

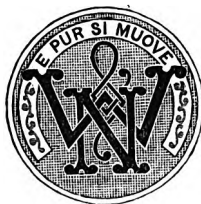
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ON THE  
POPULAR NAMES  
OF  
BRITISH PLANTS,

BRING AN EXPLANATION OF THE  
ORIGIN AND MEANING

OF THE NAMES OF OUR  
INDIGENOUS AND MOST COMMONLY CULTIVATED SPECIES,

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MDCCLXIII.

*Adv. Bil.*



## INTRODUCTION.

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THE authors of our several Floras, and other systematic writers, have been careful to translate the Greek and Latin names of our plants, and, as far as it is known, to explain their meaning; but have passed over the popular ones, as though the derivation of these were too obvious to require any notice. This is very far indeed from being the case. Our excellent lexicons and Latin dictionaries enable us in most cases to understand the former with comparative facility, but in the very backward state of English etymology, as exhibited in books of reference, it is impossible, without a great waste of time and trouble, to discover the real meaning of the latter, of those more particularly which date from an early period. It is the object of the following Vocabulary to supply the defect.

The Anglo-Saxon names, during the period of nearly five hundred years that intervened between the Conquest and the revival of botanical enquiry in the sixteenth century, had, the most of them, fallen into disuse, and been replaced with others taken from Latin and French, or transferred to plants to which they did not originally

belong. They have probably been nearly all of them preserved to us in ancient manuscripts ; but it is difficult to ascertain what were the several plants that were meant by them. Indeed it is not likely that in earlier times any great number of our indigenous species had been carefully distinguished. It is only when nations have arrived at a high state of culture, that they are curious about objects of Natural History, as such, or have special names for any but a few of the more conspicuously useful, beautiful, or troublesome of them. Our fruit and timber trees, the cereal grains, and several potherbs and medicinal plants, have the same at the present day as they bore a thousand years ago ; but far the greater number of our other species have at present only such as have been given to them within the last three hundred years. These, for the most part, were introduced from abroad ; for in the accurate study of living plants the continental nations took the lead, and our own early herbalists did little more than ascertain which they meant, and apply their names to our own. In the selection of these the father of English botany, Turner, set his successors a laudable example by keeping as closely as possible to the Flemish and German, as languages more akin to our mother tongue, and intelligible to the uneducated, than Greek and Latin. Lyte in his excellent translation of Dodoens did the same, and was worthily followed by Gerarde, and by Parkinson. The works of later herbalists are little else than transcripts of what was published by these four. Turner's Herbal came out in three parts between 1551 and 1568 ; Lyte's in

1578; Gerarde's in 1597; a new edition of it by T. Johnston in 1632; and Parkinson's two works, his *Paradisus Terrestris*, and his *Theatre of Botany*, in 1629 and 1643. The *Grete Herbal*, the *Little Herbals*, and *Macer's Herbal*, *Batman's Bartholomew de Glantvilla*, and some other black-letter books of an earlier date than *Turner's*, are of scarcely any assistance to us, from the difficulty there is to discover by their very inadequate descriptions, what plants they mean. The ancient vocabularies published by *Jos. Mayer and Wright*, and by *Halliwell and Wright*, and others in the *British Museum\** and foreign libraries, are, for the same reason, very seldom available.

There are distinguished botanists at the present day who look upon popular names as leading to confusion, and a nuisance, and who would gladly abandon them, and ignore their existence. But this is surely a mistake, for there will always be ladies and others, who, with the greatest zeal for the pursuit of Natural History, have not had the opportunity of learning Greek and Latin, or have forgotten it, and who will prefer to call a plant by a name that they can pronounce and recollect. We need but to ask ourselves, what success would have attended the exertions of the late excellent and benevolent Professor Henslow among the little pupils of his village school, if he had used any names but the popular ones. Besides, admitting all that can be urged against them from a purely botanical

\* I have here the agreeable duty of acknowledging the kindness of Mr. J. J. Bennett, the Curator of the Botanical collections, in most handsomely placing at my disposal many extracts from these manuscripts, that he had made for a similar undertaking.

point of view, we still may derive both pleasure and instruction from tracing them back to their origin, and reading in them the habits and opinions of former ages. In following up such an analysis we soon find that we are travelling far away from the humble occupation of the herbalist, and are entering upon a higher region of literature, the history of man's progress, and the gradual development of his civilization. Some of the plants that were familiar to our ancestors in central Asia, bear with us to this day the very names they bore there, and as distinctly intimate by them the uses to which they were applied, and the degree of culture which prevailed where they were given, as do those of the domestic affinities the various occupations of the primeval family. The names of animals, with which many are compounded, carry us still farther back, or to still more distant regions ; for in some cases it is impossible now to deduce any meaning from them at all, and it is probable that the names may have been adopted, with the knowledge of the animal, from an entirely alien nation. In such, for instance, as *hound* and *ox*, we have unquestionable proof that they must have been given to those animals, before the existing dialects of our ancient mother tongue had assumed their distinctive form ; and this must have been at an immensely remote point of time. For to deduce from the same language others so different from one another, not only in their vocabulary, but in their grammatical constructions and declensions, as were already in their earliest known state the oldest of them with which we are acquainted, the Sanskrit, Latin, Greek,

and Gothic, required a period not of centuries merely, but millennia.

The most interesting, in this respect, of the names that have come down to us, are those which date from a period antecedent to the settlement of the German race in England, names which are deducible from Anglo-Saxon roots, and identical, with allowance for dialectic peculiarities, in all the High and Low German, and Scandinavian languages, and, what is particularly worthy of our attention, each of them expressive of some distinct meaning. These will prove, what with many readers is a fact ascertained upon other evidence, such as the contents of sepulchral mounds, traditionary laws, and various parallel researches, that the tribes which descended upon Britain had entered Europe, not as a set of savages, or wandering pastoral tribes, or mere pirates and warriors, but as colonists, who, rude as they may have been in dress and manners, yet, in essential points, were already a civilized people. It will be seen at the same time that they must have come from a colder country; for while these names comprehend the Oak, Beech, Birch, Hawthorn, and Sloe, trees that extend far into Northern Asia, they do not comprise the Elm, Chesnut, Maple, Walnut, Sycamore, Holly, or any evergreen, except of the fir tribe, or Plum, Pear, Peach, or Cherry, or any other fruit-tree, except the Apple. For all these latter they adopted Latin names, a proof that at the time when they first came into contact with the Roman provincials on the Lower Rhine, they were not the settled inhabitants of the country they were then occupying, but

foreigners newly arrived there as colonists or conquerors from a country where those trees were unknown. It is remarkable that the early Greek writers make no mention of any German tribes, but represent the Scythians as the next neighbours of the Celts, and this difference in the names of the one set of trees and the other, and the names which they adopted being Roman, and not Celtic, suggests that the Germans had come down from the north-east not very long before the Christian era, and intruded themselves, as a wedge, between those two more anciently recorded nations.

There seems to be much misapprehension in respect to this great movement of the Eastern races which broke up the Roman empire. The subject is one, into which it would here be out of place to enter fully, and it has been largely treated by J. Grimm in his admirable *Geschichte der Deutschen Sprache*. But even in the following vocabulary we shall see evidence of the continuous advance of a civilized race from the confines of India to these islands, and nothing indicative of a great rush from the North of wild hordes bent upon robbery and destruction, as it has been usually represented to have been. The gradual drying of the Caspian Sea left the interior of Asia more and more barren, the knowledge of the useful metals facilitated the conquest of the savages of the West, and predatory bands of Huns and Turks and allied nomadic nations are likely to have accelerated the movement by rendering the labours of agriculture less remunerative. Thus the migration, being one that proceeded from constantly acting



causes, extended over many centuries. Let us lay aside all prepossessions, and enquire what light is thrown by the following vocabulary upon the real state of the Germanic tribes at that period. In these mere names, setting aside all other sources of information, we discover that these people came from their home in the East with a knowledge of letters, and the useful metals, and with nearly all the domestic animals; that they cultivated oats, barley, wheat, rye, and beans; built houses of timber, and thatched them; and what is important, as showing that their pasture and arable land was intermixed, and acknowledged as private property, they hedged their fields and fenced their gardens. Cæsar denies this; but the frontier tribes, with whom he was acquainted, were living under certain peculiar Mark laws, and were, in fact, little else than an army on its march. The unquestionably native, and not Latin or Celtic origin of such names as Beech and Hawthorn, of Oats and Wheat, prove that although our ancestors may have been indebted to the provincials of the empire for their fruit trees, and some other luxuries, for a knowledge of the fine arts, and the Latin literature, and a debased Christianity, the more essential acquirements upon which their prosperity and progress as a nation depended, were already in their possession. Like the scattered lights that a traveller from the wilderness sees here and there in a town that lies shrouded in the darkness of night in a valley beneath him, and the occasional indistinct and solitary voice of some domestic animal, that for a moment breaks the silence, these distant echoes of the past, these

specks that glimmer from its obscurity, faint as they are, and few and far between, assure us that we are contemplating a scene of human industry, and peace, and civilization.

In this respect the enquiry is one of the highest interest. In another it is probable that some who consult these pages will be disappointed. The names have usually been given to the plants from some use to which they were applied, and very few of them bear any trace of poetry or romance. In short, our Sweet Alisons and Herb Truloves, our Heartseases, Sweet Cicelies, and Sweet Williams resolve themselves into sadly matter-of-fact terms, which arose from causes very different from the pretty thoughts with which they are now associated, and sometimes, as in the case of the Forget-me-not, were suggestive of very disagreeable qualities. Many we shall find to have been given to them in accordance with the so-called *doctrine of signatures*. This was a system for discovering the medicinal uses of a plant from something in its external appearance, that resembled the disease it would cure; and proceeded upon the belief that God had in this manner indicated its especial virtues. Thus the hard stony seeds of the Gromwell must be good for gravel, and the knotty tubers of scrophularia for scrofulous glands; while the scaly pappus of Scabiosa showed it to be a specific in leprous diseases, the spotted leaves of Pulmonaria, that it was a sovereign remedy for tuberculous lungs, and the growth of Saxifrage in the fissures of rocks, that it would disintegrate stone in the bladder. For, as Wm. Coles tells us in

his Art of Simpling, ch. xxvii, "Though Sin and Sathan have plunged mankinde into an Ocean of Infirmities, yet the mercy of God which is over all his workes, maketh Grasse to grow upon the Mountaines, and Herbes for the use of men, and hath not only stamped upon them a distinct forme, but also given them particular Signatures, whereby a man may read, even in legible characters, the use of them."

Even the separate portions of a plant were exhibited upon this principle. Thus, in P. Lauremberg's *Apparatus Plantarum*, p. 28, we read of Garlick, "*Allii semen nigrum est. Oculos nigredine et tenebris obfuscatur. Hoc intelligendum est de oculis sanis. Ast qui ob vitiosam humiditatem hebetes sunt, ab iis id vitii allium abigit. Tunica allii rubicunda. Sanguinem expurgat. Cavo est caule. Prodest tracheæ affectibus.*" ["The seed of garlick is black: it darkens the eyes with blackness and obscurity. This is to be understood of healthy eyes. But those which are dull through vicious humidity, from these garlick drives that viciousness away. The tunic of garlick is ruddy: it expels blood. It has a hollow stalk: and it helps affections of the windpipe."] Others, we shall find relate to the economical uses to which they were once applied. Such were the Nettle, whose fibres were used for netting; the Gill, with which ale was gilled or fined; and the Sow-thistle, which its Anglo-Saxon name, *þuseðistel*, shows to have been valued for its sprouts. Some few are descriptive; some refer to the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church; some to the elegant mythology of the Greeks;

some to a vulgar joke. In thinking over these names, and the antiquated notions that they represent, we are led at every moment to recal the times from which they date, to picture to ourselves the living figures of our ancestors, to hear them speaking their obsolete dialect, and almost to make the weeds that shadow their grave tell more than their tombstone of its sleeping inhabitants.

The terms with which we have to deal may for convenience be referred to two groups, as Germanic, or Romanic. To the former belong such as are of Anglo-Saxon, German, or Low German, or Scandinavian origin, and to the latter such as are French, or derived from other forms of debased Latin, including a few adopted into it from the Arabic. When a word falls within the first group, we find great assistance in Dr. Bosworth's and J. Jamieson's Dictionaries, and in the works of Adelung, Bopp, Pott, Diefenbach, and more especially the brothers Grimm, and in those of the Frisian and Scandinavian writers. French words from the loss of those Celtic dialects with which the Latin element of the language was corrupted, and the extreme degree of debasement to which it has arrived, are of much more difficult analysis. For these we have the assistance of Diez's *Worterbuch der romanischen Sprachen*, and Scheler's *Dictionnaire d'Etymologie Française*; the latter, however, a very defective work, for it omits the greater number of even the commonest plants. In the general dictionaries of that language etymology is quite disregarded. A large number of the names referrible to this group have been adopted from the Latin of the Middle

Ages, a jargon that, with many peculiarities in each country, was at one period used all over the West of Europe, and is explained in the great *Lexicon Mediæ Latinitatis* of Dufresne. These names, corrupt as they were from the first, were further corrupted by ignorant collectors to such a degree, as in many cases to defy all analysis, and render it necessary to refer to old vocabularies, catalogues, and herbals to discover their meaning.

In this enquiry we derive but very little information from any recent work. Skinner's *Etymologicon Botanicum* was published in 1671, and contained all the names that were known to the author; but in his time there were few materials provided for linguistic researches, and from this cause, and his having, apparently, had little or no practical acquaintance with the plants, he fell into many mistakes. Yet during the nearly two hundred years that have since elapsed, there has been no other work of the kind. Talbot, who in his *English Etymologies* displays a good knowledge of botany, has dissected several of these names very ingeniously, but has neglected to check his conclusions by a reference to the Herbals. A few have been explained in *Notes and Queries* and other periodicals, a few in *Wedgwood's Dictionary*, and a few in *H. Phillip's Flora Historica*, and in *Mrs. Kent's Flora Domestica*. But of these the number that has been correctly explained is extremely small indeed, and in comparison with the profound investigation of their language by the German writers, it may be said that hitherto there has been almost nothing done in England in this department of study.

The authors of our dictionaries give very few plant-names, and are quite satisfied to refer these to a corresponding French, Anglo-Saxon, or Latin word, and to suppose that they have then arrived at the root of them. Our botanists have, in general, been too much occupied with plants to care for etymology, and our lexicographers have been townsmen, and, for the most part, quite ignorant of botany, and its literature.

As the term "Ind-European" will be frequently used, and some may refer to the following vocabulary, who have not entered into philological speculations of this kind, it is necessary to mention that the analysis of words, and the comparison of their roots and grammatical structure, have proved that all the principal languages of alphabetic literature, exclusive of the Arabic and its allies, are intimately connected with the ancient dialects of Persia and Northern India. This has been considered by many writers as a proof that all the nations which speak them have descended from a common stock, and although this inference as to the people may be incorrect, still, in a philological point of view, we may treat the languages as sister descendants of some Asiatic parent which has long since perished, and rank with them such other dialects as agree with these in their roots and structure. Under "Ind-European," then, will be comprised Sanskrit and Zend, and all the Indian and Persian dialects that are related to them; Greek; Latin, and its modern varieties; Celtic; Gothic, and all the other Germanic and Scandinavian dialects; Lithuanian; Slavonian; and probably

Armenian, and Arnaut ; but not Baske, Lapp, Finn, Magyar, or Turkish. The language of the Indian Vedas, as the oldest existing member of the family, is that to which linguists refer in searching for the roots of words of this class, itself no more than the mutilated representative of another still more ancient one, which is utterly lost.

In order to avoid a long word, and for no other apparent reason, it has been proposed of late to supersede the very expressive and most unobjectionable term, of "Indo-"<sup>\*</sup> or "Ind-European," and to substitute for it that of "Aryan," which it is to be hoped will not be generally adopted. For, as well as this may apply to a few Asiatic dialects, it is only by violently wrenching words from their proper meaning, that it can be extended to the European members of the group. Other terms, such as "Japetic," "Indo-Germanic," and "Caucasian," are too vague, or too limited.

But independently of the etymology of the names taken by themselves, the question is ever arising, why they should have been affixed to certain plants. Where old writers are quoted, and they give the reason for those that they have themselves imposed, their authority is, of course, conclusive ; but in other cases their notions are often fanciful, and must be accepted with great reserve ; for old as are the writers and their books, relatively to modern botanists and floras, the names that they inter-

<sup>\*</sup> I have ventured in this word to omit the *o*, as is done in other words similarly formed from Greek and Latin ; e.g. *Celt-iberi*, *summopere*, *magnanimous*, *philanthropy*, and *neuralgia*, which are never written *Celta-Iberi*, *neuroalgia*, *magno-animous*, etc.

puted were often older than they, and the original meaning of them forgotten. Synonyms in foreign languages, including the Latin, are of essential service, but neither are these very trustworthy; for authors, mistaking the sense of some unusual or obsolete word in one language, have often translated it wrongly into another; and this is a fault that was as often made in ancient as in modern times; so that it is quite impossible to reconcile what is said of certain plants by Greek and by Latin writers. In the case of the Hyacinth, Violet, Anemomy, and other conspicuous flowers mentioned by Theocritus as Sicilian plants, this is the more extraordinary, as the flora of that island is very similar to the Italian, and from its vicinity might have been familiar to Italian poets. But we find even in our own small island that, what a Scotchman calls a "Bluebell," and makes the subject of popular songs, is a totally different flower from the English Bluebell. It is this vague and random way of applying the same name to different plants that occasions the greatest difficulty in discovering its original meaning. Who would dream that the Privet, for instance, has obtained a name indicative of early spring from having been confused under "Ligustrum" with the Primrose? or that the Primrose has borrowed its name from the Daisy? Numberless blunders of this kind arose while the art of describing a species was as yet unknown, and learned recluses, instead of studying nature in the fields, were perplexing themselves with a vain attempt to find in the north of Europe the Mediterranean plants of Theophrastus and Dioscorides. Indeed it



was not till the publication of Turner's Herbal in the sixteenth century, that there was any possibility of ascertaining with certainty, through any English work, which of several species, or, indeed, which of several genera, might be meant by any given name; and, as it would be mere waste of time to attempt it now, the following vocabulary will contain, with the exception of a few from Chaucer, none but such as have been in use since that period.

Under the head of Popular Names our enquiry will comprize those of the species most commonly cultivated in this country, as well as those of the naturalized and indigenous ones, but not Gardeners' or Farmers' names of mere varieties. Provincial words that have not found their way into botanical works, cant terms and vulgar corruptions, Welsh words, and those that are only used in Scotland or Ireland, are, with a very few exceptions, omitted, being most of them such as could not be explained without a familiar intimacy with the dialect in which they occur. Many of these are very ancient, and expressive, and good names, and curiously illustrative of habits and superstitions that are rapidly passing away; but the study of them must be left to the local antiquary. They seem, generally, to be traceable to the language of the race which settled in the district where they prevail, and much less than the book names to a French or Latin source: In the northern counties and Scotland the nomenclature is very essentially different from that of the middle and south of England, and contains many words of Norse origin, and many of Frisian. In Devonshire, and the west of Somersetshire, there is

much in it that is peculiar, and, apparently, continued from the Anglo-Saxon period; and, remarkably enough, in a district where Welsh was more or less spoken till after the Conquest, much of the Wessex pronunciation is still to be heard in the mouths of the peasantry, as in the days when its dialect was the court language. In Suffolk, too, there has been a great number of valuable old names preserved, and carefully recorded in the Vocabularies of Moore and Formby. Those of the commonest plants are the most variable, as the rarer ones have attracted too little of popular notice to have any but such as are given in books. It seems desirable that these old names should be preserved, but there is already much greater difficulty in obtaining a correct list of those of any particular district, and the meaning of them, than there was a generation ago, from the dying out of the race of herb-doctors, and of the simplers, generally females, who used to collect for them. It is doubtful, indeed, whether any one of this class could now be found, who has learnt them from tradition, and independently of modern books. One of the last was some seventy or eighty years ago living at Market Lavington in Wiltshire, a genuine old-fashioned specimen of his class, a Dr. Batter. He was understood to have had a regular medical education, probably as an apothecary, and certainly enjoyed a very high reputation. He has been described to me by a physician who knew him well, the late Dr. Sainsbury, sen., of Corsham, as a very unpretending man, and a successful practitioner, and visited and consulted from all parts of the county. He had been

brought up very humbly, and lived and dressed as a poor man in a cottage by the roadside, where he was born, and where his father and grandfather had lived before him, and been famous in their day as bonesetters. There, if the weather permitted, he would bring out his chair and table, and seat his numerous patients on the hedgebank, and prescribe for them out of doors. It is said that, being well acquainted with every part of the county, he would usually add to the names of the plants that he ordered, the localities near the home of his visitor, where they would most readily be found. There were probably up to the end of the last century many such persons in other parts of England, combining the trades of herbarist and apothecary, and humbly supplying the place of those "gentlewomen" for whom Gerarde wrote his Herbal, and of the kind and charitable nuns of an earlier time. They were people of very humble or no education, and we might be tempted to suppose that we owe the absurd names we find in the following catalogue to their ignorance and credulity. This is not at all the case. People in that rank of life seldom or never originate anything. Popular plant names, quite as much as popular tales, superstitions, ballads, and remedies, arise with a higher and more educated class of society, and merely survive in a lower, after they have elsewhere become obsolete. We can scarcely read without a smile of scorn the meaning of such names as Fumitory, Devil's bit, Consound, and Celandine; but it is to men of great celebrity in their day, to Greek and Latin writers, such as Theophrastus, Aristotle, Dioscorides, and Pliny,

to Arabian physicians, the most accomplished men of their time, and to the authors and translators of our early herbals, that we are indebted for nearly all such names as these. We are not to criticize them, or attempt to explain them away, but honestly to trace them back to their origin, and in doing so to bear in mind, for our own humiliation, that those who have betrayed such astonishing ignorance and superstition, passed in their day for philosophers and men of letters.

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## ABBREVIATIONS OF LANGUAGES.

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Ar.	Arabic.	M.Gr.	Modern Greek.
Arm.	Armenian.	M.Lat.	Middle-age Latin.
A.S.	Anglo-Saxon.	O.E.	Old English of the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries.
Boh.	Bohemian.	O.Fr.	Old French.
Bret.	Breton.	O.H.G.	Old High German.
Da.	Danish.	O.N.	Old Norse, the ancient Danish.
Du.	Dutch.	O.S.	Old Saxon of Lower Ger- many.
Er.	Erse or Old Irish.	Pers.	Persian.
Est.	Esthonian.	Pol.	Polish.
Fin.	Finnic.	Por.	Portuguese.
Fl.	Flemish.	Rus.	Russian.
Fr.	French.	Skr.	Sanskrit.
Fris.	Frisian.	Scot.	Scotch of the Lowlands.
Gael.	Gaelic of the Highlands.	Slav.	Slavonian.
G.	German.	Sp.	Spanish.
Go.	Gothic of Ulfilas.	Sw.	Swedish.
Gr.	Greek.	Tar.	Tartar.
Heb.	Hebrew.	Wal.	Walachian.
Ic.	Icelandic.	W. or Wel.	Welsh.
It.	Italian.	Zend.	The old language of Per- sia, probably the Mede dialect.
L. or Lat.	Latin.		
Lap.	Lappish.		
Lith.	Lithuanian.		
L.Ger.	Low German, Platt- deutsch.		





## POPULAR NAMES OF BRITISH PLANTS.

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AARON, a corruption of *L. arum*, Gr. *ἀρον*, into a more familiar word, *A. maculatum*, L.

ABELE, Du. *abeel*, in Pr. Pm. *awbel* or *ebelle*, from Fr. *aubel*, M.Lat. *albellus*, whitish, a word that occurs in Lambertus Ardensis, p. 79, "*Albellus cum tilia juxta crucem, ubi plantata est ad peregrinatorum requiem et præsidium*," and which refers to the white colour of the twigs and leaves. Our *Abele* is this Dutch name, *abeel*, with which it was introduced from Holland in Evelyn's time, and not the Slav. *biela*, white, from which some would derive it, in forgetfulness that we received the tree from the south and not the east of Europe. Its Italian names *albero* and *albera*, whence G. *alber*, are the M.Lat. *alberus* or *albarus*, as in the phrase, "*asses de albaro*," planks of poplar, in a chart of A.D. 971, and seem to have been formed almost equally from *L. arbore*, tree, and from *albus*, whitish, a confusion that has arisen from poplars being in the north of Italy almost the only trees that are grown.

*Populus alba*, L.

ACACIA, Gr. *ἀκασία*, guilelessness, good nature; a name given by Dioscorides, b. i. ch. 130, to a small Egyptian tree, but now transferred in popular language to an American *Robinia*, *R. pseudacacia*, L.

ACHE, Fr. *ache*, the old name of parsley, from *L. apium*, formed by a change of *pi* to *ch*, as in *sapiam* to *sache*, *propius* to *proche*, etc. now only retained in *Smallage*, the

small ach, Fr. *ache de marais*, *ache rustique*, *ache femelle*, as contrasted with the Alexander, Fr. *ache large*, *grande ache*,  
 Apium, L.

ACONITE, derived by Theophrastus from the village *Ἀκοναί*, but by Ovid, *Met.* vii. 419, from growing upon rock, *ἄκονη*,

“Quæ quia nascuntur dura vivacia caute,  
 Agrestes *aconita* vocant.”

Pliny suggests that it is so called from growing where there is no dust, *ἀ*, not, *κοῦς*, dust, “*nullo juxta ne pulvere quidem nutriente.*” It is, rather, a word of the same derivation, but used in a different sense, *ἄκοντρον*, without a struggle, alluding to the deadly virulence of its juice, which Turner says “is of all poysones the most hastie poysone.” The plant of the Greek writers has been identified with the Monkshood, *Aconitum Napellus*, L.

ADDER'S TONGUE, from the Du. *adderstong*, in old MSS. called *nedderis gres* (grass) and *nedderis-tonge*, M. Lat. *serpentaria*, from its spike of capsules having some fancied resemblance to that reptile's tongue,

*Ophioglossum vulgatum*, L.

*Adder*, a name that has replaced an older name for the reptile, *neddre*, the G. *natter*, A.S. *nædre*, through the use of *attri*, poison, as a prefix to it in such expressions as

“*pe attri neddre of onde.*”—*Rel. Ant.* p. 67.

As much as the two words are alike, they seem to have no etymological affinity to each other, *næddre* being, as remarked by Outzen under *Nêder*, related to words that mean “prick,” while *attri* is the A.S. *ætr* or *ator*, Ic. *eitr*, and related to O.H.G. *eiter*, burn. For a period they seem to have been used indiscriminately, until *nedder* was finally abandoned. Thus in *Piers Plowman* the animal is called *neddre*, but in Wycliffe's *New Testament*, *Acts*, xxviii. 3, *eddre*. Adelung and some other etymologists have re-

garded the initial *n* of the former word as accidental ; but it is in the oldest dialects, the Go. *nadre*, O.N. *naðr*, and A.S. *næddre*, that we find it, and only in modern English, Dutch, and Low German, that it is omitted. *Tongue*, A.S. *tung*, as it ought to be written still, the same word, essentially, in nearly all the Ind-European languages ; for L. *lingua* was, according to Marius Victorinus, originally *dingua*, a change of an initial *d* to *l*, of which there are numerous instances. It seems to be related to words that mean “lick” and “touch.”—See L. Diefenbach, *Lex. Comp.* ii. 673.

ADDERWORT, the snakeweed or bistort, from its writhed roots,  
Polygonum Bistorta, L.

AFFADYL, M. Lat. *affodillus*, from L. *asphodelus*, Gr. *ἄσφοδελος*, pictured in Ort. Sanit. as an Iris, an old term replaced in later times by *Daffodil*,

Narcissus pseudonarcissus, L.

AGARICK, L. *agaricum*, G. *ἀγαρικόν*.

AGRIMONY, in Chaucer *egremoine*, L. *agrimonia*, a word of uncertain origin, probably the Gr. *ἀγριμωμή*, but what this plant was, or why it was called so, is unknown.

A. Eupatorium, L.

ALBESPYNE, in old works the name of the White- or Haw-thorn, from the whiteness of its rind as contrasted with that of the Black-thorn, Fr. *aubespine*, M.Lat. *albe-pinus*, from L. *alba*, white, and *spina*, thorn,

Cratægus oxyacantha, L.

ALDER, formerly, and still locally, and more properly, *Aller*, A.S. *alr*, *aler*, with a *d* inserted for euphony, as in *alderfirst*, *alderlast*, first of all, last of all, Go. *erila*, whence G. *erle*, originally *elira*, L. *alnus*, the same word with an *n* for an *r*. Some etymologists derive it from an ancient name of water, *al*, retained in the Old Norse. There seems to be better ground for supposing some relation between the alder-tree and the *awl*, A.S. *al*, *æl*, *avel*, O.N. *alr*, the more so as the Dutch names also for the tree and the tool

are the same, *els*. It is likely that its wood was used for boring, either as a handle to some instrument of metal or stone, or in some other now undiscoverable way. The similarity of the Danish *elle* with the name of fairies in that language, *elle-trä*, and *elle-folk*, has misled Göethe to give the name of *erlen-könig* to the fairy-king. There is no etymological connexion between the two.

*Alnus glutinosa*, L.

„ BLACK-, or BERRY-BEARING-, a buckthorn that was wrongly associated by the older botanists with the alder, but distinguished from it by bearing berries,

*Rhamnus Frangula*, L.

ALE-COST, from L. *costus*, some unknown aromatic, and *ale*, so called from its having formerly been esteemed an agreeable aromatic bitter, and much cultivated in this country for flavouring ale.—See COSTMARY.

*Balsamita vulgaris*, L.

ALE-HOOF, ground-ivy, from *ale*, and *hoof*, which appears to be the A.S. *hufe*, crown, Du. *huif*, O.N. *hufa*, and to have been given to this plant as translating its Gr. and Lat. names στεφανωμα γης, *corona terræ*. The Du. *eiloof*, from which our dictionaries derive it, is itself an adopted English word. J. and W. Grimm would regard it as a compound of *ei*, ivy, and *loof*, leaf, but, as we shall see under IVY, the bush has been so named from the herb, and not the herb from the bush. It deserves consideration, whether the *hoof* may be derived from A.S. *hefan*, raise, or the Du. and G. *hefe*, yeast, and have been modified to *hoof* to correspond with its Gr. and Lat. names. See GILL.

*Glechoma hederacea*, L.

ALEXANDERS or ALISANDERS, from its specific name *Alexandrinum*, as being a plant of Macedon, Alexander's country, and formerly called *Petroselinum Macedonicum*. See Dodoens, p. 697. Mr. Talbot, rather fancifully, suggests that its name has been derived from *olus atrum*, by the

insertion of an *n*, for the sake of euphony, before *t*. See Eng. Etym. Smyrnum olus atrum, L.

ALISSON or ALISON, L. *Alyssum*, from Gr. *ἀ*, not, and *λυσσα*, madness, a plant called so by the ancients, because, as Turner says, "it helpeth the biting of a wod dogge." He seems, by his description of it, to mean the field madder, *Sherardia arvensis*, L. a very different plant from that which now bears the name. That of modern botanists is a genus of Cruciferæ, Alyssum, L.

„ SWEET-, from its scent of honey,

A. maritimum, L.

ALKANET, Fr. *orcanette*, a dim. formed from It. and Sp. *alcana*, representing the Arabic *El* or *Al hanne* or *canne*, the name of a very different plant, the *Lawsonia inermis*, L. which yields, like the Alkanet, a red dye, the *Henna* of the harems, Anchusa tinctoria, L.

ALKEKENGİ, from the Arabic, Physalis Alkekengi, L.

ALL-BONE, a silly name taken from the Gr. *ὅλοσ*τεον, as a compound of *ὅλος*, whole, and *ὄσ*τεον, bone, applied to a very tender plant, "whereof," says Gerarde, "I see no reason, unlesse it be by the figure called *Antonomia*; as, when we say in English, 'He is an honest man,' our meaning is, 'He is a knave.'" It is easier to explain it by supposing that the *ὅλοσ*τεον of Dioscorides was some other very different plant. Stellaria Holostea, L.

ALLELUJAH, see HALLELUJAH.

ALLGOOD, Du. *algoede*, G. *allgut*, from a former Latin name, *Tota bona*, which in old works was given to a Goose-foot, and also to the Clary, thence called in Cotgrave and Palsgrave *toutte bonne*, on account, it is supposed, of their excellent qualities both as esculents and as remedial agents, Chenopodium Bonus Henricus, L.

ALL-HEAL, see CLOWN'S ALL-HEAL.

ALL-SEED, from the great quantity of its seed,

Radiola millegrana, L.

and also

Chenopodium polyspermum, L.

AMADOU, from the Fr. *amadouer*, attract,

*Polyporus igniarius*, Fries.

AMARANTH, Gr. *ἀμαραντος*, from *ἀ*, not, *μαραίνω*, wither, a word of not unfrequent occurrence in Milton and other poets, as a vague name for some unfading flower. The original species was one that, from its quality of reviving its shape and colour when wetted with water, was much used by the ancients for winter chaplets. The phrase in St. Peter's 1st Epis. ch. v. 4, "a crown of glory that fadeth not away," is in the original, "the amarantine crown of glory," *τον ἀμαραντινον της δοξας στεφανον*. Pope talks of "amarantine bowers!" The plants which botanists call so are the species of the genus to which the "Love lies bleeding" belongs. Amarantus, L.

AMBROSE, a name given in old writings to some sweet-scented herb, from Gr. *ἀμβροσια*, the food of immortals, Skr. *amrita*, elixir of immortality, from *a*, not, and *mri*, Lat. *mori*, die; but it is uncertain what plant was meant by the Greek term. The Pr. Pm. translates it *salgia sylvestris*, wild sage; Palsgrave *ache champestre*, field parsley; Cotgrave *oke-of-Cappadocia*, or *-of-Jerusalem*. The name is now assigned to a plant of the Wormwood kind, *Ambrosia*, L. The Ambrosia of the poets had the power of immortalizing, and is said to have been discovered by Isis,

*Ἐυρεῖν δε ἀντην και το της ἀθανασίας φαρμακον.*—Diod. Sic. i. 25.

In Homer and the other early poets ambrosia was the food, as nectar was the drink, of the gods, and in Ovid ex Ponto, i. 10, we have

"Nectar et ambrosiam, latices epulasque deorum."

But the two became confused together, and the same author tells us, Met. xiv. 606, that Venus, after bathing Æneas,

"Ambrosia cum dulci nectare mista,  
Contigit os, fecitque deum."

And in the tale of Cupid and Psyche in Apuleius, b. vi, Jupiter, in conferring immortality on Psyche, “*porrecto ambrosiæ poculo, Sume, inquit, Psyche, et immortalis esto.*” The Sanskrit *amrita*, the Greek *ἀμβροσία*, and the Hebrew *chayim*, or tree of life, have reference to the same idea of an immortalizing fruit, and it will be the juice of this which the Assyrian sculptors represent their kings as quaffing. The *Ambrose* of our older English writers seems to have been  
Chenopodium Botrys, L.

AMEOS, the genitive of *Anmi*, used, like *Caruy*, for the seed of the plant, A. majus, L.

ANEMONY, Gr. *ἀνεμώνη*, from *ἀνεμος*, Skr. *anila*, wind, from *an*, to blow. It is said by Bion to have sprung from the tears that Venus wept over the body of Adonis, a myth that seems to whisper that the tears of that frail and loving goddess were soon blown away.—Idyl. i. l. 62.

Ἄι ἄι ταν Κυθηρειαν, ἀπώλετο καλὸς Ἄδωνις.  
Δακρυὸν ἂ Παφία τοσσὸν χεεῖ, ὅσσον Ἄδωνις  
Αἶμα χεεῖ· τὰ δὲ πάντα ποτὶ χθονὶ γίγνεται ἄνθη.  
Αἶμα ροδὸν τικτεῖ, τὰ δὲ δακρυὰ ταν ἀνεμώναν.

“ But oh the Cytherean ! slain and dead,  
The fair Adonis slain !  
Her tears, as plenteous as the blood he shed,  
She pours amain ;  
And flowers are born from every drop that flows,  
From tears the Anemony, from blood the Rose.”

Whether the flower that we now call *Anemony* was that which the Sicilian writers meant, is a question, into which it were here out of place to enter. Pliny tells us, H.N. xxi. 11, that it was so named, because it never opens, but when the wind is blowing. Ovid describes it as a very fugacious flower, and after comparing it with that of the Pomegranate, says, Met. x. 737,

“ Brevis est tamen usus in illis,  
Namque male hærentem, et nimia levitate caducum  
Excutiunt idem qui præstant nomina venti.”

It is doubtful whether he meant the same plant as Pliny, and he could scarcely have meant that which we call so now; more probably a *cistus*, or rock-rose.

*Anemone*, L.

ANETH, dill seed, from L. *anethum*, Gr. *ἀνηθον*,

*A. graveolens*, L.

ANGELICA, its Lat. name, either as Fuchs tells us, *Hist. Plant.* p. 126, "a suavissimo ejus radice odore, quem spirat," or "ab immensa contra venena facultate," from the sweet scent of its root, or its value as a remedy against poisons and the plague, being, as Brunschwygk tells us, "das aller edelst wasser das man haben mag für die pestilenz,"

*A. sylvestris*, L.

ANTHONY, St. his nut and turnep, see under SAINT A.

APPLE, A.S. *æpl*, *æppel*, O.N. *epli*, Sw. *æple*, Da. *æble*, G. *apfel*, O.H.G. *aphol*, Wel. *afal*, derived from a more ancient form, *apalis*, preserved in the Lith. *obolys*, or *obelis*, Lett. *ahboli*. In all the Celtic and Slavonian languages the word is, with allowance for dialect, the same. This similarity, or, we may say, identity of name, among alien nations would lead us to believe that it was brought with the tree from some one country, and that, no doubt, an Eastern one; and that the garden apple is not, as it is often supposed to be, merely an improved crab, but rather the crab a degenerate apple. This was, apparently, the only fruit with which our ancestors were acquainted, before they came into Europe; for, with the exception of a few wild berries and the hazel nut, it is the only one for which we have a name that is not derived from the Latin or French. It seems to have accompanied them on a northern route from the western spur of the Himalayan mountains, a district extending through Ancient Bactria, Northern Persia, and Asia Minor, to the Caucasus, and one from which we have obtained, through the Mediterranean countries, and within the historical period, the peach, apricot, plum, damson, cherry, filbert, vine, and walnut,



and probably some of the cereal grains; a district in which there is reason to think that our portion of the human race first attained to civilization, and whence it spread, with its domestic animals and plants, to the south-east and north-west. The meaning of the word is unknown, but as *ap* is, in Zend and Sanskrit, "water," and *p'hala* "fruit," we might be tempted to believe that it originally meant "water-fruit," or "juice-fruit," with which the Latin *pomum*, from *po*, to drink, exactly tallies. The remarkable coincidences of name, to which allusion has been made, are due to the intimate connexion with each other of all the Ind-European nations and their languages, from their having grown up in the same nursery together in Upper Asia, and dispersed subsequently to their becoming acquainted with this fruit, and not to a mutual borrowing of it since their settlement in Europe.

Pyrus Malus, L.

APRICOT, in Shakspeare, M.N.D. iii. 1, APRICOCK, in older writers, ABRICOT and ABRECOCKE, It. *albericocca* and *albicocco*, from Sp. *albaricoque*, Ar. *al burqûq* or *barkokon*, from Mod.Gr. *βρεκοκκα*, O.Gr. of Dioscorides and Galen, *πρακκοκκια*, L. *præcoqua* or *præcocia*, early, as being considered to be an early peach. A passage from Pliny, Hist. Nat. xv. 12, explains its name. "Post autumnum maturescunt Persica, æstate *præcocia*, intra xxx annos reperta." There is a good paper upon it in "Notes and Queries," Nov. 23, 1850. "The progress of this word," says the author, "from W. to E., and then from E. to S.W., and thence to N. and its various changes in that progress, are strange. One would have supposed that the Arabs living near the region of which the fruit is a native, might have either had a name of their own for it, or at least have borrowed one from Armenia. But they have apparently adopted a slight variation of the Latin. The Spaniards must have had the fruit in Martial's time, [who alludes to it in the words,

‘Vilia maternis fueramus præcoqua ramis,  
Nunc in adoptivis persica cara sumus.’

—Lib. xiii. Ep. 46.]

but they do not take the name immediately from the Latin, but through the Arabic, and call it *albaricoque*. The Italians again copy the Spanish, not the Latin, and call it *albicocco*. The French from them have *abricot*. The English, though they take their word from the French, at first called it *abricock* (restoring the *k*), and lastly with the French termination, *apricot*.” *Prunus armeniaca*, L.

ARACH, in Pr. Pm. and in Palsgrave ARAGE, the older spelling of ORACH.

ARCHAL, Ar. according to Parkinson, *alsachel*, a lichen called more commonly *Orchil*, *Roccella tinctoria*, D.C.

ARCHANGEL, M. Lat. *archangelica*, called so, Parkinson tells us, “ab eximiis ejus viribus;” Nemnich, from its having been revealed by an angel in a dream; more probably from its being in blossom on the Archangel St. Michael’s day, the 8th of May, old style, and thence supposed to be a preservative against evil spirits and witchcraft, and particularly against the disease in cattle called elfshot, G. *hexenschuss*, *ulcera regia*. The name is applied to an umbelliferous plant, *Angelica archangelica*, L.

And to certain labiates, severally called

„ RED-	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i> , L.
„ WHITE-	<i>Lamium album</i> , L.
„ YELLOW-	<i>Galeobdolon luteum</i> , L.

ARNUT, or ERNUT, Du. *aardnut*, the earth nut,

*Bunium flexuosum*, With.

ARROW-GRASS, a translation of its Greek name, *triglochin*, from the three points of its capsules, *τρεις*, three, *γλωχης*, arrow-point,

*T. palustre*, L.

ARROW-HEAD, from the shape of the leaves,

*Sagittaria sagittifolia*, L.

ARSMART, Fr. *curage*, the water-pepper, from its use in hemorrhoidal affections,

*Polygonum hydropiper*, L.

ARTICHOKE, in Turner ARCHICHOKE, Fr. *artichaux*, It. *articiocco*, Sp. *artichofa* and *alcachofa*, from Ar. *al-char-schufa*. Diez derives it from Ar. *ardischaukt*, earth-thorn, a name singularly inappropriate to the loftiest species of its genus, and very improbable. That the word is Arabic, and was introduced with the plant by the Moors of Spain, there can be little doubt. *Cynara scolymus*, L.

ASARABACCA, a name adopted, as a compromise or middle term, in consequence of the confusion between the two plants, *Asarum* and *Baccharis*, one with the other. "In former times," says Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 115, "divers did thinke that Asarum and Baccharis in Dioscorides were all one hearbe, and thereupon came the name of Asarabaccara; some taking Asarum to be Baccharis, and so contrarily some taking Baccharis to be Asarum."

*Conyza squarrosa*, Sm. and *Asarum Europæum*, L.

ASH, A.S. *æsc*, Da. and Sw. *ask*, O.N. *askr*, O.H.G. *asc*, G. and Du. *esche*. From the toughness of the wood it was much used for spear shafts, and A.S. *æsc* came to mean a spear, and *æsc-plega*, the game of spears, a battle. *Fresne* in the same manner was used in France for a spear, whence the expression *brandir le fresne*. It was further extended to the man who bore it, and he was himself called *æsc*. Being also the wood of which boats were built, the A.S. *æsc* and O.N. *askr* meant a vessel, just as a barge with an oak bottom is called, from its wood, in L. Germ. *eeke*, Du. *æke*, Sw. *eka*. And here we are reminded of the Gr. *ἀσκος*, an inflated skin, used as a support in swimming rivers, and perhaps as a coracle, but scarcely connected etymologically with the *ask* or *ash* tree. The derivation and primary meaning of *Ash* is obscure. It is not improbably connected with L. *ascia*, Gr. *ἀξίωη*, and *axe*, and with L. *axis*, an axle, from the tough wood of this tree having in all times been preferred for axe handles and axletrees.

*Fraxinus excelsior*, L.

ASH-WEED, AISE- or AX-WEED, from its ternate leaves

somewhat resembling those of the *ache* or celery, a word derived from L. *apium* by change of *pi* to *ch*, as in *sache* from *sapiam*, *proche* from *propius*,

*Ægopodium podagraria*, L.

ASPARAGUS, Gr. *ἀσπαραγος*, *A. officinalis*, L.

ASPEN, in Chaucer ASPE, the adjective form of which we have adopted as the name of the tree. A.S. *æpse* and *æsp*, G. *aspe*, O.H.G. *aspa*, O.N. *espi*, words that seem to represent the sibilant sound of its ever-moving leaves, as in *asp*, Gr. *ἀσπις*, a serpent, from its hissing, *whisper*, *wasp*, and *sibilo*. Skinner would derive it from Gr. *ἀσπαιρω*, palpitate, but the word is much older in the north than the study of Greek. *Populus tremula*, L.

ASPHODEL, Gr. *ἀσφοδελος*, a word of unknown derivation, applied in Homer, *Odyss.* xi. 539, as an epithet to a meadow, *ἐν ἀσφοδελῷ λειμῶνι*. The plant so called by later Greek poets is supposed to have been the *Narcissus poeticus*, L.; that of our own medieval writers the daffodil; while that of modern botanists is

*Asphodelus*, L.

ASSES-FOOT, Fr. *pas d'âne*, the colt's foot, from the shape of the leaf, *Tussilago farfara*, L.

*Ass*, A.S. *assa* and *esol*, L. *asinus*, and its dim. *asellus*, which seem at first sight to be derivatives of *asus*, as the Da. Du. and G. *esel* of *as*, a term, says Adelung, of wider signification originally. Here appearances are perhaps deceptive. The Lat. *asinus* is more probably a foreign word, the Gr. *ἄσινος*, whence *ὄνος*, and originally African or Asiatic. The *esel* of the Germanic nations is derived from L. *asellus*, and its adoption all over the west and north of Europe indicates that either this animal was introduced from the Mediterranean countries, and did not accompany our ancestors from Asia, as, from its inability to bear the extreme cold of the northern part of that continent, it scarcely could have done; or that, as in the case of the fruit trees, they first became acquainted with its

use through their intercourse with the Latins. *Foot*, A.S. and Sw. *fof*, and, with allowance for dialect, the same word in all other Germanic dialects, the Lat. *pes pedis*, Gr. *πους ποδος*, and Skr. *pad*, related to the Skr. verb *pad*, walk, Gr. *παρειν*, and occurring throughout the whole group of Ind-European languages.

ASS-PARSLEY, in old works given as the translation of Fr. *cicutaire*, the same probably as Fool's-parsley.

ASTER, Gr. *ἀστὴρ*, a star, from the radiate flower,

Aster, L.

AUTUMN-BELLS, from its bell-shaped flowers and their season of opening,

Gentiana pneumonanthe, L.

AVENS, in Pr. Pm. *avence*, in Topsell and Askham *avance*, M. Lat. *avantia* or *avencia*, in Ort. San. *anancia*, a word of obscure origin, and quite unintelligible, spelt also *auartia*, *anantia*, *arancia*, and *amancia*,

„ COMMON-,

Geum urbanum, L.

„ MOUNTAIN-,

Dryas octopetala, L.

„ WATER-,

Geum rivale, L.

AVEROYNE, Fr. *aurone*, from Lat. *abrotanum* (Scheler),

Artemisia abrotanum, L.

AWL-WORT, from its subulate leaves,

Subularia aquatica, L.

AYE-GREEN, ever-green, a translation of Lat. *semper-vivum*. *Aye* is the A. S. *æg*, ever, properly an egg, which, having no beginning or end, was symbolical of eternity, Go. *aiu*, L. *æ* in *ævum*, *ætas*, and *æternus*, Gr. *ἀει*. The plant so called from its conspicuous tufts of evergreen leaves, the houseleek,

S. tectorum, L.

BACHELOR'S BUTTONS, a name given to several flowers "from their similitude to the jagged cloathe buttons, antiently worne in this kingdom," according to Johnson's *Gerarde*, p. 472, but ascribed by other writers to "a habit of country fellows to carry them in their pockets to divine their success with their sweethearts;"

usually understood to be a double variety of *Ranunculus*,  
 according to others, of *Lychnis sylvestris*, L.  
 in some counties, *Scabiosa succisa*, L.

BALDMONEY, the Mew, a corruption of *L. valde bona*,  
 very good, as we learn from the Grete Herball, ch.  
 cccxxxiii, where, speaking of *Sistra*, the author says,  
 "Sistra is dyll, some call it Mew, but that is not so.  
 Howbeit they be very like in proprieties and vertue, and  
 be put eche for other, but *Sistra* is of more vertue than  
 Mew, and the leaves be lyke an herbe called *valde bona*,  
 and beareth small sprigges as spiknarde. It groweth on  
 hye hylles." *Meum athamanticum*, L.

and in some authors, incorrectly, *Gentiana lutea*, L.

BALLOCK-GRASS, from its tubers resembling small balls,  
 whence its Greek name, *ὄρχις*, *Orchis*, L.

BALM OF BAWM, contracted from *Balsam*, L. *balsamum*,  
 by some said to be derived from Hebr. *bol smin*, chief of oils,  
 by W. Smith from Hebr. *bâsâm*, balm, and *besem*, a sweet  
 smell, terms originally applied to a plant very different from  
 that which now bears the name, *Melissa officinalis*, L.

BALSAM, see above. *Impatiens noli me tangere*, L.

BANE BERRY, A. S. *bana*, murderous, from its poisonous  
 quality. Hill says in his Herbal, p. 320, that children  
 who have eaten the fruit have died in convulsions. *Bane*  
 is the Skr. *bhan*, kill, and related to Gr. *φένω* and *φονος*.

*Actæa spicata*, L.

BANEWORT, from its baning sheep, by ulcerating their  
 entrails, as Salmon tells us, *Ranunculus flammula*, L.

BANK CRESS, from its growth in hedge banks, the Hedge  
 mustard, *Sisymbrium officinale*, L.

BARBARA, St. her cress, see under St. B.

BARBERRY OR BERBERRY, M.Lat. *berberis*, a word of  
 unknown origin. Gerarde derives it from *amyrberis*, the  
 name given to the shrub by Avicenna, and which is  
 equally obscure. In the Ort. San. c. lv, it is said to be  
 called in Arabic *amyrberberis*. *B. vulgaris*, L.

**BARLEY**, called in Sloane M.S. No. 1571, 3, at fol. 113, *barlych*, and in the A.S. Chronicle, A.D. 1124, *bærlic*, from *bær*, which represents both the A.S. *bere*, barley-corn, and *beor*, the liquor brewed from it, and *lic* for *leac*, plant, a name identical in meaning with the *bær-cræs* of Ælfric's vocabulary. It would seem that, as the language became corrupted by the settlement of Danes and French in the country, and the vowels less correctly pronounced, the *lic* was added to prevent confusion. The dictionary derivation of it from the Welsh *barlys* is untenable, both for philological reasons, and for that it is highly improbable that the English of the twelfth century would have borrowed from a half civilized mountain race a name for a familiar plant. *Hordeum vulgare*, L.

**BARNABY-THISTLE**, from its flowering about the 11th June, old style, St. Barnabas' day,

*Centaurea solstitialis*, L.

**BARREN-WORT**, called so, says Gerarde, 1st ed. p. 389, "because it is an enemy to conception, and not because it is described by Dioscorides as being barren both of flowers and leaves." Nevertheless this belief in its sterilizing powers may be due to the remark of Dioscorides, who must have meant some other plant. *Epimedium alpinum*, L.

**BASE-BROOM**, L. *Genista humilis*, a name denoting its lowly growth, *Genista tinctoria*, L.

**BASE-ROCKET**, from its rocket-like leaves, and its lowly growth compared to the genuine rocket; unless *base* is in these two names a dyer's term; *Reseda lutea*, L.

**BASIL**, Gr. *βασιλικον*, royal, *Ocimum basilicum*, L.

**BASIL-THYME**, so called, says Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 19, "because the smell thereof is so excellent, that it is fit for a king's house," *Calamintha Acinos*, Clair.

**BASSINETS**, Fr. *bassinets*, a small basin, a skull-cap, from the shape of the flower, *Ranunculus*, L.

„ **BRAVE-**, in Lyte's Herball, *Caltha palustris*, L.

**BAST-TREE**, from its inner bark furnishing bast for

matting, a word introduced with the material from Germany or Denmark, and considered by Grimm and Adelung to be connected with *binden*, bind, *Tilia Europæa*, L.

BASTARD ALKANET, a spurious kind of alkanet,

	<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> , L.
„ BALM,	<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i> ; L.
„ PIMPERNELL,	<i>Centunculus minimus</i> , L.
„ STONE-PARSLEY,	<i>Sison amomum</i> , L.
„ TOAD-FLAX,	<i>Thesium linophyllum</i> , L.

BAWME, an old spelling of *Balm*.

BAY, Fr. *baie*, from L. *bacca* used for *bacca*, by omission of *c* between two vowels. In old works it means a *berry* generally, as “the *bayes* of ivyne;” but as those of the Sweet-bay were an article of commerce, they came to be meant exclusively, and thence the name was extended to other evergreens, much as is *laurel* at the present day. By *Bay-tree* is usually understood *Laurus nobilis*, L.

BEAM-TREE, more properly WHITE BEAM, from A.S. *beam*, a tree, G. *baum*, Goth. *bagms*, O.N. *bæmr*, words related to G. *bauen*, build. *Beam*, without the *White* prefixed, is a vague term, meaning in A.S. a tree generally, so that *Beam-tree* is a silly pleonasm, a *tree-tree*.

*Pyrus Aria*, L.

BEAN, A.S. *bean*, Du. *boon*, G. *bohne*, Da. *bønne*, Sw. *böna*, is considered by Grimm to be connected with Lat. *faba*, and there are in different languages words in some degree intermediate between the two, not, however, that the Germans derived their word from the Latin. The plant probably came from an Eastern country, and by the northern, and not the Mediterranean route, and the name with it.

*Vicia faba*, L.

BEAR or BERE, A.S. *bær*, Fris. *bar*, barley, a grain that might seem to have been so called from *beer*, the liquor brewed from it, a word for which L. Diefenbach remarks that “*sichere Etymologien fehlen noch.*” Outzen and several other philologists support this derivation of it, but



J. Grimm would trace it to *Go. bairan*, bear, whence *baris*, gen. *barisis*, O.N. *barr*, gen. *bars*. *Gesch. d. Deutsch. Sprache*, i. p. 65. *Hordeum vulgare*, L.

BEARBERRY or BEAR'S BILBERRY, from its fruit being a favourite food of bears, *Arbutus uva ursi*, L.

*Bear*, a word that represents some very ancient general name of a wild beast, and the same in all Germanic languages, its original meaning uncertain.

BEAR-BIND or BARE-BIND, from binding together the stalks of bear or barley, *Convolvulus arvensis*, L.

BEAR'S-BREECH, from its roughness, a name transferred by some mistake from the acanthus to the cow-parsnip, *Heracleum sphondylium*, L.

BEAR'S-EARS, from its former Latin name, *ursi auricula*, in allusion to the shape of its leaf, *Primula auricula*, L.

BEAR'S-FOOT, from its digitate leaf,

*Helleborus foetidus*, L.

BEAR'S-GARLICK, so called, says Tabernæmontanus, "quia ursi eo delectantur," *Allium ursinum*, L.

BEARWORT, from the *G. bärwurcz*, which Adelung suggests is rather to be derived from its use in uterine complaints than from the animal, *Meum athamanticum*, L.

BEDE-SEDGE, from its round bead-like burs, resembling the beads used by Roman Catholics and Buddhists for counting their prayers, A.S. *bead*, a prayer, a name given to it by Turner, *Sparganium ramosum*, L.

BEDSTRAW, or OUR LADY'S BEDSTRAW, from its soft, puffy, flocculent stems and golden flowers, a name that refers to straw having formerly been used for bedding, even by ladies of rank, whence the expression of their being "in the straw." The name may allude more particularly to the Virgin Mary having given birth to her son in a stable, with nothing but wild flowers for her bedding. *Galium verum*, L.

„ WHITE,

*G. mollugo*, L.

„ YELLOW,

*G. verum*, L.

**BEE-NETTLE**, from its nettle-like leaves, and the supposed fondness of bees for its flowers,

Galeopsis tetrahit, L.

*Bee*, A.S. *beo*, Da. Sw. and Du. *bie*, O.H.G. *bin*, G. *biene*, connected, perhaps, with L. *apis*, but of very uncertain derivation. The insect, being independent in its migrations, seems to have gone forward in advance of man, and to have been separately named by those among whom it successively settled. Animals which have accompanied man, like the hound and the ox, have the same name over large extents of country, and this remark holds good of insects; as we see in the case of the nit and the flea.

**BEE-ORCHIS** or **BEE-FLOWER**, from the resemblance of its flower to a bee,

Ophrys apifera, L.

**BEE'S-NEST**, from the nest-like compact growth of its inflorescence,

Daucus carota, L.

**BEECH**, A.S. *boc*, *bece*, *beoce*, O.H.G. *puocha*, M.H.G. *buoche*, G. *buch*, Du. *beuk*, O.N. *beyki*, Da. *bög*, Sw. *bok*, words, which, in their several dialects, mean, with difference of gender only, a book and a beech-tree, from Runic tablets, the books of our ancestors, having been made of this wood. The origin of the word is identical with that of the Skr. *bókó*, letter, *bókós*, writings; and this correspondence of the Indian with our own is interesting as evidence of two things, viz. that the Brahmins had the art of writing, before they detached themselves from the common stock of the Ind-European race in Upper Asia, and that we and other Germans have received alphabetic signs from the East by a northern route, and not from the Mediterranean. For if we had learnt the signs from Greeks or Romans, we should have adopted their names for a book, and for writing materials, as the Celtic nations have done. On the other hand, in the Greek word *βιβλος*, the name of an Egyptian plant, we see, independently of history, that book-writing was introduced among the Greeks

as a foreign art, and that they had left the parent stock before its invention. The German term *buch-stab*, a beech-stave, is still retained in the sense of a letter, the tree and its wood having in the northern nations taken their name from their use in writing. Tacitus certainly says, "Literarum secreta viri pariter ac feminæ ignorant." De mor. Germ. c. 19. The eastern origin of this word is, however, an unquestionable evidence that they not only did know letters then, but must have known them from the time that they separated from the Indian branch of our common family. It is to be remarked that the Greek word *βιβλος* and Latin *liber*, meant primarily the material, and only in a secondary sense a book; while our *beech* means primarily the book, and only in a secondary sense a tree. The word *write*, A.S. *writan*, like the Greek *γραφειν*, and the Latin *scribere*, dates from a time when letters were scratched, and not painted or penned, and is an additional evidence that the art was not of Roman introduction, or we should have had some derivative of *scribere* to denote it. Beech was the wood of which Runic almanacs were made, several of which are still preserved.

*Fagus sylvatica*, L.

BEEF, L. *Beta*, from the resemblance of the seed to the second letter of the Greek alphabet. There are some verses of Columella to this effect, which are quoted by Fuchs and Parkinson,

"Nomine cum Grajo, ceu litera proxima primæ  
Pangitur in cera docti mucrone magistri,  
Sic et humo pingui ferratæ cuspidis ictu  
Deprimitur folio viridis, pede candida beta.—Bk. x.

Nemnich pronounces this idea to be a mere *grille* or fancy, but gives no better derivation for the word.

*B. maritima*, L.

BEGGAR'S LICE, from its seeds sticking to the clothes,  
*Galium aparine*, L.

BELL-FLOWER, from the shape of the corolla,

Campanula, L.

BELLADONNA, It. *bella-donna*, fair lady, the deadly nightshade, called so, according to Tournefort, and to G. Burnet, in Outl. of Botany, 4514, and to Duchesne, Pl. ut. p. 90, from its berries, known in France as *guines de côtes*, being used by the Italian ladies as a cosmetic. Ray also says that it was called *belladonna*, "quia ex ejus succo sive aqua destillata fucum conficiunt fœminæ, quo faciem oblinunt, et ex rubicunda pallidam efficiunt frigoris vehementia." Cat. Plant. Cant. p. 43. Stapel, in Theophrasto, takes it for the *bellonaria* used by the priests of Bellona to infuriate them, and thence derives the name.

Atropa Belladonna, L.

BELLEISLE-CRESS, why called so, unknown,

Barbarea præcox, R. B.

BEN, OR WHITE BEN, Ar. *behen*, Silene inflata, L.

BENNET, see HERB B.

BENT-GRASS, any wiry grass, such as usually grows upon a *bent*, i.e. a common, or other neglected broken ground, a word often used in that sense in old English poetry, and preserved in Scotland to this day. Jamieson refers it to G. *binse*, a rush, but the similarity of these words seems to be an accidental coincidence, and the name of the grass to have been taken from its place of growth, as in the case of *heath*, *brake*, and *brier*, and not the ground called so from the grass. Under the name of *Bent* are comprised *Agrostis vulgaris*, L. *Triticum junceum*, L. *Arundo arenaria*, L. and many more.

BERTRAM, a corruption of L. *pyrethrum*, that seems to have been adopted from German writers,

P. parthenium, L.

BERRY ALDER, a buckthorn that was once wrongly associated with the alders, and distinguished from them by bearing berries,

Rhamnus frangula, L.

BETONY OR WOOD BETONY, L. *betonica*, said by Pliny to

have been first called *Vettonica* from the Vettones, a people of Spain, B. officinalis, L.

„ WATER-, from similarity of leaf to that of the wood betony, Scrophularia aquatica, L.

BIFOIL, the tway-blade, L. *bifolium*, two-leaf, Listera ovata, R.B.

BIG, a Scandinavian name used in our northern countries, O.N. *bygg*, Da. *bygg*, a variety of barley, a word related to *byggia*, till, Hordeum, L.

BIGOLD, tinsel, false gold, applied to a plant that is not the genuine *Gölde*, Chrysanthemum segetum, L.

BILBERRY or BULBERRY, Da. *böllebär*, dark-berry, from *böl*, dark, Vaccinium myrtillus, L.

BIND-WEED, a weed that binds, Convolvulus arvensis, and sepium, L.

BIND-WITH, a with used to bind up faggots, the Traveller's joy, Clematis vitalba, L.

BIRCH, A.S. *beorc*, *birce*, or *byrc*, O.H.G. *piricha*, L.G. *barke*, Du. *berke*, Da. *birk*, Ic. and Sw. *biörk*, Russ. *bereza*, a *z*, as usual, replacing a German *k*. It is the same word as *bark* in the two significations of tree-rind and vessel. In the first, as tree-rind, we find it forming A.S. *beorcan*, to bark, L.G. *bark*, *borke*, Eng. Du. and Da. *bark*, Ic. and O.N. *boerkr*; in the sense of vessel, the Lat. *barca*, which, as it stands isolated in its own language, is, no doubt, of foreign origin, the source of Fr. *barque*, Du. and Da. *barke*, Ic. *barker*, Eng. *bark* and *barge*. In the earlier period of our Germanic race, while it was still confined to the northern latitudes, birch bark was used, as at the present day in the same countries, for boat building and roofing, and probably, as in Norway occasionally, for greaves for the legs, and from these different applications the tree took its name of bark-tree, a word connected with G. *bergen*, A.S. *beorgan*, protect, shelter, put into a place of safety. Talbot would derive it from L. *virga*, a rod. Betula alba, L.

**BIRD'S BREAD**, from the Fr. *pain d'oiseau*, the stone-crop, called so, apparently, from no better reason than its appearance in blossom when young birds are hatched,

Sedum acre, L.

*Bird*, A.S. *brid*, a young offspring, from *beran*, parere, bring forth, and used in its present sense upon the older term, *fowl*, being appropriated to the gallinaceous species now called so. It is the G. *brut*, spelt in the O.H.G. of Tatian *berde*. We find it in its original sense in the Medical MS. of the fourteenth century published in Archæologia, vol. xxx, p. 397. "Ravynys bryddys all quyke owte of here neste;" and in the Lytel Herbal of W.C. "If the byrdes of the swallows be blynde, the damm of the byrdes fetcheth of this herbe;" and even applied to the young of the serpent in a passage of the Gesta Romanorum, p. 196, "the serpent withe his *briddis*."

**BIRD-CHERRY**, a cherry only fit for birds,

Prunus padus, L.

**BIRD'S-EYES**, from its bright blue flowers,

Veronica chamædrys, L.

and also, locally,

Primula farinosa, L.

„ **RED-**,

Geranium robertianum, L.

**BIRD'S-FOOT**, from its incurved claw-like legumes,

Ornithopus perpusillus, L.

**BIRD'S-FOOT TREFOIL**, from its legumes spreading like a crow's foot, whence its L. specific name,

Lotus corniculatus, L.

**BIRD'S-NEST**, from its leafless stalk resembling a nest of sticks, such as crows make,

Monotropa hipopitys, L.

also, from its matted roots,

Neottia nidus avis, L.

**BIRD-SEED**, canary grass used to feed birds,

Phalaris canariensis, L.

**BIRD'S-TONGUE**, L. *lingua passerina*, from the shape of the leaf,

Polygonum aviculare, L.

**BIRTHWORT**, from its supposed remedial powers in parturition, suggested, on the doctrine of signatures, by the

shape of the corolla, whence also its Greek name from *ἀριστος*, best, and *λοχεια*, delivery,

*Aristolochia clematitis*, L.

BISHOP'S-LEAVES, from being known in French as *l'herbe du siège*, in reference to its remedial powers in hemorrhoidal affections, and this word *siège* being understood as of a bishop's see,

*Scrophularia aquatica*, L.

BISHOP'S-WEED, possibly from Fr. *levesque*, the name of another umbelliferous plant transferred to this, and mistaken as meaning bishop,

*Ammi majus*, L.

BISHOP'S-WORT, A.S. *biscop-wyrt*, given in an A.S. glossary at Epinal as a translation of L. *hibiscus*, which by some similarity of sound seems to have suggested the name. It is now applied, for reasons unknown, to the Devil-in-a-bush,

*Nigella damascena*, L.

BISTORT, from its writhed roots, L. *bis*, twice, *torta*, twisted, and thence called by Turner *Twice-writhen*,

*Polygonum bistorta*, L.

BITTER CRESS,

*Cardamine amara*, L.

BITTER-SWEET, L. *Amara-dulcis*, from the rind of its stalk, which "when it is first tasted is bitter, and afterwards sweet," as Turner observes b. iii. 2, a quality from which it gets its German name, *je lenger je lieber*. Gower explains it differently, Ed. 1554, fol. 174, but speaking perhaps of an apple so called ;

For all such time of love is lore,  
And like unto the *bittersuete*,  
For though it thinke a man fyrst suete,  
He shall well felen atte laste,  
That it is sower, and maie not laste.

*Solanum dulcamara*, L.

BITTER VETCH,

*Orobus sylvaticus*, L.

BITTER-WORT, from the taste of the root, a name adopted from the German *bitterwurtz*,

*Gentiana*, L.

BLACKBERRY, in contrast with the Raspberry,

*Rubus fruticosus*, L.

**BLACK BINDWEED**, in contrast with the other bindweeds, which have white flowers, *Polygonum convolvulus*, L.

**BLACK BRYONY**, from its dark-coloured glossy leaves, *Tamus communis*, L.

**BLACK HOREHOUND**, in contrast with the white-leaved true Horehound, *Ballota nigra*, L.

**BLACK SALTWORT**, in contrast with the Salsola, *Glaux maritima*, L.

**BLACK-SEED**, the Nonesuch, from its black head of legumes in contrast with the light yellow capitules of the Hop-clover, *Medicago lupulina*, L.

**BLACKTHORN**, in contrast with the Whitethorn, the sloe, *Prunus spinosa*, L.

**BLACK-WORTS**, in contrast with the Cranberry, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, L.

**BLADDER-FERN**, from its small spore-cysts, *Cystopteris fragilis*, Bern.

**BLADDER CAMPION**, from its inflated calyx, *Silene inflata*, L.

**BLADDER-NUT**, from its inflated legumes, *Staphylea pinnata*, L.

**BLADDER-SNOUT**, from the shape of the corolla, and

**BLADDER-WORT**, from the vesicles on its root, stem, and leaves, *Utricularia vulgaris*, L.

**BLEEDING HEART**, the name of the wallflower in the western counties, more particularly the dark variety of it, and apparently dating from a time when in its ordinary state it was called *Heart's ease*, *Cheiranthus cheiri*, L.

**BLESSED THISTLE**, a thistle supposed to have derived miraculous virtues from the milk of the Virgin Mary having fallen upon its leaves, as she nursed the infant Jesus. So late as 1669, a work was published at Jena, by a Dr. G. Ch. Peter of Erfurt, intitled, "Asylum languentium, s. carduus sanctus, vulgo benedictus, medicina patrum-familias polychresta, verusque pauperum thesaurus." *Carduus marianus*, L.



BLIND NETTLE, called so from the resemblance of its leaves to those of a stinging nettle, and their not harming or seeming to notice any body, whence in most languages its name implies dead, deaf, or blind, *Lamium album*, L.

BLINKS or BLINKING-CHICKWEED, from its half-closed little white flowers peering from the axils of the upper leaves, as if afraid of the light, *Montia fontana*, L.

BLITE, L. *blitum*, Gr. *βλιτου*, insipid, the name of some pot-herb supposed to be the one now called

*B. capitatum*, L.

BLOOD-ROOT, from the red colour of its root, and its use in curing the bloody flux, and generally styptic character, *Tormentilla officinalis*, L.

*Blood*, A.S. Da. and Sw. *blod*, Goth. *bloth*, O.H.G. *bluat* and *bluot*, G. *blut*, L.G. *blood*, Du. *bloed*, from verbs that mean blossom, as A. S. *blowian*, G. *blühen*, and which seem to have had the sense of *life*, of which in animals the *blood* was the type.

BLOOD-STRANGE, from *blood*, and a verb only found in composition, *strengen*, draw tight, and metaphorically, as in G. *harn-strange*, stop. The little plant, to which Gerarde gives this name, 1st ed. p. 345, is not known to have any styptic qualities, but was ranked as a plantain, and supposed to have the same virtues as the plantain, of which Gerarde tells us, p. 344, that "Galen, Dioscorides, and Pliny have proved it to be such an excellent wounde-herbe, that it presently closeth a wounde, though it be very great, and if it be put into a pot where many pieces of flesh are boiling, it will soder them together."

*Myosurus minimus*, L.

BLOOD-WORT, or BLOODY-DOCK, from its red veins and stems,

*Rumex sanguineus*, L.

BLOODY WARRIOR, from its crimson-tinged petals, the wall-flower,

*Cheiranthus cheiri*, L.

BLOODY-MAN'S FINGER, from its lurid purple spadix,

*Arum maculatum*, L.

BLOW-BALL, the head of the dandelion in seed, from children trying their luck by blowing the pappus from its receptacle, *Leontodon taraxacum*, L.

BLUE-BELL, from the bell-shape of its flower,

*Scilla nutans*, Sm.

in Scotland

*Campanula rotundifolia*, L.

BLUE-BLAW, a name that would at first sight seem to be merely "blue blow or blossom," but the latter word is in old works invariably spelt *blaw*, and is rather the G. *blau*, blue, Prov. *blave*, of which the Fr. names of the flower, *blaveole*, *blavelle*, *blavet*, or *blaverolle* are the diminutives. *Blue-blaw* is therefore a tautology, and means "blue-blue." Its Scotch name, *blawort*, is a better one.

*Centaurea Cyanus*, L.

BLUE-BOTTLE, from the bottle shape of the involucre, and its brilliant blue flower,

*Centaurea Cyanus*, L.

BLUE-CAPS, from its tuft of blue flowers,

*Knautia arvensis*, Coult.

BOG ASPHODEL,

*Narthecium ossifragum*, Hud.

*Bog*, from the Erse *bogach*, a word introduced from Ireland.

BOG-BEAN, a wrong spelling of Buck-bean, Fr. *treffe des marais*,

*Menyanthes trifoliata*, L.

BOG-BERRY, or BOG-WORT, the cranberry,

*Vaccinium oxycoccos*, L.

BOG FEATHERFOIL, from its finely divided feathery leaves, or foils, the water violet,

*Hottonia palustris*, L.

BOG-MOSS,

*Sphagnum*, L.

BOG MYRTLE, or DUTCH MYRTLE, an evergreen shrub with some general resemblance to a myrtle,

*Myrica Gale*, L.

BOG-RUSH,

*Schænus*, L.

BOG VIOLET, the butterwort,

*Pinguicula vulgaris*, L.

BOLBONAC, from the Arabic,

*Lunaria biennis*, L.

BOLT, Pr. Pm. *bolte*, *petilium*, *tribulum*,

*Ranunculus*, L.

BOODLE, see BUDDLE, *Chrysanthemum segetum*, L.

BORAGE, Fr. *bourache*, M.Lat. *borago*, of which Apuleius says, that its former name was "*corrigo*, quia cordis affectibus medetur," and this word *corrigo* the herbalists suppose to have become, by change of *c* to *b*, *borrago*. It is probably a Latinised Oriental name brought with the plant from Syria.

*B. officinalis*, L.

BORE-COLE, in Tusser BORE, a cabbage so called, a corruption of *broccoli*.

BORE- or BOUR-TREE, the elder, "from the great pith in the younger branches, which children commonly bore out to make pop-guns." Ray, N.C. Words.

*Sambucus nigra*, L.

BOTTLE, see BLUE-BOTTLE.

BOTTLE-BRUSH, from its obvious resemblance to one, the horsetail,

*Equisetum*, L.

BOUTS, or BOOTS, the marsh marigold, from the Fr. *bouton d'or*, in respect of the yellow flower buds,

*Caltha palustris*, L.

BOWYER'S MUSTARD, from some apothecary probably,

*Lepidium ruderales*, L.

BOX, A.S. *box* and *bux*, L. *buxus*, Gr. *πυξος*, from *πυξίς*, a pyx or turned box made of the wood,

*Buxus sempervirens*, L.

BOX-HOLLY, from its box-like leaves terminating in a prickle like those of holly,

*Ruscus aculeatus*, L.

BOY'S-LOVE, or LAD'S-LOVE, the southernwood, from being used in posies worn by young men, or perhaps from its leaves rapidly withering, or, possibly, a translation of the *παιδερωτες* of Dioscorides, iii. 19, misapplied to this plant,

*Artemisia abrotanum*, L.

BRAKES, from *brake*, G. *brache* or *brach-feld*, uncultivated land, a term used to replace the M.Lat. *fractitius* or *ruptitius ager*, land that is breakable, or again open to tillage after a term of years, land that is not preserved as forest. The fern so called is named from its place of growth in the

same way as whin, heath, bent, and brier. The Ital. *brughera*, and Port. *brejo*, have no etymological connexion with this word, notwithstanding some apparent similarity to it.

*Pteris aquilina*, L.

BRACKEN, supposed by Jamieson to mean female brake, Sw. *braakin*, the *inn* being the feminine termination, and the *Pteris* called so in contrast to the *Aspidium filix mas*, Sw. which was known as the male fern. Ray would regard it as "the plural of *brake*, as *eyn* of eye, and *peasen* of pease." N.C.W. p. 132. Carr adopts Jamieson's view as probably the correct one. *Pteris aquilina*, L.

BRAMBLE, A. S. *bremel*, *brembel*, or *bræmbel*, in Pr. Pm. *brymmeylle* or *brymbyll*, Du. *braam*, G. *brame*, O.H.G. *pramo*, words, which, as Grimm remarks, signify prickly or thorny bushes, but are connected etymologically with G. *brummen*, L. *fremere*, and others indicating "noise," which is also the case with our own "whin," and the Welch "grûg," heath, as compared with *grig* and *grug*, a rumbling noise. These terms were probably used in the first place for bushes generally, and subsequently restricted to one kind. Bramble means usually *Rubus fruticosus*, L. but in Chaucer, l. 13676, "the bramble flour that bereth the red hepe," is

*Rosa canina*, L.

BRANDY-BOTTLE, from the shape of the seed-vessel, the yellow water-lily,

*Nuphar luteum*, L.

BRANK, buckwheat, from a Latin word, *brance*, that occurs in Pliny, H. Nat. xviii. c. 7, where it seems rather to mean a barley: "Galliæ quoque suum genus farris dedere, quod illic *brance* vocant, apud nos sandalam, nitidissimi grani." The word will be identical with *blanc*, white, Port. *branco*, and how it became transferred to buckwheat, *trigo nero*, is unaccountable. See Diefenbach, Orig. Europ. p. 265. Pol. *pohanka*.

*Polygonum fagopyrum*, L.

BREAKSTONE, from the L. *saxifraga*, a plant that fissures a rock, being understood as meaning a lithontriptic plant,

to be administered in cases of calculus, a name applied to several different species belonging to different genera, viz.

*Pimpinella saxifraga*, L. *Alchemilla arvensis*, D.C.  
and the genus *Saxifraga*.

BRIDE'S LACES, see LADY'S LACES.

BRIDEWORT, from its resemblance to the white feathers worn by brides, *Spiræa ulmaria*, L.

BRIER, A.S. *brær*, Pr. Pm. *brere*, Fr. *bruyere*, called in Normandy *brière*, from M.Lat. *brugeria* or *bruarium*, waste land, W. *brueg*, a forest, Bret. *brûg*, the usual place of its growth, and from which *brugaria* would seem to have been formed, *Rubus* and *Rosa*.

BRIER-ROSE, any wild rose, but chiefly the common hedge or dog-rose, *Rosa canina*, L.

BRIMSTONEWORT, from its roots yielding, as W. Coles says, "a yellow sap which waxeth quickly hard, and dry, and smelleth not unlike to brimstone,"

*Peucedanum officinale*, L.

*Brimstone*, from A.S. *bryne*, burning, and *stone*, the *n* changed to *m*, as in Lime-tree, Holm, etc.

BRINGALL, Port. *beringela*, from the Tamul *brinjaul*, its name in Ceylon and southern India,

*Solanum melongena*, L.

BRISTLE-FERN, from the bristle that projects beyond its receptacle, *Trichomanes radicans*, Sw.

BROCCOLI, the plural of It. *broccolo*, a small sprout, diminutive of *brocco*, a shoot,

*Brassica oleracea*, L. var. *Sabellica*.

BROOK-LIME, in old writers BROK-LEMPE or -LYMPE, from its growing in the *lime* or mud of *brooks*, A.S. *lime*, L. *limus*, a word that, from mud having been used in the rude buildings of Anglo-Saxon times, has come to be applied to the calcareous stone of which mortar is made at the present day, and indicates the reason why few or no buildings of that period have been preserved, while so

many much older Roman ones have withstood dilapidation, viz., that the lime used was merely mud.

Veronica beccabunga, L.

BROOK-WEED, from its growing beside brooks,

Samolus Valerandi, L.

BROOM, A.S. *brom*, G. *brame*, a word of the same origin as *bramble*, but at present applied almost exclusively to a shrub of which besoms are made, and called from its *brooms*,

Spartium scoparium, L.

BROOM-RAPE, L. *rapum genistæ*, from broom, a plant upon which it is parasitic, and *rape*, L. *rapa*, a turnip, which its clubby tuberous stem somewhat resembles,

Orobanche, L.

BROWNWORT, from G. *braunwurz*, in Brunfelsius and all the old herbalists *brunnwurz*, said to be called so from the brown colour of its stems and flowers, but rather more probably from its growing so abundantly about the *brunnen* or public fountains of German towns and villages,

Scrophularia aquatica and nodosa, L.

also, from its being supposed to cure the disease called in German *die braune*, a kind of quinsey, the Brunella, or, as it is now spelt,

Prunella vulgaris, L.

BRUISEWORT, from its supposed efficacy in bruises, the daisy,

Bellis perennis, L.

and also,

Saponaria officinalis, L.

BRYONY, L. *bryonia*, Gr. *βρῳνια*.

„ BLACK-, from its dark glossy leaves,

Tamus communis, L.

„ WHITE-, from its paler colour, B. dioica, L.

BUCKBEAN, believed by some botanists to have been originally *bog-bean*, which, from its French synonym, *tréfle des marais*, is very plausible, but that in Dutch also it is called *bocks-boonen*, and in German *bocksbohne*, and considered a remedy against the *scharbock*, or scurvy, whence it is called *scharbock's klee*. *Buckes-beane*, and not *bog-bean*, is the name of it in all the old herbals, and this

must be admitted to be the proper and established one, being, no doubt, derived from the Dutch word, one which seems to be a corruption of *L. scorbutus*, the scurvy.

*Menyanthes trifoliata*, L.

„ FRINGED-, so called from its delicately fringed corolla, and its alliance with the genuine buckbean,

*Limnanthemum nymphæoides*, Lk.

BUCK'S-BEARD, from its long coarse pappus,

*Tragopogon pratensis*, L.

*Buck*, A.S. *bucca*, is an ancient word, and identical, with allowance for dialect, in all the German, Scandinavian, and Gaelic languages, and adopted into M.Lat. as *buccus*, whence Fr. *bouc*, Sp. *boque*, It. *becco*. The Icelandic *bukr* is actually identical with the Indian *bukri*, *bukra*. J. Grimm, *Gesch. d. Deut. Spr.* p. 42, believes it to have been adopted into German from the Celtic. As to the origin and radical of the word, Adelung is perhaps right in his remark, that its high antiquity renders all derivation of it very uncertain. Grimm would trace it to words meaning "butt," G. *bochen*. It is tempting to fancy a connexion between the toothmark of the goat and the Skr. *bokos*, literæ, scrapings. The mythology of both Greeks and Scandinavians, in representing the remote ancestors of their royal races, Jupiter and Thor, to be drawn by goats, as in Homer, *Il.* v. 401, where the former is called *Διὸς ἀγριοχοῖο*, and numerous passages in the Edda, gives us reason to think that, whatever the source of the name, this animal was domesticated before either the horse or the ox, and certainly known to them before they left their first common home in Central Asia.

BUCK'S-HORNE, from its furcated leaves,

*Plantago coronopus*, L.

BUCK-MAST, the nuts or mast of the beech, which was formerly called *bucke*, as in the ancient cuckoo-song, "Bulluc sterteth, *bucke* verteth," the bouleau, or birch,

is forming sterts, tails or catkins, the beech is growing green.

*Fagus sylvatica*, L.

*Mast*, properly food, but restricted in its meaning to the fruit of the oak and beech, on which swine were fed, A.S. *mæste*, food, Go. *mats*, from an ancient root, *mad*, eat, whence Gr. *μασαομαι*, eat, Go. *matjan*, L. *mandere*, in which an *n* is inserted for euphony. Of the same root are, Skr. *mansa*, Old Slav. *mjaso*, Serv. *meso*, Lith. *miesa*, Prus. *mensa*; and the meat table, Go. *mès*, and Lat. *mensa*. From this root also we get A.S. *māðu*, a maggot, and *madder*, and from *mæste* verbs that mean fatten, A.S. *mæstan*, G. *masten*, with which Gr. *μαστος*, the breast, is connected. The more remote source of these words may be Skr. *ma*, measure, Go. *mitan*, *mete* out, dole out, that is, the portion of food to the members of the family, whence *mater* and its synonyms in all the Ind-European languages.

BUCKRAMS, from its offensive odour, see RAMSON.

*Allium ursinum*, L.

in Parkinson's Th. Bot. and some other Herbals, for *buckrampe*, in allusion to the spathe and spadix,

*Arum maculatum*, L.

BUCKTHORN, from M. Lat. *spina cervina*, or *cervi spina* of Valerius Cordus, who, by a blunder, that among plant-names has many a parallel, seems to have misunderstood that of *box-thorn*, G. *buxdorn*, a translation of the *πυξάκανθα* of Dioscorides, to which this shrub and its congeners were referred by the earlier herbalists, for *bocksdorn*, the thorn of a buck,

*Rhamnus catharticus*, L.

BUCKWHEAT, Du. *boekweit*, G. *buchwaitzen*, from the resemblance of its triangular seeds to beechnuts, a name adopted with its culture from the Dutch,

*Polygonum fagopyrum*, L.

BUDDLE, in Tusser spelt BOODLE, Du. *buidel*, a purse, because it bears *gools* or *goldins*, gold coins, Du. *gulden*, a punning allusion to its yellow flowers so called;

*Chrysanthemum segetum*, L.



BUG AGARIC, a mushroom that used to be smeared over bedsteads to destroy bugs, *Agaricus muscarius*, L.

*Bug*, in our old writers a hobgoblin, a nightly terror, as in Psalm xci. 5, of Matthew's Bible;

“Thou shalt not nede to be afraied for any *bugs* by night.”

BUGLE, M.Lat. *bugulus*, a small glass pipe used in female head-dress in the middle ages, Fr. *bugle*, to which the bluish corollas of this plant have some very distant resemblance, *Ajuga reptans*, L.

BUGLOSS, L. *buglossa*, from Gr. *βους*, an ox, and *γλωσσα*, tongue, descriptive of the shape and rough surface of the leaves, *Anchusa officinalis*, L.

BULLACE, in the Grete Herball *bolays*, in Turner *bulles*, in Pr. Pm. *bolas*, the Sp. *bolas*, bullets, Lat. *bullas*, bosses on bridles, and called so from its hard round fruit, *Prunus insititia*, L.

BULLMONG, Cotgr. BOLYMONG, in Gerarde, and in Gray's Nat. Arr. buckwheat, and in that case it would seem to be a corruption of Lat. *Polygonum*, *P. fagopyrum*, L.

In Tusser's Husbandry it is said to be a mixture of oats, peas, and vetches, and, if he is right, it would be derived, apparently, from L. *pulmentum*, a stir-about, or porridge of various ingredients, beans, peas, etc. In J. Mayer and T. Wright's Vocabularies, p. 264, “benys and pese” are translated *pulmentum*.

BULLOCK'S LUNGWORT, from its curative powers in the pneumonia of bullocks, suggested, on the doctrine of signatures, by the resemblance of its leaf to a dewlap; see MULLEIN. *Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

*Bullock*, A.S. *bulluca*, from *bealloc*, and not a dim. of *bull*, which was not yet in use during the A.S. period.

BULL-FIST, L. *bovista*, *Lycoperdon*, L.

*Bull*, O.N. *boli*, Lith. *bullus*, not an Anglo-Saxon word, nor found in German till the sixteenth century, shortened, perhaps, from *bullock*.

BULLS AND COWS, more commonly called Lords and Ladies, the purple and the pale spadices, respectively, of  
*Arum maculatum*, L.

BULL'S-FOOT, from the shape of the leaf,

*Tussilago farfara*, L.

BULL-WEED, from O.E. *bold*, any globular body, such as the seed-vessel of flax, Dan. *bold*, a ball, It. *palla*, Gr. *παλλα*, the knapweed, so called from its globular involucre,

*Centaurea nigra*, L.

BULL-WORT, properly *pool-wort*, from its growing in or near pools,

*Scrophularia*, L.

also, in Gerarde, for the same reason, *Ammi majus*, L.

BULBUSH, formerly spelt *pole-rush*, the pool-rush, *junc* *ŕeau*, A.S. *ea-risc*, from its growth in pools of water, and not, like the other rushes, in mire,

*Scirpus lacustris*, L.

BULL-SEGG, the pool-segg or -sedge, the reed-mace,

*Typha latifolia*, L.

BUMBLEKITES, the blackberry, from Scot. *kyte*, belly, as in the "Wife of Auchtermuchty,"

"The deil cut aff thair hands, quoth he,

That cramm'd your *kytes* sae strute yestreen!"

and *bumble*, applied in Chaucer, l. 6554, to the voice of the bittern; from the rumbling and bumbling caused in the bellies of children who eat its fruit too greedily,

*Rubus fruticosus*, L.

BURDOCK, called *dock*, from its large leaves; but why called *bur*, uncertain. Some derive this syllable from Fr. *bourre*, L. *burra*, a lock of wool, such as we often find entangled in it. It may quite as probably be a corruption of L. *bardana*, or it may be a contraction of *butter*, from the leaf being used to lap butter in. *Arctium lappa*, L.

BUR MARIGOLD, a composite flower allied to the Marigold, with seeds that adhere to the clothes, like burs,

*Bidens tripartita*, L.

BUR PARSLEY, from its bur-like bristly carpels,

*Caucalis daucoides*, L.

BUR REED, from its narrow reed-like leaves, and the burs formed by its seed-vessels,

Sparganium ramosum, L.

BUR THISTLE, from its prickly involucre,

Onicus lanceolatus, L.

BUR-WEED, or BURDOCK CLOTWEED, a weed with large leaves and burs somewhat like those of the burdock or clotbur,

Xanthium strumarium, L.

BURNET, a term formerly applied to a brown cloth, Fr. *brunette*, It. *brunetta*, dims. of *brun* and *bruno*, called so from its brown flowers, that of Askham's and other black-letter herbals "hath blewe floures as hathe hayhove, and smalle ragged leaves lyke tansye leves." It was probably

Prunella vulgaris, L.

BURNET BLOOD-WORT, from its power of stanching blood, and its resemblance to Burnet,

Sanguisorba officinalis, L.

BURNET SAXIFRAGE, from its supposed lithontriptic qualities, and the resemblance of its leaves to Burnet,

Pimpinella saxifraga, L.

BURSTWORT, from its supposed efficacy in ruptures,

Herniaria glabra, L.

BUTCHER'S BROOM, according to Loudon, and to the authoress of "Sylvan Sketches," Mrs. Kent, from butchers making besoms of it to sweep their blocks; according to Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 254, to sweep their stalls. This is a mere guess. It was called so, because it was used to preserve meat from mice and bats. "Die Weiber," says Lonicerus, Kräuterb. p. 204, "hencken ihn auch bey das Fleisch, dann er vertribt und hält mit seiner scheusslichen Gestalt die Fledermäuss darvon ab." It was for the same reason called in Italian *Pongitopo*, prick-mouse.

Ruscus aculeatus, L.

BUTCHER'S PRICKWOOD, from skewers being made of it,

Rhamnus Frangula, L.

BUTTER AND EGGS, from the colour of the flowers,  
*Linaria vulgaris*, L.

*Butter*, L. *butyrus*, Gr. *βουτυρον*, from *βους*, cow, and *τυπος*, cheese.

BUTTERBUR COLTSFOOT, a coltsfoot called *butterbur*, apparently, from a strange corruption of its earlier Latin name, *Petasites Bardana*; the *Butter*, from the *Peta* of the former word, so abbreviated on apothecaries' boxes, and the *bur* from *Bardana*, but possibly from the leaves having been used, as Dr. How, quoted by Skinner, and W. Coles, in his *Art of Simpling*, suggest, for lapping butter in, a purpose to which they do not seem to be applied at the present day,  
*Petasites vulgaris*, Dsf.

BUTTER-CUP, not, perhaps, from *butter* and *cup*, but rather more probably from Fr. *bouton d'or*, the bachelor's button, a name given to its double variety, the *cup* being the Old Eng. *cop*, a head, as in Wycliffe's Bible, *Judg.* ix. 7, where we read "the *cop* of the hill," a word that became obsolete, and was replaced with *cup*. It will have meant, originally, *button-head*. See GOLDCUP and KING-CUP.  
*Ranunculus*, L.

BUTTER-DOCK, from its leaves being used for lapping butter, whence the Scotch name of it, *Smair-dock*,  
*Rumex obtusifolius*, L.

BUTTER-FLOWER, Du. *boter-bloem*, G. *schmalz-blume*, from a mistaken notion that it gives butter a yellow colour, or, as Fuchs tells us, p. 878, from the greasy surface of the petals,  
*Ranunculus*, L.

BUTTER-JAGS, an obscure name, *Lotus corniculatus*, L.

BUTTERWORT, from its greasy feel, "as if," says W. Coles, "melted butter had been poured over it,"  
*Pinguicula vulgaris*, L.

CABBAGE, Fr. *caboche*, It. *cabuccio*, from *cabo*, a head, being a variety of colewort that forms a round head,  
*Brassica capitata*, L.

„ SEA-, Crambe maritima, L.  
 CALAMINT, Gr. *καλη*, good, and *μινθη*, mint,

Calamintha officinalis, L.

CALATHIAN VIOLET, L. *Viola calathiana*, from L. *calathus*, Gr. *καλαθος*, basket, a name given by Pliny to some other very different plant, but by a mistake of Ruellius transferred to  
 Gentiana pneumonanthe, L.

CALE, COLE, or COLEWORT, L. *caulis*, a stalk, a name given to a thick-stemmed variety, the kohlrabi, and extended to the other kinds of cabbage. “The Apothecaries and common Herbarists do call it *caulis* of the goodness of the stalke,” says Gerarde, 1st ed. p. 249.

Brassica oleracea, L.

„ SEA-,

Crambe maritima, L.

CALTROPS, A.S. *coltreppe*, in the romance of K. Alisander, l. 6070, *calketrappen*, M.Lat. *calcitraba*, from L. *calx*, a heel, and M.Lat. *trappa*, a snare, first applied to the caltrop used in war, and thence to the spiny heads of this plant,  
 Centaurea Calcitrapa, L.

CALVES-FOOT, Fr. *pied de veau*, from the shape of the leaf,  
 Arum maculatum, L.

*Calf*, A.S. *calf* or *cealf*, O.H.G. *chalb*, Go. *kalbo*, Sl. *krawa*, with the change of *l* to *r*, Lith. *karwa*, words of which the origin is unknown. It may be the Skr. *chalbo*, a sacrifice.

CALVES-SNOUT, Fr. *mufle de veau*, from a fancied resemblance in the seed-vessel. “Antirrhinon,” says Cordus, “fructum fert vitulino capiti similem, tam exquisita similitudine, ut etiam os et nares appareant.” He illustrates his statement with a caricature of the seed-vessel, which, as he gives it, certainly bears a most extraordinary likeness to a calf’s skull. The snapdragon,

Antirrhinum majus, L.

CALVERKEYS, in Awbrey’s Wilts, probably the same as the Culverkeys of Walton’s Angler, names no longer known.

CAMMOCK, A.S. *cammuc*, -ec, or -oc, dims. of A.S. *camb*,

a comb, a name that has probably been given formerly to a very different plant from the Rest-harrow, which now bears it. Batman on Bartholomew spells it *Cambmok* and *Cambemoke*, but, from his description, seems to mean the furze. "Cambemoke," says he, "is a ryghte harde tree with knottes, bowes, braunches, and pryckes, for hit hath small leves with full sharpe prickes in the sydes, and dooth harme to his fete and handes that towcheth it, or tredeth thereon. And hath neshe leves in the begynnyng, when it spryngeth." In Apuleius *Cammoc* is translated Peucedanum, from which we may conclude that it did not originally mean a woody and thorny shrub, but rather, like *Kambuck* in Suffolk at the present day, a kex, or some such plant as the Shepherd's comb, which it seems to do in a passage in Piers Plowman's Vision, l. 13584,

"For communlike in contrees Cammoke and wedes  
Foulen the fruyt in the feld, Ther thei growen togideres."

*Ononis arvensis*, L.

CAMPION, from one of the species, the Chalcedonica probably, having been used in the chaplets with which champions at the public games were crowned, It. *campione*, M. Lat. *campio*, from *campus*, a battle-field,

*Lychnis coronaria*, L.

„ CORN-, *Agrostemma Githago*, L.

„ WILD-, *Lychnis dioica*, L.

CANARY-GRASS, from being a grass of the Canary Islands, and used to feed Canary birds, *Phalaris canariensis*, L.

„ REED-, *Digraphis arundinacea*, Trin.

CANDOCK, from its broad leaves called a dock, and from the shape of its seed-vessel, like that of a silver flagon, Can-dock, *Nuphar luteum*, Sm.

CANDLEBERRY, from the fruit of some species of the genus yielding wax of which candles are made, *Myrica Gale*, L.

CANDLE-RUSH, from its pith being used for rush-lights, *Juncus acutus*, L.

CANDY-TUFT, or CANDY-MUSTARD, a tufted flower brought from the island of Candy, or Crete, Iberis, L.

CANKER, a tree-fungus, from its seeming to eat like a cancer into a decaying tree, Boletus, L.

CANTERBURY-BELLS, so named by Gerarde, Ed. em. p. 450, from growing very plentifully in the low woods about Canterbury, Campanula Trachelium, L.

CAPER-PLANT, from its seed vessels being used in sauce for the buds of the real caper, Euphorbia Lathyris, L.

CAPON'S TAIL, from its spreading white flowers, Valeriana officinalis, L.

CAPRIFOLY, M.Lat. *caprifolium*, goat's leaf, Fr. *chevre-feuille*, G. *geiss-blatt*, the woodbine, from a confusion of this shrub with the sycamine, which Amos was gathering for his goats, Am. vii. 14. See the passage from Chaucer quoted under SYCAMORE. Lonicera caprifolium, L.

CARDOON, Fr. *cardon*, L. *cardunculus*, dim. of *carduus*, a thistle, Cynara cardunculus, L.

CARLINE THISTLE, L. *Carolina*, so named after Charlemagne, Carl de groote, of whom the legend relates, as we learn from Tabernæmontanus, vol. ii. p. 391, that "A horrible pestilence broke out in his army, and carried off many thousand men, which greatly troubled the pious emperor. Wherefore he prayed earnestly to God, and in his sleep there appeared to him an angel, who shot an arrow from a cross-bow, telling him to mark the plant upon which it fell, for that with that plant he might cure his army of the pestilence. And so it really happened." The herb so miraculously indicated was this thistle.

*Carlina vulgaris*, L.

CARNATION, incorrectly derived in general from the flesh colour of the flowers, and supposed to be connected with L. *carne*, but more correctly spelt by our older writers *coronation*, as representing the *Vetonica coronaria* of the early herbalists, and so called from its flowers being used

in chaplets, *coronæ*. So Spenser, in his Shepherd's Calendar,

“Bring coronations and sops in wine  
Worn of paramours.”

*Dianthus caryophyllus*, L.

CARNATION-GRASS, certain sedges, from the resemblance of their leaves to those of the carnation, more especially the

*Carex glauca*, L.

CARPENTER'S-HERB, from its corolla seen in profile being shaped like a bill-hook, and, on the doctrine of signatures, supposed to heal wounds from edged tools, the Selfheal,

*Prunella vulgaris*, L.

CARRAWAY, M.Lat. *carui semina*, seeds of *careum*, Gr. *καρον*, Carian, so called from its native country, Caria. This genitive case was adopted for the name of the seed, as in Arundel MS. 42, f. 55, “Carui groweþ mykel in merys in þe feld, and in drye placys of gode erþe.” Way's Pr. Pm. p. 333.

*Carum carui*, L.

CARRAGEEN-MOSS, a lichen so called from the district in Ireland where it is gathered,

*Chondrus crispus*, Grev.

CARROT, Fr. *carrotte*, L. *carota*, *Daucus carota*, L.

CARSE, an old spelling of *cress*, A.S. *cærs*.

CASE-WEED, or CASSE-WEED, so called in allusion to its little purse-like capsules, from Fr. *caisse*, L. *capsa*, a money-box, Du. *cas*,

*Capsella bursa pastoris*, L.

CASSIDONY, L. *stachas sidonia*, from Sidon, where the plant is indigenous,

*Lavendula Stæchas*, L.

CAT'S-EAR, from the shape and spottiness of its leaves,

*Hypochaeris maculata*, L.

*Cat*, the name of this animal in nearly every modern language of Europe, in Arabic, and in Persian. As it was called in Lat. *felis*, and in Gr. *ἄλουργος*, it is probable that the word is not derived, as some have supposed, from Lat. *catus* or *catulus*, but was brought either by way of Spain from Arabia, or by a northern route, with that of several other useful animals, from Persia, and adopted by



Palladius and the later Latin writers, from whom it passed into the Romance languages. We know, from its embalmed remains, that it was domesticated in Egypt at an early period, and it is in the highest degree improbable that the Oriental nations should have adopted for it a name of Latin, and comparatively very late origin.

CAT'S-FOOT, from its soft flower-heads,

*Gnaphalium dioicum*, L.

also, from the shape of its leaves,

*Glechoma hederacea*, L.

CAT'S-MILK, from its milky juice oozing in drops, as milk from the small teats of a cat,

*Euphorbia helioscopia*, L.

CAT-MINT, "because," says Gerarde, p. 544, "cats are very much delighted herewith; for the smell of it is so pleasant unto them, that they rub themselves upon it, and wallow or tumble in it, and also feed on the branches very greedily;" which singular statement the good old herbalist copied from Dodoens, i. 4, 14, without, perhaps, ascertaining its truth.

*Nepeta cataria*, L.

CAT'S-TAIL, from its long cylindrical furry catkins,

*Typha latifolia*, L.

also from its cylindrical panicle,

*Phleum pratense*, L.

CATCH-FLY, from its glutinous stalks,

*Lychnis viscaria*, L.

CATCH-WEED, a weed that catches the passer by,

*Galium aparine*, L.

CAULIFLOWER, from *L. caulis*, *caule*, and *flores*, flowers, formerly called *cole-flower*, *coley-flowers*, and *cole-flourey*,

*Brassica oleracea*, L. var. *florida*.

CELANDINE, L. *chelidonium*, Gr. *χελιδονιον* from *χελιδων*, swallow, "not," says Gerarde, p. 911, "because it first springeth at the coming in of the swallowes, or dieth when they go away, for, as we have saide, it may be founde all the yeare, but because some holde opinion, that with this herbe the dams restore sight to their young ones, when

their eies be put out ;” an old notion quoted from Dodoens, p. 49, and copied by him from Pliny, and by Pliny from Aristotle. This wonderful fact is received and repeated by every botanical writer of those days, and is embodied by Macer in the couplet,

“ Cæcatis pullis hac lumina mater hirundo,  
(Plinius ut scripsit) quamvis sint eruta, reddit.”

Chelidonium majus, L.

„ LESSER-, from its blossoming at the season when the swallow arrives,

Ranunculus ficaria, L.

CELERY or SELLERY, Fr. *celeri*, It. *sellari*, the plural of *sellaro*, the name under which it was introduced in the seventeenth century, corrupted from L. *selinum*, G. *σελινον*,

Apium graveolens, L.

CENTAURY, or CENTORY, L. *centaurium*, so called, says Pliny, from the Centaur Chiron, who cured himself with it from a wound he had accidentally received from an arrow poisoned with the blood of the hydra. The Germans resolving the name into *centum aureos*, a hundred pounds, call the plant *Tausend Gulden*.

Centaurea, L.

„ GREATER-, or MORE, of the old black-letter herbals, a gentianeous plant. Askham, in his Lytel Herball, says of it, “It is named the More Centory or Earthgall: his floures be yelowe in the croppe.” And Macer tells us that “More Centory or Earthgall hath leves lyke to the Lesse Centory, but more whyter, and yelowe flowers, and flowreth not but in the top.”

This is clearly the *Chlora perfoliata*, L.

Lyte and other herbalists since his time incorrectly assign the name to the Knapweed,

Centaurea nigra, L.

„ LESSER-, so called in contrast with the Greater or More Centory,

Erythræa Centaurium, L.

CENTINODE, or CENTYNODY, hundred knot, from its many joints, L. *centum* and *nodus*, Polygonum aviculare, L.

CETERACH, from an Arabic or Persian word, *chetherak*,

which Stapel on Theophrastus, p. 1164, derives from *pteryga* corrupted to *peteryga*, and *ceteryga*, and meaning "winged," a doubtful etymology,

C. officinarum, J. Sm.

CHADLOCK, see CHEDLOCK.

CHAFE-WEED, according to Hooker, in Fl. Lond. from its use in Northumberland to prevent heavy loads from galling the backs of beasts of burden; or, as Ray expresses it in Cat. Plant. Cant. "quoniam ad intertrigines valet,"

Filago germanica, L.

CHAFF-WEED, A.S. *ceaf* and *weod*, from its small chaffy leaves,

Centunculus minimus, L.

CHARLOCK, CARLOCK, or CALLOCK, in Scotland SKELLOCH, A.S. *cerlice*, which seems to be either formed from *cerre*, turn, and to indicate a vicarious plant, a weed of fallow ground; or, as is more probable, from L. *chærophyllum*, and thus connected with G. *schierling*. In a MS. of the fourteenth century in Rel. Ant. ii. 80, it is spelt *szerlock*, and translated *caroil*, chervil, which seems to confirm this view of its origin. The name is at present given to a wild mustard.

Sinapis arvensis, L.

CHECQUER LILY, from the markings on the petals,

Fritillaria meleagris, L.

CHEDDAR PINK, from its place of growth in Somersetshire, on the cliffs of that picturesque ravine,

Dianthus cæsius, L.

CHEDLOCK, CHADLOCK, or KEDLOCK, A.S. *cedeleac*, from *leac*, a plant, and *cede*, which seems to be the same as L. Germ. *küddick*, *kettich*, *köddick*, Da. *kidike*, related, perhaps, to Da. *kiede*, annoy. In the eastern counties *chad* means the refuse sifted from wheat. The name is now confounded with *charlock*, but in Westmacott's Scripture Herbal, p. 86, and other old works, is assigned to the hemlocks. There is nothing related of St. Chad or Cedde, that in any way connects him with these weeds.

Sinapis arvensis, L.

CHEESE-RENNET, or -RUNNING, A.S. *cys-gerun*, from *cys*, cheese, and *gerun*, a word connected with G. *rinnen* and *gerinnen*, Sw. *rönna*, which means coagulate, and is said of blood or melted lead, as well as of milk. In Du. and Da. the terms used, *leb* and *löbe*, are taken from a corresponding verb, that also means "run."

Galium verum, L.

*Cheese*, A.S. *cyse*, G. *käse*, derived from L. *caseus* by the usual replacing in English of a Latin initial *c* with *ch*. Wedgwood deduces it from a Finnish root; but it is incredible that the ancient Italians should have borrowed the art of cheese-making, or its name, from a people so remote and inaccessible to them, and, till of late years, so dirty and so barbarous as the Finns. The root of the word must be sought in the East. It is perhaps the name of the animal that was earliest kept for milking, the goat, Hebr. *gez*, Tatar. *kasa*, Lett. *kaza*, Slav. *koza*.

CHEET, a word unexplained, Camelina sativa, L.

CHEQUER-TREE, the service-tree, so called in Evelyn's Sylva, and in Sussex at the present day, from *Choker*, the choke-pear, being an antique pronunciation of the word which we find in the humorous old ballad of The Frere and the Boy, l. 115,

"Whan my fader gyveth me mete,  
She wolde theron that I were *cheke*." *i.e.* choaked.

See CHOKE-PEAR. Sorbus domestica, L.

CHERRY, Fr. *cerise*, whence our word *cherries*, as though it were the plural of *cherry*, It. *ciriogia*, L. *cerasea*, adj. of *cerasus*, Gr. *κερασος*, a name brought with the tree from Asia minor. In Chaucer it is called *cherise*.

Prunus cerasus, L.

,, BIRD'S-, a wild sort fit for birds only,

Prunus Padus, L.

CHERVIL, A.S. *cærfille*, Fr. *cerfeuil*, L. *chaerophyllum*, Gr. *χαίρεφυλλον*, from *χαίρω*, rejoice, and *φυλλον*, leaf, it

is supposed, but certainly with very little meaning as applied to the plants that now bear the name,

Ch. sylvestre, L.

„ HEMLOCK-, or ROUGH-, *Caucalis anthriscus*, L.

CHESSES, a name that, by some blunder, has been transferred from the poppy; from the shape of its capsule, called *chasses* and *chese-bolles*, to the peony,

*Pœonia corallina*, L.

CHESTNUT, in Chaucer *chastein*, L. *castanea*, Gr. *καστανον*,

*C. vesca*, Lam.

„ HORSE-, from being used in Turkey, the country from which it was introduced, as a food for horses suffering from shortness of wind, *Æsculus hippocastanum*, L.

CHICK-PEA, or CHICHES, It. *cece*, L. *cicer*,

*C. arietinum*, L.

CHICKLING, a spurious chick; cf. Vetchling and Crambling; the Chick-pea.

CHICKWEED, A.S. *cicena-mete*. “On en consomme beaucoup pour la nourriture des oiseaux de volière.” Duchesne, s. l. plantes utiles, p. 226. *Arenaria media*, L.

and also, in Hudson, incorrectly,

*Veronica arvensis*, and *agrestis*, L.

*Chicken*, A.S. *cicen*, is properly the dim. of *coc*, as *fixen* of fox, and analogy would have led us to suppose it meant the female bird, rather than the young. Perhaps it did so originally. *En* is the feminine termination, the G. *in*, Da. *inde*, Sw. *inna*. It is curious that for our domestic poultry we have no proper name, that of *fowl* being a general term, and *chicken* a diminutive.

„ MOUSE-EAR-, *Cerastium vulgatum*, Huds.

„ WINTER-GREEN-, from its resemblance to a *Pyrola* in leaf, and a Chickweed in flower,

*Trientalis Europæa*, L.

CHICORY, L. *Cichorium*, Gr. *κίχρη* or *κίχρηιον*,

*C. Intybus*, L.

CHILDING CUD-WEED, a parturient cud-weed,

*Filago germanica*, L.

CHILDING PINK, a pink that is parturient, from its throwing out, one by one, the younger and smaller flowers. Thus A.S. *cildung-wif* is a child-bearing woman, and in Lev. xii. 3, Wycliffe's version has "If a woman *childip* a male child;" an expression analogous to calving, kittening, etc.

*Dianthus prolifer*, L.

CHIVES, Fr. *cives*, by Diez and Scheler derived from L. *cepa*,

*Allium schcenoprasum*, L.

CHOKE-PEAR, a pear so hard and austere as to choke, any wild variety of pear, Fr. *poire d'estrangillon*. It may, however, have been in the first place a form of O.N. *skógr*, a wood, and subsequently explained into *choke*.

*Pyrus communis*, L.

CHRISTOPHER, see HERB CHRISTOPHER, a name given to several different plants.

CHRISTMAS, from being used for decoration at that season, the holly,

*Ilex aquifolium*, L.

CHRISTMAS ROSE, from its open rose-like flower, and its blossoming during the winter months,

*Helleborus niger*, L.

CHRIST'S LADDER, an old name, for we find it as *Christis leddere* in catalogues of the fourteenth century. From the plant having been called *fel-wort*, *earth-gall*, *fel-terræ*, etc. we may suspect that it has arisen from *Christis galle*, Christ's gall, or *Christis schale*, Christ's cup, having been mistaken for *Christi scala*, Christ's ladder, and that it alludes to the bitter draught offered to Jesus upon the cross.

*Erythræa centaurium*, L.

CHURL'S TREACLE, that is *Triacle* or Carminative, garlick,

*Allium porrum*, L.

CHURNSTAFF, from its straight stem spreading into a flat top,

*Euphorbia helioscopia*, L.

CHYNCHONE, a word occurring in the Pr. Pm. from M. Lat. *Ceneceon*, the groundsel, L. *senecio*, -onis,

*S. vulgaris*, L.

CICELY, Gr. *σσελα*, some umbelliferous plant.

„ ROUGH-, *Caucalis Anthriscus*, Hud.

„ SWEET-, from its agreeable odour,

*Myrrhis odorata*, L.

„ WILD-, *Chærophyllum sylvestre*, L.

CIDERAGE, Fr. *cidrage*, *Polygonum Hydropiper*, L.

CINQUEFOIL, in A. Askham's Lytel Herball *Quyncke-folye*, Fr. *cinq* and *feuilles*, L. *cinque foliola*, so called from its five leaflets, *Potentilla*, L.

CISS, abbreviated from *Cicely*.

CLAPPEDEPOUCH, a nickname meaning *clap-* or *rattle-pouch*, from *clap*, Du. *klappen*, a name that alludes to the licensed begging of lepers, who stood at the cross-ways with a bell and a clapper. Hoffmann von Fallersleben in his *Niederländische Volkslieder* says of them, p. 97, "Separated from all the world, without house or home, the lepers were obliged to dwell in a solitary wretched hut by the road-side; their clothing so scanty that they often had nothing to wear but a hat, and a cloak, and a begging wallet. They would call the attention of the passers-by with a bell or a clapper, and receive their alms in a cup, or a bason at the end of a long pole. The bell was usually of brass. The clapper is described as an instrument made of two or three boards, by rattling which they excited people to relieve them." The lepers would get the name of *Rattle-pouches*, and this be extended to the plant in allusion to the little purses which it hangs out by the way-side. *Capsella bursa pastoris*, L.

CLARY, M.Lat. *sclarea*, a word formed from *clarus*, clear, by prefixing the preposition *ex*, whence It. *schiarire* and *schiarare*. This word *Clary* affords a curious instance of medical research. It was solved by the apothecaries into *clear-eye*, translated *Oculus Christi*, *Godes-ey*, and *See-bright*, and eye-salves made of it. See Gerarde, p. 627.

*Salvia sclarea*, L.

„ WILD-,

*Salvia Verbenacea*, L.

CLAVER, the old and correct way of spelling *Clover*.

CLEAVERS, or CLIVERS, A. S. *clife*, Du. *kleef-kruid*, from its cleaving to the clothes, or possibly from Da. *klyve*, O.N. *klifa*, climb, O.Fris. *klieve*. It is likely that in this, as in so many other cases, a word, understood in one county in one sense, has been adopted, with some slight change, in another county in a different, but equally appropriate sense; or that one form of the word has been learnt from a Dutch or Flemish book, and the other from a Friesic or Scandinavian. Galium Aparine, L.

CLIDERS, see CLITE.

CLIFF-PINK, from its growing upon Cheddar Cliffs in Somersetshire, Dianthus cæsius, L.

CLITE, CLITHE, CLIDERS, and CLITHEREN, a name of the Goose-grass, probably from *Cliver* by a change, not unfrequent, of *v* to *th*; or from Du. *klederen*, G. *kleider*, clothes; see CLEAVERS. Galium aparine, L.

CLIMBERS, from its habit of *climbing*, or attaching itself to objects, the Fr. *grimper*, originally identical with *griper*, clutch, a use of the word found in Tusser, p. 109,

“Set plenty of boughs among runcival pease,  
To *climber* thereon, and to branch at their ease.”

the Virgin's bower,

Clematis Vitalba, L.

CLOG-WEED, the old and proper name of the Cow-parsnep, usually called in our Floras, from ignorance of its meaning, *Hog-weed*, but in fact a shortened form of *keyc-logge*, as it is spelt in Turner of Tottenham, quoted by Way in a note to Pr. Pm. p. 278, a word formed of *keck*, a hollow stalk, and *lock*, A.S. *leac*, a plant, and signifying the *kec-plant*. Heracleum Sphondylium, L.

CLOSE SCIENCES, the Dame's Violet, called, as Parkinson tells us, Th. Bot. p. 628, the single variety of it *Single Sciney*, and the double variety *Close Sciney*, from which Gerarde made this ridiculous name. *Sciney*, no doubt, has



arisen from its specific name, *Damascena*, understood as *Dame's Scena*. *Hesperis matronalis*, L.

CLOT-BUR, in Chaucer and in Pr. Pm. CLOTE, sometimes spelt incorrectly CLOD-BUR, A.S. *clate*, G. *klette*, a bur that sticks to clothes, and connected with many other words beginning with *cl* or *kl*, such as *cleave*, *climb*, *cling*, *kletten*, which convey the idea of attachment by claws. It is hardly more than an accidental coincidence of sound, that *clout*, a cloth, is used in a line of Pierce Plowman with *lapped*:

“Thereon lay a litel chylde *lapped* in *cloutes* ;”

which suggests that *clot* may possibly be *clout*, and have arisen from its L. name *Lappa* being confused with G. *lappen*, a clout. The burdock, *Arctium Lappa*, L.

CLOUD-BERRY, from its growing on the cloudy tops of mountains, Ger. p. 1368, *Rubus chamæmorus*, L.

CLOVE GILLIFLOWER, from its scent of clove, Sp. *clavo*, a nail, the shape of the spice so called,

*Dianthus caryophyllus*, L.

CLOVER, A.S. *clæfer*, or *clæfre*, spelt in all the herbals and older works, and in Scotland still, with more correctness, *claver*, a word misrepresented in the dictionaries as derived from *klofen*, the passive participle of A.S. *clufan* or *cleofan*, split; and, agreeably to this notion, Gay has the line, “Than primrose sweeter or the *cloven* grass.” This is a mistake. The *o* of the passive participle cannot have become *e*, or taken the termination *er* or *re*, nor is it agreeable to popular usage to apply the term *cloven* to that which is split into three. *Clæfer* is evidently a noun in the plural number, probably a Frisian word, and means “clubs,” from L. *clava*, and refers to the *clava trinodis* of Hercules. It is in fact the club of our cards, Fr. *trèfle*, so named from its resemblance in outline to a leaf with three leaflets. The old spelling *Claver* is therefore the correct one.

*Trifolium*, L.

- By "Clover," simply, is understood *Trif. pratense*, L.  
 ,, BIRDSFOOT-, from its claw-like legumes,  
*Lotus corniculatus*, and *Trigonella ornithopodioides*, L.  
 ,, CRIMSON-, *Trif. incarnatum*, L.  
 ,, DUTCH-, *Trif. repens*, L.  
 ,, HARESFOOT-, from its furry soft capitules,  
*Trif. arvense*, L.  
 ,, HART'S-, *Melilotus officinalis*, L.  
 ,, HEART-, from the markings of the leaf,  
*Medicago maculata*, L.  
 ,, HOP-, from the shape of its fruiting capitules,  
*Trif. agrarium*, L.  
 ,, MEADOW-, *Trif. pratense*, L.  
 ,, STRAWBERRY-, from the shape of its capitules, when  
 in fruit, with the calyces pink and inflated,  
*Trif. fragiferum*, L.

CLOWN'S ALLHEAL or WOUNDWORT, so called by Gerarde, p. 852, because a countryman, who had cut himself to the bone with a scythe, healed the wound with it in seven days.  
*Stachys palustris*, L.

CLOWN'S LUNG-WORT, from its use in pulmonary disease,  
*Lathræa squamaria*, L.

CLUB-MOSS, a mossy plant with a club-like inflorescence,  
*Lycopodium*, L.

CLUB-RUSH, from its club-like inflorescence, the bulrush,  
*Scirpus palustris*, L.

COB-NUT, from *cob*, a thick lump, A.S. *copp*, head, so called from being used in a game called *cob-nut*,

*Corylus avellana*, L. var. *grandis*.

COCK'S COMB, of botanists, from the shape of the calyx,  
*Rhinanthus crista galli*, L.

COCK'S COMB, of Hill's, and some other herbals, from the shape of its legume, the sainfoin, *Onobrychis sativa*, L.

COCK'S COMB, of the gardeners, *Celosia cristata*, L.

*Cock*, A.S. *ccc*, an imitation of the bird's voice in calling its hens around it.

COCKSCOMB-GRASS, from the shape of the panicle,  
*Cynosurus echinatus*, L.

COCK'S-FOOT, from the shape of the panicle,  
*Dactylis glomerata*, L.

COCK'S-HEAD, from the shape of the legume, the sainfoin,  
*Onobrychis sativa*, L.

COCKS, from children fighting the flower-stems one  
 against the other, see KEMPS, *Plantago media*, L.

COCKLE, A.S. *coccel*, L. *caucalis*, Gr. *καυκαλις*, some  
 umbelliferous plant, which Clusius says, p. ccii, was the  
 same as *δαυκος ἀγρια*. *Cockle* or *Cokyl* was used by  
 Wycliffe and other old writers in the sense of a weed  
 generally, but in later works has been appropriated to the  
 Gith, or Corn pink, *Agrostemma Githago*, L.

CODLIN, originally, no doubt, *coddling*, from *coddle*, to  
 boil lightly, a boiling apple, *pomum coctile*, Fr. *pomme*  
*cuite*, *Pyrus Malus*, L. var.

CODLINS AND CREAM, from the odour of its flowers,  
*Epilobium hirsutum*, L.

*Cream*, Fr. *crème*, Sp. *crema*, A.S. *ream*, G. *rahm*,  
 L. *cremor*, corrupted in the M.Lat. of Venantius to *crema*.

COL, abbreviated by the Apothecaries from *Coliander*  
 for *Coriander*, *Coriandrum sativum*, L.

COLK-SEED, see CALE.

COLMENIER, a name given in the Herbals to the Sweet  
 William, and also spelt *Tolmeiner*, which in Parkinson is  
 divided into *Toll-me-neer*, as though the meaning had been  
*Cull me-*, or *Toll me near*, probably a fanciful explanation  
 of a name derived from some unknown foreign word,  
*d'Allemagne*, perhaps; see TOLMEINER.

*Dianthus barbatus*, L.

COLT'S-FOOT, from the shape of the leaf,  
*Tussilago farfara*, L.

*Colt*, A.S. *colt*, related to Dan. *kuld*, a litter of young.

COLTZA, Flem. *kool-zaad*, cole-seed,  
*Brassica Napus*, L.

COLUMBINE, L. *columbina*, adj. of *columba*, pigeon, from the resemblance of its nectaries to the heads of pigeons in a ring round a dish, a favourite device of ancient artists,

*Aquilegia vulgaris*, L.

COMFREY, L. *confirma*, from its supposed strengthening qualities,

*Symphytum officinale*, L.

„ SPOTTED-, see LUNGWORT.

CONSOUND, or CONSOD, L. *consolida*, “quia tanta præstantia est, ut carnes, dum coquantur, conglutinet addita, unde nomen.” Pliny, xxvii. 6. A name given in the middle ages to several different plants, and among them to the daisy,

*Bellis perennis*, L.

to the Comfrey,

*Symphytum officinale*, L.

and to the Buglé,

*Ajuga reptans*, L.

CONVAL LILY, L. *lilium convallium*, lily of combes, incorrectly translated “Lily of the valley.” The expression is used in the Vulgate translation of the Bible, Cant. ii. 1, and is appropriately given to this plant, as the flower of hollows surrounded by hills, its usual place of growth, although certainly not the flower meant by the royal poet.

*Convallaria majalis*, L.

COP-ROSE, either from the cop or button left after flowering, viz. its capsule; or from the G. *klapperose*, rattle-rose, explained into *cop-rose*,

*Papaver rhæas*, L.

CORAL-ROOT, from its branching and jointed roots resembling white coral, Gr. *κοραλλιον*,

*Corallorhiza innata*, R.B.

CORAL-WORT, from its white root, and the “divers small round knobs thereon resembling the knaggy eminences of coral,” W. Coles, p. 56.

*Dentaria bulbifera*, L.

CORD-GRASS, called so by Turner, because he “saw that rishe in the islands of East Friesland, and the people there make ropes of that rishe, and thache their houses also wyth the same,”

*Spartina stricta*, Sm.

CORIANDER, Gr. *κοριαννον*, of *κορις*, a bug, from its odour,

*Coriandrum sativum*, L.

CORMEILLE, or CARMYLIE, Gael. *caermeal*, the heath-pea, one of the very few words adopted from the Highlanders,  
Orobis tuberosus, L.

CORN, from L. *granum*, Go. *kaurin*, in England applied to wheat, in Germany to rye, in America to maize, in N. Friesland to barley, the grains most commonly used in their respective countries.

CORN-BIND, seen BIND-WEED and BEAR-BIND.

CORN-BOTTLE, see BLUE BOTTLE.

CORN-COCKLE, see COCKLE.

CORN-FLOWER, from its being one of the gayest and most conspicuous wild flowers of corn-fields, Du. *koren-bloem*, called in Ort. San. *Flores frumentorum*,  
Centaurea Cyanus, L.

CORN-HONEWORT, from its use in curing the hone, or boil on the cheek,  
Petroselinum segetum, L.

CORN-MARIGOLD, see MARIGOLD,

Chrysanthemum segetum, L.

CORN-PINK, in Northamptonshire (Baker), the corn-cockle,  
Agrostemma Githago, L.  
in some other counties, Campanula hybrida, L.

CORN-POPPY, or -ROSE, Papaver Rhœas, L.

CORN-SALAD, Valerianella olitoria, L.

CORN-VIOLET, Campanula hybrida, L.

CORNEL, It. *corniolo*, L. *corneolus*, dim. of *corneus*, adj. of L. *cornus*, Gr. *κρᾶνεια*,  
Cornus sanguinea, L.

CORNISH MONEYWORT, from its growing in no other part of the British Isles than Cornwall, and being, from its round leaves, classed with the Moneyworts,

Sibthorpia Europæa, L.

CORONATION, the older and more correct spelling of *car-nation*, from its M.Lat. name *Vettonica coronaria*, as in Dodoens, ii. 1, 18, Tabern. vol. ii. c. 1, and Lyte, b. ii. ch. vii, who, in speaking of Clove Gillofers, says, "The greatest and bravest sort of them are called *coronations* or *cornations*." See CARNATION. *Dianthus caryophyllus*, L.

**COSTMARY**, *L. costus amarus*, its name in Bauhin's Th. Bot. p. 674, Fr: *coste amere*, misunderstood as *Costus Mariae*, from Gr. *κοστος*, some aromatic plant unknown,

*Balsamita vulgaris*, L.

**COTTON-GRASS**, or **-RUSH**, a grass-like plant with seed-spikes resembling tufts of cotton from the protrusion of the hypogynous bristles beyond the glumes,

*Eriophorum polystachyum*, L.

*Cotton*, from the Ar. *al-qu'-ton*, whence the Sp. *algodon*.

**COTTON-WEED**, from its soft white pubescence,

*Gnaphalium*, L.

**COUCH-GRASS**, or **QUICH**, A.S. *cwice*, from *cwic*, vivacious, on account of its tenacity of life, a name given to several creeping grasses, but chiefly to *Triticum repens*, L.

**COUGH-WORT**, from its medicinal use,

*Tussilago farfara*, L.

**COVENTRY BELLS**, from their abundance near that town, Ger. em. p. 448.

*Campanula urticifolia*, Sal.

**COVENTRY RAPES**, see **RAMPION**, called *rape* from its tuberous turnip-like roots, *Campanula Rapunculus*, L.

**COWBANE**, from its supposed baneful effect upon cows,

*Cicuta virosa*, L.

*Cow*, a word adopted from a very ancient Asiatic dialect, and nearly the same in Sanskrit, Zend, Persian, the Germanic, and the Slavonian languages, and even the Chinese, an agreement in name, that makes it probable, that this animal has been dispersed over the civilized world from one centre. This we are justified in placing in a country, whence our fruit trees and cerealia have been obtained, and all the essentials of our civilization, a country to the North-west of India. The Lat. *vacca*, Skr. *vaska*, refers to the use of the cow as a beast of draught or burden, and is connected with *veho*, Skr. *vah*. It deserves remark as a curious circumstance, that none of the names for a cow in any of the Ind-European languages have

reference to its yielding milk, although "daughter," a word that is essentially the same in a great many of them, means "milker." This may justify our inferring that kine were not kept in the primeval family for milking, but for draught or burden, and that the goat was the animal, which the daughter tended; as indeed the constant allusions to goat-milking in the idyllic poems of antiquity would lead us to suppose, and still more the circumstance that the Lat. *vacca* is evidently derived from the Skr. *vah*, *vehere*, transport, and nearly identical with Skr. *vâha*, *vâhya*, a beast of draught or burden, applied equally to a horse. It is a curious illustration of the importance attached to this animal, that the Skr. *go-pâ* means a cow-herd and a prince, wealth and power having been estimated by the amount of a man's wealth in cattle, a term that must date from the period when the Brahminic race led a pastoral life in Central Asia.

COWBERRY, apparently from a blunder between *Vaccinium*, the fruit of the whortle, and *vaccinum*, what belongs to a cow,

V. *Vitis Idæa*, L.

COW-CRESS, a coarse cress, *Lepidium campestre*, L.

COWSLIP, -LAP, or -LOP, of different dialects, A.S. *cuslippe*, and in Ælfric's Glossary *cusloppe*, a name of very uncertain derivation, possibly a corruption of A.S. *cyslib*, the Scotch *keeslip*, or *kislop*, the O.H.G. *chesiluppa*, or *chesluppe*, rennet. It admits, however, another and very different explanation, which is probably the right one. The plants of the cowslip and primrose kind were once comprehended with the Mulleins under *Verbascum*, and one species of this, the *V. Thapsus*, is called Bullock's Lungwort from having been used in the pneumonia of cattle, an application of it suggested by the resemblance of its thick woolly leaves to the dewlap of a bullock. The last syllable of *Cowslip*, -*lap*, or -*lop* will, in this view of it, be the A.S. *leppa*, or *lappa*, a lap or border, and the name, meaning Cow's dewlap, have originally belonged to the Mullein,

but by some blunder have been transferred to a different  
Verbascum, our present Cowslip. Primula veris, L.

„ FRENCH- or MOUNTAIN-, P. auricula, L.

COW'S LUNGWORT, see BULLOCK'S LUNGWORT.

COW-PARSLEY, or COW-WEED,

Chærophyllum sylvestre, L.

COW-PARSNEP,

Heracleum sphondylium, L.

COW-QUAKE, most likely altered from "*Quake! quake!*"  
but possibly from A.S. *cweoc*, lively, Briza media, L.

COW-WHEAT, from its seed resembling wheat, but being  
only fit for cows, Melampyrum, L.

CRAB, Sc. *scrab*, from A.S. *scrobb*, a shrub, a word  
connected perhaps with Gael. *craobh*, tree, and implying a  
bush- or wild-apple, in the Grete Herball called a "*Wood-  
crabbe*," and according to Turner, b. ii. p. 47, "in the  
north countre a *Scarb-tre*," Fr. in Cotgrave, *pomme de boys*,  
Pyrus malus, L.

CRAB-GRASS, from its growing on the sea-shore, where  
crabs abound, and being supposed to afford them food,

Salicornia herbacea, L.

*Crab*, A.S. *crabba*, Gr. *καρβος*, L. *scarabæus*, whence  
G. *krebs*, Fr. *ecrevisse*. Connected with these words, and  
of the same remote origin with them, are several verbs  
descriptive of the action of the claws of such animals,  
*grapple*, *gripe*, *scrape*, *scribere*, *scrabble*, etc.

CRAKE-BERRY, the crow-berry, O.N. *kraka*, a crow,  
whence Da. *krake-bär*, from its black colour, or, accord-  
ing to Dr. Johnston, in East. Bord. from crows eating it  
greedily,

Empetrum nigrum, L.

*Crake* is a word widely extended through other lan-  
guages, and mixed up with *crow*, which, however, has a  
different origin. *Crake*, A.S. *hroc*, Sw. *kråga*, L. *graculus*,  
Gr. *κορᾶξ*, seems to be formed in imitation of the hoarse  
voice of the bird, while *Crow* (see CROW-BELLS) is derived  
from its food.

CRAMBLING ROCKET, a spurious *crambe*, or mustard



(as vetchling is a spurious vetch), with the leaves of rocket,  
*Sisymbrium officinale*, L.

CRANBERRY, from its fruit being ripe in the spring, when the crane returns, Da. *tranebær*, from *trane*, a crane, a name of late introduction, for Lyte calls them Marrish Whorts and Fenberries, and says, b. vi. c. 11, that "there is none other name for them known," *Vaccinium Oxycoccus*, L.

*Crane*, A.S. *cran*, Du. *kraan*, Sw. *kran* and *trana*, Gr. *γερανος*, a name given, apparently, in imitation of the cry of the bird. The Lat. *grus* seems to be a form of *grans*, and the same word.

CRANE'S-BILL, from the form of the seed vessel,

*Geranium*, L.

CRAP, or CROP, buck-wheat, related to L. *carpere*. *Crop* in our old writers means a head of flowers, a cima, and may have been given to this plant, as being thus distinguished from the cereal grains, which have no such conspicuous flowers. There is probably some prefix lost from the word.

*Polygonum fagopyrum*, L.

CRAPPE, in some works, for no obvious reason, applied to the ray-grass,

*Lolium perenne*, L.

CRESS, G. *kresse*, Fr. *cresson*, It. *crescione*, M. Lat. *crissonium*, derived by C. Stephans, and by Diez, from L. *crescere*, grow, "a celeritate crescendi." It seems to have had a double origin, and to be equally derived from A.S. *cærs*, in Ælfric's vocabulary spelt *kerse*, in MS. Sloane, 1571, 3, *kyrsys*, in Chaucer *kers*, in Cotgrave *kars* or *kerse*, a word that is much more nearly connected with *carse*, a wet ground, as in *Alder-carse*, Ic. *kiar* and *kaer*. The derivation of the French word from *crescere* is by no means satisfactory, for cresses do not *grow* more than other plants. Wedgwood derives it from Fr. *crisser*, grind the teeth, in allusion to the crunching sound in eating them. The form of the word now in use has probably been adopted from the Netherlands with the cultivation of the plants. Used absolutely, it means the genus

*Lepidium*, L.

- „ SCIATICA-, from its medicinal use, Iberis, L.  
 „ SWINE’S-, or WART-, Coronopus Ruellii, DC.  
 „ WATER-, Nasturtium officinale, L.  
 „ WINTER-, Barbarea vulgaris, R.B.  
 CROCUS, Gr. *κροκος*, saffron, C. vernus, W.  
 CROSS OF JERUSALEM, from its resemblance both in  
 shape and colour to a Maltese or Jerusalem cross, especially  
 its four-petaled variety, Lychnis Chalcedonica, L.  
 CROSS-FLOWER, because it flowers in Cross-week, Ger.  
 p. 450. See ROGATION FLOWER. Polygala vulgaris, L.  
 CROSS-WORT, from its cruciate or cross-placed leaves,  
 Galium cruciatum, Scop.  
 CROW-BELLS, the daffodil,  
 Narcissus pseudonarcissus, L.  
 Crow, A.S. *craw* or *crave*, O.H.G. *kra*, G. *krähe*,  
 Skr. *kārava*, and L. *corvus*, words that appear to be de-  
 rived from the food of the bird, and to be etymologically  
 connected, and perhaps identical with *raven*, as a devourer  
 of flesh, Go. *hraiiv*, A.S. *hreaw*, a carcase, O.N. *hrä*,  
 L. *caro*, Gr. *κρεας*, Skr. *kravja*, with which are connected  
 words that signify “blood,” L. *cruor*, Lith. *kravjas*, Boh.  
*krew*, Wel. *crau*. The names of the *crow* are mixed up  
 with others, of which *crake* is the representative, and which  
 seem to be derived from the hoarse voice of the bird. The  
 Ic. *hræ-svelg*, carrion-eater, expresses its meaning more  
 fully.  
 CROWBERRY, from the black colour of its fruit,  
 Empetrum nigrum, L.  
 CROW-FLOWER, the buttercup, from the resemblance of  
 its leaf to a crow’s foot,  
 Ranunculus acris and bulbosus, L.  
 but in old authors often applied to the Ragged Robin,  
 Lychnis flos cuculi, L.  
 CROWFOOT, from being supposed, from the shape of its  
 leaf, to be the Coronopus or crow’s-foot of Dioscorides,  
 Ranunculus, L.

CROWFOOT CRANESBILL, a geranium with a leaf like that of a crowfoot, *Geranium pratense*, L.

CROW-GARLICK, a worthless garlick,

*Allium vineale*, L.

CROW-LEEKS,

*Scilla nutans*, Sm.

CROW-NEEDLES, or CRAKE-NEEDLES (Ray) from the long beaks of the seed vessels,

*Scandix pecten*, L.

CROW-TOES, from its claw-like spreading legumes,

*Lotus corniculatus*, L.

CUCKOO'S BREAD, or CUCKOO'S MEAT, or GOWK-MEAT, A.S. *geaces sure*, from its blossoming at the season when the cuckoo's cry is heard, M.Lat. of Ort. San. c. xviii, *panis cuculi*,

*Oxalis Acetosella*, L.

*Cuckoo*, a name imitated from the note of the bird, and nearly the same in all languages, but abbreviated in Scotch to *Gowk*, Da. *Gög*.

"CUCKOO BUDS of yellow hue," Shaksp. L.L.L. Act v. Sc. 2, are probably the buds of the crowfoot.

CUCKOO FLOWER, because, as Gerarde says, p. 203, it "flowers in April and May, when the Cuckowe doth begin to sing her pleasant notes without stammering." Dr. Johnston in East. Bord. would derive its name from the so-called *Cuckoo-spittle* upon it; but without much reason; for it is not a plant peculiarly liable to the attack of the insect that causes this froth. *Cardamine pratensis*, L. also in some places the species of *Lychnis*, L. See the following.

CUCKOO GILLIFLOWER, one of the plants formerly comprehended under the Gilliflowers, and blossoming at the time of the cuckoo's song, *Lychnis flos cuculi*, L.

CUCKOO-GRASS, a grass-like-rush flowering at the time of the cuckoo,

*Luzula campestris*, L.

CUCKOO-PINT, or -PINTLE, from A.S. *cucu*, lively, and *pintle* (see Bailey), L.Ger. *pintel*, Fris. *pint* and *peynth*, words explained in Outzen's Glossary, so called from the shape of the spadix, and its presumed aphrodisiac virtues,

and not from any reference to the bird called Cuckoo. In a MS. of the fourteenth century in Archæologia, vol. xxx. l. 1191, it is called *kokok-pyntel*, the *kokok* being but a later form of the A.S. *cuc*, *cwuc*, *cweoc*, or *cwic*. See below WAKE-PINTLE and WAKE-ROBIN. *Arum maculatum*, L.

CUCUMBER, Fr. *concombre*, It. *cocomero*, L. *cucumis*, *-eris*,  
C. *sativus*, L.

CUDBEAR, from a Mr. Cuthbert Gordon, who first manufactured a dye from it, *Lecanora tartarea*, Achar.

CUD-WEED, meaning cotton-weed, so called from its soft cottony pubescence. Ray says, Cat. Plant. Cant. p. 57, "quia ruminantibus opitulatur, et rumen amissum revocat;" an untenable explanation that has evidently been suggested by the mere name, like many others that he has given ;  
*Gnaphalium*, L.

„ SEA-, *Diotis maritima*, L.

CULL ME-, CUDDLE ME-, or CALL ME TO YOU, see PANSY.

CULLIONS, It. *coghione*, augm. of *coglia*, L. *coleus*, from its double tubers, *Orchis*, L.

CULRAGE, from the French, "according," says Gerarde, p. 361, "to his operation and effect, when it is used in those parts,"  
*Polygonum hydropiper*, L.

CULVER-KEYS, little pigeons, a name found in Walton's Angler, and the same, probably, as *Calverkeys* in Awbrey's Wilts, now no longer used or understood. Being applied to a meadow plant, and associated with cowslips, it cannot be, as supposed by the commentators, a columbine, but most likely, from the resemblance of its flowers to little birds, the  
*Orchis Morio*, L.

*Culver*, A.S. *culfre*, or *culefra*, from L. *columba*, pigeon.

CULVERWORT, A.S. *culfre*, pigeon, and *wort*, from the resemblance of its flowers to little heads of such birds feeding together ; the Columbine, *Aquilegia vulgaris*, L.

CUMMIN, from Ar. *al gamoun*, *Cuminum cyminum*, L.

CUP in Butter-cup, King-cup, and Gold-cup, not from a drinking vessel, but from the resemblance of its double

variety to the gold head of a button, A.S. *copp*, a stud,  
Fr. *bouton d'or*, Ranunculus acris, L.

CUP LICHEN, or CUP-MOSS, from its cup-like shape,  
Scyphophorus pyxidatus, Hook.

CURRENT, a name transferred from the small grape  
brought from Corinth, and thence called *Uva Corinthiaca*,  
to the fruits of several species of Ribes, as by a similar  
confusion the red currant was in Turner's time called a  
raisin-tree, Ribes rubrum, and nigrum, L.

CUSHION-PINK, from its dense tufted growth, and the  
resemblance of its flowers in their general appearance to  
pinks, Statice armeria, L.

CYDERACH, the culrage. See CIDERAGE.

CYPHEL, an unexplained name, possibly the Gr. *κυφελλα*,  
a mass of clouds, from its growth on cloud-capped Alpine  
heights, Cherleria sedoides, L.

CYPRESS, L. *cupressus*, Gr. *κυπαρισσος*,  
*C. sempervirens*, L.

DAFFADOWNDILLY, DAFFODILLY, AFFODILLY, and DAFFO-  
DIL, L. *asphodelus*, from which was formed *Affodilly*, the  
name of it in all the older writers, but subsequently con-  
fused with that of another flower, the so-called *sapharoun-*  
or saffron *lily*.

“The thynde *lylye* gyt there ys,  
That ys called *felde lylye*, y wys,  
Hys levys be lyke to *sapharoun*,  
Men know yt therby many one.”

MS. Sloane, No. 1571.

With the taste for alliteration that is shown in popular  
names, the *Sapharoun-lily*, upon blending with *affodilly*,  
became, by a sort of mutual compromise, *daffadown-dilly*,  
whence we get our *daffodilly* and *daffodil*. This explana-  
tion of it is merely conjectural, and wants the test of his-  
torical evidence, but appears to be the best. The dic-

tionaries derive it from "fleurs d'affodille;" but there is no such name to be found in any work, French or English, and it is highly improbable that a plant should be called the "flowers" of the plant. Neither does this explain the -down- of *Daffadownilly*. *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, L.

DAISY, A.S. *dæges-eage*, eye of day, O.E. *Daieseyghe*, from its opening and closing its flower with the daylight, a name that seems to have delighted Chaucer, who makes long and repeated allusions to it. Skinner, nevertheless, derives it from *dais*, a canopy, and Gavin Douglas seems to have understood it in this sense of a small canopy in the line,

"The *daisie* did unbraid her crownall small."

Had we not the A.S. *dæges-eage*, we could hardly refuse to admit that this last is a far more obvious and probable explanation of the word, than the pretty poetical thought conveyed in *day's eye*. *Bellis perennis*, L.

„ GREAT-, or MOON-,

*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*, L.

DAMASK VIOLET, or DAME'S VIOLET, L. *Viola Damascena*, from Damascus in Syria, Fr. *Violette de Damas*, misunderstood for *Violette des dames*,

*Hesperis matronalis*, L.

DAMSONS, DAMASINS, or DAMASK PRUNES, Fr. *damascene*, a kind of plum first brought from Damascus,

*Prunus communis*, L. var.

DANDELION, Fr. *dent de lion*, lion's tooth, L. *leontodon*, a name, about the meaning of which modern authors are undecided. Some derive it from the whiteness of the root; some from the yellowness of the flower, which they compare to that of the heraldic lion, whose teeth are of gold; most of the Herbalists from the runcinate jags of the leaf, which somewhat resembles the jaw, but certainly not a tooth of the lion; others from other grounds more or less plausible, but all to the neglect of the only safe guide in

these matters, the ancient writer who gave the name. We learn from the *Ortus Sanitatis*, ch. 152, that a Master William, who was a surgeon, and who seems, from ch. 226, to have written a "cyrorgi," or work on surgery, was very fond of this plant on account of its virtues, and therefore likened it to a lion's tooth, called in Latin *dens leonis*. "Diss kraute hat Meyster Wilhelmus, eyn wuntartzet gewest, fast lieb gehabt umb seiner tugent willen, unnd darumb hatt er es geglichen eynem leuwen zan, genant zu latein *dens leonis*." Ed. Augsburg, 1486, fol. What plant he meant, is uncertain. That which is now called so, our dandelion, bears a similar name in nearly every European language. *Taraxacum officinale*, Vill.

DANEWORT, or, as Awbrey calls it in his "Wilts," DANESBLOOD, he thus explains; "Danesblood, ebulus, about Slaughtonford [a small village near Chippenham] is plenty. There was heretofore a great fight with the Danes, which made the inhabitants give it that name." Parkinson, *Th. Bot.* 208, derives it from its causing a flux called the *Danes*. *Sambucus ebulus*, L.

DAPHNE, a Greek word adopted in English, the name of a nymph who was turned into a shrub by Apollo,

*D. laureola*, L.

DARNEL, in *Pr. Pm.* DERNEL, a name that in old writers did not mean exclusively the large ray grass to which we now assign it; but many other plants also, of many different genera and natural orders, leguminosæ, gramineæ, caryophylleæ, etc. Wedgwood, under the impression that intoxicating qualities have always been implied by it, goes to the Lithuanian and Scandinavian languages for words with that meaning. But there never was any such character associated with *Darnel*. The most probable source of this, as of most other popular names, is its medical use. We find that it was a specific remedy for cutaneous diseases. "Ray medled with brimstone and with vineger helpeth against scabs wet and dry, and

against tetter, and against itching." Glantvilla by Batman, c. 194: where, speaking of *zizania*, he declares it to be the same as *lolium*, *cokil*, and *ray*. Now these diseases were called *zerna*; "*Zernam medici impetiginem vocant*," says Cassius Felix, as quoted by the editor of Macer on the line, descriptive of its virtues:

"*Zernas et lepras cura compeccis eadem.*"

It is from this word that we seem to have got *darnel*, which, so far as it was a specific name, meant "itch-weed." But, in truth, there was great confusion among our early herbalists in respect to the names of their plants, and under that of *Darnel* were comprehended all kinds of corn-field weeds. So in the Grete Herball, ch. 246, we find, under the picture of a vetch(!), "*Lolium is Cokyll.*" The A.S. version of Matth. ch. xiii. v. 25, renders the Lat. "*zizania*" *coccel*, Wycliffe's both *cockel* and *darnel*, and later versions *tares*. In fact these words were used indiscriminately, and Th. Newton, in his Herbal to the Bible, p. 226, tells us expressly that, "under the name of *Cockle* and *Darnel* is comprehended all vicious, noisome, and unprofitable graine, encombring and hindering good corne." The explanation given above is the most plausible that offers itself, but the origin of this word is extremely obscure, and all analysis of it quite conjectural. It may possibly be Fl. *terwe*, wheat, and *neel*, as meaning "corn-weed." It may be Fl. *rad*, cockle, with the letters transposed, and *neel*. It may be M.Lat. *jurum*, from Fr. *juraye*, and *neel*. It may be a corruption of Fr. *éternel*, everlasting, and correspond to our *quitch*. Some incidental notice may another day throw a light upon it, that cannot be elicited by any amount of thought, or ingenuity of conjecture.

*Lolium temulentum*, L.

DAUKE, the wild carrot, L. *daucus*, Gr. *δauκος*, a word that seems to be etymologically identical with the northern *laukr*, *leac*, *lauch*, by a replacing of *d* with *l*, D. *carota*, L.



DEADMAN'S FINGERS, from the pale colour and hand-like shape of the palmate tubers, *Orchis mascula*, L.

*Dead*, the passive participle of a verb represented by the Skr. *dhan*, slay, and radically connected with Gr. *thavatos*, death. The *n* has been vocalized to *u*, and thence Goth. *dauths*, Ic. *daudi*, Du. *dood*, Da. *död*, and A.S. *dead*, words that properly mean "slain;" the form of death most familiar to men being that of slaughtered animals.

DEAD NETTLE, Lat. of Ort. San. *Urtica mortua*, a plant with nettle-like leaves, but insensible, and thence called dead, deaf, and blind.

		<i>Lamium</i> , L.
"	"	WHITE-, <i>L. album</i> , L.
"	"	RED-, <i>L. purpureum</i> , L.
"	"	YELLOW-, <i>L. galeobdolon</i> , Cr.

DEAD-TONGUE, from its paralysing effects,

*Ænanthe crocata*, L.

DEADLY NIGHTSHADE, or DEATH'S HERB,

*Atropa Belladonna*, L.

DEAF NETTLE, from deaf meaning stupid, as in the Scotch and early English *deft*, that in Pr. Pm. is translated *obtusus*, the Dead nettle.

DEER'S HAIR, from its tufts of slender stems looking like coarse hair,

*Scirpus cæspitosus*, L.

*Deer*, A.S. *deor*, Go. *djus*, an *s*, as in many other words, replacing an *r*, and (with the same change of the initial consonant as in *thupa*, *fores*, and *door*) identical with the Gr. *θηρ*, Æol. *φηρ*, L. *fera*. *Deer*, as well as its foreign synonyms, meant originally any wild beast, even mice.

DELT-ORACH, an orach whose leaves are triangular, like a Greek letter Δ,

*Atriplex patula*, L.

DEPTFORD PINK, from its growth at Deptford,

*Dianthus Armeria*, L.

DEVIL IN THE BUSH, from its horned capsules peering from a bush of finely divided involucre. The name may have been suggested by the Germ. *Gretel in der Staude*.

*Nigella damascena*, L.

DEVIL'S-BIT, G. *Teufels abbiss*, L. *Morsus diaboli*, so called, says the *Ortus Sanitatis*, on the authority of *Oribasius*, "because with this root the Devil practised such power, that the mother of God, out of compassion, took from the Devil the means to do so with it any more; and in the great vexation that he had that the power was gone from him, he bit it off, so that it grows no more to this day." c. cclxi. Later authors explain it, as though the root would cure all diseases, and that the devil, out of his inveterate malice, grudges mankind such a valuable medicine, and bites it off. *Scabiosa succisa*, L.

DEVIL'S DARNING NEEDLES, from its long awns,  
*Scandix pecten*, L.

DEVIL'S GUTS, from the resemblance of the stem to cat-gut, and the mischief it causes, the dodder, *Cuscuta*, L.

DEVIL'S MILK, from its acrid poisonous milk,  
*Euphorbia*, L.

DEW-BERRY, from the dove colour of its fruit, A.S. *duua*, Du. *duif*, a dove, G. *tauben-beere*, Norw. *col-bär*,  
*Rubus cæsius*, L.

DEW-GRASS, from its rough dew-besprent blades, the cocksfoot grass,  
*Dactylis glomerata*, L.

*Dew*, A.S. *deaw*, Du. *dauw*, Da. *dug*, a word now appropriated to the moisture precipitated from the atmosphere upon cold surfaces, but connected with words that mean "sprinkle" in a more general sense, Da. *dygge*, Gr. *δewω*, and Skr. *duh*, to milk, whence *duhitar*, daughter, as the milker, Gr. *θυγατηρ*, Pers. *dochter*, G. *tochter*.

DILL-SEED, from O.N. *dilla*, lull, being used as a carminative to cause children to sleep. *Lull* is the same as *dill*, with the common exchange of *d* and *l*, as in *dingua*, *lingua*, tongue, and *dautia*, *lautia*, a feast, etc.

*Anethum graveolens*, L.

DITCH-BUR, called by Turner *Dyche-bur*, from its bur-like involucre, and its growth on *dykes*, not in *ditches*, as

its modern name would lead us to suppose, the dyke being the dry bank that confines the water,

Xanthium strumarium, L.

DITTANDER, or DITTANY, apparently a corruption of *L. dictamnus*, the name of a very different plant, but applied to a cress, of which Lyte says, b. v. ch. 66, "It is fondly and unlearnedly called in English Dittany. It were better in following the Douchemen to call it Peppewurt."

Lepidium latifolium, L.

DOCK, A.S. *docca*, which, in Ælfric's glossary, is given as the translation of *L. dilla*, in Pr. Pm. of *padella* and *paradilla*, in Macer called *paratella*,

"Herba solet lapathi vulgo paratella vocari."

It is scarcely possible to trace it to any Germanic root, unless it is a form of *tang*, Da. *tag*, and connected with words that mean "cover," "thatch." It is more probably *L. daucus*, Gr. *δaukos*, dill, a term which botanists have appropriated to the carrot. It is not at all obvious how these words *dilla*, *paradilla*, *paratella*, *padella*, and *docca* came to be applied to the broad-leaved plants called *dock* in later times, viz. the water-lilies, mallows, burdocks, and sorrels. Possibly from their external application, as soothing remedies, to tender surfaces, these last were comprised under the same category as the dills or carminative plants used to lull internal pain. Old herbals and vocabularies give no support to the view of some etymologists that *dock* means "stump." It was not confined to stumpy plants, and there is no such word as *dock* with the meaning of "stump" in the A.S. language. Used absolutely, it is at present restricted to plants of the sorrel tribe, but was formerly extended to several others, such as water lilies, to which it could not have been applied in any such sense. In the Epinal glossary *rumeæ* is rendered in A.S. *edroc*, which comes very near to *drauk*, a word derived from *L. daucus*, but applied to weeds in general. Matthioli,

Ed. Frankf. 1586, p. 255, gives *Decka* as the Arabic of Beta, a plant that in a drawing closely resembles the dock, but the coincidence is probably accidental. As in the case of several other extremely common plants, its name is very obscure.

Rumex, L.

„ BUR-, see under BURDOCK.

„ CAN-, see under CANDOCK.

„ ROUND-, the common mallow, still called so in the charm that is used by children who have been stung with nettles, and alluded to by Chaucer in *Troilus and Cressida*:  
“In dock, out nettle.”

Malva sylvestris, L.

„ VELVET-,  
Verbascum Thapsus, L.

DODDER, the plural of Fris. *dodd*, a bunch, Du. *dot*, hampered thread, from its striking resemblance to bunches of threads entangled in the plants on which it grows,

Cuscuta, L.

DOGBERRY or DOG-CHERRY, the fruit of the *Dogwood* tree, misunderstood as referring to the quadruped. See DOGWOOD.

Cornus sanguinea, L.

*Dog*, a name that seems to have arisen in England, and to have been thence introduced with a particular breed into the Dutch and Scandinavian languages. The derivation of the word is quite unknown. In composition with plant-names it implies worthlessness, like the Gr. *κυνο*.

DOG'S CHAMOMILE, a spurious or wild kind,

Matricaria Chamomilla, L.

DOG-GRASS, called so, Tabernæmontanus tells us, “sintemal sich die Hunde, wenn sie Massleid haben, damit purgiren,”

Triticum caninum, Hud.

DOG'S MERCURY, or DOG'S COLE, a spurious kind, to distinguish it from the so-called English Mercury,

Mercurialis perennis, L.

DOG'S ORACH, a stinking kind,

Chenopodium olidum, Sm.

DOG-ROSE, a wild kind, Gr. *κυνorrhodos* and *κυνοσβατος*,

Rosa canina, L.

DOG'S-TAIL-GRASS, from its spiked panicle being fringed on one side only, *Cynosurus cristatus*, L.

DOG'S-TONGUE, a translation of *L. cynoglossum*, a name given to some plant from its soft leaf, *C. officinale*, L.

DOG'S-TOOTH-GRASS, Fr. *chien dent*, from the sharp-pointed shoots of its underground stem, *Triticum caninum*, Hud.

DOG-VIOLET, a scentless one, *Viola canina*, L.

DOG-WOOD, not so named from the animal, but from skewers being made of it; Fr. *dague*, It. and Sp. *daga*, Fl. and Old Engl. *dagge*, equivalent to G. *dolch*, a *dagger*, and A.S. *dalc* or *dole*, a fibula, a brooch-pin. The verb *dawk* is still retained in the Western counties in a Nursery rhyme: "Prick it and *dawk* it, baker's man." This derivation of the name is supported by its synonyms *Prick-wood*, *Skewer-wood*, and *Gadrise*, but has been overlooked, and the fruit, from a mistaken idea of its meaning, called a *Hound's berry*. Matthioli has a silly story of a person who had been bitten by a mad dog relapsing into his distemper upon handling this wood a year after; probably one of those legends invented to explain a name; a process, of which every branch of literature affords so many examples, and his book especially. *Cornus sanguinea*, L.

DOOB-GRASS, the name given in India to

*Cynodon dactylon*, L.

DOVE'S FOOT, from the shape of the leaf,

*Geranium columbinum*, L.

*Dove*, A.S. *duva* or *duva*, O.S. *dufa*, Sw. *dufva*, Du. *duif*, Go. *dubo*, O.H.G. *tubu*, G. *taube*, apparently so called from the cooing of the bird, which the A.S. and O.S. terms very well express. Diefenbach, in his *Lex. comp.* ii. 632, derives it from a root *dubh*, dip, dive, corresponding to the Lat. *columba*, from Gr. *κολυβαω*. If this is so, the name may have originally belonged to some other bird, one of the gull tribe, which, from its frequenting the sea-coast, has been confounded with the rock pigeons.

DRAKE, DRAWK, or DRAVICK, Du. *dravig*, W. *drewg*, Br.

*draok*, darnel, cockle, or weeds in general, *L. daucus*, with insertion of *r*, as in *Sp. tronar* from *tonar*,

*Bromus sterilis*, *Avena fatua*, *L.* etc.

DROPWORT, according to Turner, b. iii. 31, from its small tubers hanging by slender threads,

*Spiræa Filipendula*, *L.*

„ WATER-, from its use in Stillicidium, and growth in wet places,

*Oenanthe fistulosa*, *L.*

DRY-ROT, from A.S. *treow*, tree or wood, and *rotian*, rot, and properly meaning “wood-rot,”

*Merulius lacrimans*, *Wulf.*

DUCK-MEAT OR -WEED, an aquatic plant, a favourite food of ducks, called in *Pr. Pm. ende-mete*, *Lemna minor*, *L.*

*Duck*, so abbreviated from *douker*, its former name, as found in a MS. of the fourteenth century, *Rel. Ant. ii. 80*, so called from its habit of immersing its head, *G. tauchen*, *O.H.G. tunchen*, *Du. duiken*, *M.Lat. docare*, a name that proves that we received this bird in its domesticated state from Holland or Lower Germany; for in A.S. the verb is *duftan*, and the duck called *ened*.

DULSE, Gael. *duillisg*, from *duille*, leaf, and *uisge*, water, *Rhodomencia* and *Halymenia*.

DUNSE-DOWN, a pleonasm, from *Du. dons*, which means down, so called from its soft catkins, but whimsically derived by *Lobel* from its making people *dunch* or deaf, if it gets into their ears. See *Kruidtb. p. 113*.

*Typha latifolia*, *L.*

DUTCH CLOVER, or simply DUTCH, from the seed of it having been very largely imported from Holland, 150 tons annually, says *Curtis* in his *Flor. Lond.*

*Trifolium repens*, *L.*

DUTCH MYRTLE, *L. Myrtus Brabantica*, from its abounding in Dutch bogs, and replacing the myrtle of more genial climates,

*Myrica Gale*, *L.*

DUTCH RUSH, a rush-like plant imported from Holland, *Equisetum hyemale*, *L.*

DWALE, Da. *dwale*, torpor, trance, whence *dwale-bær*, a dwale- or trance-berry. In Chaucer, l. 4159, it is used for a sleeping draught: "There nedeth him no *dwale*." It was once, perhaps, a general term, but has been appropriated to the Deadly Nightshade,

*Atropa Belladonna*, L.

DYER'S GREEN-WEED, in the sense of a dye-herb that tinges green,

*Genista tinctoria*, L.

DYER'S ROCKET, from its leaves resembling those of the genuine rocket, and its being used by the dyers to dye woollen stuffs yellow,

*Reseda luteola*, L.

DYER'S YELLOW-WEED, the same as the preceding.

EARTH-BALLS, truffles, balls that grow under the earth,

*Tuber cibarium*, Sib.

*Earth*, A.S. *eorðe*, from *erian*, to ear or till, and nearly the same word in all the Germanic languages, its root *ar*, labour, whence Gr. *ἐργον*, G. *arbeit*, A.S. *earfoð*, and the verbs *ápovv*, to plough, L. *arare*, Wel. *aru*, Go. *arjan*, the earliest labour having been the tillage of the field. It implies early, long, and general habits of agriculture, that the soil, at the separation of the German from the other Ind-European races, already bore a name indicative of the labour bestowed upon it, a name that is traceable in the languages of nations still more anciently individualised.

EARTH-GALL, A.S. *eorð-gealle*, from their bitterness, plants of the gentian tribe, more particularly

*Erythræa centaurium*, L.

EARTH-MOSS,

*Phascum*, L.

EARTH-NUT, or -CHESTNUT, or ERNUT, from its nutty esculent tubers,

*Bunium flexuosum*, With.

EARTH-SMOKE, L. *fumus terræ*, the fumitory,

*Fumaria officinalis*, L.

EGG-PLANT, from the shape of its fruit,

*Solanum melongena*, L.

*Egg*, see under *Eye*.

EGLANTINE, a name that has been the subject of much discussion, both as to its exact meaning, and as to the shrub to which it properly belongs. In Chaucer and our other old poets it is spelt *Eglantere* and *Eglatere*, as in a passage in the Flower and Leaf, st. 3 :

The hegge also, that yede in compas,  
And closed in all the greene herbere,  
With sicamour was set and *eglatere*.

But whether this word originally meant the sweet-briar, the dog-rose, or some species that is lost, cannot now be ascertained, and perhaps the poets themselves meant no more than a rose of any kind indifferently. The name is an etymological puzzle. It is unnecessary to discuss Richardson's notable derivation of it from the Dutch word for a hedgehog, *egel*, with which it may perhaps be radically connected, but which was certainly not suggestive of it; or some other conjectures that have been hazarded. There is no doubt that it has come to us through the O.Fr. *esglantier*, which seems to have been formed from M.Lat. *escalante*, climbing, participle of *escalare*, whence *escalade* and *escalier*; and the termination *ier*, as in several other instances, to have been changed to *ine*, for the sake of euphony, and as implying something delicate and tender. In the old authors it is always described as a trellis shrub, and as being used for arbours, agreeably to this explanation of the meaning of the name. Diez, however, who is the highest authority in questions of French etymology, derives it from *aiguille*, a needle, with the suffix *ent*, and regards it as the equivalent of Lat. *acuculenta*, prickly. It is found in the older French writers as *anglantier* and *englantier*, as well as *esglantier*; in Provençal writers as *aguilen*, *aguilancier*, and *aiglentina*, which are, no doubt, derived from *aiguille*. In fact, the name appears to be one of those which have had a double origin, having in the first place been given as *aguilen* to some prickly wild bush



in the south of France, and subsequently been transferred to a different plant, and modified by the Norman poets into *esglantier*, with the sense of a climber. The description of the *Eglantine* by the writers of the fourteenth century does not at all accord with the Sweetbriar, the shrub which is meant by our modern poets. It was certainly a distinct variety, and probably a distinct species. In Gerarde and our other early herbalists the flowers are represented as white. At all events, if the name has been derived from *aiguille*, a needle, we may be certain that it meant in the first place a species with straight thorns, and not one in which they are hooked, as they are in the division of the genus to which the Sweetbriar belongs. As at present understood, *Rosa rubiginosa*, L.

ELDER, A.S. *ellen* and *ellarn*, in Pierce Plowman *eller*, words that seem to mean "kindler," and to be derived through A.S. *æld*, Da. *ild*, Sw. *eld*, fire, from *ælan*, kindle, and related to Du. *helder*, clear, whence *op-helderen*, kindle or brighten up, a name which we may suppose that it acquired from its hollow branches being used, like the bamboo in the tropics, to blow up a fire, *Sambucus nigra*, L.

„ DWARF-,

*Sambucus Ebulus*, L.

„ WATER-,

*Viburnum Opulus*, L.

ELECAMPANE, M.Lat. *Enula campana*, the latter word from its growing wild in Campania, the former from L. *Inula*, a corruption of Gr. *ἑλενιον*, a very different plant supposed to be so named from Helen,

*Inula Helenium*, L.

ELEVEN O' CLOCK LADY, from its waking up and opening its eyes so late in the day,

*Ornithogalum umbellatum*, L.

ELF-DOCK, the elecampane, from its broad leaves called a *dock*, and from some confusion between its Italian name, *ella*, and the Dan. *elle*, an elf, deriving its prefix,

*Inula Helenium*, L.

ELM, a word that is nearly identical in all the Germanic

and Scandinavian dialects, but does not find its root in any of them. It plays through all the vowels, Ic. *Almr*, Da. *Alm*, *Ælm*, and *Elm*, A.S. and Engl. *Elm*, Germ. in different dialects *Ilme*, *Olm*, and *Ulme*, Du. *Olm*, but stands isolated, as a foreign word, which they have adopted. This is the Lat. *Ulmus*, the terminating syllable of which, *mus*, indicates an instrument, a material, or means, with which something is done. The word *ul*, or verb *ulere*, is lost, and it is perhaps impossible to ascertain its meaning; but it is likely to have been connected with *ειλεω*, coil, and *αυλη*, a wattled pen. The foreign origin of the name indicates that the tree was introduced into England from the South of Europe, and Awbrey remarks in his "Wilts," that in the Villare Anglicum, although there are a great many towns named after other trees, there are only three or four *Elme-tons*.  
*Ulmus*, L.

ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE, a name that, by some blunder, has been transferred from the Mandrake, *Atropa Mandragora*, to an insignificant garden weed. The Mandrake was called *Nightshade* from having been classed with the *Solana*, and *Enchanter's* from its Latin name *Circæa*, Gr. *κιρκαια*, given to it after the goddess Circe, who bewitched the companions of Ulysses with it, Od. b. x; or according to Dioscorides, as quoted by Westmacott, p. 105, "'Twas called *Circæa*, because Circe, an Enchantress expert in herbs, used it as a Tempting-powder in amorous concerns."

C. Lutetiana, L.

ENDIVE, It. and Sp. *endivia*, L. *intybea*, adj. of *intybus*,  
*Cichorium Endivia*, L.

ENGLISH MERCURY, a plant reckoned among the *Mercuries*, but why called *English* more particularly, is not stated,  
*Chenopodium Bonus Henricus*, L.

ERS, the bitter vetch, Fr. *ers*, L. *ervum*, E. *ervilia*, L.

ERYNGO, L. *eryngium*, Gr. *ἑρυγγιον*, from *ἐρυγγαειν*,  
 eructare, being according to the herbalists a specific against  
 that inconvenience, E. *campestre*, L.

EVENING PRIMROSE, from its pale yellow colour and its opening at sunset, *Oenothera biennis*, L.

EVERLASTING FLOWER, from retaining shape and colour, when dried, *Gnaphalium margaritaceum*, L.

EVERLASTING PEA, Fr. *pois eternal*, from not being, like the common and the sweet pea, an annual,

*Lathyrus sylvestris*, L.

EYE, the pink, Fr. *œillet*, in Tusser called "Indian eye," from the eye-shaped marking of the corolla,

*Dianthus*, L.

*Eye*, a word that, with allowance for dialect, is widely spread through the whole group of Ind-European languages, A.S. *eage* and *æg*, Fries. *âge*, G. *auge*, L.G. *oog*, Da. *øje*, Sw. *öga*, O.N. *auga*, Go. *augó*, and very similar words in the Slavonian dialects, the Lett, and the Old Prussian, Lith. *ahi*, Zend. *ashi*, Skr. *akshi*, Gr. *ὄκος* and *ὄκκος*, and L. *oculus*. It is also the same word as *egg*, A.S. *æg*, and Gr. *ὄβον*, L. *ovum*, where the *v* replaces the *g* of the northern *oog*; as the first syllable in our misspelt island, A.S. *eg-*, or *ig-land*, G. *eiland*; and as the first syllable of *acorn*, G. *eichel*, Du. *eekel*, Da. *æggen*. The similarity of the oval form in these objects has led to the use of the same name for them all. But, further, the egg, having no beginning or end, has come to be used as a symbol of eternity, and thence the Gr. *ἀει*, ever, A.S. *æg-*, Goth. *aiw*, and L. *æv* in *ævum*; and possibly, from its even boundless surface, the *æg* in L. *æquor* and *æquus*. A bird's egg was the first meaning of the word, and this, by a metaphor, was applied to the eye, and from the eye extended to an eye-land, from the latter standing in the sea, like the eye in the face, as remarked by Spelman, p. 194: "Est autem *Eage* proprie oculus et ovum, nomenque hinc contraxit insula, quod instar oculi vel ovi se in mari exhibet." See OAK.

EYEBRIGHT, so called, as W. Coles tells us in his *Adam in Eden*, from its being used by the linnet to clear its sight,

and thence adopted by men. Where he picked up this tale, does not appear; but the plant was long in vogue as a remedy in diseases of the eye. Brunschwygk tells us in his quaint old German: "Es was ouch ein künigin in Engelant, die brant allein das wasser uss der blümlin, und thett wunderliche ding darmit zü der ougen, als mir der selbigen künigin artzet geseyt hat."

*Euphrasia officinalis*, L.

EYEBRIGHT COW-WHEAT, a plant in some respects resembling both the eyebright and the cow-wheat,

*Bartsia Odontites*, Hud.

FAIR MAIDS OF FEBRUARY, white flowers that blossom about the 2nd of that month, when maidens dressed in white walked in procession at the feast of the Purification, the snowdrop,

*Galanthus nivalis*, L.

FAIR MAIDS OF FRANCE, a double-flowered variety of crowfoot introduced from France,

*Ranunculus aconitifolius*, L.

FAIRY FLAX, a flax so called from its delicacy,

*Linum catharticum*, L.

*Fairy* or *Faerie*, Fr. *féerie*, used to mean witchery, witch-folk as a class, the land of witches, an individual witch, and finally an elf; from Fr. *fée*, Prov. *fada*, L. *fata*, a fate or Parca, a word used in that sense on a coin of Diocletian and other ancient monuments.

FALLEN STARS, from their sudden appearance glittering on gravel walks after a night's growth,

*Tremella nostoc*, L.

FANCY, an attempted explanation of *Pansy*,

*Viola tricolor*, L.

FAT HEN, G. *Fette Henne*, a name given by the old herbalists to the orpine, *Sedum telephium*, L, called also *faba crassa*, fat bean, but without any reason assigned. It has been of late years transferred in England to plants of the Goosefoot tribe, and more particularly to the Good

Henry, which a correspondent of Seeman's Journal, vol. i. p. 151, asserts to have been used formerly for fattening poultry, a statement which requires confirmation; for the corresponding German name, *Fette Henne*, is still applied exclusively to the orpine, which, from its scarcity, is not likely to have been used for that purpose; and there is no other English or foreign writer who mentions any such use of the Goosefoots.

*Chenopodium Bonus Henricus* and *Atriplex patula*, L.

FEABE, FAPE, FABE, THAPE, THEABE, DE-, FAE-, FEA-, or FEAP-BERRY, different forms of an East Anglian very obscure name of the gooseberry; an interchange of an initial *f* and *th* that is not uncommon. We find it, for instance, in the verb *fly*, Go. *þliuhan*, O.H.G. *fluhan*, G. *fliehen*; and in *thatches*, a dialectic pronunciation of *vatches*, i.e. *fitches* or *vetches*, to be heard in some parts of Somerset. Wright would derive it from A.S. *pefe-porn*. It seems more likely to be one of those blunders that have arisen from bad pictures. The melon, G. *pfebe*, L. *pepo*, is so figured in Tabernæmontanus, vol. ii. p. 184, as to look exactly like a gooseberry, and headed *Pfebe*, and from this, or an equally bad picture, the name may have been adopted. Loudon, in *Arbor. Brit.* ii. p. 972, considers it to be meant for *fever-berry*, a very improbable explanation. *Fap* is used in the sense of "drunk," as in Shakspeare's *M.W.W.* act i. sc. 1, but whether the adjective has been taken from the fruit, or this been so called from its effect when fermented, or the coincidence of the words accidental, it were hard to decide. The use of the term seems to be confined at present to the eastern counties, where the unripe fruit is called *Thape*, as in a word well known to Norfolk schoolboys, *Thape-pie*.

*Ribes grossularia*, L.

FEATHER-FEW, FEDDER-FEW, or FEATHER-FULLY, in Pr. Pm. FEDER-FOY, the feverfew, from confusion of name with the feather-foil, Pyrethrum parthenium, L.

FEATHER-FOIL, feathery leaf, from *feather* and *foil*,  
L. *folium*, descriptive of its finely divided leaves,

Hottonia palustris, L.

*Feather*, A.S. *fēðer*, G. *feder*, Sw. *fiäder*, and, with allowance for dialect, the same word in all other German and Scandinavian languages, and connected with Gr. *π-τερον*, and the verb *πτερομαι*, fly, and traceable to a root, *πτερ*, Skr. *pat*, fly, the *p* being replaced with *f*.

FEATHER-GRASS, from its feathery awn,

Stipa pennata, L.

FELWORT, L. *fel*, gall, from its bitterness, and *wort*,  
G. *wurz*, a root, Gentiana, L.

FELON-WORT, or -WOOD, from its use in curing felons  
or whitlows, the bittersweet, Solanum Dulcamara, L.

FEN-BERRY, from its growing in fens, the cranberry,  
Vaccinium Oxycoccus, L.

*Fen*, primarily "mire," A.S. *fenn*, Du. *venn*, Sw. and  
Ic. *fen*, Go. *fani*, M.Lat. *phanus* and *fangus*, whence It.  
and Sp. *fango*, related to Skr. *panka*, mud.

FEN-RUE, from its divided rue-like leaves and place of  
growth, Thalictrum flavum, L.

FENKEL, and FENNEL, M.Lat. *fanculum*, from L. *fanicu-*  
*lum*, F. *fenouil*, F. *vulgare*, Gärt.

FENNEL-FLOWER, from its fennel-like finely divided  
leaves, Nigella damascena, L.

„ Dog's-, from its bad smell, and some similarity of  
leaf, Anthemis Cotula, L.

FERN, A.S. *fearn*, G. *farnkrant*, Du. *varenkruidt*, a word  
of obscure origin, but from the appended *krant* and *kruidt*  
to the G. and Du. synonyms, one that seems to be ex-  
pressive of some use or quality. It has been, with great  
plausibility, referred to forms of the word *feather*, G. *feder*,  
Sl. *pero*, Gr. *πτερις* and *πτερον*, and suggested that it may  
be connected with Skr. *parna*, a leaf, and L. *frons*. It  
seems a more easy and natural explanation of the word to  
trace it to the use of these plants for littering cattle,

A.S. *feor*, G. *farr*, Du. *var*, a bullock, in which the change of the letters exactly corresponds to that which takes place in the names of *fern* in the same languages. In some old German works the word is *varm*, and as the Scandinavian name is *orm-gräs*, worm-grass, or snake-grass, from the involuted vernation of the frond, it may be worth consideration, whether these words *varm* and *orm* may not be the Lat. *vermis*, and *farn* a corruption of it. But, as J. Grimm says, "tiefes dunkel ruht auf der wurzel." *Filix*.

- „ **BLADDER-**, from its small vesicular spore-cases,  
Cystopteris, Ber.
- „ **BRISTLE-**, from the bristle that projects beyond its  
receptacle, Trichomanes, Sm.
- „ **FILMY-**, from its transparent filmy texture,  
Hymenophyllum, L.
- „ **FLOWERING-**, from its conspicuous spikes of fructi-  
fication, Osmunda regalis, L.
- „ **HARD-**, from the rigid texture of the frond,  
Blechnum boreale, Sm.
- „ **HOLLY-**, from its prickly fronds,  
Aspidium lonchitis, Sw.
- „ **LADY-**, a mere translation of an old Latin name,  
without reference to sex, as now understood, or to the  
delicacy of its foliage, Athyrium filix fœmina, Br.
- „ **MALE-**, a translation of its old Latin name,  
Aspidium filix mas, Sw.
- „ **MARSH-**, Aspidium Thelypteris, Sw.
- „ **MOUNTAIN-**, A. Oreopteris, Sw.
- „ **OAK-**, of modern botanists,  
Polypodium Dryopteris, L.
- „ „ of the herbalists, P. vulgare, L.
- „ **SCALY**, from the scales on the frond,  
Ceterach officinarum, W.
- „ **SHIELD**, from the coverings of its spore-cases,  
Aspidium, Sw.

- FESCUE, from the L. *festuca*, by change of *t* to *c*,  
 F. ovina, etc.
- FEVERFEW, L. *febrifuga*, from its supposed febrifuge qualities,  
 Pyrethrum parthenium, L.
- FIELD CYPRESS, the Ground pine, from its terebinthinate odour and divided leaves, *Ajuga chamæpitys*, Schr.
- FIELD MADDER, *Sherardia arvensis*, L.
- FIG, Fr. *figue*, L. *ficus*, the connexion of which with Gr. *συκη* is curiously shown in G. *schwach* and *weich*,  
 F. carica, L.
- FIG-WORT, from its use, on the doctrine of signatures, in the disease called *ficus*,  
 Scrophularia, L.  
 and also, for the same reason, *Ranunculus ficaria*, L.
- FILBERT, formerly spelt *Filberd*, and *Fylberde*, said to have been so called after a king Philibert; by Wedgwood explained as *Fill-beard*; but more probably a barbarous compound of *phyllon* or *feuille*, leaf, and *beard*, to denote its distinguishing peculiarity,  
*Corylus avellana*, L.
- FINCKLE, G. *fenchel*, Du. *venkel*, from L. *fœniculum*, fennel,  
 F. vulgare, L.
- FINGER-FLOWER, G. *finger-hut*, L. *digitalis*, from the resemblance of its flower to the finger of a glove,  
 D. purpurea, L.
- Finger*, the same word in all the Germ. and Scand. languages, seems to mean "seizer," from A.S. *fon*, G. *fangen*, Sw. *få*, verbs which in the preterite make respectively *feng*, *fung*, and *finge*. Bopp disputes this derivation, and supposes *finger* to be connected with words that mean "five." Comp. Gram. I. 431.
- FIORIN, Erse *fearh*, grass, *Agrostis vulgaris*, With.
- FIR, O.H.G. *furaha*, Dan. *fyrr*, Sw. *furu*, the fire-tree, the most inflammable of woods. The G. *tanne* is similarly related to Goth. *tandian*, Fris. *tände*, kindle, and Celt. *tan*, fire, as is the A.S. *cean* to L. *accendere*, and the Pers. *arz* to L. *ardere*. In Dutch *vuren* means "kindle," and *vurenhout*, "fir-wood." So in Assyrian sculptures a fir-cone is



the symbol of fire. The root of *fire* is Skr. *pû*, purify, whence Gr. *πυρ*, and L. *purus*, and O.H.G. *viura*, an association that seems to have arisen from the purification of metals by fire, and to intimate their use at the very formation of our Ind-European languages. Pinus and Abies.

„ SCOTCH-, from its being found indigenous upon the mountains of Scotland, P. sylvestris, L.

„ SILVER-, from its white trunk, P. picea, L.

„ SPRUCE-, from G. *sprossen*, sprout, see SPRUCE, Abies excelsa, Poir.

FIR-MOSS, a mossy looking plant like a little fir-tree, Lycopodium dendroides, L.

FIST-BALLS, A.S. *fist*, G. *feist*, Du. *veest*, crepitus, unless any would prefer to derive it from a ball so called, which was made like a foot-ball, but struck with the fist. See Halliwell, Arch. Dict. Lycoperdon, L.

FITCH, an old spelling of Vetch.

FIVE-FINGER-GRASS, or FIVE-LEAF, Sw. *finger-ört*, from its five leaflets, Potentilla reptans, Sib.

FLAG, from its petals hanging out like banners, Iris, L.

FLAMY, in Mrs. Kent's Flora Domestica given as a name of the pansy, and explained "because its colours are seen in the flame of wood." It is the translation of Lat. *Viola flammea*. V. tricolor, L.

FLAW FLOWER, from *flaw*, a gust of wind, a translation of Gr. *ἀνεμώνη*, from *ἀνεμος*, wind,

Anemone Pulsatilla, L.

FLAX, G. *flachs*, Du. *vlas*, Fr. *filasse*, M.Lat. *filassium*, yarn, from *filare*, spin, L. *filum*, a thread,

Linum usitatissimum, L.

„ DWARF- or PURGING- or FAIRY-,

L. catharticum, L.

FLAX-SEED, from the resemblance of its seed-pods to flax bolls, Radiola millegrana, L.

FLAX-WEED, from its leaves resembling those of flax,  
*Linaria vulgaris*, L.

FLEA-BANE, from its supposed power of destroying fleas,  
*Pulicaria dysenterica*, Cass.

„ BLUE-, *Erigeron acre*, L.

*Flea*, A.S. *flea* or *flæh*, G. *floh*, connected with *L. pulex*,  
 Slav. *blocha*, its root obscure.

FLEA-WORT, from its keeping off fleas,  
*Conyza squarrosa*, L.

FLIX- or FLUX- WEED, from its use in dysentery, a disease  
 that was formerly called *flix*, *Sisymbrium Sophia*, L.

FLOAT- or more properly FLOTE-GRASS, not so much  
 from its floating on the surface of the water, as from its  
 abounding in *floted*, or irrigated meadows,  
*Poa fluitans*, Scop.

and also in some works

*Alopecurus geniculatus*, and *Catabrosa aquatica*, L.

FLORIMER, or FLORAMOR, Fr. *fleur d'amour*, from a mis-  
 understanding of its Latin name, *Amaranthus*, as though a  
 compound of *amor*, love, and *anthus*, flower,

*A. tricolor*, L.

FLOWER DE LUCE, Fr. *fleur de Louis*, from its having  
 been assumed as his device by Louis VII. of France, “Ce  
 fut Louis VII, dit le Jeune, A.D. 1137, qui chargea l'écu  
 de France de fleurs de lis sans nombre,” Montf. But it  
 had been already used partially by other French kings,  
 and by the Emperors of Constantinople. It is still a ques-  
 tion what it was intended in the first place to represent.  
 Some say a flower, some a halbert-head, some a toad. See  
 Notes and Queries, 29 Mar. 1856. From *Fleur de Louis*  
 it has been changed to *Fleur de Luce*, *Fleur de lys*, and  
*Fleur de lis*.

*Iris*, L.

FLOWER OF BRISTOW, or -OF CONSTANTINOPLE, the scarlet  
 lychnis, the latter name from its growing wild near the  
 Turkish capital, the former for reasons unknown, perhaps

from *Byzantina* corrupted to Bristol, or misunderstood for it,  
*Lychnis chalconica*, L.

FLOWER GENTLE, the Floramor, Fr. in Cotgrave *la noble fleur*, from its resemblance to the plumes worn by people of rank,  
*Amaranthus tricolor*, L.

FLOWERING FERN, from its handsome spikes of fructification,  
*Osmunda regalis*, L.

FLOWERING RUSH, L. *Juncus floridus*, a plant with a rush-like stem, and growing in the water, with a fine head of flowers, called by Lobel *Juncus cyperoides floridus*, "*Juncus*," saith he, "for that his stalke is like the rush; *cyperoides*, because his leaves do resemble *Cyperus*; *floridus*, because it hath on the top of every rushie stalke a fine umbel or tuft of small flowers in fashion of the *Lilie* of Alexandria." Gerarde, 1st Ed. p. 27.

*Butomus umbellatus*, L.

FLOWK- or FLOOK-WORT, from its being supposed to give sheep the disease of the liver in which parasites resembling the *flook- or flounder-fish* are found in it,

*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, L.

FLUELLIN, Du. *fluweelen*; downy, velvety, Fr. *velvete*, and not, as Parkinson states, a Welsh word.

„ MALE, of Gerarde, Hill, Curtis, and others, from its soft velvety leaves,  
*Linaria spuria*, L.

„ FEMALE-,  
*Veronica Chamædrys*, L.

FLYBANE, from being used mixed with milk to kill flies,  
*Agaricus muscarius*, L.

*Fly*, A.S. *fleoge*, O.H.G. *fluga*, L.G. *flege*, Du. *vlieg*, Sw. *fluge*, Da. *flue*, words that, in their respective languages, are connected with verbs that mean *fly*, L. *volare*, O.H.G. *vliuhan*, Go. *pliuhan*, A.S. *fleon*, O.N. *flya*.

FLY HONEYSUCKLE, from confusion with an *Apocynum* that catches flies by the proboscis under its anthers, the *A. androsæmifolium*, L. and whose flowers are somewhat similar to those of the upright honeysuckle,

*Lonicera Xylosteum*, L.

FLY ORCHIS, from the resemblance of its flower to a fly,  
*Ophrys muscifera*, Hud.

FOLEFOOT, from the shape of its leaf,

*Asarum Europæum*, L. and *Tussilago farfara*, L.

*Fole*, or *Foal*, A.S. Du. and Sw. *fole*, G. *fohlen* and *füllen*, O.H.G. *folo*, Go. *fula*, M.Lat. *pola*, L. *pullus*, Gr. *πῶλος*, originally the young of any domestic animal. See J. Grimm, Ges. d. D. S. p. 31, and Diefenbach, Lex. Comp. i. 389.

FOOL'S PARSLEY, from being a poisonous plant, which only fools could mistake for parsley,

*Æthusa cynapium*, L.

FOREBITTEN MORE, bitten-off root, see DEVIL'S-BIT, *more* or *mor* having formerly had the sense of "root," as it has still in the Western counties, *Scabiosa succisa*, L.

FORGET ME NOT, a name that for about forty years has been assigned to a well known blue flower, a *Myosotis*, but which for more than 200 years had in this country, France, and the Netherlands, been given to a very different plant, the ground-pine, *Ajuga Chamæpitys*, on account, as was said, of the nauseous taste that it leaves in the mouth. It is to this plant exclusively that we find it assigned by Lyte, Lobel, Gerarde, Parkinson, and all our herbalists from the middle of the fifteenth century, and by all other botanical authors who mention the plant, inclusive of Gray in his Natural Arrangement published in 1821, until it was transferred with the pretty story of a drowning lover to that which now bears it. This had always been called in England Mouse-ear Scorpion-grass. In Germany Fuchs, in his Hist. Plant. Basil, 1542, gives the name *Vergiss nit mein* to the *Teucrium Botrys*, L. under the Lat. synonym of *Chamædryas vera fæmina*. His excellent plate at p. 870 leaves no doubt as to the species he meant. In Denmark a corresponding name, *Forglemt mig icke*, was given to the *Veronica chamædryas*. At the same time it would seem that in some parts of Germany the *Myosotis palustris* was

known as the *Echium amoris*, and *Vergiss mein nicht*, as at the present day. Some idea of the confusion will be seen in Mentzel's *Index Nominum Plantarum*, Berlin, 1682. Cordus on Dioscorides, in 1549, and Lonicerus assign it to *Gnaphalium leontopodium*, L. while the *Ortus Sanitatis*, Ed. 1536, ch. 199, and Macer de *virtutibus herbarum*, Ed. 1559, like the Danish herbalists, give it to the *Veronica Chamædrys*, L. This latter seems to be the plant to which the name rightfully belongs, and to which it was given in reference to the blossoms falling off and flying away. See SPEEDWELL. From this plant it will have been transferred to the ground-pine through a confusion in respect to which species should properly be called *Chamædrys*, and as both these very different plants were taken for the *Chamædrys* of Pliny, the popular name of the one passed to the other. Two circumstances about it are curious; first, how the name could be transferred from the ground-pine to the scorpion-grass without the change being noticed by a single author of all our floras, general and local; and secondly, how easily a good story is got up, and widely spread about the world, to match a name. The blossoms fall from a *Veronica*, and it is called "Speedwell!" and "Forget me not." The name passes to a plant of nauseous taste, the ground-pine, and Dalechamp explains it as expressive of this disagreeable quality. It attaches itself to a river-side plant, and the story books are ready with a legend. We learn from Mills's *History of Chivalry* that a flower that bore the name of "*Sovereign vous de moy*," was in the fourteenth century woven into collars, and worn by knights, and that one of these was the subject of a famous joust fought in 1465 between the two most accomplished knights of England and France. What the flower was that was so called, it would be only possible to discover by inspection of one of these collars, but there is certainly no ground for assuming that it was the same as our present "Forget me not." The story of this latter, in

connexion with the two lovers, will be found in Mills's work, vol. i. p. 314.

*Myosotis palustris*, L.

FOUR LEAVED GRASS, a plant with four leaves only; the Herb Trulove,

*Paris quadrifolia*, L.

FOXGLOVE, a name that is so inappropriate to the plant, that many explanations of it have been attempted, by which it might appear to mean something different from the glove of a fox. Its Norwegian name, *Rev-bielde*, fox-bell, is the only foreign one that alludes to that animal. We get no help nor light on the subject from any other of its foreign synonyms. Its present Latin name, *Digitalis*, was given to it by Fuchs with the remark that up to that time, 1542, there was none for it in Greek or Latin. In France it is called Gantes de notre dame; in Germany Fingerhut. It seems most probable that the name was in the first place *foxes-glew*, or music, A.S. *gliew*, in reference to the favourite instrument of an earlier time, a ring of bells hung on an arched support, the tintinnabulum, and thus answering to the Norwegian *Revbielde*.

*D. purpurea*, L.

FOX-TAIL-GRASS, from the shape of the panicle,

*Alopecurus pratensis*, L.

*Fox*, a word found with slight variation in all the Germanic languages, A.S. *fox*, G. *fuchs*, in which the terminal *s* is perhaps the ancient nominative case, O.H.G. *foha*, Go. *fauho*, words evidently connected with such as mean crafty, A.S. *faen* or *fæcn*, O.H.G. *faihan*, and with Go. *fahan*, catch, A.S. *fon*. The approach of the English word to the French *faux*, from L. *fallax*, is an accidental coincidence.

FRAMBOISE, a French corruption of Du. *brambezic*, bramble berry, the raspberry,

*Rubus idæus*, L.

FRANKE, from "the property it hath to fatten cattle," as Lyte tells us, ch. 38, *franke* meaning a sty or stall,

*Spergula arvensis*, L.

FRENCH BEAN, a foreign bean, *French* being used to ex-

press what in German would be called *wälsch*, anything from an outlandish country,

FRENCH COWSLIP, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, L.

FRENCH GRASS, sainfoin, L. *fœnum Burgundiacum*,

*Onobrychis sativa*, L.

FRENCH HONEYSUCKLE, from the resemblance of its flowers to large heads of Honeysuckle clover,

*Hedysarum coronarium*, L.

FRENCH LAVENDER, *Lavandula Stœchas*, L.

FRENCH NUT, the walnut.

FRENCH SPARROW-GRASS, the name under which are sold in the Bath market to be eaten as asparagus, the sprouts of the spiked Star of Bethlehem,

*Ornithogalum pyrenaicum*, L.

FRENCH WHEAT, the buckwheat.

FRENCH WILLOW, from its leaves somewhat resembling those of the willow,

*Epilobium angustifolium*, L.

FRIAR'S CAP, from its upper sepals resembling a friar's cowl,

*Aconitum Napellus*, L.

FRITILLARY, M.Lat. *fritillaria*, sc. *tabula*, a checker-board, from *fritillus*, a dicebox, on account of its checkered petals,

*F. Meleagris*, L.

FROG-BIT, L. *morsus ranæ*, from an idea that frogs ate it,

*Hydrocharis morsus ranæ*, L.

*Frog*, A.S. *froga*, *frosc*, *frox*, in Pr. Pm. *froke*, O.H.G. *frosq*, Da. and Sw. *frosk*, G. *frosch*, Du. *vorsch*, a name that, with the not unusual change of *hr* to *fr*, is etymologically identical with that of the rook, A.S. *hroc*, O.N. *hrókr*, Fr. *freux*, derived from the croak-ing voice of these creatures, and connected with *raucus*, and *βραυχος*, and probably with words that imply supplication, as Skr. *prachh*, G. *fragen*, L. *rogare*, suggested by the importunate tone of their cry.

FROG-FOOT, *Lemna*, L.

FROG-GRASS, from its growing in mire,

*Salicornia herbacea*, L.

FROG'S-LETTUCE, Potamogeton densus, L.

FROST-BLITE, a blite whitened as by hoar-frost,

Chenopodium album, L.

FULLER'S HERB, from its taking out stains from cloth,

Saponaria officinalis, L.

FULLER'S THISTLE, the teasel, Dipsacus fullonum, L.

FUMITORY, Fr. *fume-terre*, L. *fumus terræ*, earth-smoke, from the belief that it was produced without seed from vapours rising from the earth. See Ortus Sanitatis, Mayence, 1485, ch. 176, and the Grete Herball, cap. clxxi, where we are told that it "is called Fume or smoke of the earth, because it is engendred of a cours [coarse] fumositie rysing from the earthe, and because it cometh out of the earth in great quantity lyke smoke; thys grosse or cours [coarse] fumosity of the earthe, wyndeth and wryeth out, and by working of the ayre and sunne it tourneth in too thys herbe." And this extraordinary account of it is given not only by the ignorant authors of the Ortus Sanitatis and the Grete Herball, but repeated by Dodoens, and other learned writers. Pliny says, "Claritatem facit inunctis oculis delachrymationemque, ceu fumus, unde nomen accepit *καπνος*," b. xxv. c. 13. *Fumaria officinalis*, L.

FURZE, sometimes spelt FURRES, a name of obscure derivation, as are those of so many of our commonest plants; apparently from *fir*, these bushes being, like the coniferous trees, a common firewood or fuel; but perhaps from Fr. *forest*, as though that word meant a place of firs, as *hyrst*, *carst*, *hulst*, *gorst*, etc., the places or thickets of *erica*, *carices*, *ulex* and *gorra*, from M.Lat. words in *cetum*;

*Ulex Europæus*, L.

FUSS-BALLS, Fr. *vesse*,

*Lycoperdon*, L.

GAITRE, see GATTER.

GALE, or SWEET GALE, Pr. Pm. *gawl*, *gavl*, or *garwyl*, in Turner's herbal GALL, and in Somersetshire, he tells us, GOUL and GOLLE, A.S. and Du. *gagel*, explained in the



Pr. Pm. by "wode or fowayle," wood or fuel, and translated *Mirtus*. Gerarde says that "in the isle of Ely they make faggots of it, which they call Gaule sheaves, to burn and to heat their ovens." This use of it rendered the name equivalent to fuel, but does not give its origin, which may possibly be *gall*, from its intense bitterness, or O.Fris. *gal*, nauseous. See Outzen. It is more likely, from its intoxicating qualities, to be related to O.N. *gagr*, foolish. The *Sweet* expresses its agreeable odour.

Myrica Gale, L.

GALINGALE, It. and Sp. *galanga*, O.Sp. *garingal*, G. *galgant*, from Ar. *chalan*, spice, a Persian word originally, but transferred to a marsh plant devoid of any aromatic quality, from this having been fraudulently substituted for the genuine, *Cyperus longus*, L.

GALLOW-GRASS, Ger. p. 572, a cant name for hemp, as furnishing halters for the gibbet, *Cannabis sativa*, L.

GANDERGOSSSES, from the resemblance of the flowers to geese, *Orchis Morio*, and *bifolia*, L.

GANG-FLOWER, from its blossoming in Gang week, A.S. *gang-dagas*. Bishop Kennett describes it as "a sort of flower in prime at Rogation week, of which the maids make garlands, and use them in those solemn processions." See ROGATION-FLOWER. *Polygala vulgaris*, L.

GARLICK, A.S. *gar*, a spear, and *leac*, plant, from its tapering acute leaves; or quite as probably, with the sense of "war-plant," from the nutritive and stimulant qualities ascribed to it by the ancient northern poets; *Allium*, L.

GARLICK-WORT, of Turner's Herball, from its smell, *Erysimum Alliaris*, L.

GARNET-BERRY, the red currant, from its rich red colour resembling that of the jewel so called, *Ribes rubrum*, L.

GATTER, GATTEN, GADRISE, or GATTERIDGE, names of several hedgerow trees and shrubs, as the spindle, the cornel, and wild Guelder-rose, *Evonymus Europæus*, *Cornus sanguinea*, and *Viburnum Opulus*, L.

GATTER, in Chaucer GAITRE, A.S. *gad*, a goad, and *treow*, tree.

GATTEN, A.S. *gad*, and *tan*, twig.

GADRISE, A.S. *gad*, and *hris*, a rod, Da. and Du. *riis*, so called, says Turner, "because butchers make prickles of it."

GATTERIDGE, *gaitre rouge*, Fr. *verge sanguine*, from the red colour of the twigs and autumnal foliage of the spindle and cornel trees.

There can scarcely be a doubt that the *gad* to which these names refer is the A.S. *gad*, *gæd*, or *gaad*, a point of any thing, Sw. *gadd*, a sting, and Ic. *gaddr*, a pin, and the shrubs so named from rods cut from them being armed with such points and used for driving oxen, and thence explained in Pr. Pm. as "a quip or whyppe;" but it is a curious instance of a coincidence of sound, that in a passage that Gerarde, p. 1085, quotes from Theophrastus, the spindle tree is said to be noxious to the *goat*, A.S. *gad*; and equally so the similarity of the name with the It. *gattero* and *gattrice*, the white poplar, words with which the above have no etymological affinity.

GAZLES, in Sussex, Fr. *groseilles*, *Ribes nigrum*, L.

GEAN, the wild cherry, Fr. *guisne*, Pol. *wisn*, Boh. *wissne*, in European Turkey *wischna*, Wal. *visini*, M.Gr. *βισνος*, the two last words being identical with the Slavonian, as far as they can be written with Greek letters. We may conclude from this identity, and from the great quantity of pipe-sticks of it exported every year from Turkey, that the name originated in that country. The Dalmatians will have Italianized *wischna* into *viscina*, and under this name it will have been conveyed to Italy, and thence into France, where by the usual process of changing *v* or *w* to *gu*, and dropping the sound of *s* and *sc* before *n*, *viscina* became *guisne*, and crossed into England as *gean*. But the Italians will have regarded *viscina* as a diminutive in *ina* from *viscia*, and have replaced it, from some motive of euphony, by *visciola*, its present name, as they have

formed *bisciuola* from *biscia*, *pesciuolo* from *pesce*, etc. and hence the German *weichsel*, which will not only represent the same tree, but the same word, as our *Gean*. It is to be observed that the "Bird cherry" is not this species, although this is the one called so by botanists in Latin systematic works.

*Prunus avium*, L.

GENTIAN, from some Illyrian king named Gentius,

*Gentiana*, L.

GERARD, see HERB GERARD.

GERMAN MADWORT, Du. *meed*, madder, and *wort*, root, so called from the red dye yielded by its roots, and its being used in Germany,

*Asperugo procumbens*, L.

GERMANDER, Fr. *gamandree*, from L. *chamædrys*, by insertion of an *n* before *d* for euphony, Gr. *χαμαι*, ground-, and *δρυς*, oak, so named from the fancied likeness of its leaves to those of an oak, a name usually given to the

*Teucrium Chamædrys*, L.

GERMANDER CHICKWEED, one of the plants called chickweed, and of the genus *Veronica*, to which one of the germanders, the male *Chamædrys* of the herbalists, belongs,

*V. agrestis*, L.

GILL, GILL-GO-BY-GROUND, GILL-CREEP-BY-THE-GROUND, GILL-RUN-BITH-GROUND, the Ground-ivy, from its name *Gill*, that was given to it from its being used in fermenting beer, Fr. *guiller*, a word still retained in the eastern counties, getting mixed up with another meaning of *Gill*, as a young woman, a girl; the *go-by-ground*, etc. referring originally to the creeping habit of the plant. See HAY-MAIDS.

*Glechoma hederacea*, L.

GILLIFLOWER, formerly spelt *gyllofer* and *gilofre*, with the *o* long, from Fr. *giroflée*, It. *garofalo*, L. *caryophyllum*, a word composed of Gr. *καρυος*, nut's, and *φυλλον*, leaf, the *καρυος* probably referring either to the walnut, or to the nutmeg, and the *φυλλον* to the petals of the flower. The name was originally given in Italy to plants of the Pink tribe, especially the carnation, but has in England

been transferred of late years to several cruciferous plants, that of Chaucer and Spenser being

Dianthus caryophyllus, L.

that of later writers and gardeners,

Matthiola and Cheiranthus, L.

Much of the confusion in the names of plants has arisen from the vague use of the French terms *Giroflée*, *Oeillet*, and *Violette*, which were, all three of them, applied to flowers of the Pink tribe, but subsequently extended, and finally restricted in English to very different plants. *Giroflée* has become *Gilliflower*, and passed over to the Cruciferæ, *Oeillet* been restricted to the Sweet Williams, and *Violette* been appropriated to one of the numerous claimants of its name, the genus to which the Pansy belongs.

„ CLOVE-, Dianthus caryophyllus, L.

„ MARSH-, the Ragged-Robin,

Lychnis flos cuculi, L.

„ ROGUE'S-, or WINTER-, the Dame's violet,

Hesperis matronalis, L.

„ STOCK-, Matthiola incana, L.

„ WALL-, of old books, Cheiranthus cheiri, L.

„ WATER-, of Lyte's Herball,

Hottonia palustris, L.

GIPSEY-WORT, so called, says Lyte, "because the rogues and runagates which call themselves Egyptians, do colour themselves black with this herbe,"

Lycopus Europæus, L.

GITH, the corn-cockle, abbreviated from L. *Githago*,

Agrostemma Githago, L.

GLADDON, GLADEN, GLADER, or GLADWYN, a name that is usually derived from L. *gladius*, a sword, as in allusion to its sword-shaped leaves, but, as it is a translation of L. *spatula*, a tool used for smoothing and flattening, more probably a Dutch word from *glad*, smooth. In old works it was applied to the Iris tribe generally, but at present is

confined to the *Spatula fetida* of the herbalists, the so-called Stinking Gladdon, Iris fœtidissima, L.

GLADIOLE, L. *gladiolus*, a small sword,

„ WATER-, the flowering rush,

Butomus umbellatus, L.

GLASSWORT, from furnishing the kali for glass-making,

Salicornia herbacea, L.

„ PRICKLY-,

Salsola Kali, L.

GLIDEWORT, in Cotgrave,

Galeopsis Tetrahit, L.

GLOBE FLOWER, from its globular form,

Trollius Europæus, L.

GLOBE THISTLE, from its globular inflorescence,

Echinops, L.

GOAT'S BEARD, from its long coarse pappus,

Tragopogon pratensis, L.

Goat, A.S. *gat*, Go. *gaitsa*, Da. *geed*, G. *geisse*, Tatar. *kasa* (see above *Cheese*), Lett. *kaza*, Slav. *koza*, Heb. *gez*, words, the derivation of which is unknown, and, as Diefenbach observes in *Lex. Comp.* ii. 386, probably adopted from the language of the country that was the original home of the animal, "Variationen eines aus der Urheimat dieser Thiergattung stammenden Themas."

GODESEIE, that is *God's eye*, supposed by Halliwell to be clary, called in old herbals *Oculus Christi*. See CLARY.

GOLDE, from the yellow colour and round shape of the flowers supposed to be the χρυσανθεμον, or gold-flower of the Greeks, the name of the marigold in our older poets,

Calendula officinalis, L.

*Gold*, the same word, with allowance for dialect in all Germanic languages, and with an initial *z* to replace the *g*, the same as Slav. *zlato* or *zloto*; its root unknown. See on this and the other metals J. Grimm's *Gesch.* d. D. Spr. p. 9.

GOLD-APPLES, Fr. *pommes d'or*, from their colour before maturity, tomatoes, Solanum lycopersicum, L.

GOLD OF PLEASURE, a name which Gerarde and Parkin-

son attempt to explain by telling us that "the poore peasant doth use the oile in banquets, and the rich in their lampes." This seems to be a way of getting over a difficulty by forcing a sense upon it. It is more probable that an oil was imported from Spain as "Oleo de Alegria," this latter word being the name of another oil-plant, a sesamum, and that "Oleo de Alegria" became corrupted to "Oro de alegria," gold of pleasure, and applied to this very different species, the source of a spurious oil, passed off upon the public for the Spanish. Whether *Alegria* was applied to the sesamum in the sense of "pleasure," or is an Arabic word beginning with *al*, it is irrelevant to enquire.

Camelina sativa, L.

GOLD CUPS, from A.S. *copp*, a head, a button, or stud, and like King-cup, Gilt-cup, and Butter-cup, representing the Fr. *bouton d'or*, the bachelor's button, Ranunculus, L.

GOLD-KNOBS, -KNAPPES, OR -KNOPPES, A.S. *cnæp*, a button, Du. *knoop*. See GOLD-CUP.

GOLDEN-CHAIN, from its long racemes of yellow flowers, Du. *goude keten*, Cytisus Laburnum, L.

GOLDEN-ROD, Lat. *virga aurea*, from its tall straight stalk of yellow flowers, Solidago virga aurea, L.

GOLDEN SAMPHIRE, from its thick samphire-like stems, and its golden flowers, Inula crithmifolia, L.

GOLDEN SAXIFRAGE, from its yellow flowers,

Chrysosplenium, L.

GOLDILOCKS, Gr. *χρυσόκομη*, from *χρυσος*, gold, and *κομη*, hair,

Chrysocoma Linosyris, L.

also

Ranunculus auricomus, L.

GOLDINS, OR GOLDINGS, Du. *gulden*, a florin, from the yellow colour and flat round shape of its flowers, the source of the numerous Scotch names applied to the marigold, the marsh marigold, and other yellow flowers, such as *Gowlan*, *Gowan*, *Gool*, *Goule*, etc. By *Goldin* is usually meant the corn-marigold. See below GOOLS.

Chrysanthemum segetum, L.

GOOD HENRY, or GOOD KING HARRY, G. *guter Heinrich*, Du. *goeden Henrik*, an obscure name, which Dodoens tells us, p. 651, was given to the plant to distinguish it from another, a poisonous one, called *Malus Henricus*; but why they were either of them called *Henricus*, we are not told. Cotgrave gives the name *Bon Henry* to the Roman Sorrel, *Rumex scutatus*, L. as well as to the Allgood, the plant to which it is usually assigned. Cordus on Dioscorides, Frankf. 1549, calls it "*Weyss heyderich, vel ut alii volunt, Güt heynrich.*" It has nothing to do with our Harry the 8th and his sore legs, to which some have thought that it referred.

Chenopodium Bonus Henricus, L.

GOOLS, GULES, GOWLES, GULDES, GOULANS, GOWANS, and GOLDS. See under GOLDINS.

*Calendula officinalis*, *Caltha palustris*, and *Chrysanthemum segetum*, L.

GOOSE AND GOSLINGS, or GANDERGOSSSES, from the flowers being shaped like little goslings,

*Orchis Morio*, and *bifolia*, L.

*Goose*, and *Gander*, words, the use of which is widely extended over the world; A.S. *gos*, and *gandra*, L.Ger. *goos*, and *gante*, Da. *gaas*, and Sw. *gås*, pronounced *gōs*, and connected with G. *gans*, O.G. of Pliny's time *ganza*, Gr. *χην*, L. *anser*, Port. *ganso*, Skr. and Pali *hansa*, Burm. *henza*, Malay *gangsā*, the meaning of the word unexplained, possibly an imitation of the bird's voice when protecting its young brood, *χav*, *χav*, whence Gr. *χαυειν*, A.S. *ganian*, yawn, or open the mouth, as a goose does. *Goose* is identical with *gans*, an *o* replacing *an*, as in *tooth* for *tand*, *sooth* for *sand*, and many other words.

GOOSEBERRY, a name of obscure and disputed origin. It seems to have come to us through the Fr. *grosseille*, corrupted to *gozel*, and this word *grosseille* from the Germ. *kraüsel-beere*, *uva crispa*, frizzle-berry, a name that seems absurd enough, when applied to the gooseberry, and one that could only have arisen from that common source

of blunders in the popular names of plants, the mistranslation of a foreign word. The origin of it is clearly the Du. *kruis-bezie*, cross berry, from the triple spine assuming the form of a cross, and which has been mistaken for *kroes-bezie*, frizzle-berry, and so translated into German and herbalist Latin. In Matthioli, however, Ed. Frankf. 1586, it is given correctly *creutzbeer*. *Groseille* has been usually derived through *grossularia*, from *grossula*, dim. of L. *grossus*, a small immature fig. But, as the fruit was unknown to the ancients in its cultivated state, and like so many other productions of the garden, was introduced by the Netherlanders, it is to the language of these latter that we should refer for its name. The derivation of it given in some popular works of reference, from *gost*, a furze-bush, probably a misspelling of the MS. for *gorst*, and that of Patrick Blair and some other herbalists, who say that it was called so, "because, when the green geese begin to be eatable, 'tis frequently used as a sauce to them," is undeserving of any serious attention.

Ribes grossularia, L.

GOOSE-CORN, from its growth on commons, where geese feed, and the grain-like appearance of its capsules,

Juncus squarrosus, L.

GOOSE-FOOT, from the shape of the leaf,

Chenopodium, L.

GOOSE-GRASS, spelt in Ray GOOSE-GREASE, in Pr. Pm. *gosys gres*, the Goose-share, and also the Goose-tansey.

GOOSE-SHARE, GOOSE-SHARETH of Turner's Herball, and GOOSE-HEIRIFFE of W. Coles's Adam in Eden; A.S. *gos* and *hegerife*, goose-hedge-reeve, from its seizing and attaching itself to the geese while they pass through the hedge. See HARRIFF. When the meaning of the A.S. word was forgotten, it seems to have become corrupted into *goose-share*, as if so named from A.S. *scearu*, a shearing or tonsure, or from a comparison of its rough-edged leaves to the serrated mandibles of a goose. What Turner meant by his *Goosshareth*, or *Go-shareth*, as he sometimes spells it, is difficult



to imagine. The use of *Goose-heiriffe* in W. Coles' work is singular as an instance of the retention of an obsolete A.S. word into the seventeenth century. The plant is still called *hariff* in some counties. *Galium aparine*, L.

GOOSE-TANSY, a plant with tansy-like leaves, which Ray says is called so "because eaten by geese," but perhaps like crow's garlick, swine's cress, and dog's mercury, the name may imply merely a tansy for a goose, a spurious tansy. *Potentilla anserina*, L.

GOOSE-TONGUE, from its finely serrated leaves,

*Achillæa ptarmica*, L.

GORSE, an obscure word, A.S. *gorst*, apparently from Wel. *gorest*, a waste, see FURZE, but more probably from M.Lat. *gorra*, brushwood, used in Stat. Montis reg. p. 236: "salicum, *gorrarum* et *gorassorum* non portantium fructus comestibiles." A thicket of *gorra* was called *gorretum*, whence *gorst*, similarly to *hulst*, *carst*, etc. *Ulex Europæus*, L.

GORY-DEW, from its resemblance to blood drops,

*Palmella cruenta*, Agh.

GO-TO-BED-AT-NOON, from its early closing,

*Tragopogon pratensis*, L.

GOURD, Fr. *gourde*, from *gougourde*, L. *cucurbita*,

*C. Pepo*, L.

GOUT IVY, M.Lat. *Iva arthritica*, from being, as Parkinson says, "powerful and effectual in all the pains and diseases of the joints, as gouts, cramps, palsies, sciatica, and aches,"

*Ajuga chamæpitys*, L.

GOUT-WEED, or GOUT-WORT, from its supposed virtues in gout cases,

*Ægopodium podagraria*, L.

GOWAN, the daisy, a north-country word, one of the many forms of *Gowlan*, as we see in the name of the Marsh marigold, which is called indifferently *Lockron-gowan*, *-gol-lond*, or *-gowclan*, a corruption of *golden*. It is not clear, and must be explained by Scotchmen, how it was transferred from the *Caltha*, *Calendula*, and *Chrysanthemum*, to the daisy. See GOLDINS. *Bellis perennis*, L.

GOZELL, Ft. *groseille*. See GOOSEBERRY.

GRAPE HYACINTH, OR GRAPE FLOWER, from its small round purplish flowers sitting in clusters on the stalk, like grapes, *Muscari racemosum*, Mill.

GRASS, A.S. and Fris. *gærs*, in nearly all other Germanic dialects *gras*, and radically connected with L. *gramen*, and Gr. *γραστίς* and *κραστίς* from *γραιοειν*, *γραιοειν*, rodere. The Skr. *ghāsa*, grass, from *ghas*, eat, seems to support the derivation of these words from Skr. *gras*, devour. By the old herbalists *grass* is used in the sense of a herb generally, and often spelt *gres*, which has led to its being misspelt *grease* in several names. By botanists the term is confined to the order *Gramineæ*.

GRASS, see under their specific names

„ ARROW-	„ MOUSE-TAIL-
„ BENT-	„ OAT-
„ CANARY-	„ PENNY-
„ COCKS-FOOT-	„ PUDDING-
„ COTTON-	„ QUAKE-
„ COUCH-	„ QUITCH-
„ CRAB-	„ RAY-
„ FEATHER-	„ REED-
„ FIORIN-	„ RIBBAND-
„ FIVE-FINGER-	„ RYE-
„ FLOTE-	„ SCORPION-
„ GOOSE-	„ SCURVY-
„ HAIR-	„ SHAVE-
„ HARD-	„ SPARROW-
„ KNOT-	„ SPRING-
„ LOB-	„ SQUIRREL-TAIL-
„ LYME-	„ SWINE'S-
„ MAT-	„ WHITLOW-
„ MOOR-	„ WORM-

GRASS OF PARNASSUS, a plant described by the Greek writers as growing on that mountain,

*Parnassia palustris*, L.

GRASS-POLEY, from being considered by Cordus as a *pulegium* or *poley*, and having grassy leaves,

Lythrum hyssopifolium, L.

GRASS-VETCH, a vetch with grassy leaves,

Lathyrus Nissolia, L.

GRASS WRACK, a wrack with long linear grass-like leaves,

Zostera marina, L.

GREEDS, A.S. *græd*, translated in Ælfric's glossary "ulva," some water plant, now applied to the Pondweed tribe,

Potamogeton, L.

GREEK VALERIAN, a plant mistaken for the Phu or Valerian of the Greek writers, *Polemonium cæruleum*, L.

GREEN-WEED, or GREENING-WEED, from its use to dye green,

Genista tinctoria, L.

GREENS or GRAINES, in Lyte's Herball GRAYVES, Du. *Enden-gruen*, duck's herb,

Lemna, L.

GRIGG, heath, Wel. *grûg*, related to W. *grwy* and *grig*, a rumbling noise. See BRAMBLE. *Calluna vulgaris*, Sal.

GRIMM THE COLLIER, from its black smutty involucre,

Hieracium aurantiacum, L.

GRIP-GRASS, from its gripping or seizing with its hooked prickles whatever comes in its way, *Galium Aparine*, L.

GROMELL, or GROMWELL, or GRAY MYLE, as Turner says it should be written, from *Granum solis* and *Milium solis* together. "That is al one," says the Grete Herball, "*granum solis* and *milium solis*." So the apothecaries compromised the matter by combining them, as in the case of *Asarabacca*.

Lithospermum officinale, L.

GROUND FURZE,

Ononis arvensis, L.

GROUNDHEELE, G. *grundheil*, Fr. *herbe aux ladres*, so called from having cured a king of France of a leprosy from which he had been suffering eight years, a disease called in German *grind*. Brunswyck tells us, b. ii. ch. v. that a shepherd had seen a stag, whose hind quarter was covered with a scabby eruption from having been bitten by a wolf, cure itself by eating of this plant and rolling itself

upon it; and that thereupon he recommended it to his king.

*Veronica officinalis*, L.

GROUND IVY, M.Lat. *hedera terrestris*. See IVY.

*Glechoma hederacea*, L.

GROUND NUT, or GRUNNUT, from its tuber having the flavour of a nut,

*Bunium flexuosum*, W.

GROUND PINE, Gr. *χαμαίπιτος*, from *χαμαι*, ground-, and *πιτος*, pine, so called from its terebinthinate odour, the Forget-me-not of all authors till the beginning of this century,

*Ajuga chamæpitys*, Sm.

GROUNDSEL, in a MS. of the fifteenth century *grondeswyle*, A.S. *grundsweige*, ground glutton, from *grund*, ground, and *swelgan*, swallow, still called in Scotland and on the Eastern Border *grundy-swallow*,

*Senecio vulgaris*, L.

GUELDER ROSE, from its rose-like balls of white flowers, and Gueldres, the country of its discovery, a double variety of the Water-elder,

*Viburnum Opulus*, L.

GUINEA HEN, from its Latin name, *Meleagris*, given to it from its petals being spotted like this bird, a native of the Guinea coast of Africa,

*Fritillaria Meleagris*, L.

HAG-BERRY, see HEG-BERRY.

HAG-TAPER, or HIG-TAPER, from A.S. *haga* or *hege*, a hedge, or possibly from A.S. *hig* or *hyg*, hay. See HIG-TAPER. Gerarde tells us that "Apuleius reporteth a tale of Ulysses, Mercurie, and the inchauntresse Circe using these herbes in their incantations and witchcrafts," and this may partly have influenced some writers to spell it *Hag*, rather than *Hig*. In our modern Floras it is incorrectly spelt *High-taper*.

*Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

HAIR-GRASS, an imitation of its Latin name, *Aira*, L.

HALLELUJAH, the wood-sorrel, from its blossoming between Easter and Whitsuntide, the season at which the Psalms were sung which end with that word, those, namely, from the 113th to the 117th inclusive. It bears the same name in German, French, Italian, and Spanish for the

same reason. There is a statement in some popular works, that it was upon the ternate leaf of this plant, that St. Patrick proved to his rude audience the possibility of a Trinity in Unity, and that it was from this called *Hallelujah*; an assertion for which there is no ground whatever.

*Oxalis Acetosella*, L.

HALM or HAULM, A.S. *healm*, straw, Du. *helm* and *halm*, O.H.G. *halam*, Russ. *slama* from L. *calamus*, with the usual replacing of a Latin *c* with *s*, Gr. *καλαμος*, Pers. *calem*, its root *hal*, conceal, cover, from its early and general use as thatch.

HARD-BEAM, from the hardness of its wood,

*Carpinus betulus*, L.

HARD-GRASS,

*Rottboellia incurvata*, L.

HARD HAY, G. *hartheu*, *Hypericum quadrangulare*, L.

HARD-HEADS, from its knotty involucre compared to a weapon called a *loggerhead*, a ball of iron on a long handle,

*Centaurea nigra*, L.

HARDOCK, in K.Lear, act iv. sc. 4, see HARLOCK.

HARE-BELL, a name to which there is no corresponding one in any other language, and considering the infrequency of poetical feeling in plant nomenclature, in all probability a corruption of some other word, perhaps *Heather bell*. Thomson in his *Etymons* gives a S. [qy. A.S?] *hæur*, blue, as its origin, but there is no such word to be found. The name is in England assigned by most writers to

*Campanula rotundifolia*, L.

in Scotland, and in some English works, including Parkinson's *Paradise*, to the bluebell, *Scilla nutans*, Sm.

*Hare*, A.S. *hara*, Da. *hare*, G. *hase*, Skr. 'sas'a, from *sas'*, spring.

HARE'S BEARD, the mullein, perhaps a mistaken translation of its Italian name *tasso barbasso*, which is merely a corruption of the Latin *Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

HARE'S-EAR, from the shape of the leaves called in

*Adv. Bib.*

Latin *auricula leporis*, and thence so named by Gerarde,  
Bupleurum rotundifolium, L.

and also Erysimum orientale, L.

HARE'S-FOOT, Fr. *ped de lievre*, G. *hasenfuss*, from its soft  
downy heads of flowers, Trifolium arvense, L.

HARE'S LETTUCE, from its name in Apuleius, *Lactuca leporina*, called so, the herbalists say, because "when the hare is fainting with heat, she recruits her strength with it:" or as Anthony Askham says, "yf a hare eate of this herbe in somer, when he is mad, he shal be hole." Topsell also tells us in his Natural History, p. 209, that, "when Hares are overcome with heat, they eat of an herb called *Lactuca leporina*, that is the the Hares-lettice, Hares-house, Hares-palace; and there is no disease in this beast, the cure whereof she does not seek for in this herb."

Sonchus oleraceus, L.

HARE'S PALACE, Fr. *palais de lievre*, L. *palatium leporis*, G. *hasen-haus*, the same as the hare's lettuce, and so called from a superstition that the hare derives shelter and courage from it; as we learn from the *Ortus Sanitatis*, ch. 334: "Dises kraut heissend etlich hasenstrauch, etlich hasenhaus; dann so der hase darunder ist, so furchtet er sich nit, und duncket sich gantz sicher, wann dises kraut hat macht über die melancoley. Nun ist kein thiere als gar ein melancholicus als der hase."

Sonchus oleraceus, L.

HARE'S-TAIL, from its soft flower-heads,

Lagurus ovatus, L.

HARE'S-TAIL-RUSH, from the protrusion, after flowering, of soft hypogynous bristles resembling a hare's tail, and its wiry rush-like stems, Eriophorum vaginatum, L.

HARE-THISTLE, see HARE'S LETTUCE.

HARIF, HEIRIFF, or HAIREVE, in Pr. Pm. *hayryf*, A.S. *hegerife*, from A.S. *hege*, hedge, and *reafa*, which, significantly enough, means both a tax-gatherer and a robber, so called, we may suppose, from its plucking wool from

passing sheep; originally the burdock, at present the  
goose-grass, Galium aparine, L.

HARLOCK, as it is usually printed in K. Lear, act iv. sc. 4, but in older editions HARDOCK, supposed by the commentators to be *Charlock*, a word that in Pr. Pm. is spelt *Warlock*. *Harlock* occurs in Drayton also, in Ecl. 4:

“The honeysuckle, the *harlocke*,  
The lily, and the lady-smocke.”

Drayton, however, is no authority. It is not found in any of the Herbals, and was probably a local name, the application of which to any particular plant can only be ventured upon the authority of local tradition. Were it a word of the Western counties, there could be no doubt of its meaning. *Harl* is a mass of entangled threads, and could apply to no other weed than the dodder. But *Har-dock* appears to be the right reading, and may, perhaps, still be used in the district of which Shakspeare was a native. Webster explains it as meaning *hoar-dock*, a mere guess. Ash, with more probability, as the burdock.

HARREWORT, given in Cotgrave as a translation of *Petit muguet*, but not found elsewhere.

HARSTRONG, or HORESTRONG, Du. *harstrang*, G. *harn-strange*, strangury, from its supposed curative powers in this complaint, Peucedanum officinale, L.

HART'S CLOVER, Melilotus officinalis, L.

*Hart*, A.S. *heort*, *heorot*, Du. and L.Ger. *hart*, Da. *hiort*, G. *hirsch*, undoubtedly connected with Gr. κερας κερατος, horn, an *h*, as usual, replacing an initial *k*. It will thus have the meaning of “horned,” and indicate the antlered male in contrast with the hind, the female.

HART'S-HORN, from its furcated leaves, Plantago Coronopus, L.

HART'S-TONGUE, from the shape of the frond, the *Lingua cervina* of the apothecaries,

Scolopendrium vulgare, Gärt.

HARTWORT, so called, because, to quote Park. Th. Bot. p. 908, "Pliny saith that women use it before their delivery, to help them at that time, being taught by *hindes* that eate it to speade their delivery, as Aristotle did declare it before."

Tordylium maximum, L.

HARVEST-BELLS, from its season of flowering,

Gentiana Pneumonanthe, L.

HASK-WORT, a plant used for the *hask* or inflamed trachea, being from its open throat-like appearance supposed, on the doctrine of signatures, to cure throat diseases. *Hask* in the Pr. Pm. is set down as synonymous with *harske*, austere, Sw. and Du. *harsk*, a term applied to fruits. Turner writes it *harrish*, as "dates are good for the harrishnes or roughnes of the throte," or what we should at present call *huskiness*.

Campanula latifolia, L.

HASSOCKS, rushes, sedges and coarse grasses. "Hassocks should be gotten in the fen." Dugdale, quoted by Halliwell. The use of this term for thick matted footstools seems to be taken from the application to such purpose of the natural tumps of a large sedge, the

Carex paniculata, L.

also, in Nemnich,

Aira cæspitosa, L.

HATHER, see HEATH.

HAYER, wild oat, G. *haber* or *hafer*, Du. *haver*, O.H.G. *haparo*, by J. Grimm derived from L. *capra*, a he-goat, as being goat's corn, but by Diez with more probability from L. *avena* with the usual prefix of an aspirate, and the change of *n* to *r*,

A. sativa, etc. L.

HAWK-BIT, or HAWK-WEED, from a notion entertained by the ancients, that with this plant hawks were in the habit of clearing their eyesight. See Pliny, xx. 7.

Hieracium, L.

*Hawk*, a word of rather doubtful derivation, but, with merely dialectic differences, the same in all Germanic languages, A.S. *hafoc*, Du. *havik*, G. *habicht*, O.H.G. *hapuk*, O.N. *hawkr*, Da. *hög*, and adopted into several alien ones,



as, e.g. Est. *haukas*, Finn. *hawukka*, Lap. *hauka*. By some etymologists it has been derived from a verb meaning "catch," Go. *haban*, O.H.G. *hapen*, L. *capere*. Diefenbach, in Or. Eur. p. 341, seems inclined to think it adopted from the Celtic, in which we find O.Gael. *sebocc*, now *seabhag*, O.Wel. *hebauc*, now *hebog*. On the other side we have Slav. *sokol*, Lith. *sakalas*, and Skr. 'sakunas, which seem to be dialectic forms of the same word. See J. Grimm, Gesch. d. Deuts. Sprache, p. 49. The name and the use of the bird are probably Asiatic.

HAWK'S BEARD, a name invented by S. F. Gray, and assigned, without any reason given, to the genus

Crepis, L.

HAWK-NUT, probably corrupted from *Hog-nut*,

Bunium flexuosum, With.

HAWTHORN, the thorn of *haws*, *hays*, or *hedges*, A.S. *hagaðorn*, *hæg-* or *hegeðorn*, G. *hagedorn*, an interesting word, as being a testimony to the use of hedges, and the appropriation of plots of land, from a very early period in the history of the Germanic races. The term *haw* is incorrectly applied to the fruit of this tree in the expression "hips and haws," meaning, as it does, the fence on which it grows, A.S. *haga* or *hæge*, G. *hage*.

Cratægus oxyacantha, L.

HAYMAIDS, or HEDGEMAIDS, the Ground Ivy, formerly called *Gill*, from being used to ferment beer, Fr. *guiller*, a word that also bore the meaning of "girl," or "maid," as in the proverb "Every Jack must have his *Gill*," and a plant common in hays and hedges. From the same equivocation have arisen other such names as "Lizzie, up the hedge!" etc. See GILL. Glechoma hederacea, L.

HAZEL, A.S. *hæsl* or *hæsel*, and, allowing for dialect, the same word in all Germanic languages, the instrumental form of A.S. *hæs*, a behest, an order, from A.S. *hatan*, O.H.G. *haizan*, G. *heissen*, give orders, a hazel stick having been used to enforce orders among slaves and cattle, and



been the baton of the master. J. Grimm, *Gesch. d. Deuts. Spr.* p. 1016, observes, "Der hirt zeigt uns das einfache Vorbild des fürsten, des ποιμην λαων, und sein *haselstab* erscheint wieder im zepter der könige; 'hafa i hendi *heslikylfo*' ['holds in hand a *hazel staff*'], *Sæm.* 163, b. Das Mülhauser stadrecht sagt von dem hirten, der das nothgeschrei einer frau vernimmt: 'di herte sal och volge mit sinez kulin unde mit sine crummin stabe, unde sal daz vi laze ste.' ['The herdsman shall also follow with his *staff* and with his crook, and shall let his cattle stand.']" But the Lat. *corylus*, Gr. κορυλος, and G. *hasel* are identical; for it is agreeable to analogy that the initial *c* and *κ* of Greek and Latin words should be replaced with *h*, the *r* with *s*, and the vowel, the short *o*, with *a*. Thus L. *collum* makes *hals*; L. *cor cordis*, Gr. καρδια, makes Go. *hairto*; and L. *soror* replaces the Skr. *svasar*. This meaning of the Gr. κορυλος seems to be implied or shadowed in *κοιρανος*, a commander. It is not unlikely to be at the same time connected with L. *casa*, G. *haus*, as the material of which wattled dwellings were made. That a tree so generally diffused over Europe should have the same name in so many languages, is proof of some ancient general use of it, to which this name refers. Wedgwood derives it from Dan. *hase*, a husk; Mrs. Kent, in her *Flora Domestica*, from A.S. *hæsil*, a hat, a word of very doubtful authenticity. The verb *hælsian*, foretel, seems to be derived from the use of the hazel rod for purposes of divination. Corylus avellana, L.

HAZEL-WORT, G. *hasel-wurcz*, from the similarity of its calyx to the involucre of a nut, and not, as the books tell us, from its growing under hazel bushes. Frisch considers it to be corrupted from L. *asarum*. A. Europæum, L.

HEART'S-EASE, a term meaning in general "contentment," but used in a medical sense of certain plants supposed to be cardiac, at the present day only applied to the Pansy, but by Lyte and Turner to the Wallflower

equally. The most probable explanation of the name is this. There was a medicine "good," as Cotgrave tells us, "for the passions of the *heart*," and called *gariofilé*, from the cloves in it, *L. caryophylli*. The Wall-flower also took its name from the clove, and was called *giroflée*, of the same Latin word. See GILLIFLOWER. The cardiac qualities of the medicine were also extended to it, and the name of *Hearts-ease*; and, as the Wallflower and the Pansy were both comprehended among the Violets, that of *Hearts-ease* seems to have been transferred from the former to the species of the latter now called so. H. Brunschwygk, in his curious work *de arte distillandi*, tells us of the Wallflower, "Gel violen wasser kület ein wenig das herz: das geschycht uss ursach syner kreftigung und sterckung, ob es zu vil keltin het so temperier es, ob es zu vil hytz het, so temperier es ouch darumb das *es das herz erfröwet*." Tabernæmontanus also, *Kraüt.* p. 689, says of the Wallflower, "Welchem menschen das Herz zittert von Kälte, der soll sich dieses gebrauchen." The instances are so numerous of the transference of an appropriate name to a plant to which it is quite unsuited, that we can find no difficulty in assigning this origin to the term *Hearts-ease* as at present employed.

*Viola tricolor*, L.

*Heart*, A.S. *heorte*, Sw. *hierta*, G. *herz*, Go. *hairto*, essentially the same as Skr. *hrid*, and Gr. *κρᾶδιη*, with merely a transposition of the *r*, and as the Lat. *cor cordis*, and Lith. *szirdis*.

HEART-CLOVER, or -TREFOIL, "is so called," says W. Coles, in his *Art of Simpling*, p. 89, "not onely because the leaf is triangular like the heart of a man, but also because each leaf contains the perfect icon of an heart, and that in its proper colour, viz. a flesh colour. It defendeth the heart against the noisome vapour of the spleen."

*Medicago maculata*, Sibth.

HEATH, HEATHER, or HATHER, A.S. *hæð*, G. *heide*, a word which etymologists have supposed to have primarily

meant the country in which the heath grows, and secondarily the shrub, but which seems to be connected with words implying *heat*, A.S. *hætu*, and remotely, but agreeably to philological analogy, with Gr. *κατω* and L. *candere*, the initial letters of which would in Germanic languages be replaced with *h*, and the nasal consonant of the latter word omitted. *Heath* would thus imply "firing." See LING. The Welsh *aith* and *eithin*, furze, may be connected with it, but not as its origin, which, it must be acknowledged, is quite conjectural. See L. Diefenb. Lex. Comp. ii. 496. Erica, L. and Calluna, Sal.

HEATH-CYPRESS, from its resemblance to a small cypress tree, and its growth upon heathy ground,

Lycopodium alpinum, L.

HEATH-PEA, from its pea-like esculent tuber, and usual growth on sandy heaths,

Orobus tuberosus, L.

HEDGE BELLS, a local, but old and expressive name for the larger bindweed,

Convolvulus sepium, L.

HEDGEHOG PARSLEY, from its prickly burs,

Caucalis nodiflora, Sm.

HEDGE HYSSOP, a name transferred from a foreign species, a Gratiola, to the Lesser skullcap,

Scutellaria minor, L.

HEDGE-MAIDS, see HAYMAIDS.

HEDGE MUSTARD,

Sisymbrium officinale, L.

HEDGE NETTLE, or HEDGE DEAD NETTLE,

Stachys sylvatica, L.

HEDGE PARSLEY,

Torilis Anthriscus, L.

HEDGE THORN, see HAWTHORN.

HEDGE VINE, the Virgin's bower, Clematis Vitalba, L.

HEG-BERRY, HEDGE-BERRY, HAG-, or HACK-BERRY, Sw. *häg*, meaning a wood berry, from a wood being in the northern counties called a *hag*, a word related to A.S. *hege*, a hedge.

Prunus avium, L.

HELDE, A.S. *held*, the tansy, Tanacetum vulgare, L.

HELL-WEED, dodder, so called perhaps from the trouble and ruin that it causes in flax fields, *Cuscuta*, L.

HELLEBORE, L. *helleborus*, Gr. ἠλλεβορος, a word of doubtful origin, at present applied to certain ranunculaceous plants, but not so in ancient works.

„ BLACK-, the Christmas rose, *H. niger*, L.

„ FETID-, *H. fœtidus*, L.

„ GREEN-, *H. viridis*, L.

HELLEBORINE, from the resemblance of its leaves to those of a veratrum called “white hellebore,” *Epipactis*, RB.

HELM, see HALM. *Psamma arenaria*, PB.

HELMET-FLOWER, from the shape of the corolla, *Scutellaria*, L.

HEMLOCK, or, as Gerarde spells it, HOMLOCK, A.S. *hæm* or *healm*, straw or haulm, and *leac*, plant, so called from the dry hollow stalks that remain after flowering; a name originally applied to any of the Umbelliferae, at present confined to two poisonous species, and meaning, when used absolutely, *Conium maculatum*, L.

„ WATER-, *Cicuta virosa*, L.

HEMP, A.S. *henep*, It. *canapa*, Gr. *κανναβις*, from some foreign, and probably oriental, root, *Cannabis sativa*, L.

HEMP-AGRIMONY, from the resemblance of the leaves to those of *hemp*, and its being classed by the old Herbalists with *agrimony* under the general name of *Eupatorium*, or, as Gerarde writes it, *Hepatorium*. *E. cannabinum*, L.

HEMP-NETTLE, or more properly HEMP-DEAD-NETTLE, from its flowers resembling those of the Dead-nettles, and its leaves those of Hemp, *Galeopsis Tetrahit*, L.

HENBANE, A.S. *henne-belle*, a name continued as late as Gerarde's time, and formed apparently of *henne*, genitive of A.S. *hen*, a hen, and *belle*, a bell, suggested by the resemblance of its persistent and enlarged calyx to the scallop-edged bells of the middle ages. But it seems very doubtful, whether the first syllable really alludes to poultry, which are not known to have ever carried bells, or whether

it does not rather represent either L. *hinna*, a she-mule, or A.S. *henge* in *henge-belle*, hanging bell, a word not understood, and replaced with the more familiar *henne*. In allusion to its bells, and corroborative of this last conjecture, it was called in old vocabularies (see Mayer and Wright, p. 30) *Symphoniaca*, as having a symphonia, or ring of bells, an instrument that we see in pictures of King David, and which consisted of a number of bells hung on a curved staff, to be struck with a hammer. See YAUVERING BELLS. It is only in recent works that the *bell* has been replaced with *bane*, partly through the Greek name *ἄσκημος*, hog's *bean*, and partly in consideration of its poisonous character. The Stockholm MS. in Archæologia, vol. xxx, at l. 1022, has the couplet:

“ Gyf it in metes or drinks be cast,  
It wyll ben *houndys bane* in hast.”

With the experience of its poisonous quality, and the natural tendency to explain an unaccountable name into something intelligible, *Henbell* has become *Henbane*.

Hyoscyamus niger, L.

*Hen*, A.S. *hæn*, *hen*, or *henn*, the feminine of *hana*, cock, which is a word very widely extended through the other Germanic languages, and only obsolete in English, and evidently connected with L. *canere*, crow, Celt. *kan*; but which of the two is derived from the other, whether the noun from an ancient verb, or the verb from the name of the bird, is as uncertain as in the case of other species, until the native country of the animal is ascertained. The derivation of *hana* and *henne* from the personal pronouns, *han* and *henne*, that in the Scandinavian languages mean *he* and *she*, is ingenious, but quite untenable; for in the Mæsothotic of Ulphilas the cock is called *hana*, but the personal pronouns are *is* and *si*; and it is not to be supposed, that the Goths of the South received their poultry from those Northern races, or even credible that the pro-

nouns *han* and *henne* were in use among the Scandinavians in the time of Ulphilas.

HEN'S-FOOT, a mere translation of Lat. *pes pulli*, a name that Stapel in Theophrast. p. 812, says was given to it from the resemblance of its leaves to a hen's claw, an observation that he must have made on a bad picture,

Caucalis daucoides, L.

HEPATIC, an adopted Latin word, adj. of *hepar*, the liver, applied to a plant with three-lobed leaves,

Anemone hepatica, L.

HERB BENNETT, L. *Herba benedicta*, Blessed herb, the avens, so called, Platearius tells us, as quoted in Ort. San. c. clxxix, because "where the root is in a house the devil can do nothing, and flies from it: wherefore it is blessed above all other herbs." He adds that if a man carries this root about him, no venomous beast can harm him. The author of the Ortus says further, that, where it is growing in a garden, no venomous beast will approach within scent of it.

Geum urbanum, L.

„ also the hemlock, from the same cause perhaps, since we learn in Ort. San. c. lxxxvii, that, on Pliny's authority, serpents fly from its leaves, because they also chill to the death, "sye auch kelten biss auf den tod."

Conium maculatum, L.

„ also the valerian, Sp. *yerva benedetta*, as being a preservative against all poisons, Tab. i. p. 471; and therefore "gut fur die biss der bösen vergiftigen thieren;" says Brunswyck.

Valeriana officinalis, L.

HERB CHRISTOPHER, a name even more vaguely applied than the preceding, its description in the Ort. San. quite unintelligible. The three plants to which this name has been given, are

1st, the baneberry, but, says Parkinson, "from what cause or respect it is called so, I cannot learn," *Actæa spicata*, L.

2nd, the Osmund fern,

Osmunda regalis, L.

3rd, the fleabane,

Pulicaria dysenterica, Cass.

HERB GERARD, Du. *Geraerts cruyt*, but why called so, we are not informed, *Ægopodium podagraria*, L.

HERB OF GRACE, rue, from this word *rue* having also the meaning of "repentance," which is needful to obtain God's grace, a frequent subject of puns in the old dramatists. See quotations in Loudon's *Arboretum*, vol. i. p. 485. *Ruta graveolens*, L.

HERB IMPIOUS, from the younger flowers overtopping the older ones, like undutiful children rising over the heads of their parents, whence Lat. *filius ante patrem*; *Gnaphalium Germanicum*, L.

HERB IVY, or HERB IVE, or -EVE, a name given to several different plants with deeply divided leaves, a corruption of the *Abiga* of Pliny. Beckmann, in his *Lexicon Botanicum*, explains it thus: "*Iva*, Ruellius *ibiga*; hinc, duabus abjectis literis *i* et *g*, *iba*, et tandem *iva* manavit in vulgi nomenclationem." The name has been given by the herbalists to

*Ajuga Iva*, *Coronopus Ruellii*, and *Plantago Coronopus*, L.

HERB MARGARET, the daisy, the emblem of modesty, and badge of "Maid Margaret, that was so meek and mild." It may have been assigned to her from blossoming about her day, the 22nd Feb. *Bellis perennis*, L.

HERB PARIS, incorrectly so spelt with a capital P, being its Lat. name *Herba paris*, Herb of a pair, of a betrothed couple, in reference to its four leaves being set upon the stalk like a trulove-knot, the emblem of an engagement, whence its synonym, *Herb Trulove*,

*Paris quadrifolia*, L.

HERB PETER, the cowslip, from its resemblance to St. Peter's badge, a bunch of keys, whence its G. name, *schlüssel-blume*,

*Primula veris*, L.

HERB ROBERT, from its being used to cure a disease called in Germany *Ruprechts-Plage*, very probably in allusion to Robert, Duke of Normandy, for whom the celebrated medical work of the middle ages, the *Ortus Sani-*



tatis, was written. The name occurs in a MS. vocabulary of the thirteenth century, in *Rel. Ant.* vol. i. p. 37.

*Geranium Robertianum*, L.

HERB TRINITY, L. *Herba Trinitatis*, G. *dreifaltigkeitsblume*, from having three colours combined in one flower,

*Viola tricolor*, L.

and also from having three leaflets combined into one leaf,

*Anemone hepatica*, L.

HERB TWOPENCE, from its pairs of round leaves, the moneywort,

*Lysimachia nummularia*, L.

HERON'S BILL, from the shape of the seed vessel,

*Erodium*, L'Her.

*Heron*, O.Fr. *hairon*, Prov. *aigron*, It. *aghirone*, augm. of O.H.G. *heigir* or *heigro*, Sw. *häger*, a derivation that shows the amusement of hawking after this bird to have been introduced into Italy from the north of Europe, and from Italy into France and England.

HEYHOVE, a name that occurs in old Herbals and MSS. and in the burden of a song in the ballad of The frere and the boye, l. 50 :

“He sung, *hey howe*, awaye the mare,”

from A.S. *hege*, a hedge, and *hufe*, crown, the ground ivy,

*Glechoma hederacea*, L.

HIG-TAPER, HAG-TAPER, or, as in Turner, HYGGIS-TAPER, incorrectly spelt in our floras *High-taper*, either from A.S. *hig* or *hyg*, hay, and *taper*, meaning a taper made of dry herbage, or, more probably perhaps, from A.S. *hege* or *haga*, a hedge, the usual place of its growth. Dodoens tells us that it was called *candela*, “*folia siquidem habet mollia, hirsuta, ad lucernarum funiculos apta* ;” “a plant,” says the Grete Herball, “wherof is made a maner of lynke, if it be talowed ;” or, as Parkinson says, *Th. Bot.* p. 62, “*Verbascum* is called of the Latines *Candela regia* and *Candelaria*, because the elder age used the stalkes dipped in suet to burne, whether at Funeralls or otherwise.”

Brunfelsius, ed. 1531, says, p. 197, that it is called *Wull-  
or König-kerz*, "därüm das sein stengel von vilen gedörnt  
würt, überzogen mit harz, wachs, oder bech, und stang-  
kerzen oder dartschen davon gemacht, und gebrannt für  
schaub-fackelen." *Schaub* means a wisp of straw, and  
rather supports the above explanation of *hig* as hay.

*Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

HINDBERRY, A.S. *hindberie*, a name that was once very  
generally given to the raspberry, and is retained in some  
counties still, derived, apparently, from *hind*, as the gentler,  
the tamer kind of bramble, contrasted with the *heorot-berie*,  
the hart-berry, the one now called black-berry. Adelung  
suggests its derivation from Lat. *Ideus*, by a change that  
is quite consistent with analogy, viz. prefixing an *h* to the  
initial vowel, and an *n* before *d*. Ray's explanation,  
"forte sic dicta, quia inter hinnulos et cervos, i.e. in sylvis  
et saltibus crescunt," is very unsatisfactory, a mere guess,  
as are nearly all his explanations of English names.

*Rubus idæus*, L.

HINDHEAL, A.S. *hind-hele*, *-heoleðe*, or *-hæleð*, from its  
curing the hind, probably the same herb as the *Elaphoscum*,  
which deer were supposed to eat, when stung with serpents,  
a name in Culpeper applied to the tansy, in other writers  
to the ambrose,

*Chenopodium Botrys*, L.

HIP-, or HEP-ROSE, the dog-rose, that which bears the  
*hip*, A.S. *hiop*, *heap*, *heope*, O.S. *hiopa*, O.H.G. *hiopa*, a word  
of obscure origin, but one that probably represents some  
other fruit, or some common object to which this was  
compared. It seems, however, in the early German dialects  
to have meant the brier rather than its fruit. See Köne's  
notes to the Heliand, p. 466, on l. 3488, "nec oc figun ni  
lesat an *hiopon*," nor gather figs on *hips*, where *hiopon*,  
represents the Gr. *τριβολος* of Matt. vii. 16, which our  
authorized version renders "thistle," and Wycliffe's  
"*breris*." It is a word that is common to all the Ger-  
manic dialects, but is not traceable to its original meaning

in them. It appears, rather, to be a corruption of Gr. ζιζυφον, M. Lat. and Sp. *jujuba*, Fr. *jujube*, a Gr. ζ, a Lat. *j*, and Sp. aspirated *j*, being a usual interchange of initial letters, as e.g. in Gr. *Zeus*, L. *Jovis*, Sp. *jueves*; and again the *j* and G. *hi*, as in *Job*, G. *Hiob*. The *Ortus Sanitatis*, the figures of which seem to be copies from very ancient ones, gives, c. ccxx, a rose-bush with hips on it for the *jujube*, and titles the chapter "Hanbotten, *jujube* grece et latine;" the *hanbotte* being the same as the *hagebutte*, or *hip*.

Rosa canina, L.

HIP-WORT, from the resemblance of the leaf to the acetabulum or hip-socket, whence its former name of *herba coxendicum*, herb of the hips, Cotyledon umbilicus, Hud.

HIRSE, G. *hirse*, derivation unknown, perhaps L. *cererisia*, from ale being brewed from it, a kind of millet,

Panicum, L.

HOCK-HERB, the mallow, from Lat. *Alcea* by the change of *l* to *u*, and the usual prefix of *h* to Latin words beginning with a vowel upon their becoming English; *Alc*, *auc*, *hauc*. See HOLLIHOCK. Althæa and Malva, L.

HOG'S-FENNEL, a coarse rank plant, fennel for a hog, Peucedanum officinale, L.

*Hog*, Wel. *hwch*, an imitation of the animal's grunt.

HOG-WEED, as if from the fondness of hogs for its roots, but more properly spelt *clogweed*, from *heck-lock*, a word misunderstood and familiarized into *Hog-weed*,

Heracleum Sphondylium, L.

HOLE-WORT, from its hollow roots, Corydalis, L.

HOLLIHOCK, in Huloet's Dict<sup>y</sup>. HOLY HOKE, a perplexing word. The *hock* is clearly from the L. *alcea*, (see HOCK,) but the *Holli* very difficult to explain. Somner's dictionary gives a pretended A.S. *holihoc*, an improbable word, and one that, if it ever existed, could not have applied to a flower unknown to the Anglo-Saxons. Wedgwood understands it as meaning "Holy-land-hock;" but a plant unassociated with any legend would scarcely have

been called "Holy" from having been found in Palestine. It is questionable, however, whether it came to us from that country. In old writers it is distinguished as the *Alcea hortulana*, or garden-hock, and possibly *holly* may be a corruption of this word *hortulana*. Another possible source of it is the *Hock-tide*, a festival of the church, with which the name of the plant may have become confused, and from some association of ideas the *Holy* have been thus attached to it. But upon the whole, the most probable origin of it is *L. caulis*, with the meaning of a *cale-*, *coley-*, or *cabbage-hock*, and referring, as in *cabbage-rose*, to its well-filled double flowers, or used in the sense of *stalk*, and referring to its lofty habit. *Cauli-* or *Coley-hock* would easily pass into *Holly-* and *Holy-hock*.

*Althæa rosea*, L. and *ficifolia*, Cav.

HOLLOW-WORT, or HOLE-WORT, from its hollow root,  
*Corydalis claviculata*, L.

HOLLY, or HOLM, on the Eastern Border called HOLLEN, the old form of the word, and that from which *holm* has been formed by the change of *n* to *m*, as *Lime* from *Line*; A.S. *holen* or *holegn*, a word derived from L. *ulex*, which in the middle ages was confused with *ilex*, the holm oak of the ancients, whence the adjective *uligna*, and with the prefixed aspirate, *huligna* and *holegn*. The form *Holly* will have been the more readily adopted, from the branches of this shrub being used for *olive* branches, and strowed before the image of Jesus, in certain solemnities of the church, that represented His entrance into Jerusalem. Thus in Googe's *Naogeorgus*,

"He is even the same, that, long ago,  
While in the streete he roade,  
The people mette, and *olive* bowes  
So thicke before him stroade."

*Ilex aquifolium*, L.

HOLLY OAK, the Holm oak, see HOLLY.

**HOLLY-ROSE**, a name given in Parkinson's Paradise to plants of the *cistus* tribe, as meaning evergreen rose,

Helianthemum, T.

**HOLM OAK**, see **HOLLY**.

Quercus Ilex, L.

**HOLY GHOST**, so called "for the angel-like properties therein," says Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 941. "It is good against poison, pestilent agues, and the pestilence itself," says Turner, b. iii. 5.

Angelica sylvestris, L.

**HOLY GRASS**, from its Gr. name, *ἱερα χλοη*,

Hierochloe borealis, Rm.

**HOLY HERB**, L. *herba sacra*, Gr. *ἱερα βοτανη*, the vervain, so called, says Dioscorides, b. iv. 61, *δια το εὐχρηστον ἐν τοῖς καθαρμοῖς εἶναι εἰς περιαιμματα*, "from its being good in expiations for making amulets." It acquired this character from being used to decorate altars: "Ex ara sume *verbena* tibi;" Ter. in Andria; and, as Pliny tells us, b. 22, c. 2, "non aliunde sagmina in remediis publicis fuere, et in sacris legationibus, quam *verbena*;" and adds, "hoc est gramen ex area cum sua terra evulsum." It would seem that branches of any kind used about the altar at sacred festivals were called *verbena*, and being borne by an ambassador rendered his person inviolable; and that the word did not originally apply exclusively to that which we now call *vervain*.

Verbena officinalis, L.

**HOLY ROPE**, from its hemp-like leaves fixed upon as the plant that yielded the rope with which Jesus was bound; just as there was a Christ's thorn, a Christ's gall, a reed-mace, a Christ's ladder, etc. found to represent the other incidents of the Crucifixion,

Eupatorium cannabinum, L.

**HONESTY**, from the transparency of its dissepiments,

Lunaria biennis, L.

**HONEWORT**, from its curing the *hone*, a hard swelling in the cheek so called, Ger. p. 1018, *Trinia glaberrina*, L.

**HONEYSUCKLE**, A.S. *hunig-sucle*, a name that is now applied to the woodbine, but of which it is very doubtful



to what plant it properly belongs. In the A.S. vocabularies it is translated *Ligustrum*, which in other places means the cowslip and primrose. Neither is it clear what *sucle* means. The instrumental termination *le* would imply that with which one sucks. The name seems to have been transferred to the woodbine on account of the honey-dew so plentifully deposited on its leaves by aphides. In Culpeper and Parkinson and other herbalists it is assigned to the meadow clover, which in our western counties is still called so.

Lonicera, L.

„ DWARF-

Cornus suecica, L.

HONEYSUCKLE CLOVER, or, in farmer's language, simply HONEYSUCKLE, the meadow clover,

*Trifolium pratense*, L.

HONEY-WARE, A.S. *war*, sea-weed, and *honey*, from its being covered with a layer of sugar, “dout les Islandais se servent très bien,” says Duchesne, p. 364.

*Laminaria saccharina*, Lam.

HOODED MILFOIL, Fr. *millefeuille*, thousand leaf, from its very finely divided leaves, and the hood shape of its corolla,

*Utricularia vulgaris*, L.

HOOK-HEAL, from its being supposed on the doctrine of signatures to heal wounds from a bill-hook, which its corolla was thought to resemble,

*Prunella vulgaris*, L.

HOP, a name adopted from the Netherlands with the culture of the plant, L.Germ. *hoppen*, G. *hopfe*, M.Lat. *hupa*, possibly connected with words that mean “head,” as *haupt*, *haube*, etc. but only by an accidental coincidence approaching the Fr. *houblon*. This latter word has not been derived, as Menage and some other French etymologists have supposed, from L. *lupulus*, through *lupelon*, It. *luppulone*, by a mistake of the initial *l* for the definite article, but from L. *humulus*, through M.Lat. *humblo*, *-onis*, where *b* has been inserted after *m* for euphony, as in *comble* from *cumulus*, *humble* from *humilis*, and dropped again. It is from this word, *humulus*, also, that A.S. *hymele*, Da. *homle*,

Sw. *humle*, Fin. *humala*, Hung. *comlo*, and Boh. *čmel*, have been formed. With this series *hop* seems to have no etymological connexion whatever. *Humulus lupulus*, L.

HOP-CLOVER, from the resemblance of its fruiting capitules to little heads of hop, *Trifolium agrarium*, L.

HOREHOUND, A.S. *hara-hune*, from *hara*, a hare, and *hune*, an unmeaning word, now replaced with *hound*. In one MS. the reading is *hara-hunig*, hare-honey. The name may perhaps be a corruption of Lat. *Urinaria*, the plant having been regarded as of great efficacy in cases of strangury and dysuria. See Ort. Sanit. ch. 256.

*Marrubium vulgare*, L.

„ BLACK-, from its dark flowers, *Ballota nigra*, L.

„ WATER-, *Lycopus Europæus*, L.

HORE-STRANGE, or -STRANG, from its supposed virtue in strangury. See HARSTRONG.

HORNBEAM, or -BEECH, apparently from L. *Ornus*, with the usual prefix of an aspirate, the tree having by the older botanists been classed under that genus, (see *Tragus*, p. 1109, f;) a change the more readily adopted from its wood being used to yoke horned cattle, “as well by the Romans in old time,” says Gerarde, p. 1479, “as in our own, and growing so hard and tough with age as to be more like horn than wood,” *Carpinus betulus*, L.

HORNWORT, from its bi- and tri-furcate leaves,

*Ceratophyllum*, L.

*Horn*, the same word in all Germanic languages, L. *cornu*, Gr. *κερας*, the *c* and *κ* being, as usual, replaced with *h*.

HORNED POPPY, from its long curved horn-like seedpods, *Glaucium luteum*, L.

HORSE-BANE, from its poisonous quality,

*Enanthe Phellandrium*, L.

*Horse*, A.S. and Sw. *hors*, O.H.G. and O.N. *hros*, G. *ross*, from *equus cursorius*, a race-horse, while, singularly enough, the Southern names, It. *cavallo*, Sp. *caballo*, Fr.

*cheval*, and *chevalier*, and *chivalry*, words connected with nobility and grandeur, are derived from *caballus*, the humble drudging packhorse. In composition it means "coarse." The ancient names for this animal, which, with great dialectic variety, were originally the same word in all the Ind-European languages, have in modern times been replaced in nearly all of them with others. Their former identity as traced in Skr. *asvas*, Lith. *asva*, Go. *aihvus*, Ir. *each*, L. *equus*, and Gr. *ἵππος*, is evidence that the primeval stock of our race was acquainted with the horse before its dispersion, and one indication among many, that the earlier unquestrian races of the Stone period were not Ind-European.

HORSE-BEECH, see HURST-BEECH.

HORSE-CHESNUT, said to be called so from its fruit being used in Turkey, the country from which we received it, as food for "horses that are broken or touched in the wind;" Selby, p. 34; or, as Parkinson expresses it, Th. Bot. p. 1402, "Horse chesnuts are given in the East, and so through all Turkie, unto Horses to cure them of the cough, shortnesse of winde, and such other diseases." In this country horses will not eat them, and the name was, perhaps, in reality given to these nuts to express coarseness.

*Æsculus Hippocastanum*, L.

HORSE-CHIRE, the germander, from its growing after horse-droppings, Fr. *chier*, *Teucrium Chamædrys*, L.

HORSE FLOWER, from Fl. *peerts-bloem*, Lyte, b. ii. c. 14, but why called so, unknown, *Melampyrum sylvaticum*, L.

HORS-HELE, -HEAL, or -HEEL, A.S. *hors-helene*, L. *Inula Helenium*, which by a double blunder of *Inula* for "hin-nula," a colt, and *Helenium* for something to do with "heels" or "healing," has been corrupted into *Hors-hele*, and the plant employed by apothecaries to heal horses of scabs, and sore heels,

*Inula Helenium*, L.

HORSE-HOOF, from the shape of the leaf,

*Tussilago farfara*, L.



- HORSE-KNOB, a coarse *knapweed*, *Centaurea nigra*, L.  
 HORSE-MINT, *Mentha sylvestris*, L.  
 HORSE-PARSLEY, from its coarseness as compared with  
 smallage or celery, *Smyrnum Olusatrum*, L.  
 HORSE-RADISH, *Cochlearia Armoracia*, L.  
 HORSE-SHOE-VETCH, from the shape of the legumes,  
*Hippocrepis comosa*, L.  
 HORSE-TAIL, from *L. cauda equina*, the name under  
 which it was sold in the shops, descriptive of its shape,  
*Equisetum*, L.

HORSE-THYME, a coarse kind of thyme,  
*Calamintha clinopodium*, B.

HOUND'S-BERRY-TREE, or HOUND'S-TREE, a mistaken  
 equivalent for *Dogwood*; see *DOGWOOD*.

*Hound*, A.S. Du. Dan. and Sw. *hund*, Go. *hunds*, a word  
 common to all the Germanic languages, and one of the  
 most interesting, philologically considered, being singularly  
 illustrative of the changes which letters undergo in the  
 transition of any term from one dialect to another. Strange  
 as it may at first sight appear, the Sansk. *svá*, gen. *sunas*,  
 the Zend *spá*, acc. *spánem*, Lith. *szu*, gen. *szuns*, Gr. *κωov*,  
 gen. *κωovos*, Ir. *cu*, gen. *con*, Wel. and Bret. *ki*, L. *canis*,  
 Alb. *κεν*, Go. *hunds*, and our *hound*, are one and the same  
 word varying according to the characteristic rules of dialect  
 that prevail in their respective countries. As in this case  
 we have a Zend *sp* corresponding to a Sansk. *sv*, Lith. *szu*,  
 Gr. *κv*, Lat. *ca* for *cua*, and Go. *hu*, so in the case of the  
 horse we find in Zend *aspa*, Sansk. *asva*, Lith. *aszwa*, Lat.  
*equus*, Go. *aihvus*. But, further, the Russ. and Boh. *pes*, and  
 Serv. *pas*, a dog, are the same word, being forms of the Zend  
*spá*. It appears also that there was originally an identity  
 of name for horse and hound. The root of the word, and  
 its primary meaning do not seem to be known. We may  
 here repeat the remarks made above upon *Horse*, as apply-  
 ing equally to *Hound*; that the fathers of the Ind-Euro-  
 pean race must have been acquainted with this animal,

while they still formed one family in Upper Asia; and that those barbarous tribes, who lived at an early period on the lakes and sea-shores of Europe without horse or dog, could not have been the ancestors of its present inhabitants. When, or how, or why *hound* was displaced as a generic term, and *dog* adopted for it, the lexicographers have not informed us.

HOUND'S-TONGUE, from the Gr. *κυνόγλωσσου*, now applied to a plant, of which Wm. Coles tells us in his Art of Simpling, ch. xxvii, that "it will tye the Tongues of Houndes, so that they shall not bark at you, if it be laid under the bottom of your feet, as Miraldus writeth." The name was probably given to the Greek plant on account of the shape and soft surface of the leaf, and in contrast to the rough Bugloss or Oxtongue.

Cynoglossum officinale, L.

HOUSE-LEEK, a leek or plant, A.S. *leac*, that grows on houses,

Sempervivum tectorum, L.

HOVE, A.S. *hufe*, a chaplet, after its Latin name, *corona*, Gr. *στεφανωμα*, and so called, says Parkinson, "because it spreadeth as a garland upon the ground," the ground ivy, also called in old MSS. Heyhowe, Heyoue, Haihoue, Halehoue, and Horshoue. See Pr. Pm. p. 250, note by Way.

Glechoma hederacea, L.

HULST, Du. *hulst*, which Weiland derives from L. *ilex*, but without accounting for the terminal *st*, which would seem in this, and several other words, to be the Lat. *cetum*, indicating the locality of its growth. Its immediate origin would thus be *ulicetum* for *ilicetum*, a bed of *ulex* or *ilex*, two names frequently confused in mediæval writings, whence also G. *huls*, and Fr. *houx*, through the medium, perhaps, of *hullus*, given in the Ort. Sanit. c. xxxiii, and other herbals, as the Arabic name of the oak-tree.

Ilex aquifolium, L.

HULVER, Fr. *olivier*, olive-tree, a name given to the holly from its being strown on the road in place of *olive*

branches at the public festivals of the church; as was that of "palm" to the flowering branches of the willow. See quotation under HOLLY. *Ilex aquifolium*, L.

„ KNEE-, the Butcher's broom, see under KNEE-.

„ SEA-, from its prickly leaves,

*Eryngium campestre*, L.

HUNGERWEED, from its growing on a barren soil, and its abundance indicating a bad crop, and season of famine,

*Ranunculus arvensis*, L.

HURR-BURR, a name unexplained, *Arctium Lappa*, L.

HURST-BEECH, the hornbeam, *Carpinus Betulus*, L.

*Hurst*, A.S. *hyrst*, O.H.G. *hurst*, O.N. *hriostr*, fruticetum, a term applied to land dotted with clumps of small trees and bushes, between which there was pasture, and probably a corruption of Lat. *ericetum*, a heath-ground, from *erica*, Sp. *urca*, heath; or of *ulicetum*, a furze-ground, from *ulew*, furze, with the initial vowel aspirated.

HURT-SICKLE, "because," says Culpeper, "with its hard wiry stem it turneth the edge of the sickle, that reapeth the corn;" called, for the same reason, by Brunfelsius *Blaptisecula*, from Gr. *βλαπτω*, injure,

*Centaurea Cyanus*, L.

HURTL-BERRY, and HUCKLE-BERRY, corruptions of *Whortle-berry*, itself a corruption of *Myrtle-berry*,

*Vaccinium Myrtillus*, L.

HYACINTH, Gr. *ὑακινθος*, apparently from *ὑακίζω* for *ὑεριζω*, cause to dribble or rain, and *ἄνθος*, flower, alluding either to the diuretic qualities of its bulb, or the tears it caused to flow, being by the poets described as having upon its petals AI AI, expressive of wailing. It is a question, what was the plant that the Greek and Latin writers called by this name, and very generally admitted that it was not the hyacinth of our gardens. Ancient poets used the names of flowers so vaguely, that it is perhaps impossible to ascertain which is the right one. Some suppose it to have been the martagon lily, some a gladiole.

The former seems to have been Ovid's plant, the latter that of the Sicilians, Theocritus and Moschus. But it would here be out of place to enter into the argument. See Ovid. Met. b. x, 164. Theocr. Id. x, 28. Moschus, Id. iii, 6.

Hyacinthus, L.

ICELAND MOSS, a lichen so called from its abundance in Iceland, whence it is imported for medicinal and culinary purposes,  
Cetraria Islandica, Ach.

INUL, L. *Inula*, see ELECCAMPANE.

IRISH HEATH, from its occurrence chiefly in the west of Ireland,  
Menziesia polifolia, Jus.

IRISH, or CARRAGEEN MOSS, a lichen so called, imported from Ireland,  
Chondrus crispus, Lyngb.

IRON-HEADS, from the resemblance of its knobbed involucre to a weapon with an iron ball fixed to a long handle, called a Loggerhead,  
Centaurea nigra, L.

IRON-WORT, a translation of its Lat. name, *Sideritis*, from Gr. *σιδηρον*, iron, being supposed to heal wounds from iron weapons, a name formerly applied to several different plants, but now confined to a genus of Labiatae, of which we have no British representative.

*Iron*, Go. *eisarn*, A.S. *isern* and *iron*, the *s* of the original word becoming in some dialects *r*, and closely corresponding to the Celtic names of this metal, Wel. *haiarn*, Er. *jaran*, and connected with L. *ferrum*, and more nearly with L. *æs*, *æris*, Go. *ais*, *aizis*, bronze, and Skr. *ajas*, iron, the use of bronze having preceded that of iron, and its name been transferred to the more recently introduced metal, just as the names of European woods are given to those of Australia. See J. Grimm, Gesch. d. D. Spr. p. 9.

IVRAY, Fr. *ivraie*, drunkenness. See RAY-GRASS.

IVY, in MS. Sloane, No. 3489, 3, spelt *Ioyne*, A.S. *ifig*, a word strangely mixed up with the names of the yew-tree, O.H.G. *ëbah*, from which, according to Grimm, arose

*ëbowe, ëbhowe, ebihowe, ephou, epheu*, and in Alsace *epphau*. It seems to have originated with the Lat. *abiga*, used by Pliny as the name of the plant called in Greek Chamæpitys, and miswritten by some copyist *ajuga*, which was further corrupted to the M.Lat. *iva*. See YEW. Looking at the names of the two trees, the Ivy and the Yew, in the different languages of Europe, we cannot doubt that they are in reality the same word. Indeed in Höfer's *Worterbuch der in Oberdeutschland üblichen Mundart* we find that *Ive* or *Iven-baum* belongs equally to one or the other. In English we get *ivy* from *iva*, and *yew* from the same word, written *iuu*. The source of the confusion seems to have been this. The Chamæpitys of Pliny, as we learn from Parkinson, *Th. Bot.* p. 284, was "called in English *Ground-pine*, and *Ground-ivie*, after the Latin word *Iva*." But this name *Ground-ivy* had been assigned to another plant, which was called in Latin *Hedera terrestris*, and thus *Ivy* and *Hedera* came to be regarded as equivalent terms. But there was again another plant that was also called *Hedera terrestris*, viz. the creeping form of *Hedera helix*, and as *Ivy* had become the equivalent of *Hedera* in the former case, so it did in this too, and eventually was appropriated to the full-grown evergreen shrub so well known. How *iva* became the name of the Yew-tree will be explained below.

*Hedera Helix*, L.

„ GROUND-, see GROUND-IVY.

IVY-LEAFED CHICKWEED,

*Veronica hederacea*, L.

JACINTH, Fr. *jacinthe*, L. *hyacinthus*.

JACK BY THE HEDGE, from *Jack* or *Jakes*, *latrina*, alluding to its offensive smell,

*Erysimum Alliaria*, L.

JACK OF THE BUTTERY, a ridiculous name, that seems to be a corruption of *Bot-theriacque* to *Buttery Jack*, the plant having been used as a Treacle or anthelmintic, and called *Vermicularis* from its supposed virtue in destroying intestinal worms,

*Sedum acre*, L.

JACOB'S LADDER, usually supposed to be called so from its successive pairs of leaflets, *Polemonium cæruleum*, L.

JERSEY LIVELONG, from its occurrence in Jersey, and being of the same genus as many of the so-called Everlasting flowers, *Gnaphalium luteo-album*, L.

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE, called *artichoke* from the flavour of its tubers, and *Jerusalem* from It. *girasole*, turn-sun, that is, a sun that turns about, the sunflower, to which genus this plant belongs. By a quibble on *Jerusalem* the soup made from it is called "Palestine." *Helianthus tuberosus*, L.

JERUSALEM COWSLIP, from being like a cowslip "floribus primulæ veris purpureis," as described by Lobel, and from having been confounded under the name of *Phlomis* with the Sage of Jerusalem, *Pulmonaria officinalis*, L.

JERUSALEM CROSS, from an occasional variety of it with four instead of five petals of the colour and form of a Jerusalem cross, *Lychnis Chalcedonica*, L.

JERUSALEM, OAK OF-, called *oak* from the resemblance of its leaf in an outline picture to that of the oak, and confusion with *Chenopodium Botrys*, which was called in Greek *χαμαίδρυς*, ground oak. The *Jerusalem* seems here as in other cases to stand as a vague name for a distant foreign country. *Teucrium botrys*, L.

„ STAR OF-, It. *girasole*, turn-sun, in allusion to the popular belief that it turns with the sun, whence it was also called *solsecle*, from Lat. *solsequium*, A.S. *sol-sece*, (see JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE;) and *star* from the stellate expansion of the involucre. See SALSIFY.

*Tragopogon porrifolius*, L.

JESSAMINE, JESSAMY, JESSE, or GESSE, Sp. and Fr. *jasmin*, It. *gesmino*, corrupted to *gelsomino*, from Pers. *jâsemtn*, Ar. *jâsamûn*, *Jasminum*, L.

JEW'S EARS, L. *auricula Judæ*, a fungus resembling the human ear, and usually growing from trunks of the elder, the tree upon which the legend represents Judas as having hanged himself, *Exidia auricula Judæ*, Fries.

JOAN- or JONE-SILVER-PIN, the red poppy, called so, as Parkinson tells us, p. 367, because it is "Fair without and foul within," alluding to its showy flower and staining yellow juice,  
Papaver Rhoeas, L.

JOINTED CHARLOCK, from its pod being contracted between the seeds, so as to appear articulated, but otherwise like charlock,  
Raphanus raphanistrum, L.

JONQUILL, Sp. *junquillo*, dim. of *junco*, L. *juncus*, a rush, from its slender rush-like stem, Narcissus Jonquilla, L.

JOSEPH'S FLOWER, Du. *Joseph's bloem*, in allusion to its popular name of *Go-to-bed-at-noon*, and Joseph's refusal to do so, the implements and memorials of their achievements and trials having been usually adopted as the badge of the Bible heroes, and exhibited in their pictures. Thus Samson had his jawbone, David his giant's head, Jonah his gourd, etc.  
Tragopogon pratensis, L.

JOUBARB, see JUPITER'S BEARD.

JUDAS TREE, from his having hung himself on it, according to some of the legends,  
Cercis siliquastrum, L.

JULY FLOWER, used by Drayton under the mistaken notion that it gave the meaning of *Gilliflower*,  
Matthiola, L.

JUNIPER, from the Lat. *Juniperus*, a word of uncertain origin,  
J. communis, L.

JUNO'S TEARS, a name that by Dioscorides was given to the Coix lacryma, now called "Job's tears," and by some blunder, probably through both these plants being comprehended under the Latin term *Verbena*, transferred to the vervain, which has nothing about it that resembles a tear,  
Verbena officinalis, L.

JUPITER'S BEARD, Fr. *joubarb*, L. *Jovis barba*, the house-leek, so called from its massive inflorescence, like the sculptured beard of Jupiter, *Sempervivum tectorum*, L.

JUR-NUT, Da. *jord-nöd*, earth-nut,

*Bunium flexuosum*, L.



KALE, see CALE.

KATHARINE'S FLOWER, from the persistent styles spreading like the spokes of a wheel, the symbol of St. Katharine, from her having been martyred upon a wheel,

*Nigella damascena*, L.

KECKS, KEX, KECKSIES, KAXES, KIXES, or CASHES, the dry hollow stalks or haulms of umbelliferous plants, supposed by some to be derived from Wel. *cecys*, Fr. *cigue*, L. *ciuta*. See Thomson's Etymons. But this mixture of Welch in the vocabulary of agricultural terms is always suspicious. Our ancestors borrowed nothing from that language but proper names of localities. The source of *kecks* seems to be the L.Germ. *keeck*, *köeck*, or *küdich*, the charlock, or the Dutch and Flemish verb *kiiken*, spy, peep through. In a MS. of the fourteenth century, in Rel. Ant. ii. 81, it is spelt *keica*. Lyte says, b. v, ch. 53, that it was "called *cash*es or *cax*es, bycause spinsters use the stemmes both of this herbe [cow-parsley] and hemlocke for quills and *cax*es to winde yarne upon."

KEDLOCK, L.Germ. *küdich*, and *leac*. See CHEDLOCK.

KELPWARE, a sea-wrack or ware that produces kelp or barilla,

*Fucus nodosus*, L.

KEMPS, A.S. *cempa*, a warrior, Da. *kempe*, O.H.G. *kempho*, supposed to be derived through M.Lat. *campio*, a champion, from *campus*, a field, a place of tournament. Like other words peculiar to the Northern counties, it is more probably of Danish than Ang. Sax. origin. It alludes to the child's pastime of fighting the stalks against one another, a game that is known in Sweden also, where they are called *Kämpar*.

*Plantago media*, L.

KERNEL WORT, from having kernels or tubers attached to the roots, and being therefore supposed, on the doctrine of signatures, to cure diseased *kernels*, or scrophulous glands in the neck,

*Scrophularia nodosa*, L.

KIDNEY VETCH, because "it shall prevayle much against



the strangury, and against the payne of the reynes." Lyte, b. i. ch. 7. *Anthyllis vulneraria*, L.

KIDNEY-WORT, from a distant resemblance of its leaves to the outline of a kidney, *Umbilicus pendulinus*, DC.

KING'S CLOVER, from its M.Lat. name *corona regia*, royal crown, "because," as Parkinson says, Th. Bot. p. 720, "the yellowe flowers doe crown the top of the stalkes," as with a chaplet of gold, *Melilotus officinalis*, L.

KING'S CUP or COB, A.S. *copp*, a head, from the resemblance of the unexpanded flower-bud, and of its double variety, to a stud of gold, such as *kings wore*, Fr. *bouton d'or*, *Ranunculus acris* and *bulbosus*, L.

KING'S KNOB, see KING'S CUP. A.S. *cnæp*, a button, Da. *knap*.

KIPPER or KNIPPER NUT, called in Scotland *knapparts*, from *knap*, a knob, and *urt*, wort, the heath-pea, from its knotty tubers, *Orobus tuberosus*, L.

KISS ME ERE I RISE, KISS ME BEHIND THE GARDEN GATE, LOOK UP-, or JUMP UP AND KISS ME, see PANSY.

KNAP-BOTTLE, from its inflated calyx, resembling a little bottle, and snapping when suddenly compressed, Du. *knap-pen*, crack, snap, *Silene inflata*, L.

KNAP-WEED, KNOP-, or KNOB-WEED, from its knob-like heads compared to a weapon with an iron knob at the end, called a Loggerhead, A.S. *cnæp*, L.Ger. *knoop*, G. *knopf*, *Centaurea nigra*, L.

KNAWEL, G, *knauel* or *knäuel*, a hank of thread, from its spreading stems, *Scleranthus*, L.

KNEE-HOLM, -HULVER, or -HOLLY, referred to the holms or hollies on account of its evergreen leaves, but whence the *Knee*? Were it not that we find it in A.S. lists as *cneow-holen*, we might imagine it to be a corruption of *gree*, Fr. *greou*, in its synonym *pettigree*. It may possibly have arisen from confusion with Lat. *cneorum*, a plant used in chaplets, as were some species of this genus. See Pliny, xxi. 9. *Ruscus aculeatus*, L.

*Knee*, A.S. *cneow*, Go. *kniu*, Da. *knä*, and essentially the same word in all the other cognate languages, the Lat. *genu*, Gr. *yovu*, Pers. *zanu*, Zend, *shenu*, Skr. *jānu*.

KNIGHT'S SPURS, the larkspur, from its long, slender, projecting nectaries, Delphinium, L.

KNIGHT'S-WORT, -WOUND-WORT, -PONDWORT, OR -WATER-SENGREEN, from its sword-like leaves,

Stratiotes aloides, L.

KNIT-BACK, L. *confirma*, from being used as a strengthener or restorative, the comfrey, Symphytum officinale, L.

NOB-TANG, Da. *tang*, sea-weed, and *knob*, A.S. *cnæp*, a word connected with many others beginning with *kn*, *kl*, *gn*, and *gl*, in all the Germanic languages, and signifying a lump, or something knotted and hard,

Fucus nodosus, L.

KNOLLES, turnips, Da. *knold*, a tuber,

Brassica Rapa, L.

KNOT-BERRY, from the knotty joints of the stem,

Rubus Chamæorus, L.

KNOT-GRASS, or -WORT, from its trailing, grass-like, jointed stems, Polygonum aviculare, L.

„ „ that of Shakspeare, “the hindering knot-grass,” M.N.D. iii. 2, Agrostis stolonifera, L.

KOHL-RABI, a German name from It. *cavolo-rapa*, Fr. *chou-rave*, a cabbage-, or, properly, a stem-turnip, L. *caulorapum*, Brassica oleracea, L. v. gongylodes, L.

LABURNUM, an adjective from L. *labor*, denoting what belongs to the *hour of labour*, and which may allude to its closing its leaflets together at night, and expanding them by day, Cytisus Laburnum, L.

LAD'S LOVE, the southernwood, see BOY'S LOVE.

LADDER TO HEAVEN, the Solomon's seal, called so, Parkinson tells us, Th. Bot. p. 699, “from the forme of the stalke of the leaves, one being set above the other,” but more probably from a confusion of *scel de Salamon* with

*echelle de Salem*, or of *scel de Notre Dame* with *echelle de N.D.*  
 the seal with the ladder, *Convallaria Polygonatum*, L.  
 in Hudson, by mistake, *Polemonium cæruleum*, L.

LADY'S BEDSTRAW, see BEDSTRAW.

*Lady* in the names of plants almost always alludes to Our Lady, Notre Dame, the Virgin Mary, whose name in Puritan times was often replaced with that of Venus. Thus Our Lady's comb became Venus' comb, etc.

LADY'S-BOWER, so named by Gerarde, p. 740, from "its aptness in making of arbors, bowers, and shadie covertures in gardens,"  
*Clematis vitalba*, L.

LADY'S COMB, from the long slender parallel beaks of the seed-vessels, like the teeth of a comb,

*Scandix pecten Veneris*, L.

LADY'S-CUSHION, from its close cushion-like growth, thrift,  
*Statice armeria*, L.

LADY-FERN, from its Latin name,

*Athyrium filix fœmina*, Roth.

LADY'S-FINGERS, from its soft inflated calyces, like a lady's gloved fingers,  
*Anthyllis vulneraria*, L.  
 also, in some writers, *Digitalis purpurea*, L.

LADY'S GARTERS, from the ribbon-like striped leaves,  
 a var. of *Digraphis arundinacea*, P.B.

LADY'S GLOVE, found only in German books, e.g. Diefenbach's *Orig. Europ.* p. 237, the foxglove.

LADY'S HAIR, the quake-grass, *Briza media*, L.

LADY'S LACES, dodder, from its string-like stems,

*Cuscuta*.

LADY'S LOOKING-GLASS, from the resemblance of its expanded flower set on the elongated ovary to an ancient metallic mirror on its straight handle,

*Campanula hybrida*, L.

LADY'S MANTLE, from the shape and vandyked edge of the leaf,  
*Alchemilla vulgaris*, L.

LADY'S NAVEL, see NAVELWORT,

*Umbilicus pendulinus*, DC.

LADY'S-NIGHTCAP, in Wiltshire, (Akerman)

*Convolvulus sepium*, L.

LADY'S-SEAL, or -SIGNET, M.Lat. *Sigillum Stæ. Mariæ*,  
from round cicatrices on the root-stock, which resemble  
the impressions of a seal; in old books, such as the Grete  
Herbal, correctly ascribed to the plant now called Solo-  
mon's seal: "It is al one herbe, Solomon's seale, and our  
Lady's seale." In later herbals and floras transferred to the  
black bryony, which has no such characteristic markings :  
the original plant, *Convallaria polygonatum*, L.

that of modern books, *Tamus communis*, L.

LADY'S SLIPPER, from the shape of its flower,

*Cypripedium Calceolus*, L.

LADY'S SMOCK, from the resemblance of its pendulous  
white flowers to little smocks hung out to dry, as they  
used to be once a year, at that season especially,

When daisies pied, and violets blue,

And lady-smocks all silver-white,

And cuckoo-buds of yellow hue,

Do paint the meadows with delight.

When shepherds pipe on oaten straws,

And maidens bleach their summer smocks, etc.

Shaksp. L.L.L. v. 2.

*Cardamine pratensis*, L.

LADY'S THIMBLE, called also WITCH'S THIMBLE,

*Campanula rotundifolia*, L.

LADY'S THISTLE, the milk thistle, see BLESSED THISTLE,

*Carduus Marianus*, L.

LADY'S TRACES, or TRESSES, from the resemblance of the  
flower-spikes, with their protuberant ovaries placed regu-  
larly one over the other, to a lady's hair braided,

*Neottia spiralis*, Rich.

LAKE-WEED, from its growth in still water,

*Polygonum hydropiper*, L.

LAMB'S-LETTUCE, formerly classed with the lettuces, and  
called in Latin *Lactuca agnina*, "from appearing about the

time when lambs are dropped," Martyn in Fl. rustica ; or according to Tabernæm. i. 475, because it is a favourite food of lambs,

Valerianella olitoria, L.

*Lamb*, the same word in all Germanic languages, and in Finnic, Skr. *lamme*, its radical unknown.

LAMB'S QUARTERS, perhaps more properly *Lammas quarter*, from its blossoming about the 2nd Aug. the season at which the clergy used to get in their tithes,

Atriplex patula, L.

LAMB'S TOE, from its soft downy heads of flowers,

Anthyllis vulneraria, L.

*Toe*, Du. *toon*, pl. *teen*, G. *zehe*, a word connected with the number *ten*, G. *zehen*, Go. *taihun*. The Lat. *digitus* is in the same way connected with *decem*, and Gr. *δεκα*. The verb *dicere*, in the two senses of tell, *i.e.* to count, and to say, and the Gr. *δεικνυμι*, Go. *ga-teiha*, G. *zeigen*, show, refer to this number as counted on a child's hands and feet.

LAMB'S TONGUE, Gr. *ἀρνογλωσσα*, from the shape of the leaf,

Plantago media, L.

LANCASHIRE ASPHODEL, from being a plant allied to the asphodels, and abundant in the fens of that county,

Narthecium ossifragum, L.

LANG DE BEEF, Fr. *langue de bœuf*, from the tongue shape and papillated surface of the leaf,

Picris echioides, L.

LARCH, It. *larice*, G. *lärche*, Gr. *λαριξ*, Pinus larix, L.

LARK-SPUR, -HEEL, -TOE, OR -CLAW, from the projecting nectary,

Delphinium, L.

LAVENDER, by change of *l* to *r* from Du. and G. *lavendel*, It. *lavandola*, M.Lat. *lavendula*, from *lavare*, wash, being used to scent newly washed linen, or, according to Diez, in washing the body,

Lavandula spica, L.

LAVER, A.S. *læfer*, L. *laver*, a name given by Pliny to some unknown aquatic plant, now applied to certain seaweeds,

Porphyra laciniata, Ag.

and

Ulva latissima, Grev.

LAUREL, Sp. *laurel*, L. *laurellus*, dim. of *laurus*, a name originally applied to the sweet bay, called in Chaucer *laurer*, from Fr. *laurier*, but subsequently applied to many other evergreen shrubs, and at present in common parlance confined to *Cerasus laurocerasus*, DC.

„ ALEXANDRIAN, from Paris, called in Homer *Ἀλεξάνδρος*, having been crowned with it as victor in the public games. Stapel in Theophrast, p. 253.

*Ruscus racemosus*, L.

„ CORSE-, or SPURGE-, *Daphne laureola*, L.

„ ROMAN, the sweet bay, *Laurus nobilis*, L.

LAURESTINUS, a shrub supposed to be the *Tinus* of Pliny, and once classed with the laurels, *Viburnum tinus*, L.

LEEK, a remnant of A.S. *por-leac*, from L. *porrum*, and *leac*, a plant, Gt. *lauch*, Du. *look*, *Allium porrum*, L.

LENT-LILY, the daffodil, from the season of its flowering, the spring, a season called in A.S. *lencten*, O.H.G. *lenzo*, *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, L.

LEOPARD'S BANE, Gr. *παρδαλιωγγης*, from *παρδαλις*, a pard, and *ἀγγω*, choke, the name of some poisonous plant, which Nicander says in his *Theriaca* was used on Mount Ida to destroy wild beasts, transferred by Turner to the trulove, a very innoxious one, *Paris quadrifolia*, L.

*Leopard*, L. *leopardus*, Gr. *λεοπαρδαλος*, from *λεων*, lion, and *παρδαλις*, pard, or panther, L. *pardus*, Pers. *pars*.

LETTUCE, L. *lactuca*, from Gr. *γαλα*, *γαλακτος*, milk, and *ἐχω*, contain, through *lattouce*, an older form of the word that is still retained in Scotland, *L. sativa*, L.

„ WALL-, a plant of the lettuce tribe found upon walls, *Prenanthes muralis*, L.

LICHEN, Gr. *λειχην*, a tetter, from the roundish, leprous-looking thallus, as seen upon old buildings, *Lichen*, L.

LICHWALE, or, as in a MS. of the fifteenth century, LYTTEWALE, stone-switch, so called in allusion to its stony seeds, and their medicinal use in cases of calculus, from Gr. *λιθος*, a stone, through M.Lat. *lichō* or *lincho*, a pebble,

as in the Grant herbarium, where the lapis demonis is called *lincho-* and *licho-*demonis, and *wale*, O.Fr. *waule*, now *gaule*, from the Breton *gwalen*, a switch, the gromwell,

Lithospermum officinale, L.

LICHWORT, from its growing on stones, (see LICHWALE,) and not the A.S. *læce-wyrt*, from *læce*, a leech or physician, (which was a different plant,) the wall-pellitory,

Parietaria officinalis, L.

LILAC, a Persian word introduced with the shrub,

Syringa vulgaris, L.

LILY, L. *lilium*, Gr. *λειριον*, Sp. *lirio*, of unknown, very ancient origin, used in some oriental languages, and, according to Wedgwood, in Basque and Esthonian, for a flower in general, as in Cant. vi. 2-3, and Mat. vi. 28, and as *rosje*, rose, is used in the Illyrian; a trope of frequent occurrence among all nations, particularly the less cultivated races, and not an indication, as that author supposes, that *lily* meant properly and originally merely "a flower,"

Lilium.

LILY-AMONG-THORNS, of Canticles ii. 2, L. *Lilium inter spinas*, understood by the herbalists as the honeysuckle,

Lonicera Caprifolium, L.

LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY, or LILY-CONVALLY, L. *lilium convallium*, lily of combs or hollows, a name taken from Cant. ii. 1, "I am the lily of the valleys."

Convallaria majalis, L.

LIME, LINE, or LINDEN-TREE, called in all Germanic languages, and in Chaucer, *Linde*, a word connected with Ic. and Sw. *linda*, a band, and A.S. *līðe*, pliant, which stands in the same relation to the continental name, as, e.g. *hrīðer*, cattle, to G. *rind*, and *tōð* to Fris. *tond*, that is having a final *d* changed to *ð*, and the *n* omitted. The name has evidently been originally applied to the inner bark or bast of the tree, so much used in the North for cordage. In the Herbals, and all old works after Chaucer's time, it is spelt *Lyne* or *Line*, as in the ballad

of Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne, where it rhimes to "thine,"

"Now tell me thy name, good fellow," saide he,  
"Under the leaves of *lyne*."

The *n* has in later writers been changed to *m*, and *lyne* become *lime*, as *hollen holm*, *henep hemp*, and *mayne maim*,

*Tilia Europæa*, L.

LINE and LINSEED, L. *linum*, Gr. *λινον*, flax, probably a word adopted from a language alien to the Greek, upon the introduction of its culture, *Linum usitatissimum*, L.

LING, Da. *lyng*, seems, like *tang* from *tag*, to be a nasal form of *lig*, and in Scotland to mean any rush or coarse grass growing on a heath; in England restricted, as in Danish, to the common heath, and possibly a form of A.S. *lig*, fire, as implying "firewood," or "fuel." This word is often combined with *hede*, heath, as in Sw. *lynghed*, Da. *lynghede*, ericetum, a heath-land, and conversely *hede-lyng*, the heath-plant; leading to the belief that *heath* was the waste land, and *lyng* the shrub growing on it. See Diefenbach, *Lex. Comp.* ii. 496. *Calluna vulgaris*, L.

LION'S-FOOT, or -PAW, from the shape of the leaf resembling the impress of his foot, *Alchemilla vulgaris*, L.

*Lion*, the same in all European languages adopted from the Gr. *λεων*, gazing, glaring.

LIQUORICE-VETCH, a vetch-like plant with a sweet root, M.Lat. *liquiricia*, from L. *glycyrrhiza*, Gr. *γλυκυσ*, sweet, and *ρίζα*, root, *Astragalus glycyphylus*, L.

LILY-CONFANCY, a corruption of L. *lilium convallium*, lily of the valleys, *Convallaria majalis*, L.

LITHY-TREE, from A.S. *lith*, pliant, a word etymologically identical with *lind*, see LINDEN; the tree being so called, because, as Parkinson says, *Th. Bot.* p. 1448, "the branches hereof are so tough and strong withall, that they serve better for bands to tye bundels or any other thing withall, or to make wreathes to hold together the gates of



fields, then either withy or any other the like." The wayfarer tree, *Viburnum Lantana*, L.

LITMUS, *G. lackmus*, from *lac*, dye, and *moos*, moss, a lichen, in popular language a moss, used in dyeing, *Rocella tinctoria*, DC.

LITTLEGOOD, a plant so called on the Eastern Border (Johnst.) to distinguish it from the Allgood, *Euphorbia helioscopia*, L.

LIVELONG or LIBLONG, from its remaining alive hung up in a room. Brande in Pop. Ant. says that it is a habit with girls to set up two plants of it, one for themselves, and another for their lover, upon a slate or trencher, on Midsummer eve, and to estimate the lover's fidelity by his plant living and turning to their's, or not. The name should probably be "Livelong and Liblong" (Live long and Love long). See MIDSUMMER MEN.

*Sedum telephium*, L.

LIVERWORT, from the liver shape of the thallus, and its supposed effects in disease of the liver. See Brunschwygk, b. ii, c. 11. *Marchantia polymorpha*, L.

„ GROUND-, *Peltidea canina*, Ach.

„ NOBLE-, in America called *Liverleaf*, and from its three-lobed leaves supposed to be, as Lyte tells us, b. i. ch. 40, "a sovereign medicine against the heate and inflammation of the liver," *Anemone hepatica*, L.

LOBGRASS, from *lob*, or *lop*, to loll or hang about, as in *loblolly*, etc., so called from its hanging panicles,

*Bromus mollis*, L.

LOCKEN GOWANS, or LOCKRON GOWLANS, closed gooles or marigolds, see GOWAN and GOLDIN, *Caltha palustris*, L.

LOGGERHEADS, from the resemblance of its knobbed involucre to a weapon so called, consisting of a ball of iron at the end of a stick, the knapweed, the Clobbewed of old MSS. *Centaurea nigra*, L.

LONDON PRIDE, a name given in the first place to a speckled Sweet William, from its being a plant of which

London might be proud, and similar to that of the Mountain Pride, the Pride of India, and the Pride of Barbadoes, (see Parkinson's *Parad.* p. 320,) but of late years transferred to a saxifrage, which is commonly supposed to be so called, because it is one of the few flowers that will grow in the dingy lanes of a town. See Seeman's *Journal*, vol. i. It is understood, however, upon apparently good authority, that of Mr. R. Heward in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, to have been given to this latter plant in reference to the person who introduced it into cultivation, Mr. London, of the firm of London and Wise, the celebrated Royal Gardeners of the early part of the last century. *Saxifraga umbrosa*, L.

LONDON ROCKET, called *rocket* from its leaves resembling those of an eruca, and *London* from its springing up abundantly among the ruins left by the Great fire of 1667, *Sisymbrium Irio*, L.

LONG PURPLES, of Shakspeare's *Hamlet*, iv. 7, supposed to be the purple flowered *Orchis mascula*, L.

LOOSESTRIFE, a translation of the Lat. *lysimachia*, as though the plant were called so from its stopping strife, Gr. *λυσι* and *μαχη*. Pliny tells us that the name was given to it after a certain king Lysimachus, but, nevertheless, in deference to a popular notion, he adds that, if it be laid on the yoke of oxen, when they are quarrelling, it will quiet them. *Lysimachia vulgaris*, L.

„ PURPLE-, *Lythrum Salicaria*, L.

LORDS AND LADIES, from children so calling the flower-spikes, as they find them to be purple or white, a name of recent introduction, to replace certain older, and generally very indecent ones, *Arum maculatum*, L.

LOUSE-BERRY TREE, from its fruit having once been used to destroy lice in children's heads; Loudon, *Arb. Brit.* ii. 406, the spindle tree, *Evonymus europæus*, L.

*Louse*, A.S. Dan. Sw. *lus*, G. *laus*, of uncertain origin.

LOUSE-BUR, from its burs, or seed-pods, clinging like lice to the clothes, *Xanthium strumarium*, L.

LOUSE-WORT, "because," says Gerarde, p. 913, "it filleth sheep and other cattle, that feed in meadows where this groweth full of lice." Pedicularis, L.

LOVAGE, in Pr. Pm. spelt *Love-ache*, as though it were love-parsley, Fr. *levesche*, corruptions of Lat. *levisticum*, whence also G. *liebstockel*, L. officinale, Ko.

LOVE, the virgin's bower, "The gentlewomen call it Love," says Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 384, from its habit of embracing, perhaps, Clematis vitalba, L.

LOVE-APPLES, L. *poma amoris*, Fr. *pommes d'amour*, from It. *pomi dei Mori*, Moors' apples, having been introduced as *mala aethiopica*, Solanum lycopersicum, L.

LOVE-IN-A-MIST, or -IN-A-PUZZLE, from its flower being enveloped in a dense entanglement of finely divided bracts, Nigella damascena, L.

LOVE IN IDLENESS, or LOVE AND IDLE, or, with more accuracy, LOVE IN IDLE, *i.e.* in vain, the pansy, a name that perpetuates a current phrase, as in the couplet,

"When passions are let loose without a bridle,  
Then precious time is turned to *love and idle*;"

Taylor.

but why it was attached to this flower, we are not informed. Viola tricolor, L.

LOVE-LIES-BLEEDING, from the resemblance of its crimson flower-spike to a stream of blood, although the particular story to which it refers is forgotten,

Amaranthus caudatus, L.

LOVEMAN, a name given by Turner to the goosegrass, to express the Gr. *φιλανθρωπος*, from its clinging to people, Galium aparine, L.

LOWRY, L. *laurea*, adj. of *laurus*, laurel, the spurge laurel, so called from its evergreen leaves, Daphne laureola, L.

LUCERNE, apparently from the Swiss canton of that name, but Diez says that its derivation is unknown. By some of the older herbalists the sainfoin was called so.

Medicago sativa, L.

LUJULA, contracted from It. *Alleluola*, dim. of *Alleluia*; see HALLELUJAH.

LUNARIE, L. *lunaria*, from *luna*, moon. It is difficult to discover what plant our ancient writers intended by this name. Askham in his *Lytel Herball* describes it as one that "shineth by night, and he bryngeth forth purple floures and rounde as a kockebell, or els like to foxegloves. The leves be round and blewe, and have the marke of the Moone in the myddes, as it were the thre leved grasse, but the leves thereof be more, and they be rounde as a peny, and the stalke of this herbe is reed, and this herbe semeth as it were muske, and the joyce thereof is yelowe. And this groweth in the newe moone without leafe, and every day spryngeth a newe leafe to the end of fyftene dayes, and after fyftene dayes it looseth every daye a leafe, as the Moone waneth; and it spryngeth and waneth as doth the Moone." W. C. [Walter Carey or Wm. Copland] in his *Lytel Herball* says, that "this herbe hath yelowe flowers hole and rounde as a kockebell." But, as Parkinson observes, *Th. Bot.* p. 508, "there are so many herbes called by the name of *Lunaria*, that it would make any man wonder how so many should be so called. Gesner hath collected them all, and set them forth in a tractate by itself." As at present understood, it is the fern called Moon-wort from its semilunar fronds.

*Botrychium Lunaria*, L.

LUNG-FLOWER, a translation of Gr. *πνευμονανθη*, from *πνευμων*, lungs, and *ανθος*, flower,

*Gentiana pneumonanthe*, L.

*Lung*, the same word in all Germanic languages, O.H.G. *lungele*, and related to G. *luft*, air, and apparently to Gr. *λυγξ*, sobbing, Icel. *lycta*, breathe, Da. *lugte*, smell.

LUNG-WORT, L. *pulmonaria*, from *pulmo*, lungs, being supposed, from its spotted leaves, to be a remedy for diseased lungs,

*P. officinalis*, L.

„ TREE-

*Sticta pulmonaria*, Hook.

LUPINE, L. *lupinus*, apparently related to Gr. *λοπος* or *λοβος*, a husk, and *λεπω*, hull or peel. Wedgwood derives it, with a brilliant indifference to geography, from a Polish word, without attempting to explain how the ancient inhabitants of Italy became acquainted with that language, or how they should have adopted a name for one of their own indigenous plants from a barbarous people that never cultivated it, and who were probably quite unknown to them till centuries after its common use in the south of Europe.

Lupinus, L.

LUSTWORT, translated from Du. *loopich-cruydt*, which, according to Dodoens, has that meaning, and has been given to the plant, he says, "quia acrimonia sua sopitum Veneris desiderium excitet."

Drosera, L.

LYME-GRASS, from L. *elymus*,

E. *Europæus*, L.

LYON'S SNAP, from L. *Leontostomium*, Gr. *λεοντος*, and *στομιον*, the snapdragon, *snap* having formerly had the meaning of the Gr. *στομιον*, a little mouth,

*Antirrhinum majus*, L.

MADDER, in old MSS. *madyr*, from the plural of L.Ger. *made*, a worm, and called in an Anglo-Saxon MS. of the thirteenth century *vermiculum*. See Mayer and Wright, p. 139. *Made*, is the same word as the Go. and A.S. *māða*, whence *mad*, used by Tusser for a maggot, and *moth*, which properly means the worm "that fretteth the garment," and not its winged imago, a word related to Go. *matjan*, eat, L. *mandere*, its root *mad*. The name was applied to the plant now called so from confusion with another red dye, that was the product of worms, viz. the *cocci ilicis*, which infest the *Quercus coccifera*, L. and which were called in the middle ages *vermiculi*, whence Fr. *vermeil* and *vermillon*, a term now transferred to a mineral colour.

*Rubia tinctorum*, L.

MADNEP, the mead-nape, or -parsnep, or, as it was once spelt, pas-nep. From Gerarde's assertion that "if a

phreneticke or melancholie man's head be anointed with oyle wherein the leaves and roots have been sodden, it helpeth him very much," it would seem as though *pas-nep* was misunderstood as It. *pazzo-napo*, mad turnip, and *mead* conformably changed to *mad*. The cow-parsnep, or clog-weed,

Heracleum sphondylium, L.

MAD-WORT, Du. *meed*, madder, for which its root was used,

Asperugo procumbens, L.

MAGHET, maid, flos virgineus, Gr. *παρθενιον*, a name given to many radiate compositæ with white ray-florets, says Stapel in Theophrast. p. 833, b, "quod morbis mulierum uterinis medeantur;" an idea suggested by their fancied resemblance to the moon. See MATTHES.

Anthemis, Chrysanthemum, Parthenium, Bellis, Matricaria.

MAIDEN HAIR, from its hair-like fine stalks,

Adiantum capillus Veneris, L.

according to Lobel, Kruidtboek, p. 126, the name of *Mayden heere* was in his time given to the Bog asphodel "om dat de jonge dochters haer hayr daermede geel maecken;" because young girls make their hair yellow with it. This fashion of dyeing the hair yellow was very prevalent in the middle ages, but the lye of wood ashes was most generally used for the purpose, and as the employment of this plant is not noticed by other writers, nor any such name given to it, he was probably mistaken. See MAID'S HAIR.

Narthecium ossifragum, L.

MAIDEN-HAIR-GRASS, Ger. in Bauhin's Th. Bot. *junfrauen haar*, but by Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 1166, spelt *Mead Hair-grass*, in either case from its delicate hair-like stalks,

Briza media, L.

MAIDEN-PINK, a mistake for MEAD-PINK, G. *wiesen-nelke*, a pink that grows in meadows, Dianthus deltoides, L.

MAID'S HAIR, from its soft flocculent habit, like the loose un-snooded hair of maidens, and its yellow colour, to which such frequent allusion is made by Chaucer and other romance writers. Even so late as Henry the 8th's reign

Horman says "Maydens were silken callis, with the whiche they keepe in ordre theyr heare made yelowē with lye." See Way's Promp. Pm. p. 294. Galium verum, L.

MAITHES, that is *maids*, A.S. *mægð*, from Gr. *παρθενιον*, because, says W. Coles, "it is effectual against those distempers of the womb to which virgins are subject," meaning hysterics, and other irregularities of the system. It is called in Pr. Pm. and other old works *Mayde-wede*, *mayde-wode*, *maydenwede*, *maythys*, etc. See MAGHET, and MAUDLIN-WORT. Pyrethrum Parthenium, L.

„ RED-, or RED MAYDE-WEED, from its having been classed with the composite flowers called *maithes*, and its crimson colour, Adonis autumnalis, L.

MAKEBATE, because, says Skinner, "if it is put into the bed of a married couple, it sets them quarrelling," but a mere translation of its Latin name as if from *πολεμος*, war, Polemonium cæruleum, L.

MALLOW, Gr. *μαλαχη*, soft. Malva.

„ MARSH-, Althæa officinalis, L.

„ MUSK-, M. moschata, L.

„ TREE-, Lavatera arborea, L.

MANDRAKE, Gr. *μανδραγορας*, a plant of which many extraordinary tales are related in the writings of the ancients, and generally believed to have been one nearly related to the Deadly night-shade. See Hogg in Hooker's Journal, 2nd ser. vol. i. p. 132. Fraudulent dealers usually replaced its roots with those of the white bryony cut to the shape of men and women, and dried in a hot sand bath. See Brown's Popular Errors, b. ii. ch. 6; Tragus, ch. cxxvi; and Stapel in Theophrast. p. 583. Bryonia dioica, L.

MANGEL WURZEL, literally "scarcity root," but originally *Mangold*, a word of unknown meaning, and as *Mengel* or *Menwel* applied to docks,

Beta vulgaris, L. var. hybrida, Sal.

MANNA-GRASS, from the sweet taste of the seed, Glyceria fluitans, RB.

MAP LICHEN, from the curious map-like figures formed by its thallus on flat stones, Lichen geographicus, L.

MAPLE, A.S. *mapel-treow*, or *mapulder*, in Pr. Pm. *mapulle*, a word of general use throughout England, as is shown by the number of places named after the tree; but of very obscure origin. Its foreign synonyms nearly all refer to the maser bowls that were made of its wood, and there can be very little doubt that the A.S. name was also taken from this use of it, as a bowl wood. It may possibly be a form of the G. *magele* or *magell*, a tankard, corrupted from L. *macula*, a spot, in allusion to its knotty spotted grain; or a misapplication of the L. *mappula*, a napkin used at dinner, to the bowl, *malluvium*, which it accompanied; (a bowl of water and a napkin having in the middle ages, as well as in Greek and Roman times, been carried round to every guest;) or a corruption of L. *navulus*, a small mole or mark. It does not seem to be a word of Germanic origin. See MASER-TREE. *Acer campestre*, L.

MARAM, either the Gael. *muram*, or, as is more probable, the Fris. and Dan. *marhalm*, sea-haulm or straw, the mat-weed, Psamma arenaria, PB.

MARCH or MERCH, the old name of Parsley, preserved in *Stannmarch*, the Alexander, and in the G. *wasser-merke*, and Da. *vand-merke*, celery, formed either from L. *amaracus*, Gr. ἀμαρακος, some unknown sweet herb, or, by a series of corruptions, from L. *armoracia*, in the fifteenth century called in German *merich* and *mirrich*, and to this day in Wetterau *mirch*. In A.S. the parsley is called *merce*, *meric*, and *merici*. See L. Diefenbach, Or. Eur. No. 26. Apium, L.

MARE-BLOBS, from A.S. *mere* and *myre*, a marsh, and also a mare, and *blob* or *bleb*, a bladder, so called from its round flower-buds, Caltha palustris, L.

MARE'S-TAIL, a plant called in old herbals "Female Horse-tail," Lat. *cauda equina femina*, being looked upon as the female of the larger and stronger Equisetum fluvia-



tile. Modern botanists, following Hudson, have shifted the hyphen, and chosen to understand the name as "Female-horse Tail," or "Mare's tail." *Hippuris vulgaris*, L.

*Mare*, A.S. *myre*, *mere*, *mære*, L.G. *mære*, Dan. *mär*, Wel. and Br. *march*, an old word mentioned by Pausanias, who gives, as the Celtic name of a horse, *μαρκαν*; in later times probably confused with Fr. *mère*, a mother, a dam, as was the young mare, the filly, with Fr. *fille*.

MARGUERITE, the daisy, in Chaucer *Margarette*, from the French, probably so called, as Forster suggests in the Perenn. Cal. on the 22nd Feb. from its blossoming about the time of the anniversary of St. Margaret, the patroness of women in childbirth. See MAGHET. *Bellis perennis*, L.

MARIET, the Coventry bell, its French name, L. *viola Mariana*,  
*Campanula urticifolia*, Sal.

MARIGOLD, called in the Grete Herbal *Mary Gowles*, a name that seems to have originated from the A.S. *mersc-mear-gealla*, marsh-horse-gowl, the marsh marigold, or caltha, transferred to the exotic plant of our gardens, and misunderstood as "Mary gold." Its foreign synonyms have no reference to the Virgin Mary, but in the Sloane MS. 5, *Oculus Christi* is said to be the same as *calendula*, and *solsequium*, the *Seynte Marie rode*. It is often mentioned by the older poets under the name of *Gold* simply.

*Calendula officinalis*, L.

„ CORN, from its place of growth, and yellow flowers,  
*Chrysanthemum segetum*, L.

„ MARSH-, A.S. *mersc-mear-gealla*, the second term of which, meaning properly "horse," has been understood as "Mary." See MARE-BLOBS, and GOOL.

*Caltha palustris*, L.

MARJORAM, L. *majorana*, with change of *n* to *m*, as in Lime, Holm, etc. *Origanum Majorana*, L.

MARSH ASPHODEL, a plant of the Asphodel tribe growing on moors,  
*Narthecium ossifragum*, L.

*Marsh*, clearly an adjective, *marsh*, from *mar* or *mere*,

a pool, and originally meaning watery land, called in a Latin document of King Hlotharius *pascua merisca*. See Outzen, p. 203.

MARSH-BEETLE, or -PESTLE, from its shape, the reed-mace,

MARSH-CISTUS,

MARSH-ELDER,

MARSH-FERN,

MARSH-HOLYROSE,

MARSH-MALLOW,

MARSH-MARIGOLD,

MARSH-PARSLEY,

MARSH-PENNIWORT,

MARSH-TREFOIL,

MARSH-WORTS,

MARY-BUD, in *Cymbeline*, A. ii. sc. 3,

*Typha latifolia*, L.

*Ledum palustre*, L.

*Viburnum opulus*, L.

*Aspidium Thelypteris*, Sw.

*Andromeda polifolia*, L.

*Althæa officinalis*, L.

*Caltha palustris*, L.

*Apium graveolens*, L.

*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, L.

*Menyanthes trifoliata*, L.

*Vaccinium oxycoccos*, L.

“And winking *Marybuds* begin  
To ope their golden eyes:”

the marigold of which in *Winter's Tale*, A. iv. sc. 3, we read as

“The Marigold that goes to bed with the sun,  
And with him rises weeping:”

in allusion to its flowers, which, as Lyte says, “do close at the setting downe of the sunne, and do spread and open againe at the sunne rising:” a phenomenon to which the older poets allude with great delight, both in respect to this flower and the daisy. *Calendula officinalis*, L.

MASER-TREE, the maple, from the bowls or drinking cups, called *masers*, being made from the knotty parts of its wood called in O.H.G. *masar*, whence M.Lat. *scyphi maserini*, Du. *maes-hout*, from *maese*, a spot, O.H.G. *mazel-dera*, *masel-tree*, whence G. *massholder*. Bowls of the same shape were made of silver and gold, and called by the same name, as in a tale in Ritson's *Ancient Popular poetry*, p. 77,

“Pecys of syluyr, *masers* of golde.”

See Pr. Pm. p. 328, Way's note. *Acer campestre*, L.

MASTER-WORT, a translation of its Latin name, *Imperatoria*, which was probably given to it after some emperor unknown, but understood by the herbalists as indicating the masterly virtues of the plant,

I. *Ostruthium*, L.

MATFELLON, from L. *maratriphyllon*, fennel-leaf, Gr. *μαραθρου φυλλον*, called in the Ort. Sanit. c. 432, and in the Grete Herball, *Marefolon*, in Gerarde *Matfellow*, in Dodoens *Materfillon* and “*Matrefilon*, voce, ut apparet, corrupta,” in W. Coles *Madefelon*, in Parkinson “*Matrefillon*,” in old MSS. *Mattefelone*, *Maundefelune*, *Madfeloun*, etc. The Lat. *maratriphyllon*, the source of all these barbarous terms, seems in the first place to have been given to the Water violet, *Hottonia*, on account of its finely divided fennel-like leaves, and this is the plant which bears the name in Lobel and Pena's *Kruydtboek*, 1581, p. 965. From this it would seem to have been extended to other so called violets, viz. the genus *Viola*, and the centauries. Thus in the Grete Herball, cap. cccii, we read “*Jacea*, *Herba clavellata*, *Torquea*, *Marefolon*. *Jacea* is an herbe,” etc. In H. Brunswygk these synonyms are assigned to the Pansy. p. xlix. “*Freissam krut von den kriecken torqueta*, und von den arabischen *marefolon* genant, und in latin *yacea* oder *herba clavellata*, ouch von ettichen dreifaltigkeit blumen genant umb dreyerley farb siner blumen, gelb, blow, und weyss.” In the *Ortus Sanitatis* also it is figured and described as a Pansy, under the German name *Freyschem-kraut*, *epilepsy-wort*, and entitled “*Jacea vel herba clavelata*, Latine, grece *torqueta*, arabice *marefolon*.” *Jacea* being extended to the genus *Centaury* has carried the name from the violet tribe to the knapweed, but under the corrupt form of *Matfellow*; and this seems to have suggested the application of the plant to *felons* or boils. So Matthioli in *Dioscor.* l. iv, ch. ii, says

of it "Anthracibus sive carbunculis pestiferis utiliter illinita, adeo ut illita hos lethales abscessus trium dierum spatio prorsus abolere existimatur." It is to be remarked that Matthioli is singularly fond of these exemplifications of a name, as we have seen above in the case of the dogwood, and very generally misunderstands its meaning.

Centaurea nigra, L.

MAT-GRASS, or SMALL MAT-WEED, from its dense mat-like tufts,

Nardus stricta, L.

MAT-WEED, from its use in making mats,

Psamma arenaria, R.S.

and also the cord-grass, because, as Gerard says, p. 39, "these kindes of grassie or rather rushie reede serve for to make mats and hangings for chambers, frailes, baskets, and such like, and the people of the country where they grow do make beds of them, and strawe their houses and chambers with them, insteede of rushes."

Spartina stricta, L.

MATHER, or MAUTHER, A.S. *mægeðe*, from *mægð*, a maid, as in Tusser :

"A sling for a mather, a bow for a boy."

In Essex and Norfolk a great girl is still called a "mauther." The name is a translation of the Gr. *παρθενιον*. See MAITHES.

Anthemis Cotula, L.

MAUDELIN, or MAWDELEYN, from *Magdalen*, in Languedoc called *Herba divæ Mariæ*, Lyte, b. ii. ch. 67.

Achillæa Ageratum, L.

MAUDLIN WORT, G. *mügdelein*, maiden, the moon daisy, which, from its fancied resemblance to the full moon, was dedicated to Diana, and believed to be of service in the complaints peculiar to young women, of whom, from her regulating the monthly period, she was the patroness. See MAITHES.

Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum, L.

MAULE, the mallow, It. and Sp. *maula*, by transposition of the *u*, from L. *malva*,

M. sylvestris, L.

MAWSEED, G. *magsamen*, Pol. *mak*, Gr. *μηκων*, poppy,  
Papaver somniferum, L.

MAWTHER, see MATHER.

MAY-BUSH, or MAY, from the month of its blossoming,  
the hawthorn, Cratægus oxyacantha, L.

MAY-LILY, the lily of the valley.

MAY-WEED, from *may*, a maiden, Da. *mö*, Ic. *mey*, Gr.  
*παρθενιον*, and not from the month, a plant used for the  
complaints of young women. See MAGHET, and MAUDLIN  
WORT. Pyrethrum parthenium, L.

” ” STINKING-, Matricaria Chamomilla, L.

MAY-WORT, from the month of its flowering,  
Galium cruciatum, L.

MAZZARDS, from Lat. *manzar*, explained in Pr. Pm. by  
“spurius, pelignus,” being a wild, a spurious cherry,  
Prunus avium, L.

MEAD-SWEET, the meadwort, see MEADOW-SWEET.

MEADOW BOUTS, Fr. *bouton d'or*, the wild bachelor but-  
ton, Caltha palustris, L.

MEADOW CLARY, Salvia pratensis, L.

MEADOW CRESS, Cardamine pratensis, L.

MEADOW PARSNIP, Heracleum sphondylium, L.

MEADOW RUE, from its finely divided rue-like leaves,  
whence its name in old writers Peganon or Pigamon, from  
Gr. *πηγανον*, rue, Thalictrum flavum, L.

MEADOW SAFFRON, from the resemblance of its flowers  
to those of the crocus or true saffron,  
Colchicum autumnale, L.

MEADOW SAXIFRAGE, from its leaves resembling those of  
the burnet saxifrage, Silaus pratensis, L.

MEADOW SWEET, an ungrammatical and ridiculous name,  
a corruption of *mead-wort*, A.S. *mede-* or *medu-wyrt*, Da.  
*miöd-urt*, Sw. *miöd-ört*, the *mead-* or *honey-wine-herb*. Hill  
tells us in his Herbal, p. 23, that “the flowers mixed with  
mead give it the flavour of the Greek wines,” and this is  
unquestionably the source of the word. Nennich also

says that it gives beer, and various wines, and other drinks an agreeable flavour. The Latin *Regina prati*, meadow's queen, seems to have misled our herbalists to form the strangely compounded name now in use. *Mead*, A.S. and O.Germ. *medo*, and essentially the same word in all the Germanic, and in the Slavonian, Lithuanian, and other languages of Eastern Europe, is the Skr. *madhu*, Gr. *μεθυ*, an intoxicating drink, and a word that indicates the Asiatic origin of the beverage of the North.

*Spiræa ulmaria*, L.

MEAD-WORT, or MEDE-WORT, the old and correct name of the so-called Meadow-sweet. See above.

MEAL-BERRY, A.S. *melu*, meal, from the floury character of the cellular structure of its fruit,

*Arbutus uva ursi*, L.

MEALY-TREE, from the mealy surface of the young shoots and leaves,

*Viburnum Lantana*, L.

MEDICK, L. *Medica*, a plant that, according to Pliny, Hist. Nat. b. xviii, c. 43, was introduced into Greece by the Medes of the army of Darius, and from which other species of the same genus have taken the name,

*Medicago*, L.

MEDLAR, called in Normandy and Anjou *meslier*, from L. *mespilus*, and as the verb *mesler* became in English *meddle*, so the fruit also, although a word of different origin, took a *d* for an *s*, and became *medlar*.

*M. germanica*, L.

MELANCHOLY GENTLEMAN, from its sad colour,

*Hesperis tristis*, L.

MELILOT, L. *melilotus*, Gr. *μελιλωτος*, from *μελι*, honey, and *λωτος*, a name applied by Greek writers to some very different plant from the one at present called so,

*M. officinalis*, L.

MELON, a word derived in the dictionaries from L. *melo-pepo*, but more probably an augmentative of its first two

syllables *melo*, from Gr. *μηλον*, an apple, Fr. and Sp. *melon*,  
M.Lat. *melo*, Cucumis melo, L.

MERCHE, see MARCHÉ.

MERCURY, a name rather vaguely applied in old works,  
and now limited to a poisonous weed, from the god Mer-  
cury, in respect of some fancied activity in its operation ;  
or, according to Pliny, from its having been discovered by  
him ;

Mercurialis perennis, L.

„ ENGLISH-, Chenopodium Bonus Henricus, L.

MERCURY'S MOIST BLOOD, a term unexplained,

Verbena officinalis, L.

MERCURY'S VIOLET, the Mariet,

Campanula urticifolia, Sal.

MERRY, Fr. *merise*, mistaken for a plural noun, as cherry  
from cerise, L. *mericea*, adj. of *merica*, some unknown berry  
mentioned by Pliny, the wild cherry, Prunus avium, L.

MEW, Gr. *μηρον*,

Meum Athamanticum, L.

MICHAELMAS DAISY, from its resemblance to a daisy, and  
its season of flowering, Aster Tradescanti, L.

MIDSUMMER MEN, from a custom of girls to try their  
lover's fidelity with it on Midsummer eve. See LIVELONG.

Sedum telephium, L.

MIGNONETTE, dim. of Fr. *mignon*, darling, from G. *minne*,  
love, a name applied in France to several very different  
plants, but not to ours, which is there called, as in Latin,  
“ Reseda,”

R. odorata, L.

MILDEW, M.Lat. *mel roris*, honey of dew, as in Ort.  
Sanit. ch. 403, but called in A.S. *mele-deaw*, as though  
from *melu*, meal, in allusion to its powdery appearance,

Erisipha, DC.

MILFOIL, Fr. *mille* and *feuilles*, L. *mille foliola*, from the  
numerous fine segments of its leaves, a name at present  
given to the yarrow,

Achillæa millefolium, L.

„ HOODED-,

Utricularia, L.

„ WATER-,

Myriophyllum, L.

and also

Hottonia palustris, L.

MILKY PARSLEY, from its milky juice,

Selinum palustre, L.

*Milk*, A.S. *meole* and *meoluc*, Go. *miluks*, Sw. *miölk*, G. *milch*, Slav. *mleko*, Rus. *moloko*, connected with the Gr. verb ἀμελγω, milk, and more remotely with γαλα, γαλακτος, and L. *lac*, *lactis*, a word of unknown origin.

MILK-THISTLE, see BLESSED THISTLE.

MILK-VETCH, from a belief that it increased the secretion of milk in the cattle fed on it, Astragalus, L.

MILK-WORT, from its "virtues in procuring milk in the breasts of nurses," says Gerarde, p. 450,

Polygala vulgaris, L.

MILL-MOUNTAIN, from the Lat. *cha-mæl-inum montanum*, Gr. χαμαι-λινον, ground flax, Linum catharticum, L.

MILLET, Fr. *millet*, It. *miglietto*, dim. of *miglio*, from L. *milium*, a name, which, for want of good distinctive terms, is popularly extended to several different species of the genera, Milium, Panicum, and Sorghum.

MILTWASTE, so called, because, as W. Coles tells us, "Vitruvius saith, that the Swine in Candy by feeding thereon, were found to be without Spleens." He tells us further, that, "if the Asse be oppressed with melancholy, he eates of this Herbe, Asplenium, or Miltwaste, and so eases himself of the swelling of the spleen." Gerarde says, p. 1141, that "it taketh away infirmities of the spleen," a notion suggested, on the doctrine of signatures, by the lobular milt-like outline of the leaf in the species to which the name was originally given, the Ceterach; a species which is now rather inconsistently made the type of a genus bearing this last name of "Ceterach," while another set of plants, in no respect resembling a spleen, are called Spleenworts, and Miltwastes. The enlarged spleen, called ague-cake, was that which it was supposed to waste or diminish. Asplenium, L.

*Milt*, a word of uncertain origin, as are the names of several other internal organs of the body, but the same in



all the Germanic languages, It. *miltza*, supposed to be a form of *milk*, as though the milt, or soft roe of fish had been regarded as their milk, and the name been extended to the spleen of other animals.

MINT, L. *mentha*, Gr. *μνθη*.

„ BERGAMOT-,

M. *citrata*, Ehr.

„ BROOK-, or HORSE-, or WATER-,

M. *sylvestris*, L.

„ PEPPER-,

M. *piperita*, L.

„ SPEAR-,

M. *viridis*, L.

MISTLETOE, A.S. *mistiltan*, from *mistl*, different, and *tan*, twig, being so unlike the tree it grows upon,

*Viscum album*, L.

MITHRIDATE MUSTARD, so named after Mithridates, a king of Pontus, who invented, as an antidote to all poisons, the famous preparation called, from the vipers and other venomous reptiles in it, *Theriaca*, and which, among 72 different ingredients, contained this plant. His remedy was used as a vermifuge, and retained in the London Pharmacopeia till about 100 years ago, and was the source of the tales so popular in the middle ages of sorcerers eating poisons.

*Thlaspi arvense*, L.

MITHRIDATE PEPPERWORT, *Lepidium campestre*, Br.

MOCK-PLANE, the sycamore, a translation of its Latin specific name,

*Acer Pseudoplatanus*, L.

MONEY-FLOWER, from its glittering round dissepiments left after the falling of the seed,

*Lunaria biennis*, L.

MONEY-WORT, from its round leaves,

*Lysimachia nummularia*, L.

„ CORNISH-, from its round leaves, and its growing in Cornwall,

*Sibthorpia Europæa*, L.

MONKSHOOD, from the resemblance of the upper sepal to the cowl of a monk,

*Aconitum Napellus*, L.

MONK'S RHUBARB, according to Tabernæmontanus, p. 824, so called, "dieweil die wurzel der Rhabarbaren ähnlich ist, und von den Barfüßern und Carthäusern in den klostern



eine zeitlang heimlich gehalten." According to Parkinson, from its being the dock described as a rhubarb by the monks who commented upon Mesues.

Rumex Patientia, L.

MOON DAISY, a large daisy-like flower resembling the pictures of a full moon, *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*, L.

*Moon*, A.S. *mona*, G. *mond*, Sw. *mâne*, and essentially the same word in all the other Germanic languages, Gr. *μηνή*, Lith. *menù*, Zend. *mào*, making in the accusative *màonham*, Skr. *más*, from a root *ma*, measure, whence the Pers. *mah*, L. *mensis*, G. *monat* and our *month*, the A.S. *monað*, from the periods of the moon having been used to measure time.

MOON-WORT, from the semilunar shape of the leaves,

*Botrychium lunaria*, Sw.

MOOR-BALLS, from their globular form and occurrence upon moors,

*Ægagrophila*, L.

*Moor*, Du. *moer*, Da. and Sw. *mor*, G. *moor*, a word of unknown derivation.

MOOR-GRASS,

*Sesleria cærulea*, Scop.

MOOR-WHIN, or MOSS-WHIN, a whin that grows on bleak heaths and mosses,

*Genista anglica*, L.

MOOR-WORT, see WORTS,

*Andromeda polifolia*, L.

MORE, in our early writers, an edible root, a carrot, or parsnip, or skirret, like the G. *möhre*, but at the present day used in our western counties for a root generally; possibly formed, as Diefenbach suggests, Or. Eur. No. 27, from L. *armoracia*. In the Ort. San. clxii, the carrot is called *Moren*.

MOREL, Fr. *morelle*, It. *morello*, dim. of *moro*, a Moor, L. *Maurus*, so called from its black berries,

„ GREAT-, the deadly nightshade,

*Atropa Belladonna*, L.

„ PETTY-, the garden nightshade,

*Solanum nigrum*, L.

also a fungus, Fr. *morille*,

*Morchella esculenta*, P.

MORGELINE, from the French, *L. mors galline*, the henbit,  
*Veronica hederacea*, L.

MOSCHATELL, It. *moscatellina*, from *L. moschus*, musk, through *mosco*, *moscade*, musky, and its dim. *moscadello*, so called from its faint musky odour,

*Adoxa moscatellina*, L.

Moss, Fr. *mousse*, *L. muscus*.

MOSS-BERRY, or MOOR-BERRY, the cranberry, from its growing on moors, or mosses, *Vaccinium oxycoccus*, L.

*Moss*, O.Sw. *mose*, *mossa*, locus uliginosus.

MOSS CHAMPION, from its moss-like growth,

*Silene acaulis*, L.

MOSS-CROPS, from *crop*, a head of flowers, and its place of growth. Ray says that in Westmoreland it is called by this name, because sheep are fond of it. In his etymology he is certainly wrong, whatever may be the truth as to the sheep. It means merely moor-flowers.

*Eriophorum vaginatum*, L.

MOSS-RUSH, from its growing on heaths,

*Juncus squarrosus*, L.

MOTHER OF TIME, a name, the meaning of which is unexplained. Its German synonym *Quendel* and some others would lead us to suppose that it ought to be *Mother-Time*. See below MOTHER-WORT. *Thymus Serpyllum*, L.

*Mother*, one of a highly interesting group of terms, that in all the Ind-European languages indicate the family affinities, and are undoubtedly traceable to the first primeval stock of our race in Upper Asia, A.S. *moder*, L. *mater*, Gr. *μητηρ*, Skr. *mâtar*, the agent of a verb *mâ*, but the meaning of the verb obscure. Bopp considers it as equivalent to G. *messen*, measure; Schweitzer in an excellent article on the subject in the *Denkschrift f.d. Alterthumswissenschaft*, 1846, No. 77, would interpret it "her-  
 vorbringen," produce, and regards it as the root of Skr. *matr*, creator, used in the Rig Veda, and of A.S. *metod*.

MOTHERWORT, so called, says Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 44,

from its being of wonderful helpe to women in the suffocation and risings of the *mother*, a use of the word *mother* in the sense of womb, adopted from the Flemish or German. Macer, as translated by another herbalist, Dr. Linacre, explains it as called so, because "it helpeth a woman to conceyve a chyld." Leonurus Cardiaca, L.

„ also in old works the mugwort, which, from its being used in uterine diseases, was called *moder-wort*, womb-wort, a name that was wrongly translated into *mater herbarum*, as though it meant "mother-of-worts." Thus Macer,

"*Herbarum matrem* justum putō ponere primum :  
Præcipue morbis muliebribus illa medetur."

See MUGWORT.

*Artemisia vulgaris*, L.

MOULD, in ink and other fluids, usually

*Hygrocrocis*, Ag.

MOULDINESS,

*Aspergillus*, Mich.

MOUNTAIN ASH, from its pinnate leaves called an *Ash*,  
the wild service tree,

*Pyrus aucuparia*, L.

MOUNTAIN COWSLIP,

*Primula auricula*, L.

MOUNTAIN ELM, the wych elm,

*Ulmus montana*, L.

MOUNTAIN FERN,

*Aspidium Oreopteris*, Sw.

MOUNTAIN SORREL,

*Oxyria reniformis*, L.

MOUSE-BARLEY, G. *Maus-gerste*, from its Latin specific name *murinum*, which by mistake was given to this plant, instead of *murale*, to mean wall-barley; "weil es von sich selbst auf den Mawren wächst;" says Tragus,

*Hordeum murinum*, L.

*Mouse*, a word widely extended through the Indo-European languages, A.S. O.H.G. Sw. Da. Lat. *mus*, Gr. *μῦς*, Pers. *musch*, Skr. *múshas*, and usually derived from the verb *mush*, "steal."

MOUSE-EAR, from the shape of the leaf,

*Hieracium pilosella*, L.

*Ear*, A.S. *eare*, O.N. *eyra*, Sw. *öra*, G. *ohr*, Go. *auso*, which connects these northern forms of the word with L.

*auris*, and Gr. *οὖς, ὠτος*, in the Cretan and Laconian dialects *αὖς, αὐτος*, the *s* of the Greek being in the North replaced with *r*.

MOUSE-EAR CHICKWEED, *Cerastium vulgare*, L.

MOUSE-EAR SCORPION-GRASS, the plant now called "Forget me not," from its one-sided raceme being curved like that insect's tail, and its small soft oval leaves,

*Myosotis palustris*, L.

MOUSE-TAIL, from its slender cylindrical seed-spike,

*Myosurus minimus*, L.

MOUSE-TAIL GRASS, Martyn in *Fl. rustica*,

*Alopecurus agrestis*, L.

MOUTAN, from the Chinese *Meu-tang*, king of flowers,

*Pæonia moutan*, L.

MUDWORT, from its place of growth,

*Limosella aquatica*, L.

MUGGET, Fr. *muguet*, O.Fr. *musquet*, from L. *muscatus*, scented with musk, a name applied in French to several flowers, and to the nutmeg as *noix muguette*, in English to the lily of the valley, Fr. *muguet de Mai*,

*Convallaria majalis*, L.

MUGGET, PETTY-, Fr. *petit-muguet*, little dandy, a word applied to effeminate dressy young men, Jemmy Jessamies,

*Galium verum*, L.

MUGWEET, GOLDEN-, a corruption of Fr. *muguet*,

*Galium cruciatum*, L.

MUGWORT, A.S. *mug-* or *mæg-wyrt*, as if from *mæg*, a mow or heap, but perhaps from A.S. *mæg*, a maiden, as a translation of Gr. *Παρθεύς*, *virginalis*, and *Ἄρτεμις*, names that it took from the goddess *Ἄρτεμις*, or Diana, who, from being identified with the moon, and determining the monthly periods of the year, was supposed to preside over the diseases of maidens, for which this plant was administered. The name is explained by an old writer in MS. Arundel, 42, fol. 35, as a form of *Motherwort*. "Mogwort, al on as seyn some, modirwort: lewed folk

þat in manye wordes conne no rygt sownynge, but ofte shortyn wordys, and changyn lettrys and silablys, þey corruptyn þe o in to u, and d into g, and syncopyn i, smytyn away i and r, and seyn mugwort." In Ælfric's glossary it is called *matrum herba*. *Artemisia vulgaris*, L.

MULBERRY, L. *morus*, Gr. *μωρον*, a word of unknown origin, which was introduced into Greece with the tree,

*M. nigra*, L.

MULLEIN, or WHITE MULLEIN, the higtaper, Fr. *moleine*, the scab in cattle, O.Fr. *malen*, L. *malandrium*, the malanders or leprosy, whence *malandrin*, a brigand, from lepers having been driven from society, and forced to a lawless life. The term *malandre* was applied to other diseases of cattle, to lung diseases among the rest, and Marcellus Empiricus explains it as "morbus jumenti quo tussit." The hig-taper, being used for these, acquired its names of *Mullein*, and bullock's lungwort.

*Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

„ PETTY-, the cowslip. "Those herbes," says Gerarde, "which at this day are called Primroses, Cowslips, and Oxelips, are reckoned among the kinds of Mulleins, for that the ancients have named them *Verbasculi*, that is to saie, small Mulleins."

*Primula veris*, L.

MULLET, FLEABANE-, a plant used to destroy fleas, and called *mullet*, Fr. *mollet*, from its soft leaves,

*Inula dysenterica*, L.

MUSCOVY, or MUSK, from its odour,

*Erodium moschatum*, L'Her.

MUSHROOM, Fr. *mouscheron*, at present spelt *mousseron*, a name applied to several species of *Agaricus*, and derived by Diez from *mousse*, moss, with which it is difficult to see how mushrooms are connected. One of the most conspicuous of the genus, the *A. muscarius*, is used for the destruction of flies, *mousches*, and this seems to be the real source of the word, which, by a singular caprice of language, has been transferred from this poisonous species to

mean, in the popular acceptation of it, the wholesome kinds exclusively. The It. Sp. and Port. names are forms of the Lat. *fungus*.  
Agaricus, L.

MUSK ORCHIS, from its scent,

Herminium monorchis, R.B.

*Musk*, It. *musco*, Pers. *muschk*, Ar. *al-misk*.

MUSK THISTLE, from its scent, Carduus nutans, L.

MUSTARD, according to Diez, from L. *mustum*, new wine, which he says is used in preparing it. It seems far more likely to be the Sp. *mastuerzo*, from L. *nasturtium*, cress, so called, it is said, from *nasitortium*, a *naso torquendo*, alluding to the wry faces and sneezing that it causes.

Sinapis, L.

„ BOWYER'S-, see BOWYER'S-MUSTARD.

„ MITHRIDATE-, see MITHRIDATE-M.

„ WILD-, see CHARLOCK.

MYPE, Wel. *maip*, Gael. *neip*, given in Gerarde, p. 871, as a name of the parsnep, a corruption of L. *napus*, and properly meaning the turnip,  
Brassica rapa, L.

MYRTLE, It. *mirtillo*, dim. of *mirto*, L. *myrtus*, Gr. *μυρτος*,  
M. communis, L.

NAILWORT, perhaps more correctly *Agnail-wort*, the whitlow-grass, from its supposed curative powers, in cases of agnail, Draba verna, L. and Saxifraga tridactylites, L.

*Nail*, A.S. *nægel*, and nearly the same word in all Germanic languages, a derivative in *el* from a theme exhibited in Gr. *ὄνυξ*, *ὄνυχος*, L. *unguis*, a contraction (according to W. Smith) of *o-nugu-is*, Lith. *nagas*, Skr. *nakhas*.

NAKED LADIES, G. *nakte jungfern*, from the leafless pink flowers rising naked from the earth,

Colchicum autumnale, L.

NANCY PRETTY, the London Pride,

Saxifraga umbrosa, L.

NAP-AT-NOON, from its flowers closing at midday,

Tragopogon porrifolius, L.

NARCISSUS, Gr. *ναρκισσος*, from *ναρκωω*, become numb, related to Skr. *nark*, hell, so called from the torpidity caused by the odour of the flower, as remarked by Plutarch, who, in *Sympos. con.* 3, c. 1, says, *τον ναρκισσον, ως ἀμβλυνοντα τα νευρα και βαρνητητας ἐμποιουντα ναρκωδει· διο και ὁ Σοφοκλης αὐτον ἀρχαιον μεγαλων θεων στεφανωμα (τουτεστι των χθονιων) προσηγορευκε*: “Narcissus, as blunting the nerves, and causing narcotic heaviness: wherefore also Sophocles called it the ancient chaplet of the Great, (that is the Infernal,) gods.” The passage is quoted from an exquisite chorus of the *Ædipus at Colonos*, where, at l. 682, the original has *μεγαλαιν θεαιν*, the two great goddesses, meaning Ceres and Proserpine. The epithet which the poet here applies to the narcissus, *καλλιβοτρυσ*, finely clustered, suggests that he meant the hyacinth, a plant that, from its heavy odour and dark colour, was more likely than the one we now call narcissus to have been consecrated to those deities. Plutarch adds that, “those who are numbed with death should very fittingly be crowned with a benumbing flower.” The coincidence of the name *narcissus* with the Skr. *nark* indicates some very ancient traditionary connexion of Greek with Asiatic mythology. The poets represent it as having been so called after a youth who pined away for love of his own image reflected in a pool of water; an instance, among many more, of a legend written to a name; for as an old poet, Pamphilus, remarks, Proserpine was gathering Narcissi long before that youth was born. Narcissus, L.

NARD, Gr. *ναρδος*, the name of various aromatic plants, chiefly of the valerian tribe still used in Asiatic harems.

NAVEL-WORT, from the shape of its leaf,

Umbilicus pendulinus, DC.

*Navel*, A.S. *nafela*, G. *navel*, Da. *navle*, Zend. *nâfo*, Skr. *nâbhi*.



NAVEW, Fr. *naveau*, from *napellus*, dim. of *napus*, the rape,  
Brassica napus, L.

NECKWEED, a cant term for hemp,  
Cannabis sativa, L.

*Neck*, A.S. *hnæcca*, whence *hnæccan*, kill, L. *necare*, as "throttle" from "throat," its derivation uncertain.

NECTARINE, It. *nettario*, dim. of *nettare*, L. *nectar*, Gr. *νεκταρ*, the drink of the gods, and called so from its flavour, but derived by Talbot from a Persian word, that he says means "best,"  
Persica lævis, DC.

NEELE, found in old books as a translation of Gr. *ζιζανια*, and equivalent to cockle or darnel, Fr. *nielle*, L. *nigella*, blackish, once used to mean weeds generally, but in later works restricted to the larger ray grass.

"Frumentis nocuam lolium Græcus vocat herbam,  
Quam nostri dicunt vulgari more *nigellam*." Macer.

Lolium temulentum, L.

NEEDLE FURZE, from its delicate spines,  
Genista anglica, L.

NEP, contracted from L. *nepeta*, N. *cataria*, L.

NETTLE, A.S. and Du. *netel*, Da. *naelde*, Sw. *naetla*, G. *nessel*, the instrumental form of *net*, the passive participle of *ne*, a verb common to most of the Ind-European languages in the sense of "spin" and "sew," Gr. *νεω*, L. *ne-re*, G. *nä-hen*. *Nettle* would seem to have meant primarily that with which one sews, and, indeed, it is almost identical with *needle*. Applied to the plant now called so, it indicates that this supplied the thread used in former times by the Germanic and Scandinavian nations, which we know as a fact to have been the case in Scotland in the seventeenth century. Westmacott says, p. 76, "Scotch cloth is only the housewifery of the nettle." In Friesland also it has been used till a late period. Flax and hemp bear southern names, and were introduced into the North to replace it.  
Urtica, L.

„ HEDGE-, from its nettle-like leaves and place of growth, more properly *Hedge Dead-nettle*,

*Stachys sylvatica*, L.

„ ROMAN-, from being found abundantly about Romney in Kent, and the report that “Roman soldiers brought the seed with them, and sowed it there for their own use, to rub and chafe their limbs, when through extreme cold they should be stiffe and benumbed; having been told that the climate of Britain was so cold, that it was not to be endured without some friction or rubbing, to warm their bloods and to stir up natural heat.” Park. Th. Bot. p. 441. But Lyte’s explanation of this and other applications of the term “Roman” is more probable. “It is a straunge herbe, and not common in the countrey, and they do call al such straunge herbes as be unknowen of the common people, Romish or Romaine herbes, although the same be brought from Norweigh.”

*Urtica pilulifera*, L.

NIGHTSHADE, A.S. *niht-scada*, from its officinal Lat. name *solatrum*, which is derived as an instrumental noun from L. *solari*, soothe, as *aratrum* from *arare*, and means “anodyne.” This word *solatrum* has been mistaken for *solem atrum*, a black sun, an eclipse, a shade as of night.

*Solanum*, L.

*Night*, A.S. *niht*, the *h* having, no doubt, a guttural sound, Go. *nahts*, Du. and G. *nacht*, D. and Sw. *nat*, the same word as Gr. *νυξ*, *νυκτος*, L. *nox*, *noctis*, Pers. *nahid*, probably in the first place a negative noun.

„ BITTERSWEET-, see BITTER-SWEET.

„ DEADLY-, from its poisonous character,

*Atropa Belladonna*, L.

„ WOOD-, the Bittersweet.

NINETY-KNOT, see KNOT-GRASS and CENTINODE.

NIPPLE-WORT, from its use in cases of sore nipple,

*Lapsana communis*, L.

NIT-GRASS, from its little nit-like flowers, a translation of its L. specific name, *lendigerum*,

*Gastridium lendigerum*, L.

*Nit*, A.S. *hmitu*. It is a singular illustration of the generally dirty habits of people in former times, that this insignificant object, the *nit*, has the same name, with allowance for dialect, in all German and Scandinavian languages, in Welsh, Bohemian, and Polish, and even in Greek, viz. *κοις κοιδος*, having accompanied our race from its first Asiatic home.

NONE SO PRETTY, or NANCY-PRETTY, the London pride, or Prating parnel, terms that seem to allude to the heroine of some popular farce, song, or tale,

*Saxifraga umbrosa*, L.

NONSUCH, "a name conferred upon it from its supposed superiority as fodder." Smith in Eng. Bot.

*Medicago lupulina*, L.

in Gerarde and Parkinson applied to the scarlet lychnis,

L. *Chalcedonica*, L.

NOON-FLOWER, or NOON-TIDE, from its closing at mid-day, and marking the hour of noon,

*Tragopogon pratensis*, L.

NOOPS, i.e. *knops*, A.S. *cnæp*, a button, used on East Bord. the cloudberry,

*Rubus chamæmorus*, L.

NOSEBLEED, the yarrow, from its having been put into the nose, as we learn from Gerarde, to cause bleeding and to cure the megrim, and also from its being used as a means of testing a lover's fidelity. Forby in his East Anglia, p. 424, tells us that in that part of England a girl will tickle the inside of the nostril with a leaf of this plant, saying,

"Yarroway, yarroway, bear a white blow ;  
If my love love me, my nose will bleed now."

See also Park. Th. Bot. p. 695, who says that "it is called of some *Nose bleede* from making the nose bleede, if

it be put into it, but assuredly it will stay the bleeding of it.”

Achillæa Millefolium, L.

*Nose*, A.S. *nasu*, L. *nasus*, Skr. *násá*, one of the words most widely distributed through the Ind-European languages, and retained in Greek in a metaphorical sense as applied to an island, *νησος*, although lost in its primary meaning. It is remarkable that, while in our northern languages, agreeably to the custom of naming the features of a country from the features of the face, we say the *mouth* of a river, the *brow* of a hill, and the *neck* of an isthmus, and name an island after the *eye*, and a promontory *ness* after the *nose*, the Greeks should have given this name *νησος* to an island. We may suspect that in the first place it meant, as in *Peloponnesus*, a peninsula.

NOSTOC, some alien word, Tremella nostoc, L.

NOTCH-WEED, Chenopodium Vulvaria, L.

NUT, A.S. *hnut*, Ic. *hnitt*, Sw. *nott*, Da. *nödd*, G. *nuss*, L. *nux*, words connected with *knit*, *knot*, *knopf*, *knob*, implying a hard round lump.

„ CHEST-, Castanea vesca, DC.

„ HAZEL-, OR WOOD-, Corylus Avellana, L.

„ WAL-, OR FRENCH-, Juglans regia, L.

OAK, A.S. *ac*, *æc*, Scot. *aik*, O.N. *eik*, Sw. *ek*, Da. *eg*, Ic. *eyk*, L.G. *eek* and *eik*, G. *eiche*, O.H.G. *eih*, the *h* having a guttural sound. All these words refer to the fruit of the tree, the acorn, from which the oak took its name, and etymologically are identical with *egg*, so that these two objects, the *oak* and the *egg*, will be found to have either the same name in their respective languages, or, interchanging the signification, to have a name for *egg* in one, that means *oak* in another. The obvious similarity of shape sufficiently explains it. See EYE. The oak, like other trees, takes its name from its most useful product. “During the Anglo-Saxon rule,” says Selby, p. 227, “and even for some time after the Conquest, oak forests

were chiefly valued for the fattening of swine. Laws relating to pannage, or the fattening of hogs in the forest, were enacted during the heptarchy, and by Ina's statutes, any person wantonly injuring or destroying an oak tree was mulcted in a fine varying according to its size, or the quantity of mast it produced." *Ἄκυλος*, which occurs in Homer, *Odyss.* x. 242, as the name of the *acorn*, is said by Plato to have been adopted from northern nations, and Grimm and Adelung consider it to be identical with the *G. eichel*; but as the initial *á* is short, it would seem rather to be the *L. oculus*, an eye, although certainly *oculus* is not found used in a metaphorical sense for an acorn.

*Quercus*, L.

OAK OF CAPPADOCIA, OR -OF JERUSALEM, from some fancied resemblance of its leaf to that of an oak, and its coming from a distant foreign country,

*Chenopodium ambrosioides*, L.

OAK-FERN, of the older Herbalists,

*Polypodium vulgare*, L.

,, of modern botanists, *Polypodium dryopteris*, L.

OAT, A.S. *ata*, a word that seems originally to have meant "food," the O.N. *áta*, and Lat. *esca*, for *edca* or *etca*, and derived from verbs signifying "eat," A.S. *etan*, L. *edere*, from an ancient root, the Skr. *ad*, and applied to the oat exclusively, as being once the chief food of the north of Europe. With this word *ata* is etymologically connected, and, indeed, identical, *G. aas*, a carcass, the term having, apparently, been adopted in the former sense by an agricultural, and in the latter by a carnivorous, a shepherd or hunter tribe of the Germanic race: an evidence, as far as it goes, that we must not assume our various dialects to have originated simultaneously from any one common tongue, or in any one district.

*Avena sativa*, L.

OAT-GRASS, a farmer's term according to Martyn in *Fl. Rust.* but certainly not a common one, for

*Bromus mollis*, L.

OFBITEN, in Turner, for *Off-bitten*, the Devil's bit,  
*Scabiosa succisa*, L.

OIL-SEED, from oil being made from it,  
*Camelina sativa*, L.

OLD-MAN, southernwood, from its hoary appearance, and  
 its use, as explained in the line :

“Hæc etiam venerem pulvino subdita multum  
 Incitat.”—Macer.

*Artemisia Abrotanum*, L.

OLD-MAN'S-BEARD, from its long white feathery awns,  
*Clematis Vitalba*, L.

ONE-BERRY, from its one central fruit,  
*Paris quadrifolia*, L.

ONE-BLADE, from its barren stalk having only one leaf.  
 Its Latin specific name implying “two-leaved” refers to  
 the flowering stalk. *Convallaria bifolia*, L.

ONION, Fr. *oignon*, in a Wycliffite version of Num. xi. 5,  
*uniowns*, from L. *unio*, some species of it mentioned by  
 Columella, *Allium Cepa*, L.

„ WELSH-, not from Wales, but the G. *wälsch*,  
 foreign, the plant having been introduced through Ger-  
 many from Siberia, *A. fistulosum*, L.

ORACH, formerly *Arach*, in Pr. Pm. *Arage*, in MS. Harl.  
 978, *Arasches*, Fr. *arroche*, a word that Menage and Dietz  
 derive from L. *atriplice*. Its Gr. name, *χρυσολαχανόν*,  
 golden herb, suggests a far more probable explanation of it  
 in a presumed M.Lat. *aurago*, from *aurum*, formed like  
 plantago, lappago, solidago, etc., by the addition of *ago*,  
 wort, to some other noun. It may have been influenced by  
 Sp. *Oruga* and *Arugua*, rocket. *Atriplex hortensis*, L.

ORCHANET, from the French. See ALCANET.

ORCHARD-GRASS, from its growing in orchards and small  
 enclosures under the drip of trees,

*Dactylis glomerata*, L.

ORCHELLA, Sp. *orchilla*, from the Arabic,  
*Rocella tinctoria*, DC.

ORCHIS, Gr. *ὄρχις*, from its double tubers,

„ BEE-	from the resemblance of its flowers to a bee,	<i>Ophrys apifera</i> , L.
„ BOG-		<i>Malaxis paludosa</i> , Sw.
„ BUTTERFLY-		<i>Habenaria bifolia</i> , R.B.
„ DRONE-		<i>Ophrys fucifera</i> , Sm.
„ FLY-		<i>Ophrys muscifera</i> , Huds.
„ FROG-		<i>Habenaria viridis</i> , R.B.
„ GREEN-MAN-		<i>Aceras anthropophora</i> , R.B.
„ GREEN MUSK-		<i>Herminium monorchis</i> , R.B.
„ LIZARD-		<i>Orchis hircina</i> , Scop.
„ MAN-		<i>Aceras anthropophora</i> , R.B.
„ MILITARY-		<i>Orchis militaris</i> , L.
„ MONKEY-		<i>Orchis tephrosanthos</i> , Vill.
„ MUSK-		<i>Herminium monorchis</i> , R.B.
„ SPIDER-		<i>Ophrys aranifera</i> , Hud. and <i>arachnites</i> , Willd.

ORGANY, marjoram, from *L. origanum*, *O. vulgare*, L.

ORPINE, Fr. *orpin*, contracted from *orpiment*, *L. auripigmentum*, gold pigment, a sulphuret of arsenic, a name given in old works to certain yellow-flowered species of the genus, but, perversely enough, transferred of late to almost the only European one that has pink flowers,

*Sedum Telephium*, L.

ORRICE, either from its officinal Latin name, *Acorus Dioscoridis*, or from *Ireos*, (sc. *radix*) by transposition of the vowels, but not, as our dictionaries give it, from *Iris*, the initial *I* of which could not have become *O*, and could scarcely have remained unaspirated; at present the Florentine *Iris*, but used in older works as a generic name, and in Cotgrave, and old German herbals, applied as *Wild Ireos*, to the Water flower de Luce, and to the Stinking gladdon,

*Iris*, L.

OSIER, Fr. *osier*, M.Lat. *oseria*, whence *oseretum*, a withy-bed, from a Celtic word meaning water, or ooze, that has given its name to the Oise in France, and to

several rivers in England, spelt according to the dialect of the district, Ouse, Ose, Use, or Ise, and which in M.Lat. would have made *Osa*, whence an adjective *osaria*, aqueous, and *osier*. Skinner derives it from Gr. *ὄσρα*, and in this is followed by Menage and Bescherelle, who trace it through a supposed Lat. *hausarium*. But this word, if it exists indeed, could not have been formed from *ὄσρα*, which would have made *vi*, and not *hau*, in the first syllable.

*Salix viminalis*, L.

OSMUND, OSMUND ROYAL, OR OSMUND THE WATERMAN, either from the name of some person, as Beckmann tells us, or from L. *os*, a bone, and *mundare*, cleanse, whence in a vocabulary in Mayer and Wright, p. 139, called *Bonwurt*, or from *os*, mouth, and *mundare*, as Nemnich tells us it is on the authority of Houttuyn. In the Ort. San. ch. 294, it is spelt *os mundi*, in Brunschwygk in one word *osmundi*.

*Osmunda regalis*, L.

OSTERICK, M.Lat. *ostriacum*, apparently a corruption of L. *Aristolochia*, a name transferred to it from another plant, through some similarity in the shape of the leaf,

*Polygonum Bistorta*, L.

OWLER, a corruption of *Aller*, the alder tree.

OX-EYE, the great daisy, its equivalent in Greek, *buphthalmum*, from which it is derived, being now appropriated to a different genus, *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*, L.

*Ox*, A.S. *oxa*, Da. and Sw. *oxe*, G. *ochs*, O.H.G. *ohso*, Go. *auhsa*, which is evidently identical with Skr. *uwan*, an ox, and in the Vedic Hymns a horse also, a word that Diefenbach, Lex. Comp. ii. 59, would derive from *vah*, L. *vehere*, but others connect with *uksha*, bull, from *uksh*, to wet, a word, whatever its origin, very widely extended; the Tart. *okus*, and Turk. *oekuz*. This identity of the German with the Indian name, and its difference from the South-European *bove*, supports the view that our domestic animals, and the essentials of our civilization, came to us from Asia by a northern route, and not from the Mediterranean.



OX-EYE, of some authors, *Anthemis arvensis*, L.

OX-HEEL, or more properly OX-HEAL, from its being used in setting oxen. See SETTERWORT.

*Helleborus fœtidus*, L.

OXLIP, A.S. (on the faith of Sumner) *oxan-slippan*, a word upon the meaning of which it seems useless to speculate, until we are sure of its existence,

*Primula veris*, L. *elatior*, Jacq.

OXTONGUE, from the shape and roughness of its leaf,

*Picris echioides*, L.

PADDOCK-PIPES, in Cotgrave TOAD-PIPES, from its straight hollow pipe-like stalks, and growth in mud, where toads haunt, the horsetail,

*Equisetum*, L.

*Paddock*, dim. of Du. Da. and Sw. *pad*, *padde*, Fris. *podde*, O.Fris. *pogg*, a word that seems to be related to O.H.G. *pad*, foul, and to our *pouke* or *puck*, an evil spirit, a fairy-king, and the devil, who would seem to have been personified by a toad. Its radical meaning has not been ascertained. In the old nursery song, "A *puddy* would a wooing go," we have a form of the word nearly identical with the Frisian.

PADDOCK-STOOLS, in Topsell PADSTOOLE, Du. *padde-stoel*, toad-stool, from their resemblance to the tripods called joint-stools, and the notion that toads sit upon them, (see TOADSTOOL,) and also from the evident connexion that there is between *Paddock* and *Puck*, as pointed out above, and under PIXIE-STOOL and PUCK-FIST,

*Boletus* and *Agaricus*.

PADELION, Fr. *pas de lion*, from the resemblance of its leaf to the impress of a lion's foot,

*Alchemilla vulgaris*, L.

PAIGLE, PAGLE, PAGEL, PEAGLE, PEGYLL, and PYGIL, a name that is now scarcely heard except in the Eastern counties, and usually assigned to the cowslip, but by Ray and Moore to the *Ranunculus bulbosus*, with which it is

cotemporary in its flowering, a word of extremely obscure and disputed origin. The dictionaries derive it from *paralysis*, which cannot be; Formby, strangely enough, from A.S. *paell*, a die-plant, a purple robe; Forster in his Perennial Calendar, p. 191, says that it "evidently signifies *pratingale*, from *prata*, meadows, where it delighteth to grow." The only safe method of enquiry is the historical. It were easy to speculate upon possible sources of the name, as e.g. Fr. *épingle*, in allusion to the pin-shaped pistil, and the balls, *pelotes à épingles*, that children make of the flowers; *speckle* in allusion to the "cinq-spotted" corolla; G. *speichel-kraut*, etc; but these want the one necessary support, that of the testimony of old writers, that the plant was ever called so. It may be a corruption of its M.Lat. name *verbasculum*, with a change of *b* to *p*, and omission of *s*. It is possible also, that, having been, as shown under PRIMROSE, so much confused with the daisy, which was called *consolida media*, it may have acquired through that vague middle term, the name of another *consolida media*, the *bugula*, or, as it was sometimes spelt, *bigula*. See, for instance, Linacre's translation of Macer's Herball. As tantalizing as it is to have a Greek word, *ποικιλη*, which would answer our purpose so well, we dare not admit it. It is for East Anglians to follow up the enquiry. There may be some very common word in their dialect, which would at once explain it.

Primula veris, L.

PALM, L. *palma*, Gr. *παλαμη*, the palm of the hand, from the shape of the leaf in the species most familiar to Greek and Latin writers, the dwarf palm of the south of Europe, a name given in England to the sallow with its catkins in flower, from its branches having formerly been carried in processions, and strown on the road the Sunday next before Easter, in imitation of the palm leaves that were strown before Jesus on his entry into Jerusalem. W. Coles, in his Adam in Eden, says of the Willow,

“The blossoms come forth before any leaves, and are usually in their most flourishing state before Easter, divers gathering them to deck their houses on Palm Sunday; and therefore the flowers are called *Palme*.”

Salix caprea, L.

PALSY-WORT, L. *Herba paralyseos*, from its supposed power to cure the palsy, the cowslip, *Primula veris*, L.

PANCE OR PAUNCE, see PANSY.

PANICK-GRASS, L. *panicum*, which Pliny says was “a paniculis dictum,” so called from its panicles. The word seems to be formed from *panus*, a head of millet, and to be connected with *panis*, bread, from an ancient root *pa*, feed, retained in *pa-sco*, *pa-bulum*, and *pa-ter*. See Bopp, comp. Gram. p. 1164.

Panicum, L.

PANSY, OR PAUNCE, Fr. *pensée*, thought, once called *menues pensées*, It. *pensieri menuti*, idle thoughts, G. *unnütze sorge*. Dr. Johnson and Talbot would derive the name from L. *panacea*, but the plant has never been called so, nor regarded as a panacea. Its habits of coquettishly hanging its head, and half hiding its face, as well as some fancied resemblances in the throat of the corolla, have led to many quaint names in our own, and in foreign languages: “Cull me-,” or “Cuddle me to you,” “Love and idle,” “Live in idleness,” or “Love in idleness,” a line, perhaps, of some song or poem, “To live and love in idleness,” but originally, it would seem, “Love in idle,” that is, “in vain,” and in Lobel, “Love in idle Pances,” “Tittle my fancy,” “Kiss me, ere I rise,” “Jump up and kiss me,” “Kiss me at the garden gate,” “Pink of my John,” and several more of the same amatory character. From its three colours combined in one flower, it is called “Herb Trinity,” and “Three faces under a hood;” from confusion with the wallflower, “Heartsease;” and from M.Lat. *viola flammea*, “Flame flower.” There is no plant, except the ground ivy, that has obtained so many names, and curious sobriquets.

Viola tricolor, L.

PARIS, see HERB PARIS.

PARK-LEAVES, a name that seems to have been suggested by L. *Hypericum*, Gr. ὑπερικον, but taken in the sense of *perked* or *pricked* leaves, from those of the commonest species of the genus, *H. perforatum*, L. being so dotted with resinous deposits, as to look as if they were pricked all over; a character not observable in that to which the name of *Park-leaf* is now restricted. Parkinson would derive it from the plant growing in *parks*, which is not the case. Its French synonym, *parcoeur*, by heart, seems to be an accidental coincidence of similar sound with a different meaning, but may possibly have been suggested, like the English name, by the Latin.

H. *Androsæmum*, L.

PARNASSUS GRASS, a plant supposed to be one described by Dioscorides as growing on Mount Parnassus,

*Parnassia palustris*, L.

PARSLEY, spelt in the Grete Herball *Perceley*, Fr. *persil*, L. *petroselinum*, from Gr. πετρος, rock, and σελινον, some umbelliferous plant,

*P. sativum*, Koch.

PARSLEY-FERN, from the resemblance of its fronds to parsley leaves,

*Cryptogramma crispa*, R.B.

PARSLEY-PIERT, or PARSLEY-BREAK-STONE, Fr. *percepierre*, *percer*, pierce, and *pierre*, stone, from being used in cases of stone in the bladder, and so called according to W. Coles Ad. in Ed. ch. 222, "from its eminent faculties to that purpose,"

*Alchemilla arvensis*, Sm.

PARSNIP, or, as it is spelt in old herbals, PASNIP, from L. *pastinaca*, and *napus*, a turnip, or perhaps by change of *c* to *p*, from *pastinaca*, alone,

*P. sativa*, L.

PASQUE- or PASSE-flower, from its blossoming at Easter, Fr. *pasques*, Gr. πασχα, Heb. *pesach*, a crossing over,

*Anemone Pulsatilla*, L.

PASSIONS, or PATIENCE, a dock so called, apparently, from the Italian name under which it was introduced from the South, *Lapazio*, a corruption of L. *lapathum*, having

been mistaken for *la Passio*, the Passion of Jesus Christ. Carr in his "Craven Dialect" explains it, on the authority of an unnamed correspondent, as alluding to a pudding of bitter herbs, of which it was an ingredient, and which was eaten in Passion week. But it may have been used in this pudding as a consequence of its name. Loudon derives this from the slowness of its operation as a medicine, which is out of the question. Minshew says it was called so, "quia medetur multis *passionibus* corporis;" Skinner, "quia ad *passiones* cordis valde efficax est."

Rumex Patientia, L.

PAUL'S BETONY, a name given to it by Turner, as being the plant described as a betony by Paul Ægineta,

Veronica serpyllifolia, L.

PAWNCE, in Spenser, the Pansy.

PEA, in old works PEASE, L. *pisum*, so called from being usually brayed in a mortar, *pinsum*, Gr. *πισον*, from Skr. *pish*, bray, whence *peschana*, a quern or handmill. Our word *pea* may be either the Fr. *pois*, pronounced *pay*; for the sound of the diphthong *oi* seems to have been arbitrary, and *j'etais*, for instance, was once written *j'etois*, or it has arisen from an idea that the old word *pease* was a plural; as *cherry* arose from the same mistake as to *cerise*. Tusser makes the plural *peason* agreeably to a practice of ending the plural with *n*, when the singular ends with *s*, as e.g. oxen, housen, hosen, from ox, house, hose.

P. sativum, L.

PEACH, in old works spelt *Peske*, *Peesk*, *Peshe*, and *Peché*, O.Fr. *pesche*, L. *Persica*, formerly called *malum Persicum*, Persian apple, from which the Arabs formed their name for it with the prefix *el* or *al*, whence the Spanish *alberchigo*. It is curious that the Persians have adopted this Arabico-Latin name for a fruit that is indigenous to their own country. *Persica vulgaris*, Mill.

PEACH-WORT, from the resemblance of its leaves to those of the peach,

Polygonum Persicaria, L.

PEAR, a foreign word adopted into the Germanic languages, It. and Sp. *pera*, Fr. *poire*, probably once pronounced *paire*, (see PEA,) A.S. *peru*, from L. *pyrus*,

*P. communis*, L.

PEARL-PLANT, from its smooth hard pearly seed,

*Lithospermum officinale*, L.

*Pearl*, O.H.G. *perala*, by Grimm derived from Gr. *βηρυλλος*, but more probably the L. *sphærulea*, a little ball.

PEARL-GRASS, from its glittering panicles,

*Briza maxima*, L.

PEARL-WORT, why called so, is nowhere explained,

*Sagina*, L.

PELL-A-MOUNTAIN, L. *serpyllum montanum*,

*Thymus serpyllum*, L.

PELLITORY, OR PARITORY OF THE WALL, L. *parietaria*, from *paries*, a house-wall, into which this weed usually grows,

*P. officinalis*, L.

PELLITORY OF SPAIN, Sp. *pelitre*, L. *pyrethrum*, Gr. *πυρεθρον*, "by reason of his hot and fiery taste," says Gerarde, p. 758. The term *Pellitory of Spain* seems merely to refer to its being the plant called so in Spain, and not to its being brought thence.

*Anacyclus pyrethrum*, DC.

PENNY-CRESS, from its round flat silicles,

*Thlaspi arvense*, L.

PENNY-GRASS, from its round seeds like silver pennies,

*Rhinanthus crista galli*, L.

PENNY-ROT, in Lyte PENNY-GRASS, from its character of giving sheep the rot, and its small round leaves,

*Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, L.

PENNY-ROYAL, from L. *pulegium regium*, through Du. *poley*, in the old herbals called *puliol royal*,

*Mentha pulegium*, L.

PENNY-WORT, from its round leaves,

*Sibthorpia Europæa*, L.

„ in old works

*Linaria Cymbalaria*, L.

PEONY, or PIONY, L. *Pæonia*, Gr. *παιωνια*, from *Παιων*, a god of physic, supposed to be the same as Apollo, who healed the gods Ares and Hades of their wounds, Hom. Il. v. 401 and 899, *Pæonia corallina*, L.

PEPPER-CROP, a cyme or head of flowers with the pungent taste of pepper, the stone-crop, *Sedum acre*, L.

*Pepper*, L. *piper*, Gr. *πικρεπι*, Skr. *pippali*, the name under which it was brought from India to Europe.

PEPPER-GRASS, a plant with linear grass-like leaves, and pepper-corn-like pellets of inflorescence,

*Pilularia globulifera*, L.

PEPPER MINT,

*Mentha piperita*, L.

PEPPER SAXIFRAGE,

*Silaus pratensis*, L.

PEPPER-WORT, from their acrid taste, the cresses, more particularly

*Lepidium latifolium*, L.

„ WALL-, from its biting taste and growth on walls,

*Sedum acre*, L.

„ WATER-,  
and also

*Polygonum hydropiper*, L.

*Elatine hydropiper*, L.

PERIWINKLE, in Chaucer and other old poets spelt *pervinke* and *pervenke*, M.Lat. *pervincula*, dim. of L. *pervinca*, from *per*, about, and *vincire*, bind, this plant having been used for chaplets, as in the Ballad against the Scots, l. 123, “A garland of *pervenke* set on his heved.” Ritson, vol. i. p. 33.

*Vinca major*, and minor, L.

PERSIAN WILLOW, oftener called FRENCH WILLOW, from the resemblance of its leaves to willow leaves, and its foreign origin, but being really an American plant,

*Epilobium angustifolium*, L.

PERSICARIA, see PEACH WORT.

PESTILENCE-WEBD, G. *pestilenz-wurz*, from having been formerly, as Lyte tells us, of great repute as “a sovereign medicine against the plague and pestilent fevers;” for, as the *Ortus Sanitatis* more explicitly declares, c. cxxlv; “Den safft von disem kraute, gemischt mit essig und rauten-safft, yeglichs gleich vil, und dis getruncken des

abents auff ein löffel voll, machet sere schwiczen, und treibet mit dem schweiss auss die pestilencz.”

Tussilago petasites, L.

PETTIGREE or PETTIGRUE, Fr. *petit*, and *greou*, holly,

Ruscus aculeatus, L'Her.

PETTY-MULLEIN, the cowslip, its name in old herbals, as translated from L. *verbasculum*, this plant having been regarded as a small species of *verbascum* or mullein,

Primula veris, L.

PETTY-WHIN, a small prickly shrub, a name given in Lyte's Herbal to the restharrow, but by later botanists to the needle-furze,

Genista anglica, L.

PEWTER-WORT, from being used to clean pewter vessels,

Equisetum hyemale, L.

PHEASANT'S EYE, from its bright red corolla and dark centre,

Adonis autumnalis, L.

*Pheasant*, L. *phasianus*, so named from the river Phasis in Asia, whence it was first brought.

PICK-NEEDLE, a wrong spelling, see PINK-NEEDLE, and

POWKNEEDLE.

Erodium moschatum, L.

PICK-PURSE, from the number of little purses that it displays, its purse-like capsules,

Capsella Bursa pastoris, L.

PIGEON'S-GRASS, or -GREASE, from pigeons having, according to W. Coles, ch. 20, been supposed to clear their eyesight with it,

Verbena officinalis, L.

*Pigeon*, Fr. *pigeon*, Sp. *pichon*, It. *piccione* and *pippione*, from L. *pipio*, related to *pipare*, chirp.

PIGEON'S PEA, Fr. *pois-pigeon*,

Eryum Ervilia, L.

PIG-NUT, from its tubers being a favourite food of pigs, and resembling nuts in size and flavour,

Bunium flexuosum, L.

*Pig*, Du. and L. Germ. *bigge*, a word of very uncertain origin, probably connected with Fris. *pük*, little, and It. *piccolo*, and not in the first place confined to the young of swine.



PIGGESNIE, a word that occurs in a line of Chaucer, applied to a lady, and associated with the primrose,

“A primerole, a piggesnie.” C. T. 3268.

The glossaries explain it, amusingly enough, as a “pig’s eye.” It seems to mean a “Whitsuntide pink,” from L.G. *Pingsten*, G. *Pfingst*, and *eye*, Fr. *oeillet*, L. *ocellus*, the name of these flowers from the circular marking of their corolla. *Pingst*, is shortened from Gr. πεντηκοστη, fiftieth, that is the fiftieth day after Easter, and is the origin of our modern name *Pink*, and of the Dutch verb *pinkoogen*, make pinkeyes or eylet-holes in muslin. *Pinksten-eye* has been corrupted into *Piggesnie*.

*Dianthus Caryophyllus*, L.

PILE-WORT, L. *pila*, a ball, in allusion to the small knobs on the roots, and its supposed efficacy, on the doctrine of signatures, as a remedial agent, *Ranunculus ficaria*, L.

PILL-CORN, that is *peel-corn*, from its grain separating from the chaff, *Avena nuda*, L.

PILL-WORT, from its small globular involucre, L. *pilula*, dim. of *pila*, a ball, *Pilularia globulifera*, L.

PIMPINELL, or PIMPERNELL, M.Lat. *bipennella*, from having secondary little pinnæ, or feather-like leaflets, *Pimpinella saxifraga*, L.

„ RED-, a plant entirely different from the above, as are the two following species, and in no way agreeing with the name as just explained. Why it was called so, is unknown. Lyte distinguishes this plant as the *Pimpernell*, and gives the name of *Pimpinell* to the burnet.

*Anagallis arvensis*, L.

„ WATER-, *Samolus Valerandi*, L.  
and in Lyte *Veronica Beccabunga*, and *Anagallis*, L.

„ YELLOW-, *Lysimachia nemorum*, L.

PINE-TREE, L. *pinus*, a word that J. Grimm considers to be a contraction of *picinus*, pitchy, and others as related to Skr. *pīna*, fat, L. *pinguis*, in allusion to its resinous

secretion. Wedgwood's derivation of *pinus* from *pin*, as a tree characterised by *folia acerosa*, is a rather amusing anachronism; for the pin is as modern in its name, as in its manufacture. Another derivation of it from *pen*, a peak, is also highly improbable. Pinus, L.

PINE-SAP, either from its sapping the pine, or growing from the juices of the pine, a modern term left by its author unexplained, Monotropa hipopitys, L.

PINK, L. Germ. *pinksten*, Whitsuntide, the season of flowering of one of its species, the Whitsuntide-gilliflower of old authors. The dictionaries derive it from a supposed Dutch word, *pink*, an eye, one, however, that does not appear to have any such meaning in that language. It is a curious accident, that a word, that originally meant "fiftieth," *πεντηκοστή*, should come to be successively the name of a festival of the church, of a flower, of an ornament in muslin called *pinking*, of a colour, and of a sword-stab. See PIGGESNIE. Dianthus, L.

„ CHEDDAR-, or CLIFF-, from its occurrence on Cheddar cliffs, D. cæsius, L.

„ CLOVE-, from its odour of cloves, D. caryophyllus, L.

„ MAIDEN-, more properly, MEADOW-, from its place of growth, a confusion of *maid* and *mead*,

D. Armeria, L.

PINK-NEEDLE, from the resemblance of its long tapering awns to the needle used in *pinking*, or making eyelet holes like pinks, in muslin, Erodium moschatum, L.

PINK-WEED, from the colour of the stems,

Polygonum aviculare, L.

PIPE-TREE, the lilac, from its branches having a large pith that is easily bored out to make pipe-sticks, whence also its Latin name, from Gr. *σπυργή*, Syringa, L.

PIPEWORT, Eriocaulon septangulare, L.

PIPPERIDGE, or PIPRAGE, red-pip, the barberry, Fr. *pepin*, a pip, and *rouge*, red, descriptive of the colour and

character of its small juiceless fruit, which seems to be rather a pip than a berry. *Piperounges*, in a catalogue in Wright's Vocabularies, p. 161, means the fruit of the dog-rose.

*Berberis vulgaris*, L.

PISSABED, the dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale*, L.

PITCH-TREE, It. *picea*, adj. of L. *pix*, pitch,

*Pinus abies*, L.

PIXIE-STOOLS, a synonym of "toad-stools" and "pad-dock-stools," the work of those elves,

"whose pastime

Is to make midnight mushrooms,"

and a name of some interest as showing the identity of the king of the fairies, *Puck*, with the toad, Fries. *pogge*; for *pixie* is the feminine or diminutive of *Puck*, and the *pixie-stool* the toad-stool. The name is now given to the small champignon mushroom,

*Agaricus chanterellus*, L.

PLAISTER-CLOVER, from its trefoil leaves, and use in ointments,

*Melilotus officinalis*, L.

PLANE-TREE, L. *platanus*, Gr. *πλατανος*, said to be derived from *πλατυς*, broad, which is questionable, although the words may be radically related to each other,

*P. orientalis*, and *occidentalis*, L.

PLANTAIN, L. *plantago*, from *planta*, sole of the foot, and *ago*, which seems to have been used in plant-names with the sense of "wort," from the shape of the leaf in the larger species resembling a footstep, *P. major*, L. etc.

PLANTAIN-SHOREWEED, a weed of the plantain tribe found beside lakes and ponds, *Littorella lacustris*, L.

PLOWMAN'S ALLHEAL, see CLOWN'S-A.

PLOWMAN'S SPIKENARD, from the fragrant smell of the root, and its being supposed by Gerarde, p. 647, to be the *Baccharis* of Dioscorides, the *ναρδος ἀγρια*, *nardus rustica*, clown's nard, of other writers. This latter, however, is said by Pliny to be *ἀσαρον*. *Conyza squarrosa*, L.

PLUM, A.S. *plum*, L.G. *prume*, L. *prunum*, from some

Asiatic name. In Cato's time the fruit was known to the Romans, but not the tree. *Prunus domestica*, L.

POLE-REED, in the Western counties PULL-REED, more properly, as in Newton's Bible Herbal, POOL-REED, from its place of growth, *Arundo phragmites*, L.

POLE-RUSH, properly POOL-RUSH, see BULRUSH.

*Pole* or *Pool*, A.S. *pol*, a word common to all Western Europe, Celtic as well as Germanic.

POLIANTHUS, Gr. *πολυς*, and *ανθος*, many-flowered, a garden variety of the oxlip, *Primula veris*, L. *elatior*.

POLY-MOUNTAIN, L. *polium montanum*,

*Bartsia alpina*, L.

POLYPODY, Gr. *πολυς*, and *ποδες*, many feet, a name given to certain ferns with pectinate fronds, from the resemblance of some of them to an insect called scolopendrium, *Polypodium*, L.

POMPION, see PUMPKIN.

PONDWEED, from its growth in ponds, *Lemna*, L.

POOR-MAN'S PARMACETTY, L. *sperma ceti*, whale's sperm, "the sovereignst remedy for bruises," a joke on the name *Bursa*, a purse, which to a poor man is always the best remedy for his bruises, *Capsella bursa pastoris*, L.

POOR-MAN'S PEPPER, *Lepidium latifolium*, L.

POOR-MAN'S TREACLE, M.Lat. *Theriacia rusticorum*, in old MSS. called *cherlys tryacle*, garlick, which W. Coles tells us in his Adam in Eden, acquired this name from having been given to "a poor old man, who had been lying in the cold, till he had almost lost the innate or natural heat of his stomach, and whose appetite was nearly gone, and after many hot medicines had been used in vain, at length was cured with garlick." This, and the same author's account of the Fluellin, are instances of the way in which conjectural explanations have been written to a name. Gerarde tells us, p. 140, the real source of this one: "It is an enemie to all colde poisons, and to the biting of venemous beasts: and therefore Galen nameth it *Theriacia rusticorum*,

or the husbandman's *Treacle*." This word *Treacle* is a dim. derived from Lat. *Theriaca*, a very celebrated medicine of the Middle Ages, so called from the creatures in it, Gr. *Θηρια*. See Penny Cyclopædia, art. *Theriaca*. Allium, L.

POOR-MAN'S-WEATHER-GLASS, the pimpernel, from its closing its flowers before rain, Anagallis arvensis, L.

POPLAR, Fr. *peuplier*, from L. *popularia*, adj. of *populus*, a word that, on grounds of onomatopœia, we might fancy to have been suggested by the *pap-ap-ap* of the quivering leaves, but that the Indian *figus religiosa*, the leaves of which so closely resemble those of the poplar, as in the varnished and pictured specimens to be very commonly taken for poplar leaves, is called *pepul*, a name, which we can scarcely doubt is not an accidental coincidence of sound with *populus*, but identical with it in its origin, and brought westward to Europe by the early Asiatic colonists, and carried eastward into India, in connexion, perhaps, with some religious observances, Populus, L.

„ BLACK-, in contrast to the White poplar,

P. nigra, L.

„ LOMBARDY-, from a perhaps mistaken belief that it came originally from the north of Italy, P. fastigiata, L.

„ WHITE-, or GREY-, from the colour of its leaves,

P. alba, L.

POPPY, A.S. *papig*, L. *papaver*,

„ GARDEN-, or OPIUM-, or WHITE-,

P. somniferum, L.

„ HORNED-, from its long curved seed-pods,

Glaucium luteum, L.

„ RED-, or CORN-,

P. rhœas, L.

„ SEA,

Glaucium luteum, L.

„ WELCH-, from its occurrence in Wales,

Meconopsis cambrica, L.

POTATOE, Sp. *Batatas*, the name of a tropical convolvulus, the so-called "Sweet-potatoe," injudiciously transferred to a very different plant, Solanum tuberosum, L.

POTHERB, WHITE-, the lamb's lettuce, in contrast to the *Olus atrum*, or Black potherb,

*Valerianella olitoria*, L.

POUKENEL, or POWKE-NEEDLE, L. *acus demonis*, Devil's darning needle, from *Pouke* or *Puck*, Satan, in allusion to the long beaks of its seed vessels, *Scandix pecten*, L.

PRATLING PARNELL, a name that seems to imply a girl of suspicious character, who has let out secrets, or told tales to her own discredit. Like the other names of this flower, London pride, Nancy Pretty, etc. it may allude to some popular tale, song, or farce, that was in vogue in the last century.

*Saxifraga umbrosa*, L.

PRICKLY SAMPHIRE, see SAMPHIRE.

PRICKET, Fr. *triacquette*, dim. of *triacque*, and

PRICK-MADAM, Fr. *trique-madame*, for *triacque à madame*, L. *theriaca*, an anthelmintic medicine, among the principal ingredients of which were stone-crops,

*Sedum acre*, album, and reflexum, L.

PRICK-TIMBER, or PRICK-WOOD, from its being used to make skewers, shoemakers' pegs, and goads, which were formerly called pricks, G. *pinnholtz*,

*Evonymus Europæa*, L.

PRIEST'S CROWN, from its bald receptacle, after the pappus has fallen from it, resembling the shorn heads of the Roman Catholic clergy, *Taraxacum officinale*, Vill.

PRIEST'S PINTLE, G. *pfaffen-pint* and *pfaffen-zagel*, Fr. *vit de prestre*, so called from the appearance of the spadix, "darumb," says Brunschwygk, "das es ein rote gestalt hat gewynnet wie ein mans rût," *Arum maculatum*, L.

PRIMEROLE, in Chaucer, l. 3268, from the Fr. *primeve-rolle*, dim. of *primavera*, shortened from It. *flor di primavera*. See PRIMROSE.

PRIMPRINT, or PRIM, a name now given to the privet, but formerly to the primrose, from the Fr. *prime printemps*, first spring, and exactly corresponding to the modern Fr. name of this flower, *primevère*. In the middle ages, how-

ever, the primrose was called in Latin *Ligustrum*, as may be seen in a Nominale of the fifteenth century in Mayer and Wright's vocabularies, p. 192 and p. 264, and several other lists, and so late as the seventeenth century in W. Coles's Adam in Eden, where he says of *Ligustrum*, "This herbe is called *primrose*. It is good to potage." But *Ligustrum* was used on the continent, and adopted by Turner, as the generic name of the Privet; and *prim-print*, as the English of *Ligustrum*, thus came to be transferred from the herb to the shrub. *Ligustrum vulgare*, L.

PRIMET, shortened from *primprint*, and correctly applied in the Grete Herball, ch. cccl, to the primrose,

*Primula veris*, L.

PRIMROSE, from *Pryme rolles*, the name it bears in old books and MSS. The Grete Herball, ch. cccl, says, "It is called *Pryme Rolles* of *pryme tyme*, because it beareth the first floure in *pryme tyme*." It is also called so in Frere Randolph's catalogue. Chaucer writes it in one word *primerole*. This little common plant affords a most extraordinary example of blundering. *Primerole* is an abbreviation of Fr. *primeverole*, It. *primaverola*, dim. of *prima vera*, from *fior di prima vera*, the first spring flower. *Primerole*, as an outlandish unintelligible word, was soon familiarized into *prime rolles*, and this into *primrose*. This is explained in popular works as meaning the first rose of the spring, a name that never would have been given to a plant that in form and colour is so unlike a rose. But the rightful claimant of it, strange to say, is the daisy, which in the south of Europe is a common and conspicuous flower in early spring, while the primrose is an extremely rare one, and it is the daisy that bears the name in all the old books. See Fuchs, p. 145, where there is an excellent figure of it, titled *primula veris*; and the Ortus Sanitatis, Ed. Augsb. 1486, ch. cccxxxiii, where we have a very good woodcut of a daisy titled "masslieben, *Premula veris*, Latine." Brunfelsius, ed. 1531, speaking of the

Herba paralysis, the cowslip, says, p. 190, expressly, "Sye würt von etlichen Doctores *Primula veris* genannt, das doch falsch ist, wann *Primula veris* ist matsomen oder zeitlosen." Brunschwygk, b. ii. c. viii. uses the same words. The Zeitlose is the daisy. Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 531, assigns the name to both the daisy and the primrose. Matthioli, Ed. Frankf. 1586, p. 653, calls his *Bellis major* "*Primo flore maggiore, seu Fiore di prima vera, nonnullis Primula veris major,*" and figures a *Chrysanthemum*. His *Bellis minor*, which seems to be our daisy, he calls "*Primo flore minore, Fior di primavera, Gallis Marguerites, Germanis Masslieben.*" At p. 883 he figures the cowslip, and calls that also "*Primula veris, Italis Fiore di primavera, Gallis primevere.*" But all the older writers, as the author of the *Ortus Sanitatis*, Brunschwygk, Brunsfels, Fuchs, Lonicerus, and their cotemporaries, with the single exception of Ruellius, assign the name to the daisy only.

*Primula veris*, L. *acaulis*.

PRIMROSE PEERLESS, a name that seems to have arisen from some blunder between *primula paralyseos*, the cowslip, and the narcissus, to which paralyzing effects were ascribed; and not to have been intended to express a non-pareil, but a palsy, primrose, *Narcissus biflorus*, L.

„ SCOTCH-, from its growth upon the mountains of Scotland, *Primula farinosa*, L.

PRINCE'S FEATHER, from its resemblance to that of the Prince of Wales, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, L.

PRIVET, in Tusser called PRIVY, altered from *Prymet*, the primrose, through a confusion between this flower and the shrub, from the application to both of them by medieval writers of the Latin *Ligustrum*. See above PRIM-PRINT. *Ligustrum vulgare*, L.

„ BARREN-, from its want of the conspicuous white flowers of the real Privet, to which it certainly bears no other resemblance than in being an evergreen,

*Rhamnus alaternus*, L.



PROCESSION-FLOWER, see ROGATION FLOWER.

PRUNE, L. *prunæ*, adj. of *prunus*, Gr. *προυνή*,

*P. domestica*, L.

PUCKFISTS, from *fist*, G. *feist*, crepitus, and *Puck*, O.N. *puki*, who, in Pierce Plowman and other old works, seems to have been the same as Satan, but in later tales the king of the fairies, and given to coarse practical jokes. See PIXIE STOOLS.

*Lycoperdon*, L.

PUDDING-GRASS, pennyroyal, from being used to make stuffings for meat, formerly called *puddings*,

*Mentha pulegium*, L.

PUFF-BALL, from its resemblance to a powder puff,

*Lycoperdon giganteum*, Bat.

PULSE, L. *puls*, Gr. *πολτος*, Hebr. *phul*, a pottage of meal and peas, the food of the Romans before the introduction of bread, and afterwards used to feed the sacred chicken, a term now confined to the fruit of Leguminosæ.

PUMPKIN, or POMPION, Fr. *pompon*, whence *bumpkin*, L. *pepo*, -*onis*, Gr. *πεπων*, which was used in the same sense; as, e.g. in Homer, Il. ii. 235, *ὦ πεπονες*, blockheads! and in the phrase *πεπονος μαλακωτερος*, softer than a pumpkin; see Talbot in Engl. Etym.

*Cucurbita Melo*, L.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE,

*Lythrum salicaria*, L.

PURPLE MARSHWORT, or -MARSHLOCK, or PURPLE-WORT, from the colour of its flowers, and its being consequently regarded, as W. Coles tells us in his Art of Simpling, ch. xxvii, as "an excellent remedy against the purples,"

*Comarum palustre*, L.

PURRET, It. *porreta*, dim. of *porro*, the leek, L. *porrum*,

*Allium porrum*, L.

PURSLANE, in Turner PURCELLAINE, in the Grete Herball PORCELAYNE, Fr. *porcellaine*, It. *porcellana*, a name first used by Marco Polo in describing the fine earthenware made in China, and adopted from the name of a sea shell, which resembles it in texture, and is so called from *porcella*, a dim. of L. *porcus* or *porca*, used in a figurative

sense, as explained by Dietz and Scheler. In Latin the plant was called *portulaca*, and this word seems to have been confounded with the more familiar *porcellana*. Fuchs derives its Germ. name of *Portzel kraut* from L. *porcellus*, a pig. Hist. plant. p. 111. P. oleracea, L.

„ SEA-, Atriplex portulacoides, L.

QUAKERS and SHAKERS, QUAKE-, or QUAKING GRASS, from its trembling spikelets, Briza media, L.

QUEEN OF THE MEAD, L. *Regina prati*, from its flowers resembling ostrich feathers, the badge of royalty,

Spiræa ulmaria, L.

QUICK-IN-THE-HAND, that is “Alive in the hand,” the Touch-me-not, from the sudden bursting and contortion of its seed pods upon being pressed,

Impatiens noli me tangere, L.

QUICKEN, or QUICK-BEAM, or WICKEN, a tree ever moving, from *quycchyn*, move, see Pr. Pm. p. 421, A.S. *cwic-beam*, from *cwic*, alive, and *beam*, tree, translated in Ælfric’s glossary “tremulus,” which evidently meant the aspen, but has been transferred to this, the wild service, or roan tree, probably through some association of ideas with *witch*, A.S. *wicce*, from the roan being regarded as a preservative against witch-craft. See ROAN. Pyrus aucuparia, L.

QUICK-SET, from its being *set* to grow in a hedge a *quick* or living plant, as contrasted with a paling or other fence of dead wood, the hawthorn,

Cratægus oxyacantha, L.

QUILL WORT, from its resemblance to a bunch of *quills*,

Isoetes lacustris, L.

QUINCE, in Chaucer, R.R. l. 1375, *coine*, of which *quince* seems to be the plural, Fr. *coing*, It. and Sp. *cotogna*, L. *cydonium*, called in Greek *μηλα κυδωνια*, from *Cydon*, a place in Crete,

Pyrus Cydonia, L.

QUITCH GRASS, couch grass, A.S. *wicce*, from *cwic*, vivacious,

Triticum repens, L.

RABONE, Sp. *rabano*, L. *raphanus*, the radish,

R. sativus, L.

RADISH, It. *radice*, root, L. *radix*,

Raphanus sativus, L.

RAGGED ROBIN, Fr. *Robinet déchiré*. The word *Robin* may have reference to a popular farce of Robin and Marion, that used to be acted in country places at Pentecost, (see Dufresne in v. *Robinetus*,) and it is probable that from characters in this piece the keepers' followers in the New Forest were called *Ragged Robins*. The *Ragged* refers to its finely lacinated petals, and seems to have suggested the *Robin* from familiar association.

Lychnis Flos Cuculi, L.

RAGWORT, G. *ragwurz*, a term of indecent meaning expressive of supposed aphrodisiac virtues, and originally assigned to plants of the Orchis tribe, as it is in Germany to the present day, and as we find it in all our own early herbals. With the same implied meaning the pomes d'amour are called by Lyte, b. iii. ch. 85, *Rage-apples*. In our modern floras the name *Ragwort* is, for no other assignable reason than its lacinated leaves, transferred to a groundsel,

Senecio Jacobæa, L.

RAISIN-TREE, the red currant tree, from confusion of its fruit with the small raisins from Corinth called currants,

Ribes rubrum, L.

RAMPE, in the sense of "wanton," from its supposed aphrodisiac powers, the cuckoo pint,

Arum maculatum, L.

RAMPION, Fr. *raiponce*, mistaken, as in the case of "cerise," for a plural, and the *m* inserted for euphony; from L. *rapunculus*, a small *rapa*, or turnip, a bell-flower, so called from its esculent tubers,

Campanula rapunculus, L.

RAMSIES OR RAMSONS, A.S. *hramsa*, Norw. *rams*, Da. *ramse*, G. *ramsel*, from Da. Sw. and Ic. *ram*, rank, so called from its strong odour. *Ramson* would be the plural of *ramse*, as peason of pease, and oxen of ox. *Allium ursinum*, L.

RAPE, *L. rapus*, or *rapum*, *Brassica rapus*, L.

RASPBERRY, in Turner's herbal called *Raspis* or *Raspices*, of which the last syllables look like the Du. *bes*, *besje*, a berry. The first is more obscure. It can scarcely be *rasp*, as the dictionaries explain it, for, although the stems are rough, the fruit is not so. It seems, like several other names of plants, to be of double origin; being partly corrupted from Fr. *ronce* or *rouce*, a bramble, as *brass* from *bronce*, and partly from *resp*, as it is called in Tusser, a word that in the Eastern counties means a shoot, a sucker, a young stem, and especially the fruit-bearing stem of raspberries. (Formby.) This name it may owe to the circumstance that the fruit grows on the young shoots of the previous year. Fr. in Cotgrave *meure de ronce*.

*Rubus idæus*, L.

RATTLE-BOX, or YELLOW RATTLE, from the rattling of the ripe seed in its pod, *Rhinanthus crista galli*, L.

„ RED-, *Pedicularis sylvatica*, L.

RAWBONE, properly Rabone.

RAY-GRASS, Fr. *ivraie*, drunkenness, from the supposed intoxicating quality of some species of the genus,

*Lolium perenne*, L.

RED-KNEES, from its red angular joints,

*Polygonum Hydropiper*, L.

RED-LEGS, from its red stalks,

*Polygonum Bistorta*, L.

RED MOROCCO, from the colour of the petals,

*Adonis autumnalis*, L.

RED-ROT, called *Rot* from its supposed baneful effect upon sheep, and *Red* to distinguish it from the White Rot,

*Drosera*, L.

RED-SHANKS, from its red stalks,

*Polygonum Persicaria*, L.

and in the Northern counties,

*Geranium Robertianum*, L.

*Shank*, A.S. *sceanca*, *sconca*, a word, that seems, like

the Lat. *tibia*, to refer to the trumpet shape of the bone of the leg, and to be related to L. *concha*, a shell used as such, and the Skr. *chank*, a trumpet. In support of this conjectural relation of *shank* to *chank* the reader is referred to Hooker's Himalayan Journals, vol. i. p. 173, in which is seen a woodcut representation of a trumpet made by the Lamas from a human thigh-bone. The distance to which the Buddhist religion once extended, and its influence upon the languages of Western Europe, has, perhaps, scarcely been fully appreciated. See NARCISUS and POPLAR.

REDWEED, not from its red showy flowers, but from their being used as a *weed* or dye. "Ils teignent la laine en beau rouge lorsqu'elle est traitée par l'alum et l'acide acetique." Duchesne, pl. utiles, p. 183. The red poppy,  
Papaver Rhœas, L.

REED, A.S. *hreed*, G. *riet*, and a similar name in all Germanic languages, seems to be identical with Lat. *arundo*, in which the *i* of the former is replaced with *u*, as in *hirundo* compared with Gr. *χελιδων*, a swallow, and an *n* inserted before *d* for euphony. The initial *h* of the A.S. *hreed* is also found in the Lat. *harundo* of several MSS. and inscriptions. The root of the word unknown.

Arundo Phragmites, L.

REED-MACE, from the Ecce homo pictures and familiar statues of Jesus in his crown of thorns with this reed-like plant in his hand as a mace or sceptre,

Typha latifolia, L.

REINDEER-MOSS, a lichen on which the reindeer feeds,  
Cladonia rangiferina, Hoffm.

*Rein-deer*, A.S. *hran*, Sw. *ren*, from Lapp. *raingo*, this animal having certainly been known to the Lapps, and domesticated by them before the arrival in the North of the Germanic races.

REST-HARROW, arrest-harrow, Fr. *arrete-bœuf*, from its strong matted roots impeding the progress of plough and harrow,  
Ononis arvensis, L.

RHUBARB, M.Lat. *rha*, from its oriental name *raved*, and *barbarum*, foreign, to distinguish this, a plant that comes from the Volga, from the *Rha ponticum*, another kind from the Roman province *Pontus*,  
Rheum, L.

„ MONK'S, Rumex Patientia, L.

RIBBON-GRASS, the striped variety of  
Digraphis arundinacea, L.

RIBWORT OR RIBGRASS, from the strong parallel veins in its leaves,  
Plantago lanceolata, L.

RIE-GRASS, a name that through some blundering confusion between *rie* and *ray* is wrongly applied to the ray-grass, a perennial darnel,  
Lolium perenne, L.  
but by Ray, by Martyn in his *Flora Rustica*, and all careful writers assigned with more propriety to the meadow barley,  
Hordeum pratense, L.

ROAN-TREE, See ROWAN.

ROAST-BEEF, from the smell of the bruised leaf,  
Iris foetidissima, L.

ROBIN-RUN-IN-THE-HEDGE, LIZZY-RUN-UP-THE-HEDGE, and many more such names seem to have arisen from *Gill-run-bith-ground*, in which *Gill* has been mistaken to mean a girl. See GILL and HAYMAIDS. The ground ivy,  
Hedera terrestris, L.

ROCAMBOLE, Fr. *rocambolle*, of uncertain derivation,  
Allium scorodoprasum, L.

ROCK-CRESS, from its alliance to the cresses, and its growth upon rocks,  
Arabis stricta and petræa, Lam.

ROCK-ROSE, a name that properly belongs to the Cisti, with which the English representatives of the order were once comprized, from the resemblance of some of them to a rose, and their growth on rocks,  
Helianthemum, L.

ROCK-TRIPE, Fr. *tripe de roche*, an edible lichen, upon which Sir J. Franklin and his companions supported themselves in Arctic America, and so called from some fancied resemblance,  
Gyrophora, Ach.

- ROCKET, Fr. *roquette*, It. *rucchetta*, dim of *L. eruca*,  
 E. *sativa*, Lam.  
 „ LONDON-, *Sisymbrium Irio*, L.  
 „ SEA-, *Cakile maritima*, L.  
 „ WINTER-, or YELLOW-, *Barbarea vulgaris*, R.B.

ROGATION FLOWER, from its flowering in Rogation week, the next but one before Whitsuntide, when processions were made to perambulate the parishes with the Holy Cross and Litanies, to mark the boundaries, and invoke the blessing of God on the crops. Gerarde says, p. 450, that “the maidens which use in the countries to walke the procession, make themselves garlands and nose-gaies of it.” It was for the same reason called Cross-, Gang-, and Procession-flower. *Polygala vulgaris*, L.

ROSE, *L. rosa*, a word adopted into most of the modern languages of Europe, Gr. *ῥόδον*, which evidently means “red,” and is nearly related to Go. *rauds*, G. *roth*, W. *rhudd*, Rus. *rdeyu*, red, and traceable to Skr. *rohida*, red. The *L. rosa* appears to be a foreign word introduced to replace a more ancient name for this shrub, *rubus*, which, like the Gr. *ῥόδον*, is expressive of a red colour, as we see from its derivatives, *rubeus*, *ruber*, *rubidus*, *rubicundus*, *rubere*, *erubescere*, *rubigo*, *rubia*, but which is employed by Latin writers merely in the sense of a bramble bush. *Rosa* would seem to be connected with *ῥόδον* through a form in *t*, *rota*, whence *rutilus*, reddish, and *L. rota*, Wel. *rhod*, Gael. *roth*, a wheel, so named, we may presume, from the resemblance of its outline to a rose. The one cultivated in ancient times, to judge from the notion of redness conveyed by the Greek name, and the myth of its springing from the blood of Adonis, was a crimson species. Our common pink ones would scarcely have been so characterised.

- Rosa, L.  
 „ BRIER-, or DOG-, *R. canina*, L.  
 „ BURNET-, from the resemblance of its leaf to that of the burnet, *R. spinosissima*, L.

„ CHRISTMAS-, from its rose-like flowers, and its blossoming in the winter, *Helleborus niger*, L.

„ GUELDER-, from its balls of white flowers which somewhat resemble a double rose, and its native country Gueldres, *Viburnum opulus*, L.

„ PROVINCE, from *Provins*, a small village near Paris, where it used to be cultivated, *R. gallica*, L. var.

ROSE-A-RUBY, *L. rosa rubea*, from its rich red flowers, *Adonis autumnalis*, L.

ROSE BAY, the name given by Turner to the Oleander, but now, from resemblance of leaf, applied in some books to a very different plant, *Epilobium angustifolium*, L.

ROSE CAMPION, the rose-coloured C.

*Lychnis coronaria*, L.

ROSE ELDER, the elder that bears roses, the Guelder rose, *Viburnum Opulus*, L.

ROSE-ROOT, or -WORT, *L. rhodia radix*, from the odour and rosy tint of its rootstock, *Rhodiola rosea*, L.

ROSEMARY, *L. rosmarinus*, sea-spray, from its usually growing on the sea-coast, *R. officinalis*, L.

„ MARSH-, or WILD-, from its narrow linear leaves like those of rosemary, *Andromeda polifolia*, L.

ROT-GRASS, from its being supposed to bane sheep, a grass in the sense of herbage, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, L.

ROWAN, or ROAN-TREE, called in the Northern counties *Ran* or *Royne*, Da. and Sw. *rönn*, or *runn*, the O.Norse *runa*, a charm, from its being supposed to have power to avert the evil eye. "The most approved charm against cantrips and spells was a branch of the *Rowan-tree* planted and placed over the byre. This sacred tree cannot be removed by unholy fingers." Jamieson's Scot. Dict. "Roan-tree and red thread Haud the witches a' in dread." Johnston in East Bord. The word *runn*, from Skr. *ru*, murmur, meant a secret. A *rûn-wita* was a private secretary, one who knew his master's secrets; and from the same word were derived *rynan*, to whisper, *rûna*, a whisperer, in



earlier times a magician, and *rún-stafas*, mysterious staves. From this last use of the word the name *run* came naturally to be applied to the tree from which such staves were usually cut, as *boc* to that from which bookstaves, *boc-stafas*, were made; but it does not appear to be ascertained why this tree should have been so exclusively used for carving runes upon, as to have derived its name from them, not only in the British isles, but in the Scandinavian countries also. There was probably a superstitious feeling of respect for it derived from ancient times.

*Sorbus aucuparia*, L.

RUDDER, a name that should mean a red or ruddy flower, and is hardly applicable in the present sense of the word to a yellow one, such as the marigold. But *ruddy* was formerly said of gold; and the author of the Grete Herball, in speaking of this plant, says, "Maydens make garlands of it, when they go to feestes and bryde ales, because it hath fayre yellowe floures and *ruddy*."

*Calendula officinalis*, L.

and also

*Chrysanthemum segetum*, L.

RUE, L. *ruta*, its meaning unknown,

*R. graveolens*, L.

„ MEADOW-, or FEN-, from its rue-like much divided leaves, and its place of growth, *Thalictrum flavum*, L.

„ WALL-, *Asplenium ruta muraria*, L.

RUNCH, a word that in Scotland means "crunch," Fr. *ronger*, gnaw, and is applied to a strong rawboned woman, as a "*runchie* quean," in reference, as Jamieson thinks, to a coarse wild radish so called, the jointed charlock,

*Raphanus raphanistrum*, L.

RUPTURE WORT, from its fancied remedial powers,

*Herniaria glabra*, L.

RUSH, called in old authors *Ryschys*, *Rish*, and *Rashes*, A.S. *risc*, related to It. *lisca*, reed, Go. *raus*, *Juncus*, L.

„ FLOWERING-, from its tall rush-like stem and handsome head of flowers, *Butomus umbellatus*, L.

RYE, A.S. *ryge*, O.N. *rugr*, W. *rhyg*, O.H.G. *roggo*, Lith. *ruggei*, Rus. *rosh*, Pol. *rez'*, Esth. *rukki*, a word extending, with dialectic modifications, all over Northern Asia, from which this grain seems to have travelled to the South and West. Its derivation unknown. See L. Diefenbach, Or. Eur. No. 29, and J. Grimm, Gesch. d. D. Spr. p. 64.

Secale cereale, L.

RYE-GRASS, see RIE-GRASS.

SAFFLOWER, from its flowers being sold, as a dye, for genuine saffron,  
Carthamus tinctorum, L.

SAFFRON, Sp. *azafran*, Ar. *al zahafaran*,

Crocus sativus, L.

SAGE, Fr. *sauge*, It. and Lat. *salvia*, which by change of *l* to *u* became *sauuia*, *sauja*, *sauge*, as *alveus*, a trough, by the same process, *auge*,  
Salvia, L.

„ WOOD-, from its sage-like leaves, and growth in woods, and about their borders,

Teucrium scorodonia, L.

SAINFOIN, sometimes spelt, as in Lyte, and in Martyn's Flora Rustica, *Saintfoin*, in Hudson *St. Foin*, in Plukenet *Saint-foin*, appears to be formed from Fr. *sain*, wholesome, and *foin*, hay, L. *sanum feenum*, representing its older name *Medica*, which properly meant "of Media," but was misunderstood as meaning "curative." According to Plukenet and Hill, the name was first given to the lucerne, medicago sativa, and that of lucerne to an Onobrychis, our present sainfoin. There does not appear to be any saint named *Foin*, nor any reason for ascribing divine properties to this plant. According to Bomare quoted by Duchesne, "Le S. est ainsi appellé parceque c'est le fourage le plus appetissant, le plus nourrissant, et le plus *sain*, qu'on puisse donner aux chevaux et aux bestiaux." Good reasons for a name follow of course. The equivocal word *Medica* is undoubtedly the origin of this one. See MEDICK.

Onobrychis sativa, Lam.

ST. ANTHONY'S NUT, the pignut, from his being the patron saint of pigs. "Immundissimas porcorum greges custodire cogitur miser Antonius." Moresini Papatus, p. 133.

Bunium flexuosum, L.

ST. ANTHONY'S RAPE OR TURNEP,

Ranunculus bulbosus, L.

ST. BARBARA'S CRESS, from growing in the winter, her day being the 4th Dec. old style,

Barbarea vulgaris, DC.

ST. BARNABY'S THISTLE, from its flowering on the 11th June, old style, now the 22nd, whence its Latin specific name,

Centaurea solstitialis, L.

ST. CATHARINE'S FLOWER, from its persistent styles resembling the spokes of her wheel,

Nigella damascena, L.

ST. DABOEC'S HEATH, from an Irish saint of that name, a species found in Ireland,

Menziesia polifolia, Jus.

ST. JAMES'S WORT, either from its being used for the diseases of horses, of which this great warrior and pilgrim saint was the patron; or according to Tabernæmontanus, because it blossoms about his day, the 25th July, which may have led to its use in a veterinary practice upon male colts at this season;

Senecio Jacobæa, L.

ST. JOHN'S WORT, from its being gathered on the eve of St. John's day, the 21st June, to be hung up at windows as a preservative against thunder and evil spirits, whence it was called Fuga dæmonum, and given internally against mania,

Hypericum perforatum, L.

ST. PATRICK'S CABBAGE, from its occurrence in the West of Ireland, where St. Patrick lived, the London pride,

Saxifraga umbrosa, L.

ST. PETER'S WORT, of the old Herbals, the cowslip, from its resemblance to St. Peter's badge, a bunch of keys, whence G. *schlüssel-blume*,

Primula veris, L.

ST. PETER'S WORT of modern floras, from its flowering on his day, the 29th June,

Hypericum quadrangulare, L.

SALAD, OR SALLET, CORN-, *Valerianella olitoria*, Poll.

SALAD BURNET, a burnet eaten with salad,

*Poterium sanguisorba*, L.

SALEP, Mod. Gr. *σαλεπι*, Pers. *sahaleb*, the plant from which salep is made,

*Orchis latifolia*, L.

SALIGOT, from the French, originally perhaps the same as Fr. *saligaud*, filthy, from its growing in mud, a plant that Lyte tells us, p. 536, was found in his time "in certayne places of this countrie, as in stues and pondes of cleare water,"

*Trapa natans*, L.

SALLOW, A.S. *sealh*, *salh*, *salig*, O.H.G. *salaha*, Da. *selje*, O.N. *selja*, L. *salix*, Gr. *ἐλιξ*, Ir. *sail* and *saileog*, Sw. *salg*, Fin. *salawa*, different forms of a word that implies a shrub fit for withes, A.S. *sal*, or *sæl*, a strap or tie, with a terminating adjectival *ig* or *h*, corresponding to the *ix*, or *ex*, or *ica* in the Latin names of shrubs. *Sal*, a hall, in O.H.G. a house, G. *saal*, seems to be of the same origin, and to tell us that our ancestors dwelt in houses of wicker work, even men of rank. The L. *aula*, Gr. *ἀυλη*, is perhaps the same word as *sal*. It means both a stall and a hall. In fact, the royal sheepcote was in the primitive nation the royal palace, as among the Tartars of the interior of Asia is the *aoul* at the present day. See Westmacott, p. 84.

*Salix*, L.

SALLOW-THORN, from its white willow-like leaves, and twigs,

*Hippophae rhamnoides*, L.

SALSIFY, Fr. *salsifs*, L. *solsequium*, from *sol*, sun, and *sequi*, follow,

*Tragopogon porrifolius*, L.

SALTWORT, from its original Latin name *Salicornia*, salt-horn,

*S. herbacea*, L.

„ BLACK-,

*Glaux maritima*, L.

SAMPHIRE, more properly, as formerly spelt, SAMPIRE or SAMPIER, Fr. *Saint Pierre*, It. *Herba di San Pietro*, contracted to *Sampetra*; from being, from its love of sea-cliffs, dedicated to the fisherman saint, whose name is the Gr. *πετρος*, a rock, Fr. *Pierre*, *Crithmum maritimum*, L.

SAND-WEED, or -WORT, from its place of growth,

Arenaria, L.

SANGUINARY, L. *sanguinaria*, from its styptic properties,  
yarrow, Achillæa Millefolium, L.

SANICLE, a word usually derived immediately from L. *sanare*, heal, which on principles of etymology is impossible. Indeed it is, as Adelung remarks, an even question, whether its origin is Latin or German. Its great abundance in the middle and north of Europe would incline us rather to the latter as the likeliest, and it may be a corruption of *Saint Nicolas* called in German *Nickel*. Whatever its origin, the name was understood in the Middle ages as meaning "curative," and suggested many proverbial axioms, such as

"Celuy qui *sanicle* a, De mire affaire il n'a."

He who keeps sanicle, has no business with a doctor. *Sanicula* does not occur in classical Latin writers, and there is no such word as *sanis* or *sanicus* from which it could have been formed. But in favour of the derivation from San Nicola, or Sanct Nickel, is the wonderful Tale of a Tub, the legend of his having interceded with God in favour of the two children, whom an innkeeper had murdered and pickled in a pork tub, and obtained their restoration to life and health. See Forster's Perennial Calendar, p. 688, and Mrs. Jameson's Sacred and Legendary Art, p. 273. A plant named after this saint and dedicated to him might very reasonably be expected to "make whole and sound all wounds and hurts both inward and outward," as Lyte and other herbalists tell us of the Sanicle. The Latin name, as in so many other cases, would be the nearest approach that could be made to the German. See SELFHEAL.

S. Europæa, L.

SARACENS CONSOUND, M.Lat. *Consolida Saracennica*. Parkinson says, Th. Bot. p. 540, "It is called *Solidago* and *Consolida* from the old Latine word *consolidare*, which in the barbarous Latine age did signify to soder, close, or

glue up the lips of wounds; and *Saracenicæ*, because the Turks and Saracens had a great opinion thereof in healing the wounds and hurts of their people, and were accounted great chirurgions, and of wonderful skill therein." Hence it was in German also called *Heidnisch wundkraut*.

*Solidago Saracenicæ*, L.

SATIN FLOWER, from its satiny dissepiments,

*Lunaria biennis*, L.

SAUCE-ALONE, so called, according to W. Coles, from being "eaten in spring time with meat, and so highly flavoured that it serves of itself for sauce instead of many others." This is an ingenious explanation of the name, but probably not the origin of it, which is more likely to be the It. *aglione*, Fr. *ailloignon*, coarse garlick. Its German name is *Sasskraut*, sauce-herb, and the English will mean "sauce-garlick," and refer to its strong alliaceous odour.

*Erysimum Alliaria*, L.

SAUGH, the sallow, A.S. *sealh*, *Salix caprea*, L.

SAVINE, from the *Sabine* district of Italy,

*Juniperus Sabina*, L.

SAVOURY, Fr. *savorée*, It. *savoreggia*, L. *satureja*, influenced by L. *sapor*, flavour, *S. hortensis*, L.

SAVOY, from the country of its discovery,

*Brassica oleracea*, L. var. *Sabauda*.

SAW-WORT, from its leaves being nicked like a saw,

*Serratula arvensis*, L.

SAXIFRAGE, L. *saxifraga*, from *saxum*, rock, and *frango*, break, being supposed to disintegrate the rocks, in the crevices of which it grows, and thence, on the doctrine of signatures, to dissolve stone in the bladder. Isidore of Seville derives it primarily from this latter quality. The words in the Ort. San. are; "Der meister Ysidorus spricht, das dises kraut umb des willen heysst saxifraga, wann es den stein brichet in der blasen, und den zu sandt machet." It is for the same reason called in Scotland *Thirlstane*.

*Saxifraga*, L.

also from its supposed similar virtues,

Pimpinella Saxifraga, L.

SCABWORT, from its use in veterinary medicine,

Inula Helenium, L.

SCABIOUS, L. *scabiosa*, scurfy, from *scabies*, scurf, in allusion to the scaly pappus of its seeds, which, on the doctrine of signatures, led to its use in leprous diseases, and its being regarded as a specific remedy for all such as were "räudig" or "grindig," itchy or mangy. See Brunschwygk.

Scabiosa, L.

SCALD-BERRY, from the curative effect of its leaves boiled in lye in cases of *scalded* head, Park. Th. p. 1016.

Rubus fruticosus, L.

SCALE-FERN, from the scales that clothe the back of the fronds,

Ceterach officinarum, W.

SCALLION, a garlick from *Ascalon* in Syria,

Allium Ascalonicum, L.

SCARLET RUNNER, a climber with scarlet flowers,

Phaseolus coccineus, L.

SCIATICA CRESS, from Lat. *Ischiatica*, so called from its effect in cases of irritation of the ischiatic nerve, a species of candytuft,

Iberis amara, L.

SCORPION-GRASS, the old name of the plant now called "Forget-me-not," and that under which it is described in all our Herbals, and all our Floras, inclusive of the Flora Londinensis and Gray's Natural Arrangement, till the end of the first quarter of this century, when the term "Forget me not" was introduced with a pretty popular tale from Germany, and superseded it. Lyte tells us that in his day it had "none other knowen name." It was called *Scorpion-grass* from being supposed, on the doctrine of signatures, from its spike resembling a scorpion's tail, to be good against the sting of a scorpion. Myosotis, L.

*Scorpion*, Gr. σκορπιων. See *Crab*.

SCOTCH ASPHODEL, a plant of the Asphodel tribe common in Scotland,

Tofieldia palustris, Huds.

SCOTCH FIR, from its growing wild in Scotland,

*Pinus sylvestris*, L.

SCOTCH THISTLE, the thistle adopted as the badge of Scotland in the national arms, usually taken to be the musk thistle,

*Carduus nutans*, L.

but according to Johnston in East. Bord.

*Onopordium acanthium*, L.

SCOURING RUSH, a rush-like plant used in scouring utensils of wood or pewter, the Dutch rush,

*Equisetum hyemale*, L.

SCRAMBLING ROCKET, a corruption of *Crambling*.

SCURVY GRASS, or more properly SCURVY CRESS, from its use against scurvy,

*Cochlearia officinalis*, L.

SEA BEET,

*Beta maritima*, L.

*Sea*, Go. *sais*, A.S. *saew*, a word supposed by Adelung to represent the hiss of waves dashing on the shore, and essentially the same in all the Germanic languages.

SEA BELLS, -BINDWEED, or -WITHWIND,

*Convolvulus Soldanella*, L.

SEA-BELT,

*Laminaria saccharina*, Lam.

SEA-BUCKTHORN,

*Hippophae rhamnoides*, L.

SEA-BUGLOSS,

*Pulmonaria maritima*, L.

SEA-CALE, or -KALE, a cale or colewort that grows by the sea-side,

*Crambe maritima*, L.

SEA-GILLIFLOWER,

*Statice Armeria*, L.

SEA-GRAPE,

*Salicornia herbacea*, L.

SEA-GRASS,

*Ruppia maritima*, L.

SEA-HARD-GRASS,

*Ophiurus incurvatus*, R.B.

SEA-HEATH,

*Frankenia pulverulenta*, L.

SEA-HOLLY, HOLME, or HULVER,

*Eryngium campestre*, L.

SEA-LACES; CATGUT, or WHIPCORD, *Chorda filum*, Lam.

SEA-LAVENDER,

*Statice Limonium*, L.

SEA-LYME-GRASS,

*Elymus arenarius*, L.

SEA-MILK-WORT,

*Glaux maritima*, L.

SEA-MAT-WEED,

*Psamma arenaria*, P.B.



SEA-POPPY,	<i>Glaucium luteum</i> , L.
SEA-PURSLANE,	<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i> , L.
SEA-REED,	<i>Psamma arenaria</i> , P.B.
SEA-ROCKET,	<i>Cakile maritima</i> , L.
SEA-STARWORT,	<i>Aster Tripolium</i> , L.
SEA-WEEDS,	Algæ.

SEAL-WORT, from the round markings, like impressions of a seal, on the root-stock, the Solomon's seal,

*Convallaria polygonatum*, L.

SEAVES, a North-country word, Da. *siv*, rush,

*Juncus*, L.

SEE-BRIGHT, from its supposed effect on the eyes, see CLARY.

SEDGE, SEGG, or SEGS, originally the same word, A.S. *secg*, which is identical with *sæg* and *seax*, a small sword, a dagger, and was applied indiscriminately to all sharp-pointed plants growing in fens. Their sense is at present limited; *Sedge* being now confined to the genus *Carex*, L. and *Segg* to the gladdon and flag-flowers, *Iris*, L.

SEGGURM, *Senecio Jacobæa*, L.

SEGS, in the Eastern counties (Moore) "rushes, reeds and sedges," as in "a *seggen*-bottom'd chair;" and in a Wycliffite version of Exod. ii. 3, "sche took a leep of segg," that is, a basket of rush.

SELF-HEAL, correctly so spelt, and not *Slough-heal*, for reasons stated under this latter term. It meant that with which one may cure one's self, without the help of a surgeon, to which effect Ruellius quotes a French proverb, that "No one wants a surgeon who keeps *Prunelle*." See Park. Th. Bot. p. 526.

*Prunella vulgaris*, L.

and also, for the same reason, *Sanicula vulgaris*, L.

SENGREEN, A.S. *sin*, ever, and *grene*, green, from its evergreen leaves, the houseleek,

*Sempervivum tectorum*, L.

SENVY, Fr. *sénévé*, G. *senf*, L. *sinapis*, G. *σινηπι*, mustard,

*S. nigra*, L.

SEPTFOIL, from its seven leaflets, Fr. *sept*, and *feuilles*,  
L. *septem foliola*, Potentilla Tormentilla, L.

SERVICE-TREE, from L. *cervisia*, its fruit having from  
ancient times been used for making a fermented liquor, a  
kind of beer,

“Et pocula læti

Fermento atque acidis imitantur vitea *sorbis*.”

Virg. Geor. iii. 379.

Evelyn tells us in his *Sylva*, ch. xv, that “ale and beer brewed with these berries, being ripe, is an incomparable drink;” and “bisweilen bedeutet *cervisia* einen nicht aus Getreide gebrauten Trank,” says Diefenbach, Or. Eur. 102. The *Cerevisia* of the ancients was made from malt, and took its name, we are told by Isidore of Seville, from *Ceres*, *Cereri*s, but this has come to be used in a secondary sense without regard to its etymological meaning, just as in *Balm-tea* we use *tea* in the sense of an infusion, without regard to its being properly the name of a different plant.

*Sorbus domestica*, L.

„ WILD-, the rowan tree, *Sorbus aucuparia*, L.

SETWALL, from M.Lat. *Zedoar* or *Zeduar*, the name of an Oriental plant for which this was sold by ignorant or fraudulent apothecaries, through the changes of *r* to *l*, and *z* to *s*, by which we get *Zeduar*, *Zedualle*, (as it is spelt in a MS. marginal note to an old edition of Macer,) and *Setwal*, according to Lyte, iii. 17, *Valeriana pyrenaica*, L.

SETTERWORT, so called, because it was used for the operation of *setting*, that is, says Gerarde, p. 979, “Husbandmen are used to make a hole, and put a piece of the root into the dewlap of their cattle, as a *seton*, in cases of diseased lungs; and this is called pegging or *setting*.” The word is a corruption of *seton*, It. *setone*, a large *seta*, or thread of silk. *Helleborus fetidus*, L.

SHAKER, from the tremulous motion of its spikelets, a synonym of its other name, Quaker, *Briza media*, L.

SHALLOT, Fr. *eschalotte*, from L. *Ascalonitis*, of *Ascalon* in Palestine, its native country, *Allium fissile*, L.

SHAMROCK, from an Irish word, *seamrog*, which seems to be compounded of *seamar ogh*, holy trefoil, and is, apparently, the same as the Celtic name of clover given by Marcellus of Bordeaux, physician to Theodosius the Great, *visumarus*, from *vi*, sheep, and *sumar*. It is usually taken to be the Dutch clover, and this is regarded by the Irish themselves as the right *shamrock*. Mr. Bicheno, however, in a paper, of which there is an abstract in the *Philos. Mag.* for 1830, p. 288, has maintained that the wood sorrel is entitled to this honour, on the ground, that the Shamrock is represented as having been eaten by the Irish, and a sour plant; that it is abundant in early spring before the White clover is in blossom; and that it is called *Shamroy* by the older herbalists; while the clover is not esculent, is not sour, and was not common until it was introduced for cultivation in the seventeenth century, and not in blossom on St. Patrick's day, the 17th March. Unfortunately in the short abstract given of his paper there are no references to the Herbals where the wood sorrel is called *Shamrock*, or to the works in which this is said to be sour. Nares quotes from Taylor

“Whilst all the Hibernian kernes in multitudes  
Did feast with *shamerags* stew'd in usquebaugh.”

and from Wythers—

“And for my clothing in a mantle goe,  
And feast on *shamroots*, as the Irish doe.”

But such sarcastic allusions, as these, prove nothing. It is further to be remembered that, as it was upon the leaf of the plant, and not its flower, that St. Patrick explained the Trinity, it is nothing to the purpose that the White or Dutch clover is not in blossom on his day. Any trefoil would have served his turn equally well. It is scarcely

possible that Mr. Bicheno really found the name assigned in old Herbals to the wood-sorrel, for neither in our English works, nor in Keogh's *Botanologia Hibernica* is this the case. There is therefore no ground whatever for admitting this change, and the Shamrock may remain, as before, the White clover, *Trifolium repens*, L.

SHAREWORT, L. *inguinalis*, from being supposed to cure diseases of the share or groin, called *buboes*, whence one of its synonyms in old authors *bubonium*. The misunderstanding of this word *bubonium* led to some ludicrous theories of the effect of the plant upon toads. The *Ortus Sanitatis* tells us, ch. 431, that it means *toad-wort*, for that "*bubo* means *toad*. Inde *bubonium*. And it is so called, because it is a great remedy for the toads. When a spider stings a toad, and the toad is becoming vanquished, and the spider stings it thickly and frequently, and the toad cannot avenge itself, it bursts asunder. But if such a burst toad is near this plant, it chews it, and becomes sound again. But if it happens that the wounded toad cannot get to the plant, another toad fetches it, and gives it to the wounded one." A case is recorded in Toppell's *Natural History*, p. 729, as having been actually witnessed by the Duke of Bedford and his attendants, at a place called Owbourn, and oftentimes related by himself. The error has arisen from the confusion of *bubo* with *bufo*. The toad-flax has acquired its name from a similar blunder.

*Aster Tripolium*, L.

SHAVE-GRASS, from being "used by fletchers and comb-makers to polish their work therewith," says W. Coles, Du. *schaaf-stroo*, from *schaaf*, a plane, and *stroo*, straw,

*Equisetum hyemale*, L.

SHEEP'S-BANE, from its character of baning sheep, see Ger. p. 528, the whiterot, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, L.

*Sheep*, A.S. *sceap*, a word of unknown derivation, but evidently connected with *ceapian*, buy, trade, from sheep or their fleeces having, before the invention of money, or,

at least, before its introduction, been the medium of exchange. From the same association we find *L. pecunia*, money, connected with *pecus*, a flock, and the A.S. *feoh*, Go. *faihu*, which is identical with *pecus*, to have meant both cattle and money, as does also the Fris. *sket*, indications that the bartering of the early settlers in Europe was carried on with cattle, and not with mineral coin, or the fruits of the earth; and tending with the family appellatives of "father," the feeder, and "daughter," the milker, to show that the first occupation of the Ind-European race was pastoral, and not agricultural.

SHEEP'S-BIT, or SHEEP'S-BIT-SCABIOUS, so called to distinguish it from the Devil's bit Scabious,

Jasione montana, L.

SHEEP'S SORREL, Rumex acetosella, L.

SHELLEY GRASS, in Nemnich, Triticum repens, L.

SHEPHERD'S-CRESS, Teesdalia nudicaulis, RB.

SHEPHERD'S NEEDLE, Scandix Pecten, L.

SHEPHERD'S-PURSE, Capsella Bursa, DC.

SHEPHERD'S-ROD, or -STAFF, L. *virga pastoris*,

Dipsacus pilosus, L.

SHEPHERD'S WEATHER-GLASS, see POOR-MAN'S W. G.

Anagallis arvensis, L.

SHERE-GRASS, TURN. i, 112, sedge, from its cutting edges,

A.S. *sceran*, shear, Carex, L.

SHORE-GRASS, or SHORE-WEED, from its usual place of growth,

Littorella lacustris, L.

SICKLE-WORT, L. *secula*, from the shape of its flowers, which seen in profile resemble a sickle,

Prunella vulgaris, L.

SIETHES, in Tusser, a kind of chives, spelt in Holybande

SIEVES, from the Fr. *cive*, Allium fissile, L.

SILVER FIR, from its silvery white bark,

Abies pectinata, L.

*Silver*, Go. *silubr*, O.H.G. *silapar*, and corresponding words in all the other Germanic and Scandinavian lan-

guages, and, with allowance for dialect peculiarities, in the Slavonian. Its root unknown. See Grimm. Gesch. d. D. Sprache, p. 9.

SILVER-WEED, from the silvery glitter of the under surface of its leaves called in M.Lat. *Argentina*,

*Potentilla anserina*, L.

SIMPLER'S JOY, from the good sale they had for so highly esteemed a plant,

*Verbena officinalis*, L.

SIMSON, Fr. *seneson*, L. *senecio*, *-onis*, from *senex*, old man, called so, as Gerarde says, "because it waxeth old quickly," but evidently from its heads of white hair, the *pappus* on its seed, Gr. *παππος*, grandfather,

*Senecio vulgaris*, L.

SINKFIELD, a corruption of *cinquefoil*, *Potentilla*, L.

SKEWER-WOOD, from skewers being made of it, a shrub called in the Western counties *Skiver-wood*,

*Evonymus Europæus*, L.

SKIRRET, in old works, SKYRWORT or SKYRWYT, Du. *suikerwortel*, sugar-root,

*Sium sisarum*, L.

SKULLCAP, from the shape of the flower,

*Scutellaria galericulata*, L.

*Skull*, G. *schale*, Go. *skalja*, a tile, O.H.G. *scala*, a dish, a word, of which it seems doubtful, whether the skull was so named from its resemblance to pottery, or the latter from a skull having in ancient barbarous times been used for a drinking vessel. In the Romanic languages *testa*, which has also the two meanings of a potsherd and a head, meant primarily the former.

SLEEP-AT-NOON, from its flowers closing at midday, the goat's beard,

*Tragopogon pratensis*, L.

SLEEPWORT, from its narcotic properties,

*Lactuca sativa*, L.

SLOE, in Lancashire *slaigh* or *sleawgh*, A.S. *sla-*, *slag-*, or *slah-born*, the *sla* meaning not the fruit, but the hard trunk, a word that we find in our own, and in all its

kindred languages, to be intimately connected with a verb meaning *slay* or *strike*.

NOUN.	VERB.	NOUN.	VERB.
A.S. <i>sla</i>	<i>slean</i>	Da. <i>slaaen</i>	<i>slaa</i>
<i>slage</i>	<i>slagan</i>	Sw. <i>slå</i>	<i>slå</i>
Eng. <i>sloe</i> , O.E. <i>sle</i>	<i>slay</i>	Icel.	<i>sla</i>
Du. and L.G. <i>slee</i>	<i>slaan</i>	Old Fries.	<i>sla</i>
G. <i>schlehe</i>	<i>schlagen</i>	Old Sax.	<i>slahan</i> or <i>slan</i>

Whether this connexion is due to the wood having been used as a flail, as from its being so used at this day, is most probable, or as a bludgeon, can only be discovered by a comparison of its synonyms and the corresponding verb in other languages of the Ind-European group.

*Prunus spinosa*, L.

SLOUGH-HEAL, a supposed, but mistaken correction of *Self-heal*, the *slough* being that which is thrown off from a foul sore, and not that which is healed, the wound itself. Besides, the term *slough* was not used in surgical language till long after the plant had been called *Selfe-heal*, and applied as a remedy, not to sloughing sores, but to fresh cut wounds. See SELF-HEAL. *Prunella vulgaris*, L.

SMALLAGE, *small ache* or *parsley*, as compared with the *Smyrnum olus atrum*, the *ἵπποσελίνον*, or great *parsley*. See Turner's Nomenclator, A.D. 1548, and Gerarde. See also ACHE. *Apium graveolens*, L.

SMOKE-WOOD, from children smoking its porous stalks,

*Clematis vitalba*, L.

SMUT, from its resemblance to the smut on kettles,

*Uredo caries*, L.

SNAG, in Cotgrave, and in Lyte, b. vi. ch. 47, the *sloe*,

*Prunus spinosa*, L.

SNAIL CLOVER, a trefoil so called from the spiral convolutions of its legumes,

*Medicago*, L.

*Snail*, A.S. *snægel*, related to Go. *snaga*, a mantle to be folded round the body. See Diefenb. Lex. comp. ii. 281.

SNAKE'S HEAD, from the chequered markings on the petals like the scales on a snake's head,

Fritillaria Meleagris, L.

Snake, A.S. *snacu*, from *snican*, creep, Da. *snog*, from *snige*.

SNAKE'S TAIL, from its cylindrical spikes,

Rottböllia incurvata, L.

SNAKE-WEED, the bistort, from its writhed roots,

Polygonum Bistorta, L.

SNAP-DRAGON, from its corolla resembling the *snap* or snout, Du. *sneb*, G. *schnabel*, of some animal. The word would convey the idea of a "snapping dragon." It means, perhaps, "Snap, dragon!"

Antirrhinum majus, L.

SNEEZE-WORT, from its powder causing to sneeze, L. *sternutamentoria*, Gr. *πταρμύκη*, *Achillæa ptarmica*, L.

SNOW-BALL TREE, from its round balls of white flowers, the Guelder rose,

Viburnum Opulus, L.

SNOW-DROP, from G. *schneetropfen*, a word that in its usually accepted sense of a drop of snow is inconsistent, for a dry powdery substance, like snow, cannot form a drop. Mrs. Barbauld's pretty image is intelligible:

"As Flora's breath, by some transforming power,  
Had changed an icicle into a flower;"

for here the comparison is to a frozen drop of water. In fact, however, the *drop* refers not to icicles, but to the large pendants, or drops, that were worn by the ladies in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, both as ear-rings and hangings to their brooches, and which we see so often represented by the Dutch and Italian painters of that period.

Galanthus nivalis, L.

*Snow*, A.S. *snaw*, a word that, with dialectic differences, is nearly the same in all Germanic and Slavonian languages, and intimately connected with its synonyms in others of the Ind-European group, L. *nix*, *nievis*, Gr. *νίφας*, a snow-storm, Gael. *sneachd*. Its radical unknown.



SNOW-FLAKE, a name invented by W. Curtis to distinguish it from the Snow-drop, *Leucojum æstivum*, L.

SOAPWORT, from its being used in scouring, Ger. p. 360, and frothing in the hands like soap, says Brunschwygk, *Saponaria officinalis*, L.

SOLDIER-ORCHIS, from a fancied resemblance in it to a soldier, *O. militaris*, L.

SOLOMON'S SEAL, from the flat round scars on the root-stock resembling the impressions of a seal, and called *Solomon's* from his seal being of frequent occurrence in Oriental tales, and a familiar expression.

*Convallaria polygonatum*, L.

SOPS-IN-WINE, from the flowers being used to flavour wine. Chaucer says of it, writing in Edw. III's reign :

“ There springen herbes grete and smal,  
The licoris and setewale,  
And many a clove gilofre,  
To put in ale,  
Whether it be moist or stale.” C.T. l. 13690.

The plant intended was the Clove-Pink, -Gilofre, or -Gilliflower, *Dianthus caryophyllus*, L.

SORB, L. *sorbus*, from *sorbeo*, drink down, in allusion to a beverage made from the fruit. See SERVICE-TREE. A name formerly given to *Pyrus domestica*, L. at present to *Pyrus torminalis*, L.

SORREL, Fr. *surelle*, a dim. derived from L.Germ. *suur*, sour, from the acidity of the leaves,

*Rumex acetosa*, L.

„ WOOD-

*Oxalis acetosella*, L.

SOURINGS and SWEETINGS, crabs and sweet apples.

SOUTHERNWOOD, A.S. *sūðernevude*, as being a shrub from the south, but also called *sæðrene-wudu*, M. and W. p. 69, and more probably, from the aphrodisiac powers ascribed to it, related to A.S. *sætere*, seducer, and *sūðerige*, satirion. See OLD MAN. *Artemisia abrotanum*, L.

SOWBANE, from a fancied injurious effect of it upon

swine, being, as Parkinson tells us, Th. Bot. p. 749, "found certain to kill swine,"  
*Chenopodium rubrum*, L.

*Sow*, A.S. *sug*, *suga*, L.Ger. *soege*, Fris. *siugge*, Sw. *so* and *sugga*, O.H.G. *su*, L. *sus*, Gr. *ús*, Coptic *saau*, a very remarkable conformity with G. *sau*, Skr. *sugara*, and, with an aspirated guttural to replace the *s*, Pers. *kchúk*, Armen. *չով*, Wel. *hwch*, Bret. *houch*, whence our *hog*, and Fr. *cochon*, Fin. *sica*, Est. *sigá*, Laconian Greek *σικα*, words that seem to be connected with *suck*, L. *sugere*, and to be traceable to an ancient name of the animal, which different nations have altered according to their several dialects, since they dispersed from their first home in Upper Asia.

SOW THISTLE, in Pr. Pm. *thowthystil*, A.S. *þufepistel*, or *þupistel*, O.G. *du-tistel*, sprout thistle, from *þufe*, a sprout, an indication of the plant having been valued for its edible sprouts, altered to *sow-thistle* through its name in the *Ortus Sanitatis*, c. cxlviii, *suwe-distel*, or, in some editions, *saw-distel*, a corruption of its A.S. and older German name,  
*Sonchus oleraceus*, L.

SOWD-WORT, that is soda-plant, Fr. *soude*, L. *solida*, from soda being the solid residue left by boiling a lye of its ashes,  
*Salsola kali*, L.

SOWER, WOOD-, see *SORREL*.

SPARROW-GRASS, corrupted from *asparagus*, an example of the habit of the uneducated to explain an unknown word by a more familiar one,  
*A. officinalis*, L.

*Sparrow*, A.S. *spearuwa*, Go. *sparva*, O.H.G. *sparo*, G. *sperling*, a name derived from *va* or *wa*, bird, Skr. *wi*, exhibited in L. *avis*, combined with a verb that means "spatter" or "scatter," which occurs with dialectic differences in L. *spargere*, Go. *spreihan*, Gr. *πασσεν*, the source of L. *passer*, alluding to the habit of small birds to rummage in chaff and dust. The name was not in the first place limited to the particular species to which we now assign it.

SPARROW-TONGUE, from its small acute leaves, the knot-grass,  
Polygonum aviculare, L.

SPATLING-POPPY, from A.S. *spatlian*, froth, from the spittle-like froth often seen upon it caused by the bite of an insect,  
Silene inflata, L.

SPEAR-MINT or SPIRE-MINT, from its spiry, not capitate inflorescence,  
Mentha viridis, L.

SPEEDWELL, from its blossoms falling off and flying away, as soon as it is gathered; "Speed-well!" being equivalent to "Farewell!" "Good bye!" a common form of valediction in old times, and synonymous with "Forget-me-not," a name that appears to have first been given to this plant,  
Veronica chamædrys, L.

SPELT, the same word in Du. G. Da. and Sw. the It. *spelda*, Sp. *espelta*, Fr. *espeautre*, from G. *spalten*, split,  
Triticum spelta, L.

SPERAGE, Fr. *esperage*, from L. *asparagus*,  
A. officinalis, L.

SPIDER-WORT, a name given to a plant of an allied genus, Phalangium, from its curing the bite of a venomous spider, *φαλαγγιον*, and thence extended to this species,  
Anthericum serotinum, L.

*Spider*, a word whose derivation is rather obscure. In Lyte's Herbal it is spelt *spidder*, in the Grete Herbal *spynner*, in Pr. Pm. *spynnare*, in Palsgrave *spiner*. Skinner would derive it from Dan. *spinder*, and Todd from Dan. *speider*, but Danish had long ceased to be spoken in England, before the word had changed from *spinner* to *spider*, and could not have furnished the name of so common an insect. It seems to have been merely from some caprice of language, that the *n* was changed to *d*, and the vowel lengthened.

SPIKE-NARD, L. *spica nardi*, merely a ear of nard, but from this application of it *spica* came to be understood as meaning a highly scented plant, and was so used in Lavender-

*spike* and *Spicknel*; and in Du. *spijk*, G. *speich*, and our *spice*, and *spicer*, a grocer, or seller of spices,

Valeriana celtica, L.

„ PLOWMAN'S-, see under PLOWMAN.

SPIKENEL, SPICKNEL, or SPIGNEL, Sp. *espiga*, spike, and *eneldo*, from L. *anethum*, dill, a plant that was imported from Spain under that name; see Lyte, b. iii, c. 15.

Meum Athamanticum, L.

SPINACH, It. *spinace*, derived, according to Dietz and Scheler, through a presumed M.Lat. *spinaceus*, spiny, from L. *spina*, a thorn, in allusion to its sharp-pointed leaves, or, as others with more reason say, to its prickly fruit. If we assume a word for which we have no authority, *spinax* would bring us nearer to the It. *spinace* than *spinaceus*. The analogy of other plant-names would suggest a M.Lat. *spinago*. But the word seems to have an entirely different origin. Fuchs tells us, Hist. plant. p. 668, that it is called in Arabic *Hispanach*: “Arabicæ factionis principes *Hispanach*, hoc est, Hispanicum olus nominant.” Dodoens b. v. i, 5, tells us also, “*Spinachiam* nostra ætas appellat, nonnulli *spinacheum* olus. Ab Arabibus et Serapione *Hispanac* dicitur.” Brunfelsius, ed. 1531, says expressly at p. 16, “Quæ vulgo *spinachia* hodie, *Atriplex Hispaniensis* dicta est quondam; eo quod ab Hispania primum allata est ad alias exterarum nationes.” Tragus also calls it *Olus Hispanicum*; Cotgrave *Herbe d’Espagne*; and the modern Greeks *σπανάκιον*. There cannot be the least question, but that the Italians derived their *spenace* and *spinace* from the Arabic word *Hispanac* through the Spanish *espinaca*, and it is only in deference to the very high authority of Dietz, that it has seemed necessary to quote these ancient authors. Talbot in Engl. Etym. takes the same view, and considers the name as meaning “Spanish.” *Spinacia oleracea*, L.

SPINDLE-TREE, from its furnishing wood for spindles, A.S. *spindel*, which meant, not so much the implement used in spinning, as a pin or skewer, a purpose for which

it is used to this day, and whence it has taken its other names of Gadrise, Prickwood, etc. It is to be remarked, that words that mean *pin* and *spin*, *net* and *sew*, are very much mixed up and interchanged with each other in the whole group of Ind-European languages.

Evonymus Europæus, L.

SPINKS, or BOG-SPINKS, Du. *pinkster-bloem*, from their blossoming at *pinkster* or Pentecost, Gr. *πεντηκοστη*, (see PINK,) the Lady's smock, Cardamine pratensis, L.

SPIRES, or SPIRE-REED, the pool-reed, A.S. *pol-spere*, in the Wycliffite version of Is. xix. 6, called *spier*, properly a spear, A.S. *spior* or *spere*, and perhaps in the first place so named from the Spanish reed, Arundo Donax, having been imported and used for missiles. In later times we find this word in the sense of a pointed inflorescence, as a "spyre of corne;" Palsg. "I spyre as corne doth;" ib. quoted by Halliwell. *Spire* is in different counties applied to several different plants, such as rushes and sedges. It usually means Arundo phragmites, L.

SPLEEN-WORT, from its supposed efficacy in diseases of the spleen, Gr. *σπλην*, a notion suggested, on the doctrine of signatures, by the lobular form of the leaf in the species to which the name was first given, the Ceterach, a plant that has rather inconsistently been made the type of a new genus, instead of remaining that of the "Spleenworts," while other species have been referred to this genus, which have no resemblance to a spleen. Asplenium, L.

SPOONWORT, from its leaf being shaped like an old-fashioned spoon, whence also G. *löffel-kraut*, and L. *cochlearia*, C. officinalis, L.

SPREUSIDANY, from L. *peucedanum*, P. officinale, L.

SPRING-GRASS, see VERNAL-GRASS.

*Spring*, sprig-time, the season of *sprigs* or sprouts that are called by Lyte and other old writers *springes*, and opposed to the Fall or autumn.

SPRUCE, from G. *sprossen*, a sprout, as the tree from the

sprouts of which *sprossen-bier*, our spruce-beer, is made. Evelyn, from the expression he uses, "Those of Prussia, which we call Spruse," seems to have fancied that it meant Prussian.

*Abies excelsa*, Poir.

SPURGE, Fr. *espurge*, L. *expurgare*, from its medicinal effects,

*Euphorbia*, L.

SPURGE LAUREL,

*Daphne laureola*, L.

SPURGE OLIVE,

*Daphne Mezereon*, L.

SPUR-WORT, It. *speronella*, from its verticils of leaves resembling the large spur-rowels formerly worn,

*Sherardia arvensis*, L.

SPURRY, a word from which Lyte says, b. i. ch. 38, that the Lat. *spergula* was formed. It seems more likely that *spergula* is contracted from *asparagula*, a presumed dim. of *asparagus*, a plant which it somewhat resembles, and *spurry* from *spergula*. The G. *spark*, and Fr. *espargoutte*, seem to be the same word differently developed. Cotgrave gives a Fr. *spurrie*.

*Spergula arvensis*, L.

SPURT-GRASS, a rush of which the baskets were made, that were called in A.S. *spyrta*, and which seem from one of Ælfric's colloquies to have been used for catching fish. This word *spyrta* has probably been formed from L. *sporta*, a basket made of *spartum*, the Sp. *esparto*, the grass so much used for mats and baskets in the South, and related to Gr. *σπειραιω*, twist, wreath.

*Scirpus maritimus*, L.

SQUILL, L. *scilla* or *squilla*, Gr. *σκίλλα*. The same word, the It. *squilla*, is now used to mean the small evening bell sounded from the campanili in Italy for vespers service, and this Dietz would derive from O.H.G. *skilla*, G. *schelle*, and the verb *skellan*, ring, and quotes a passage from the Lex. Sal. "Si quis *schillam* de caballo furaverit," to show its original use as a horse-bell. It seems far more probable that the little bell should have been so called from its resemblance to the bulb of an Italian plant, and its name have been adopted by other nations with the Christian

religious rites, than that Italians should have first learnt a name for such an old invention from the Germans. But be the origin of *squilla* what it may, the flower was not called so from any resemblance to a bell, as its synonym "Harebell" might lead us to suppose, but is simply the Gr. word, *σκίλλα*. Sc. nutans, etc. Sm.

SQUINANCY, Fr. *esquinancie*, from its efficacy in quinsy, called in Pr. Pm. *squinsy*, M.L. *squinancia*, It. *schinanzia*, Gr. *κυναγχη*, from *κυν*, dog, and *αγχω*, strangle, a choking disease, Asperula cynanchica, L.

SQUINANCY BERRIES, black currants, from their use in the sore throat, Ribes nigrum, L.

SQUIRREL TAIL, from the shape of the flower-spike, Hordeum maritimum, With.

*Squirrel*, Fr. *escureil*, It. *schiriuolo*, L. *sciurus*, dim. of *sciurus*, Gr. *σκίουρος*, from *σκια*, shade, and *ουρα*, tail, descriptive of its habit of hanging its tail as a shade over its body.

SQUITCH, or QUITCH, A.S. *cwice*, from *cwic*, vivacious, couch-grass, from its tenacity of life,

Triticum repens, and Agrostis stolonifera, L.

STAGGERWORT, usually understood to be so called from curing the staggers in horses, but from its synonym *Seggrum*, and its being found in some works spelt *Staggwort*, very possibly derived from its application to castrated bulls called Seggs and Staggs, Senecio Jacobæa, L.

STANDERWORT, or STANDERGRASS, Fl. *standelkruid*, G. *stendel*, Sw. *standört*, names suggested by its double tubers, which, on the doctrine of signatures, were supposed to indicate aphrodisiac virtues, Orchis mascula, L.

STANMARCH, A.S. *stan*, stone, and *march*, parsley, Gr. *πετροσελινον*, the Alexander, Smyrnum Olusatrum, L.

STAR-FRUIT, from the radiated star-like growth of its seed-pods, Actinocarpus Damasonium, L.

*Star*, A.S. *steorra*, and nearly the same word in all other Germanic languages, Gr. *αστηρ*, L. *stella*, Zend, *stáró*,

Skr. *stárás*, stars. Our verb *steer*, A.S. *steoran*, from *steorra*, star, is an interesting proof that our ancestors, when they settled in this country, brought with them the art of guiding themselves by the heavenly bodies, as they had probably done on the great steppes of Asia. They would otherwise have adopted a Latin term for it.

STAR-GRASS, a grassy-looking aquatic with stellate leaves,  
Callitriche, L.

STAR-HYACINTH, from its open stellate flowers,  
Scilla bifolia, Scop.

STAR THISTLE, from its spiny involucre, resembling the weapon called a morning star, Centaurea solstitialis, L.

STAR-WORT, from the shape of the flower,  
Aster tripolium, L.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM, from its white stellate flowers,  
Ornithogalum, L.

STAR OF THE EARTH, from its leaves spreading on the ground in star fashion, Plantago coronopus, L.

STAR OF JERUSALEM, It. *girasole*, turn-sun, the Italian name familiarised into *Jerusalem*, the salsify,

Tragopogon porrifolius, L.

STARCH-CORN, from starch being made of it,  
Triticum spelta, L.

STARCH-WORT, from its tubers yielding the finest starch for the large collars worn in Q. Elizabeth's reign,

Arum maculatum, L.

STARE, or STARR, Dan. *stär*, or *stär-gräs*, various sedges and coarse sea-side grasses so called from their stiffness. *Stare* is used in that sense in Douglas. See Halliwell, and Pr. Pm. v. Sedge.

Ammophila arundinacea, Host. Carex arenaria, L. etc.

STAYER-WORT, from being supposed to cure the stavers or staggers in horses,  
Senecio Jacobæa, L.

STAVESACRE, a plant that was once in great use for destroying lice, but with the gradual increase of cleanly habits is become scarce in our gardens, L. *staphisagria*,



Gr. of Galen *ἀσταφισαγρία*, from *ἀσταφίς*, raisin, and *ἀγρία*, wild, referring to the similarity of its leaf to that of the vine, unless Galen's plant was an entirely different one for which ours has been mistaken,

Delphinium Staphisagria, L.

STAY-PLOUGH, the rest-harrow, Ononis arvensis, L.

STICKADOVE, a ridiculous name corrupted from the official Lat. *flos stoechados*, flower of the Stoechas, a lavender so called from growing on the Hyeres, islands opposite Marseilles, called by the ancients *Stoechades*, from standing in a row, Gr. *στοίχας*,  
Lavendula Stoechas, L.

STINKHORN, from its shape and offensive odour,

Phallus impudicus, L.

STITCH-WORT, from its curing stitch in the side, Ger. p. 43; in a thirteenth century MS. in Mayer and Wright, p. 140, spelt *Stich-wurt*, and given as the translation of "Valeriane," a plant used to cure the sting, G. *stich*, of venomous reptiles, but in later works assigned to

Stellaria holostea, L.

STOCK-GILLIFLOWER, now shortened to STOCK, from *stock*, the trunk or woody stem of a tree or shrub, added to *Gilliflower* to distinguish it from plants of the Pink tribe called, from their scent, *Clove-Gilliflowers*,

Matthiola incana, L.

STOCK-NUT, from its growing on a stick, G. *stock*, and not on a tree like the walnut,  
Corylus avellana, L.

STONE-BASIL, a basil that grows among stones,

Melissa Clinopodium, L.

*Stone*, A.S. *stan*, and in all the cognate languages nearly the same word, connected with verbs that mean "stand," L. *stare*, Skr. *sta*, found in nearly the whole Indo-European group.

STONE-BREAK, G. *steinbrech*, from L. *saxifraga*, so named from its supposed power of rending rocks, and thence employed to break stone in the bladder,  
Saxifraga, L.

STONE-CROP, from *crop*, a top, a bunch of flowers, a cima,

and *stone*; being a plant that grows on stone walls in dense tufts of yellow flowers, Sedum acre, L.

STONE-FERN, from its growth on stone walls, Ceterach officinarum, W.

STONE-HOT, or STONNORD, corruptions of *stone-wort*, and  
STONE-HORE, or STONOR, of *stone-orpine*, (see ORPINE,) Sedum reflexum, L.

STONE WORT, from calcareous deposits on its stalk, Chara, L.

STONES, a translation of Gr. *ὄρχις*, a name given to several orchideous plants from their double tubers, and in old herbals used with the name of some animal prefixed, as e.g. that of the dog, fox, goat, or hare, Orchis, L.

STORK'S-BILL, from the long tapering form of its seed-vessels, Erodium, L.

*Stork*, in A.S. and all cognate languages the same, possibly from *streccan*, stretch, alluding to its long legs.

STRANGLE-TARE, a tare that strangles, Vicia lathyroides, L.

and also a plant that strangles a tare, Cuscuta Europæa, L.

STRAP-WORT, *L. corrigiola*, a little strap, dim. of *L. corrigia*, so called from its trailing habit, C. littoralis, L.

STRAWBERRY, A.S. *strowberie*, either from its straw-like halms, or from their lying strown on the ground. Some have supposed that the name is derived from the custom in some parts of England to sell the wild ones threaded on grass-straws. But it dates from a time earlier than any at which wild strawberries are likely to have been marketable. Fragaria vesca, L.

STRAWBERRY CLOVER, from its round pink strawberry-like heads of seed, formed by the inflated calyx, Trifolium fragiferum, L.

STRAWBERRY TREE, from the shape and colour of its fruit, Arbutus Unedo, L.

STUBWORT, from its growing about the stubs of hewn trees, the wood-sorrel, Oxalis Acetosella, L.

SUCCORY, Fr. *chicorée*, Gr. *κικωρη*,

Cichorium Intybus, L.

SULPHUR-WORT, from its roots being, according to Gerarde, p. 1053, "full of a yellow sap, which quickly waxeth hard and dry, smelling not much unlike brimstone, called Sulphur," Peucedanum officinale, L.

SUNDEW, a name explained by Lyte in the following description of the plant. "It is a herbe of a very strange nature and marvellous: for although that the Sonne do shine hoate and a long time thereon, yet you shall finde it alwayes moyst and bedewed, and the small heares [hairs] thereof alwayes full of little droppes of water: and the hoater the Sonne shineth upon this herbe, so much the moystier it is, and the more bedewed, and for that cause it was called *Ros Solis* in Latine, whiche is to say in Englishe, The dewe of the Sonne, or Sonnedewe." Nevertheless the Germ. name *sindau*, leads us to suspect that the proper meaning of the word was "ever-dewy," from A.S. O.S. and Fris. *sin*, ever, rather than from *sun*. The Latin name, *Ros solis*, is modern, and, as the plant is seldom met with in the South of Europe, is probably a mistranslation of the German. Drosera, L.

SUNFLOWER, from its "resembling the radiant beams of the sun," as Gerarde says, or, as another old herbalist expresses it in Latin, "idea sua exprimens solis corpus, quale a pictoribus pingitur," and not, as some of our popular poets have supposed, from its flowers turning to face the sun, which they never do. Thomson, for instance, has

"But one, the lofty follower of the sun,  
Sad when he sets, shuts up her yellow leaves,  
Drooping all night, and, when he warm returns,  
Points her enamour'd bosom to his ray."

*Helianthus annuus*, L.

also in some old herbals, from its opening in the sunshine,  
*Helianthemum vulgare*, Gärt.  
 and in Heywood's *Marriage Triumphe*, 1613,

"The yellow marigold, the sunnes owne flower."

the A.S. *solsæce*, *Calendula officinalis*, L.

*Sun*, A.S. *sunne*, G. *sonne*, Sw. and Lat. *sol*, Gr. *ἥλιος*, which is essentially the same word, an aspirate replacing the *s*, and of ancient origin, and wide extension.

SUN-SPURGE, from its flowers turning to face the sun,  
*Euphorbia helioscopia*, L.

SWALLOW-WORT, Gr. *χελιδονιον*, of *χελιδων*, a swallow, because, according to Pliny, b. xxv. ch. 8, it blossoms at the season of the swallow's arrival, and withers at her departure, a name, that, for the same reason, has been given to several other plants, as the *Ranunculus ficaria*, *Fumaria bulbosa*, *Caltha palustris*, and *Saxifraga granulata*, L.; but, according to Aristotle and Dioscorides, because swallows restore the eyesight of their young ones with it, even if their eyes be put out. It is to be recollected, that, however absurd some of these superstitions may be, they may nevertheless be the real source of the name of a plant. *Chelidonium majus*, L.

*Swallow*, the eaves-bird, A.S. *swalewe*, O.H.G. *sualewa*, from *swale*, a word retained in Danish and denoting the broad extended eaves, the penthouse, or lean-to, that surrounds farm houses to serve as a passage from room to room, and for storing winter fuel, and *we*, the Skr. *wi*, a bird, the root of L. *avis*. Thus the swallow lends her interesting testimony to the fact, that, where she received her name, the dwellings were already such as are now so familiar to us in the models and pictures of Swiss and German cottages.

SWEDE, a turnip so called from having been introduced from Sweden, *Brassica campestris*, L. var. *rutabaga*.

SWEET ALISON, a plant with the smell of honey, that was formerly considered a species of the genus *Alyssum*,  
*Koniga maritima*, DC.

SWEET BAY, from the odour of its leaves, to distinguish it from other evergreen shrubs, such as the Arbutus and Cherry laurel, that were once reckoned among the bays,

Laurus nobilis, L.

SWEET-BRIAR, a wild rose whose leaves are sweet-scented,

Rosa rubiginosa, L.

SWEET CHERVIL, or SWEET CICELY,

Myrrhis odorata, Scop.

SWEET FLAG, to distinguish it from the unscented flag, the Iris so called,

Acorus calamus, L.

SWEET GALE, from its scent,

Myrica Gale, L.

SWEET JOHN, probably a fanciful name given to certain varieties of pink to distinguish them from those called Sweet Williams. They seem to have been the narrow leaved kinds.

SWEET-PEA, a scented pea,

Lathyrus odoratus, L.

SWEET-SEDGE, or -SEG, a plant with sword-blade leaves comprised under the general name of *Segs* and *Sedges*, and fraudulently sold in shops for the sweet cane or Calamus aromaticus,

Acorus Calamus, L.

SWEET WILLIAM, a plant so called from Fr. *oeillet*, L. *ocellus*, a little eye, corrupted to *Willy*, and thence to *William* in reference to a popular ballad. See WILLIAM.

Dianthus barbatus, L.

SWEET WILLOW, from its having the habit of the dwarf willows, and sweet-scented foliage, the Sweet Gale,

Myrica Gale, L.

SWETH, L.Germ. of Turner's time *Suitlauch*, sweet-leek, with some influence, perhaps, of Gr. *ῥηθνον*, chives,

Allium schoenoprasum, L.

SWINE'S BANE, see SOWBANE.

*Swine* is nearly the same word in all dialects of German and Scandinavian, Boh. *swine*, Pol. *swinia*, and seems to be the old collective term for *sow*, as *kine* for *cow*.

SWINE'S CRESS, a cress only good for swine,

Coronopus Ruellii, Sm.

SWINE'S GRASS, *Swynel grass* of the Grete Herbal. Johnston in East. Bord. observes that "Swine are said to be very fond of it." Polygonum aviculare, L.

SWINE'S SNOUT, *L. rostrum porcinum*, from the form of the receptacle, the dandelion, Taraxacum dens leonis, L.

SWINE SUCCORY, a translation of its Greek name from *ύος*, pig's, and *σέπης*, succory, Hyoseris minima, L.

SWORD FLAG, from its banner-like flower, and sword-shaped leaf, Iris pseudacorus, L.

SYCAMINE, in old authors the woodbine, see SYCAMORE.

SYCAMORE, Gr. *συκαμωρος*, the name of a wild fig transferred to the great maple, but by Chaucer in his Flower and Leaf, l. 54, assigned to some twining shrub of which arbours were made, probably a woodbine.

"The hegge also that yede in compas,  
And closed in all the greene herbere,  
With *sicamour* was set and eglatere,  
Wrethen in fere."

In what he goes on to say, that the arbour was so dense, that no one,

"Though he would all day prien to and fro,  
He should not see if there were any wight  
Within or no:"

he alludes to the legend quoted by Stapel on Theophrastus, p. 290, a, of the Virgin having hidden herself and the infant Jesus in a sycamore for many days, to avoid the fury of Herod. Thevenot in his Voyage de Levant, part i. p. 265, mentions that "At Matharee is a large sycamore, or Pharaoh's fig, very old, but which bears fruit every year. They say that upon the Virgin passing that way with her son Jesus, and being pursued by the people, this fig-tree opened to receive her. She entered, and it closed her in, until the people had passed by, when it opened again." The name was transferred to the woodbine, and this legend of the Mother of God attached itself to the latter plant, and thence its Italian and Spanish name *Madre-selva*,

M.L. *matris silva*, Mother's wood, as in the Grete Herbal, c. ccxciv, and *mater silva* in M. and W. p. 140. How it passed to the large maple that is at present called so, is unrecorded.

*Acer pseudoplatanus*, L.

SYNDAW, given by Turner, b. iii. p. 24, as an English name of Our Lady's Mantle, from the G. *sindau*, constant dew, the name of the Drosera transferred to this very different plant, which is also remarkable for the constant dewiness of its leaves, through confusion with *sinnau*, the name it bears in Fuchs, and the Ortus Sanitatis, c. xxxii.

*Alchemilla vulgaris*, L.

TAMARISK, L. *tamarix*, origin unknown, T. *gallica*, L.

TANG, Dan. *tag*, Fris. *mar-tag*, with an *n* inserted for euphony, a word that corresponds to G. *dach*, roof, and A.S. *þæce*, thatch, from sea-weed having formerly been used to cover houses, instead of straw. The word has been adopted from one of the northern languages, and refers to a time earlier than the cultivation of cereal grains in high latitudes.

*Fucus nodosus*, L.

TANGLE, seemingly an attempted explanation of *Tang*, as if it meant *entangling*.

*Laminaria digitata*, L.

TANSY, Fr. *athanasie*, now contracted to *tanacée* and *tanaisie*, M.Lat. *athanasia*, the name under which it was sold in the shops in Lyte's time, Gr. *ἀθανασία*, immortality, referring to a passage in Lucian's Dialogues of the Gods, No. iv, where Jupiter, speaking of Ganymede, says to Mercury, ἀπαγε αὐτον, ὡς Ἐρμῆ, καὶ πινοντα τῆς ἀθανασίας ἀγε ὀνοχοῖσαντα ἡμῖν. "Take him away, and when he has drunk of immortality, bring him back as cupbearer to us." The *ἀθανασία* here has been misunderstood, like *ἀμβροσία* in other passages, for some special plant. Dodoens says, p. 37, that it was called so, "quod non cito flos inarescat," which is scarcely true. *Tanacetum*, its systematic name, is properly a bed of tansy, and is a word of modern origin.

T. *vulgare*, L.

„ GOOSE-, or WILD-, from its tansy-like leaves,  
Potentilla anserina, L.

TARE, an obscure word, derived in our dictionaries from A.S. *teran*, *rend*, which seems to be a very forced explanation of it. *Tare* is most probably formed from the herb-*arist* name of a plant of the same tribe called in Dodoens *terre glandes*, earth kernels. It may, however, have come to us, through the medium of some Low German dialect, from Da. *töire*, *tether*. In old works it is found combined with vetch or fitch, as the *tare-fytche*, meaning perhaps a vetch that ties or tethers corn. It might also be the Du. *terwe*, wheat, as meaning the cornfield vetch. Parkinson says of it, Th. Bot. p. 1062, "This ramping wild vetch or *tare*, as the country people call it, because it is the most pernicious herb that can grow on the earth, for corn or any other good herb that it shall grow by, killing and strangling them, etc. is called by Dodoens *Legumen terre glandibus simile*." It is not a very old word, the Gr. *ζιζανια* of Matth. xiii. 25, being in Wycliffe's version rendered "cokyll" and "darnel;" and it is difficult to say what meaning Parkinson can have put upon it as the reason for his "because." Lathyrus. Ervum. Vicia.

TARRAGON, a corruption of its Lat. specific name, meaning "a little dragon," Artemisia Dracunculus, L.

TEASEL, A.S. *tesel*, from *tesan*, *tease*, applied metaphorically to scratching cloth, Dipsacus fullonum, L.

TENCH-WEED, from its growing in ponds where tench have broken up the puddling by burrowing in it, and not, as supposed by Forby, from its "being very agreeable to that fish," although, no doubt, it is so; Potamogeton, L.

TENT-WORT, an unintelligible name, Asplenium Ruta muraria, L.

TETTER-BERRY, from its curing tetter, Bryonia dioica, L.

TETTER-WORT, from its curing tetter, Chelidonium majus, L.



TEYL-, TEIL-, or TIL-TREE, the lime, Fr. *tille*, formerly spelt *teille*, a word now confined to the inner bark or bast of the tree, and replaced with the dim. *tilleul*, from Lat. *tiliolus*, dim. of *tilia*,  
T. Europæa, L.

THALE-CRESS, from a Dr. *Thalius*, who published a catalogue of the plants of the Hartz mountains,  
Arabis Thaliana, L.

THAPE, see FEABE.

THEVE-THORN, A.S. *þefe-*, *þife-*, or *þyfe-þorn*, a word that occurs in Wycliffe's Bible, in the fable of Jotham, Judg. ix. 14, 15, as a translation of the L. *rhamnus* of the Vulgate, Heb. *atad*, the name that Dioscorides, as cited by Bochart, i. 752, says that the Carthaginians also called a large species of *rhamnus*. It is unknown what bramble Wycliffe meant. T. Wright in his Manners of the Middle Ages, p. 296, takes it for the *Thape* or gooseberry. The context requires a barren or worthless brier. The word seems to be related to such as imply lowliness and subservience, Go. *þivan*, to subject, *þivi*, a female slave, etc. See Diefenbach, Lex. comp. ii. 708. In this view of it *Theve-thorn*, or *Theue-thorn*, as we find it printed, is more likely to be the parent of *Dew-berry* than of *Thape*.

THISTLE, A.S. *þistel*, from *þydan*, stab, and the same word essentially in all the kindred languages,  
Carduus, Onopordon, Carlina.

THORN, A.S. *þorn*, Go. *þaurnus*, and, like *thistle*, the same word in all the kindred languages, and used with it alliteratively, extending to the Slavonian and Celtic dialects also, as Boh. *trn*, Pol. *tarn*, Wel. *draen*, etc., but a word of unknown derivation.

THORN-APPLE, a thorny fruit, *Datura Stramonium*, L.

THORN-BROOM, the furze, *Ulex Europæus*, L.

THOROW-WAX, or THROW-WAX, a name given to the plant by Turner, because, as he says, "the stalke waxeth throw the leaves,"  
*Bupleurum perfoliatum*, L.

THRIFT, the passive participle of *threave* or *thrive*, press

close together, and meaning the "clustered" pink, so called from its growing in dense tufts, *Statice Armeria*, L.

THROAT-WORT, from being supposed, from its throat-like corolla, to be a cure for sore throats,

*Campanula Trachelium*, L.

*Throat*, A.S. *prote*, a rather obscure word, that seems to be related to Du. *strot*, and O.N. *ǫroti*, a tumour, and to have the sense of "swollen." See L. Diefenbach, *Lex. comp.* ii. 718.

THRUM-WORT, from *thrum*, a warp end of a weaver's web, as in the Teesdale proverb, "He's nae good weaver that leaves lang *thrums*," a word used by Lyte in describing the reed-mace, the head of which he says "seemeth to be nothing els but a throm of gray wool, or flockes, thicke set and thronge together," p. 512. The plant has its name from its long tassel-like panicles of red flowers.

*Amaranthus caudatus*, L.

THYME, Gr. *θυμος*, an instrumental noun from *θυω*, fumigate, and identical with L. *fumus*, Skr. *dhuma*, smoke, the name of some odoriferous plant or shrub used in sacrifices, at present appropriated to the *Thymus Serpyllum*, L.

TILLS, abbreviated from *lentils*. "The country people," says Parkinson, *Th. Bot.* p. 1068, "sow it in the fields for their cattle's food, and call it *Tills*, leaving out the *Lent*, as thinking that word agreeth not with the matter. *Ita sus Minervam*." *Ervum Lens*, L.

TIMOTHY GRASS, from having been brought from New York by a Mr. Timothy Hanson, and introduced by him into Carolina, and thence into England,

*Phleum pratense*, L.

TINE-TARF, a tare that *tines*, or encloses and imprisons other plants, A.S. *tynan*, *Ervum hirsutum*, L. and in Linn. Soc. Journ. vol. v. *Lathyrus tuberosus*, L.

TITHYMALL, a name of the spurge tribe in old writers, L. *tithymalus*, *Euphorbia*, L.

TOAD-FLAX, from having been described by Dodoens, as

“Herba assimilis cum *Bubonio* facultatis,” and *Bubonio* having been mistaken for *bufonio*, from *bufo*, a toad; as it is in the *Ortus Sanitatis*, ch. 431, where the author, speaking of the *Bubonium*, says, “dieses kraut wird von etlichen genennet *bubonium*, das ist *krotten*-kraut; wann *bubo* heisset ein *krot*. Inde *bubonium*.” *Linaria vulgaris*, L.

„ BASTARD-, from its leaves resembling those of the preceding plant, *Thesium linophyllum*, L.

*Toad*, A.S. *tade*, *tadie*, *tadige*, a word of very obscure origin. It would seem at first sight to be the W. *tade*, father, *daddy*, and to indicate this reptile's slow decrepid gait; but the words adopted from that language are so few, that we must be very distrustful of such a derivation of it. The Fris. *quaad*, spiteful, with the initial *qu* changed to *t*, as in *quincken*, twinkle; *quirl*, twirl; *quest*, twig; *queg*, G. *teig*, dough; is the more probable source of it, especially as *quaad-pogge* is the Fris. name of the toad.

TOAD-STOOL, any of the unwholesome fungi, from a popular belief that toads sit on them. So Spenser, in *Sheph. Cal. Dec. l. 69*:

“The griesly todestool grown there mought I see,  
And loathed paddocks lording on the same.”

*Boletus*, *Agaricus*, etc.

TOBACCO, a name of the plant adopted by the Spaniards from the American Indians, *Nicotiana Tabacum*, L.

TOLMENEER, TOLMEINER, or COLMENIER, a name given by the herbalists to a variety of the Sweet William. It is spelt by Lyte, b. ii. ch. 7, in three syllables *Tol-me-neer*, as though it meant “Toll or entice me near,” and *Colmenier* might in the same way be explained as “Cull me near.” It is most likely a corruption of *D'Almagne*, or *D'Allemagne*, as being a pink of Germany.

*Dianthus barbatus*, L.

TOMATO, its American-Indian name, *Sp. tomate*,  
*Solanum lycopersicum*, L.

TOOTH-CRESS, or TOOTH-VIOLET, from the tooth-like scales of the root, *Dentaria bulbifera*, L.

*Tooth*, A.S. *toð*, a word, which, with great apparent differences, is essentially the same in all the languages of the Ind-European group. Sans. *dantam*, Pers. *dendan*, L. *dens*, *dentem*, Sw. and Dan. *tand*, G. *zahn*, O. Fries. *tond*, which with the usual omission of *n* before *d*, and change of *d* to *ð*, as in *lið* from *lind*, is identical with our A.S. *toð*, O.N. *tönn*, Go. *tunthus*, Gr. *ὀδους*, *ὀδοντος*. In regard to the origin of this word, L. Diefenbach in *Lex. comp.* p. 676, remarks of the Go. *tunthus*, that "it probably belongs to those ancient words, which were brought from the Indo-Germanic motherland, already fully individualized and often mutilated, and which are therefore, for the most part, impossible to explain esoterically."

TOOTHWORT, from the tooth-like scales of the root-stock and base of the stem, *Lathræa squamaria*, L.

TORCH, G. *dartsch*, called so, because, according to Parkinson *Th. Bot.* p. 62, and W. Coles, ch. 112, "the elder age used the stalks dipped in suet to burn, whether at funerals or otherwise;" see HIGTAPER.

*Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

TOUCH-ME-NOT, from the sudden bursting of its seed-pods, upon being touched; a phrase that was familiar from the "noli-me-tangere" pictures in Roman Catholic countries; *Impatiens noli me tangere*, L.

TOUCH-WOOD, a fungus imported from Germany, and apparently called for that reason *Dutch-wood*, being usually explained as a decayed wood used as a tinder, whence *touch* in the sense of "kindle;" *Boletus igniarius*, L.

TOWER-CRESS, from its having been found growing upon the tower of Magdalen College, Oxford. Its Lat. specific name, *turrita*, expresses a pyramidal habit of growth, and seems to have been given to it as a translation of its trivial English name, in mistake of its intended meaning.

*Arabis turrita*, L.

TOWER-MUSTARD, from the tapering growth of the inflorescence something in the form of a Dutch spire, "om de spits torrewijse oft naeldewijze ghewas van de steelkens," says Lobel, *Kruydboek*, p. 262, *Turritis glabra*, L.

TOWN-CRESS, A.S. *tun-cærese*, garden-cress, from *tun*, a close, Du. *tuin*, as in Wycliffe's N. Test. Lu. xiv. 18, "I have boughte a *toune*," a term still retained in names of fields, as e.g. in *Tun-mead*, an enclosed mead.

*Lepidium sativum*, L.

TOY-WORT, from the little imitations of purses that it bears, *Capsella bursa*, DC.

TRAVELLER'S JOY, from the shade and shelter that it affords by the bowers it forms in roadside hedges,

*Clematis vitalba*, L.

TREACLE MUSTARD, OR -WORMSEED, from its being used in making Venice *treacle*, a vermifuge once much in vogue, Du. *triakel*, abbreviated from *theriakel*, L. *theriacula*, dim. of *theriaca*, Gr. *θηριακα*, from *θηριον*, a small animal, dim. of *θηρ*, a beast, so named from the vipers and other creatures put into it. See MITHRIDATE.

*Erysimum cheiranthoides*, L.

TREE, A.S. *treow*, a word in which we find very much mixed up in different languages the meaning of a living tree, timber, and an oak-tree especially: Skr. *druma*, *druta*, *dru*, tree, *dāru*, wood; Zend. *dru*; Gr. *δραυ*, both a spear-shaft and a tree, *δρυς*, an oak and a tree generally; Slav. *drevo* and *dervo*, both wood and tree; Alban. *dru*, wood; Wel. *dar*, *derw*, oak; Gael. *darach*; Go. *triu*, A.S. *treow*, Da. *trä*, both wood and tree. These words seem to be related to Skr. *dhruva*, Zend. *drva*, firm, O.H.G. *triu*, true. It is certainly remarkable that at the early period of the first formation in Asia of our common mother-language, and long before the invention of steel, so hard a wood as that of the oak should have been so commonly used, as to have become synonymous with timber generally. Yet the most ancient boats that have been dis-

covered are of this tree, hollowed out with the aid of fire, and tools of stone.

TREFOIL, L. *tria foliola*, three-leaflets, a name given more particularly to the clovers, Trifolium, L.

TREMBLING POPIAR, from its quivering leaves, the aspen, Populus tremula, L.

TRINITY, see HERB TRINITY.

TRIP MADAM, Fr. *trippe madame*, corrupted from *triacque madame*, Sedum reflexum, L.

TROLL-FLOWER, from Sw. *troll*, D. *trold*, a malignant supernatural being, on account of its poisonous quality. In books of reference it is derived from a supposed German word, *troll*, a globe, but there does not appear to be any, such in the language. Trollius Europæus, L.

TRUBBES, in Parkinson, Truffles.

TRUELOVE, incorrectly so spelt for TRULOVE, a plant so called from its four leaves being set together in the form of a trulove-, or engaged lovers' knot, such as is seen in coats of arms where the wife's is quartered with her husband's; from Da. *trollovet*, betrothed, of *tro*, faith, and *love*, promise, O.N. *trolofad*, and not from faithfulness in *love*, with which it has no etymological connexion.

Paris quadrifolia, L.

TRUFFLE, It. *tartuffola*, dim. of *tartufo*, from L. *terre tuber*, the name that Pliny gives it,

Tuber cibarium, Sib.

TUDNORE, in Langham's Garden of Health, the ground ivy, probably a misprint.

TULIP, in old works called TULIPAN, the Turkish word for "turban," Pers. *dulband*, from its rich and varied colours, and its shape resembling that of an inverted cap,

Tulipa Gesneriana, L.

TUNHOOF, apparently from A.S. *tun*, a court or garden, Du. *tuin*, and *hufe*, a crown, as a translation of Gr. *στεφανωμα ρης*, and L. *terre corona*, the ground ivy,

Glechoma hederacea, L.

TURNIP, L. *terra napus*, Brassica Rapa, L.

TURNSOLE or TORNSOLE, a name given in some old works to the wartwort, from its being supposed to turn its flowers towards the sun, Fr. *tournesol*, Gr. *ἡλιοτροπιον*,  
Euphorbia helioscopia, L.

TUTSAN, in old works TUTSAYNE, Fr. *toute-saine*, all-wholesome, a word that Gerarde, p. 435, Nemnich, and others derive from its "healing all," but some from It. *tutti santi*, all saints. It seems rather more probable that it has been suggested by the M.Lat. name *Androsæmum*, man's blood, of Gr. *ἀνδρος*, man's, and *αἷμα*, blood, alluding to the claret colour of the juice of its ripe capsule, or, as Fuchs explains it, "ob florem ejus, qui digitis confricatus sanguineum emittit liquorem," the stain of blood left on the fingers, when the flower is rubbed. In this view of it, the name will have been either *tout sang*, or more probably, on the doctrine of signatures, *toute saignée*, every bleeding, from the plant being used, as Duchesne tells us, "pour arreter les hemorrhagies."

Hypericum androsæmum, L.

TWAY-BLADE, from its two root-leaves,

Listera ovata, L.

TWICE-WRITHEN, L. *bistorta*, Polygonum bistorta, L.

TWIG-RUSH, from its tough, twiggy, branching growth,  
Cladium Mariscus, L.

TWOPENCE, see HERB TWOPENCE.

TWOPENNY GRASS, so called by Turner from its pairs of round leaves "standyng together of ech syde of the stalke lyke pence,"  
Lysimachia Nummularia, L.

UNSHOE THE HORSE, It. *sferra-cavallo*, from its horse-shoe-shaped legumes, which, from a curious application of the doctrine of signatures, were supposed to have that power. "Wann die Pferde auf der Weide gehen, und sie auf diess kraut oft treten, fallen ihnen die Hufeisen bisweilen ab."

Tabernæm. ii. p. 230. There was once the same superstition about the moonwort. See Brande, Pop. Ant.

Hippocrepis comosa, L.

UPSTART, from its flowers starting up suddenly from the ground without putting out leaves first,

Colchicum autumnale, L.

VELVET-DOCK, from its soft leaves,

Verbascum Thapsus, L.

VELVET-FLOWER, from its crimson velvety tassels,

Amaranthus caudatus, L.

VELVET-LEAF,

Lavatera arborea, L.

VENUS' BASON, L. *Veneris labrum*, Gr. Ἀφροδιτης λουτρον, so named after the goddess of beauty, from the hollows formed by the united bases of the leaves being usually filled with water, that was used, says Ray, "ad verrucas abigendas," to remove warts and freckles; the teasel,

Dipsacus sylvestris, L.

VENUS' COMB, from the slender tapering beaks of the seed-vessels being set together like the teeth of a comb,

Scandix pecten, L.

VENUS' HAIR, the maidenhair fern, Adiantum, L.

VENUS' LOOKING-GLASS, from the resemblance of its flowers set upon their cylindrical ovary to an ancient round mirror at the end of a straight handle,

Campanula hybrida, L.

VERNAL GRASS, from its early flowering,

Anthoxanthum odoratum, L.

VERVAIN, Fr. *vervenè*, L. *verbena*, V. officinalis, L.

VETCH, or FETCH, or FITCH, It. *veccia*, L. *vicia*, related to *vincire*, bind, as the G. *wicke* to *wickeln*, from its twining habit. Used absolutely it means

*Vicia sativa*, L.

„ BITTER-,

*Orobus sylvatica*, L.

„ COMMON-,

*Vicia sativa*, L.

„ HORSE-SHOE-, from the shape of the legume,

*Hippocrepis comosa*, L.



- „ KIDNEY-, Anthyllis vulneraria, L.  
 „ MILK-, from increasing the milk of goats that  
 eat it, Astragalus glycyphyllos, L.  
 „ TARE-, Ervum hirsutum, L.  
 VETCHLING, a spurious vetch, Lathyrus pratensis, L.

VINE, Fr. *vigne*, L. *vinea*, adj. of *vinum*, wine, as being the wine-shrub, G. *wein-rebe*, Gr. *ὄνος*. Turner and some other old writers spell it *vynde*, from confusion with A.S. *winde*. Its origin uncertain, probably a radical *wi* or *vi*, whence L. *viere*, twist, *vitis*, *withy*, etc. in reference to its twining habit. *Vitis vinifera*, L.

VIOLET, It. *violetta*, dim. of L. *viola*, which itself is a dim. of *iov*; in botanical nomenclature now confined to the genus to which the pansy belongs, but by ancient writers extended to many other very different plants, especially scented ones. Indeed Laurenberg in Appar. Plant. says, p. 77: "Videntur mihi antiqui suaveolentes quosque flores generatim *Violas* appellasse, cujuscunque etiam forent generis." Even to the present day we retain it in the popular names of several plants of very different orders. Used absolutely, it means the genus *Viola*, L.

- „ CORN-, Campanula hybrida, L.  
 „ DAMASK-, or DAME'S-, properly *Damascene*, from the town of Damascus in Syria, *Hesperis matronalis*, L.  
 „ DOG-, from its worthlessness *Viola canina*, L.  
 „ MARCH-, from its season of flowering, *Viola odorata*, L.  
 „ TOOTH-, from its jagged root, *Dentaria bulbifera*, L.  
 „ WATER-, *Hottonia palustris*, L.

VIPER'S BUGLOSS, a bugloss, which, from its stem being speckled like the skin of a viper, or according to others, from its seed being like the head of that reptile, was supposed, on the doctrine of signatures, to cure its bite, *Echium vulgare*, L.

*Viper*, from *L. vipera*, contracted from *vivipara*, bringing forth its young alive.

VIPER-GRASS, *L. viperaria*, because, according to Monardus, a physician of Seville quoted in Parkinson's *Th. Bot.* p. 410, "a Moore, a bondslave, did helpe those that were bitten of that venomous beast, the viper, which they of Catalonia call *Escuerso*, with the juice of this herbe, which both took away the poison, and healed the bitten place very quickly, when Treacle [*Theriaca*] and other things would do no good." From *escuerso* is derived its *L.* name *Scorzonera*. *S. edulis*, Mn.

VIRGIN'S BOWER, so named by Gerarde, as a bower for maidens, and with allusion, perhaps, to Queen Elizabeth, but not, as we might be tempted to imagine, to the Virgin Mary in a riposo, or resting scene on the way to Egypt, the frequent subject of pictures, *Clematis Vitalba*, L.

WAGWANT, a West-country term supposed to mean *wag-wanton*, Fr. in Clusius, p. cxxviii, *amourettes tremblantes*, from its quivering spikelets, *Briza media*, L.

WAKE-PINTLE, given in Florio and Torriano's dictionary as the translation of Ital. *Aro*, apparently identical in its meaning with the following name, and throwing light upon it. See CUCKOO-PINT. *Arum maculatum*, L.

WAKE ROBIN. See the preceding. *Robin* seems to have been a common sobriquet for any thing or any body anonymous. The *Wake* is obscure. It may be, like *Cuckoo* in its synonym *Cuckoo-pint*, a form of *queck*, A.S. *cucu*, alive, which is probably the case; or it may be a corruption of some foreign word for which we need not enquire too curiously; for like several other names of this plant, it has, no doubt, an indecent allusion.

*Arum maculatum*, L.

WALE-WORT, or WALL-WORT, from A.S. *wal*, slaughter, or *wealth*, foreign, and corresponding to the other names of the plant, Danesblood and Danewort, which Aubrey tells

us were given to it from its growing at a village called Slaughterford in Wiltshire, where it has been supposed that an army of Danes was destroyed. In German *walwurz* means the comfrey. Ort. San. c. xciv. Brunsch. b. ii. c. xx.

*Sambucus Ebulus*, L.

WALNUT, OR WELSH NUT, A.S. *wealh-hnut*, from *wealh*, foreign, G. *wälsch*, O.H.G. *walah*, Fr. *gauche*, an adjective used more particularly of Italy, from which the tree was introduced into Northern Europe, *Juglans regia*, L.

WALL BARLEY, a barley that grows about walls, and thence called in Latin *murinum* in mistake for *murale*,

*Hordeum murinum*, L.

WALL-CRESS, a cress that grows upon walls,

*Arabis hirsuta*, Scop.

WALL-FERN,

*Polypodium vulgare*, L.

WALL-FLOWER, introduced from Spain as a *Wall Stock-gillofer*, which became successively *Wall gilliflower*, and *Wall-flower*. The *Gillofer* was the French *giroflier*, and under *Stock-gillofer* was comprehended the *Matthiola incana*, as well as our present wall-flower.

*Cheiranthus cheiri*, L.

WALL-PENNYWORT, from its round leaves,

*Cotyledon umbilicus*, L.

WALL-PEPPER, from its biting taste, *Sedum acre*, L.

WALL-ROCKET, from its rocket-like leaves,

*Diplotaxis tenuifolia*, L.

WALL-RUE, from its rue-like leaves,

*Asplenium Ruta muraria*, L.

WARE, A.S. *war*, sea-weed generally, *Algæ*, L.

WARENCE, Fr. *garance*, M.L. *varantia*, or *verantia*, from *vera*, true, genuine, Gr. *ἀλθίως*, meaning, par excellence, red, the most distinct colour; as in Spanish *colorado* means not merely tinted, but blood-red, the madder plant,

*Rubia tinctorum*, L.

WART-CRESS, a cress with wart-shaped fruit,

*Coronopus Ruellii*, DC.

WART-SPURGE, from being used to cure warts,	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> , L.
WATER-AGRIMONY,	<i>Bidens tripartita</i> , L.
WATER-BETONY,	<i>Scrophularia aquatica</i> , L.
WATER-BLINKS,	<i>Montia fontana</i> , L.
WATER-CAN, from the shape of the seed vessel,	<i>Nuphar luteum</i> , L.
WATER-CHICKWEED,	<i>Montia fontana</i> , L.
WATER-CRESS,	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i> , R.B.
WATER-CROWFOOT,	<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i> , L.
WATER-DOCK,	<i>Rumex Hydrolapathum</i> , L.
WATER-DROPWORT,	<i>Oenanthe fistulosa</i> , L.
WATER-ELDER,	<i>Viburnum opulus</i> , L.
WATER-FEATHERFOIL,	<i>Hottonia palustris</i> , L.
WATER-FENNEL,	<i>Oenanthe Phellandrium</i> , L.
WATER-FERN,	<i>Osmunda regalis</i> , L.
WATER-FLAG,	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> , L.
WATER-GERMANDER,	<i>Teucrium Scordium</i> , L.
WATER-HEMP,	<i>Bidens tripartita</i> , L.
WATER-HEMLOCK,	<i>Cicuta virosa</i> , L.
WATER-HOREHOUND,	<i>Lycopus Europæus</i> , L.
WATER-HORSETAIL,	<i>Chara</i> , L.
WATER-LILY, FRINGED-,	<i>Villarsia nymphæoides</i> , L.
"    "    WHITE-,	<i>Nymphæa alba</i> , L.
"    "    YELLOW-,	<i>Nuphar luteum</i> , L.
WATER-LENTILS,	<i>Lemna</i> , L.
WATER-MILFOIL,	<i>Myriophyllum verticillatum</i> , L.
WATER-MOSS,	<i>Fontinalis antipyretica</i> , L.
WATER-PARSNIP,	<i>Sium latifolium</i> , L.
WATER-PEPPER,	<i>Polygonum Hydropiper</i> , L.
WATER-PIMPERNEL,	<i>Veronica Beccabunga</i> , L.
WATER-PLANTAIN,	<i>Alisma Plantago</i> , L.
WATER-PURSLANE,	<i>Peplis Portula</i> , L.
WATER-ROCKET,	<i>Sisymbrium sylvestri</i> , L.
WATER-SCORPION-GRASS,	<i>Myosotis palustris</i> , L.
WATER-SOLDIER, from its sword-shaped leaves,	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i> , L.

WATER-SPIKE,	Potamogeton, L.
WATER-STARWORT, from its starry tufts of leaves,	Callitriche, L.
WATER-TORCH, in Newton's Herbal of the Bible,	Typha latifolia, L.
WATER-VIOLET,	Hottonia palustris, L.
WATER-WORT	Elatine hydropiper, L.

*Water*, a word adopted to replace an older name *aa*, Go. *ahva*, L. *aqua*, and nearly the same in all Germanic dialects, A.S. *water*, Skr. *uda*, whence L. *udus* and *unda*, the Slav. *voda*, Go. *vato*, Sw. *vatten*, and E. *water*, and intimately connected with Gr. *ἰω*, rain, *ἕρος*, wet, and *ἰδωρ*, water. The primary meaning of *aa* and its relatives may have been a babbling stream, and that of the other series, to which *water* belongs, the dripping rain.

WAY-BARLEY, from growing by way-sides,  
Hordeum murinum, L.

WAY BENNET, OR -BENT, see WAY BARLEY.

WAY-BREAD, a word, about the origin and right meaning of which, there is much doubt. Turner, b. ii. 94, says, but without giving his reason, that it ought to be spelt *way-bredde* or *-brede*. A.S. *wæg-bræd*, Da. *vej-bred*, G. of Ort. San. *wegbreyt* and *wegbreidt*. Were we sure that the Danish word were the original name, it would plainly mean "way-side," from *vei*, way, and *bred*, margin. The A.S. *wæg-bræd* would seem to mean *weigh-board*, the scale of a balance. The G. *wegbreidt* would be way-spread. Thus the author of the Ort. San. in speaking of *Incensaria*, says that it is "beynahet als *wegbreidte* und wechst auch an den sandigen bergen, und *breitet* sich langes die erde." Our English word has been variously interpreted. Dr. Johnston in Bot. of East. Bord. explains it as "born on the way," the "child of the wayside;" the Phytologist as "spread on the way;" a writer in Notes and Queries as "wayside bread." All these interpretations assume that the first syllable is the A.S. *wæg*, a way, which in most of the MSS. is not the case, but *weg*, which

may mean a balance for weighing, and the *bræd* or *bred* its board, in reference to the outspread leaves. But it may very possibly have a different origin from any of the above, viz. the A.S. *hwæg*, whey, and *bred*, board, and refer to the board used to press curd into cheese, which to the present day is in the Eastern counties called a *Bred*. See Way's Promp. Parv. under "Bredchese." It is only through some accidental allusion to it in old writings, that we are likely to obtain any trustworthy explanation of the name. *Bred* otherwise meant a "board" generally, as in "Naylyd on a *bred* of tre." *Plantago major*, L.

WAYFARING or WAYFARER TREE, from growing in hedges by the road side, a punning name given to it by Gerarde, as implying that it is "ever on the road,"

*Viburnum Lantana*, L.

WAY-THORN, highway thorn,

*Rhamnus catharticus*, L.

WEASEL-SNOUT, from the shape of the corolla,

*Galeobdolon luteum*, Huds.

*Weasel*, A.S. *wesel*, G. *wiesel*, Du. *wezel*, Da. *väsel*, Sw. *vessla*, a word which looks like a dim. of a lost noun *wes* or *wis*, but is perhaps no more than a corruption of Lat. *mustela*, with the not very unusual change of *m* to *w*, as in *myrtus* to *wir*, etc. and the omission of *t*, as in *Vistula*, the river *Wesel*.

WEED-WIND, a corruption of *Withwind*.

WEEPING WILLOW, supposed, from the resemblance of its delicate pendulous branches to long dishevelled hair, the conventional expression of grief, to be the willow of Psalm cxxxvii. 1: "By the rivers of Babylon we sat down, we wept. We hanged our harps upon the willows."

*Salix Babylonica*, L.

WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE, perhaps a quibble on its name, *Cyparissias*, as meaning "Sip ere ye see us," "help yourself to the tankard, without waiting to be asked,"

*Euphorbia Cyparissias*, L.

WELD, WOULD, or WOOLD, Sp. *gualda*,

*Reseda luteola*, L.

WELSH ONION, G. *wälsch*, foreign, being a Siberian species, and introduced into England from Germany,

*Allium fistulosum*, L.

WELSH POPPY, from its growing in Wales,

*Meconopsis Cambrica*, DC.

WHARRE, a crab, W. *chwerw*, austere, bitter,

*Pyrus Malus*, L.

WHEAT, used in the first place with the meaning of *white*, as being, in contrast to rye, and black oats, and the black barley of Northern Asia, a white grain, A.S. *hwæte*, Go. *hwaiteis*, O.N. *hveiti*, O.H.G. *hweizi*, Lith. *kwetys*, Skr. *śvēta*, white, the initial *śv* answering, as in other cases, to a German *hu*, and Lith. *kw*.

*Triticum*, L.

„ Cow-, see under Cow-WHEAT.

WHIN, Da. *hvein* or *hvene*, some coarse rushy plant, perhaps *Cladium Mariscus*, of which besoms are made, a word connected with Da. *hviin*, a whistling of wind, from its growing on bleak heaths, called *whins*, in Scotland applied to the furze-bush,

*Ulex Europæus*, L.

„ PETTY-,

*Ononis arvensis*, L.

WHIP-TONGUE, from children using it in play to draw blood from their tongues,

*Galium Mollugo*, L.

WHITE BEAM TREE, a pleonasm, as A.S. *beam* means simply a tree. It is called *White beam* from the white down on the young shoots and under surface of the leaves, but *Beam-tree*, as it is often given, without the *White*, is a vague and silly term.

*Pyrus Aria*, L.

WHITE BEN, from Ar. *Behen*,

*Silene inflata*, L.

WHITE BLOW, a name given to two of our earliest spring flowers very conspicuous upon walls, and also called *Whitlow grasses*, of which *White Blow* may perhaps be a corruption, but meant to allude to their white colour. See WHITLOW GRASS.

WHITE BOTTLE, from the shape of the calyx, and in distinction from the Blue Bottle, *Silene inflata*, L.

WHITE-ROOT, or -WORT, its officinal name, the Solomon's seal, *Convallaria polygonatum*, L.

WHITE ROT, from its being supposed to bane sheep, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, L.

also, for the same reason, the butterwort, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, L.

WHITE POTHERB, in distinction from the Black Potherb or *olus atrum*, the lamb's lettuce, *Valerianella olitoria*, L.

WHITE-THORN, Fr. *aubespine*, in distinction from the sloe or black-thorn, from its comparatively light coloured rind, *Cratægus Oxyacantha*, L.

WHITE WILD-VINE, in distinction from the black bryony, *Brionia dioica*, L.

WHITLOW GRASS, from being in old Herbals referred to *Paronychia*, as in Parkinson's Th. Bot. p. 556, although "they are not," as he tells us, "the *παρωνυχία* of Dioscorides, but received under the name by good Herbarists,"

*Saxifraga tridactylites*, L. and *Draba verna*, L.

WHORT, or WHORTLE-BERRY, a name corrupted from *L. myrtillus*, used in medieval vocabularies to mean *myrtle-berry*, a dim. of *myrtus*, which in A.S. lists is rendered *wir*. An *m* is similarly replaced with *w* in *wick*, L. *myxa*; *war*, L. *Mars*; *worth*, L. *meritum*; and some other words. The progress of this transition from *m* to *w* is seen in Spanish words such as *muerto* from *L. morto*, which is pronounced *mwer*. The A.S. *heorot-berie* from which our dictionaries derive *whort* and *whortle* was the blackberry, and the coincidence of sound is accidental. *Vaccinium myrtillus*, L.

WICH or WITCH ELM, see WYCH.

WILDING, the crab apple, *Pyrus Malus*, L.

WILL O' THE WISP, from its sudden growth by night as if dropped by some phantom, *Tremella Nostoc*, L.



WILLIAM, from Fr. *oeillet*, a little eye, corrupted to *Willie*, and thence to *William*, L. *ocellus*.

„ SWEET-, from its scent, and partly, perhaps, in allusion to the hero of a popular ballad, “Fair Margaret and Sweet William,” if this was in existence when the plant was so named, above 300 years ago,

Dianthus barbatus, L.

„ WILD, the Ragged Robin,

Lychnis flos cuculi, L.

WILLOW, A.S. *wilig*,

Salix, L.

„ CRACK-,

S. fragilis, L.

„ SWEET-,

Myrica Gale, L.

„ WEEPING-,

S. Babylonica, L.

„ WHITE-,

S. alba, L.

WILLOW-HERB, in W. Coles WILLOW-WEED, from its willow-like leaves,

Epilobium, L.

„ SPIKED-,

Lythrum Salicaria, L.

WILLOW-THORN, a thorny shrub with the habit of a willow,

Hippophae rhamnoides, L.

WIND-FLOWER, from Gr. *ἀνεμώνη*, see ANEMONY.

*Wind*, one of those words which have been carried abroad from an Asiatic centre, and are found with only dialectic variations in nearly all Ind-European languages. In the Germanic it is the same word *wind*, Wel. *gwynt*, L. *ventus*, Slav. *vietr*, Skr. *vahanta*, Beluchee *gwath*, Ir. *gaoth*, a series in which we see the change of the initial letter indicating an original sound of *gw* retained in the Welsh, and the occasional, by no means uncommon, disappearance of *n* before *t*, or *th*.

WIND-ROSE,

Rœmeria hybrida, DC.

WINDLE-STRAW, A.S. *windel-streow*, from *windan*, twist, and *streow*, straw, a grass whose halms are used for plating,

Agrostis spica venti, L.

and

Cynosurus cristatus, L.

WINE-BERRY, or WIMBERRY, from wine and berry, a

fermented liquor having formerly been made from this fruit, as it is in Russia to the present day,

Vaccinium Myrtillus, L.

,, in the Northern counties, the currant,

Ribes rubrum, L.

WINTER-ACONITE, a plant allied to the Aconites and blowing at midwinter,

Eranthis hyemalis, DC.

*Winter*, a word of unknown very ancient origin, common to all Germanic languages. Its meaning, except as the name of the season so called, is very doubtful.

WINTER CHERRY, from its red cherry-like berry so conspicuous in the winter,

Physalis Alkekengi, L.

WINTER CRESS,

Barbarea præcox, RB.

WINTER-GREEN, adopted by Turner from the German *winter-grün*, its name in the *Ortus Sanitatis*, c. 316. The Danish *winter-grönt* means the ivy, and it is probable that this latter, the ivy, is the rightful claimant of the name, as being so conspicuously green when the other trees of the forest are bare.

Pyrola, L.

WINTER-WEED, from its being in winter the weed that spreads most,

Veronica hederifolia, L.

WIRE-BENT, a bent-grass with wiry stems,

Nardus stricta, L.

WITCH'S BUTTER, from its buttery appearance and unaccountably rapid growth in the night,

Tremella Nostoc, L.

WITCH-ELM, OR -HAZEL, a mistaken spelling. See WYCH.

WITCHES THIMBLE,

Silene maritima, L.

WITCHEN, OR QUICKEN, OR WHICKEN, the roan tree, from *quycchyn*, move, Pr. Pm. p. 421, a word related to A.S. *cwic*, alive. Evelyn looking upon it as derived from *witch*, supposes it to be so called, because "it is reputed to be a preservative against fascination and evil spirits, if the boughs be stuck about the house, or used for walking staffs." It would seem in the first place to have meant the aspen,

and through this mistake have been transferred to the  
roan, *Sorbus aucuparia*, L.

WITHWIND, A.S. *wiðwinde*, from *wið*, about, and *windan*,  
wind, *Convolvulus arvensis*, L.

WITHY, A.S. *wiðige*, *wiðie*, or *wiððe*, G. *wiede*, and ety-  
mologically identical with Du. *winde*, standing to it in the  
same relation as *lithy* to *linde*. It occurs in other languages  
as the Lat. *vitis* and *vimen*, Gr. *irea* or *γῖrea*, and Pers. *bīd*,  
all derived from a root *vi*, the Skr. *wé*, and having the sense  
of twisting and twining, the especial use of the osier in all  
countries. *Salix*, L.

WOAD, or WADE, A.S. *wad*, O.S. *wode*, O.H.G. *weit*, in  
Charlemagne's capitulary *waisda*, whence O.Fr. *guesde*, Fr.  
*guède*, and *gaide*, M.Lat. *guasidium*, *guesdium*, words derived  
originally from some ancient barbaric language,

*Isatis tinctoria*, L.

„ WILD-

*Reseda luteola*, L.

WOLFSBANE, wolf-poison, because, says Gerarde, p. 822,  
“the hunters which seeke after woolfes, put the juice thereof  
into rawe flesh, which the woolfes devoure, and are killed.”

*Aconitum Lycoctonum*, L.

*Wolf*, A.S. and L.Germ. *wulf*, Go. *wulfs*, a word that  
by critical analysis is traceable to its root *vark*, rend, Slav.  
*vluku*, Lith. *vilkas*, Skr. *vrkas*. The Lat. *lupus*, and *vulpes*,  
and Gr. *λυκος*, and *ἄλωπηξ* seem to be modifications of it.

WOLF'S-CLAW, from the claw-like ends of the trailing  
stems, *Lycopodium clavatum*, L.

WOLF'S MILK, from its acrid qualities, or, perhaps, as  
Talbot suggests in Eng. Etym. from the Gr. *λυκος*, wolf,  
having been confused with *λευκος*, white, *Euphorbia*, L.

WOODBINE, not a bine that grows in woods, but a creeper  
that binds or entwines trees, in old authors called WOOD-  
VYNDE and WOODBINDE, A.S. *wudu-winde* and *wudu-bind*,  
from *wudu*, a tree, and *windan*, twine, or *bindan*, bind.  
The latter term, *wudu-bind*, seems to have meant the ivy,  
rather than the plant now called woodbine, but has coalesced

- with *wudu-winde* to form our modern name. Ger. in Tabernæm. ii. 616, *Wald-winde*. *Lonicera Periclymenum*, L.

*Wood*, A.S. *wudu*, G. *wald*, L.G. *wold*, O.H.G. *vuitu*, Ic. *vidr*, Wel. *gwydd*, a word that seems to have been used in the sense of a growing tree or standing forest, while, contrary to our present habit, *treow* and *tre* were used for dead timber, lignum. It seems in the names of places, especially in the Western counties, to have been a good deal mixed up with the Welsh *gwydd*, as in *Widcombe*, *Witmore*, etc. Its root has not been eliminated.

WOOD-CROWFOOT, of Parkinson,

*Anemone nemorosa*, L.

WOOD-LAUREL, from its L. name *laureola*, all evergreens having once been included among the laurels,

*Daphne laureola*, L.

WOOD-LILY, the lily of the valley,

*Convallaria majalis*, L.

WOOD-NIGHTSHADE, the bittersweet,

*Solanum dulcamara*, L.

WOOD-NUT,

*Corylus avellana*, L.

WOOD-PEA, from its small pea-like tubers,

*Orobus tuberosus*, L.

WOOD-REED, in distinction from the pool-reed,

*Calamagrostis epigeios*, L.

WOOD-ROOF, -ROFE, -ROW, -ROWEL, or -RUFF, A.S. *wude-rofe*, from Fr. *roue*, a wheel, and its dim. *rouelle*, a little wheel or rowel, the leaves being set upon the stem in verticils that resemble the large rowels of ancient spurs. This is one among several other words that we find to have been adopted into Anglo-Saxon from the French, an occurrence a good deal more frequent than philologists seem to be aware of, who, looking upon the former as a pure Germanic language, would trace its vocabulary too exclusively to native roots.

*Asperula odorata*, L.

WOOD-RUSH, or -GRASS,

*Luzula sylvatica*, DC.

WOOD-SAGE,

*Teucrium Scorodonia*, L.

WOOD-SORREL, OR -SOWR, *Oxalis acetosella*, L.

WOOD-SPURGE, *Euphorbia characias*, L.

WOOD-VETCH, *Orobus sylvatica*, L.

WOOD-VINE, *Bryonia dioica*, L.

WOOD-WAXEN, A.S. *wudu-weaxe*, which would seem to mean "wood-grown," a word very inapplicable to a plant that is always found in open meadows. It is most probably a corruption of some German name meaning "woad-plant," *waud-gewächse*. It is called in Sloane MS. 1571, 3, *Wodewex*, *Genista tinctoria*, L.

WOOLD, a dyer's term, see WELD.

WOOLLEN, from its woolly leaf, an attempted explanation of *Mullein*, Fl. *wolle-cruydt*,

*Verbascum Thapsus*, L.

WORM-GRASS, from its vermifuge qualities,

*Sedum album*, L.

*Worm*, A.S. *wyrm*, G. *wurm*, Go. *waurm*, Sw. and Da. *orm*, L. *vermis*, derived, according to W. Smith, from *ver*, the root of *verto*, turn, or twist.

WORM-SEED, from its reputed vermifuge qualities,

*Erysimum cheiranthoides*, L.

WORMWOOD, A.S. (fide Somn.) *wyrm-wyrt*, but usually *wermod*, so called from its being destructive to worms, and its powder, according to Macer and his commentators, keeping them out of books and manuscripts. L. Diefenbach suggests that its G. synonym, *Wermut*, O.H.G. *werimuota*, O.S. *weremedé*, A.S. *wermod*, has a Celtic origin in a word meaning "bitter," Wel. *chwerw*, Corn. *wherow*. It would seem more easy to trace it to *wehren*, keep off, *mod* or *made*, maggot. Whatever may be the origin of the word, it was understood in the Middle Ages as a worm-medicine. The *Ortus Sanitatis* says, ch. iii. "Wermut tödtet die Wurm in dem bauch, und treibet sie aus mächtiglich, wann man davon machet ein pflaster, und das gelegt auff den bauch:" and Macer "Lumbricos ventris hanc sæpe bibendo necabis."

*Artemisia Absinthium*, L.

WORDS, see WHORTLEBERRY,

*Vaccinium Myrtillus*, L.

WORTES, in Chaucer, a general name for cultivated plants.

WOUNDWORT, from its soft downy leaves having been used instead of lint for dressing wounds,

*Stachys germanica*, L.

also, for the same reason,

*Anthyllis vulneraria*, L.

„ CLOWN'S, see under CLOWN.

„ KNIGHT'S WATER-, from its sword-shaped leaves supposed, on the doctrine of signatures, to heal sword-wounds,

*Stratiotes aloides*, L.

WRACK, seaweed thrown ashore, from a Norse or Frisian word connected with Da. *vrage*, reject, Du. *wraken*,

*Fucus*, L.

„ GRASS-, from its long grass-like leaves,

*Zostera marina*, L.

WYCH-ELM, or -HAZEL, that is, "hutch-elm," from its wood having been used to make the chests called by old writers *hucches*, *wyches*, or *whycces*, Fr. *huche*, A.S. *hwæcce*, in Pr. Pm. translated *arca*, *cista*, in Chaucer *wiche*, in Caxton *whutche*, and applied by Sir John Mandeville to the Ark of the Testimony, which, as he says, "Titus ledde with him to Rome." These hutches or cistæ were used for keeping provisions, as in a MS. in Rel. Ant. i. p. 43:

"His hall rofe was full of bacon flytches,  
The chambre charged was with wyches  
Full of egges, butter, and chese."

The term was also applied to coffins. See Parker's Gloss. under "Chest." The name might also be very plausibly derived from M.Lat. *wicha*, a wood, a word used in a MS. belonging to Mr. Th. Blount, quoted by Dufresne: "Ego I. C. P. dedi abbatix totam *wicham*." But this use of *wicha* was probably local, and may in this passage have referred

to a wood of wych-elm. Diez derives *hutch* from M.Lat. *hutica*, whence Fr. *huche*, O.Fr. *hüge*.

*Ulmus montana*, L.

WYMOTE, a misspelling or misprint for WYMOLE, called in Sloane MS. 1571, 3, *Wysmalve*, Fr. *guimauve*, M.Lat. *bismalva*, or *vismalva*, derived either from *viscus*, birdlime, and *malva*, mallow, alluding to its slimy juice, or, according to Diez, from *ibiscum malva*, *Althæa officinalis*, L.

YARR, abbreviated from *yarrow*, and applied to a very different plant, from both having been confused under the name of *milfoil*, *Spergula arvensis*, L.

YARROW, the milfoil, A.S. *gearwe*, L.Ger. *geruwe*, O.H.G. *garawa*, O.Fris. *kerva*, G. *garbe*, a very difficult word, that would seem to be connected with A.S. *gearwian*, prepare, G. *gärben*, dress leather. The source of it, however, must be the name of the vervain, *hiera-botane*, from Gr. *ἱερα βοτανή*, holy herb, a plant with which it seems, from a couplet in Macer, to have been associated in its use, as it was in its supposed virtues.

“Herbam, cui nomen *foliis* de *mille* dedere,  
Betoniamque pari verbenæ pondere junge.”

It was thought an excellent vulnerary, and according to Dodoens was the *Sideritis* of Dioscorides. So likewise was the vervain, with which it has been confused :

“Glutinat herba recens vulnus superaddita trita.” Macer, *ib*.

The initial *hi* has in the northern languages been usually replaced with *y* and *j*, as in *Jerome* from *Hieronymus*, the *j* of which has in German the sound of *y*. In the same way *hiera* has become *yarrow*. *Achillæa millefolium*, L.

YEAST-PLANT,

*Penicillium glaucum*, Ber.

YELLOW ARCHANGEL, see ARCHANGEL,

*Galeobdolon luteum*, Hud.

YELLOW BIRDSNEST, in contrast to the wild carrot, that was also called *Birdsnest*, *Monotropa Hipopitys*, L.

YELLOW BUGLE,	Ajuga Chamæpitys, L.
YELLOW CRESS,	Barbarea præcox, RB.
YELLOW LOOSESTRIFE,	Lysimachia vulgaris, L.
YELLOW OX-EYE,	Chrysanthemum segetum, L.
YELLOW PIMPERNEL,	Lysimachia nemorum, L.
YELLOW RATTLE,	Rhinanthus crista galli, L.
YELLOW ROCKET,	Barbarea vulgaris, RB.

YELLOW-WEED, a weed or dye plant used for dyeing yellow, the term *weed* being here, as in Green-weed, Red-weed, etc., not the A.S. *weed*, but the Du. *weed*, G. *waid*, the weld,

Reseda luteola, L.

YELLOW-WORT,

Chlora perfoliata, L.

YEVERING BELLS, L. *tintinnabulum terræ*, from the resemblance of its flowers to little bells hung one above the other to be struck with a hammer, as we see in mediæval pictures of King David. *Yevering* is usually spelt *yethering*, from Scotch *yether*, beat. *Pyrola secunda*, L.

YEW, or YEUGH, in Chaucer and other old authors spelt *ewe*, in Aubrey's Wilts *ewgh*, in Pr. Pm. simply *u*, A.S. *iw*, O.H.G. *iwa*, G. *eibe*, Sp. and Port. *iva*, Fr. *if*, Wel. *yw*, from M.Lat. *ivus*, *iva*, or *ia*, an abbreviation of *ajuga*, which was a misspelling of L. *abiga*, a plant mentioned by Pliny, b. xxiv. ch. 20, as being the same as the Gr. *χαμαπιτυς*, and called so from its causing abortion. These names of the *Yew* we find so inextricably mixed up with others that mean *ivy*, that, as dissimilar as are the two trees, there can be no doubt that their names are in their origin identical. How they came to be attached to these trees, the yew and the ivy, is the difficulty. Apuleius, ch. 26, speaking of *chamæpitys*, says, "Græci chamæpityn, Itali *abigam*, alii cupressum nigram vocant." Brunfels too says of the *chamæpitys*, b. i. p. 161, "Ego autem cipressen existimavi." The yew seems to have been taken for this black cypress, and in this way to have acquired the terms *abiga* and *ajuga*, and *ia* and *iva*. But we learn from Parkinson, Th. Bot. p. 284, that the Forget-me-not, a weed of



corn-fields, was "called in English Ground pine, and Ground *ivie*, after the Latin word *Iva*." This term *Ground ivy* was assigned by others to a small labiate plant, the *Hedera terrestris*, and *ivy* regarded as the equivalent of *hedera*, and subsequently transferred to the *Hedera helix*, our present *Ivy*. The origin of *Ajuga* seems to have been a mere error of the copyist in transcribing the passage from the 24th book of Pliny. For, as distinct as are *abiga* and *ajuga* in our modern print, the *b* of *abiga* might be written so as to look like a *v* or *u*, and the word made to appear *auiga*, which, if the *i* were not dotted, might be as easily read *aiuga* as *auiga*. See IVY. Thus by a train of blunders, Pliny's *abiga* becomes *ajuga*, and *ajuga iua* or *iva*. This *abiga*, *ajuga*, or *iua* was, as Pliny tells us, the same as the Greek *chamæpitys*. The yew-tree gets the name of *chamæpitys* through a remark made by Apuleius, and thereby, as its synonym, that of *iua* or *iva*. The ground-pine, from its terebinthinate odour, also gets the name of *chamæpitys*, and thereby, as its synonym, that of *iua* or *iva*. But from *chamæ-* being equivalent to *terrestris*, this name *iua* or *iva* passes over to a weed called, from the shape of its leaf and creeping habit, *hedera terrestris*, and the equivocal word *hedera* conveys it to the shrub called *ivy*. Some of the dictionaries give a pretended Celtic *iw*, green, as its root. There does not appear to be any such word.

Taxus baccata, L.

YOKE ELM, the hornbeam, from yokes being made of it,  
Gr. ζυγία, Carpinus Betulus, L.

*Yoke*. This word has been brought hither by our ancestors in their migrations from central Asia, where it has always borne the same name, meaning connexion or coupling, Skr. *jugam* or *yuga*, Pers. *juh*, *jug*, or *juh*, L. *jugum*, Go. *juh*, A.S. *geoc*, or *iuc*, G. *joch*, Sw. *ok*. Even the Gr. ζυγον is the same word, a ζ replacing a j, as in ζεα, Skr. *java*, Pers. *jew*; Ζευ πατερ, L. Jupiter; ζευγυμι, jungere. Other nations of common descent with us have a similar

name for this useful implement derived from the Skr. *jug*, bind, and showing the spread of civilization from the same centre, and the early and continued possession of the animal that, next to the dog, has been the most constant companion of civilized man in all his migrations, the ox, and the use of it in pairs or couples.

YORKSHIRE SANICLE, from being, for its healing qualities, called by Bauhin, Pin. 243, *Sanicula*, and "growing so plentifully in Yorkshire," as Parkinson tells us, Th. Bot. p. 534.

*Pinguicula vulgaris*, L.

YORNUT, Da. *jord-nöd*, earth-nut,

*Bunium flexuosum*, With.

YOUTHWORT, A.S. *cowð*, a flock, and *rotian*, rot, mistaken for *wort*, so called from being supposed to bane sheep, the red-rot,

*Drosera rotundifolia*, L.

## ADDENDA.

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CHEVISAUNCE, in Spenser's Sheph. Cal. April, l. 142 :

"The pretty pawnce, And the *chevisaunce*,"

evidently a misprint for *cherisaunce*, comfort, heart's-ease, the *cheiri* or wallflower, the plant to which the name of *Heart's-ease* was originally given. The word is omitted in the glossaries to Spenser, but occurs in Chaucer's Romaunt of the Rose, l. 3837 :

"Then dismayed I left all soole,  
Forwearie, forwardred as a foole,  
For I ne knew ne *cherisaunce*."

*Cheiri* is the Moorish name, *Keiri*, with which the plant now so familiar to us was brought hither from Spain.

Cheiranthus Cheiri, L.

HENBIT, G. *hüner-biss*, Flem. *hoender-beet*, L. *morsus* (under MORGELINE by mistake printed *mors*) *gallinæ*, from some fancied nibbling of its leaves by poultry ;

the greater,

Lamium amplexicaule, L.

the lesser,

Veronica hederifolia, L.

Under HARLOCK, p. 103, l. 19, after "burdock" add, Chaucer in the Romaunt of the Rose, l. 1233, translates the French word *bourras* by *herdes* :

"Elle ne fut de bourras."

"That not of hempen *herdes* was."

*Herde* is explained by Kilian as "fila lini," and this proof of *herde* and *bourre* being equivalent terms leaves little doubt of the correctness of Ash's view.

## ERRATA.

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Page	29, line 9 from bottom,	for <i>brugeria</i> ,	read <i>brugaria</i> .
„	53, „ 8 from top,	„ seen,	„ see.
„	78, „ 9 from bottom,	„ <i>farnkrant</i> ,	„ <i>farnkraut</i> .
„	91, „ 4 and 5 from bottom,	„ <i>kapvos</i> ,	„ <i>kapvov</i> .
„	95, „ 4 from bottom,	„ <i>grosseille</i> ,	„ <i>groseille</i> .
„	96, „ 8 from bottom,	„ original,	„ officinal.
„	125, „ 9 from bottom,	„ <i>hederacea</i> ,	„ <i>hederifolia</i> .
„	155, „ 1 from top,	„ <i>mors</i> ,	„ <i>morsus</i> .
„	155, „ 2 from top,	„ <i>hederacea</i> ,	„ <i>hederifolia</i> .
„	155, „ 23 from top,	„ <i>Time</i> ,	„ <i>Thyme</i> .