

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

DEJECT—DEPRAVATION.

BY

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NOTE.

THIS Section contains 1269 Main words, 37 Combinations explained under these, and 138 Subordinate words. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated without definition number 125, making a total of 1569. Of the 1269 Main words 935 are current and fully naturalized, 301 (24%) are marked (†) as obsolete, and only 31 (2½%) as alien or not fully naturalized. Of these words several hundred have never before been collected, defined, or illustrated, as may be seen from the following figures relating to the corresponding part of Dr. Johnson's work, and of some of the larger recent dictionaries.

	Johnson.	Century Dict.	Funk's 'Standard.'	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic.'	Here.
Total words recorded, <i>Deject—Depravation</i>	280	959	1002	1004	1569
" " recorded and defined	280	922	782	930	1202
" " illustrated by quotations	204	484	124	442	1365

The number of illustrative quotations in this section is 6,880; the quotations for the corresponding words in Johnson are 495, in the work of Richardson (so justly renowned for its quotations) 784, in Cassell's 'Encyclopædic' 685, in the 'Century' Dictionary 1138, in Funk's 'Standard' Dictionary 166.

It is a remarkable evidence of the extent to which the Old English or Teutonic element has in certain parts of the alphabet been supplemented from other sources, that of the 1269 Main words here dealt with, not ten are of Old English origin, the chief being *dell*, *delve*, *dempster*, *den*, *dene*. The great majority are of Latin origin, derived through French; but their importance in our present vocabulary is testified by *delay*, *delegate*, *delicate*, *delight*, *deliver*, *demand*, *depart*, *depend*, and their derivatives. Our total loss of the original transitive senses of *depart*, as in the original form of the Marriage Service 'till death us depart' (sense 3), and the current corrupt spelling of *delight* are worthy of notice, as is also the displacement of *depeach*, the representative of F. *dépêcher*, by *dispatch* from the Italian *dispacciare*. There are many interesting words among the compounds of *demi-*; with these popular etymology has erroneously associated *demi-john* from French *Dame Jeanne*.

Other words of historical and, in some instances, etymological interest, are *delf*, *delta*, *demarcation*, *demesne*, *demise*, *democrat*, *Demogorgon*, *demon*, *dene-hole*, *dengue*, *denizen*, *deodand*.

☞ The help of readers in supplying quotations for the enclosed List of Special Wants, is earnestly solicited.