

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME V.)
HOD — HORIZONTAL.

BY
DR. JAMES A. H. MURRAY.

NOTE.

THIS Section, which continues the letter H as far as the word HORIZONTAL, contains 1008 Main words, 387 Combinations explained under these, and 239 Subordinate entries; 1634 in all. The *obvious combinations*, recorded and illustrated by quotations, without individual definition, number 403 more. Of the Main words, 849 are current and native, 139 (16.4%) are marked † as *obsolete*, and only 20 (2.3%) † 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 'Encyclopædic.' | 'Century' Dict. | Funk's 'Standard.' | Here. |
|---|----------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------|
| Words recorded, <i>Hod</i> to <i>Horizontal</i> | 176 | 820 | 1194 | 1193 | 2037 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | 134 | 185 | 376 | 112 | 1444 |
| Number of illustrative quotations | 590 | 341 | 985 | 155 | 7320 |

The quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson's Dictionary number 533.

This Section shows examples of all the chief elements of the current English vocabulary. Words of native or Teutonic origin again preponderate. Among the more noticeable of these are the verb HOLD (the longest article here contained), also *hog*, *holiday*, *holly*, *holt*, HOLY, HOME, *honey*, *honeysuckle*, *hood*, *hoof*, *hook*, *hoop*, *hop*, HOPE *sb.* and *a.* Words of Latin origin, including those that have come through French, are here fewer, but they include the important words *homage*, *homicide*, *honest*, *honour*, *honourable*, and their kin. Words from Greek are rather numerous, for, beside HORIZON, *homily*, and their derivatives, we encounter here the large groups of technical terms in *Holo-*, *Homalo-*, *Homo-*, *Homæo-*, *Hoplo-*, which, even when treated with studied conciseness, run through many pages. Examples of words from far-off languages appear in *horde*, *hollock*, *hominy*, and *hong*—the last two better known to English speakers in the far west, and farthest east, than in the British Isles. There are numerous words of historical interest, from *Hogen-Mogen* to HOME RULE, of literary interest from *hoppetere* to *hadden grey*, of note in Folklore, as HOGMANAY. HONEY-MOON emerges as a cynical term 'applied to those married persons that love well at first, and decline in affection afterwards; it is hony now, but it will change as the moon.' In later use, the changing and 'inconstant moon' is a less prominent part of the notion. Points of etymological interest come up, *inter alia*, under *hogshead*, *hoise*, *hold* (of a ship), *hollyhock*, and the group *hole*, *holl*, *hollow*. The term *hog* shows a notable diversity of application in different localities; a homely group is seen in *hobby-dod*, *hobby-doddy*, *hobby-noddy*, *hobby-peak*, *hobby-poll*. The article *honorificabilitudinitiy* may be usefully consulted by Baconmaniacs, who have 'discovered' that the long word (which was coaxed many centuries earlier into a Latin dactylic hexameter, 'Plenus honorificabilitudinitatibus esto!') was invented by Bacon and inserted by him in *Love's Labour's Lost* (v. i. 44) as an elaborate anagram recording his authorship of Shakspeare's plays!

The letter H is completed in the double Section which will be published on July 1.