

A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME X. PART I.)

UNFORESEEING—UNRIGHT.

BY

W. A. CRAIGIE, M.A., LL.D.

PREFATORY NOTE.

In this section of the Dictionary there are 3870 Main words, 108 Special Combinations explained under these, 126 Obvious Combinations, and 431 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms; in all 4535 words. Of the Main words 567 are marked † as obsolete, and 8 are marked || as alien or not fully naturalized.

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

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic' and Suppl.	'Century' Dict. and Suppl.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded	609	1742	2232	2249	4535
Words illustrated by quotations	599	1391	1145	72	4448
Number of quotations	1220	1700	1570	93	18,211

In the corresponding portion of Richardson the quotations number 2013.

In this portion of U, five-sixths of the space is occupied by words formed with one or other of the two prefixes UN-. The remaining sixth contains a number of words, chiefly of Latin origin, some of which are of considerable importance in the language. One group of these consists of terms, chiefly scientific, based upon L. *unguis* or *unguiculus* nail, *ungula* hoof, and *unguentum* ointment. A much larger group has its base in L. *unus* one, and comprises either direct or secondary formations from this, as *unible*, *unical*, *unicist*, *unific*, *unify*, *unition*, *unitive*, or combinations in which the first element is *uni-*, as *uni-axial*, *-capsular*, *-cellular*, *-florous*, *-lateral*, *-lingual*, *-lital*, *-personal*, etc. The more notable words belonging to the former group are UNIFY *v.*, UNION (with its derivatives), UNIQUE *a.* (from French, replacing the earlier *unic* from Latin), UNIT (introduced by Dee in 1570), UNITARIAN, UNITE *v.*, and UNITY. The latter includes UNICORN, UNIFORM, UNIFORMITY, UNISON, UNIVERSAL, UNIVERSE, and UNIVERSITY.

Of the words in *Un-*, by far the greater number belong to the negative class (UN⁻¹), and include many which are in common use and frequently of long standing. The majority of these are either adjectives (commonly with derivatives in *-ly* and *-ness*), as *unfortunate*, *unfriendly*, *unfruitful*, *ungainly*, *ungenerous*, *ungentle*, *ungodly* (due to Tindale), *ungovernable*, *ungraceful*, *ungracious*, *ungrateful*, *unhandsome*, *unhandy*, *unhappy*, *unholy*, *unjust*, *unkind*, *unkindly*, *unlawful*, *unlike*, *unlikely*, *unlucky*, *unmerciful*, *unnatural*, *unnecessary*, *unpleasant*, *unprofitable*, *unquestionable*, *unready*, *unreasonable*, or participial forms in *-ed*, as *unformed*, *unfounded*, *unfurnished*, *ungathered*, *ungoverned*, *unguarded*, *unhallowed*, *unharmful*, *unheard*, *unheeded*, *unhindered*, *unlettered*, *unlicensed*, *unlimited*, *unmeasured*, *unmitigated*, *unmixed*, *unmoved*, *unnamed*, *unnoted*, *unnumbered*, *unobserved*, *unoccupied*, *unopened*, *unpaid*, *unperceived*, *unpolished*, *unprepared*, *unprincipled*, *unprovided*, *unpublished*, *unqualified*, *unquestioned*, *unrehearsed*, *unrestrained*. In the obsolete and obsolescent examples there is much material to illustrate the history of the prefix and its relation to the synonymous IN-.

Although they are in the minority, the number of words formed with UN⁻² is by no means small, and includes many verbs in regular use, as *unfurl*, *unhand*, *unharness*, *unhinge*, *unhitch*, *unhook*, *unhorse*, *unhouse*, *unjoin*, *unkennel*, *unking*, *unload*, *unlock*, *unloose*, *unmake*, *unman*, *unmask*, *unpack*, *unpin*, *unravel*, *unrig*.

Outside of these various classes the only word of special interest is UNLESS, in which the *un-* is an alteration of the preposition *on*.

Words with historical associations chiefly belong to the *uni-* group, as UNIAT, UNICORN, UNIFORM, UNIFORMITY, UNION, UNION FLAG, UNIONIST, UNION JACK, UNITE *sb.*, UNITED *ppl. a.*, and UNITED STATES.