

# A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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SEE — SENATORY.

BY

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## NOTE.

THIS single section (72 pages) includes 1285 Main words, 169 Special Combinations explained under these, and 423 Subordinate entries; in all 1877. The *obvious combinations* recorded and illustrated number 1000, making a total of 2877. Of the Main words 213 (16%) are marked † as obsolete, and 32 (2½%) 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>See to Senatory</i>	133	1046	1084	1171	2877
Words illustrated by quotations	98	346	370	85	2463
Number of illustrative quotations	386	435	750	115	9004

\* Including the Supplement of 1902.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 277.

The words of Old English origin, with their compounds and derivatives, occupy about half the space of the section. This is partly owing to the profusion of the compounds of *self* (all, with one or two exceptions, introduced since about 1550), which fill sixteen pages, although only a small selection has been given from the innumerable obvious combinations found in the collected quotations. There are several native words showing remarkable variety of senses, as *see*, *seek*, *seethe*, *sell* vbs., *seed* sb., *seely* adj. The Scandinavian element of the language is mainly represented by the important verb *seem* and the cognate adj. *seemly*. The words of French derivation are numerous, and some of them are of considerable interest on account of their sense-history or of particular applications, as *seize* vb. and the cognate *seisin*, *see* sb., *seigneur* and its derivatives, *semblance* and its cognates. Of the words derived from Latin, directly or through French learned forms, the most important are *segment*, *segregate*, *select*, *seminary*, *senate*, and their respective cognates. The Latin prefix *semi-* has in modern times come to be treated as an English formative, capable of unlimited application; the selection here given from the words formed with this prefix occupies about seven pages. Of Greek etymology are *seismic* and the related terms referring to earthquakes, *selenography* and other words referring to the moon, *selenium*, *semantic*, *semasiology*, *sematology*, *semiography*, *semeiology*. There are a few adoptions from non-European languages: the Hebrew *selah*, the Arabic *semsem*, the Indian *seer*<sup>2</sup> and *seersucker* (the etymology of this is for the first time correctly given), and the American *seecatch*.

The articles on the compounds of *self* and the words with the prefix *semi-* were prepared by Mr. C. T. Onions, M.A.

## EMENDATIONS.

**Screeching.** Earlier example:—1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exercises* IV. (1597) 270, *Descr. of P. Plancius his Map*, This Countrey is inhabited of Dwarfes called in Latine *Pigmei*, being in height 4 foote as those be of Groyland, which are called Screeclings [*printed* Serelings, *edd.* 1622, 1637 *Sereelings*].

**Seeker** 1 b. The date and authorship of the first quotation seem to

be highly questionable. The passage quoted from Pagitt 1645 appears to contain the earliest known example of the use of the word as the designation of a sect, though the opinion there described was held by the three brothers Legate (c1600), whose followers were called Legatine-Arians. (See C. Burrage, *The Early English Dissenters*, 1912, I. 214-6, 259-61, and App. A.