A NEW
ENGLISH DICTIONARY
ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME VI.)
LEISURENESS—LYYN.

BY
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PREFATORY NOTES.

Leisureness—Lief. This contains 862 Main words, 204 Combinations explained under these, and
475 Subordinate entries; in all 1541. The obvious combinations, recorded and illustrated by quotations,
but not requiring individual explanation, number 228 more. Of the 862 Main words, 578 are current and
fully ‘English’, 238 (27½ %) are marked + as obsolete, and 46 (5½ %) are marked § as alien or not fully
naturalized.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Johnson</th>
<th>Cassell's 'Encyclopaedic'</th>
<th>'Century' Dict.</th>
<th>Funk's 'Standard'</th>
<th>Here.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Words recorded, Leisureness to Lief</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>935</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>1769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words illustrated by quotations</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of illustrative quotations</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>7950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 785.

In this Section the native English element is not numerically large, but, as usual, it includes several
words which have required to be treated at considerable length, and which are interesting on account of
their sense-history. Among these may be mentioned lend, length, Lent, Lenten, less, let vb.1 and vb.2, lead,
lick, lie vb.1 and vb.2, lief. The words of Romanic and Latin origin are numerous and important, among
them being lemon, lenity, lesson, letter, lettuce, Levant, leave, level, lever, levy, lie, liable, liable, liberal,
liberty, library, licence, licit, licentiates. The Greek derivatives are somewhat abundant, but (with a few exceptions such as leopard, leper, leprosy, leatham, lichen, lexicography, lichen) they are
scientific terms of little currency, chiefly words beginning with lepido-, lepto-. Of Hebrew
origin are leviathan (which has undergone a noteworthy development of sense in English), and Levite
and the related words.

Amongst the words of which the etymology is treated more accurately or more fully than in former
Dictionaries may be mentioned lend vb.1, lend vb.2, Lenten, leprechaun (the only word of Celtic origin, except
lesterock, in the Section), less, let vb.1 and vb.2, lettuce, lettuce, lewd, lidgate. The article on -let
calls attention to some points in the history of this suffix which appear to have been hitherto overlooked.

Lief—Lock sb. This contains 1600 Main words, 597 Combinations explained under these, and 382
Subordinate entries; in all 2579. The obvious combinations, recorded and illustrated by quotations, but
not requiring individual explanation, number 788 more. Of the 1600 Main words, 1086 are current and fully
'English', 428 (26½ %) are marked + as obsolete, and 86 (5½ %) are marked § as alien or not completely
naturalized.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Johnson</th>
<th>Cassell's 'Encyclopaedic'</th>
<th>'Century' Dict.</th>
<th>Funk's 'Standard'</th>
<th>Here.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Words recorded, Lief to Lock sb.</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>1228</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>2857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words illustrated by quotations</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of illustrative quotations</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>1527</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>16,145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 738.

The portion of the English vocabulary here dealt with is remarkable for an unusual abundance of
important words of Germanic (Old English and Scandinavian) etymology, such as liye, liift (two sbs. and
vb.), light (sb., two adj.s, and two vbs.), like (adj., adv., and vb.), limb, lime (two sbs. and vb.), line (sb. and vb.),
linen, linger, link (three sbs. and two vbs.), lip, list (several words so spelt), listen, like, like, little, live (adj.
and vb.), live, load, loaf, loam, loan, loath, loathe, lock (two sbs.). Most of these words, besides having
PREFATORY NOTES.

A great variety of senses and forms which require illustration, have been prolific of derivatives, some of which (as likely, liking, lively, livelihood, living) have a noteworthy sense-history of their own. Hence in this instalment of the Dictionary the Germanic words not only occupy the largest amount of space (in most of the previous sections of the letter L), but are also numerically in the majority. The Latin and Romanic words, however, are only slightly less numerous, and many of them are of special importance or interest, as liege, lieutenant, liey, limbo, limid (and its derivatives), limn, line (and the related words, linear, lineage, etc.), lion, liquid, liquor, literary, literature, litter, liberty, lizard, lobby, local, locality. The words of Greek origin are considerable in number, but, with the exception of lithy and liturgy, they are terms of modern science or technology, or have never been extensively used; hence the proportion of space which they occupy is small. The majority of them are compounds of lipo- and litho-. Of Celtic words there are only linn, lis', listred, and loch. The words from Oriental, African, and American languages, which were comparatively abundant in the former portions of L, are here almost entirely absent; there are the Chinese likin and ling sb.4, and the Zulu limbo and lobola, the right of which to appear in an English dictionary is perhaps questionable; the Indian lingam; the Peruvian llama; and lila, which is ultimately Persian, though introduced into English through a Romanic channel.

In all the longer articles (notably in light sb., adj., and vbs., like adj. and adv., limb, line sb.5, literature, lifte, lither, litter, live vb., local) the evidence of the quotations will be found to throw valuable light on the sense-history of the words, and on the precise meaning of many hitherto obscure passages in English writers. Etymological facts or suggestions not given in other English Dictionaries will be found under light sb. and adj.1, figure, like adj., timber sb.4, link, lion, lip, list sb.5, little, liver, loof, loan, lobby, lobe, lobster. In the articles on -like and -ling probably the first attempt has been made to give an adequate account of the history and function of these suffixes.

Lock vb.—Lyyn. This section includes 2077 Main words, 600 Special Combinations explained under these, and 990 Subordinate entries; in all 3667. The obvious combinations recorded and illustrated number 801, making a total of 4468. Of the Main words 599 (13.4%) are marked † as obsolete, and 98 (2.4%) are marked ‡ as alien or not fully naturalized.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 856.

The words that occupy the largest amount of space in this instalment of the Dictionary are mainly of native English origin, as long, look, lord, lose, loss, lot, loud, love, lust; a few adoptions from Old Norse, as loft (whence lofty), loose, law adj., have required to be treated at considerable length. The adoptions from Dutch or Low German are more numerous than usual, including loiter, Lollard, loot sb.1 (and lute sb.), lopскone, lorendriven, lyfrie, and the very important word luck, which was probably introduced as a gambling term from the Low Countries. Among the words of undetermined etymology, several of the most conspicuous, as log, lour, lug, lump, lurk, are doubtless Germanic in origin. On the whole, therefore, the Germanic element is markedly predominant in this portion of the English vocabulary. The Latin derivatives are numerous, and some of them are in common use, as locomotive, logic, longitude, lucid, lucifer, ludicrous, lunar, lunatic, luxury; but they occupy comparatively little space. The Greek element is mainly represented by modern scientific terms compounded of Greek stems. The words from French (excluding learned adoptions from Latin) are few, the most noteworthy being lodge (ultimately Germanic), loin, and lustre. Adoptions from Celtic are even rarer than in other sections: it is possible that loop sb.4 may be from this source, but the only certain instances of Celtic derivation are lough, lurgg, lympfad. The Oriental languages give log sb.5, looch, longan, loot sb.4, looie, loquat, lory, lota, lumberdar, lungé, lump.

In the department of Etymology, this instalment does not contain any surprising discoveries; but facts or suggestions not given in other Dictionaries will be found under locomotive, lodge, long, look, loon1, lose, lossetrye, lob sb. and vb., lose, loses, lot, loud, lower, love, lose, losege, lucern1, luck, suff, lug, luke, lump, lunch, luncheon, lung, lurc, lust, lyer, lymph, lynx, lyth-coop. Although the origin of the expression Lynch law (originally Lynch's law) has not been determined, its authentic history has, with the assistance of American correspondents, been carried considerably further back than the date of the earliest examples usually quoted.

The words above enumerated as of Old English and Scandinavian origin all present many interesting features of sense-development. Other articles to which attention may be called on this ground are those dealing with the words locket, lodge, Lombard, lore, lour, loyal, lucifer (where the term 'lucifer match' is traced to its inventor), luck, ludicrous, lunch, luncheon, lurc, lurid, luminous, lust, lusty, luxury. The articles on the suffixes -ly1 and -ly2 contain a fuller account of the history of these formations than can be found elsewhere.

The preface to the L half-volume is given at the end of this Part.