

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

VOLUME V: H—K. IN — INFER.

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NOTE.

THIS second double Section of I, extending from *IN adv.* to *INFER*, contains 1864 Main words, 588 Combinations explained under these, and 578 Subordinate entries of obsolete forms, etc.; 3030 in all. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated by quotations, but not requiring individual explanation, number 645 more. Of the 1864 Main words, 1410 are current and fully English, 403 (21.6 %) are marked † as obsolete, and 51 (2.7 %) as † alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Dr. Johnson's and some more recent dictionaries shows the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic.'	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard.'	Here.
Words recorded, <i>In to Infer</i>	313	1565	1875	1931	3675
Words illustrated by quotations	242	588	684	216	3010
Number of illustrative quotations	1102	1047	1907	308	15,816
The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 1038.					

The vast majority of the words here treated are of Latin origin or derivation. Almost the only exceptions are formed by a small number of words in which *in* is compounded with a native English radical, forming verbs as in *inarm*, *inearth*, participial adjectives as *inborn*, *inbred*, substantives as *INCOME*, *indraught*, *indweller*, or adverbs as *inasmuch*, *INDEED*. The only simple word of Old English age is *INCH*, ultimately the L. *uncia*, but possibly adopted in West Germanic before the English settlement in Britain, and hence treated in all respects as a native word. There are also the two Old English law-terms, *inborgh* and *infang-thief*. To these have to be added a few words from non-European languages, as the Peruvian *inca*, the Zulu *indaba* and *induna*, and the Malagasy *indri*.

The words of Latin origin are mostly verbs and their derivatives, many of which form important elements of the language, and contribute to its power as an instrument of thought. Among these may be mentioned *inaugurate*, *incarnation*, *incense*, *incident*, *inclination*, *incline*, *incomprehensible* (the original sense of which is preserved in the Athanasian Creed), *incongruity*, *inconsistent*, *inconvenience*, *increase*, *incumbent*, *indefinite*, *indemnity*, *independence*, *indeterminate*, *indifferent*, *indirect*, *indispensable*, *indisposition*, *induce*, *indulge*, *infamous*, *infection*, *infer*. Words of historical interest, in themselves, or in particular senses, are *inceptor*, *inconformist*, *incubus*, *Ind*, *indenture*, *independent*, *INDEX*, *India*, *Indian* (with many derivatives, as *indiarubber*, *Indian summer*), *Indies* (*Indy*), *indict* and *indite*, *indiction*, *INDIGO*, *INDIVIDUAL* (with *individuum*), *Indo-European*, *Indo-Germanic*, *induction*, *INDULGENCE*, *industry*, *inertia*, *infantry*. The ultimate etymology of these words is usually clear, but their exact history between ancient Latin and modern English has in many cases required minute and recondite research, not only in Old French, but in late and mediæval Latin. This is especially the case with formations which do not occur in ancient Latin, but appear first in Christian authors, or philosophical writers such as Boethius, or were introduced in mediæval times by the Schoolmen. Of numerous words of this class, e. g. of the common word *individual*, no accurate history has before been given. Those who are interested in the length of words will observe that *incircumscribibility*, which forms the catch-word of p. 154, has as many letters as *honorificabilitudinitas*.