

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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M—MEET.

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PREFATORY NOTES.

M—Mandragon. This includes 1527 Main words, 432 Special Combinations explained under these, and 625 Subordinate entries; in all 2584. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated number 591, making a total of 3175. Of the Main words 413 (27%) are marked † as obsolete, and 126 (8%) are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Dr. Johnson's and some recent Dictionaries gives the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.*	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded, <i>M</i> to <i>Mandragon</i>	271	1441	1817	1691	3175
Words illustrated by quotations	215	459	496	129	2459
Number of illustrative quotations	771	664	1088	170	12,855

* Including the Supplement of 1902.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 638.

The verb *make*, with its unparalleled variety of shades of meaning and multitude of idiomatic uses, has naturally required to be treated at unusual length; the article occupies about the same space (over 11 pages) as that on the verb *go*, which has till now been by far the longest in the Dictionary. The cognates and derivatives of *make* fill 4 pages, and *man* sb. and vb. together 5 pages. Notwithstanding the ample scale on which these words are treated, the proportion of space occupied in this instalment by the Germanic element of the vocabulary is unusually small, and numerically the words from this source (excluding compounds and derivatives) form an inconsiderable minority. The Latin and Romanic elements are abundantly represented, and there is a hitherto unexampled profusion of words from Oriental, African, and South American languages, many of them coming down from the sixteenth century, and presenting a remarkable diversity of orthographical forms. The Greek element is represented by a considerable number of scientific terms. Of Celtic derivatives there are only four or five, nearly all obsolete or little used. Perhaps the most striking characteristic, from the etymological point of view, of the portion of the English vocabulary here treated is the unusual abundance of words derived from names of persons and places.

This section includes a large number of terms of law, the most important being *mainour*, *mainpernor*, *mainprize*, *maintenance*, *malice*, *mandamus*, and *mandate*. The terms of natural science are also numerous, and some of them, as *magneto-electric*, have a complicated history of application, the unravelling of which has required much careful research and consultation with experts.

Among the words (other than those already mentioned) which present interesting features of sense-development are *macaroni*, *machine*, *mad*, *madam*, *magic*, *magnanimity* and *magnificence* (originally terms of scholastic ethics), *Mahound*, *maid*, *maiden*, *mail* sb.³, *main* (6 words), *majesty*, *malkin*, *malt*, *manage*. Etymological elucidations not given in other English dictionaries will be found under *macaronic*, *mackenboy*, *macramé*, *mad*, *mad-apple*, *madrepore*, *maelstrom* (which is of Dutch, not, as hitherto supposed, of Scandinavian origin), *maggot*, *magic lantern*, *maiden*, *mail* sb.², *main* adj., *maize*, *major* sb.¹, *mala~~h~~alhrum*, *malafiges*, *malaguetta*, *malignant*, *mallard*, *malmsey*, *malt*, *mamma*, *mammon*, *mammoth*, *manuque*, *man*, *manage*, *manatee*.

Mandragora—Matter. This includes 1679 Main words, 561 Special Combinations explained under these, and 1062 Subordinate entries; in all 3302. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated number 622, making a total of 3924. Of the Main words 369 (22%) are marked † as obsolete, and 125 (7½%) are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Dr. Johnson's and some recent Dictionaries gives the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.*	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded, <i>Mandragora</i> to <i>Matter</i> sb.	326	1408	1741	1760	3924
Words illustrated by quotations	260	339	571	161	2782
Number of illustrative quotations	853	670	1432	213	14664

* Including the Supplement of 1902.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 649.

The words treated in this instalment are mainly of Romanic and Latin origin. Many of them belong to the earliest strata of adoptions from Old French, and rival the native words in the multitude and diversity of their senses: see, for example, the articles on *manner*, *march* sbs.² and ³ and vbs., *market*, *mass* sb.², *master*, *matter*. Other Romanic words, interesting on account either of etymology (on which in many instances new light has been thrown) or of sense-development, are *manganese*, *manger*, *mangle* vb.¹, *mangonel*, *manipulate*, *manor*, *mansion*, *manufacture*, *manure*, *map*, *marble*, *marcasite*, *marchpane*, *marmalade*, *marquis*, *marriage*, *marry*, *marshal*, *martinet*, *martingale*, *marilet*, *marvel*, *mask* sb.³, *mason*, *masquerade*, *mass* sb.¹, *mastic*, *mastiff*, *match* sb.². There are a few Greek derivatives, chiefly obtained through mediæval Latin, as *margarite*, *martyr*, *mathematic* and its cognates, though a few are modern scientific formations, as *manometer*, and the words beginning with *masto*-.

The native English and Scandinavian words, if compounds and derivatives be left out of the account, are not numerous: the most important are *mane*, *manifold*, *many*, *mar*, *mare* (two sbs.), *mark* (sb.¹ and vb.), *marrow*, *marsh*, *mash* sb.¹; *mast* (two sbs.), *match* (sb.¹ and vb.¹). The native English *maslin*¹, like its Romanic homophone *maslin*², is remarkable for the extraordinary variety of its forms. The Teutonic languages of the continent have furnished *mangel-wurzel*, *mangle* (sb. and vb.²), *margrave*, *mart* sb.⁴ (the history of which is now for the first time correctly traced), *mate* sb.². The only Celtic words are *mant* (vb. and sb.²) and *mart* sb.².

As in the earlier portions of M, words from Oriental, African, and American languages are more than ordinarily abundant. In most instances the etymology of these words will be found to be more accurately or more completely given than in other dictionaries.

Matter—Meet. This includes 709 Main words, 273 Special Combinations explained under these, and 445 Subordinate entries; in all 1427. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated number 278, making a total of 1705. Of the Main words 174 (25%) are marked † as obsolete, and 41 (6%) are marked †† as alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Dr. Johnson's and some recent Dictionaries gives the following figures :-

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.*	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded, <i>Matter to Meet</i>	167	757	784	884	1705
Words illustrated by quotations	130	259	293	104	1255
Number of illustrative quotations	436	381	826	144	7556

* Including the Supplement of 1902.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 468.

Most of the important words in this section are of Romanic or Latin etymology, and some of these, as *maudlin*, *maumet*, *maxim*, *measure*, *meddle*, *medicine*, *medium*, present interesting features of sense-development. At the same time the native English element is well represented, and includes several words (e. g. *may* vb., *me* pronoun, *meadow*, *meal* sb.², *mean* vb., *meat*, *meek*, *meet* adj.) that have required to be treated at considerable length. The words of immediate Greek derivation are few and unimportant; but the important group formed by *mechanic* and the connected words, though proximately from French or Latin, show influence of their ultimate Greek etymology in their English uses. Celtic words are entirely absent. There are some adoptions from modern Dutch and German—*maulstick*, *mauwseed*, *meerkat*, *meerschäum*; and several words from Asiatic and American languages, as *Maugrabee*, *maund* sb.², *maycock*, *mazame*, *mecate*, *medine*.

This Part contains only 304 pages instead of the usual 320, as two sheets above the regular number were given in the last Part in order to complete the letter L.

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Macute. The Rev. W. Holman Bentley, writing from the Congo Free State, informs us that *makuta* is the plural of **ekuta*, and denotes a bundle of ten mats of palm-fibre, still used as currency north of the Congo near the French frontier. Elsewhere the word survives only as the name of the Angola 'penny' piece or its value. Mr. Bentley says that it is derived from a Congo verb *kuta* to tie, now obsolete, but preserved in the reversing form *kutulula* to untie.

Man sb.¹ 15. The view that CHESS-MEN originated as a corruption of *chess-meinie* is untenable, the word for '(chess)-man' in AF. being regularly *hom*. Earlier instances of *man* in this sense are:—c1400 *Beryn* 1820 The Burgeyse seid: 'comyth nere! ye shul se þis man, How he shall be matid, with what man me list!' He drou3e, & seyð 'chek mate!' c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 71 (Harl. MS.) The first man, þat goth afore hath not but oo poynt, but whenne he goth aside, he takith anoper. . . The second, *scil.* alphyn, renneth iij poyntes both vpwrd and doneward.

Mandarin 1 b. Earlier example:—1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (ed. Hill) I. 31 From a man so still and so tame. . . conversation could no more be expected, than from a Chinese mandarin on a chimney-piece.

Mandrague. Add etymology:—Corruptly a. F. *madrague*.

Mandrake 3. Earlier example:—1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 248 There is a plant in our woods, known by the names of man-drake, may-apple, and duck's-foot.

† **Mantist.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *μάντις* + -IST.] A seer, prophet. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* I. 84 Without which felicitie, neither Persian Magician. . . nor Athenian Mantist. . . shall euer passe with me for a prophet.

Manumotive. Earlier example:—1825 *Mech. Mag.* V. 97 (*heading*) Idea for a manumotive carriage.

Maracaibo. Earlier example:—1843 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning* I. 94 Maracaybo is a furniture wood of moderate size, as hard as good mahogany, and in appearance between it and tulip-wood.

Marble sb. 3. Earlier example:—1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. 47-The reducing of any thing into a fine powder, by grynding it on a Marble.

Margent sb. 2. Additional form and earlier quot.:—1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Y schalle purpulle the mariantes [TREVISIA margyns] . . with a dowble ordre of yeres.

Mariner 1 b. See also MASTER sb. 1 29. *Mariner portage* (in MARINER 4): Delete the explanation; see PORTAGE.

Maritime. Add form and quot.:—1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Benti-voglio's Wars Flanders* 56 One of the most considerable Towns of all the Maretime part.

Mark sb.¹ 11 i. Earlier quot.:—1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* IV. iv. Were he a learned Herald, I would tell him He can giue Armes, and markes.

Marriage 8. Earlier example of *marriage-rites*:—1621 BRATHWAIT *Natures Embass.*, *Sheph. Tales* Egl. ii. 198 For I your patience might wrong, To stand vpon these marriage rites too long.—According to modern editors *marriage rite* or *rites* should be read in SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. Gower 17, where the first Quarto (1608) has 'Euen right for marriage sight'.

Massy a. 5. The following quot. should have been given:—1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 158 With antick Pillars massy proof.

Master-hunt in MASTER sb. 1 28. Read 'master-hunt [see HUNT sb. 1], a head huntsman' and transfer to 29, adding the following earlier instance:—c1369 CHAUCER *De the Blaunche* 375 (Fairf. MS.) The mayster hunte anon fote hote With a grete horne blewe thre mote.