

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME X. Ti—Zy.)

TI—TOMBAC.

BY

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS double section, forming the beginning of vol. X, contains 1495 Main words, 729 combinations explained under these, and 350 entries of obsolete forms, etc., amounting to 2574. The *obvious combinations*, recorded, classified, and illustrated under the Main words, number 617 more, raising the total to 3191. Of the Main words, 1153 (77%) are now current English, native or naturalized, 272 (or 18.3%) are marked † as obsolete, and 70 (4.71%) are not fully naturalized. Comparison with Dr. Johnson's and some more recent Dictionaries shows the following figures:—

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded, <i>Ti</i> to <i>Tombac</i>	213	1064	1355	1474	3191
Words illustrated by quotations	176	392	894	146	2651
Number of illustrative quotations	537	621	1334	190	13850

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 692.

This portion of the letter T includes all the words in *Tr*-, and about one-third of those in *To*-. The most important word treated is *To* (perhaps the most difficult of the prepositions next to *Of*), the meanings and uses of which before a substantive and before a verb (in the infinitive) and their orderly arrangement have filled 18 columns, and taken up about a fourth of the whole time occupied in the preparation of this double section. The original area covered by *to* has been to some extent encroached upon by the Norse *TILL*, which however in Standard English is chiefly confined to time. *TIME* is itself the biggest of the substantives here dealt with, occupying 14 columns, besides 7 of compounds and derivatives, among which, thanks to Mr. W. Bradshaw of Manchester, we have been enabled to show the first appearance of *Time-table* in 1838. Originally almost synonymous with *time* is *TIDE*, in the cognate languages (e. g. Du. *tijd*, L.G., Da., Sw. *tid*, German *Zeit*) the exact equivalent of our 'time'. But with us, although in some senses, as *Easter-tide*, *noon-tide*, *tide* is still = *time*, in others the sense-development has taken another direction. To him that runs without reading, it is not obvious that *tidings* and *tidy* are both derivatives of *tide* in its sense of 'time'; or that *TIMBER* is a derivative of the same root as Greek *δῆμι-ειν* to build and L. *dom-us*, and meant a building or house, before it became 'building (or other) material'. Other considerable articles are those on *TOBACCO*, *tiger*, *tile*, *tin*, *toe*, *TOKEN*, and *together*, where note is taken of the recently observed fact that this adverb was originally used only of *coming* together, not of *being* together, which had the distinct word *ætgedere*, 'at-gether'.

Important historical terms are *TITHE* and *TOLL*. *Toll* gave also *TOLBOOTH*, and *Tolsell*, or *Tolsey*, at Bristol *Tolzey*. Various interest, as of curious origin or change of meaning, attaches to *TICKET* (whence *ticket-porter*), *tiffany*, *tiffin*, *TILT*, *Timothy-grass*, *tippet*, *tipstaff*, *tiring-irons*, *TITIVIL* (whereby hangs a tale), *load*, *load-eater*, *toady*, *TOAST* (eaten or drunk), *tocsin*, *tod*¹ and ², *toddy*, *toft*, *toggle*, *toil*¹ and ², and *ton-tight* (under *TIGHT*, adj.). *TOILET* has been English only since about 1611 (in Scotland it was in use in 1540); but few words have passed through such a long chain of meanings, from 'a coarse cloth', 'towel', onward to matters more esoteric. A curious group of echoic words is formed by *ting*, *tink*, *tinkle*, *tingle*, in which the notion of metallic resonance passes into that of an inaudible thrilling sensation. In the *tolling* of a bell, the notion of tolling or pulling the rope has passed into that of a particular kind of ringing.

One characteristic of the *Ti*- section is the number of words belonging to the humbler and more colloquial stratum of the language, especially the monosyllabic words of this class, with the great number of homographs and homophones which these show. Thus *tick* forms 8 words, 5 sbs. and 3 vbs.; *tiff*, 3 sbs. and 4 vbs.; *tift*, 3 sbs., 3 vbs., 1 ppl. adj.; *till*, 11 words, 6 sbs., 4 vbs., 1 prep.; *tine*, 10 words, 6 sbs., 3 vbs., 1 adj.; *tip*, 11 words, 6 sbs. and 5 vbs.; *tit*, 4 sbs., 2 vbs.; *tire*, 7 sbs., 4 vbs. (which number cycle-makers have tried to reduce, by spelling one of them *tyre*, treated in American dictionaries as a 'British' alteration of the English language). *TINSEL* is not a monosyllable, but it forms 3 substantives, totally unrelated in origin and meaning. In many cases the origin of some or most of these homophones is obscure or unknown, and it is difficult to decide how many really distinct words are to be reckoned. Thus of the many words pronounced and spelt *tip*, only one, or at most two, can be connected with any known cognate forms; the others form a kind of labyrinth to which there is very little clue. An attempt is here made to show how some of them may hang together; but this is largely conjectural. There are few important native verbs in this section; the chief are *tie*, *till*¹, *tip*², *TIRE*¹. The last is without known cognates in any language, Germanic or Romanic, and its form-history is also obscure. *TIRE*² and ³ are from French, as is also *TOIL*¹, the senses of which are far from those of F. *touiller* and Latin *tudiculāre*. Words from Latin, directly or through French, are not numerous: *tile* and *toll* are ancient, prob. West Germanic borrowings; *tincture*, *tissue*, *tile* and *tittle*, *toast*, *tolerate*, *toll* vb.², *tomb*, *tintinnabule*, *titillate*, *titubate*, with their families, and the progeny of the Græco-Latin *TITAN*, including *titanic* and *titanium*, are the chief. The non-European words number about 25, of which *tobacco*, *toddy*, *tombac*, *tomahawk*, of the 17th c., and *tomato* and *toboggan* of the 18th and 19th, are quite naturalized; others are names of foreign birds, beasts, plants, trees, etc. which remain aliens. There are numerous familiar words of unknown or very uncertain etymology: such are *tinker*, *tinkler*, *tiny*, *tipe*, *tipple*, *tippler*, *tipsy*, *tirol* vb.², *titivate*, *titter*. At some of these plausible guesses have been made, but actual evidence of their origin is wanting. The change of meaning in *tippler* and *tobacconist* is noteworthy.