PREFATORY NOTE TO G.

The second half of Vol. IV, which is occupied with the words beginning with G, contains 7,551 Main words, 2,513 Special Combinations explained and illustrated under these, 2,687 Obvious Combinations; in all 15,542 words. Of the 7,551 Main words, 1,601, or 21% per cent., are marked (†) as obsolete, and 238, or 3½ per cent., are marked (‖) as alien or not completely naturalized.

The G section of the English vocabulary has one curious difference from all the preceding sections. Under each of the letters from A to F a very large proportion of the words recorded in the Dictionary are compounds of prepositional or adverbial prefixes, English, Greek, Latin, or French, such as a-, ab-, ad-, an-, ana-, ante-, anti-, apo-, at-; be-, bi-; cata-, circum-, con-; de-, di-, dis-, dys-; eu-, epi-, eu-, ex-; for-, fore-, forth-. Under G compounds of this kind are entirely wanting; and, as the words containing prefixes, with few exceptions, have little variety of sense and form, and no great length of history, their absence is one of the circumstances which explain why the space occupied by G in this work is proportionately larger than in ordinary English dictionaries, in which illustration by examples is a less important feature. Another cause which has contributed to the same result is that G is unusually rich in those words of the primitive Teutonic vocabulary, which express conceptions of the widest possible generality, and have developed an enormous number of specific applications. Such verbs as get, give, go, grow, such adjs. as good, great, and such substantives as ground, have necessarily required articles of abnormal length to exhibit their diversities of usage. Long as these articles are, it is probable that they are far from being exhaustive: in such words the multitude of special meanings and of idiomatic collocations seems to be endless.

The various linguistic elements of which the English vocabulary is composed are all fairly well represented among the words with initial G. The Teutonic (i.e. native English and Scandinavian) element is the most considerable, not indeed numerically, but with regard to the importance and interest of the words, and to the space which they occupy in the Dictionary. Among the words from this source which are interesting on account of sense-development may be mentioned (in addition to those referred to in the foregoing paragraph), gall, game, gear, ghost, glass, gloom, glow, God, gold, green, grey, grim. The words of early adoption from French are very numerous, and include many that are in everyday use, as gain, gallant, garment, garnish, gay, gender, gentle, ginger, glory, gluton, gorge, govern, gown, grace, grain, grammar, grand, grant, grape, grave adj., gravel, grief, grievance, gross, grudge, guard, guardian, guide, guile, guise. The Latin derivatives, either taken directly from that language or through learned adoptions in French, include such important words as gem, general, generation, genial, genius, gesture, globe, gravitation, gravity. The Greek element is copiously represented by words beginning with gen-, geo-, gloss-, glott-, gly-, gon-, gono-, gram-, graph-, gymn-, gyro-. The Celtic words are not numerous, but probably not less so than in any other letter of the alphabet: they include gabbick, Gaelic, galloglass, galus, galore, garvan, gelt sb.¹, gillie, glack, glannen, glen, glib sb.¹, glossan, gneive, gory, groaddan, grallock. Words from Oriental and African languages are more than usually abundant, though most of these are marked (‖) as not fully naturalized; of those which are in familiar use the most noteworthy are garble vb., gingham, and gong². From South American and West Indian languages we have a large group of words beginning with gna-, introduced through Spanish and Portuguese. There is also a considerable number of onomatopoeic formations, such as gabble, giber, gobbled, gobble, gurr, gurr, and several with the initial combinations gl-, gn-, and gr-.

Among the articles containing etymological facts or suggestions not found in former English Dictionaries are those on gaberline, gain (vb.¹ and vb.², and the related sbs.), gallipot, gander, garble, gas, gavelkind, gear, gherkin, ghost, giddy, gimcrack, gingerbread, gingerly, girl, glade, glance, gleam, gloaming, gloom, gnome, go, goal, God, goodyear, gospel, gossamer, gonge, gow, gradient, grampus, gravy, gist, groats, groom, grozier, guarantee, guess, guest, guild, guinea-pig, gun, gyve.

The material for the letter G was twice sub-edited by Mr. J. Bartlett, M.A.; first in 1888 and the following year, and again in 1897-9, an enormous mass of additional quotations having accumulated in the interval. The portion from Gem to Groundsel had previously been sub-edited by the late Rev. G. R. Bousfield, and that from Group to the end of the letter by the Rev. T. D. Morris. The articles Get, Ground,
and Gun, before being taken in hand by my assistants, were prepared by Mr. E. L. Brandreth. In the treatment of the difficult word Great, valuable help was rendered by Dr. H. Sweet.

In the treatment of etymology frequent help has been received from Prof. Siewers, of Leipzig, Prof. Napier, of Oxford, and M. Paul Meyer, of Paris. On the meaning and history of terms belonging to various departments of science, art, and industry, much valuable aid has been generously contributed by specialists of eminence. To the lists of occasional helpers given in the Prefatory Notes to E and F, the following names are now to be added: Mr. W. G. Boswell-Stone; Mr. H. L. Bowman, M.A., University Museum, Oxford; the Rev. T. S. Cooper; Mr. W. J. Craig, M.A.; the Rev. T. L. O. Davies, M.A.; Sir Howard W. Elphinston, Bart.; Mr. W. W. Fisher, M.A., Oxford; Mr. A. G. Vernon Harcourt, M.A., Oxford; Mr. A. Harston, architect, London; Mr. Barclay V. Head, British Museum; Mr. W. H. Hills, Ambleside; Mr. W. J. Hocking, Royal Mint; Mr. E. W. Hulme, H.M. Patent Office; Prof. Axel Kock, Lund; the late Prof. E. Köbling, Breslau; Prof. J. K. Laughton; Prof. A. E. H. Love, Oxford; Mr. H. F. Lowe, M.A., H.M. Patent Office; Mr. R. W. Macan, M.A., Oxford; Mr. E. J. Muybridge; Mr. J. Platt, jun.; Mr. P. Z. Round, M.A.; Sir John Stainer, late Professor of Music, Oxford; Mr. J. Stephenson, Whitby. I have again to render especial thanks to Dr. Furnivall for constant help of various kinds, often involving much laborious research.

The proofs have been regularly read by Dr. Fitzedward Hall (who, as in former parts of the Dictionary, has enriched every page with valuable additional quotations), by Lord Aldenham, the Rev. Canon J. T. Fowler, of Durham, the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson, M.A., Mr. W. H. Stevenson, M.A., Mr. A. Caland, Wageningen, Holland, Dr. W. Sykes, F.S.A., Torquay, and the Rev. Prof. Skeat. All these gentlemen have supplied valuable additions and corrections. For the early pages the same service was rendered by the late Mr. Russell Martineau, M.A., who continued to work for the Dictionary until a few days before his lamented death.

The editorial assistants who have worked with me in the preparation of this half-volume are Mr. G. F. H. Sykes, B.A.; Mr. Walter Worrall, B.A.; Mr. C. T. Onions, M.A.; Mr. W. J. Lewis; Mr. H. J. Bayliss; Miss E. S. Bradley; and (in the earlier pages) Miss A. M. Turner. Mr. W. A. Craige, M.A., has also co-operated in the preparation of many of the articles.

October, 1900.

HENRY BRADLEY.

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Gablon 2. The source of Scott's peculiar use of the word is found in the following quotations, but it does not appear what suggested the 'catachrestic' application:—1658 ADAMSON Music Thermodale [no paging or signature] note, The ornaments of his Cabin, which by a Catachrestic name, it usually call'd Gablons. Ibid. (title of piece), Inventarie of the Gablions, in M. George his Cabinet.

Gablonb. Earlier example of the 3 form:—a 1380 St. Bernard 299 in Horst. Alleng. Leg. (1873) 46 In pelle gale end of pe churche Ben jeeo wyndowend. Gablon

Gadling 1. The following passage is the original of the example quoted from Sloane:—1360 Chronicon Galfridi de Ebor (1889) 113 Thomas quibusdam stimulis curris et acitis quos manuum dextram comprimendo digitorum nodi radicale cireotica laminatis expressaret, et eis modernis vocant glandeis, nondum Joannis facem vulneravit.

Gage, n. Earlier example:—1472 Caxton Chaste II. iii. (1481) G viij. They began. In to axe and demand of her the besaunt that they had given to her. And she answer that Was holden and gaged upon an ymage.

Gaid, gade. The word occurs also in the sense of 'goal':—1682 PEDEN in Bysgr. Prensly. (1839) 5.4 Their Theats will burn, and their Swing[stroes will fall to the Ground]... and the Gade-men will throw away their Gaides.

Game, s. 7 ('prize contended for'). Earlier example:—c 1380 Wyclif. S. Pet. II. 128 'Two me men. renne a space for a pris, and he bat comely first to the ende that hee have pamen bat is set, whether it be sport. or ojir jen bat is putt.

Gangrel 1. Earlier example:—1400 HAMPDELL Perfect Living vii. In Wks. 1895 II. 33 Gangrels, and langerels, & keepers of comers and gangers arly & late.

Gargoyle. Earlier example:—c 1370 S. Eberthwalde 48 in Horst. Alleng. Leg. (1881) 267 Ht was a throghe of thikke stone. With gargoyles garnisht aboute, all of gray marble.

Garter, s. 6. A. Earlier example:—c 1354 in Trevalyan Papers (Copenhagen Soc. III. 2) The arms of Carmineow, Garter sett... cane of the iij brothers. When ye were made kytther theter but illij coatte of erre鹘e yn Gardenys booke.

Gas, s. In the Etymology, references should have been made to the use of chau by Paracelsus: see Gnome 5.

Gender, s. 2. Earlier example:—c 1380 St. Theodora 109 in Horst. Alleng. Leg. (1879) 26 Hire name, bat was femynyn Of gende, leu torn in to spelyng in the same sense.

Genitras (see Genitor). Add the following quotation to—13... Minor Poems of Vernon MS. xxvii. 375 Men miste, sij his breech were to-tore, scon his genitrass [rims has].