

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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SORROW—SPEECH.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS section of the Dictionary contains 1249 Main words, 258 Special Combinations explained under these, 741 Obvious Combinations, and 394 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms; in all 2642 words. Of the Main words, 314 are marked † as obsolete, and 52 are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.

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

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded	203	824	998	992	2642
Words illustrated by quotations	174	310	357	119	2251
Number of quotations	657	510	977	157	15,285

In the corresponding portion of Richardson the quotations number 586.

This portion of S contains the remainder of the words beginning with So- and the first instalment of those with initial SP-. In the former group the prominent words are mainly of native origin, as *sorry*, *so so*, *sough* sb.¹ and v.¹, *soul*, *sound* a., *sour*, *south* (with many derivatives and compounds), *sow* sb.¹, *sow* v.¹; *souter* (cobbler) is a very early adoption from Latin. Those which have come from other Teutonic languages are few and unimportant, with the exception of *sound* sb.¹, which appears to be partly of Scandinavian origin. A few common words are adoptions from older French, as *sort*, *sof*, *sound* sb.³, v.¹, and v.², *source*, *souse*, and *sovereign* (with a remarkable variety of spellings); of later introduction from the same language are *sortie*, *soubrette*, *soufflé*, *soup*, *soupçon*, *southern*, *souvenir*, and some others. Italian has contributed the musical terms *sostenente* and *sostenuto* and the phrase *sotto voce*, as well as the spelling *sovran* introduced by Milton. Greek is slightly represented by *Sotadic*, *Sothiac* or *Sothic*, and some derivatives from *sōtēr* 'saviour'. The only Oriental words of special interest are *souchong*, *sowar*, and *soy* or *soya*.

In the words beginning with SP- the native element is also large and important, including *spade*, *span* sb.¹, *spare*, *spark*, *sparrow*, *speak* (which with its derivatives occupies 17 columns), *spear*, and *speck* sb.¹. A considerable number of words have obviously or probably been adopted from Dutch or Low German at different times, as *span* sb.² and v.², *spancel*, *spang* sb.¹ (whence *spangle*), *spar*, *spath*¹, *spatter*, *spean*, *speck* (fat), *speckle*, and the whaling term *specksioneer*, which has not been fully explained in previous Dictionaries. Of Scandinavian words the chief are *spae*, *span-new*, and *sparth* (the weapon of the Irish galloglasses).

The Romanic element in SPA- is for the most part directly from French, as *space*, *Spaniard*, *spaniel*, *sparkle* (with several variant forms), *sparver*, *spauld*, *spavin*, *spawn*, *spay*, and probably *spandrel*. In SPE- there is an extensive group of words based on the Latin root *spec-*, as *special* (with *specialism*, *-ist*, *-ity*, etc.), *specie*, *species*, *specific*, *specify*, *specimen*, *specious*, *spectacle*, etc., occupying in all about 50 columns. An interesting set of words is ultimately derived from Gr. *spathē*, and comprises *spatha*, *spathe*, *spatula*, *spatulate*, *spatule* (with a number of Anglicized or corrupted forms), together with *spade* sb.² and *spadille*. Other words taken more or less directly from Greek are *spadix*, *Spartan*, *spasm*, *spasmodic*, and *spastic*.

In addition to the words enumerated above, the following present various points of interest: *Spa*, *spagyric*, *Spanish*, *spank*, *spanking*, *sparrowgrass*, *sparse* a., *spatch-cock*, *spate*, *spatterdash*, *spayard*, *speaker*, and *spec*.