

# A NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

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VERIFICATORY — VISOR.

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

In this section of the Dictionary there are 1580 Main words, 145 Special Combinations explained under these, 776 Obvious Combinations, and 501 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms ; in all 3002 words. Of the Main words 415 are marked † as obsolete, and 94 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	267	1000	1339	1106	3002
Words illustrated by quotations	209	445	489	192	2512
Number of quotations	654	676	1182	265	15,802

In the corresponding portion of Richardson the quotations number 724.

In respect of vocabulary this section presents no material difference of character from that containing the earlier portion of V, the great majority of the words being either directly or indirectly of Latin origin. Large portions are occupied by derivatives of the usual types from such Latin words or stems as *vērus*, *vermis*, *verna*, *vers-*, *vert-*, *vertex*, *vestis*, etc. Both in the earlier and later periods French influence is also prominent ; in addition to many substantives and verbs, this has supplied the common adj. and adv. **VERY**, which occupies one of the longest articles in the section. The prefix *vis-*, *vi-*, originally introduced from French, subsequently assumed the Latin form *VICĒ-*, but has survived unaltered in *Viscount* and its derivatives. Other Romanic languages are represented by the Italian *vermicelli*, *viola*<sup>2</sup>, *violin*, *violon*, *violoncello*, *virtu*, *virtuoso*, the Spanish *verruca*, and the Portuguese *vintem*. The few contributions from other sources include the Russian *verst*, the Scandinavian *viking*, and the South American *vicuña* and *viscacha*.

Words of similar form, but of different origin and meaning, are rare ; there are however seven substantives with the spelling *vīce*. The variety of spelling possible in older English is well illustrated in the forms of *verjuice*, *victual*, and *vinegar*, and the uncertainty in the pronunciation of some Latin words is exemplified in *vertigo* and *videlicet*.

The historical interest of many words in this section is considerable. A number of these have ecclesiastical or religious associations, as *vernicle*, *veronica*<sup>2</sup>, *versicle*, *vesper*, *vestiary*, *vestry*, *viaticum*, *vicar*, *vicarage*, *victim* (introduced by the Rhemish translators of the Bible), *vigil*, *virgin*, *virtue*, *vision*, *visit*, *visitation*, etc. Others are of importance for social, political, or legal history, as *vice-chancellor*, *vicegerent*, *victualler*, *view*, *viewer*, *vill*, *village*, *villein*, *villeinage*, *virgate*, while the arts and sciences are represented by such words as *vernier*, *verse*, *vestibule*, *vignette* (with the earlier form *vinet*), *villa*, *viol*, *violin*, etc.