THE portion of the Dictionary which treats of the words beginning with M contains 12,988 Main words, 2,986 Special Combinations explained under these, 6,422 Subordinate entries, and 3,636 Obvious Combinations; in all 26,032 words. Of the Main words, 2,838 are marked † as obsolete, and 866 are marked || as alien or not fully naturalized.*

Etymologically considered, the words beginning with M form a typical portion of the English vocabulary, every one of the many sources of our composite language being represented, while none is overwhelmingly predominant. The words inherited from Old English are relatively less numerous than in some other letters, but some of them occupy unusually large space in the Dictionary on account either of their great variety of senses and applications, or of the multitude of their combinations. Among them is the verb make, the article on which fills eleven pages, and would have been much longer if every subtle variety of meaning had been explained and illustrated. Other native words of importance are man, meet vb., mind sb. and vb., moon, month, mother, much, more, most. The articles on the pronouns me, mine, my, myself, and the auxiliaries may and must, contain much that is instructive as bearing on the history of English syntax and idiom. The Scandinavian element is very sparsely represented, chiefly by words of local or dialectal currency, such as marram, mangle, may (a maiden); but there are also meek, mere, and a few other words in general use. The Latin and French derivatives surpass the native words both in number and in the amount of space required for their treatment, and a very large proportion of them have an interesting history. Such instances as manner, market, master, matter, measure, medicine, memory, mend, mischief, mission, mode, model, moment, monster, mount vb., move, movement, multiply (to mention only a few of the more prominent) show how indispensable a part of the word-store of modern English has come from French. Greek derivatives are present in more than average proportions. Besides those which were introduced in the Middle Ages through the medium of Latin and French, such as magic, mathematics, metaphysics, muse sb.¹, music, mystery, there are many later formations, especially with the prefixes mega-, meso-, meta-, micro-, misso-, mono-; and the words beginning with my- are also mainly of Greek origin. Of words from Celtic there are nearly a score, but few, if any, of them would be recognized as familiar by Englishmen generally. The adoptions from Continental Teutonic, and from Italian and Spanish, are somewhat numerous. One very characteristic feature of the M portion of the Dictionary is the multitude of words from Oriental, African, Australian, and American languages. It may be noted that in Arabic na-, mi- (or me), and mu- (or mo-) are prefixes forming participia and other derivatives; formations of this kind, which have been adopted into English from Arabic through the medium either of European or Indian languages, are macramé, magazine, mahal, marabout, Mangrabi, minaret, miskal, Mofussil, monsoon, Moslem, mosque, Mozarabic, muezzin, mufti, mulhall, muselmian, Mussulman. As the sound of the letter M is one that lends itself easily to echoic use, the number of onomatopoeic words with this initial is considerable.

Among the many words the etymology of which is here more fully or more accurately treated than in other English dictionaries are macaronic, mad-apple, madrepore, naelstorn, magic lantern, major sb.¹, malignant, malmsey, mammon, mammoth, melanochroi, menstruini, meter sb.², methyl, middling, minus, minute, mire sb.¹ and sb.², mire-drum, miss sb.¹, mix vb., mohair, moo vb.¹, mother sb.², mould sb.², moza, munchender, mustachio, mutton, mystery.

The material for MA- was sub-edited (before 1888) and subsequently revised (before 1900) by Mr. Joseph Brown, M.A., of the Grammar School, Kendal, who has since sub-edited some part of S, and is now working at U; ME- and Ml- were sub-edited in 1884-5 by the late Rev. T. Sheppard, Exeter College, Oxford; Moto MOND- in 1885 by the late Hon. and Rev. S. W. Lawley, Spurfield, Exminster; MONE- to MUC- by the late Mr. J. Anderson, Markinch, Fife; and the remainder of the letter (MUCH to the end) in 1894 by the late Rev. J. Smallpeice, M.A., then of St. Bees. In 1899-1904 the whole of the material from ME- to MVZ-, which in the interim had more than doubled in quantity, was laboriously re-subedited by Mr. James Bartlett, B.A., Cleverlea, Bramley, near Guildford.

Among those who have rendered help of various kinds in the later stages of preparation of this portion of the Dictionary, it is fitting to mention in the first place three honoured workers who are no longer living to receive the grateful acknowledgement which is their due. Lord Aldenham, who had been a zealous and able collaborator in the work from its beginning, continued, in spite of his advanced age, to read the proofs, and to furnish valuable suggestions, until very shortly before his death. Dr. W. Sykes, F.S.A., who died in September, 1906, had read the proofs for the greater portion of the letter M, supplying a great number of

* For the letter M the comparative scale of this work and of certain other Dictionaries is shown by the following figures:

| Words recorded | 2,090 | 12,510 | 12,932 | 15,570 | 26,032 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | 1,182 | 3,648 | 4,108 | 1,143 | 18,198 |
| Number of quotations | 5,651 | 5,120 | 9,134 | 1,526 | 99,255 |

The number of quotations in the M part of Richardson's Dictionary is 5,121.
additional instances of the words relating to medicine and the kindred sciences. Mr. E. L. Brandreth, whose abundant work for the Dictionary has been acknowledged in the prefaces to former issues, had latterly devoted himself to the verification at the British Museum of quotations from works not accessible in Oxford, a service which since his death has been performed by Mr. W. W. Jenkinson. In the revision of the proofs continued aid has been received from Mr. A. Caland, of Wageningen, Holland, the Rev. Canon Fowler, D.C.L., of Durham, Mr. H. Chichester Hart, the Rev. Professor Skeat, and the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson, of Dollar. For information on etymological questions thanks are due to Professors Margoliouth, Morfill, Napier, and Wright, of Oxford; Prof. A. Salmon, of Reading; Mr. Verner Dahlerup, of Copenhagen; Dr. A. Kluyver, of Leiden; and Mr. J. Platt, jun., whose extensive researches into the history of words from American Indian and other remote languages have been of great service.

In the explanation of scientific terms valuable aid has been received from Professors Clifton and Love, Dr. V. H. Veley, Mr. A. E. Jolliffe, and Mr. C. Leudesdorf, of Oxford, and Prof. Sylvanus Thompson, of London. Among others who have rendered help on special points are Professors Bywater and Robinson Ellis, of Oxford; Sir W. R. Anson, Bart.; Sir Howard Elphinstone, Bart.; Mr. Horace Hart, M.A., Controller of the Oxford University Press; Mr. E. W. Hulme, of H.M. Patent Office; Sir F. Pollock, Bart.; Mr. W. H. Stevenson, M.A., of St. John's College, Oxford; Mr. R. J. Whitwell, B.Litt., Oxford; Mr. J. Maitland Anderson, St. Andrews University; and Mr. C. W. Ernst and Mr. Albert Matthews, of Boston, U.S.A. The constant assistance of Dr. F. J. Furnivall has, in this as in all former parts of the work, been of inestimable value. Special thanks are also due to Bodley's Librarian, Mr. Falconer Madan, Mr. A. E. Cowley, and the staff of the Bodleian Library generally; and to the Editor of Notes and Queries and the many correspondents of that periodical who have provided replies to inquiries.

The members of the editorial staff who have been engaged on M are: Mr. Walter Worrall, B.A., Mr. C. T. Onions, M.A. (who has specially prepared the portions containing the words beginning with 'Mis-,' 'Multl-,' and 'My-'), Mr. W. J. Lewis, Mr. H. J. Bayliss, Mr. James Dallas, Mr. G. R. Carline, and Miss E. S. Bradley.


HENRY BRADLEY.

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Marasibo. Earlier example:—1843 Holzappel Turning I. 94 Marasibo is a furniture wood of moderate size, as hard as mahogany, and in appearance between it and tulip-wood.

Marble 5b. 5. Earlier example:—1671 Salmond Syn. Med. III. 474 The receiving of any thing into a fine powder, by grinding it on a Marble.

Margaret 2b. Additional form and earlier quot.:—1432–50 tr. Higden (Rolls) I. 41 Y salche purpole the marianites (Thesiba mariana) , with a double order of yeers

Mariner 1b. See also Master 3b. 29. Mariner portage (in Mariner 4): Delete the explanation; see PORTAGE.

Maritime. Add form and quot.:—1654 Earl Monr. tr. Benti- yoglia's Wars Flanders 56 One of the most considerable TOWNS of all the Maritime part.

Mark 2b 11 i. Earlier quot.:—1625 B. Jonson Staple of News iv. Wreke he a learned Herald, I would tell him He can give Arms, and concocts.

Marriage 8. Earlier example of marriage-rites:—1651 Braitwhart Natures Embalm., Sheph. Tales Eq. ii. 198 For your patience might well. To stand upon these marriage rites too long.—According to modern editors marriage rite or rites should be read in Shake. Pericles iv. Gower 17, where the first Quarto (1608) has 'E'en right for marriage sight'.

Massa' n, ger(e), -inger(e), obs. forms of Messenger.

Massy a. 5. The following quot. should have been given:—1632 Milton Penitensio 138 With antick Pillars massy proof.

Master-hunt in Master 3b. 28. Read 'master-hunt' [see Hunt 4b. 1] a head huntsman' and transfer to 29, adding the following earlier instance:—1369 Chaucer Dithie Blankhe 375 (Fairf. MS.) The masyter hunte moonf bote 3hote With a grete howne brewe that motre.

Mato 3. 1. Earlier example:—1400 Maundev. (Roish.) xxx. 116 Ringand cypwiz of gold full of meere mylik.

Mesquita 1. Earlier example:—1477 Calton Dites 68 b. Some men say that logoyn is buried in a town called karaselle between the marone & the marci.

Mickle 1. Additional example:—a 1232 Amcr. R. 182 Sincesse. haite et edemnedes & machevelle 3e mede.

Minute 15b 7. To the definitions of minute-bell, gun., add:—used as a sign of mourning or distress.

Montaneous a. Earlier example:—1658 Rowland tr. Mueft. Theat. Ins. 947 Bamblicationis, is a Fly, montane, big, very black.

Moor 2. 1. Quots. 1642 ff. probably do not belong to this word: see Muter 2. 2.

Moquet. Delete this article, and substitute:—Moquet, obs. var. Mogue 2.

Morcwell. The word (morkwell) is quoted by English by Rondle De Rieu. Mar., 1544, p. 280.

Motion a. Earlier quot.:—1679 tr. Willis' Pharma. Rationalis 1. ii. 7 This Coat contains manifold orders of motional Fibers.

Motor 5b 1 a. (a) The explanation given is erroneous; read:—[in medieval astronomy, Primus mobile?].


Machit, var. of MESQUITA 2.

Maecute. The Rev. W. Holman Bentley, writing from the Congo Free State, informs us that mbuku is the plural of *mbuka*, and denotes a bundle of ten mats of palm-fibre, still used as currency north of the Congo instead of metal money.

Mademoiselle. Earlier example:—a 1450 Nat. de la Tour (1865) 126 Madamoiselle! ye praise ye that asuno not vnto this folk.

Maghoore, obs. variant of MOGUEL.

Magnetician. Example:—1854 Pereira's Polarized Light (ed. 2.) 65 The electrician and the magnetician have assumed, respectively, an electric and a magnetic fluid.

Mahon. Earlier example:—1747 Malim in Hookesy's Voy. (1799) II. i. 122 Great Hulks called Maions.

Maidaloune, obs. variant of Mattlelou.

Malm 3b. Earlier example:—1475 Partonay 6356 That marriage no maboyne to his kinned.


Mainnort. Earlier example:—1587 Terceva Higten (Rolls) VIII. 165.

Malolica, var. form of MAZOLICA.

Man 1b. 15. The view that CHESS-WEY originated as a corruption of chess-metrie is untenable, the word for ' (chess)' in AF. being regularly hou. Earlier instances of man in this sense are:—1400 Bocyn 1820 The Prugeye seid: 'comythe nere! ye shul se his man, how he shall be matted, with what men he list!' He droope, & seyd 'chek me te 1450 Gesta kn., xi. 71 (Harl. MS.) The first man that gote afose hath not but oo poynt, but wendyn he gote aside, he taketh anothr. The second, wil. aliphon, rennet li poynte both bypward & downward.

Mandarin 1 b. Earlier example:—1791 Bowswell 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.


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

Managy a. 1. Earlier example:—1546 Skeaton Magnyg. (E.E.T.S.) 12 93 Ful. In faythe, there is not a better dogge . . Fan. Ye, but tr Hew you that he be non maseyn?

Marist. Obs. [5. Gr. μαριστής] A seer, prophet. 1588 J. Harvey Dic. Prof. i. 84 Without which felicite, neither Persian Magian . . nor Athenian Marist. . . shall ever passe with me for a prophet.