

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME V.)

H—HAVERSIAN.

BY

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NOTE.

THIS Double Section, which begins Vol. V (H, I, J, K) and forms one-fourth of the letter H, contains 1937 Main Words, 577 Combinations explained under these, and 556 subordinate entries; 3070 in all. The *obvious combinations*, recorded and illustrated by quotations, without individual definition, number 745 more. Of the 1937 Main Words, 1489 are current and native or fully naturalized, 361 (13½%) are marked † as *obsolete*, and 87 (4½%) as || alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with the corresponding pages of Dr. Johnson's Dictionary, and of some more recent lexicographical works, shows the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædia.'	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard.'	Here.
Words recorded, <i>H</i> to <i>Haversian</i>	354	1569	2125	1920	3815
Words illustrated by quotations	283	496	775	240	2954
Number of illustrative quotations	1067	910	2383	349	15,624

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 1265.

The HA- words are, to a great extent, of Teutonic origin, the words from Latin being comparatively few, and those of Greek derivation almost confined to the technical terms in *Hæmato-*, *Hæmo-*, and the group related to *Harmony*. But the alien Oriental words are rather numerous, for *h* represents several aspirates and gutturals in Arabic and other Eastern tongues. Among the important articles are that on H (the letter), those on HALF and HAND, and their derivatives (which occupy 27 and 48 columns respectively), that on the verb HAVE, which ranks with BE and DO in range of use and difficulty of treatment; that on HANG, with its complicated inflexional history; also those on *hackney*, *hair*, *hammer*, *hare*, *harlot*, *harness*, *harvest*, and *hat*. *Habit*, *haggard*, *hall*, *handsome*, *harbour*, have interesting sense-development, *harbour* also a notable form-history. *Hanaper*, *hanse*, and *harquebus* are of historical interest; *Hades*, *handsel*, and *harlequin*, on varied grounds claim attention. The curious history of *handicap* has been elucidated with the help of many correspondents interested in sporting matters. *Haggis* is seen to have been formerly a favourite English dish, 'of whose goodness,' says the author of 'The English Housewife,' 'it is vain to boast because there is hardly to be found a man that doth not affect them.' This affection is now considered characteristically Scotch. A feature of the language which has been glanced at before, comes out strongly in H, viz. that there is scarcely a monosyllabic vocable in use that does not form two or more distinct words: thus, *hack* makes 5 sbs. and 4 vbs.; *hay*, 6 sbs. and 2 vbs.; *hail*, 5 sbs., 3 vbs., and an interjection; *hale*, 6 sbs., 2 vbs., 1 adj., 1 interj.; *hatch*, 6 sbs. and 6 vbs.; and so on with *haft*, *hain*, *halt*, *ham*, *hap*, etc.

A further section of H, *Haversine* to *Heel* sb., will be published on July 1, 1898, and another double section, *Heel* v. to *Ho-*, on January 1, 1899; a double section of G (Vol. IV), by Mr. H. Bradley, will be published on October 1, 1898.