

## PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS portion of the Dictionary contains 2583 Main words, 532 Subordinate words, 551 Special Combinations explained under the Main words, and 869 Obvious Combinations recorded and illustrated without separate explanations: total 4535. Of the Main words 635 (25%) are marked as *obsolete*, and 79 (3%) as *alien* or not fully naturalized.

The proportion of words that have come down from the early periods of the language is unusually large, and in many instances the great diversity of senses or applications has rendered necessary an exceptional degree of copiousness in explanation and illustration. Amongst the articles that exhibit interesting development of senses are *face*, *fact*, *faculty*, *faint*, *fair*, *fairy*, *fall* (vb. and sb.), *false*, *family*, *fancy*, *fantasy*, *farm*, *fashion*, *fast*, *fate*, *fear*, *feat*, *feature*, *fee*, *feel*, *feeling*, *fellow*, *felon*, *fence*, *feich*. Articles in which the etymological statements usually current are corrected or supplemented are *fade*, *failure*, *fake*, *fall*, *fallow*, *falter*, *farce*, *farm*, *fathom*, *favel*, *favella*, *fee*, *feeze*, *felon*, *feud*.

The material for *F—Field* was sub-edited (a task of more than ordinary difficulty) by the Rev. G. B. R. Bousfield, B.A. In the treatment of particular words valuable help continues to be received from many of those whose assistance was acknowledged in the Prefatory Note to the first Part of the letter E. My especial thanks are due for the frequent aid of Prof. Sievers and M. Paul Meyer in the etymologies, and of Mr. R. B. Prosser in dealing with technical uses of words. In the articles on terms of English Law important help has been rendered by Sir Frederick Pollock and Prof. Maitland, and in those on mathematical terms by Mr. H. T. Gerrans, M.A. Dr. Fitzedward Hall has, as in former Parts, enriched every page with important illustrative quotations; and the proofs have also been regularly read and frequent useful suggestions made by Mr. H. H. Gibbs, the Rev. Dr. Fowler, of Durham, and Mr. W. H. Stevenson.

The editorial assistants who were engaged on this portion of the work are Mr. G. F. H. Sykes, B.A., Mr. W. J. Lewis, Mr. H. J. Bayliss, and (latterly) Mr. Walter Worrall, B.A.; Mr. A. Erlebach, B.A., has assisted in the correction of the proofs.

HENRY BRADLEY.

## CORRECTIONS.

**Faldstool.** The explanation given of the OE. form *fyldestól* is incorrect; cf. the gloss. ‘volumina, *fylidas*,’ in *Zeitschrift f. deutsches Alterthum* IX. 494.

**Fastgong, Fastingong.** The ON. forms, *fastu-gangr*, *fastu-inngangr*, should have been referred to. From the latter it appears that the correct analysis of *fastingong* is *fast* sb. + *ingang*.