

# A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

(VOLUME X. SECOND HALF. V—Z.)  
V—VERIFICATIVE.

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

IN this section of the Dictionary there are 1722 Main words, 203 Special Combinations explained under these, 577 Obvious Combinations, and 708 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms; in all 3202 words. Of the Main words 437 are marked † as obsolete, and 98 are marked || as alien or not fully naturalized.

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

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.	'Century' Dict.	Funk's 'Standard'.	Here.
Words recorded	268	1200	1606	1352	3202
Words illustrated by quotations	221	495	520	166	2522
Number of quotations	713	793	2156	217	15,684

In the corresponding portion of Richardson the quotations number 824.

For the reasons given in the introductory article on the letter, the words beginning with V are almost entirely of foreign origin, and the great majority either directly or indirectly have their source in Latin. Most of the important Latin stems with initial *v* are represented in English, and many of them very extensively, as a glance over the pages of this section will show. As usual, many of these stems have passed through French, which has thus at different periods contributed a large number of common words, as *vain*, *vale*, *valiant*, *valley*, *value*, *vanish*, *vanguish*, *vantage*, *varnish*, etc. An interesting group from this source is formed by the words enumerated under the prefix VANT-. The other Romanic languages are represented by *vanilla*, *vaquero*, *vara*, *vega*<sup>1</sup>, *vellon*, *veranda*, *vendetta*, and a few others. The Romanic element is also prominent among the proper names, and adjectives formed from these, the number of which in this section is above the average.

The remaining sources are of limited extent and for the most part of less importance. A few entries are southern variants of forms in *f*-, as *vade* *v.*<sup>1</sup>, *van* *sb.*<sup>1</sup>, *vane*, *vat*, *vease*, *vell* *v.*, and *vent* *sb.*<sup>1</sup>; an exceptional instance of this substitution is found in *vener* for earlier *fneer*. This is one of a small number of words which have been adopted from the other Germanic languages: the most interesting of these is *veer*, to let out (from Dutch *vieren*), which has hitherto been confused in dictionaries with the unconnected *veer*, to turn round (from French *vérer*). The remoter European, and some Oriental, tongues have contributed such words as *vaiводе*, *vakeel*, *vallonia*, *vampire*, *Veda*.

A considerable number of the articles in this section have a historical or antiquarian interest, as those on *vaccination*, *vagabond*, *vagrant*, *valentine*, *valet*, *varlet*, *varvel*, *vassal*, *vavassour*, *velocipede*, *ventail*, *ventilation*, *ventriloquism*, *venue*, *venville*, *verderer*, *verdict*, *verge* *sb.*<sup>1</sup>, *verger*, etc.