn by either sex. (See *Petticoat*.)

"Item more paid (for Thomasine Millians) to George Hutchenson for iiij. yardes of clothe to make her a petticote and a *waste cote*, at ij<sup>8</sup>. vj<sup>d</sup>. the yarde . . . x<sup>8</sup>." — *Sandwich Book of Orphans*.

WAKERELL [wai'kur'ul or wak'ur'ul] BELL, *sb.* The waking bell, or bell for calling people in the early morning, still rung at Sandwich at five a.m.

"Item for a rope for the *wakerrel* . . . . iij<sup>d</sup>."  
— *Churchwardens' Accounts, St. Dunstan's, Canterbury*, A.D. 1485.

It was otherwise called the *Wagerell* bell, and the *Wakeryng* bell.

WALE [wail] *sb.* A tumour or large swelling.

WALLER'D [wol'urd] *sb.* The wind.

"De Folkston gals looked houghed black,

Old *waller*'d roar'd about." — *Dick and Sal*, st. 23.

And again —

"De sun and sky begun look bright,

An *waller*'d stopt his hissin'." — St. 25.

WAN [wan] *sb.* A wagon, not necessarily a van, as generally understood. —  
*Sittingbourne*.

WANKLE [wonk'l] *adj.* Sickly; generally applied to a child. A man said of his wife  
that she was "a poor *wankle* creature."

WAPS [wops] *sb.* A wasp. So *haps* for *hasp*, &c.

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WARP [waup] *sb.* Four things of any kind; as a *warp* of herrings.

WARPS [waups] *sb. pl.* Distinct pieces of ploughed land separated by the furrows.

WARP-UP [wau'p-up] *vb.* To plough land in *warps*, *i.e.*, with ten, twelve or more  
ridges, on each side of which a furrow is left to carry off the water.

WAR WAPS [waur'wops] *phr.* Look out; beware.

WASH [wosh] (1) *sb.* A basket used at Whitstable for measuring wheelks, and  
containing about half a prickle, or ten strikes of oysters. Amongst the rates  
and dues of Margate Pier, Lewis gives, "For every *wash* of oysters, 3d." A  
prickle is twenty strikes, a strike is four bushels.

WASH [wosh] (2), WASH-WAY [wosh-wai] *sb.* Narrow paths cut in the woods to  
make the cants in a woodfall, A fall of ten acres would probably be *washed*  
into six or seven cants.

"You've no call to follow the main-track; keep down this here *wash-way*  
for about ten rods and you'll come right agin him."

WASH [wosh] (3) *vb.* To mark out with *wash-ways*.

WASTES [wai'sts] *vb.* Waste lands.

WATER-BURN [waa'tur-burn] *sb.* The phosphorescent appearance of the sea.

It is much disliked by the herring-yawlers, as the cunning fish can then see  
the net and will not go into it. — *F. Buckland*.

WATER-GALLS [waa'tur-gaulz] *sb. pl.* Jelly-fish. — *Dover*.

WATER-TABLE [waa'tur-tai'bl] *sb.* The little ditch at the side of the road, or a small indentation across a road, for carrying off the water.

WATTLE [wot'l] *sb.* A hurdle made like a gate of split wood, used for folding sheep.

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WATTLE-GATES [wot'l-gaits] *sb. pl.* Same as the above.

WAUR [waur], WAURE, *sb.* Sea-wrack; a marine plant (*Zostera marina*), much used for manure. (See *Oare.*) Anglo-Saxon, *war*, *waar*. "Alga, *waar*;" Corpus Glossary (8th century).

WAX-DOLLS [waks-dolz] *sb.* *Fumaria officinalis*. So called from the doll-like appearance of its little flowers.

WAY-GRASS, *sb.* A weed; knot-grass. *Polygonum aviculare*.

WEALD [wee'ld] *sb.* The *Weald* of Kent is the wood, or wooded part of Kent, which was formerly covered with forest, but is now for the most part cultivated.

WEASEL-SNOUT [wee'zl-snout] *sb.* The toad flax. *Linaria vulgaris*.

WEATHER, *sb.* Bad weather.

"'Tis middlin' fine now; but there's eversomuch *weather* coming up."

WELFING [welf'in] *sb.* The covering of a drain.

WELTER [welt'ur] *vb.* To wither.

"The leaves begin to *welter*."

WENCE [wens'] *sb.* The centre of cross-roads. (See *Went.*)

WENT [went] *sb.* A way. At Ightham, Seven *Vents* is the name of a place where seven roads meet. The plural of *wents* is frequently pronounced *wens*. (See above.) Middle-English, *went*, a way; from the verb to *wend*.

WERR [wur] *adv.* Very; "*werr* like," very like.

WERRY [we'rr'i] *sb.* A weir. The Abbot of Faversham owned the weir in the sea at Seasalter. It was called Snowt-werry in the time of Hen.VII., afterwards Snowt-weir.

WET [wet] *vb.* “To *wet* the tea” is to pour a little boiling water on the tea; this is allowed to stand for a time before the teapot is filled up. “To *wet* a pudding” is to mix it; so the baker is said to *wet* his bread when he moistens his flour.

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WET-FOOT [wet-fuot] *adj.* To get the feet wet or damp.

“He came home *wet-foot*, and set there wid’out taking off his boots, and so he caught his death.”

WHAT-FOR [wot-fur] *inter. adv.* What kind or sort of?

“*What-for* day is ’t?” *i.e.*, what kind of day is it?  
“*What-for* a man is he?”  
“*What-for* a lot of cherries is there this year?”  
So in German, *was für*.

WHAT’N, *inter. pron.* What sort; what kind.

“Then you can see *what’n* a bug he be?”  
Short for *what kin*, *i.e.*, what kind.

WHATSAY [wot’sai] *interog. phr.* Contracted from “What do you say?” Generally used in Kent and Sussex before answering a question, even when the question is perfectly well understood.

WHEAT-KIN [wit-kin] *sb.* A supper for the servants and work-folks, when the wheat is all cut; the feast at the end of hop-picking is called a *hop-kin*.

WHEAT-SHEAR [wee’t-sheer] *vb.* To cut wheat.

WHER [wur] *conj.* Whether.

“I ax’d ‘im *wher* he would or not, an he sed, ‘No.’”

WHICKET FOR WHACKET [wik’it fur wak’it]. A phrase; meaning the same as “Tit for tat.”

WHIFFLE [wifl], WIFFLE, *vb.* To come in gusts; to blow hither and thither; to turn and curl about.

“‘Tis de wind *whiffles* it all o’ one side.”

WHILK [wilk] (1), WHITTER [wit’ur] *vb.* To complain; to mutter. (See *Winder*, *Witter*.)

“He went off *whilkin* when I couldn’t give him nothing.”

WHIP-STICKS [wip-stiks] *adv.* Quickly; directly.

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WHIRTLE-BERRIES [wurtl-ber’r’iz] *sb. pl.* Bilberries.

WHISPERING THE DEATH OF A PERSON. When the master or mistress dies, or other member of a family, where bees are kept, it is customary (in Eastry) for some one to go to the hives and whisper to the bees, that the person is dead. The same custom is observed with regard to cattle and sheep, as a writer in *Notes and Queries* thus notices: “For many years Mr. Upton resided at Dartford Priory, and farmed the lands adjacent. In 1868, he died. After his decease, his son told the writer (A. J. Dunkin) that the herdsmen went to each of the kine and sheep, and *whispered* to them that their old master was dead.”

WHIST [wist] *adj.* Quiet; silent.

☾ “Stand *whist!* I can hear de ole rabbut!”

1593. — “When all were *whist*, King Edward thus bespoke,  
‘Hail Windsor, where I sometimes tooke delight  
To hawke and hunt, and backe the proudest horse.’”

— *Peele: Honor of the Garter.*

WHITE-THROAT [weit-throa’t] *sb.* The bird so called is rarely spoken of without the adjective jolly being prefixed, *e.g.*, “There’s a jolly *white-throat.*”

WHITTEN [wit’n] *sb.* The wayfaring tree. *Viburnum lantana.*

WHORLBARROW [wurl’bar]. Wheelbarrow. — *West Kent.*

WHOOT [woot] *vb.* Word of command to a cart-horse.

“Go to the off side.” — *East Kent.*

WIBBER [wib’ur] (1) *sb.* A wheelbarrow. Short for *wilber*, a contraction of *wheelbarrow.*

WIBBER [wib’ur] (2) *vb.* To use a *wibber.*

“I wibber’d out a *wibberful.*”

WID [wid] prep. With. "I'll be *wid* ye in a minnit," e.g., I will be with you in a minute. So *widout*, for without.

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WIFF [wif] *sb.* A with, withy or bond, for binding fagots. Formerly only the large kind of fagot, which went by the name of kiln-bush, was bound with two *wiffs*, other smaller kinds with one. But now, as a rule, all fagots are tied up with two *wiffs*.

WIG [wig] *vb.* To anticipate; over-reach; balk; cheat.

WIK [wik] *sb.* A week.

‡ "He'll have been gone a *wik*, come Monday."

WILLJILL [wil'jil] *sb.* An hermaphrodite.

WILK [wil'k] *sb.* A periwinkle. (Anglo-Saxon, *wiloc*.)

WILLOW-GULL [wilo'ogul'] *sb.* The *Salix caprea*; so called from the down upon it resembling the yellow down of a young gosling, which they call in Kent a *gull*.

WIMBLE [wimb'l], WYMBYLL *sb.* (i.) An instrument for boring holes, turned by a handle; still used by wattle makers.

1533. — "For a stoke [stock, *i.e.*, handle] for a nayle *wymbyll*."

—*Accounts of St. John's Hospital, Canterbury.*

(ii.) An instrument for twisting the bonds with which trusses of hay are bound up.

WIND [weind] *vb.* To twist; to warp. Thus, a board shrunk or swelled, so as to be warped, is said to *wind*; and when it is brought straight again it is said to be "out of *winding*." So a poor old man in the Eastry Union Workhouse, who suffered much from rheumatism, once told me, "I had a terrible poor night surely, I did turn and *wind* so."

WIND-BIBBER [wind-bib'r] *sb.* A haw. The fruit of *Crataegus oxyacantha*.

WINDER [wind'r] (1) *vb.* To whimper. (See *Whelk*, *Witter*.)

"'Twas downright miserable to hear him keep all on *winding* soonsever he come down of a morning, cos he'd got to go to school."

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WINDER (2) *sb.* A widgeon.

WINDROW [wind'roa] *sb.* Sheaves of corn set up in a row, one against another, that the wind may blow betwixt them; or a row of grass thrown up lightly for the same purpose in haymaking.

WINTER-PROUD, *adj.* Said of corn which is too forward for the season in a mild winter.

WIPS [wips] *sb.*, for *wisp*; like *waps* for *wasp*. (Middle-English, *wips*, a *wisp*.) Anything bundled up or carelessly thrown up on a heap; as, "The cloaths lie in a *wips*," tumbled, in disorder. The spelling *wips* occurs in the *Rawlinson MS.* of *Piers the Plowman*, B. v. 351, foot note. (See *Waps*, *Haps*.)

WIRE-WEED, *sb.* The common knotgrass. *Polygonum aviculare*.

WITTER [wit'ur] *vb.* To murmur; to complain; to wimper; to make a peevish, fretting noise. (See *Whilk*, *Winder*.)

WITTERY [wit'ur'i] *adj.* Peevish; fretful.

WITTY [wit'i] *adj.* Well-informed; knowing; cunning; skilnil.

"He's a very *witty* man, I can tell ye."

"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence and find out knowledge of *witty* inventions." — *Prov.* viii. 12.

WIVVER [wiv'ur] *vb.* To quiver; to shake.

WODMOLE, otherwise WOADMEL, *sb.* A rough material made of coarse wool.

". . . One yard of greene *wodmole* for an aprune at xijd." — *Sandwich Book of Orphans*.

WONLY [won'li] *adv.* Only.

WOOD-FALL, *sb.* A tract of underwood marked out to be cut. The underwood for hop-poles is felled about every twelve years.

WOOD-NOGGIN, *sb.* A term applied to half-timbered houses.

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WOOD-REEVE [wuod-reev] *sb.* (i.) A woodman; woodcutter; forester; an officer charged with the care and management of woods.

(ii.) Sometimes, in North Kent, men who buy lots of standing wood and cut it down to sell for firing, are also called *wood-reeves*. (See *Wood-shuck* below.)

1643. — The following extract uses the word in the first sense: “Spent upon our *wood reefe* for coming to give vs notice of some abuses done to our wood.” — *MS. Accounts, St, John’s Hospital, Canterbury.*

WOOD-SHUCK [wuod-shuk] *sb.* A buyer of felled wood. (See above.)

WORKISH [wurk’ish] *adj.* Bent upon work; industrious.

“He’s a *workish* sort of a chap.”

WORKY-DAY [wurk’i-dai] *sb.* Work-day, in contradistinction to Sunday.

“He’s gone all weathers, Sunday and *worky-day*, these seven years.”

WORM [wirm] *sb.* A corkscrew.

WORRIT [wur’r’it] *vb.* To worry.

“He’s been a *worritin’* about all the mornin’ because he couldn’t find that there worm.” (See above.)

WORST [wirst] *vb.* To defeat; to get the better of; to overthrow.

“He’s *worsted* hisself this time, I fancy, through along o’ bein’ so woundy clever.”

WOUNDY [wou’ndi] *adv.* Very.

WREEST [reest] *sb.* That part of a Kentish plough which takes on and off, and on which it rests against the land ploughed up. (See *Rice*.)

WRAXEN [rak’sun], WREXON [rek’sun] *vb.* To grow out of bounds (said of weeds); to infect; to taint with disease.

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WRING [ring] (1) *vb.* To blister.

“I *wrung* my shoulder with carrying a twenty-stale ladder.”

WRING [ring] (2) *vb.* To be wet.

WRONGS [rongz] TO, *adv.* Out of order. “There’s not much *to wrongs*.” The antithetical phrase to rights is common enough, but *to wrongs* is rarely heard out of Kent.

WRONGTAKE [rong'taik] *vb.* To misunderstand a person.

WUT [wut] *vb.* Word of command to a cart-horse to stop. — *East Kent.*

WUTS [wuts] *sb.pl.* Oats.

## Y.

YAFFLE [yaf 1] (1) *sb.* The green woodpecker.

YAFFLE [yaf 1] (2) *vb.* (See *Yoffle*.)

YAR [yaar], YARE [yair] *adj.* Brisk; nimble; swift.

“Their ships are *yare*; yours, heavy.” — *Antony and Cleopatra*, act iii. sc. 7.

YARD [yaa'd] *sb.* A rood; a measure of land. “A *yard* of wood’ costs 6s. 8d., in *the Old Parish Book of Wye*. (See *Lambarde’s Perambulation*, p. 257.)

YAUGH [yau'l] *adj.* Dirty; nasty; filthy.

YAWL [yau'l] *vb.* When the herrings come off Folkestone the boats all go out with their fleet of nets “*yawling*” *i.e.*, the nets are placed in the water and allowed to drive along with the tide, the men occasionally taking an anxious look at them, as it is a lottery whether they come across the fish or not. — *F. Buckland*.

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YAWNUP [yau'nup] *sb.* A lazy and uncouth fellow.

YAX [yaks] *sb.* The axle-tree, Anglo-Saxon, *eax*, pronounced nearly the same [yaaks].

YELD [yeld] *vb.* To yield.

“‘Tis a very good *yelding* field though it is so cledgy.”

YELLOW-BOTTLE [yel'oa-botl] *sb.* The corn marigold. *Chrysanthemum segetum*.

YENLADE [yen'laid] or YENLET, *sb.* This word is applied by Lewis to the north and south mouths of the estuary of the Wantsum, which made Thanet an island. The Anglo-Saxon, *gén-lád*, means a discharging of a river into the sea, or of a smaller river into a larger one. (See *Beda, Hist. Eccl. lib. iv. c. 8.*)

YEOMAN [yoa'mun] *sb.* A person farming his own estate.

“A knight of Cales [*i.e.*, Cadiz],  
A gentleman of Wales,  
And a laird of the north countree;  
A *yeoman* of Kent

With his yearly rent  
Will buy ‘em out all three.” — *Kentish Proverbs.*

YET [yet] *adv.* Used redundantly, as “neither this nor *yet* that.”

YET-NA [yet-na] *adv.* Yet; as “he is not come home *yet-na.*” Here the suffix *na* is due to the preceding not. Negatives were often thus reduplicated in Old English.

YEXLE [yex'l] *sb.* An axle.

YOFFLE [yofl], YUFFLE [yuf'l] *vb.* To eat or drink greedily, so as to make a noise.

“So when we lickt de platters out  
An *yoffled* down de beer;  
I sed to Sal, less walk about,  
And try and find de fair.” — *Dick and Sal*, st. 66.

YOKE [yoak] (1) *sb.* A farm or tract of land of an uncertain quantity. It answers to the Latin, *jugum*. Cake’s *Yoke* is the name of a farm in the parish of Crundale. It would seem to be such a measure of land as one *yoke* of oxen could plough and till.

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YOKE [yoak] (2) *sb.* The time (eight hours) for a team to work. Thus, when the horses go out in the early morning and work all day till about two o’clock, and then come home to their stable, they make what is called “one *yoke*;”

*The Salamanca Corpus: A Dictionary of the Kentish Dialect (1887)*

but sometimes, when there is a great pressure of work, they will make “two yokes,” going out as before and coming home for a bait at ten o’clock, and then going out for further work at one and coming home finally at six p.m.

YOKELET, *sb.* An old name in Kent for a little farm or manor.

YOUR’N [yeurn] *poss. pron.* Yours.

YOWL [you’l] *vb.* To howl.

“Swich sorwe be maketh, that the grate tour  
Resouneth of his *youling* and clamour.”

— *Chaucer, Knightes Tale*, 419.

Farncombe & Co., Printers, Lewes.

