

# A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME V.)

H—HOD.

BY

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS portion of H (H—HOD) forming  $\frac{5}{8}$  of the letter, contains 5171 Main words, 1439 Subordinate words, 1345 special Combinations explained and illustrated under the Main words; total 7955. The *obvious combinations* mentioned and illustrated under the Main words, but not requiring individual explanation, make 1650 more. Of the 5171 Main words, 4065 are current and native or fully naturalized, 917 (18 %) are marked (†) as *obsolete*, and 189 (3.6 %) || as *alien* or incompletely naturalized. More than four-fifths of the whole are thus in living use. The Quotations, by which these words are illustrated, number 37,296.

In the matter of words and quotations, comparison with the corresponding pages of Dr. Johnson's Dictionary, and of some subsequent lexicographical works, shows the following figures :

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic.'	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard.'	Here.
Total words recorded, <i>H</i> to <i>Hod</i>	954	4094	5783	5521	9605
„ words illustrated by quotations	766	1254	2087	620	7384
„ number of quotations	2630	2088	5379	840	37,296

The number of quotations in the corresponding pages of Richardson's Dictionary is 2969.

One characteristic of the letter H, which meets us on the threshold, is that in some words, the surviving remnants of a once numerous host, initial *h* is 'silent', or not pronounced: the history of this phenomenon is dealt with in the initial article on the letter. But this is not the case with any word of Old English or native origin; and, of all the words from the beginning of HA- to the end of HU-, those of native origin, which have come down to us from the earliest periods of the language, form an unusually large proportion, including representatives of every part of speech. Among the substantives are the names of three important bodily members, HAND, HEAD, HEART, which, together with their derivatives, occupy 109 columns, and show (as does also *heel*) how the designations of prominent parts of the body lend themselves to all manner of figurative and transferred applications, and to a luxuriant growth of phrases. There are also the substantives HALF, HEAT, HEAVEN, HELL, and the adjectives HEAVY, HIGH (the latter with its family running to 26 columns). The verbs include HAVE, which ranks with BE and DO in its range of service and difficulty of definition, also *hang* (with its complex form-history), *hear*, *heave*, *help*, *hew*, and the historically interesting HIGHT. The pronouns include HE, and its various inflexional and derivative forms, current or obsolete, *hem*, *hemen*, *heo*, *her*<sup>1</sup>, *her*<sup>2</sup>, *her*<sup>3</sup>, *hern*<sup>1</sup>, *hern*<sup>2</sup>, *hers*<sup>1</sup>, *hers*<sup>2</sup>, *herself*, *hi*<sup>1</sup>, *hi*<sup>2</sup>, *him*, *himself*, *hin*, *his*<sup>1</sup>, *his*<sup>2</sup>, *his*<sup>3</sup>, *his*<sup>4</sup>, *hisis*, *hism*, of which eight are still in general use, six others retained in dialect speech, and eight entirely obsolete. Each of these is treated independently as a Main word, experiment having shown that this is much clearer than any scheme whereby they could be comprised in one long and complex article under HE, though the general etymological relations of the group are there set forth. Radically related to these are the adverbs HERE (with its family, 9 columns), *hence*, *hither*, and the obsolete *hethen*. Redupli-

cated or riming adverbs, which, though they cannot be traced to a remote date, are clearly of native formation, abound in H: witness *hab-nab*, *harum-scarum*, *helter-skelter*, *hiddy-giddy*, *higgledy-piggledy*, *highly-tightly*, *hirrie-harrie*, *hivie-skivy*. The same may be said of the numerous emotional exclamations, *ha!* *haw!* *keh!* *heigh-ho!* *hem!* *hey!* *hi!* *ho!*, here included.

There are several important words from Old French, but comparatively few directly from Latin, for no Latin prefix begins with *h*. But Greek supplies a relatively large number; beside the groups related to HARMONY, HERESY, HERO, and HISTORY, there are the numerous and strongly-defined technical series in *hæmo-* (and *hæmato-*), *helio-*, *hemero-*, *hemi-*, *hepta-*, *hetero-*, *hexa-*, *hiero-*, *histo-*.

Among words of special interest, etymological or historical, may be mentioned *hackney*, *haggard*, *haggis*, *hall*, *hanaper*, *handicap*, *handsel*, *handsome*, *hanse*, *harbour*, *harlot*, *harness*, *harquebus*, *havoc*, *hazard*, *hearse*, *heath*, *heathen*, *heather*, *henchman*, *heptarchy*, *herald*, *heron*, *heronsew*, *hickwall*, *hide sb.<sup>2</sup>*, *hind sb.<sup>2</sup>*, *hobbledehoy*, *hobbyhorse*, *hockday*, *hocktide*, *hocus-pocus*. Although some of these remain, as to their ultimate origin, quite obscure, and the only result of more thorough investigation has been to eliminate current errors, new etymological facts are here given as to many; of all it may be claimed that the accurate exhibition of their history *within the language* (which to the student of the language is of greater importance than the determination of their ultimate etymology) has developed points of fresh interest. Thus, though we may not attain to certainty about the derivation of *haggis*, we can at least show that the name and thing are in no sense specially Scotch; and though we may doubt whether the name *henchman* came from Old English or Low German, we see at least its original connexion with *horses*, and the curious way in which it came to its current sense of 'trusty supporter'.

For help with this letter we have been indebted to many voluntary workers. At an early date the quotations for *Ho-* were arranged alphabetically and chronologically by Mr. S. Taylor, the White House, Crossings, Chapel-en-le-Frith; and those for *Hu-* and *Hy-* by Mr. A. W. Longden, of Hook Green, Marple, Stockport. The subediting of *HA-* was undertaken by the late Mr. G. A. Schrupf, who however, at his death, had only partially put the materials in order as far as *Har-*. The words in *HI-* were subedited by Dr. R. J. Lloyd, of Liverpool; parts of *HO-* and *HY-*, *Hoo* to *Horus*, *Hyp* to *Hyz*, by the late Mr. John Peto; another part of *HO-*, *Hosn-* to *Hoz-*, and the whole of *HU-* by the late W. N. Woods, B.A., and Mrs. Woods; the first half of *HY-*, to *Hym-* by Miss M. Quick, of Clifton. Nearly the whole of the rest of the letter, viz. *Harm-* to *Haz-*, all *HE-*, *Ho* to *Hon-*, was subedited between 1883 and 1890 by E. L. Brandreth, Esq., Member of Council of the Philological Society, who at a later period, 1895-98, also completed the partial work of Mr. Schrupf at the first part of *A*, and then revised and re-subedited nearly the whole of his own earlier work, together with some later sections of *HO-* and *HU-*. Four of these excellent workers have, alas! passed away without seeing any part of *H* in print; to the survivors, and especially to Mr. Brandreth, whose zealous and scholarly labours at this letter during a space of eleven years have contributed in an eminent degree to the results now presented, the heartiest acknowledgements are offered.

In the proof-stage, we have again to record the help, above all, of Dr. Fitzedward Hall (whose stores of quotations have contributed to the literary history of words in every page), also, of Lord Aldenham, the Rev. Canon Fowler of Durham, the Rev. J. B. Johnson, M.A., B.D., Falkirk, Monsieur F. J. Amours, Glasgow, Miss Edith Thompson, Reigate, and for the later part, of Mr. Russell Martineau, M.A. Prof. Eduard Sievers of Leipzig has given constant help with the ulterior history of Old English words, and Monsieur Paul Meyer with difficulties in words from Old French. The assistance of many other scholars and scientific men in the history or explanation of individual words is also gratefully acknowledged.

J. A. H. M.

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\*.\* The Editorial staff engaged on this part have been Mr. C. G. Balk, Mr. A. T. Maling, M.A., Mr. C. Talbot Onions, M.A., Mr. F. J. Sweatman, M.A., Mr. A. R. Sewall, Mr. H. Price, and, for some portions, Mr. R. J. Whitwell, and Miss Hilda Murray.