A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY
ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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SULLEN—SUPPLE.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

This section of 72 pages contains 938 Main words, 250 Special Combinations explained under these, 276 Obvious Combinations, and 411 Subordinate entries (including 250 words recorded under the prefix SUPER-); in all 1875 words. Of the Main words 231 are marked † as obsolete, and 26 are marked ‡ as alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Johnson's and some recent Dictionaries gives the following results:—

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The number of quotations in the corresponding part of Richardson's Dictionary is 485.

Words of Anglo-Saxon origin, with their compounds and derivatives, occupy less than a quarter of this section. The few words are, however, of great importance; they are sumer sb., sun, sunder, sundry, and sup vb. There is also sullen, which is interesting both phonologically and on account of its connexion with suling. Other words of Germanic extraction are sulph, sulter and sultry, the relative adverb sum, and sump.

The other three-quarters of the section are concerned for the most part with words derived directly or indirectly from Latin. The compounds of the prefix super- form a large proportion of these. They fill close upon thirty pages, and among them are many words of an abstract character with which ordinary language would find it difficult to dispense, as superficial, superficies, superintendent, supernatural, supernumerary, supersede, superstition, supervise. The chief loan-words from French are sum, summil, summon, summons, summer sb.²,summer, summer, sumpier, sumptuous, sup vb.¹, suppe, suppliant, supple.

Various languages of the East contribute sultan, sumach, sumbula, sumptian, sundri, sungar, sum, sunni, sunnud, sunnysae, sund, supari. From North-American Indian dialects come sunk (squate) and supawon.

Interesting or obscure points of etymology are involved in sunrise, sunrising, sun, sunsetting, sunshine, sunstroke, sunet, superannuate, superannular. The most remarkable word in regard to sense-history is supersede.

As in the two former sections of Su-, technical terms are numerous. Religion and the church are represented by sumer, sumption, Sunday, Sunday-school, superclarr, supererogation, superfrontial, superhumeral, superinstitution, superintend, superior, superlaesarian, supersubstantial; law, by summary, summon, summons, superinduction, superintromission (Super- 10); supersedes, supersedere, superstitious usus, supervenient; mathematics, by sum, summation, sum, supercices, superparticular; chemistry, by sulphur and its derivatives, and the super-salts; grammar, by superlative and supine; music, by superdominant, superoctave, super tonic; philosophy and logic, by summum bonum, summum genus, summation, superordinate.

Two expressions are here treated which have come into high prominence during the last few years. The phrase a place in the sun, which is traceable in literature to Pascal's Pensées, has long been familiar on the Continent, but its present currency in this country is due to its use by the Emperor of Germany in a speech made at Hamburg on 27th August, 1911. Superman, the invention of which is to be put down to Mr. Bernard Shaw, has now definitely superseded the earlier attempts to render übermensch as used by Nietzsche, viz. beyond-man (A. Tille, 1896) and overman (T. Common, 1901), the second of which had for a time a considerable vogue.

A recent Act of Parliament has set its seal upon a new use of the compound summer-time, which is duly recorded here.