

PREFACE TO THE LETTER T.

THE portion of the Dictionary (comprising the latter part of Vol. IX and the beginning of Vol. X) which treats of the words beginning with T contains in all 27,514 entries. Of that number, 14,457 are Main words, 3593 are Subordinate entries of obsolete forms, etc., 4428 are Special combinations, and 5036 are Obvious combinations not requiring explanation. Of the Main words 11,165 are still in current use, 2469 are now obsolete, and 823 are alien or not completely naturalized. The number of illustrative quotations for the whole letter is 108,926.

The comparative scale of this portion of the work and some other Dictionaries is shown by the following figures:-

	Johnson.	Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'.*	'Century' Dict.*	Funk's 'Standard' †	Here.
Words recorded	1927	10,532	13,632	13,242	27,514
Words illustrated by quotations	1842	3504	4792	1284	22,317
Number of illustrative quotations	5579	5754	11,211	1692	108,926

* Including Supplement.

† Edition 1895.

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson is 5764.

In respect of the number of words beginning with it, T is one of the larger letters of the alphabet, coming fourth in order after S, P, and C. In addition to all the vowels, it may be followed by the consonants *r* and *w* (exceptionally also by *m*, *s*, and *z*) giving the initial groups TR-, TW- (TM-, TS-, TZ-). TH- is also employed to represent the simple sounds þ and ð, and words commencing with this form a block of 164 pages between the end of TE- and the beginning of TI-, similar to those formed by CH-, PH-, and SH- in their respective places. These natural divisions of the letter vary considerably in the character of the vocabulary which they include. Native English words are fairly well represented in TA- and TE-, are numerous in TH-, TI-, TO-, and TW-, less frequent in TR- and TU-, and almost entirely absent in TY-. Where this element is scanty, the Romanic is usually large, and in fact is prominent in all sections, except TH-, TI-, TW-, and TY-. The Scandinavian and other Teutonic languages have contributed occasional words in most of the divisions, the most important of all being the Scand. verb TAKE, which has completely supplanted the native *nim*. Greek is strongly represented in TE-, TH-, TO-, TR-, and TY-, and words from Oriental and more remote sources are most numerous in TA-, TO-, and TR-. In contrast to the letters C and P, T is not greatly enlarged by formations with a common prefix; words in TRANS-, however, occupy 32 pages, and in ME. a considerable number of compounds with TO- were current.

Taken as a whole, T includes no small number of important words of English origin, as *tail, tale, tame, teach, tell, thing, think, throw, tide, timber, time, to* (and *too*), *tongue, tool, tooth, tree, true*, etc.; also the definite article *the*, the demonstrative pronouns and adverbs *that, there, this*, etc., and the numerals *two, three, ten* (*twelve, twenty*, etc.). Among the common words taken from French or Latin are *task, taste, tax, temper, tempt, tender, touch, try*, and *turn*. The number of interesting words occurring throughout the letter is distinctly large, and much historical information or illustrative material will be found in such articles as those on *tariff, tax, tea, telegraph, telephone, telescope, temple, tennis, testament, theatre, theodolite, thermometer, throne, ticket, tithe, tittle, tobacco, toll, ton, torpedo, tory, tower, town, trade, traffic, tragedy, train, tram* (-car, etc.), *transept, treasurer, treasury, trespass, tribe, triforium, trinity, tulip, tune, tutor, type*, etc.

Arranging and sub-editing of the material collected for T was carried on by various voluntary helpers during the years 1881-90. The Rev. W. B. R. Wilson of Dollar worked through *Tal* to *Tiling* in 1881-3, *To* to *Tozy* in 1884-8, and *Trea* to *Triluminous* in 1889-90. *Till* to *Tmetic* was done by Mr. T. Wilson of Harpenden, Herts., in 1882-6. *To* to *Tz* was chronologically arranged by Miss M. Westmacott in 1882-3. *Tra* to *Traze* was sub-edited by Mr. A. Sweeting in 1882-4, and again in 1888-9 to incorporate the new material which had by that time been collected. *Tron* to *Truage* was sorted and arranged by the Rev. C. G. Duffield in 1882-5, and *Truan* to *T-square* by Mr. W. Welch in the same years. *Tu* to *Tzirid* was also sub-edited by Mr. A. Lyall at this time. In 1892 the Rev. Mr. Wilson began a new revision of the letter, and worked carefully through almost the whole of the material, finishing his extensive task in 1910. This thorough sub-editing of T, extending over so many years, is only one part of the valuable aid steadily given by Mr. Wilson towards the progress and completeness of the Dictionary.

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As in previous letters, much assistance on special points has been generously given by scholars and experts in various branches of knowledge. For such help acknowledgements are due to the following (in addition to many of those named in the preface to Vol. VII):—Dr. A. Beets, Leiden (for Dutch etymology), Prof. E. Björkman, Upsala (Scandinavian etym.), Mr. A. D. L. Cary, Librarian at the War Office (military terms), Sir W. R. Gowers (medical terms), Mr. G. F. Hill (numismatics), Mr. Daniel Jones (phonetics), Mr. L. G. Carr Laughton (naval terms), Mr. Willoughby Maycock, C.M.G. (horse-racing terms), Sir William Schlich, K.C.I.E. (forestry), Dr. A. Strachan (geology), M. Antoine Thomas (Romanic etym.), Mr. A. P. Trotter (electrical terms).

The proofs of T have been read throughout by Miss E. P. Thompson and Miss Edith Thompson, Lansdown, Bath; Mr. R. J. Whitwell, B.Litt., Oxford; Rev. Canon Fowler, D.C.L., Durham; Rev. J. B. Johnston, B.D., Falkirk; Mr. H. F. Rutter, M.Inst.C.E.; in part also by Mr. F. J. Amours, Glasgow (until his death in 1910), and in later sections by Mr. G. Friedrichsen, M.A., and the Rev. C. B. Mount, M.A.

Only a small portion of T was still unprinted when Sir James Murray died on July 26, 1915, and the completion of the letter has been greatly facilitated by the work he had already done on the remaining words and by the efficient cooperation of the Scriptorium staff. Those members of the staff who have worked at the whole of T are Messrs. A. T. Maling, M.A., F. J. Sweatman, M.A., F. A. Yockney, and Misses Elsie M. R. and Rosfrith N. R. Murray. Others who have assisted for limited periods are Mr. G. Friedrichsen, M.A., Rev. P. H. Aitken, D.Litt., Mr. G. G. R. Greene, Mr. T. Z. D. Babington, B.A., and Dr. E. Brenner. Mr. C. G. Balk, who took part in the preparation of T for nearly four years, retired from Dictionary work in October, 1913, after twenty-eight years of valuable service, and died in December, 1915.

W. A. CRAIGIE.

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