

This silly beast, being thus confounded,  
Sae deadly hurt, misus'd and wounded,  
With *messen-dogs* sae chas'd and wounded,

In end directs a letter  
Of supplication with John Aird,  
To purchase license frae the Laird,  
That she might bide about the year'd,  
While she grew sumwhat better.

*Watson's Coll.*, i. 48.

*Wounded*, in v. 3., has most probably been written *hounded*.

*Messen-tyke* is used by Kennedy in the same sense.—

—A crabbit, scabbit, ill-faced *messen-tyke*.

*Evergreen*, ii. 73.

Sibb. derives the word from Teut. *meysen*, puella, q. a lady's dog. Some say that this small species receives its name, as being brought from *Messina*, in Sicily. This idea is far more probable; especially as it was otherwise denominated *Canis Melitensis*, as if the species had come from *Melite*, an island between Italy and Epirus, or, as others render it, from Malta, anciently *Melita*. "*Canis Melitensis*, a *Messin*, or Lap-dog." Sibb. Scot., p. 10.

It might be conjectured that the name has been borrowed from Fr. *maison*, a house, as originally denoting a dog that lies within doors.

**MESSANDEW**, *s.* An hospital, S. The term is often written in this manner in legal deeds. V. **MASSONDEW**.

**MESS-BREID**, *s.* The bread used in celebrating mass.

"Ane pair of *mess-breid* irnis." "*Mesbreid* iyrnis." *Aberd. Reg.*, A. 1543, V. 18; i.e., irons for bringing the wafers into proper form.

**MESSIGATE**, *s.* The road to the church, Orkn.

Obviously from Isl. *messa*, missa, celebratio sacrorum, and *gata*, via, semita; like *messubok*, liber ritualis, *messu-klaedi*, amictus sacer, &c.

**MESSINGERIE**, *s.* The office of a messenger-at-arms.

"That he on nawyss ressaue ony maner of personis to the office of *messingerie* in tyme cuming, except it be in the place of one of the personis that salbe thoct meit to be retenit—be his deceiss or deprivation." *Acts Ja.* VI., 1587, Ed. 1814, p. 449.

[**MESSINGERIS**, *s. pl.* Messengers, *Barbour*, i. 138.]

**MESS-SAYER**, *s.* The contemptuous term used by our Reformers, as denominating a mass-priest.

"Let any *mess-sayer* or earnest mantyner thereof be reprehended in any of the forenamed crymes, na execution can be had, for all is done in hatrent of his religioun," &c. *Knox's Hist.*, p. 312.

To **MESTER**, *v. a.* [Prob. to acknowledge as master; hence, to render obeisance, to give as honour.]

Quhat sall I think, allace! quhat reverence  
Sall I *mester* to your excellence?

*King's Quair*, ii. 24.

"Perhaps administer," *Tytler*. But it seems rather to signify, stand in need of; q. what obeisance will it be necessary for me to make? V. **MISTER**, *v.* and *s.*

[**MESTERFIL**, *adj.* Great in size, large; with the bearing of a master, *Shetl.* V. **MAISTERFUL**.]

**MESWAND**, *s.*

"Because Achan in the distruction of Hierico, tuk certane geir that was forbiddin be the special command of God, a cloke of silk verrai fyne, twa hundreth syclis [shekels] of siluer, and ane *meswand* of gold, he was stanit to the deade." *Abp. Hamiltoun's Catechisme*, 1551, Fol. 61, b.

This corresponds to *wedge* in our version, bnt seems literally to signify "a measuring rod," from *Alem. mez*, *Germ. metz*, *mensura*, and *wand*, *virga*.

**MET**, *v. aux.* May; used for *Mat* or *Mot*.

O wae be to thee, thou silly auld carle,  
And ane ill dead *met* ye die!

V. **MAT**.

*Jacobite Relics*, ii. 55.

**MET**, **METE**, **METT**, **METTE**, *s.* 1. Measure; used indefinitely, S. A. Bor.

"Swa weyis the Boll new maid, mair than the auld boll *XLI* pund, quhilk makis twa gallownis and a half, and a chopin of the auld *met*, and of the new *met* ordanit *ix* pyntis and thre mutchkinnis." *Acts Ja.* I., 1426, c. 80, Edit. 1566. *Mette*, *Skene*, c. 70.

The myllare mythis the multure wyth ane *mett skant*.

*Doug. Virgil*, 238, a. 48.

i.e., a scanty or defective measure.

2. A measure of a determinate kind, S.

"Herrings, caught in the bays in Autumn, sell for *1d.* per score, or *3s.* per *mett*, nearly a barrel of fresh ungunned herrings." *P. Aithsting, Shetland Statist. Acc.*, vii. 589.

"Tuelf *mettis* of salt." *Aberd. Reg.*, Cent. 16.

[3. A march-stone, a boundary, *Shetl.* V. **MEITH**.]

Su.-G. *maatt*, A.-S. *mitta*, *mete*, *mensura*; [*Isl. meta*, to value, Sw. *mäta*, to measure.] The word, as used in the latter sense, is perhaps originally the same with *Mese*, q. v., although the measure is different. *Mete*, A. Bor. signifies "a strike, or four pecks;" *Gl. Grose*. The v. is used in E. as well as *metewand*, S. *mettwand*, a staff for measuring.

**METHOWSS**, *s.* A house for measuring. "Ane commoune *methowss* for victual." *Aberd. Reg.*

**METLUYME**, *s.* An instrument for measuring.

"Quhilk he met & mesurit with his awin pek & *metluyme*." *Aberd. Reg.*, Cent. 16.

**METSTER**, *s.* 1. A person legally authorised to measure, S. "*Metstar*," *Aberd. Reg.*

2. The designation given to the commissioners appointed by Parliament for regulating the weights and measures of the kingdom.

"Reference to the Secreit Counsell anent *metsteris*." *Tit. Act. Ja.* VI., 1621, Ed. 1814, p. 632.

**MET-STICK**, *s.* A wooden instrument or bit of wood used for taking the measure of the foot, S.

Arrested brats around their grandsire kneel,  
Who takes their measurement from toe to heel;

The *met-stick* par'd away to suit the size,  
He bids at length the impatient captives rise.  
*Village Fair, Blackie Mag.*, Jan. 1821, p. 432.

**METTEGE, s.** Measurement.

"The *mettege* of colis, [coals] salt, lym, corne, fruit,  
and sic mensturable gudis." *Aberd. Reg.*, V. 24.  
*Mensturable* is obviously for *Mensurable*.

**[MET, METE, MEIT, MEYT, s.** Meat, food;  
also, meal, *Barbour*, iii. 316, vii. 268.]

**[To METE, v. a.** To supply or to afford food,  
to board, *Clydes*.]

**MET-BURDIS, METT-BURDIS, s. pl.**

"That Thomas Kirkpatrick—sall restore—twa kistis  
and a ark, price XL s.; twa *met-burdis*, a weschale  
almery," &c. *Act. Dom. Conc.*, A. 1488, p. 92.  
"That Schir Johne—content and paye for—ii new  
tubbis, xii d.; a pare of new cardis, xxx d.; ii *mett-  
burdis*, iiiii s." *Act. Audit.*, A. 1478, p. 82.  
Perhaps *boards* or tables for holding *meat*; tables  
for family use at meals. A.-S. *mel*, *cibus*, and *bord*,  
*mensa*.

**[MET-CUDIS, s. pl.** Meat-tubs. V. **METE  
GUDIS.**]

**MET-HAMIS, s. pl.** Lit., meat-houses, manors.  
V. **METE HAMYS.**]

**\*METAL, s.** The name given to stoness used  
for making a road, S.

**To METAL a Road,** to make or repair it with  
stones broken down, S.

"With regard to the form of these turnpike roads,  
they are from 30 to 40 feet wide, independent [*r.* inde-  
pendently] of the drains on each side. They are  
*metalled*, as it is called, with stones broken to a small  
size, in the middle, to a depth of 10 or 12 inches, gra-  
dually decreasing to four inches at the sides." *Agr.*  
*Surv. Stirlings.*, p. 321.

**To METE, v. a.** To paint, to delineate.

This was that tyme, quhen the first quyet  
Of natural slepe, to quham na gift mare sweit,  
Stelis on forwalkit mortal creaturis,  
And in thare sweynynns *metis* quent figuris.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 47, 53.

A.-S. *met-an*, pingere; perhaps only a secondary  
sense of the *v.* signifying to measure, because painting  
is properly a delineation of the object represented.

Tent. *meete*, however, signifies woad; a dye stuff  
much used by our ancestors in painting their bodies.

**METE GUDIS, s. pl.** [Errat. for **METE-  
CUDIS**, meat-tubs.]

"John Lindissay—sall restore—a kow of a deforce,  
a salt mert, a mask fat, iij *mete gudis*," &c. *Act. Dom.*  
*Conc.*, A. 1472, p. 33.

**METE HAMYS, METHAMIS, s. pl.** Manors,  
messuages.

Wallace than passit, with mony awfull man,  
On Patrikis land, and waistit wondyr fast,  
Tuk out gudis, and placis down thair cast;  
His stedis vii, that *mete hamys* was cauld,  
Wallace gert brek thair burly bygyngis bauld,  
Bathe in the Merss, and als in Lothiane,  
Except Duubar, standand he lewit nane.

*Wallace*, viii. 401, MS.

In Edit. 1648 and 1673, *Methamis*. It seems com-  
pounded of A.-S. *mete*, meat, and *ham*, a house. A.-S.  
*methm-hus*, a treasury, seems to have no affinity.

**METH, s.** A boundary, a limit. V. **MEITH.**

**METHINK, v. impers.** Methinks.

He said, "*Me think*, Marthokys sone,  
Rycht as Golmakmorne was wone,  
To half fra hym all his mengie;  
Rycht swa all his fra ws has he.

*Barbour*, iii. 67, MS.

*Me-thynk* all Scottis men suld be  
Haldyn gretly to that Kyng.

*Wyntown*, viii. 38. 172.

There has been a general prejudice against the  
E. word *methinks*. It has been compared to the  
language of a Dutchman, attempting to speak Eng-  
lish. "This," says Dr. Johnson, "is imagined to be a  
Norman corruption, the French being apt to confound  
*me* and *I*." But the term has not got common  
justice. Its origin, and its claims, have not been fairly  
investigated. In Gl. Wynt. it has been observed;  
"The *v.* is here used impersonally: and this seeming  
irregularity, which still remains in the English, is at  
least as old as the days of *Ulfila*, and seems to run  
through all the Gothic languages."

But the irregularity is merely apparent. The  
phraseology has been viewed as anomalous, from a  
mistaken idea, that *me* is here used for *I*, as if the  
accusative were put for the nominative. Thus it is  
rendered by Johnson, *I think*. Now *me* is not the  
accusative, but the dative. The term, so far from  
being a modern corruption, is indeed an ancient idiom,  
which has been nearly repudiated as an intruder,  
because it now stands solitary in our language. It has  
not been generally observed, that A.-S. *thinc-an*,  
*thinc-ean*, not only signifies to think, but to seem, to  
appear; cogitare, putare; also, videri. Lye, therefore,  
when quoting the A.-S. phrase, *me thincth*, properly  
renders it, *mihi videtur*, (it appears to me), adding;  
Unde nostra *methinketh*, *methinks*. The *thincth* fre-  
quently occurs in a similar sense; *Tihi videtur*, It  
seems to thee.

*Semys me* is an example of the same construction;  
*Doug. Virgil*, 374, 19.

O douchty King, thou askis counsals, said he,  
Of that matere, quhilk as *semys me*,  
Is nouthir dirk nor doutsum, but full clere.

*Him thoct* is used in a similar manner; *Barbour*,  
iv. 618, MS.

*Him thoct* weill he saw a fyr, &c.

As Moes.-G. *thank-jan*, not only signifies to think,  
but to seem, Ulphilas uses the same idiom in the plural.  
*Thunkeith im*; *Videtur illis*; It appears to them;  
*Matt. vi. 7*. There is merely this difference, that  
the pronoun is affixed. Alem. *thank-en*, *thunk-en*,  
is used in the same manner. *Uns thunkit*; *No-  
bis videtur*, It seems to us. Isl. *thyk-ia*, *thikk-ia*,  
*videri*; *Thikke mier*; *Videtur mihi*. V. Jun. Gl.  
Goth. vo. *Thank-jan*. Sw. *mig tyckes*, *mihi videtur*,  
*Seren. Belg. my dunkt*; Germ. *es dunket mich*, id.

**METING, s.** A glove called a *mitten*.

"Item, a pare of *metingis* for hunting." *Inventories*,  
p. 11. V. **MITTENS**.

**METIS, 3rd p. v.** V. **METE**.

**METTLE, adj.** Capable of enduring much  
fatigue, *Ettr. For*.

Nearly allied to E. *mettled*, sprightly. *Serenius*, how-  
ever, derives the E. word, not from *Metal*, but from  
Isl. *maete*, excellentia. In this language *mettell* denotes  
a wedge for cutting iron; and *mettill-a*, is to cut iron  
with such a wedge.

To MEUL, MIOL, *v. n.* To mew, or cry as a cat, S. Lat. *miautiz-are*, Fr. *miaul-er*, id.

MIOLING, *s.* A term borrowed from the cat, to denote the cry of the tiger.

—"Mioling of tygers, bruizing of bears," &c. Urquhart's Rabelais. V. CHEEPING.

MEW, *s.*

"Make na twa *mews* of ae daughter;" Fergusson's S. Prov., p. 24.

Corr. of the S. word *Maich*, a son-in-law. Thus it appears that Kelly, although he says "the sense I do not understand," comes very near the truth in adding,—"taken from the Latin,

*Eedem filiae duos generos parare.*"

Prov., p. 255.

This more nearly approaches the pron. of A. Bor. *meaugh*, id.

[MEW, *s.* An enclosure: hence, *mews*, as applied to stables.]

MEWITH, 3rd *p. v.* Moveth?

The King to souper is set, served in halle,  
Under a sillir of silke, dayntly dight,  
With al worshipp, and wele, *mewith* the walle;  
Briddes branden, and brad, in bankers bright.

*Sir Gawain and Sir Gal.*, ii. 1.

*Moveth?* as *mevable*, Chaucer, for *moveable*.

*Meue* was the form of the *v.* in O. E. "I *meue* or *styrre* from a place;" Palsgr. B. iii. F. 300, b.

To MEWT, *v. a.* To mew, as a cat.

"Wae's them that has the cat's dish, and she ay *mewing*;" Ramsay's S. Prov., p. 74, "spoken when people owe a thing to, or detain a thing from needy people, who are always calling for it." Kelly, p. 343.

Although this term has been understood by Kelly in this sense, yet finding no synonym, I hesitate whether it is not to be expl. with greater latitude, as signifying to murmur; as allied perhaps to Teut. *muqt-en*, murmurare, Lat. *mut-ire*.

MEY, *pron.* Me, *pron.* as Gr.  $\mu$ , Selkirks.; also *hey*, he; to *sey*, to see, &c.

[To MEYN, *v. a.* and *n.* V. MENE.]

[MEYNER, *adj.* Meaner; comp. of *meyn*, Charteris, Adhortatioun, l. 42.]

MEYNTYM, *s.* The mean while.

"The lordis conteneewis the said summondis in the *meyntym* in the same forme & effect as it now is." Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1489, p. 126.

To MEYSEL, MEYZLE, *v. a.* To crumble down; applied to eating, Gall.

Teut. *meusel-en*, pitissare, clam degustare paulatim.

[To MEYT, MEIT, *v. n.* 1. To meet, to come upon, Barbour, iii. 413.

2. To *meit in wi*, to meet accidentally, to find out, to experience, S.]

MEYTIT, *part. pa.*

"Grantes to the said lord Robert Stewart—full power, special maundment and charge, all and sindrie inhabitantis and induellaris within the saidis boundis, for quahsumeur crymes and offenses dilaitit, *meytit*, accusit, and convicte, to punisch as the caus requiris," &c. Acts Ja. VI., 1581, Ed. 1814, p. 255.

A.-S. *met-an* signifies invenire; perhaps q. discovered or found out. The sense, however, is obscure. The word intended may have been *menit* or *meynit*, complained of.

To MIAUVE, *v. n.* To mew, as a cat, Buchan, V. the letter W.

MICE-DIRT, *s.* The dung of *mice*, S.

"Had I as muckle black spice, as he thinks himself worth of *mice-dirt*, I would be the richest man of my kin," S. Prov. "Spoken satyrically of proud beaus, whom we suspect to be highly conceited of their own worth." Kelly, p. 153. V. DIRT, *s.*

[MICE-FEET. To make *mice-feet* o', to overcome or to destroy wholly, Banffs.]

MICELED, *pret. v.* Expl. "Did eat somewhat after the way of mice;" Gall. Encycl.

This, I think, must be improperly spelled, to suit the idea of its formation from *mice*. The word, I am informed, is *pron. q. Meysel* or *Meysse*, *q. v.*

Teut. *meusel-en*, seems to include the idea. Pitissare, ligurire, et clam degustare paulatim. *Miesel-en*, nebulam exhalare, can have no affinity.

[MICHAEL, *s.* A low contemptuous term for a person; as, "She's a ticht *michael*," Gl. Banffs.]

MICHAELMAS MOON. 1. A designation commonly given to the harvest moon, S.

"The *Michaelmas Moon* rises ay alike soon."

"The moon, at full, being then in the opposite sign, bends for some days towards the tropick of Cancer, and so rising more northerly, rises more early. My country people believe it to be a particular providence of God that people may see to get their corn in." Kelly, p. 334, 335. V. LIRR, *v.*

2. Sometimes used to denote the produce of a *raid* at this season, as constituting the portion of a daughter.

"Anciently, this moon, called the *Michaelmas moon*, was hailed by some of our *ancestree* as a mighty useful thing for other purposes,—viz., in *reaving* and making inroads, many a marauder made a good fortune in her beams. The *tocher* which a doughty borderer gave a daughter was the result of his reaving during this moon." Gall. Encycl.

"Mary Scot, the flower of Yarrow—was descended from the Dryhopes, and married into the Harden family. Her daughter was married to a predecessor of the present Sir Francis Elliot, of Stobbs.—There is a circumstance, in their contract of marriage, that merits attention, as it strongly marks the predatory spirit of the times. The father-in-law agrees to keep his daughter for some time after the marriage, for which the son-in-law binds himself to give him the profits of the first *Michaelmas moon*." Stat. Acc. Par. Selkirk, ii. 437, 438.

MICHEN, *s.* Common Spignel, or Bawd-money, S. Athamanta meum, Linn.

"The *athamanta meum*, (spignel), here called *moiken* or *muilciann*, grows in the higher parts of the barony of Lighwood, and in the forest of Clunie. The Highlanders chew the root of it like liquorice or tobacco.—The root of this plant, when dried and masticated, throws out strong effluvia, which are thought a powerful antidote against contagious air, and

it is recommended by some in goutish and gravelly complaints." P. Clunie, Perth. Statist. Acc., ix. 238. The name is Gael.

**MICHTFULL**, *adj.* Mighty, powerful.

—"Tak ane gude hert, and put your confidence in him, he is ane *nichtful* God, quha will releif yow of it, and send yow your helth, as he did the Erle of Murray, quha wes brutit to haue gottin the like wrang [by poison] in France." Supplicatioun Countess of Athole, 1579, Acts Ja. VI., Ed. 1814, p. 176.

**MICHTIE**, *adj.* 1. Of high rank.

Than come he hame a verie potent man,  
And spousit syne a *michtie* wife richt than.  
*Priests of Peblis, S.P.R., i. 10.*

2. Stately, haughty, in conduct, S.

3. Strange, surprising; used also *adv.* like the E. word, as a sign of the superlative, as *michtie rich, michtie gude*, S.B.

4. Potent, intoxicating; applied to liquors, and synon. with *Stark*, S. B.

"Stark *mychty* wynes, & small wynes." Aberd. Reg., Cent. 16.

[5. Used as an *interj.*, but a low word; as, "O *michtie* me," Clydes., Banffs.]

This is entirely Su.-G., *maagta*, signifying very; *maagta rik, maagta godt*, corresponding to the S. phraseology mentioned above.

**MICKLE-MOUTH'D, MUCKLE-MOW'D**, *adj.*  
Having a large or wide mouth, S. V. MEKYL.

"*Mickle-mouth'd* folk are happy to their meat," S. Prov.; "spoken by, or to them who come opportunely to eat with us." Kelly, p. 253.

I have always heard it thus: "*Muckle-mouth'd* folk hae a luck to their meat;" and applied only as a sort of consolation to one whose face is rather disfigured by the disproportionate size of the mouth.

**MID.** In composition same as in E., as—

**MID-CUPPIL**, *s.* That ligament which *couples* or unites the two staves of a flail, the *hand-staff* and *soupple*; S. B.

This is sometimes made of an eel's skin; at other times, of what is called a *tar-leather*, i.e., a strong slip of a hide salted and hung, in order to prepare it for this use. It is not easily conceivable, why this should be called a *tar-leather*, unless it be from Isl. *tarf-r*, taurus, as originally denoting a piece of *bull's* hide.

**MIDLENTREN, MIDLESTRANE, MYDLENTERENE**, *s.* The middle of the fast of Lent.

"At *myd lentrane* nix thareftir following."—"Betuix this & Sondag *myd lentrene* nixt to cum." Aberd. Reg., A. 1538, V. 16.

"And gif he outtit nocht the said, &c. betuix this & *myd lentrane* nixt cumis." Ibid.

This nearly resembles the A.-S. phraseology, *Mid-lentren*, Midlent; *Mid-lentrenes sunnan-daeg*, Midlent Sunday. V. LENTRYNE.

**MID-MAN, MIDS MAN**, *s.* A mediator between contending parties.

"I—entreated them with many fair words to delay any such work, and for that end gave them in a large paper, which a very gracious and wise brother, somewhat a *mid-man* betwixt us, had drawn."—Baillie's Lett., ii. 380.

"Mr. Blair and Mr. Durham appeared as *mids-men*." Ibid., p. 401.

[**MID-ROOM**, *s.* 1. The small room between the kitchen and "the room," in a house of three apartments, S.

2. The middle compartment of a boat, Shetl.]

**MIDWART, AMIDWART**, *prep.* Towards the centre, Rudd. E. mid-ward, A.-S. *midde-ward*.

**MIDWART, MYDWART**, *s.* The middle ward or division of an army.

Wallace him self the wantgard he has tayne;—  
Alss mony syne in the *mydward* put he,  
Schir Jhone the Grayme he gert thar ledar be.  
*Wallace*, vi. 500, MS.

A.-S. *midde*, and *ward*, custodia.

**MIDWINTER-DAY**, *s.* The name anciently given to the brumal solstice.

"From the time of celebrating our Lord's advent, in order of nature our days lengthen, our nights shorten, and was of old called *Midwinter-day*, or *Midwinter-mas*, or feast." Annand's Mysterium Pietatis, p. 27.

This term is expl. vo. YULE-E'EN, q. v.

[**MIDDELT**, *s.* A mark in the middle of the ear; sometimes, a piece out of it, Shetl.]

**MIDDEN, MIDDYN, MIDDING**, *s.* 1. A dunghill, S. A. Bor. Lincolns. id. *Muck-midding*, a dunghill consisting of the dung of animals, S. A. Bor.; *ass-midding*, one of ashes; *marl-midding*, a compost of *marl* and earth, S.

Thai kest him our out of that bailfull steid,  
Off him thar trowit suld be no more ramede,  
In a draff *myddyn*, quhar he remanyt thar.  
*Wallace*, ii. 256, MS.

Syne Sweirnes, at the secound bidding,  
Come lyk a sow out of a *midding*.  
*Dunbar, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 29.

"Better marry o'er the *midding*, than o'er the moor;" S. Prov. "Better marry a neighbour's child, whose humours and circumstances you know, than a stranger." Kelly, p. 60.

2. Metaph. used to denote a dirty slovenly woman, S.; synon. *heap*.

3. *An eating midden*, used as a phrase expressive of the highest possible contempt for one who is a mere belly god, who sacrifices every thing to the gratification of appetite, Angus.

**MIDDEN-DUB**, *s.* A hole into which the juice or sap of a dung-hill is collected, S. O.

"A causeway about 6 feet broad, formed of large stones carelessly laid down, led to the fore-door, be-

yond which at the distance of 8 or 10 feet, was the dungstead, with a pond of putrid water, termed the *midden-dub*, into which the juices of the dung were collected; and dead dogs, cats, &c., were thrown." Agr. Surv. Ayr., p. 115.

**MIDDEN-DUNG, MIDDING-DUNG, s.** Manure from a dunghill, S.

"*Midding-dung*, either unmixed or compounded with earth,—if it be designed for grain, it should be plowed into the ground as soon as possible after it is laid on it, to prevent waste by exhalation." Maxwell's Sel. Trans., p. 200.

**MIDDEN-HEAD, s.** The summit of a dunghill, S. *To be heard on the midden head*, to quarrel openly; a metaph. borrowed from dunghill-fowls, S.

And that he wad like me, I hae no fear;  
Had of the bargain we made an outred,  
Wese no be heard upon the midden head.

Ross's *Helenore*, p. 85.

A.-S. *midding*, id. Dan. *moeding*; Ihre, vo. *Lena*, p. 60. Ray derives this word from E. *mud*; but ridiculously, as he admits that *midding* is "an old Saxon word," whereas *mud* is certainly modern, perhaps from Belg. *moddig*, nasty, Isl. *mod*, any thing useless, refuse, or rather Su.-G. *modd*, lutum, coenum, whence Isl. *modig*, Sw. *maaddig*, putridus, lutulentus.

A.-S. *midding* is radically one with *moeding*, used in Scania precisely in the same sense. Ihre derives it from *moeg*, dung, *muck*, and *ding*, a heap, vo. *Dyng*. This is nearly the same with Bp. Gibson's etymon; A.-S. *myke*, dung, and *ding*, a heap; Notes on Polemo Middinia.

**MIDDEN-HOLE, s.** 1. A dunghill, S.

"What adds considerably to their miserable state, is the abominable, but too general practice, of placing the dunghill (*middenhole*, vulgarly) before the doors of their dwelling-houses, many of which, in every point of view, much accord with the situation in which they are placed." P. Kinclaven, Perth. Statist. Acc., xix. 333.

2. Sometimes, a hole or small pool, beside a dunghill, in which the filthy water stands, S.

**MIDDEN-MOUNT, MIDDING-MOUNT, s.** A singular species of rampart used by the inhabitants of the city of Edinburgh, during the reign of Charles I., in defending themselves against the batteries of the castle.

"They raise fortifications to defend the town against the violence of the castle; they raise *midding mounts* upon the causeway, and fill up sundry houses with sand and water to resist fire works. Before any answer came frae the king, the truce expired, where-upon the town of Edinburgh began again to their fortifications, raised *midden mounts* at Heriot's Work, and upon the causeway, and sundry other parts within and about the town for their defence." Spalding, i. 215.

This is a use to which it is not generally known that the *fulyie* of the *Good Town* has been applied.

**MIDDEN-MYLIES, s. pl.** Orach [Goosefoot], S. B. *Chenopodium viride*, et album, Linn.; thus denominated, as growing on *dunghills*.

**MIDDEN-STEAD, s.** The spot where a dunghill is formed, S.

"If you had challenged the existence of Red-cowl in the castle of Glenstirym, old Sir Peter Pepperbrand

would have had ye out to his court-yard, made you be-take yourself to your weapon, and if your trick of fence were not the better, would have sticked you like a pad-dock on his own baronial *middenstead*." Antiquary, i. 197.

"I was e'en taking a spell o' worthy John Quackle-ben's Flower of a Sweet Savour, sawn on the *Middenstead* of this Warld," said Andrew." Rob Roy, ii. 69.

**MIDDEN-TAP, s.** The summit of a dunghill. If a crow fly over a dunghill, it is viewed in some places as a certain presage of bad weather.

This morning bodes us ill,—

For the gray crow flew o'er the *midden-tap*,  
An' croak'd his hollow notes before the ra'en.

Davidson's *Seasons*, p. 95.

*Ra'en*, raven.

\* **MIDGE, s.** 1. This not only denotes a gnat as in E., but is the only term used by the vulgar for a musqueto.

"*Midges*, gnats; musquetoes;" Gl. Antiq.

[2. A term applied to a very small person, animal, or thing, Clydes., Banffs.]

**To MIDIL, MYDDIL, v. n.** To mix.

—Or list apprufe thay pepill all and sumyn  
To giddir *myddill*, or jone in lyig or band.

Doug. *Virgil*, 103, 36.

Himself alsua *midit* persauit he  
Amang princis of Grece in the mellé.

*Ibid.*, 28, 16.

V. Divers. Purley, 410.

Isl. *mid-a*, dividere, Su.-G. *medl-a*, se interponere, Belg. *middel-en*, intercedere.

[MIDLENTREN, MYDLETERENE, s. V. under MID.]

**MIDLERT, MYDDIL ERD, MEDLERT, s.** This earth, the present state.

Thare saw he als with huge grete and murning,  
In *midil erd* oft merit, thir Troyanis  
Duryng the sege that into batale slane is.

Doug. *Virgil*, 180, 48.

—Sithen make the moraden with a mylde mode,  
As man of *medlert* makeles of might.

*Sir Gawan and Sir Gal.*, ii. 24.

i.e., "I, without fretting, give thee homage, as matchless in power on this earth."

"A phrase yet in use in the N. of S. among old people, by which they understand this earth in which we live, in opposition to the grave. Thus they say, *There's no man in middle erd is able to do it*, i.e., no man alive," Rudd.

This gate she could not long in *midlert* be.

Ross's *Helenore*, p. 59.

It is used by R. Glouc.—

Me nuste womman so vayr non in the *myddel erthe*.

*Cron.*, p. 440.

i.e., I knew, or wist of no woman so fair on earth.

A.-S. *middan-earde*, *middan-gard*, mundus, orbis terrarum; Moes.-G. *midjungard*, id. Alem. *mittil-gard*, approaches most nearly to our word, from *mittil*, middle, and *gard*, area. *Middangard* occurs in the same language. *Gard* or *geard* seems the true orthography of the last syllable.

Ihre, vo. *Mid*, conjectures that the earth may have been thus denominated, either because it was supposed to be placed in the centre of the universe, or that there

is an allusion to the fabled partition made among the three sons of Saturn; this world being considered as the middle lot between heaven and hell. The Goths, he thinks, wanted a word for denoting the world, before the introduction of *verold*, *werold*, &c., and that for this reason they framed the terms *manasedh*, or, the seat of man, *fairghus*, q. fair or beautiful house, and *midjungard*, or the middle area.

**MIDLYNGIS**, *s. pl.* Apparently, a particular description of pins.

"xviiiij paperis of prenis, the price xxvij sh., ane bout of *midlyngis* the price vj sh., & tua hankis of wyir [wire] the price xxiiiij sh." *Aberd. Reg.*, A. 1543, V. 18. Perhaps pins of a *midlding* size.

**MIDS**, *s.* 1. A mean; *Lat. med-ium.*

"It is a silly plea, that you are all united in the end, since your debates about the *midses* make the end among your hands to be lost." *Baillie's Lett.*, ii. 192.

2. A median, the middle between extremes.

"Temperance is the golden *mids* between abstinence and intemperance." *Pardovan's Collect.*, p. 244.

**To MIDS**, *v. a.* To strike a medium.

—"The two great sects of the antient lawyers were divided.—But Trebonian *midseth* the matter thus, that if the product can easily be reduced to the first matter, the owners of the matter remain proprietors of the whole, as when a cup or other artifact is made of metal," &c. *Stair's Inst.*, B. ii. T. 1, sec. 41.

[**MIDSMAN**, *s.* V. under **MID**.]

**MIELDS**, *s. pl.* The north-country pronunciation of *Moolds*, dust of the grave.

She's got, I fear, what wedding she will gett,  
That's wi' the *mields*, sae that need's be nae lett.  
*Ross's Helenore*, First Ed., p. 47.

*Mould*, Ed. Second, p. 57.

"Married to the *mools*," a proverbial phrase used of a young woman, whose sole bridal-bed is the grave. V. **MULDES**.

**MIENE**, *s.* Interest, means used; the same with *Moyen*.

"Gif it happenis the said Schir Alexander to decess, —his said son and ayr—sal be obliste to delyuir the said castel freli to hir,—sa that nouthir the said Schir Alexander, &c. be nought the neirrar the deede [death] be the *miene* of the said princesse, hir procuratioune or seruantis." *Parl. Ja. II.*, A. 1439, Ed. 1814, p. 54.

**MIFF**, *s.* A pettish humour, huff, S.

"Mr. Oldbuck—always wished to be paid with regularity; Sir Arthur was not always, nor indeed often, prepared to gratify this reasonable desire; and, in accomplishing an arrangement between tendencies so opposite, little *miffs* would occasionally take place." *Antiquary*, i. 106.

I hesitate whether this should be viewed as a metaph. use of Teut. *muffe*, mucor, mephtas; as regarding meat which has contracted a bad smell.

[**To MIFF**, *v. a.* and *n.* 1. To make pettish, to put into a pettish humour, *Banffs*.

2. To be pettish, or in a pettish humour, *ibid.*]

**MILD**, *s.* A species of fish, Orkney.

"Many other fish are caught about this coast, but in general in inconsiderable quantities, called in this

country, *mills*, bergills, skate and frog." *P. Birsay*, *Orkn. Statist. Acc.*, xiv. 314.

It is probably the same fish, which G. Andr. describes, as not less rare than beautiful. *Mialld-r*, piseis pulcherrimi nomen, sed captu rarus; *Lex.* p. 178.

**MILDROP**, *s.* The mucus flowing from the nose in a liquid state.

His eyin droupit, quhole sonkin in his bede,  
Out at his nose the *mildrop* fast gan rin.

*Henryson's Test. Crescide, Chron. S.P.*, i. 162.

A.-S. *mele*, alveus, a hollow vessel, and *dropa*; or *drop-maelum*, guttatim, inverted?

**MILDS**, **MILES**, *s. pl.* The *Chenopodium album et viride*, *Loth.*, *Roxb.* V. **MIDDEN-MYLIES**.

Norv. *melde*, *Chenopodium urbicum*; *Hallager*.

**MILE**, *s.* Wild celery, *Apium graveolens*, *Linn.*; *Roxb.*, &c.

The tradition of the South of S. asserts that those who were persecuted for their adherence to Presbytery, during the reigns of Charles II. and James II., in their hiding places often fed on this plant.

**MILES**, *s. pl.* A small animal found on the diseased intestines and livers of sheep, *Roxb.*, *Selkirks.*, *Liddesd.*; called in other counties a *Flook*.

It seems originally the same with Teut. *miluoc*, acarus, teredo; a little worm in ships, also a moth that frets garments.

\* **To MILITATE**, *v. n.* To have effect, to operate; but not as including the idea of opposition, as in the use of the word in **E**.

"Whatever reasons persuaded the modelling and reducing the several associations,—the same *militated* still to enforce the necessity and reasonableness of assuming new arts and trades that come in request." *Fountainh. Dec. Suppl.*, iii. 66; also in p. 67.

**To MILK**, *v. a.* "To steal;" *Gl. Picken.* V. **MILL**, *v.*

**MILK**, *s.* A day annually observed in a school, on which the scholars present a small gift to their master; in return for which he gives them *the play*, as it is called, or freedom from their ordinary task, and provides for them a treat of curds and cream, sweetmeats, &c. Sometimes they have music and a dance. *Loth.*

This mirthful day has evidently at first received its designation from *milk*, as being the only or principal part of the entertainment.

**To MILK the tether**, a power ascribed to witches, of carrying off the milk of any one's cows, by pretending to perform the operation of milking upon a *hair-tether*, S.

It is singular, that the very same idea is to be found among the vulgar in Sweden at this day. I am informed by a gentleman who resides in that country, that the wife of one of his tenants complained to him of a neighbouring female, that she witched away

the milk of her cows by means of a *haar-rep*, i.e., a *hair-rope*.

The same effect is ascribed to what is called *trailing the tether*. On Rood-day, the Fairies are supposed to trail or drag the tether over the clover, in order to take away the milk. Hence, if one has an uncommon quantity of milk from one's cows, it is usually said, "You have been drawing the tether."

**MILK-AND-MEAL, s.** The common designation for milk-porridge, S. B.

This phrase is certainly of northern origin: for Isl. *mioelmiolk* is rendered by Halderson, cractogala, and by the Dan. term *melkevelling*, i.e., porridge made of milk, q. *milk-boiling*.

**MILK-BROTH, s.** Broth, in making which *milk* has been used instead of water, S.

"The most economical way of using bear, or barley, is when it is—boiled with a little butter,—or with milk, when it is called *milk-broth*." Agr. Surv. Aberd., p. 518. V. BAREFOOT-BROTH.

**MILK-GOWAN, s.** A yellow flower whose stem gives out a humour similar to butter-milk; Dandelion, *Leontodon taraxacum*, Linn.; Etrr. For.

For the description given, this seems to be the same with that called the *Witch-gowan*, Dumfr.

**MILK-HOUSE, s.** A dairy, a house in which the milk is kept previous to its being made into cheese or butter, S.

"A *milk-house* must be cool, but free from damp, and admitting of the circulation of air." Agr. Surv. Peeb., p. 81.

Sw. *mioelk-hus*, id.

**MILK-MADLOCKS. V. MADLOCKS.**

**MILKMAID'S PATH.** The milky way, or galaxy, S.

"Waes me but that lang baldric o' stars, called the *milkmaid's path*, looks ripe and ready for rain." Blackw. Mag., Nov. 1820, p. 146.

**MILK-MEAT, s.** Milk and meal boiled together, and served up as a dish, S. B.; synon. *Milk-and-Meal*.

This term was used in O. E. "*Milke mete*, or *mete* made of mylke. Lactatum. Lacticinium." Prompt. Parv.

Isl. *mioelkr-matr*, Dan. *melke-mad*, lactinia, escagalatica.

[**MILK-SAPS, s.** Milk-sops; a dish consisting of bread soaked with boiled milk, and sweetened with sugar, Clydes.]

**MILK-SYTH, s.** A milk-strainer, a vessel used for straining milk, S. corr. *milsie*, *milsey*.

—Ane ark, ane almry, and laidills two,  
Ane *milk-syth*, with ane swyne taill.

*Barnatyne Poems*, p. 159, st. 4.

This word has given rise to a proverb addressed to those who make much ado about nothing, or complain of the weight of that work which deserves not to be mentioned. *Ye are stressed wi' stringing the milsey*. This refers to the cloth, through which the milk is strained, being taken off the wooden frame, wrung out, and tied on again.

Sibb. views it "q. *milk-sieve*." But the last syllable is from *Sey*, to strain, q. v. It is also called the *Sey-dish*.

**MILK-WOMAN, s.** A wet nurse; a *green milk-woman*, one whose milk is fresh, who has been recently delivered of a child, S. B.

**MILKER, s.** A vulgar designation for a cow that gives milk, S.

"In the countries situated on the Murray and Beaulie Friths, the cattle are heavier and better *milkers*, than the Highland cows." Agr. Surv. Invern., p. 251.

"I hae sax kye—a' as famous *mikers* as e'er striddled a goan, but now as yell as my pike-staff." Blackw. Mag., June 1820, p. 288.

**MILKNES, s.** 1. The state of giving milk, S.

Afore lang days, I hope to see him here,  
About his *milkness* and his cows to speer.

*Ross's Heterore*, p. 78.

2. Milk itself, improperly, S.

My ky may now rin rowtin' to the hill,  
And on the naked vird their *milkness* spill;  
She seenil lays her hand upon a turn,  
Neglects the kebbuck, and forgets the kirn.

*Fergusson's Poems*, ii. 3.

This use of the term is at least more than three centuries old.

—"The saidis personis sall—pay—for the profit of the *mylkness* of the said five ky be the said space [three years] extendin to xv stane of cheiss, price of the stane ij s. For the profit of the *mylkness* of the said iiij<sup>xx</sup> of yowis be the said thre yeris xlviii stane of cheiss, price of the stane ij s." Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1492, p. 289.

This act is curious and interesting, as it affords the ratio of calculation as to the annual produce of live stock, and also the profits arising from them.

"I cannot help thinking the stirks throve better in the ould Dairy's time, though, to be sure, in managing the *milkness*, she was none of the cleanest." Saxon and Gael, i. 153.

3. A dairy, S. A. Bor.

"A dairy, in the North, is called the *Milkness*; as the Dairy-maid is, in all parts, a Milk-maid." Cowel, vo. *Dayeria*.

4. The produce of the dairy, in whatever form, S.

—"Grass and corns were burnt up and dried in the blade, whilk made also great scarcity of all *milkness*, butter and cheese." Spalding, ii. 27.

The passage from Ross, given sense 1, properly belongs to this.

\* **MILKY, adj.** Applied to grain when the ear is filled but not begun to grow white, Clydes.

"Green *oat* and barley, when the ear is just become *milky*—spoiled by 4 degrees [of cold]." Agr. Surv. Clydes., p. 11.

"Oats, when the ear is *milky*, by 6." *Ibid.*, p. 12.

**MILKORTS, MILKWORTS, s. pl.** The name given to the root of the *Campanula Rotundifolia*, S. B.

**To MILL, v. a.** To steal, Renfr.

His dearie glad o' siccan routh,  
To *mill* a note was aye right ready.

*A. Wilson's Poems*, 1790, p. 73.

Undoubtedly the same with the E. cant verb *Mill*, to rob; and also with *Mill* in, to *Mill* one out of a thing. Picken gives to *Milk*, as synon. with *Mill*, "to steal." This can only be viewed as a figurative use of the E. v.

To **MILL** one out of a thing. To procure it rather in an artful and flattering way, Loth. It seems nearly synon. with E. *wheedle*.

Isl. *mill-a*, lenire, to mitigate.

To **MILL** one, v. a. To give one a beating, to drub, &c., Renfrews.

Probably from Isl. *mel-ia*, contundere, q. to bruise as in a mill.

\***MILL**, s. The vulgar name for a snuff-box, one especially of a cylindrical form, or resembling an inverted cone; also *snuff-mill*, *sneechin-mill*, S.; [*mull*, Clydes.]

As soon as I can find my *mill*,  
Ye'se get a snuff wi' right guid will.

*Picken's Poems*, i. 117.

No other name was formerly in use. The reason assigned for this designation is, that when tobacco was introduced into this country, those, who wished to have snuff, were wont to toast the leaves before the fire, and then bruise them with a bit of wood in the box; which was therefore called a *mill*, from the snuff being ground in it.

I may observe, by the way that the word *mill* is radically from Isl. *mel-ia*, contundere, to beat; hence *mael*, farina, meal, and *mal-a*, to grind. V. G. Andr. Lex. p. 174.

**MILL-BANNOCK**, s. "A circular cake of oat-meal, with a hole in the centre,—generally a foot in diameter, and an inch in thickness. It is baked at *mills*, and *haurned* or toasted on the burning seeds of shelled oats, which makes it as brittle as if it had been baked with butter;" Gall. Enc.

**MILL-BITCH**, s. A small pock or bag clandestinely set by the miller to receive meal for his own profit, S. A. V. **BLACK BITCH**.

This is a cant term, originally invented by the miller for concealment; as he was wont to say to his *knave* or servant, in allusion to the use of a dog, *Hae ye set the bitch?*

**MILL-CLOOSE**, s. "The boxed wood-work which conducts the water into the mill-wheels;" Gall. Encycl.

[**MILL-DAM**, s. 1. The bank or dam to confine water to supply a mill, S.

2. The water collected, by means of a dam, to supply a mill, S.]

**MILL-EE**, **MILL-EYE**, s. The eye or opening in the *hupes* or cases of a mill, at which the meal is let out, S.

"The wretches are obliged to have at least fifty in each parish,—under the thatch of a roof no bigger than a bee-hive, instead of a noble and seemly baron's mill, that you would hear the clack of through the hail

country; and that casts the meal through the *mill-eye* by forpits at a time." *Pirate*, i. 264.

A pawky cat came frae the *mill-ee*,  
Wi' a bonnie bowsie tailie.—

*Remains of Nithsdale Song*, p. 67.

An' ay whan passengers bye war gaun,  
A doolfu' voice cam irae the *mill-ee*,  
On Saturday's night when the clock struck one,  
Cry'n, "O Rab Riddle, hae mercy on me!"

*Hogg's Mountain Bard*, p. 19.

*Mill-ee* is often, in leases, used as signifying the whole mill and pertinents. Mearns.

[**MILL-GRUEL**, s. Porridge made with milk, Shetl.; a corr. of *milk-gruel*.]

**MILL-LADE**, s. The mill-race. V. **LADE**.

**MILL-LICHENS**, s. In a mill, the entry into the place where the inner wheel goes, S. B.

Allied perhaps to Alem. *luch-an*, *bilohhan*, to shut; Su.-G. *lykt*, an inclosure. Or, perhaps q. the lungs or lights of a mill. V. **LYCHTNIS**.

**MILL-REEK**, s. The name given to a disease among miners, Lanarks.

"The miners and smelters are subject here [Lead-hills,] as in other places, to the lead distemper, or *mill reek*, as it is called here; which brings on palsies, and sometimes madness, terminating in death in about ten days." *Pennant's Tour in S.*, 1772, p. 130.

**MILL-RING**, s. 1. The open space in a mill between the runner and the wooden frame surrounding it, by making which very large and wide the miller collected for himself a great deal of meal, S. Hence the phrase, *to Ring the Mill*. V. **RING**.

2. The meal which remains in the ring, or round about the millstones, S. This is considered as a perquisite belonging to the miller.

"A number of the mill-masters apply the *mill-ring*, (i.e., the corn that remains about the mill-stones), to the feeding of horses." *Agr. Surv. Aberd.*, p. 506.

3. The dust of a mill, S. B.

Su.-G. *ring*, vilis.

**MILL-RYND**, **MILN-RYND**, s. A piece of iron, resembling a star or the rowel of an old spur, sunk in the centre of the upper mill-stone to receive the iron spindle on which it turns, S.

"Gif ony man—violentlie and masterfullie spul-yies and 'akis away the *miln-rynd*, or ony uther necessar part of the miln, without the quhilk scho can nather grind nor gang, he aucht and sould refund—the damage," &c. *Balfour's Pract.*, p. 496.

Allied perhaps to Isl. *rind-a*, Su.-G. *rend a*, pellere, propellere; as denoting that by which the stone is driven round.

**MILL-STEEP**, s. A lever fixed to the machinery of corn-mills, by which the mill-stones



can be put closer to, or more apart from each other, at pleasure, Roxb.

**MILL-STEW**, *s.* The dust that flies about a mill. V. STEW.

Teut. *molen-stof* signifies pollen, pollis, meal.

**MILL-TROWSE**, *s.* The sluice of a *mill-lead*, Gall.

"Mill-Cloose, the same with *Mill-trowse*." Gall. Encycl.; q. the *troughs* that conduct the water.

[**MILLAR-QUAREOURIS**, *s. pl.* Quarriers of millstone, Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 328.]

**MILLART, MILLERT**, *s.* A provincialism for *Miller*, Aberd.

The *millart's* man, a supls fallow,  
Ran's he had been red wud.

*Christmas Ba'ing, Skinner's Misc. Poet.*, p. 130.

In Edit. 1805, *The millert lad*, &c.

**MILLER**. *To Drown the Miller*. 1. A phrase commonly used in baking, when too much water is put in, and there is not meal enough to bring the dough to a proper consistence, S.

It obviously alludes to the miller having such an overflow of water that he cannot carry on his operations.

2. Applied in making punch or *toddy*, when more water is poured in than corresponds to the quantity of spirits, S.

"'He shall drink off the yawl full of punch.' 'Too much water *drowned the miller*,' answered Triptolemus." *The Pirate*, ii. 64.

3. Transferred to anything, however good, which defeats the desired end by its excess, S.

"Turning to Edie, he endeavoured to put money into his hand. 'I think,' said Edie, as he tendered it back again, 'the hale folk here have either gane daft, or they hae made a vow to ruin my trade, as they say ower muckle water *drowns the miller*.'" *The Antiquary*, ii. 176.

4. To become bankrupt.

Honest men's been ta'en for rogues,  
Whan bad luck gars *drown the miller*,  
Hunted 'maist out o' their brogues,  
Fortune-smit for lack o' siller.

*A Scott's Poems*, p. 34.

**MILLER OF CARSTAIRS**. A proverbial allusion.

"Sir G. Lockhart said the Lords were *like to the miller of Carstairs*, drew all to themselves. And truly this decision has no shadow of reason but the clerks' advantage." *Fountainh. Dec. Suppl.*, ii. 588.

**MILLER'S THOOM, MILLER'S THUMB**, *s.*

[1. The young of the Bib or Pout, (*Gadus luscus*, Linn.), a fish, Banffs.]

2. The river Bull-head, S. *Cottus Gobio*, Linn.

"*Gobius marinus*; our fishers call it the *Miller's Thumb*." Sibb. Fife, p. 121.

This name seems also known in E.

[**MILL-FISH**, *s.* The turbot; so called from its round shape, Shetl.]

[**MILLIN**, *s.* The smallest particle, or scrap, Shetl., Clydes. Isl. *moli*, a crumb.]

**MILLOIN**, *adj.* Of or belonging to mail.

Mine habergeon of *miloin* wark  
Lasted me no more than my sark;  
Nor mine acton of *miloin* fine,  
First was my father's and then mine.

*Sir Egeir*, p. 7.

Teut. *maelien van't pansier*, rings of mail; *maelien-koller*, a breastplate. In a MS. copy, transcribed, as would seem, from a different edition, it is *millain*. This would suggest, that the armour described had been made in the city of Milan.

[**MILLT**, *adj.* Drunk, overcome with strong drink, Banffs.]

**MILNARE**, *s.* A miller.

This *Milnare* had a dowchtyr fayre,  
That to the Kyng had oft repayre.

*Wyntown*, vi. 16. 29.

Sw. *moelnare*.

**MILORD, MY LORD**. A designation very commonly given to a haggies in the South of S., probably from the idea of its being the "chieftain of the pudding race."

**MILSIE, MILSEY**, *s.* A strainer. V. MILK-SYTH.

**MILSIE WALL**, *s.* 1. A wall with crenated battlements; a word still used by old people, Peebleshire.

The king granted to Mr. Thomas Craig, advocate, in 1582, a license "to set forth before the syde wall of that tenement of land lying on the north side of the high street of Edinr. at the head of the close called Robert Bruce's close, pertaining to the said Mr. Thomas Craig in heritage, towers or high street pillars of stone, as far forth as the next adjacent neighbours had any stairs or steps thereof, at the least so far forth as the drop of the said tenement fell off before: And above the said Pillars to big a *Milsie wall* as many houses height as he should please, and to make the same with battieling on the forewall, and other parts thereof as he should think good." Act. Parl. in favour of Baillie of Jerviswood, July 17, 1695.

Fr. *milice*, O. Fr. *militie*, warfare, q. resembling the walls raised for military defence. It has been conjectured, indeed, that a wall of this description might receive its name from a fancied resemblance to a *Milk-syth* or *Milsie*, a milk-strainer, as perhaps being perforated or grated. Hence, perhaps,

2. *Milsie-wa'* is used to denote the wall of a dairy, in which there is a sort of window made of perforated tin, Berwicks.

To MILT, *v. a.* V. MELT.

[**MILT**, *s.* The spleen in cattle, Shetl. Dan. *milt*, id.]

MILYGANT, MYLIGANT, *s.* A false person.

Scho callit to hir cheir—  
A *milygant* and a mychare.  
*Colketbie Soc.*, F. i. v. 56. ]

—All the suynis awnaris—  
Herand thair awin swyne cry,  
With thir *myligantis* machit,  
Afferd the fulis had thame kachit.  
*Ibid.*, v. 205.

O. Fr. *male-gent*, mechant, mauvais; Roquefort.

MIM, *adj.* 1. Affectedly modest, prudish, S.

"She looks as *mim*, as if butter would na melt in her mouth," S. Prov.

"Had aff," quoth she, "ye filthy slate,

"Ye stink o' leeks, O feigh!

"Let gae my hands, I say, be quat!"

And vow gin she was skeigh

And *mim* that day.

*Ramsay's Poems*, i. 262.

And now cam the nicht o' feet-washin',

And Bessie look'd *mim* and scare,

*Jamieson's Popular Ball.*, i. 295.

2. Prim, demure.

Now Nory all the while was playing prim,

As ony lamb as modest, and as *mim*;

And never a look with Lindy did lat fa'.

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 106.

3. Affecting great moderation in eating or drinking, S.

"A bit but, and a bit ben,  
Makes a *mim* maiden at the board end."

*Ramsay's S. Prov.*, p. 9.

i.e., The maiden who eats in the kitchen, and in the larder, must of necessity have little appetite at the dining-table.

It might be supposed, that *mim* resembled Alem. *mamm-en*, to please, whence *mammende*, those who are meek, pleasant, or complacent; Schilter; and indeed, our term often includes the idea of an awkward and unnatural attempt to please. But as it is synon. with *Moy*, and occasionally interchanged with it, they have probably a common origin. V. *Moy*.

4. Affecting squeamishness in admitting what cannot justly be denied.

"I must say, that as the best of our synods (for as *mim* as we have made it to this day) are justly chargeable with the blood of that renowned martyr [Guthrie] who died allendarly on the head of his Lord's supremacy in not owning him in that hour (O indelible shame!), so God hath left these assemblies, as a just punishment for deserting this standard-bearer, to do this which is a plain and palpable relinquishing—of his cause." M<sup>W</sup>ard's Cont., p. 323.

5. Quiet, mute, S. B.

It seems highly probable, that *mim* is merely a modification of E. *mum*, silent.

MIMLIE, *adv.* Prudishly, S.

MIM-MOUED, *adj.* 1. Reserved in discourse, not communicative, implying the idea of affection of modesty.

"I'm whiles jokin' an' tellin' her it's a stound o' love; but you young leddies are a' sae *mim-moued*, if I wud lay the hair o' my head aneth her feet, I can get naething out o' her." Saxon and Gael., i. 161.

"I'm no for being *mim-mou'd* when there's no reason; but a man had as gude, whiles, cast a knot on his tongue." The Smugglers, i. 164.

2. Affectedly moderate at the table, S.

3. Affected in the mode of speaking, S.

"*Mim-mou'd*, having an affected way of speaking." Gall. Encycl.

MIM-MOU'DNESS, *s.* Affected or fastidious modesty in conversation, S.

MIMNESS, *s.* Prudishness, S.

MIMENTIS, *s. pl.* Memorandums.

"And thar to ansuer to oure souveran lord—apoun the tressonable *mimentis* & writings to the tressonable confederacioune of Inglismen, &c., and apoun the tressonable ressavng of ane persewant of the king of Inglandis, callit *Blewmantle*, with tressonable lettrez, *mimentis* and writngis." Parl. Ja. III., 1483, Ed. 1814, p. 151.

Evidently used in a similar sense with *memorandum*, from Lat. *memento*.

MIN, MYN, *adj.* Less, smaller,

They could be exylt Scotland mair and *myn*.

*Kennedy, Evergreen*, ii. 69.

i.e., more and less.

Idolateris draw neir, to burgh and land;

Reid heir your life at large, bath mair and *min*.

*H. Charteris Adhort. Lyndsay's Warkis*,  
1592, a. 6. b.

V. MAWMENT.

It occurs in O. E.

His confession of treason, more and *mynne*,  
Of nyne pointes fayned, he then proclaymed.

*Hardynge*, p. 192.

Su.-G. *minne*, Alem. *min*, id. *Michilu min*, much less. Belg. *min*, *minder*, Fr. *moins*, O. Fr. *mon*, Lat. *min-or*, Ir. *min*, small, delicate.

[MINCH, *s.* A small piece of anything, a crumb, S.]

[To MINCH, MINSH, *v. a.* To cut into small pieces, S.]

[MINCHIE, MINSHIE, *s.* A very small piece, the least bit, Clydes. *Minchick* is the form used in Banffs.]

*Minchickie* is an exaggerated diminutive used by children in Clydes., when they wish to express the smallest bit possible, or to justify the portion they claim or have taken for themselves. This form is used in Banffs., also. V. Gl.]

[To MINCHICK, *v. a.* To cut or break into very small pieces, Gl. Banffs.]

Fr. *mincer*, "to mince, to shred," Cotgr.; 'A.-S. *minsian*, to become small, hence E. *mince* and *minish*.]

To MIND, *v. n.* 1. To remember, S.

"The instances of invading of pulpits are yet fewer, that is, none at all, as far as I *mind*, in the preceding years." Wodrow's Hist., i. 455.

O dinna ye *mind*, Lord Gregory,

As we sat at the wine,

We chang'd the rings frae our fingers?

And I can shew thee thine.

*Minstrelsy Border*, ii. 62.

A.-S. *ge-myn-an*, *ge-mynd-gan*, Isl. *aminn-a*, Su.-G. *minn-as*, Dan. *mind-er*, Moes.-G. *ga-mun-an*, meminisse, in memoriam revocare.

## 2. To design, to intend, S.

"Quhilk day they keipit, and brocht in thair cumpanie Johne Knox, quho the first day, after his cuming to Fyfe, did preiche in Carrile, the next day in Anstruther, *mynding* the Sondag, quhilk was the thrid, to preiche in Sanct Androis." Knox's Hist., p. 140.

To MIND, *v. a.* To recollect, to remember, S.

"My sister, (said a devout and worthy lady) can repeat a discourse from beginning to end; but for me, I never *mind* sermons." Sir J. Sinclair's Observ., p. 90.

MIND, *s.* Recollection, remembrance. *I had na the least mind of it*; I had totally forgot it, S.

## To keep mind, to retain in remembrance, S.

—Ay keep mind to moop and mell,  
Wi' sheep o' credit like thysel.

Burns, iii. 79.

One sense given of E. *mind*, is, "memory, remembrance." But in all the proofs Johns. gives, a prep. is prefixed, *in mind*, to *mind*, *out of mind*. I question much if in E. it is used as with us.

A.-S. *ge-mynd*, Dan. *minde*. Isl. *minne*, Alem. *minna*, Su.-G. *minne*, memoria. Hence the cup drunk by the ancient Goths, in *memory* of their ancestors, was called *minne*. V. SKOLL. Sibb. mentions *Minnyng daies*, minding or commemoration days; a phrase which I have not met with elsewhere.

O. E. *meende* was used in the same sense. "*Meende*. Memoria. Recordatio.—*Meende hauer*. Memor." Prompt. Parv.

## OF GUDE MYND. Of good memory; a phrase often used in our old Acts, in relation to deceased sovereigns.

"That all & sindri landis & possessiounis unmountable, of the quhilkis of *gude mynde* king James, quhame God assoilye, fadir til our souerane lorde that now is, the day of his deceiss had in peceabill possessioun, sal abide & remayn with the oure said souerane lorde that now is," &c. Acts Ja. II., 1445, Ed. 1814, p. 33.

This at first view might seem to express the good or praiseworthy *intention* of the prince referred to. But it is unquestionably equivalent to the phrase, "of good memory," or "of blessed memory." It corresponds to *bone memorie* in the Lat. Acts.

MYNDLES, *adj.* 1. Forgetful.

God callis thaim vnto this flude Lethe,  
With felloun farde, in nowmer as ye se,  
To that effect, that thay *myndles* becum  
Baith of plesoure and panis al and sum.

Doug. Virgil, 192, 2.

Immemores, Virg.

## 2. Oblivious, causing forgetfulness.

Wet in the *myndles* flude of hell Lethe,  
And sowpit in Styx the forcy hellis se,  
His glottonyt and fondonerit eue tuo  
He cloist has, and sound gart slepe also.

Doug. Virgil, 156, 7.

## 3. Acting foolishly or irrationally, like a person in a delirium.

I ressaunt him schip-brokin fra the sey ground,  
Wilsun and misterfull of al warldis thying,  
Synne *myndeles* maid him my fallow in this ring.

Doug. Virgil, 112, 50.

—Half *myndles* againe scho langis sare  
For tyll enquire, and here the sege of Troye,  
And in ane stare him behaldis for joye.

Ibid., 102, 22.

*Demens* is used in both places, Virg.

MINENT, *s.* Corr. from E. *minute*, Ettr. For.

"They then spak amang themsels for five or six *minents*;—an' at last the judge tauld me, that the prosecution against me was drappit for the present." Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 25.

To MING, MYNG, MINX, *v. n.* To mix, to mingle, Lanarks.; [*minx*, Shetl.]

—"Throw the negligence and avirice of the wirkaris and golde smithis, the said siluer gevin to thaim es *mynging* with laye & vther stuife [stuff] that is put in the said werk." Parl. Ja. III., A. 1473, Acts, Ed. 1814, p. 10.

MING, *s.* A mixture, Peebles.

"We have heard of some managers of stock in a neighbouring county having, this season, salved their flocks with various sorts of mixtures, in none of which tar is an ingredient.—These *mings* do not clot the fleece as tar does, and of course, when the wool is greased with them, the process of manufacturing is rendered easier." Caled. Merc. Dec. 4, 1823.

[MINKSTER, *s.* A mixture, *ibid.*]

A.-S. *mencg-en*, *meng-an*, miscere; [Isl. *menga*, to mix, *mengun*, mixture.] V. MENG, v.

MINIKIN (pron. *meenikin*), *s.* A term used to denote any thing that is very small, Fife.MINIKIN, *adj.* Of the smallest size; as, a *minikin prein*, i.e., the smallest that is made, while one of the largest size is denominated a *corkin prein*, S.

In regard to signification, the most natural origin would seem to be Teut. *min*, minus, whence *minck-en*, *minnere*, *diminuere*, as Isl. *mynk-a*, id., from *minne*, minor. It may, however, be worthy of remark, that in form our term closely corresponds with Teut. *minneken*, Venus, amica, corculum; *blandientis particula*, says Kilian. This term, however, is a diminutive from *minne*, Belg. *min*, primarily denoting love, and secondarily a wet-nurse, from the tenderness of her affection to the child that is nourished at her breast. Sewel gives *minnekind*, a nurse-child, as if it were different from *minnekyn*, a Cupid. But, for the reason assigned above, we are inclined to view them as originally the same. V. the termination KIN.

[MINISTERS, *s. pl.* Small spiral shells found on the sea shore, Shetl.][MINISTER'S MARK, *s.* A mark on sheep; both ears are cut off, Shetl.]MINK, *s.* 1. A noose, Aberd.; nearly synon with *Munks*, q. v. *Munkie*, Mearns.

He—sits him down upo' the bink,  
An' plaita a theet, or mends a *mink*,  
To sair an after use.

W. Beattie's Tales, p. 81.

[To MINK, To MINK up, *v. a.* To coil a rope in the hand; as, "*mink up* the tether," Banffs.]

[MINKIN-UP, MINKAN-UP, *s.* The act of coiling a rope in the hand, *ibid.*]

[MINN, *s.* A strait or sound between islands, having a strong current running through it; as "Swarback's Minn" between Vemuntry and Muckle Roe, Shetl. Isl. *munni*, a mouth.]

MINNE, *v. a.*

Blithe weren thai alle,  
And merkes gun thai *minne*;  
Toke leve in the halle,  
Who might the childe winne.

*Sir Tristrem*, p. 35.

"Apparently from *Mint*, to offer.—They began to offer *marks* or money." Gl. It seems rather to signify, contribute; as allied to Isl. *mynd-a*, procurare, from *mund*, dos, pecunia. Teut. *mynigh-en*, communicare, participare.

[MINNEER, *s.* A great noise, Banffs.]

[To MINNEER, *v. n.* To make a great noise: part. pr. *minneeran*, used also as a *s.*, *ibid.*]

MINNIE, MINNY, *s.* 1. Mother; now used as a childish or fondling term, S.

Sen that I born was of my *minnie*,  
I nevir wouit an uther but you.

*Clerk, Evergreen*, ii. 19.

2. The dam, among sheep, S.

—"A lost sheep—comes bleating back a' the gate—to the very gair where it was lambed and first followed its *minny*." *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, i. 286.

[3. A grandmother, Shetl.]

This word, although now only in the mouths of the vulgar, is undoubtedly very ancient. It is nearly allied to Belg. *minne*, a nurse; a wet nurse; *minne-moer*, a nursing mother; *minne-vader*, a foster-father. This is to be traced to *minne*, love, as its origin; *minnen*, to love. Teut. *Minne* is also the name of Venus. Correspondent to these, we have Alem. *minna*, love; *Minne*, Venns. *Meer-minne*, a Siren, *min-oon*, to love; Su.-G. *minn-a*, id., also to kiss. Hence Fr. *mignon*, *mignot*, *mignard*, terms of endearment. This designation is thus not only recommended by its antiquity, but by its beautiful expression. *Love* and *Mother* are used as synon. terms. Can any word more fitly express the tender care of a mother, or that strength of affection which is due from a child, who has been nourished by the very substance of her body? It must be observed, however, that Isl. *manna* is used in the same sense as S. *minnie*. *Manna* dicunt pueri pro maeracula. G. Andr., 175.

MINNIE'S BAIRN. The mother's favourite, S.

"There is many folk, they have ay a face to the old company, they have a face for godlie folk, and they have a face for persecutors of godlie folk, and they will be *Daddie's Bairns*, and *Minnie's Bairns* both. They will be Prelats bairns, and they will be Malignant's bairns, and they will be the people of God's bairns." Mich. Bruce's Soul-Confirmation, p. 8.

[MINNIE'S DAWTIE. Same as MINNIE'S BAIRN, Clydes. V. DAWTIE.]

To MINNIE LAMBS. To join each lamb, belonging to a flock, to its own dam, after they have been separated for some time; Loth.

It is given as a proof of the accuracy of a shepherd's acquaintance with his flock, how incredible soever it may seem to those who are strangers to a pastoral life that, after the lambs have been separated from the ewes, he can *minnie ilka lamb*.

MINNIE'S MOUTHES, *s.* A phrase used to denote those who must be wheedled into any measure by kindness.

"The solistations, protestations and promises of great reward, often used since the beginning of the Parliament, are here againe enlarged amply, and engyred finely for soupling such with sweeties, as they take to be *Minnie's mouthes*." Course of Conformitie, p. 93.

Alem. *minlich* is rendered suavissime, Schilter; so that it seems doubtful, whether the phrase, *minnie's mouthes*, refers to the indulgence given by a fond mother, or literally respects sweetness, as equivalent to the E. phrase, "having a sweet tooth."

MINNOYT, part. pa. Annoyed?

Suppose a chiel wou'd be a poet,  
An' is na i' the least *minnoyt*,  
Tho' wise fowk say he is begoyt,  
Or something worse;  
To him the dogs may than be hoyt  
Wi' a' their force.

*Taylor's Scots Poems*, p. 8.

[MINNYBOLE, *s.* An old form of Maybole, a town in Ayrshire, noted in the old nursery rhyme—

'John Smith o' Minnybole,  
Can tu shae a wee foal?'  
'Yes indeed an' that I can,  
As weel as ony man.'  
'An' tu shae't, shae't weel,  
Ca' a nail in ilka heel;  
Pit a leather on the tae,  
Mak it stieve to speil a brae;  
Ca' ta, ea' ta, ea' ta!'

*Ca' ta*, drive it on.

This rhyme was common in Ayr. about thirty years ago, and from its structure must be of great antiquity. It is childish enough as a rhyme, but when spoken by a mother or a nurse and suitably acted on the tender soles of infancy, it never failed to please and amuse.]

MINSHOCH (gutt.), *s.* "A female goat two years old;" Gall. Encycl.

Gael. *minnsagh*, "a young she-goat," Schaw. *Mionnan* signifies a kid; Ir. *mionan*, *meannan*, id. Gael. and Ir. *mion* is a term signifying small, little, frequently entering into the composition of words, as *mionairneis*, small cattle. *Sagh*, in both languages, denotes a bitch; thus *mionsagh* might literally signify, a little bitch. But the origin is more probably C. B. *myn*, a kid (Armor. id.), whence *mynwyn*, and *mynnen*, hoedulus et hoedula; Davies. The last syllable of *Minshoch* may be merely the mark of diminution, with *s* intervening *euphoniae causa*.

To MINT, MYNT, *v. n.* 1. To aim, to take aim, to intend, A. Bor. Gl. Grose.

Thare thai layid on thame dynt for dynt,  
Thai myst bot seldyn quhare thai wald *mynt*.  
*Wyntoun*, viii. 16. 200. *Ibid.*, ix. 27. 408.

So that the stane he at his fomen threw  
Fayntly throw out the vode and waist are flew;  
Ne went it all the space, as he did *mynt*,  
Nor, as he etlit, perfurnyst not the dynt.

*Doug. Virgil*, 446, 9.

—For oft  
There as I *mynt* full sore, I smyte bot soft.  
*King's Quair*, iii. 32.

i. e., where, I threaten to give a severe blow, I strike softly.

"For the Lords rebukes ar ever effectuell, he *mynteth* not against his enemies, bot he layeth on." Bruce's Eleven Sermon., 1591, Sign. S. 3, a.

i. e. he never takes aim, *without* also striking.

At the lyown oft he *mynt*,  
But ever he lepis fro his dynt,  
So that no strake on him lyght.  
*Ywaine, Ritson's E. M. R.*, i. 104.

Here it is the pret.

Mr. MacPherson views the word, in this sense, as allied to Su.-G. *maatt-a*, Isl. *mid-a*, id. collineare.

O. E. *mente*. "I *mente*, I gesse or ayme to hytte a thynge that I shote or throwe at; Je esme.—I dyd *ment* at a fatte bukke, but I dyd hyt a pricket; Je esmoye a vng gras dayn, mays ie assenay vng saillant." Palsgr., B. iii., F. 299, b.

## 2. To attempt, to endeavour, S.

This seems the meaning of the following passage:—

Than Schir Golograce, for grief his gray ene brynt,  
Wod wraith; and the wynd his handis can wryng.  
Yit makes he mery magry, quhasa *mynt*,  
Said, I sall bargane abyde and ane end bryng.

*Gowan and Gal.*, iii. 10.

"Offer," Gl. But the line most probably should be read thus—

Yit makis he mery, magry quhasa *mynt*.

i. e., whosoever should attempt the contrary; or, whosoever should oppose him.

—I sall anis *mynt*  
Stand of far, and keik thaim to;  
As I at hame was wont.

*Peblys to the Play*, st. 4.

"It is here alone, I think, we might learn from Canterbury, yea, from the Pope, yea, from the Turks or Pagans, modesty and manners; at least their deep reverence in the house they call God's ceases not till it have led them to the adoration of the timber and stones of the place. We are here so far the other way, that our rascals, without shame, in great numbers, makes such din and clamour in the house of the true God, that if they *minted* to use the like behaviour in my chamber, I would not be content till they were down the stairs." Baillie's Lett., i. 96.

He speaks of the Assembly at Glasgow in 1638.

This sense also occurs in O. E. "*Myntyn* or ame to wor or assayen. Attempto." Prompt. Parv.

## 3. To mint at a thing, to aim at it, or to make an attempt, S. A. Bor. Lincolns.

The lasses wha did at her graces *mint*,  
Ha'e by her death their bonniest pattern tint.

*Ramsay's Poems*, ii. 19.

I find the phrase, *to mint at*, used by Sir R. Constable, an unworthy Yorkshireman, who acted as a spy during the great insurrection in the north of England, A. 1569-70.

"He would have had me to have prevented the enterprise, and to have taken it to England, but I tould him if I shuld *mynt* at it and mis, so should I utterly undo myself, and never after be able to do him pleasure." Sadler's Papers, ii. 112.

## 4. To mint to, was formerly used in the same sense.

"If you *mint* to any such thing, expect a short deposition; and if the burrows be overthrown, that they cannot remove you, be assured to be removed out of their hearts for ever." Baillie's Lett., i. 51.

A.-S. *ge-mynt-an*, disponere, statuere. This v. may be viewed as a frequentative from Alem. *mein-en*, intendere, to mean. For *meint-a*, *gimeint-a*, occur in the same sense. V. Schilter, p. 578.

## 5. To mint with is used to denote the object with which an aim is taken.

The bride she *minted* w' a bane,  
And grin'd [girn'd] at me because I said it,  
She said, says she, say that again,  
And I'se gar you make ae thing twa o't.

*Herd's Coll.*, ii. 217.

i. e., "She took aim at me with a bone, as threatening to throw it."

## MINT, MYNT, s. 1. An aim.

Now bendis he vp his burdoun with ane *mynt*,  
On syde he bradis for to eschew the dynt.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 142, 2.

Yit, quod Experience, at thee  
Mak mony *mints* I may.

*Cherrie and Slae*, st. 83.

"He makes ill *mints*, spoken of one that hath given shrewd suspicions of ill designs." Rudd.

A ful fel *mynt* to him he made,  
He bigan at the shulder-blade,  
And with his pawm al rafe he downe, &c.  
*Ywaine, E. M. R.*, i. 110.

## 2. An attempt, S.

"But now alas! you are forced to behold bold *mints* to draw her [the church] off the old foundation to the sandy heapes of humane wisdom." Epistill of a Christian Brother, 1624, p. 8.

Dear friend of mine! ye bot o'er meikle reese  
The lawly *mints* of my poor moorland muse.  
*Ramsay's Poems*, ii. 393.

Alem. *meint-a*, intentio, Schilter.

## 3. Apparently used in the sense of E. threat.

"He grantit that he gaif him ignorantly a *mynt* of ane cuf, & tuechit him tharewith." Aberd. Reg., A. 1560, V. 24.

## To MINT, v. n. To insinuate, to hint, to communicate by inuendo, Ayr's.

"The Doctor has been *minting* to me, that there is an address from Irvine to the Queen; and he being so near a neighbour to your town, has been thinking to pay his respects with it, to see her near at hand." Blackw. Mag., Jan. 1821, p. 369.

Alem. *gi-mein-en*, communicare; pret. *gi-meinta*.

## MINUTE, s. The first draught of a writing, S.

"Minute—the first draught of any agreement in writing; this is common in the Scottish law: as, Have you made a *minute* of that contract?" Johns. Dict.

## To MINUTE, v. a. To take short notes, or make a first draught of any writing, S.

[MINVID, s. Dusk, darkness. "*To see through minvid*," to see in the dark; Isl. *minnr*, Dan. *mindre*, minus nocere videbatur. Gl. Orkn. and Shetl.]

[To MINX, v. a. To mix, to mingle, Shetl. Isl. *menga*, Dan. *maenge*, id.]

[MIOL, MIOLING, s. The cry of a cat, or of a tiger.]

[MIRAKEL (accent on second syllable with a long and broad), *s.* A mockery, a derisive spectacle, Shetl. Dan. *mirakel*, id.]

To MIRD, *v. n.* 1. To meddle, to intermeddle, to attempt, S. B.

'Tis nae to *mird* with unco fouk ye see,  
Nor is the blear drawn easy o'er her ee.

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 91.

Thus dainty o' honours and siller I've tint;  
Wi' lasses I ne'er mean to *mird* or to mell.

*Jamieson's Popular Ball.*, ii. 335.

"I stirred my owne minde to find out what so notable a slip that could be, which hee had so singularly noted. But in my dulnes could see nothing, except that there perhaps he thought some occasion might be catched to calumniat, or that there was ministred to him some matter of *mirding*," Forbes, To a Recusant, p. 27.

Shall we suppose that it was originally applied to acts of hostility; as allied to Isl. *myrd-a*, occulte interimere?

[2. To coax, to fawn upon one; to be officiously kind towards; as, "Aye, ye dinna *mird* about her for naething," Ayrs.]

3. To make amorous advances; to toy in an amorous manner, Dumfr.; as, "*Mird* wi' your maiks, ye smatchet."

This is merely a secondary sense of *Mird*, to attempt. But Gael. *mirag*, signifies play, and *miragach*, sportful; *near*, merry, wanton; whence, as would seem, *imheart* and *imirt*, gaming, play.

[MIRDIN', MIRDING, *s.* Coaxing, fawning upon, officious kindness, Ayrs. Used also as an *adj.*]

To MIRE, *v. a.* To entangle in a dispute, S.

"They finding themselves *mired*, stood not to deny it." Society Contendings, p. 194.

The *v. to Bog*, is used in the same sense.

MIRE-BUMPER, *s.* The bittern, S. *Ardea stellaris*, Linn.

It seems denominated from the noise which it makes; *E. bump*, to make a loud noise. This Johns. derives from Lat. *bomb-us*, which indeed denotes a buzzing noise, also, that made by a trumpet. But the term is perhaps more immediately connected with Isl. *bomp-a*, pavire, to beat or strike against; *bomps*, a stroke, ictus, allisio, G. Andr.

This bird seems to receive its name for the same reason, in a variety of languages. In the South of E. it is called *butterbump*, *q.* the *bumping butour* or *bittern*; in the North, *miredrum*, Gl. Grose; *q.* the *drum of the mire*: Sw. *roerdrum*, *rohrtrummel*, either from *roer*, a reed, and *trunama*, drum, *trumla*, to heat the drum; Teut. *roer-domp*, *roer-trompe*, id. Kilian. Or *roer* may, as Ihre conjectures, be from A.-S. *raer-en*, to bray as an ass. In Germ. it is called *mooskuhe*, *q.* cow of the *moss*, from the resemblance of its noise to that of hellowing. V. MOSS-BUMMER.

MIRE-SNIPE, *s.* 1. The snipe, *Scolopax gallinago*, Linn. Isl. *myr snippe*, id.

2. An accident, Strathmore; "I met wi' a *miresnipe*."

Whence this metaph. use of the E. word has originated, it is hard to say; as I find nothing analogous in

any other dialect. Perhaps it may be meant to express the idea of entanglement in difficulty, as we say of one that he is *mired*; and this often literally befalls him who pursues the *snipe*. Or, as denoting something unexpected, can it refer to the sudden spring of this bird from its miry bed?

The snipe, roused by the early traveller,  
Starts frae the slimy drain.—

*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 156.

Or may it refer to the snipe, which lives on gnats and other small insects, lying in wait for them, with open beaks? As it receives its Fr. name *becasse* from this circumstance, the same etymon is given of its Teut. name, *sneppe*, Germ. *schnepfe*, Su.-G. *snaeppa*; some deriving these from *nebb*, *snebbe*, rostrum, others from *snapp-en*, *schnapfen*, to catch, to lay hold of.

To CATCH A MIRE-SNIPE. To get into a bog, to mire one's self, Selkirks.

[MIRGE, *s.* A multitude, crowd, Shetl. Isl. *mergd*, id.]

MIRK, MYRK, MERK, *adj.* 1. Dark.

And the *myrk* nycht suddanly  
Hym partyd fra hys company.

*Wyntown*, vi. 13. 103.

Among the schaddois and the skuggis *merk*  
The hell houndis herd thy youle and berk.

*Doug. Virgil*, 172, 8.

Isl. *myrkr*, *myrk*, Su.-G. *moerk*, S. A. *mirk*, S. B. *mark*, A. Bor. *murk*, id.

2. It is used in the sense of duskish, and as distinguished from *dark*.

At length the sun does wear down low—  
The Embrugh wives cry, "Let us go

"And quit our war; "

"'Tis after six, and *mirk* does grow;

"'Twill soon be *dark*."

*The Har'st Rig*, st. 100.

Both *myrke* and *myrkenesse* occur in O. E. "*Myrke* or *dirke*. Tenebrosus. *Myrkenesse* or *dirkenesse*. Tenebrositas." Prompt. Parv.

Dan. *moerk* is explained "duskish," as well as "dark;" Wolff.

MIRK, MIRKE, MYRKE, *s.* 1. Darkness. In the *mark*, or *mirk*, S. in darkness.

For sen ye maid the Paip a King,

In Rome I cowlid get na lungeing

Bot hyde me in the *mirk*.

*Lindsay's S. P. R.*, ii. 136.

It is undoubtedly in the same sense that R. Brunne uses in *mirk*, p. 176, although Hearne expl. it, "by mark."

A werreour that were wys, deceyt suld euer drede,

Wele more on the nyght, than upon the day,

In *mirk* withouten sight wille emys mak affray.

Leg. *enmys*, i. e., enemies.

2. Mental darkness.

—"The ministeris of *mirknes*, knawing in their ain consciencis that thair maist vngodlie profession is contrare not onlie to the authoritie of the halie scripture, and definitionis of the Generall conciles, bot also to the iudgement and agreeance of al catholik doctoris that euer hes bene sen the dayis of our Saluour: they labore vith al diligence, that thair doctrine cum neuer in discussion, iust tryal, and examination, suppressand sa far as thay may, al bukes quhilk are vryttin for confutatione of sik erroris." Nicol Burne, Dedic. to the King's M.

A.-S. *myrce*, Su.-G. *moerker*, Dan. *morcker*, Isl. *myrkuur*, id.

To Mirk, *v. a.* To darken.

Deep in a glen, a burnie winds its way,  
Where saughs and osiers *mirk* the face o' day.  
*Poetical Museum*, p. 45.

Isl. *myrk-a*, Su.-G. *moerk-a*, *foermoerk-a*, obscure.  
*Mirke* is used by Lydgate, as a *v. a.* "I *myrke*, I  
darke, or make darke;" *Palsgr.* iii., F. 301, a.

To MIRKEN, MYRKYN, *v. n.* To grow dark.

Bot now this dolorous wound sa has me dycht,  
That al thing dymmis and *myrknys* me about.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 395, 11.

Sw. *moerkna*, id. *tenebrescere*, *Seren*.  
This merely resembles the form of the Dan. *v. n.*  
*moerkn-a*. *Det moerknes*, it grows dark.

MIRKLINS, *adv.* In the dark, S. B. V. LING, *term.*MIRKNES, *s.* Darkness.

—Thai slew thaim euirllan,  
Owtane Makdowell him allan,  
That eschapyt, throw gret slycht,  
And throw the *myrknes* off the nycht.  
*Barbour*, v. 106, MS.

[MIRKNIN, *s.* Twilight, gloamin, Shetl.]

## MIRK MONANDAY. A day of uncommon darkness, often referred to in the conversation of old people, S.

"In 1652,—a total eclipse of the sun—happened,—on Monday the 24th of March, which hence received the appellation of *Mirk Monday*." *Edin. Rev.*, June, 1818, p. 29.

MIRKIE, MIRKY, *adj.* "Smiling, hearty, merry, pleased; *mirky* as a *maukin*, merry as a hare," S. B.

For tho' ye wad your gritest art employ,  
That *mirky* face o' yours betrays your joy.  
*Shirrefs' Poems*, p. 31.

"The third wis—as *mirkie* as a *maukin* at the start,  
an' as wanton as a speanin lamb." *Journal from London*, p. 7.

It is used in the same sense in Fife and South of S.  
This might at first seem to be radically the same with *E. smirk*. But A.-S. *merc-an*, is used in the sense of *tricari*, to jest and toy, to shew tricks. It may, however, more properly be traced to A.-S. *murga*, hilaris, Lye; *myreg*, *myrg*, *jucunditas*.

Sibb. views it as radically the same with *smirky*, which is from A.-S. *smere-an*, *subridere*. But as the *s* seems to enter into the original form of this word, perhaps the former is from A.-S. *myrig*, merry, pron. hard, or from *myrg*, pleasure.

MIRKLES, *s. pl.* The radical leaves of *Fucus esculentus*, eaten in Orkney.[To MIRL, *v. n.* To move round rapidly, to dance, Shetl.]MIRLEGO, *s.* A small upright spinning-wheel, Mearns; so called from the quickness of its motion, *q.* what *goes merrily*.MIRLYGOES, MERLIGOES, *s. pl.* It is said that one's eyes are *in the mirlygoes*, when one sees objects indistinctly, so as to take one thing for another, S.

Sure Major Weir, or some sic warlock wight,  
Has flung beguillin' glamour o'er your sight;  
Or else some kittle cantrip thrown, I ween,  
Has bound in *mirlygoes* my ain twa een.  
*Ferguson's Poems*, ii. 86.

Look round about, ye'll see ye're farther north  
By forty miles and twa this side the Forth:  
The *mirlygoes* are yet before your e'en,  
And paint to you the sight you've seen the streen.  
*Morison's Poems*, p. 134.

Ferguson seems to allude to some popular idea that the *mirlygoes* are the effect of incantation.

A.-S. *maerlie*, bright, *q.* dazzled with brightness. Perhaps rather *q.* *merrily go*, because when the faculty of sight is disordered, objects seem to dance before the eyes.

MIRL, *s.* A crumb, S. B. *nirl*, S. A. Bor. V. MURLE.[To MIRL, *v. a.* To crumble, Clydes.][To MIRL, MARL, *v. a.* To speckle, to spot, to marble, Clydes., Perth.]MIRLES, MARLS, *s. pl.* The measles, Aberd.; elsewhere *nirles*. Fr. *morbilles*.MIRLIE, MIRLEY, *adj.* Speckled, S. O.

—What woe  
Gars thee sit mourning here below,  
And rive thy *mirley* breast?  
*A Wilson's Poems*, 1790, p. 188.

MIRLEY-BREASTED, *adj.* Having the breast speckled, S.

Now on the budding slaethorn bank  
She spreads her early blossom;  
And wooes the *mirly-breasted* birds  
To nestle in her bosom.  
*Tannahill's Poems*, p. 151.

MIRLIT, MIRLET, MERLED, *part. pa.* "Variegated with small interwoven spots;" waved with various colours, Clydes.

There ware au' hairst ilk ither bawse,  
Upon the self-sam tree;  
An' spread their robe o' *mirlet* hues,  
Outover fell and lee.  
*Ballad, Edin. Mag.*, Oct. 1818, p. 329.

Corr. from *E. marbled*.

[To MIRR, *v. n.* To tremble, vibrate, thrill, Shetl.]MIRREITIS, *s. pl.* Merits.

—Lyk martiris killit, off quhome the *mirreitis* rysis  
Sanctis in hevinn—

*Colkelbie Son*, v. 822.

V. also v. 909.

MIRROT, *s.* A carrot, S. B. *Daucus carota*, Linn. *Meeran* signifies a carrot, Aberd.; *Mirran*, Buchan.

Gael. *miuron*, id.; *miuron geal*, a parsnip; Shaw. This is *q.* a white carrot; *geal* signifying white.

This is the only term used for this root among the vulgar in Sutherland, who do not speak Gaelic; also, in Ross-shire.

It is pure Gothic. Su.-G. *morrot*, id. Linn. writes it *morot*, Flor. Suec., 237. Ihre views it as denominated, either from its red colour, *morroed*, denoting a brownish colour, or from *mor*, marshy ground, because, he says, it delights in marshy places. Lye mentions

A.-S. *mora*, as denoting a root; Add. Jun. Etym. Aelfric renders *waldmora*, cariota, [by L. carota, Somn.] This seems to signify, the wood-root, from *weald*, sylva, a wood, a forest; as *feld-mora*, a parsnip, q. the field-root. I am, therefore, inclined to differ from the learned Ihre, as to the etymon of *Morrod*, as he prefers that from *mor*, a marsh. It seems rather to mean, the red root; especially as Germ. *mor*, signifies fuscus.

**MISBEHADDEN**, *part. pa.* 1. A *misbeadden* word, a term or expression that is unbecoming or indiscreet, such as one is apt to utter in anger, S.

A.-S. *mis* and *behealden*, wary, from *beheald-en*, attendere, also *cavere*, q. a word spoken incantiously.

2. Ill-natured, as, "*misbeadden geit*," a child that is very ill-trained, S. B.; from *mis* and A.-S. *beheald-an*, as signifying custodire.

**To MISCALL**, *MISCA'*, *v. a.* 1. To call names to; to rate, to scold, S.

"Christ and Antichrist are both now in the camp, and are come to open blows: Christ's poor ship saileth in the sea of blood, the passengers are so sea-sick of a high fever, that they *miscall* one another." Rutherford's Lett., P. ii. ep. 52.

"They began to *miscal'* ane anither like kail-wives." Journal from London, p. 8.

[2. To mispronounce, to read imperfectly or carelessly, S.]

[**MISCA'ER**, *s.* An imperfect or careless reader, S.]

[**MISCHANCY**, *adj.* 1. Unlucky, unfortunate, dangerous, Clydes., Loth.]

2. Inauspicious, causing or likely to cause unhappiness, *ibid.*

This term occurs twice in Douglas's Virgil. V. *MYSCHANCY*.]

**MISCHANT**, **MESCHANT**, *adj.* 1. Wicked, evil, naughty.

"Conarus heirand thir wourdis said, How dar ye *mischant* fulis pretend sic thyngis aganis me and my seruandis." Bellend. Chron., v. c. 6. Viri omnium impudentissimi. Boeth.

"*Mischant* instrumentis, as these twenty years bygone, so to this day, misleads so the court, that nothing can be got done for that poor prince." Baillie's Lett., i. 336.

2. It seems to be used in the sense of false.

I purpois not to mak obedience  
To sic *mischant* Musis na Mahumetrie,  
Afoir time nsit into poetrie.

*Lyndsay's Warkis*, 1592, p. 4.

Fr. *meschant*, *id.* Perhaps the Fr. may be  $\alpha$  corr. from Lat. *mentior-iri*, to lie.

**MISCHANT**, **MISHANT**, *s.* A wretch, a worthless person.

Mischievous *mischant*, we shall mell  
With laidly language, loud and large.

*Polwart, Watson's Col.*, iii. 6.

"As to the care they professed of the King's preservation, any man might conjecture how he should be

preserved by them, who exiled his grandfather, murdered his father,—and now at last had unworthily cut off his uncle and Regent, by suborning a *mischant* to kill him treacherously." Spotswood, p. 233.

[**MISCHANTER**, *s.* A worker of mischief, an evil-doer, hence, *Auld Mischanter*, a name for the devil, Aysr., Gl. Picken.

This term must not be confounded with *mischanter*, i. e., *mis-aunter*, misadventure, misfortune, q. v.]

**MISCHANTLIE**, **MESCHANTLIE**, *adv.* Wickedly.

Wee, *meschantlie*, haue, re-admitted Messe,  
Which, happilie, was from our sholder shaken.

*Bp. Forbes, Eubulus*, p. 163.

"Mr. Blair, Mr. Dickson, and Mr. Hutcheson, were, without all cause, *mischantly* abused by his [Sydsers'] pen, without the resentment of the state, till his Majesty him self commanded to silence him." Baillie's Lett., ii. 454.

**MISCHANTNESSE**, *s.* Wickedness.

"So they for their greater satisfaction, and contentment, delight to play out their sceane;—which I confesse is so profound and deep a folly, and *mischantnesse*, that I can by no means sound it," &c. Hume's Hist. Doug., p. 153.

**MISCHAN-PRATT**, *s.* A mischievous trick, Loth. properly *mischant pratt*. V. PRATT. S. B. say an *ill prait*, *id.* and *ill-praitty*, mischievous.

**MISCHANT YOUTHER**. A very bad smell. This term is used both in the N. and W. of S. also in Loth.

Fr. *meschant odeur*, *id.*

\* **MISCHIEF**, (often pron. *misshiéff*) *s.* 1. A vexatious or *ill-deedie* person; as, "Ye're a perfect *mischieff*," S.

[2. A severe hurt or injury. "To play the *misshiéff wi*," to completely spoil or confuse, Clydes.]

3. Equivalent to "the devil;" as, "He's ga'in to the *mischieff* as fast as he can," S.

**To MISCHIEVE**, *v. a.* To hurt, S. B.

[**MISCHIEVIN**, **MISCHIEVAN**, *s.* Injury, the act of injuring; a severe injury; a cruel beating, Banffs., Clydes.]

**MISCOMFIST**, *part. adj.* Nearly suffocated with a bad smell, Fife; *Scomfist*, synon.

**MISCONTENT**, *adj.* Dissatisfied.

"He [the earl Traquair] renounces his commission, and none *miscontent*, and shortly thereafter rides back to the king." Spalding, i. 201.

[**MISCONTENTIT**, *adj.* Discontented, dissatisfied, S.]

**MISCONTENTMENT**, *s.* A ground of discontentment or dissatisfaction; Fr. *mescontentment*.



"It pleased his majesty to send thir *miscontentments* in paper with the lords Lyndsay and Loudon, and to report the combinator reasons in write, with their reasons why the nobles and others, whom his majesty sent for in particular, came not to him, according to their bounden duty." Spalding, i. 184.

To **MISCOOK**, *v. a.* 1. To dress food improperly, *S.*

2. Metaph. to mismanage any business; as, "Ye've *miscookit* a' your kail;" *S.*

[**MIS-DEEDY**, **MIS-DEEDIE**, *adj.* **Mischievous**, ill-set, Clydes., Banffs.]

**MISDIMABLE**, *adj.*

"It was a gay bit *misdimable* house, wi' a but and a ben, an' a fireside," &c. H. Blyd's Contract, p. 5. Q. a house not to be *misdecmed*, or despised. For the narrator is often made to say the contrary of what he means.

\* To **MISDOUBT**, *v. a.* 1. To doubt, to distrust, *S.*; used also by old *E.* writers.

"I should do as certainly, bating sickness or death, as that two and two make four." "Aweel, Mr. Owen, resumed the citizen,—*I dinna misdoubt* ye, and I'll prove it, sir." Rob Roy, ii. 200.

"If yon lads stand to their tackle,—we'll hae some chance o' getting our necks out o' the breecham again; but I *misdoubt* them,—they hae little skill o' arms." Tales of my Landlord, iii. 77.

2. Used in a sarcastic sense, when the offer made is agreeable to him who makes it, or suits his own interest. *I dinna misdoubt ye*; I have no hesitation as to your doing what you say, *S.*

**MISDOUBT**, **MISDOOT**, *s.* Doubt, apprehension, *S. O.*

"I hae a *misdoot* that a's no right and sound wi' her mair than wi' him." The Entail, ii. 284.

**MISERICORDE**, *adj.* Merciful, *Fr.*

The Lord is meike, and mercifull is hee,  
Slaw to renege, and to forgine redie,  
Courtes and kinde till all men is the Lord,  
In all his warkes hee is *misericorde*.

*Poems Sixteenth Century*, ii. 1.

How suld wee thanke that Lord  
That was sa *misericorde*?

*Ibid.*, p. 158.

[**MISERITIE**, *s.* Misery. Lyndsay, Exper. and Court, l. 2850.]

**MISERT**, *adj.* Extremely parsimonious, *Aberd.*, *Clydes.*

**MISERTISH**, *adj.* Very avaricious, *Gall.*

"*Misertish*, having the manners of a *miser*;" *Gall. Encycl.*

[**MISERT-PIG**, *s.* A small earthenware vessel, used by children for keeping their money, *Banffs.*; same as *pirtie-pig*.]

To **MISFARE**, **MISFAYR**, *v. n.* 1. To miscarry; [part. pa. *misfarne*, pret. *misfure*.]

I hae in ryme thus fer furth tane the cure,  
Now war I laith my lang labour *misfure*.

*Doug. Virgil*, 272, 18.

Fra this sair man now cummin is the King,  
Havand in mynd great murrour and moving;  
And in his hart greit havines and thocht;  
Sa wantonly in vane al thing he wrocht,  
And how the cuntrie throw him was *misfarne*,  
Throw yong counsel; and wrocht ay as a barne.

*Priest of Peblis, S.P.R.*, i. p. 22.

2. To fare ill, to be unfortunate.

Erlis, Lords and Barons, hurt not your commons,  
In body, guidis, nor geir;  
Do ye the contrair, your housis will *misfair*.

*Poems, Sixteenth Century*, p. 210.

Mr. Todd has incorporated *Misfare*, "to be in an ill state," as an *E.* word, from Gower.

*Misfarin*, *S. B.*, signifies ill-grown. *A.-S. misfar-an*, male evenire, perire, to go wrong. Somner.

**MISFALT**, *s.* Misdeed, improper conduct.

"We desire nouthir the goddis nor men to tak ony wraik—on you, and covatis nocht bot you to be penitent of youre *misfalt*." Bellend. T. Liv., p. 302.

*Fr. mesfaire*, to misdo; *O. Fr. mesfait*, coupable, criminal; Roquefort.

[To **MISFET**, *v. a.* To offend, to incur one's displeasure, *Gl. Banffs.*]

[To **MISFIT**, *v. a.* 1. To mis-suit, to make clothes badly, or that don't fit well to the body, *Clydes.*

2. For *misfoot*; used when shoes or stockings made for a person don't fit, or when a pair of shoes or stockings are not alike in size or shape, *ibid.*]

\* **MISFORTUNE**, *s.* A soft term used to denote a breach of chastity, especially as announced by a third party, *S.*

—She wi' a *misfortune* met,  
And had a bairn.

*The Har'st Rig*, st. 53.

**MISFORTUNATE**, *adj.* Unfortunate, *S.*

"Your Lordship's so early appearance for lenitie and mercy has gained you the sincere affection even of the *misfortunat*." Culloden Pap., p. 478.

"I dinna bid ye mind what I said at our partin' anent my poor father and that *misfortunat* lassie." Heart M. Loth., iii. 68.

"Laidlaw, ye shall never rue your kindness o' heart and attentions to that *puir misfortunat* bairn." Perils of Man, ii. 254.

[**MISFURE**, pret. of *Misfare*, *q. v.*]

[**MISFURE**, *s.* The name given to a boat that has perished at sea with its crew, *Shetl. Isl. misför*, a miscarriage, accident.]

[To **MISGAE**, *v. n.* To miscarry, to go wrong; part. pa. *misgaen*. *Banffs.*, *Loth.*, *Clydes.*]

**MISGAR**, *s.* A kind of trench, in sandy ground, occasioned by the wind driving away the sand; *Orkn.* and *Shetl.*

Perhaps from *Isl. misgö:a*, delinquere; *misgörd*, delictum, used in a literal sense.

To MISGIE, *v. n.* To misgive, S.

To MISGOGGLE, *v. a.* To spoil, applied to any work; as, "He's fairly *misgogglit* that job," Teviotdale.

Evidently a variety of *Misgruggle*, *q. v.*

[MISGROWN, *adj.* Stunted, ill-shaped, Ayr., Banffs.]

To MISGRUGGLE, MISGRUGLE, *v. a.* 1. To disorder, to rumple; to handle roughly, S.

"I took her by the bought o' the gardy, an' gar'd her sit down by me; bat she bad me had aff my hands, for I *misgrugled* a' her apron." Journal from London, p. 8.

2. To disfigure, to deform; often applied to the change of the countenance in consequence of grief or hard treatment, S. B.

Now, waes me for't, our commonweal  
Maist gars me greet.

*Misgrugl'd* now, an' torn to thrums, &c.

*Cock's Simple Strains*, p. 90.

*Misgugle* seems to be a provincialism.

"There was not a doctor in Perth or Stirling would look near the poor lad, and I cannot blame them; for Donald had been *misgugled* by one of these doctors about Paris, and he swore he would fling the first into the loch that he caught beyond the Pass." Waverley, i. 279, 280. V. also Heart M. Loth., i. 202.

It seems originally the same with Belg. *kreukel-en*, to crumple, to ruffle, from *kreuk*, a crumple; Isl. *ruck-a*, Lat. *rug-a*, id. It may, however, be allied to Isl. *grugg*, feces, *grugg-ugr*, feculentus; *grugga*, comotare faeces, "to stir the grounds or sediment." *Mis* seems redundant, as *Gruggle* is synon.

\* To MISGUIDE, *v. a.* 1. To abuse, to spoil, S.

2. To misspend, to waste, to squander, S.

3. To use ill, to maltreat, S.

MISGUIDING, *s.* The act or habit of wasting, S.

He ne'er was gi'en to sair *misguidin'*,  
But coin his pouches wond na bide in, &c. Burns.

MISGYDING, *s.* Mismanagement.

We haue, then, ower guid caus this day,  
Through *misgydins* to spill.

*Poems Sixteenth Cent.* p. 353.

To MISGULLY, *v. a.* To cut in a clumsy manner, to mangle in cutting, Fife; *q.* to use the gully or knife *amiss*; synon. *Margulyie*, *Guddle*.

MISHAD, *pret.* Misdemeaned, acted improperly.

"And ferther, gefe ony tyme had bene that we had *mishad* vs in that part, we haue ane remission of his grace for all thingis before the day," &c. Acts Ja. V., 1526, Ed. 1814, p. 323.

This term occurs in a very curious paper in defence of the Earl of Angus and those of his name, now published from the Records.

From *mis* and *had*, the *pret.* of *have*. A.-S. *mishabende*, male se habentes.

MISHANTER, MISSHANTER, *s.* Misfortune, disaster, an unlucky chance; [a hurt, bruise, injury,] as, "a sair *mishanter*," S.

For never since ever they ca'd me as they ca' me,  
Did sic a mishap and *mishanter* befa' me.

*Song, Ross's Helenore*, p. 133.

Sibb. has rightly observed that this from Fr. *misaventure*, *q. mis-aunter*. For indeed it occurs in the latter form in O. E.

The varygt ydo to poueremen to suche *mysauntre* turnde.  
*R. Glouc.*, p. 375.

[To MISHANTER, *v. a.* To spoil, hurt, injure, mangle; but generally implying the idea of accident or accidentally, Clydes., Banffs.]

[MISHANTERAN, MISHANTERIN, *s.* A severe hurt or injury, mangling, Clydes., Banffs.]

MISHAPPENS, *s.* Unfortunateness.

"My heart pitied the man; beside other evils, the *mishappens* of the affair, which could not be by any hand so compassed as to give content to all, made him fall in such danger of his Majesty's misinterpretation, that no other means was left him to purchase a good construction of his very fidelity." Baillie's Lett., i. 117.

MISHARRIT, *part. pa.*

And I agane, maistlike 'ane elriche grume,  
Crap in the muskane aiken stok *misharrit*.

*Palace of Honour*, i. 19.

It seems to mean, disconcerted, disappointed, *q. unhinged*, from A.-S. *mis*, and *hearro*, a hinge.

Sibb. says, "perhaps *mis-scheirit*, hollow and shattered." He seems to refer to this very passage, and to view the term as applied by Doug. to the tree, instead of the person who took refuge in it.

MISHMASH, MISMASHERIE, *s.* Whatever is in a huddled or confused state, S. Su.-G. *miskmask*. V. MIXTIE-MAXTIE.

MISK, *s.* [A low, wet, untilled piece of land.] Land covered with coarse, rough moorish grasses, Upp. Clydes.; otherwise defined: "A piece of ground partly earth, partly moss," Ayr.

[In Ayrshire, the *misk* is usually the property of neighbouring lairds or fenars. One vassal can, in terms of his title-deeds, pare off the peats only; another is confined to the surface product—the bog-hay, &c., as winter fodder, or to the right of pasture under fixed limitations. Indeed, the rights of the *misk* were always clearly defined in the "tacks" of the adjoining lands. For example, in 1732, Marie Buntine set or granted "a Tack of hir land of the Brigend (in the parish of Lochwinnoch), to John Kirkland, reserving out the Tack the Six Falls of *Wel-Misk*," &c., &c., for, as the deed proceeds to tell, she intended "to plant trees on it."

"A low swampy valley, called the *Misk*, intervenes between the hills and the more fertile lands in the parish of Stevenstoun." Robertson's History of Cuninghame.]

This term has been traced to E. *mix'd*. But it is evidently from C. B. *mwsog*, moss. *Mwsog gwyn*, also *migwyn*, white moss; Owen.

MISK-GRASS, *s.* The grass which grows on ground of this description, Ayr.

To MISKEN, *v. a.* 1. Not to know, to be ignorant of, S. Yorks.

Quhay knawis not the lynnage of Enee?  
Or quhay *miskennys* Troy, that nobyll cieté?

*Doug. Virgil*, 30, 47.

"Poor fowk's friends soon *misken* them." Ramsay's S. Prov., p. 58.

2. To overlook, to neglect.

The vane glour that my tua brethir takis in sic vane gentilnes, is the cause that thai *lichtlye me*, trocht the quhilk arrogant mynde that thai haf consaut, thai *mysken* God and man, quhilk is the occasione that I and thou sall neuyr get releif of our afflictione. Compl. S., p. 201. "Mistake," Gl. But this is not the sense. For this is nearly allied to *lichtlye*.

"He suddenly resolveth to do all that is commanded, and to forego every evil way, (yet much *miskening* Christ Jesus) and so beginneth to take some courage to himself again, establishing his own righteousness." Guthrie's Trial, p. 89.

"Found that it was not *res judicata quoad* such creditors who were not called, and were either in possession at the time of the raising his summons, or stood publicly infet; for such he ought not to have *miskenned*." Fountainh. Dec. Suppl., iv. 270.

3. To seem to be ignorant of, to take no notice of; applied to persons, S.

"In all these things *misken* me, and all information from this," i.e., "Do not let the source of your information appear." Baillie's Lett., ii. 139.

"Sir William Waller's forces melted quickly to a poor handful; the Londoners, and others, as is their *miskent* custom, after a piece of service, get home." *Ibid.*, ii. 2.

"Mr. Alexander Jaffray was chosen provost of Aberdeen for a year.—Many thought little both of the man and the election, not being of the old blood of the town, but the oy of a baxter, and therefore was set down in the provost's desk to sermon with a baken pye before him. This was done several times, but he *miskenned* all, and never quarrelled the samen." Spalding, i. 49.

4. To let alone, to forbear, not to meddle with, to give no molestation to.

It is still used, in Tweed. and Ayr., in a sense very nearly allied to this. One says to another, *Misken*, when he wishes him to desist or abstain from any thing that he is doing, or is about to do.

"Carlavrock we did *misken*. It could not be taken without cannon, which without time and great charges, could not have been transported from the castle of Edinburgh." Baillie's Lett., i. 159.

"Mr. Henderson, and sundry, would have all these things *miskent*, till we be at a point with England." *Ibid.*, i. 368.

Isl. *miskun-a* is used in a sense nearly akin. It signifies to pity; misereor, G. Andr.

5. To refuse to acknowledge, to disown.

"The reasone quhair of Sanct Paule schawis in few wordis, saying: *Qui ignorat, ignorabitur*. He that *miskens* sall be *miskennit*. Meining this, gif we will nocht ken Goddis iustice and his mercy, offerit to vs in Christ, in tyme of this lyfe, God sall *misken* vs in the day of extreme iugement." Abp. Hamiltoun's Catechisme, 1552, Fol. 82. a.

6. To *misken one's self*, to assume airs which do not belong to one, to forget one's proper station, S.

[To MISKNAW, *v. a.* To be ignorant of, Ayr.

This term, which is still in use, occurs both in Douglas's Virgil and in the Compend. Tractiue, by Kennedy of Crosraguell. V. under MYSKNAW.]

MISLEARD, MISLEERD, *adj.* 1. Unmannerly, ill-bred, indiscreet.\* Shirr. Gl. S. Literally, ill-tutored; from *mis* and *lear'd*, i.e., learned. V. LERE, *v.*

Her *Nanesel* maun be carefu' now,  
Nor maun she be *misleard*,  
Sin baxter lads hae seal'd a vow  
To skelp an' clout the guard.

*Fergusson's Poems*, ii. 51.

2. Mischievous, S. V. KITTLE, *adj.*

[3. Wrongly taught or informed, imposed upon; hence, put out of one's usual state, spirit, or art, Ayr.

"Gude-man," quo he, "put up your whittle,  
I'm no design'd to try its mettle;  
But if I did, I wad be kittle  
To be *mislear'd*."

*Burns, Dr. Hornbook*, st. 10.]

i.e., put out of my art.

[To MISLIKE, *v. a.* To displease, dissatisfy; part. pr. *misllykand*, Barbour, xvii. 830, Herd's Ed.]

To MISLIKEN, MISLIKLY, *v. a.* To form a wrong estimate of, to slight, to depreciate, S. O.; synon. *Lichtly*.

"I canna say, Mr. Keelevin, that I like to hear you *misliken* the lad sae." The Entail, i. 152.

"It's baith my part as a liege, and a christian, no to require ony thing at your hands that would *misliken* the favour of Providence wherewith you have been blessed." Sir A. Wylie, iii. 131.

A.-S. *mis-lic*, *mis-lic*, dissimilis, *mislincnyse*, dissimilitudo; Isl. *mislík-r*, dissimilis, *mistlegg-ia*, disparilater construere.

To MISLIPPEN, *v. a.* 1. To disappoint, S. Yorks.

2. To illude, to deceive, Renfrews.

I hafins think his een hae him *mislippen'd*;  
But oh! its hard to sae what may hae happened.

*Tannahill's Poems*, p. 27.

3. To neglect any thing put under one's charge. To *mislippen* one's *business*, to pay no proper attention to it, S.

And now, be sure, the yearding o' my bains  
Dinna *mislippen*—O remember me.

*The Ghast*, p. 6.

4. To suspect, S.

"I thought it best to slip out quietly though, in case she should *mislippen* something of what we are gaun to do." Black Dwarf, ch. 4, par. 2.

[MISLIPPENIN, MISLIPNIN, *s.* Neglect of duty, the act of neglecting one's duty, Clydes., Banffs.]

[MISLIPPENT, MISLIPNET, *adj.* 1. Forgotten, neglected, mislaid; as, "Ye'll get a' yer *mislippent* gear when ye flit," Clydes.

Meaning, that things lost through neglect or carelessness will be found in the turn-over and preparations for flitting.

2. Ill-guided, much-neglected, badly-trained; as, "Hae pity on that pair *mislippent* bairn," *ibid.*

*Mislippent* is used also in Banffs., meaning neglected. V. GL.]

To MISLUCK, *v. n.* To miscarry, not to prosper, S. Belg. *misluck-en*, *id.*

MISLUCK, *s.* Misfortune, S.

"Wha can help *misluck*?" Ramsay's S. Prov., p. 75.

[MISLUCKIT, *adj.* Unfortunate, Banffs.]

MISLUSHIOUS, *adj.* Malicious, rough, Gl. Ramsay.

Hutcheon with a three-lugged cap,  
His head bizzen wi' bees,  
Hit Geordy a *mislushios* rap,  
And brak the brig o' 's neese  
Right sair that day.

*Ramsay's Poems*, i. 279.

It seems to be expl. *malicious*, merely from the resemblance in sound. The proper idea is that of rough, severe, unguarded; *rackless*, *synon.*

To MISMACK, MISMAKE, *v. a.* 1. To shape or form improperly; applied to clothes, S.B.

Teut. *mis-maek-en*, *deformare*, *male formare*.

2. To trouble, to disturb; as, "Dinna *mis-make* yoursell for me," don't put yourself to any inconvenience, Ettr. For.

MISMACHT, MISMAIGHT, *part. pa.* "Put out of sorts, mismatched," S. Gl. Sibb. from *mis* and *maik*, q. v.

To MISMAE, *v. a.* To disturb; as, "She never *mismaed* her mind," Dumfr., Clydes.

As this has the same meaning with *Mismake*, sense 2, it seems to be compounded of *mis* and the old v. *Ma*, to make, (q. v.), used by our venerable Barbour.

To MISMAGGLE, *v. a.* 1. To spoil, to put in disorder, to put awry, S. B.

"She bad me had aff my hands, for I misgruged a' her apron, an' *mismaggl'd* a' her cocker-nony." Journal from London, p. 8.

*Mis* seems redundant here. V. MAGIL.

2. To mangle, Fife.

"I meith hae een made as gude a shift for a creep-in', eatin' caterpillar o' the Pope, as ony deboshed shavelin' in a' the Priory. But my face, my face, has *mismaggilled* my fortune!" Card. Beaton, p. 90.

[MISMAIGHT, *part. pa.* V. under MISMACK.]

MISMAINNERS, *s. pl.* Ill-breeding, indiscretion, Ettr. For.

"I do humblye beseetsh yer pardoune for myne grit follye and *mismainners*." Wint. Tales, ii. 42.

VOL. III.

To MISMARROW, MISMORROW, *v. a.* To put out of sorts, to mismatch; generally applied to things which are sorted in pairs, when one is put for another, S. V. MARROW, *v.*

[MISMARROW, *s.* A mismatch; one of a pair that do not correspond, Clydes.]

[MISMARROWT, MISMARROWIT, *adj.* Mismatched, *ibid.*]

To MISMAUCHER (gnntt.), *v. a.* To spoil, or render useless, Aberd.

Perhaps corr. from Teut. *mis-maek-en*, *deformare*, *deturpare*; or from *mis*, and *maegher-en*, *inacquare*; Isl. *magr*, *macilentus*; q. reduced to a state of leanness, rendered *meagre*.

To MISMINNIE, *v. a.* Applied to lambs when they lose their dams, or are put to suck strange ewes, Clydes.

From *mis*, denoting defect, and *minnie*, a mother.

[To MISMORROW, *v. a.* To mismatch. V. MISMARROW.]

To MISMUVE, *v. a.* 1. To disconcert, Ett. For.

2. To alarm, to put in a flurry; as, "Ye needna *mismuive* yoursell;" Clydes.; q. to *move* one's self *amiss*.

MISNURTURED, *adj.* Ill-bred, unmannerly.

"—Therefore that which idle onwaiting cannot do, *misnurtured* crying and knocking will do." Rutherford's Lett., P. i. ep. 27.

MISNOURTOURNESSE, *s.* Ill-breeding, want of due respect.

"This homelines will not be with *misnourtournesse*, and with an opinion of paritie: albeit thou wilt be homely with him as with thy brother; yet thou mayest not make thy selfe as companion to him, and count lightly of him." Rollock on the Passion, p. 343.

To MISPERSON, MYSPERSON, *v. a.* To give disgraceful names to one, to abuse in language.

"He had *mispersonit* the bailye, calland him skaffar." Aberd. Reg., A. 1543, V. 18.

"He had *myspersonit* hir with ewill wordis, callyng hir huyr & coyne [quean]." *Ibid.*, A. 1535, V. 15.

Teut. *misprys-en*, is *synon.* For it signifies vituperare, *improbare*. But our term must have been formed from *mis* and *person*, q. mistaking the person.

MISPERSONING, *s.* The act of giving abusive names to another.

"*Mispersoning* of him, calland him *skaytt karll*." Aberd. Reg., A. 1543, V. 18.

"Maly Awaill wes conwickit, &c., for the strublers & *myspersoning* of Besse Goldsmycht, calland hir peltys hoyll, & bad hir gang hame to hir hous, & sche wald fynd a preyst in that ane end, & ane rostit halme [ham] in the glangoir in that wder end; & diuers wder vicius wordis nocht to be expremit." *Ibid.*, A. 1535, V. 15, p. 692.

N 2

To MISPORTION *one's self*, *v. a.* To eat to excess, to surfeit one's self, S. B.

MIS-RID, *part. pa.* Entangled, Galloway; *synon. Ravell'd.*

All-vivifying Nature does her work,  
Though slow, yet sure, not like a reckless coof  
O' prentice wabster lad, who breaks his spool,  
And wastes the waft upo' a *mis-rid* pirn.  
*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 10.

*i. e. not redd.* V. RED, *v. to loose*, &c.

MISS, MYS, MYSS, *s.* 1. A fault, an error, S. B.

Now haiff I lost the best man leiffand is;  
O feble mynd, to do so foull a *myss*!  
—To mend this *myss* I wald byrne on a hill.  
*Wallace*, iv. 746. 762, MS.

Quhat haif we heir bot grace us to defend?  
The quhilk God grant us till amend our *miss*.  
*Henryson, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 108.

Thow be my muse, my gidare, and laid sterne,  
Remitting my trespas, and euey *mys*.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 11, 25.

Chaucer uses *mis* for what is wrong, and Gower.

Pryde is of euey *myss*e the prycke.

*Conf. Am. F.* 26, b., *i. e.*, the spur to every thing that is evil; as he had previously said:—

Pryde is the heede of all *synne*.

2. Evil, in a physical sense; calamity, suffering.

If anyes mateus, or mas, might mende thi *mys*,  
Or any meble on molde; my merthe were the mare.  
*Sir Gawon and Sir Gal.*, i. 16.

Goth. *missa*, defectus, error, corruptela, Isl. *missa*, amissio. Thus *mis* is used in most of the Goth. dialects, as an inseparable particle, denoting defect or corruption.

MISS, *s.* A false stroke, when one fails to hit the object meant to be struck; a term common in various sports, S.

"Frustra es, That is a *miss*. Vel, irritus hic conatus est." *Wedderb. Vocab.*, p. 38.  
Teut. *misse*, vanus ictus, jactus, &c.

[MISSAUCRE, MISSAUCHRE, *s.* 1. Destruction, ruin, manglement, Aysr. Banffs.

2. Severe injury, dreadful suffering caused by crushing or beating, *ibid.*

Evidently a corr. of *massacre*, with secondary meanings.]

[To MISSAUCRE, MISSAUCHER, *v. a.* 1. To destroy, ruin, spoil, *ibid.*

2. To hurt or injure severely, to mangle, crush, or bruise severely, *ibid.*

The *part. pr. missaucheran*, is used also as a *s.* in both senses of the *v.*; indeed, very much like *missaucre*.

To MISSAYE, *v. a.* To abuse, to rail at.

"Item, of them quha *missayes* the Baillies, or the Lord's Baillie in court of his office doing, it behoves him right there to cry him mercy, and therefore to make him amends." *Baron Courts*, c. 72.

Teut. *mis-seggh-en*, maledicere, malè loqui alicui, insectari alicquem maledictis.

O. E. id. "I *myssaye*, I say yuell of a thing; Jemesdis.—I neuer *myssayde* hym worde, and he toke on with me like a serpcnt." *Palsgr. B. iii. F. 302, a.*

MISSAYING, *s.* Calumny, or depreciation.

"The *missaying* and lichtleyng of the guid townn." *Aberd. Reg.*, A. 1545, V. 20. "*Missaying* & diffaming," *i. e.*, defaming. *Ibid.*, V. 17.

MISSELLIS, *s. pl.*

"Item, sex *missellis* of irne." *Inventories*, A. 1566, p. 170.

Mentioned in the list of Artillery, in Edinburgh Castle. Apparently, fireworks, from Fr. *missile*, "a squib, or other fire-work thrown;" Cotgr.

To MISSET, *v. a.* To displease.

Scotland I socht, in houpe for to get hir,  
Quhilk I may rew, as now is cum the chance,  
And vthers learne be me experience,  
In time be war fra aims the work *missel* hir.

*Testament R. Henrie, Poems*, 16th Cent. p. 257.

V. MISSETTAND.

MIS-SET, *part. pa.* 1. Disordered, put out of sorts, South of S.

"I did not say frightened, now.—I only said *missel* wi' a thing—And there was but ae bogle, neither—Earnscliff, you saw it as weel as I did." *Tales of my Landlord*, i. 70.

2. Out of humour, South of S.

"Our minnie's sair *mis-set*, after her ordinar, sir.—She'll hac had some quarrel wi' her auld gudeman,—that's Satan, ye ken, sirs." *Heart M. Loth.* ii. 152.

Teut. *mis-sett-en*, turbare, confundere, perturbare, inquietare; Kilian.

MISSETTAND, *part. pr.* Unbecoming.

In recompence for his *missettand* saw,  
He sall your hest in euerie part proclame.

*Palice of Honour*, ii. 22.

Teut. *mis-sett-en*, male disponere. Instead of this *onsettin*, or *unsettin*, is the term now used, especially with respect to any piece of dress which, it is supposed, does not become the wearer. V. SET, *v.*

MISSILRY, *s.*

—Maigram, madness, or *missilry*,  
Appostrum, or the palacy.—

*Roull's Cursing, Gl. Compl.*, p. 330.

This denotes some eruption, perhaps leprosy. For while Germ. *masel* signifies the measles, *maselsucht* is used for the leprosy; Su.-G. *massel*, for the scall, *Lev.*, xxi. 20, and *massling* for the smallpox. V. MESALL.

[MISSIN, *adj.* Moderate, not quite full; as, "a *missin* tide," *Shtl.* Su.-G. *missa*, Isl. *missa*, *missir*, loss, defect.]

MISSEIVE, *s.* 1. A letter sent, S.; Fr. id.

Dr. Johns. justly observes, "that it is retained in Scotland in this sense."

2. It is most generally used to signify a letter on business, or one containing an engagement which is afterwards to be extended in form.

—"There really should be some black and white on this transaction. Sae just make me a minute, or *missive*, in ony form ye like, and I'se write it fair ower and subscribe it before famous witnesses." *Tales of my Landlord*, i. 210.

**MISSLIE**, *adj.* 1. "Solitary, from some person or thing being amissing or absent." Gl. Sibb.

This is commonly pron. *mistlie*, Loth. ; and seems formed from the common Goth. particle *miss*, denoting privation, or Su.-G. *mist-a*, to want, and *lic*, *lik*, the termination expressing resemblance ; q, resembling a state of privation. Teut. *misselick* signifies ambiguous, incertus, in quo errari, aut de quo dubitari, potest ; Kilian.

2. Applied to one whose absence is regretted, or remarked, Galloway.

"We say such a one is *misslie*, when his presence is missed any where." Gall. Encycl.

**MISSLIENESS**, *s.* Solitariness, from the absence of some favourite person or thing, Clydes.

To **MISSPEAK**, *v. a.* To praise one for a virtue or good quality, which his conduct immediately after belies, Clydes.

This is nearly synon. with *Forspeak*, *v.*, sense 1 ; and it is reasonable to suppose that it had been, if it is not still, used as including the superstitious idea that a high degree of commendation had an evil influence on the person.

As *mis-spreken* is the Teut. word corresponding with *Misspeak*, I find that it did not merely signify to speak improperly, but to curse ; *Labi verbis* ; et *Maledicere*, Kilian.

To **MISSWEAR**, *v. n.* To swear falsely, S.

To **MISTAİK**, *v. a.* To neglect to make necessary provision.

"Schir George Home of Wedderburne, knycht, comptroller, promesit—to furneis thair maiesties houssis ;—and that befor ony payment of ony debitis auchtand be his maiestie ;—and that the kingis maiestie suld not be *mistaikit* in the premissis." Acts Ja. VI., 1597, Ed. 1814, p. 166.

This ought to be written *misstaik*, from *Mis*, and *Staik*, to accommodate, &c., q. v.

[**MISTEIR**, *s.* Trade, craft, Barbour, xvii. 938. **V. MISTER.**]

To **MISTENT**, *v. a.* To neglect, Berwick's ; from *Mis*, and *Tent*, to attend, q. v.

**MISTER**, **MYSTER**, *s.* Craft, art.

Ane engynour thair haif thair tane,  
That wes sleast of that *myster*,  
That men wyst ony fer or ner.

Barbour, xvii. 435, MS.

It is also found in O. E.

—He asked for his archere,  
Walter Tirelle was haten, maister of that *mister*.  
R. Brunne, p. 94.

This is immediately from Fr. *mestier*, id. *Menage* derives this from Lat. *minister-ium* ; Skinner, E. *mystery*, a trade, from Gr. *μυστηριον*. Warton, however, contends that L. B. *magister-ium* is the origin, to which Fr. *maistrise* exactly corresponds. Hist. E. Poet., v. iii. xxxvii., &c.

**MISTER**, **MYSTER**, *s.* 1. Want, necessity, S. B.

Tharfor his horsis all haile he gaiff  
To the ladyis, that *myster* had.

Barbour, iii. 357, MS.

"*Mister* makes man of craft." Ferguson's S. Prov., p. 24.

"There's nae friend to friend in *mister*." Ibid., p. 31. This term was also used in O. E. "*Mistyr* or nede. Indigencia." Prompt. Parv.

2. It sometimes denotes want of food, S. B.

And now her heart is like to melt away  
Wi' heat and *mister*.—

Ross's *Helenore*, p. 59.

It is used as synon. with *Faut*.

There's been a dowie day to me, my dear ?  
Faint, faint, alas ! wi' *faut* and *mister* gane,  
And in a peril just to die my lane.

Ibid., p. 66.

V. **FAUT**.

3. Any thing that is necessary.

—Grant eik leif to hew wod, and tak  
Tymmer to bete airis, and vther *misteris*.

Doug. *Virgùl*, 30, 26.

He ete and drank, with ful gude chere,  
For tharof had he grete *myster*.

*Iwaine*, *Ritson's E. M. R.*, i. 33.

Rudd. views this as the same with the preceding word, supposing that, as Fr. *mestier* signifies a trade of art, "because by these we may and ought to supply our necessities," the term "came to signify need, lack, necessity, want." Sibb. adopts this etymon.

Fr. *mestier* is indeed used as signifying need, or want. But it seems more natural to deduce *mister* from Su.-G. *mist-a*, Dan. *mist-er*, to lose, to sustain the want, loss, or absence of any thing. Allied to these are Isl. *missar*, a loss, *misting*, he who is deprived of his property ; Alem. *mizz-an*, to want, Belg. *miss-en*.

To **BEIT A MISTER**. To supply a want. V. **BEIT**, *v.*

To **MISTER**, **MYSTRE**, *v. n.* 1. To be necessary.

2. To be in necessitous circumstances.

"Gif ony burghes be constraint with *mister* and necessitie, swa that it behovis him to sell his heritage, he sould offer the samin at thré heid courtis to his narrest airis.—And gif the air, throw evil will or malice, absent himself efter the time abone expremit, it is leasum to the annalyier that *misteris* to dispone upone the landis as he pleasis." Leg. Burg., Balfour's Pract., p. 162.

To **MISTER**, *v. a.* To need, to be in want of, to have occasion for.

All trew Scottis gret fauour till him gaiff,  
Quhat gude thai had he *mysteril* nocht to craiff.

Wallace, v. 553, MS.

O douchty King, thou askis counsall, said he,  
Of that matere, quhilk, as semys me,  
Is nouthir dirk nor doutsum, but full clere.  
That *mysteris* not our auisis bene here.

Doug. *Virgùl*, 374, 21.

The prep. *of* is sometimes added.

—"The saidis Deputes exponed, that sum tyme it might chance, that the King might *mister* of his grit gunis and artillaryrie in France." Knox's Hist., p. 233. *Mister'd*, straitened, reduced to difficulties, S. B.

To **MISTER**, **MYSTRE**, *v. n.* To be necessary.

The King has than to consall tan,  
That he wald nocht brek down the wall ;  
Bot castell, and the toune withall,  
Stuff weil with men, and with wittall,  
And alkyn othyr apparaill

That mycht awaile, or ellis *mystre*  
To hald castell, or toun off wer.

*Barbour*, xvii. 215, MS.

"Gif it *misters*," if it be necessary.

"And gif it *misters*, that secular power be callit in  
supporte and helping of halie kirk." Acts Ja. I., 1424,  
c. 31.

[MISTIR, MYSTIR, *adj.* Necessary, *Barbour*,  
iv. 631.]

MISTIRFUL, *adj.* Needy, necessitous.

"For the misere of *mistirful* men, and for the veping  
of pure men, the diuine justice sal exsecut strait  
punitione." Compl. S., p. 194.

Unkenn'd and *mysterful* in the deseirtis of Libie,  
I wander, expellit from Ewrop and Asia.

*Doug. Virgil*, 25, 2.

"*Misterfou'* fowk mauna be mensfou'"; Ferguson's  
S. Prov., p. 24. "They who are in need must and  
will importune." Kelly, p. 304.

MISTRY, *s.* [Err. for mastry, mastery, con-  
trol.]

The Erle of Herfurd thidderward  
Held, and wes tane in, our the wall;  
And fyfty off his men with all;  
And set in howsis syndryly,  
Swa that thai had thar na *mistry*.

*Barbour*, xiii. 408.

In Ed. 1620, it is *mastric*: [in Cambridge MS. and  
in Herd's Ed. *mastry*]; in Edin. MS. *mercy*; which  
appears to be an error. The most natrual sense of  
the passage is, that, being received within the walls,  
[Hereford and his men were distributed over the castle,  
so that they had no control over the garrison, and  
could not interfere with the governor's plans or powers.]

MIST-FAWN, *s.* A word formed from  
fancy, to denote the resemblance which *mist*  
sometimes assumes, of a white spot of  
ground. V. FAWN.

"If it be a *mist-fawn*, as I dare say it can be nae-  
thing else, it has drawn itself up into a form the likest  
that of a woman of ought ever I saw." Perils of Man,  
ii. 256.

[MISTOINIT, *part. pa.* Mistuned, Lyndsay.  
Thrie Estaitis, l. 75.]

[To MISTRAIST, *v. a.* To mistrust, suspect;  
pret. *mistraisted*, *Barbour*, x. 327, Herd's  
Ed.; the Edin. MS. has *mistrow*, q. v.]

To MISTRAM, *v. a.*

"Satan—being cast out of men, he goeth madlings  
in the swine of the world, and that out of God his  
house, he furiously *mistrammeth* his owne: putting  
forth his rage where he may, seeing he cannot where  
hee would." Forbes on the Revelation, p. 103.

"Being, by the power of the gossell, cast out of  
heaven, and falling downe thence as lightning, then,  
seeing he cannot brooke a roome in God his house, hee  
furiously *mistrammeth* his own." Forbes's Defence,  
p. 7.

This term, being applied to a honse, most probably  
denotes a misplacing or disordering the beams of it,  
from the privative *mis*, and *tram*, lignum; trabs; as  
expl. by Wachter; whence, it has been supposed, the  
A.-S. *v. trimm-an*, aedificare. This learned writer  
speaks of an ancient right as still existing in Germany,  
denominated *tram-recht*, *traum-recht*, i. e., "the right  
of supporting a roof on the wall of a neighbour."

MISTRESS, *s.* 1. A sort of title given in  
the Highlands, Islands, and South of S., to  
the wife of a principal tenant.

The tacksmen, or principal tenants are named by  
their farms, as *Kingsburgh*, *Corrichatachin*; and their  
wives are called the *mistress* of Kingsburgh, the *mis-  
tress* of Corrichatachin." Boswell's Journal, p. 146.

"The active bustle of the *mistress* (so she was called  
in the kitchen, and the gudwife in the parlour) had  
already signed the fate of a couple of fowls." Guy  
Mannering, ii. 44, 45.

—"Several of the neighbouring *mistresses* (a phrase  
of a signification how different from what it bears in  
more fashionable life) had assembled at Charlieshope  
to witness the event of this memorable evening."  
*Ibid.*, p. 71.

2. In the same manner, in the Lowlands,  
especially in the country, the wife of a  
minister is called the *Mistress*.

"Although Mr. Keckle had been buried but the  
week before, the *mistress*, as a' ministers' wives o' the  
right kind should be, was in a wholesome state of  
composity." The Steam-Boat, p. 296.

To MISTROW, *v. a.* 1. To suspect, to  
doubt, to mistrust.

Thai *mystrow* him off tratoury  
For that he spokyn had with the King.  
And for that ilk *mystrowing*  
Thai tuk him and put [him] in presoun.

*Barbour*, x. 327, MS.

2. To disbelieve.

And in hys lettrys said he thane,  
That the pepil of Ireland  
Wnfaythful wes and *mystrowand*,  
And lede thame all be fretis wyle,  
Nowcht be the lauche of the Ewangyle.

*Wyntown*, vii. 7. 222.

Isl. *misstru-a*, Franc. *missitruw-an*, Belg. *mistrouw-  
en*, id. *mistrowig*, suspicious, *mistrouen*, a suspicion.

MISTROWING, *s.* Distrust, suspicion. V.  
the *v.*

To MISTRYST, *v. a.* 1. To break an engage-  
ment with, S. Gl. Sibb.

"Feind of me will *mistryst* you for a' my mother  
says." Black Dwarf, chap. 4, par. 2.

2. To disappoint, to bring into confusion by  
disappointing, S.

"Pate Macready does say, that they are sair *mis-  
trysted* yonder in their Parliament-House about this  
rubbery." Rob Roy, ii. 12.

3. To alarm, to affright; implying the idea of  
meeting with something quite different from  
what was expected.

—"Having been *mistrysted*—with ae bogle the night  
already, I was dubious o' opening the gate till I had  
gane through the e'ening worship." Rob Roy, ii. 94.  
It is used in this sense both North and South of S.

MITCHELL, *s.*

Bot menstrallis, serving man, and maid,  
Gat *Mitchell* in an auld pocke neuke.

*Leg. Bp. St. Androis, Poems Sixteenth Cent.*, p. 330.

This term may refer to some old proverbial phrase  
now lost; or is perhaps formed from Fr. *miche*, one  
who finds himself duped. V. DRA.

[To MITE, *v. a.* Same as *to mote*, *q. v.* Banffs.]

MITH, MEITH, *aux. v.* Might, S. B.

What I *mith* get, my Kats, is nae the thing;  
Ye sud be queen, tho' Simon were a king.  
*Shirrefs' Poems*, p. 44.

V. MAUCHT.

Su.-G. *mautte*, anc. *matha*, id.

—Tho' ye had spair'd  
The task to me, Pate *meith* na been a laird.

*Ross's Helenore, Invocation.*

*Meith* is also used in Fife.

—"My father an' mither *meith* hae e'en made me a monk, or a little bit o' a friar, o' ony colour." Tenant's Card. Beaton, p. 90.

"I *mith* maybe speak English mysel', and I daresay I could; but, waes me! maist naebody here wad understand it but the minister, and he likes the Scots just as weel." Glenfergus, i. 338.

Cumb. *mud*, might or must; Gl. Relp. h.

MITHNA, might not, S. B.

—"It *mithna* be amiss to try Tibbie Macreddie," &c. Glenfergus, iii. 51. V. REDD HANDIT.

MITHER, *s.* A mother, S.

Now had ye'r tongue, my daughter young,  
Replied the kindly *mither*.  
*Herd's Coll.*, ii. 59.

[MITHERLESS, *adj.* Motherless, S.]

MITHERLIE, *adj.* Motherly, S.

MITHERLINESS, *s.* Motherliness, S.

MITHER'S-PET, *s.* "The youngest child of a family; the mother's greatest favourite;" S., Gall. Encycl.

MITHRATES, *s. pl.* Expl. "the heart and skirts of a bullock;" Ayr.

This seems originally the same with *Mithret*, *q. v.*

MITHRET, *s.* The midriff, Etrr. For.

This is pure A.-S. *Mid-krythe*, the midriff or diaphragm.

To MITLE, *v. a.* To eat away, applied to the action of mites; Gall., Annand.

"When siller is chynged [changed] it is said to—*mitle* away." Gall. Encycl.

C. B. *mudawl*, belonging to a removal, removeable.

MITTALE, MITTAIN, *s.* A bird of prey, of the hawk kind; *gleddis* and *mittalis* being classed together.

"Item, Anent ruikis, crawis, & vther foulis of rief, as ernis, bissartis, gleddis, *mittalis*, the quhilk distroyis baith cornis and wyld foulis." &c. Acts Ja. II., 1457, c. 95, Edit. 1567, Murray, c. 85.

It is certainly the same fowl which Dunbar calls *Myttaine*. V. *St. Martynis Fowle*.

MITTENS, MITTANIS, *s. pl.* 1. "[*Mitaines*, Fr.] woollen gloves. *Mittens*, in England, at present, are understood to be gloves without fingers." Sir J. Sinclair, p. 163.

Lancash. id.; also, "a very strong pair to hedge in;" Gl. Tim Bobbin.

2. *To lay up one's mittens*, to beat out one's brains; a cant phrase, Aberd.

"For, thinks I, an' the horse tak a brattle now, they may come to *lay up my mittens*, an' ding me yavil an' as styth as gin I had been elf-shot." Journal from London, p. 4.

With cloks, and hude, I dressit me belyvs,  
With dowbill schone, and *mittanis* on my handis.  
—My *mittanis* held my handis weill in heit.

*Lyndsay's Drene.*

Although the term is immediately from the Fr., perhaps it should be traced to Belg. *mouwtjes*, half sleeves, a dimin. from *mauw*, a sleeve, [or to Gael. *miotag*, Ir. *miotog*, a mitten, Gael. and Ir. *mutan*, a muff, a thick glove. V. Skeat's Etym. Dict.]

3. *To Claw up one's Mittens*, to kill, to overturn.

Applied to shooting a hare, &c. Fife; also, to killing a man, Roxb.

"*Claw up their mittins*, [r. *mittens*], give them the finishing stroke;" Gl. Antiq.

This is equivalent to *laying up one's mittens*, Aberd. But the direct allusion in either of these phrases I do not perceive. If *laying up* signifies that there should be no more use for *mittens*, the wearer being dead; *clawing up* would admit of a similar sense, by tracing it to Teut. *klouw-en*, globare, *q.* rolling them up, as one does when a piece of dress is laid aside.

PIN-MITTENS, *s. pl.* Woollen gloves wrought upon a wooden *pin*, by males, instead of the wires used by women, Teviotd. Cowherds and shepherds are particularly expert at this work.

To MITTLE, *v. a.* To hurt or wound, by a fall, bruise, or blow, S.

Perhaps a corruption of *mutilate*, a term much used in our old laws in the same sense; as,—"hurt, slaine, *mutilate*."—Acts Ja. VI., 1594, c. 227.

But as this would only correspond to the part. *mittlit*, the verb may be from Fr. *mutil-er*, Lat. *mutil-are*, id.

"Haud ye'r tongue, ye haverin' taupie,—I'se warrant nae ghaist come your wye, save it be the ghaist o' the stirk that ye lat get itsel' *mittled* the ither day." St. Kathleen, iii. 213. Hence,

MITTILAT, *s.* *To mak a mittilat o' one*, to disable a person as to the use of any of his limbs, Aberd.

MITTS, *s. pl.* The same with *Mittens*, S.

"It is said that *mit* is the original word, whence *mittens*, the plural;" Johns. V. under MITTENS.

\* To MIX, *v. a.* and *n.* 1. To change colour; applied to grain, S.; synon. *Meing*.

[2. To become pale or of a sickly colour through disease, Banffs.

3. To put into a state of disorder, flurry, or excitement; applied to the body, *ibid.*]

MIXT, *part. pa.* 1. Disordered; applied to one who is in some degree ailing, Banffs.

2. Denoting partial intoxication, S. muzzy, low E.



**MIXTIE-MAXTIE, MIXIE-MAXIE.** 1. As a s.; confusion; suggesting the same idea with the E. s. *mismash*, a mingle, S.

It is also used as if an adj.

Could he some *commutation* broach,—  
He need na fear their foul reproach  
Nor erudition,—  
Yon *mixtie-maxtie* queer hotch-potch,  
The coalition.

Burns, iii. 25.

[2. As an *adj.* or an *adv.*; in a state of confusion, disorderly, S.]

Both the S. and E. terms are allied, the latter especially, which Dr. Johnson calls "a low word," to Su.-G. *miskmask*, id.; congeries rerum multarum; Ihre, vo. *Fick-fack*.

—*Mixie-maxie* nations meet  
Frae yont the sea.

D. Anderson's Poems, p. 115.

To MIZZLE, *v. a.* To speckle, S. B.

**MIZZLED, adj.** Having different colours. The legs are said to be *mizzled*, when partly discoloured by sitting too near the fire, S.

This at first view might seem merely a peculiar use of E. *measled*, q. like one in the measles. But *mizzled* is a different term. It may be allied to A.-S. *mistl*, varius, diversus, or rather to Isl. *mislitt*, variegatus; *mislitan kyrtill*, tunicam variegatam, 2 Sam., 13. V. *Lel*, color, Ihre. This word seems originally to have denoted loss of colour, Isl. *miss*, signifying privation.

Teut. *maschelen*, however, is synon. *Maschelen aen de beenen*, maculae subrubrae quae hyeme contrahuntur, dum crura ad ignem propius admoventur; from *masche*, *maschel*, macula, a spot or stain.

**MIZZLIE, MIZLIE, adj.** 1. Synon. with *Mizzled*, or nearly so, Strathearn.

2. Variegated; applied to the effect of fire on the limbs, South of S.

And when the callans, romping thick,  
Did crowd the hearth along,  
Oft have I blawn the danders quick  
Their *mizlie* shins amang.

A. Scott's Poems, p. 146.

[**MO, MAE, adj.** and s. More, S. A.-S. *ma*, id.]

To **MOACH** (gutt.), *v. n.* To be approaching to a state of putridity. V. under **Moch**, **MOCHIE**.

**MOAGRE, s.** A confusion, Upp. Clydes. Isl. *mug-r*, turba, colluvies; *mogur*, multitudo.

**MOAKIE, s.** "A fondling name for a calf;" Clydes., Edin. Mag., Oct. 1818, p. 327.

"Three ca's un' twa queys war brainit; an' it was a waesome thing to hear the wee hits o' saikless *moakies* mainan' in the deadthraws." Ibid., p. 503.

Kilian mentions *mocke* as old Germ. for a sow that hath had pigs. C. B. *moch*, a sow. The term has been traced to *Moe*, *v. q. v.*; but perhaps it is rather allied to Germ. *muh-en*, *mugire*. Thus the designation may have arisen from its cry.

[**MOARIN, part. adj.** Applied to snow being drifted by the wind vehemently and thickly, Shetl.]

**MOBIL, MOBLE, s.** Moveable goods, or such as are not affixed to the soil; S. *moveables*.

Yone berne in the battale will ye nocht forbere  
For all the *mobil* on the mold merkit to meid.  
Gavaan and Gol., iii. 13.

It is more generally used in pl.

Fra every part thair flocking fast about,  
Bayth with gude will, and thair *mobles* but dont.  
Doug. Virgil, 65, 25.

Fr. *meubles*, id.

**MOCH, MOCHY, adj.** 1. Moist, damp; applied to animal food, corn in the stack, meal, &c., S.

Not [nocht] throw the soyl but muskane treis  
sproutit,

Combust, barrant, vnblomit and vneleit,  
Auld rottin runtis quhairn na sap was leift;  
*Moch*, all waist, widderit with granis moutit,  
A ganand den quhair murderars men reift,  
Pallice of Honour, i. 3. Edin. Edit., 1579.

2. Thick, close, hazy; as, "a *mochie* day," a hot misty day, S. *Moch, adj.*, is now obsolete.

Nae sun shines there, the *mochie* air  
Wi' smuisteran' rowks stinks vyld.

Ballad, Edin. Mag., Oct. 1818, p. 327.

"We say of the weather, when it is warm and moist, that it is *mochy* weather; and of everything else in a similar way, that it is *mochy*." Gall. Enc.

It should be observed, that *mochy* is not applied to mist indiscriminately; but to that only which is produced by great heat, or an accompaniment of it, when the air is so close as to affect the organs of respiration. This is originally the same with E. *muggy*, which Johnson strangely views as corrupted from *mucky*.

The E. use the phrase, *moky day*. But both Skinner and Johnson seem to understand it as if it were the same with *murky*, gloomy, rendering it *dark*. It is certainly synon. with S. *mochy*. *Muck*, Lincolns. signifies moist, wet.

3. Applied to meat when it begins to be putrid, Lanarks.

The E. word *fusty* nearly expresses the idea conveyed by *mochy*, as regarding smell.

Isl. *mokk-ne*, *mokk-r*, condensatio nubium, are evidently allied to our term, especially in the second sense. Dan. *mug*, denotes mould, *muggen*, mouldy; and in some parts of E. they say, a *muggy day*. But it most nearly resembles Isl. *mugga*, aer succidus et nubilo humidus; G. Andr., p. 181.

To **MOCH, MOACH, v. n.** To begin to be in a state approaching to putridity. The term is now generally used in the part. pa. *Moch't meat*, or *flesh*, is animal food in a state of incipient corruption, when it sends forth a disagreeable, although not an absolutely foetid, smell, S.

"Upon the 3d of October in the afternoon there fell out in Murray a great rain, dinging on night and day without clearing up while the 13th of October;—the corns well stacked began to *moach* and rot till they were casten over again; lamentable to see, and whereof the like was never seen before; doubtless a prognostick

of great troubles within this land." Spalding's Troubles, i. 59.

To *moach* properly respects the effect of dampness, as accompanied with heat. Isl. *mokk-a*, mucere.

[MOCHT, MOCHIE, *adj.* V. MOCH, *adj.*, s. 3.]

MOCH (gutt.), *s.* A moth, Aberd. V. MOGH.

[MOCH-EATEN, *adj.* Moth-eaten, Banffs.]

MOCHIE, *adj.* Filled with moths, *ibid.*

Hence the proverbial rhyme:—

A heap of hose is a *mochy* pose.

MOCH, *s.* A heap. This Sibb. mentions as the same with *Mowe*, q. v., from A.-S. *mucg*, *acervus*.

To MOCHRE, MOKRE, *v. n.* 1. To heap up, to hoard.

And quhen your Lords ar pur, this to conclude;  
They sel thair sonnes and airs for gold and gude,  
Unto ane *mokrand* carle, for derest pryse,  
That wist never yit of honor, nor gentryse.  
This worschip and honour of linage,  
Away it weirs thus for thair disparage.  
Thair manheid, and thair mense, this gait thay murle;  
For mariage thus unyte of ane churle.

*Priests of Peblis, S. P. R.*, i. 13.

Chaucer uses *muckre* and *mockeren* precisely in the same sense.

———*Mockre* and *ketchs pens*.

*Troilus*, iii. 1331.

Hence *Mukerar*, q. v., a covetous person. The verb is certainly allied to A.-S. *mucg*, a heap, as Rudd. observes; but perhaps more immediately to Ital. *macchiare*, *mucchiare*, to accumulate. This, as many Ital. words are of Goth. origin, may be traced to Isl. *mock-a*, *id.*, coacervare.

2. It is used to denote the conduct of those who are busy about trifling matters or mean work, S. B. pron. *mochre*.

3. To work in the dark, S. B.

These are merely oblique senses of the verb, borrowed from the keenness manifested by a covetous person.

MOCHT, *aux. v.* Might.

The awfull King gart twa harraldis be brocht,  
Gaiff thaim commaund, in all the haist thai *mocht*,  
To chargis Wallace, that he suld cum him till,  
Witht out promyss, and put him in his will.

*Wallace*, vi. 347, MS.

Forsoyth, at Troyis distruction, as I *mocht*,  
I tuke comfort herof.——

*Doug. Virgil*, 20, 25.

A.-S. *mot*, *id.* from *mag-an*, posse; Alem. *maht*, Gl. Wynt. *moht-a*, from *mag-en*, *mog-en*.

MOCKAGE, *s.* Mockery.

—"The Prophet doeth, as it were in *mockage*, provoke idolaters, and the idoles to produce for themselves some evident testimonies by the which men might be assured that in them was power." Knox's *Ressoning* with Croisraguell, Prol., ii. a.

MOCKRIFE, *adj.* Scornful, Clydes.

Loud leuch the elf wi' *mockrife* glee,  
An' thrise about can brade,  
Whill a gallant man, in youdith's blums,  
He raise afore the maid.

*Ballad, Edin. Mag.*, Oct. 1818, p. 327.

[MOD (long o), *s.* A small quantity, Shetl.]

MODE, MWDE, *s.* 1.

He ekyd thare manhad aud thare *mode*,  
Thare-for thair drede na multytude.

*Wyntonon*, viii. 27. 199.

"Mind, spirit," Gl. But it seems properly to denote courage; A.-S. Sw. *mod*, *id.*

2. Anger, indignation; as E. *mood* is used.

Tho seyde Ysonde with *mode*,  
—"Mi maiden ye han slain."

*Sir Tristrem*, p. 104.

Su.-G. Isl. *mod*, ira, A.-S. *mod-ian*, irasci.

MODY, MUDY, *adj.* 1. Spirited, haughty; or perhaps, rather, bold, brave.

xiii castellis with strenth he wan,  
And ourcame many a *mody* man.

*Barbour*, ix. 659, MS.

Sw. *modig*, bold, brave, daring; Teut. *moedig*, spirited, mettlesome; Alem. *muat*, alacris, animosus, Germ. *mutzig*, *id.* Alem. *muat*, mens, assumes a great variety of composite forms; as *fastmuat*, firmi animi vir, *gimuato*, gratus, *heizmuati*, iracundia, &c.

2. Pensive, sad, melancholy.

—Thou Proserpyne, quhilck by our gentil lawis  
Art rowpit hie, and yellit loude by nycht,  
In forkit wayis with mony *mudy* wicht!

*Doug. Virgil*, 121, 32.

MODER, MODYR, *s.* Mother; *moeder*, Shetl.

Hys *modyr* fled with hym fra Elrislé,  
Till Gowry past, and duelt in Kilsyndé.

*Wallace*, i. 149, MS.

Quha bettir may Sibylla namyt be,  
Than may the glorius *moder* and *madin* fre?

*Doug. Virgil*, Prol. 160, 54.

A.-S. Isl. Su.-G. Dan. *moder*, Belg. *moeder*, Belg. *muater*, *muder*, Pers. *mader*.

MODYR-NAKYD, *adj.* Stark naked, naked as at one's birth, S. *mother-naked*.

Thre hundyre men in cumpany  
Gaddryt come on hym suddanly,  
Tuk hym out, quhare that he lay,  
Of his chawmyre befor day,  
*Modyr-nakyd* hys body bare.

*Wyntonon*, vii. 9. 261.

"Ye're as souple sark alane as some are *mother naked*;" Ramsay's S. Prov., p. 85.  
Teut. *moeder-naeck*, *id.*

MODERANCE, *s.* Moderation.

"Altho' it became a prince to be revenged on rebels, yet he would use such *moderance* herein as he could." Pitscottie, p. 79. Duod. Edit.

To MODERATE, *v. n.* 1. To preside in an ecclesiastical court, whether superior or inferior, S.

"It is thought expedient that no Minister, *moderating* his Session, shall usurp a negative voice over the members of his Session." Act Assembly, Dec. 17, 1633.

The prep. *in* may have been omitted after *moderating*. It is used in our time.

"The Moderator of the former Assembly opens it with a sermon; but in case of his absence, his predecessor in that chair hath the sermon; and in absence of them both, the eldest Minister of the town

where they meet, preacheth, and openeth the Assembly by prayer, and *moderates* till a new Moderator be chosen." Steuart's Collections, B. i., Tit. 15, § 19.

2. To preside in a congregation, at the election of a Pastor, S.

"When the day is come on which the electors were appointed to meet,—the Minister whom the Presbytery ordered to *moderate* at the election having ended sermon, and dismissed the congregation, except these concerned, is to open the meeting of electors with prayer, and thereafter they proceed to vote the person to be their Minister." Steuart's Collections, B. i., Tit. 1, § 6.

MODERATOR, *s.* 1. He who presides in an ecclesiastical court, S.

—"Declareth, that the power of Presbyteries and of provincial and general Assemblies, hath been unjustly suppressed, but never lawfully abrogate. And therefore that it hath been more lawful unto them, notwithstanding any point unjustly objected by the Prelats to the contrary,—to choose their own *Moderatours*, and to execute all the parts of ecclesiastical jurisdiction according to their own limits appointed them by the Kirk." Act Assembly, Dec. 5, 1638, Sess. 13.

The Pastor is constant Moderator of a Session, from the superiority of his office to those of Ruling Elders and Deacons. In a Presbytery, a new Moderator is generally chosen annually; in a Provincial Synod or Assembly, at every meeting.

2. The minister who presides in a congregational meeting, at the election of a Pastor, S.

—"Thereafter they proceed to vote the person to be their Minister.—Which vote being taken and carefully marked, the *Moderator* is to pronounce the mind of the meeting, viz., that a call be given to the person named; which the clerk is to have ready drawn up to be read and signed by them in presence of the *Moderator*." Steuart's Collections, ubi sup.

MODERATION, *s.* The act of presiding, by appointment of Presbytery, in a congregation, in the election of a Pastor by the votes of the majority. When a minister is appointed to preside in this business, it is said that the Presbytery *grant a moderation* to the people, S.

[MODER-DY, *s.* A current setting in towards the land, Shetl.]

Before the introduction of the mariner's compass, the Shetland fisherman when out of sight of land knew the direction in which it lay by the *Moder-Dy*.]

[MODER-SOOK, *s.* Same as MODER-DY.]

MODEWART, MODYWART, *s.* A mole, (talpa,) S.

I gryppit graithly the gil,  
And every *modywart* hil.

*Doug. Virgil*, 239, b. 19.

"I graunt thou may blot out all knowledge out of thy minde, and make thy selfe to become als blinde as a *modewart*." Bruce's Serm. on the Sacr., O. 2, b.

Dan. *muldwarp*, Germ. *maulwurf*, Alem. *mulwurff*, A. Bor. *mouldwarp*. This is generally derived from A.-S. *molde*, earth, and *weorpan*, to throw or cast.

Ray says, that *to wort* is to cast forth as a mole or hog doth. Hence it is probable that there may have been a Goth. *v.* of a similar form, entering into the composition of our name for the mole. A.-S. *wrot-an*, Belg. *wroet-en*, *wroet-en*, Su.-G. *rot-a*, are indeed used in a sense nearly allied, *versare rostro*, to root as a sow with its snout.

MODGEL, *s.* A noggin; "I've gotten my *modgel*," I have got my usual quantity of drink.

To Tak one's *Modgel*. To partake of a social glass; sometimes denoting a morning dram, Fife.

Perhaps from L. B. *modiol-us*, a term latterly used in monasteries to denote a certain quantity of liquor; as much, it would seem, as was appropriated to each of the monks. V. Du Cange. This provincial term has probably been borrowed from the good *fathers* belonging to some religious foundation.

MODIE-BROD, *s.* V. MOWDIE-BROD.

[MODY, MWDY, *adj.* Proud, brave, Barbour, ix. 659, xx. 394. V. MWDY.]

[MODYWART, *s.* V. MODEWART.]

To MOE, *v. n.* To cry as a calf; *Mue* being used to express the lowing of a cow, Clydes. V. MUE, and MOAKIE.

MÖEM, *s.* A scrap, Galloway.

"*Möems*, scraps of any thing, such as *möems* of curiosity.—

"Than *möems* o' poems  
I will sing unto thee." *Gall. Encycl.*

Apparently a corr. contraction of Gael. *meomhraehan*, a memorandum. Teut. *moeme* signifies an aunt. Can it refer to scraps of nursery tales? C. B. *mym* denotes what is incipient.

MOGEN, *adj.* Apparently signifying common, public; synon. *Mein*.

A *mogen* pot never played well. Agr. Surv. Peeb., p. 340.  
Sn.-G. *mage*, multitudo.

MOGGANS, *s. pl.* 1. Long sleeves for a woman's arms, wrought like stockings, S.B.

Had I won the length but of ae pair of sleeves,—  
This I wad haye washen and bleech'd like the snaw,  
And on my twa gardies like *moggans* wad draw?  
And then fouk wad say, that auld Girzy was brow.  
*Song, Ross's Helenore*, p. 134.

2. Hose without feet, Aberd. *Hairy moggans*, Fife; synon. with *hoggars*, Clydes., *hoeshins*, Ayr., *loags*, Stirlings.

"The lads wis nae very driech o-drawin, but lap in amo' the dubs in a handclap; I'm seer some o' them wat the sma' end o' their *moggans*." Journal from London, p. 5.

And mair attour I'll tell you trow,  
That a' the *moggans* are bran new;  
Some worsted are o' different hue,

An' some are cotton.

*Poems in the Buchan Dialect, Shop-bill.*

Belg. *mouw*, a sleeve, pl. *mouwen*; A.-S. *mogg*, longas tibiae habens, Gl. MSS., ap. Schilter: but most

nearly allied to Teut. *mouwen*, parva manica. It seems, indeed, the very same word.

This word has been of general use; for Shaw expl. Gael. *mogan*, "a boot-hose." He renders *Galligaskin* by the same term.

3. The legs, Roxb. Hence,

To MIX MOGGANS *with one*. To be joined in marriage; a vulgar phrase used in Fife.

MOGH, MOCH, *s.* A moth, Ang. O. E. *mough*.

Langland says of a garment;—

Shal near chest bymelen it, ne *mough* after byte it.  
P. *Ploughman*, Fel. 67, b.

"It shall never be moulded in chest, or eaten by a moth." This word is overlooked both by Skinner and Junius. In Edit. 1561, it is rendered *mought*, which is also used in the same sense, O. E.

"Rust and *mought* distryth." Wiclif, Matt. 6. *Mough*, Chaucer.

MOGHIE, *adj.* Having maggots; as *moghie meat*, animal food when fly-blown, Lanarks.

MOICH (gutt.), *adj.* Giving the idea of moistness conjoined with putridity; applied to tainted meat, Ayrs. V. MOCH, *adj.*

MOICHNESS, *s.* Dampness causing corruption, ib.

Your mother's pence it pleases me;  
But its *moichness* hurts me sairly. *Old Ballad.*

To MOIDER, *v. a.* To stupify with blows, or in whatever other way, Lanarks. Hence,

MOIDERT, *part. adj.* Dull, stupid, *ibid.*, Dumfr.

"What, man! is your brain sae *moidert* you canna see that?" Duncan's S. Country Weaver, p. 48.

It often signifies, rendered stupid from too intense thought, or musing too long on one subject. Gall., *id.* Allied, perhaps, to Teut. *moede*, lassus, defessus, *moed-en*, *mued-en*, fatigare, molestare, inquietare. Isl. *modur*, defatigatus, Alem. *muoder*, *id.*

"One whose intellects are rendered useless, by being in the habit of taking spirituous liquors to excess, is said to be *moidert*." Gall. Encycl.

According to this explanation, it might elaim affinity with C. B. *muyd-wr*, a soaker, from *muyd-aw*, to moisten, to steep.

A. Bor. *moider*, bears a general sense perfectly analogous. "To puzzle, perplex. North." Grose. *Moytherd* is expl. "Confounded, tired out. Gloue." *id.*

To MOIF, *v. a.* To move.

*Moi*f the net, said he than,  
Gyf thou be ane gentyl man.  
*Doug. Virgil*, Prel. 239, a. 31.

MOIKEN, *s.* Spignel, Athamanta meum, Perth.

"The athamanta meum (spignel) here called *moiken* or *muilcionn*, grows in—the forest of Clunie." Stat. Acc. P. Clunie, ix. 238.

Its proper Gael. name is *muilcionn*; Lightfoot, i. 157.

MOIL, *s.* Hard and constant labour, S.

'Twas then a bardie to his labour gade,  
Whose daily *moil* at some gay distance lay;  
And as he dander'd o'er the frozen glade,  
He mark'd the features of a winter day.

A. *Scott's Poems*, p. 25.

The *v.* is used in E., but not the noun. Johns, gives Fr. *mouill-er*, to wet, to moisten, as the origin. But it seems rather allied to Sw. *mol-a*, laborare duriter; Seren.

[MOINBŪ, *s.* An invitation to a funeral, transmitted as the fiery cross was of old, Shetl.]

MOIST-BALL. A ball for holding musk.

"Item, twa tuthpikis of gold, with a chenye, a perl & erepike, a *moist ball* of gold," &c. Inventories, A. 1488, p. 5. V. MUIST.

[The *Moist-Ball*, called also *Muste-Ball*, and *Hinger of Moist*, was a pomander or filagree ball containing perfume, worn suspended from the neck or girdle.]

To MOISTIFY, *v. a.* To moisten, Gl. Shirr.; a low word, generally used, in a ludicrous sense, in regard to toppers, S.

[MOIT, *s.* A mote, Lyndsay, The Dreame, l. 625.]

To MOKRE, *v. a.* To hoard. V. MOCHRE.

MOLD, *s.* The ground, E. *mould*. V. MULDE.

MOLE, MOOL, *s.* A promontory, a cape; apparently the same with S. *Mull*.

Thai raysyt saile, and furth thai far,  
And by the *mole* thai passyt yar,  
And entryt sone in to the rase.

*Barbour*, iii. 696, MS.

V. MULL and RAISS.

[MOLEST, *part. pa.* Injured, Lyndsay, Thrie Estaitis, l. 1472.]

[MOLICK, *s.* A "bocht" of fishing-lines, measuring 40 to 50 fathoms, Shetl.]

MOLLACHON, *s.* A small cheese, Stirrings. Gael. *mulachan*, a cheese, Shaw.

MOLLAN, *s.* "A long straight pole, such as fishermen use at their fish-yards;" Gall. Encycl.

*Mol* must have denoted a beam in Gael.; for *mol muiluin* is "the beam that sets a mill in motion;" Shaw.

MOLLAT, MOLLET, *s.* 1. The bit of a bridle.

Thair nicht na *mollat* mak me moy, nor hald my  
meuth in.

*Dunbar, Mailland Poems*, p. 57.

V. MOY.

2. According to Rudd., the boss or ornament of a bridle.

Thare harnessing of gold richt derely dicht,  
Thay rang the goldin *mollettis* burnist brycht.

*Doug. Virgil*, 215, 27.

Rudd. refers to Fr. *moulette*, the rowel of a spur; or *mullet*, a term in heraldry for a star of five points. V. next word.

MOLLET-BRYDYL, *s.* A bridle having a curb.

"Sone efter Makbeth come to vesy hys castell, & becaus he fand not Makdud present at the werk, he

said ; This man wyl not obey my chargis, quhill he be riddin with ane mollet brydyll." Bellend. Cron., B. xii. c. 6. Nisi lupato in os injecto, Boeth.

Perhaps mollet may have been formed from Teut. *muyll*, Germ. *maul*, Su.-G. *mul*, the mouth ; especially as Teut. *muyll-band* signifies a headstall for a horse, a muzzle, and Sw. *munde-stycke*, q. something that pricks the mouth, has precisely the same meaning with the S. term. Seren. uses the very word employed by Boece, *lupatum*. Isl. *mel*, Su.-G. *myl*, however, denote a bridle, a curb ; *fraenum*, Verel.

To MOLLET, *v. n.* [To amble, to ride.]

Gif thay thair spirituall office gydit,  
Ilk man nicht say, thay did thair partis :  
Bot gif thay can play at the cartis,  
And mollet moylie on ane mule,  
Thocht thay had neuer sene the seule ;  
Yit at this day, als well as than,  
Will be maid sic ane spirituall man.

*Lyndsay's Warkis*, 1593, p. 270.

[ " Ride softly on a mule," Chalmers.]

This verb, evidently used for the alliteration, refers to the management of a mule in riding. But the precise signification is doubtful. It is most probably formed from [*moll*, to ride, pron. *mov*, still in use, but in a bad sense, *future*: hence *moll*, a whore.]

MOLLETS, *s. pl.* 1. Fantastic airs, Roxb.  
2. Sly winks, *ibid.*

This might almost seem to be q. *mollets*, from *Now*, an antic gesture, and *Laits*, manners, q. v. It may, however, be allied to Fr. *mollet*, delicate, effeminate ; *mollete*, delicacy, effeminacy.

MOLLIGRANT, *s.* 1. The act of whining, complaining, or murmuring, Ang.

Isl. *mogl*, refragantium obmurmuratio. *Muli* signifies cloudy, gloomy. *Nokot litit mulin* : Vultu tristi et nubilo ; Verel. Perhaps the last syllable is from E. *grunt*, Sw. *grymt-a*, id.

Isl. *mogl-a*, to murmur, *mogl-a*, murmur, and *grawn*, os et nasus, q. such whining as distorts the countenance ; or, as including two ideas nearly connected, *grannia*, murmuring, and grunting. Teut. *muylen*, mutire, mussitare ; *muyler*, mussitator.

MOLLIGRUBS, MULLYGRUBS, *s. pl.* 1. Melancholy ; nearly the same with *Molligrant*, S.

[2. Pains in the bowels, colic, Clydes.]

Poor Mouldy rins quite by himsel,  
And bans like ane broke loose frae hell.  
It lulls a wee my mullygrubs,  
To think upon these bitten scrubs,  
When naething saves their vital bow,  
But the expences of a tow.

*Ramsay's Poems*, i. 333.

"To be in his grubs or mully grubs," expl. by Seren. as signifying to be melancholy. *Grub* primarily denotes a worm or maggot ; hence transferred to the imagination or humour.

Johnson renders E. *mulligrubs*, "the twisting of the guts."

"Sick of the mulligrubs ; low-spirited, having an imaginary sickness ;" Grose's Class. Dict.

Germ. *grob*, signifying great ; this might denote a great complaint or murmuring.

MOLL-ON-THE-COALS, *s.* A gloomy-minded person, Ayr.

"As for our Meg, thy mother, she was ay one of your Moll-on-the-coals, a sigher of sadness, and I'm

none surprised to see her in the hypondoricals." The Entail, iii. 76.

This is merely a silly play on the E. word *melancholy*.

To MOLLUP, MOLLOP, *v. n.* To toss the head in a haughty or disdainful way, Teviotd.

"Miss Peggy ! Snuffs o' tobacco ! Meg's good enough.—I'm nane o' your molloping, precise flagaries, that want to be miss'd, an' beckett, an' booted to." Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 161.

The term seems to be borrowed from a troublesome or unmanageable horse, who is still tossing up his head. Teut. *muyll*, the mouth, also a halter, or bit, and *op*, up ; *muylen*, proboscidem extendere ; *muylen op iemand-en*, simulates habere cum aliquo.

MOLOSS, *adj.* Loose, dissolute in conduct, Ayr.

This, I suspect, is the same with *Molash'd*, a low word used in the West of S., signifying that one is intoxicated, from E. *mollases*.

MOLUCCA NUT. Used as a charm in the Western Islands.

"There is variety of nuts called *Molluka*, some of which are used as amulets against witchcraft, or an evil eye, particularly the white one : and upon this account they are wore about children's necks, and if any evil is intended to them, they say the nut changes into a black colour. That they did change colour I found true by my own observation, but cannot be positive as to the cause of it.

"Malcom Campbell, Steward of Harries, told me, that some weeks before my arrival there, all his cows gave blood instead of milk, for several days together : one of the neighbours told his wife that this must be witchcraft, and it would be easy to remove it, if she would but take the white nut, called the Virgin Mary's nut, and lay it in the pail into which she was to milk the cows.—Having milk'd one cow into the pail with the nut in it, the milk was all blood, and the nut chang'd its colour into dark brown : she us'd the nut again, and all the cows gave pure good milk, which they ascribe to the virtue of the nut." Martin's West. Isl., p. 33, 39. V. CROSPUNK.

\* MOMENT, *s.* A second of time, S.

MOMENT-HAND, *s.* The hand of a clock or watch which marks the seconds, S.

MON, MONE, MUN, MAUN, *aux. v.* Must.

Fast folow ws than sall thai,  
And sone swa mone thai brek aray.

*Wynntown*, viii. 38, 148.

Sun tyme the text *mon* haue ane exposicioun,  
Sun tyme the coloure will cause ane litill additioun.

*Doug. Virgil*, 9, 29.

The force of this verb is well expressed in the following lines :—

— " You *maun* gang wi' me, fair maid."  
" To marry you, Sir, I'se warrand ;  
" But *maun* belongs to the king himsel,  
" But no to a country clown ;  
" Ye might have said, ' Wi' your leave, fair maid,'  
" And latten your *maun* alane."

*Jamieson's Popul. Ball.*, i. 327.

*Moun* is used by Wiclif, and *mun* by Minot.

"As long tyme as thei han the spouse with hem thei *moun* not faste." Mark 2.

Bot all thaire wordes was for nocht,

Thai *mun* be met if thai war ma.

*Minot's Poems*, p. 3.

*Maun*, S.; *mun*, Cumb. Yorks. Isl. *mun*, *munu*, id. *Eg mun giora*, facturus sum; *Fra qwinno ok barn the ganga mona*; Uxores et liberos relinquunt; *Fra wives and bairns they mun gang*, S. Runolph, Jonas observes, in his Isl. Grammar, that *eg skal* and *eg mun* are auxiliary verbs, which signify nothing by themselves; but, added to other verbs, correspond to Gr. *μελλειν*. It may be remarked, however, than *mun*, S. and A. Bor., is more forcible than the Isl. term. The latter respects the certainty of something future; the former denotes not only its futurity, but necessity.

Its traces this word to Moes.-G. *And thata munaida thairhgangan*; He was to pass that way, Luke, xix. 4. *Δι' εκεινης ημελλε διερχεσθαι*; Gr. *Munaida*, however, is from *mun-an*, *mun-jan*, to think, to mean.

**MOND, s.** The technical or heraldic term used to denote the globe that surmounts an imperial crown.

"Our crown of Scotland, since King James the Sixth went to England, has been ignorantly represented by herald painters, engravers, and other tradesmen, after the form of the crown of England with crosses patee, whereas there is not one, but that which tops the *mond*, but all crosses floree, such as we see on our old coins, and these which top our old churches." Inventories, p. 337.

"The imperial *mond*, or globe, though an ensign of sovereignty, as well as the imperial crown, is carried as an armorial distinguishing figure by Lamont, or Lamond, of that ilk, as relative to the name." Nisbet's Heraldry, i. 418.

Fr. *monde*, the world, the universe. Terme de Blason se dit d'une boule, ou representation du monde, &c. Dict. Trev.

**To MONE, v. a.** To take notice of, to animadvert upon, to have remembrance.

Bot othyr dedis nane war done,  
That gretly is apou to *mon*.

*Barbour*, xix. 526, MS.

A.-S. *mon-ian*, *man-ian*, *myn egian*, notare, animadvertere, Lye; to cite, Somn. Su.-G. *mon-a*, to remember. [Isl. *muna*, id.]

**MONE, s.** Money; Aberd. Reg.

**MONE, s.** Mane.

Out throw the wood came rydand catiues twans,  
Ane on ans asse, a widdie about his *mon*.

The vther rsid sne hiddeous hors vpone.

*Pallice of Honour*, i. 12, Ed. 1579.

Not used *rhythmi causa*, as I at first supposed; but evidently allied to Isl. *moen*, juba equina.

[**MONE, s.** A moan; lamentation, wailing, grief; as, "I'se no mak *mon* for him," Clydes.]

[**To MONE, v. a. and n.** To moan; to bewail, lament, grieve for or over one, *ibid.*]

**MONE, s.** The moon; *meen*, Aberd., *monen*, Shetl.

—Fyr all eler  
Syne throw the thak burd gan apper,  
First as a sterne, syne as a *mon*.

*Barbour*, iv. 127, MS.

Be than the army of mony ane Greigioun,  
Stuffit in schippis come fra Tenedoun;  
Still vnder freyndlie silence of the *Mon*,  
To the kend coistis speding thame full sone.

*Doug. Virgil*, 47, 23.

In O. E. the orthography was the same. "*Mone*, Luna." Prompt. Parv.

In Aberd. and other northern counties, the pronunciation is *meen*, also in some parts of Perth.

—It tells a' the motion o'  
The sin, *meen*, and sev'n starns.

*Poems in the Buchan Dialect*, p. 29.

A.-S. *mona*, Germ. *mon*. In the other Northern dialects, *a* or *e* is used instead of *o*. Isl. *muna*, Alem. *mano*, Su.-G., Dan. *manne*, Belg. *maen*, Moes.-G. *mena*. The latter approaches most nearly to a word used by the prophet Isaiah, which has been understood by the most learned interpreters as denoting the moon. "Ye are they that prepare a table for *Gad*, and that furnish the offering unto *Meni*." Isa. lxx. 11. As *Gad* is understood of the *Sun*, we learn from Diodor. Sicul. that *Meni* is to be viewed as a designation of the *moon*. This name coming from a root which signifies to number, it has been supposed that it was given to the moon, because the nations in general numbered their months from her revolutions. The moon was anciently called *Μηνη*, *Mene*, before she received the name of *Σεληνη*, *Selene*. This name of the moon, according to Eusebius, occurs in the Poems of Orpheus. The Latins had their goddess *Manu*. Some nations made the moon a masculine deity, calling him *Μην*, as the Roman writers spoke of *Deus Lunus*; for the moon, it has been said, was viewed as of the masculine gender in respect of the Earth, whose husband he was supposed to be; but as a female in relation to the Sun, as being his spouse. Vide Vitring. in Isa. lxx. 11, El. Sched. de Dis Germ., p. 136.

As nothing could be more absurd than to ascribe sex to Deity, the folly of the system of the heathen appears, in a striking light, from the great confusion of their mythology in this respect. The Sun himself was sometimes considered as a Goddess. In A.-S. the name of this luminary is feminine, as Spelman, Hickes, and Lye have observed; for the Germans viewed the sun as the wife of *Tuisco*. On the other hand, *Mona*, the word used to denote the Moon, is masculine. Ulphilas, in his version, sometimes gives the sun a masculine name, *Uil*; although *Sunno*, a word of the feminine gender, is most commonly used.

It had occurred to me, that A.-S. *mona* bears strong marks of affinity to the *v. mon-ian*, *monere*, to admonish, to instruct; and that the name might originate from some Goth *v.* of this signification; *q.* that which admonishes the husbandman as to times and seasons. Upon looking into Wachter, I find that he derives the Goth. name of his luminary from *man-a*, *monere*, as the ancient Germans would undertake nothing of importance without examining the state of the moon. The ancient Goths, says Rudbeck, paid such regard to the moon, that some have thought that they worshipped her more than the sun. *Atalantis*, ii. 609.

Prognostications concerning the weather, during the course of the month, are generally formed by the country people in S. from the appearance of the *new moon*. It is considered as an almost infallible presage of bad weather, if she *lies sair on her back*, or when her horns are pointed towards the zenith. It is a similar prognostic, when the new moon appears *with the auld moon in her arms*, or, in other words, when that part of the moon which is covered with the shadow of the earth is seen through it.

A *brugh* or hazy circle round the moon is accounted a certain prognostic of rain. If the circle be wide, and at some distance from the body of that luminary, it is believed that the rain will be delayed for some time; if it be close, and as it were adhering to the disk of the moon, rain is expected very soon. In Renfrews., however, as I am informed, the idea is inverted. V. BRUGH.

There is the same superstition with regard to the