A NEW
ENGLISH DICTIONARY
ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.
(VOLUME IX. SI—TH.)

SWEEP—SZMIKITE.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

This section of S contains 1431 Main words, 265 Special Combinations explained under these, 285 Obvious Combinations, and 400 Subordinate entries; in all 2381 words. Of the Main words 236 are marked † as obsolete, and 82 are marked § as alien or not fully naturalized.

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

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<th>Johnson</th>
<th>Cassell's 'Encyclopaedic'</th>
<th>Century Dict. and Suppl.</th>
<th>Here.</th>
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<td>Words recorded, Sweep—Szmiikite</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>1029</td>
<td>1485</td>
<td>2381</td>
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<tr>
<td>Words illustrated by quotations</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>1845</td>
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<td>Number of illustrative quotations</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>9949</td>
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The number of quotations in the corresponding part of Richardson's Dictionary is 419.

This section, like that immediately preceding it, is roughly divisible into two parts of a markedly different etymological character. On p. 354 the Teutonic words with initial sw come to an end and the Greek words with initial sy begin.

The first etymological group consists mainly of the important words sweet, swell, swerve, swift, swell, swim, swine, swing, swine, switch, swivel, swoon, sword, with their immediate derivatives; of these sweet, swim, and swine can be traced back to the Indo-European stock. Mingled with these are many lesser words, now obsolete or restricted to local currency; many of them are of interest philologically, and some, as sweer, sween, swote, have connexions outside the Teutonic area. The wide ramification of a root and its variants is well illustrated by series like sweep, swope, skin, swipper, swoop, swoop, and swench, swench, swinch, swink, swing, swing, swing, swing, swing.

The second etymological group is made up almost entirely of words compounded with Greek συν 'with' in its several prefix-forms sy-, syn-, syn-, syn-; the leading words are syllable, syllogism, symbol, symmetry, sympathy, symphony, symposium, symptom, synagoge, synchronous, syncope, syndic, synod, synonym, synopsis, synax, synthesis, system, syzygy. Notable non-Greek elements in this region of the vocabulary are the native sye, the French syth, ythment, and the Scottish syre, syver.

The following articles are notable as dealing with recondite or doubtful points of etymology: sweer, swift adj., swindle, swingle, swirl, switch, sycophant, syn, syphilitis, syrop. The evidence available for sweepstake, sweetbread, swing (three nouns and three verbs), swipe vb., swipes, and sweeter, is inadequate for the determination of their origin, and more light is desirable on the early history of swoon and its immediate connexions. The remarkable facts of the origin of syllabus are recorded here in summary form; a more extended account than was possible to give in the columns of this Dictionary was contributed to the Times Literary Supplement, February 20, 1919.

The Far East is represented by syagia and tyze (India), and syce (China).

The following is a selection of miscellaneous words and phrases of interest not included in the above lists: sweet singer (full references are given to the literature relating to this curiosity of sectarian nomenclature), swelled head (earlier swell-headed), swine's feather, Swing sb., swinger, Switzer and Switzer, swoop (in its early history), Sword-blade Company, sworn man, the Paracelsian sylph and synovia; synagoge of Satan, synellus, syndicalism, sinister, syncronic (in wireless telegraphy) syringe (formerly syringa).