

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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ROMANITY — ROUNDNESS.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Romanity—Roundness. This single section contains 803 Main words, 297 Combinations explained under these, and 242 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms, making 1342 in all. The obvious combinations recorded and illustrated by quotations number 381, and bring up the total number of entries to 1723. Of the Main words 164 are marked † as obsolete, and 29 are marked ‖ as alien or not completely naturalized.

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

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded, <i>Romanity to Roundness</i>	108	755	819	730	1723
Words illustrated by quotations	90	212	263	71	1475
Number of quotations	344	325	712	85	8542

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 264.

In this section, as in the previous one, both Teutonic and Romanic elements are well represented. Among the more important words of native origin are *rood*, *roof*, *rook* (the bird), *room* (formerly also *roomth*), *roost* sb.¹, *rope* (two sbs.), *rot* vb., *rother ox* (now practically obsolete), *rough*, † *roun* sb., *round* vb. (to whisper): some of these also give rise to a large number of compounds or derivative forms. Of adoptions from Scandinavian the chief are *root* sb.¹, *rot* sb.¹, and *rotten*; others, such as *rone* sb.¹, *roo* vb., *roose* sb. and vb., *roost* sb.², *roove* sb. and vb., *ross* sb.², are either local in range or now confined to dialect use. *Rorqual*, though of Norwegian origin, has been introduced from French. Dutch has contributed the military *roster* and the printer's *rounce*.

With the important exception of *ROUND a.*, and its derivatives *roundel* (*rondel*), *roundlet*, most of the French words occurring in this section are of comparatively late introduction. The most prominent are *romaunt*, *rondache*, *rondeau*, *roquelaure*, *rosace*, *rosette*, *roué*, *rouge*, *roulade*, *rouleau*, and *roulette*. Italian has supplied *rondo*, *rosolio*, *rotolo*, *rotonda*; and Spanish is represented by *roncador*, *Rosinante*.

Of Latin words in their original form the most noteworthy are *rosa solis*, *ros solis*, *rostellum*, *rostrum*, *rota*, *rotula*, and *rotunda*. Among those which are ultimately of Latin origin are *rosary*, *rose* (with many combinations), *rosemary* (earlier *rosmariné*), *rosin*, *rostrate*, *rotary*, *rotation* (&c.), and *rotund*.

From more remote languages come the Russian *rouble*, the Arabic *roll*, the Persian *rook* (in chess), the Malay *rotang*, and the South American *roucou*.

Among other words to which some special interest attaches may be mentioned *romantic*, *Romany* (Gipsy), *Rome* (*Rome-penny*, *Rome-scot*), *Romish*, *Rosicrucian*, *rote* sb.¹ and sb.², *rouncival*, and *Roundhead*.

As it has been found impossible to complete R in a double section, this issue has been limited to a single one, in order to avoid the separate publication of a small number of pages. The portion to be published on April 1 will contain the remainder of the letter, thus making the Dictionary continuous from A to the first instalment of S, or fully three-quarters of the entire work.