

P R E F A T O R Y N O T E .

THIS Part of the Dictionary (CONSIGNIFICANT to CROUCHING) contains 5414 Main words, explained in their alphabetical order, 936 Combinations explained under the Main words (besides some thousands of obvious combinations not requiring individual explanation), and 1190 Subordinate Words and Forms: total 7540. Of the 5414 Main Words, 1208 (22 $\frac{1}{3}$ %) are marked † as obsolete, and 171 (3 $\frac{1}{8}$ %) || as alien or incompletely naturalized.

The Part finishes the long series of words in the prefix *con-*, and contains also the smaller, but still considerable, groups in *contra-* and *counter-*. These words are of Latin derivation; but the Part also deals with many words of Teutonic origin, which are particularly numerous in CR-: witness the large and intricate groups of words belonging to the two ablaut series *crim(p)*, *cram(p)*, *crum(p)*, and *crin(k)*, *cran(k)*, *crun(k)*, and those related to *crab*, *crawl*, *creep*, *crop*. CR- is also noteworthy for its numerous echoic or imitative words expressing sounds, usually of an abrupt, rough, or harsh kind, and the actions accompanied by such sounds: such are *crick*, *creak*, *crack*, *crake*, *croak*, *crook*, *crow*, *croo*, *crool*, *croodle*, *crow*, *craunch*, *crunch*, *craze*, *crump*, the influence of which has also acted upon the sense-development of other words, as *crash*, *crush*, *crimp*, *crink*, *crisp*, *cry*, etc.

Among the words of historical interest here treated are *constable*, *constituency*, *consul*, *convent*, *conventicle*, *convocation*, *co-operation*, *cope*, *cordwainer*, *cornage*, *coroner*, *corporation*, *corsair*, *coss* (the early Algebra), *cottage*, *cottar*, *cotton*, *counter*, *country*, *county*, *court*, *cove* (and *key*), *covenant*, *crakow*, *crame*, *cranberry*, *crape*, *cravat*, *cremation*, *crescent*, *cricket*, *crinoline*, *croquet*, *crozier*, *cross*.

Among those of interesting etymology and form-history are *contre-danse*, *conundrum*, *convey*, *cony*, *cook*, *coolie*, *coomb*, *cooper*, *coot*, *coper*, *copperas*, *coppice*, *corbel*, *corduroy*¹, *core*, *cork*, *cormorant*, *corn*, *cornelian*, *cornice*, *corollary*, *corporal*, *corporas*, *corroboree*, *corver*, *cotquean*, *country-dance*, *courier*, *cow*, *cowl*², *coynye*, *cozen*, *crabbed*, *cramp*, *crank*, *crawl*, *crayfish*, *creagh*, *creaght*, *cream*, *creek*, *cross*, *cretin*, *crew*, *crimson*, *cringe*, *crocodile*, *crocus*, *crone*, *croquet*, *crose*, *crozier*, *cross*. Under most of these will be found new contributions to their history constructive or destructive. Research into the history of words, as of families, sometimes merely shows that current notions as to their origin are historically untenable, and that their actual origin is involved in obscurity.

The sense-development of words in the historical period is not of less interest than the question of their origin; it may be studied under *constitution*, *continent*, *contrast*, *convenience*, *conversation*, *copy*, *core*, *corn*, *corner*, *corps* (*corpse*, *corse*), *costermonger*, *costume*, *coterie*, *cotquean*, *countenance*, *courage*, *course*, *court*, *courtship*, *cove*, *crab*, *craft*, *crane*, *crave*, *credit*, *Creole*, *crisis*, *critic*, *crop*, *cross*, *crotchet*. Very curious is the way in which the two words *council* and *counsel* have been confused in English, and not less so is their differentiation in our present usage, when compared with the L. usage of *concilium*, *consilium*, and the French usage of *concile*, *conseil*. The influence of historical events on the fortunes of a word finds a remarkable exemplification in the case of CROSS. What Roman in presence of the ignominious associations that attached to its Latin original *crux*, and the expression '*I in cruce!*', could have conceived that a time would come when *cross*, would be one of the great dictionary words of a far greater language than his own; that besides embracing senses so distinct as the instrument of crucifixion, a decoration of an order, a piece of money, an intermixture of breeds, not to mention thirty other applications, the word would also be an adjective, a verb, an adverb, and a preposition; and in each of these capacities give rise to a multitude of compounds and derivatives, of which 284 would require treatment in the Dictionary? It will be seen that the Latin *crux* entered our language by three distinct routes, and in four different forms, and that it was the form which came by the most circuitous route that was eventually the survivor. It was not the type of the word that came to us directly from Italian monks, and gave the Middle English *crouch*, nor that which came in with the Normans and long remained as *croys*, but that which early Christianity had naturalized in Ireland, and Irish missionary zeal had communicated to the Norsemen—the Latin-Irish-Norse-North English *cross*, that became the permanent form in our language.

¹ **Corduroy** (spelt *corderoy*) has now been found by Mr. R. B. Prosser, a little earlier. *Chadwick's Patent*, No. 1093, of 1774, specifies *inter alia*, 'cotton corderoys, cotton and linen corderoys.'

² **Cowl** *sb.*² Prof. Skeat points out that the OE. form of this, *cuful*, pl. *cuflas*, has turned up in 963-84 *Cartul. Saxon.* (ed. Birch) 367, 'ii cuflas, & þry trogas' [two cowls and three troughs]. This settles its relationship to OHG. *chubil*, whether originally Teutonic or of West Germanic adoption from Latin.

The remarkable way in which the same monosyllabic combination of three or four letters may constitute several words entirely distinct in meaning, has been already seen under *bay, bob, clock, cob, cock, cod, cog, coll*. Here we see still more examples in the 6 substantives and 4 verbs spelt COP, the 4 substantives and 6 verbs spelt COPE, the 5 substantives and 3 verbs spelt COT, the 6 substantives and 3 verbs spelt CROCK. This is an infirmity of language, which in English, with its composite vocabulary, is very conspicuous; but it is found to some extent in all living languages; and it may lead us to suspect that even in ancient languages, when we find incongruous senses grouped under one 'root,' we have really two or more distinct 'roots' which have in the course of phonetic decay become identical in form.

The quotations for this section originally collected by the Philological Society were put in order by the late Mr. Geo. H. White of Marychurch, Torquay; they were sub-edited for the present work in 1881-3 by Mr. E. C. Hulme of 18 Philbeach Gardens, S.W. Before being dealt with by the Editor and his Assistants in the Scriptorium, the work was revised with incorporation of all later quotations by Mr. Hulme (*conver—coo-*), and by Mr. G. L. Apperson, 11 Park Road, Wimbledon (*consub—contem-, cop-, counter-compounds. crot—crow*), the Rev. C. B. Mount, M.A., Oxford (*conten—conti-, corr-, covenant, crin—crore*), Mr. John Peto, Ravenswood, Alleyn Park, S.E. (*conto—contra- compounds, coro—corpus, cow—coz*), the Rev. W. B. Robertson Wilson, M.A., Dollar (*consist—const-, contre—conu-, coq—corm, coup—couv-, crad—crey*), Mr. W. Noel Woods, B.A., 58 Elgin Road, Addiscombe, Surrey (*consign—consimilarity, corn-, cost—coum, cri—crim-*), Miss Edith Thompson (*conventicle*, and much help with *cross*). Of two of these excellent workers, Mr. John Peto and Mr. W. N. Woods, as also of Mr. G. A. Schrupf, who formerly sub-edited HA-, we have to lament the removal by death during the past year, and to commemorate gratefully their services to the Dictionary; to the others named, as well as to the numerous other voluntary sub-editors working at various sections of the material, and to all the Readers who have sent quotations, and the many advisers named in the Preface to Vol. I, who have continued to assist in technical matters, we return grateful thanks. To their number we have to add the names of Sir W. R. Anson, Bart., Warden of All Souls, Prof. Ray Lankester, F.R.S., C. H. Firth, Esq., M.A., Prof. Margoliouth, M.A., the Rev. Andrew Clark, M.A., and Dr. R. L. Poole of Oxford. The proofs have been systematically revised by Mr. Fitzedward Hall, D.C.L., who has, as before, enriched almost every page with important additions, by Mr. H. Hucks Gibbs, M.A., the Rev. J. T. Fowler, M.A., F.S.A., Vice-Principal of Bp. Hatfield's Hall, Durham, the Rev. J. B. Johnson, M.A., B.D., Falkirk, and Monsieur F. J. Amours, Glasgow. The help of Prof. E. Sievers of Leipzig, and of M. Paul Meyer, Membre de l'Institut, Paris, in etymological difficulties is gratefully acknowledged; also the special assistance in many words of Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., Prof. F. W. Maitland of Downing College, Cambridge, Mr. Thiselton Dyer, Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, Prof. A. Newton of Magdalene College, Cambridge, Mr. W. H. Stevenson, and Mr. R. B. Prosser, to whom the history of several technical words owes its completeness. I have also to record the kindness of Prof. J. M. Dixon, late of the Imperial University, Tôkyô, Japan, now of the University of Missouri, who presented to us the whole of the quotations collected for his valuable *Dictionary of Idiomatic English Phrases*, furnished with full references to the authors and works cited: this important contribution, which ought to have been mentioned in Part VI, is now thankfully acknowledged.

J. A. H. MURRAY.