

PREFATORY NOTE TO PART II.

THIS part completes the letter A, and extends nearly to the end of BA-. It contains a larger number of words than Part I*, and includes several articles of great length and special difficulty, as those on ANTE- and its compounds (13 columns), ANTI- (42 columns), ARCH- (14 columns), BACK and its compounds (24 columns), and the words AS, AT, ART, ASK, BAIL, BAND, BANK, BAR, and others, in which the problem of working out the multitudinous ramifications of meaning, and determining their mutual relationships, has hardly been more intricate than that of exhibiting the results, when once worked out, with some degree of clearness. Some also of the words here dealt with, especially some of those in BA-, are, etymologically, among the most obscure in the language, and the exhaustive investigation of their derivation and history has consumed much time and research, with the result in some cases of clearing up the difficulties that have hitherto surrounded them, in others of only making it certain that these difficulties are, for the present at least, insoluble. In the latter case, care has been taken to state how much is certain as to the history of each word, and to point out what conjectures already offered are untenable, so as to show the exact state of our present knowledge, and leave the ground clear for any further light which research or accident may afford. But of most of these, the actual origin is probably lost for ever; and we must remain contented with a knowledge of their history within the language itself.

In the preparation of this part I have had the help of several voluntary workers besides that of my assistants in the Scriptorium. The section from AU- to AZ- was carefully sub-edited by Mr. A. Erlebach, B.A. (before he joined me as an assistant), and that from BATH onward, as well as part of BAP-, by the Rev. Arthur P. Fayers, of Rawdon, near Leeds. To the first draft of the word AT, several weeks were devoted by Mr. G. A. Schrupf, B.A., now of University College School, London; and Mr. W. J. Ashley, M.A., Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, sub-edited the word BAR and its derivatives. Nearly the whole of the remainder from AS- onward, after having been put into provisional shape by assistants two or three years ago, has been carefully revised, amended, and extended at the hands of three volunteer workers, the Rev. C. B. Mount, M.A., of 14 Norham Road, Oxford, Dr. Brackebusch, of the High School, Finchley Road, N.W., and Mr. E. Gunthorpe, of 4 Ranmoor Terrace, Sheffield †, who have kindly brought the experience gained in sub-editing other portions of the materials to the task of taking those already sub-edited, incorporating therewith the latest additions, revising the sub-editors' discrimination and arrangement of the senses, and contributing generally to the ultimate form of the articles, immediately in advance of my own final work for the press. In the etymological treatment of words from BATH onward, I have had effective help from Mr. Henry Bradley, which I hope will be continued in future parts. Professor

* The total number of words explained in Part II is 9135. The *Main Words*, treated each in a separate article, are 7043; the *Combinations*, or Compounds, explained under these, are 971; the *Subordinate Words*, with cross-reference and explanatory synonym, 1121. Of the 6943 main words, 1792 (or less than 26 per cent.) are marked (†) as obsolete, and only 333 as (||) foreign or imperfectly naturalized.

The total number of words treated in the Dictionary under A is 15,123; viz. 12,183 *Main Words*, 1112 *Combinations* and Compounds, 1828 *Subordinate Words* and Forms, with synonyms. Of the 12,183 main words, 8184 are current, 3449 (28 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent.) are marked as obsolete, and only 550 (or 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.) as foreign or imperfectly naturalized. As A comprises in English Dictionaries about $\frac{1}{8}$ of the whole alphabet, we can now estimate the total number of words to be dealt with in the Dictionary as upwards of 240,000, the main articles being 195,000, the subordinate articles 28,000, and the combinations or compounds requiring separate explanation 18,000.

† The portions done by these revisers respectively are: by Mr. Mount, *Assail—Assevering, Atter—Atty, Bajri—Banxring*; by Dr. Brackebusch, *Ba—Baize*; by Mr. Gunthorpe, *Atabal—Athymy, Atta—Attenuate, Baron—Batful*.

Sievers, of Tübingen, has continued his invaluable labours in reading and annotating the proofs of all articles dealing with Teutonic philology, and aiding in the investigation of many special words; Professor Paul Meyer has been equally ready with his assistance in difficult points of Romanic philology; and Mr. J. H. Hessels, M.A., of Cambridge, has helped in many words from mediæval Latin. Messrs. Henry Hucks Gibbs, M.A., and Fitzedward Hall, D.C.L., have day by day read the proofs throughout and contributed important annotations and additions: many of the earliest instances of words from 1500 downwards have been thus added by the author of *Modern English*. For similar regular reading of the proofs and addition of illustrative quotations I am indebted to my former assistant Mr. James B. Johnston, M.A.

To the names of the Scholars mentioned in Part I, as lending aid on special points or in special departments, I have now to add those of the Hon. Whitley Stokes, D.C.L. (Celtic words); T. L. Kington Oliphant, Esq., M.A. (author of *Standard English*, etc.); Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq., M.A.; Prof. Cosijn, of Leiden; Prof. J. Storm, of Christiania; Prof. Julius Zupitza, of Berlin; Mons. F. Godefroy, of Paris; also the Rev. Dr. Angus, of Regent's Park College; A. Beazeley, Esq., Librarian of the R. I. B. A.; Prof. L. Campbell, St. Andrew's; Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, Manchester; R. H. Davies, Esq., of Apothecaries' Hall; A. J. Evans, Esq., M.A., Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum; Prof. E. A. Freeman; Prof. S. Rawson Gardiner; Dr. J. O. Halliwell-Phillips; J. A. Kingdon, Esq., late Master of the Grocers' Company (*Auncel*, *Bachelor*, *Balance*); Dr. J. Wickham Legg; Julian Marshall, Esq. (*Tennis words*); Prof. A. Macalister, Cambridge; C. T. Martin, Esq., Public Record Office; Dr. J. Murie, Linnean Society; W. R. Morfill, Esq., M.A., Oxford (*Slavonic words*); E. A. Petherick, Esq.; F. York Powell, Esq., Student of Christ Church, Oxford; Prof. W. Robertson Smith, Cambridge (*Semitic words*); Dr. E. B. Tylor, Oxford; Guðbrandr Vigfusson, Esq., M.A., Oxford.*

To all these, who have thus practically shown their interest in the Dictionary, and contributed to its completeness, as well as to my personal assistants in the Scriptorium, Mr. Alfred Erlebach, B.A., Mr. John Mitchell, and Mr. F. E. Bumby, hearty thanks are offered; also to the Editor of *Notes and Queries* for particular facilities given in using that journal for obtaining information on the modern history of various words and phrases.

I hope that the result of my removal to Oxford, and of the labours of the much larger staff of assistants with which the liberality of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press has furnished me, will be to make it possible to produce the following parts of the Dictionary at much shorter intervals, and that we may reach the end of Part III, finishing B, early in 1886.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY.

THE SCRIPTORIUM, BANBURY ROAD, OXFORD,
September, 1885.

* From the list of sub-editors in the first edition of Part I, there was omitted by unfortunate inadvertence, which I now beg to remedy, the name of one of the best workers for the Dictionary, E. C. Hulme, Esq., of 18 Philbeach Gardens, South Kensington, who has sub-edited the latter half of C, and nearly the whole of L.

To the volunteer sub-editors at work on other parts of the alphabet, there are now to be added the names of R. F. Green, Esq., Whitechapel, Liverpool; Arthur Hailstone, Esq., Bradford; the Hon. and Rev. Stephen Lawley, Exminster; R. McClintock, Esq., Fairfield, Liverpool; John Peto, Esq., Ravenswood, Alleyn Park, Norwood; Rev. E. H. Sugden, Great Horton, Bradford; J. Trustram, Esq., Lincoln's Inn.

Of additional materials contributed, we have received from Mrs. Hodgson, of Bonaly Tower, Mid Lothian, an extensive series of memoranda and quotations made by her late husband, Professor W. B. Hodgson, LL.D. (author of *Errors in the Use of English*, 1881); and an important collection of illustrations of rare words made by the late J. Payne Collier, Esq., has been presented by his representatives. It ought to have been mentioned in Part I that the Rev. T. L. O. Davies, M.A., author of *A Supplementary English Glossary*, 1881, has not only permitted us to use the quotations in that book, but has, when required, given a fuller reference for these quotations, or supplied the context, as well as contributed to the Dictionary all his subsequent gleanings. Quotations taken directly from Mr. Davies's work are marked (D.). Colonel Yule has generously allowed us the use of the proofs of his *Discursive Glossary of Anglo-Indian Colloquial Terms*, an important work now in the press, which has often been of service in helping to complete the history of such of these words as fall within our province; quotations thence taken are marked (Y.). To W. J. Lawrence, Esq., of Newcastle, County Down, we are indebted for a series of illustrations of words connected with the pantomime, collected by him.