

## N.

**NAB, s.** V. DICT. Add to s. 2, 'a point, projection, promontory'; West of S.

**NACHT.** For *ne acht*, ought not, was not bound or called upon.

Quha wan the feild, or greitest Campioun,  
Or was Victour, I *nacht* decerne that thing.

*Rolland, Court of Venus*, iv. 606, S.T.S.

"I *nacht* decerne," I was not called upon to decide.  
Omitted in Gloss.

**NACKET, s.** An impertinent, mischievous, or wicked child: applied also to a precocious child; South and West of S., and in first sense in Orkn. V. NACHET.

**NADE, NAD.** Had not: for *ne had*.

**NAELSTRING, s.** The navel-string, umbilical cord; South and West of S.

A.-S. *nafela*, navel, and *strenge*, a cord: Du. *navel*, Dan. *navle*, Sw. *navle*.

**NAESLIN, part. and adj.** Fitting into each other, well matched; working or pulling well together, as in double harness; Orkn.

Prob. the local pron. of *nestling*, sitting or fitting closely to each other like young birds in a nest.

**NAFE, NAF.** Have not: for *ne have*.

To **NAG, NEG, v. a.** To bite, snap, indent or mark with the teeth, seize smartly; also, to nick, notch, or hack with a sharp instrument. In the latter sense, syn. *hag*. South and West of S. Addit. to **NAG**, q. v.

To **NAG, NEG, v. n.** To be peevish, querulous, or sarcastic, to keep on grumbling, to repeat an action with irritating frequency. Addit. to **NAG**, q. v.

**NAG, s.** Bite, snap; nick, hack, notch, or indentation made with a sharp instrument; a snappish answer or retort.

To **NAGGLE, v. a. and n.** To gnaw; to keep on scolding or rating, to quarrel or continue an angry altercation, to be constantly fault-finding.

**NAGGY, NAGGLY, adj.** Touchy, fretful, sarcastic, quarrelsome, ill-natured: a person of such disposition is said to be "as *naggy* as a thorn-stick."

*Nag* and its derivatives are used in most of these senses in various parts of the North of E. V. Brockett, Peacock.

Sw. *nagga*, to nibble, peck; Dan. *nage*, to gnaw.

**NAGUS, s.** V. DICT.

The etym. suggested for this word, *Negus*, or *Old Nick*, is ridiculous. Connection with the latter is certainly not warranted by the context; and with the former is simply impossible; for, the drink called *negus* was invented by a Colonel Negus in the reign of Queen Anne, or about 200 years after Dunbar's death.

**NAIF, NEIF, NEYF, s.** Lit. a native; a serf, servant; a kindly tenant.

"It is not improbable that the *neyf* or serf by descent—*nativus de stipite*—was distinguished from the bond-labourer, but we cannot tell to what extent, or in what manner." Innes, *Legal Antiquities*, p. 50.

"— . . . *cum nativis*—that is, with natives or *neyfs*, whose name, both here and in England, points to their being regarded as the remains of the native population obliged by the invaders to become serfs." *Ibid.*, p. 50-51.

Of this servile race there were two classes, the *neyf in gross*—that is the out-and-out slave, who could be bought and sold like a horse or an ox, and the *neyf regardant*,—or slave astricted to a certain land, who could not be moved at the mere will of the lord even to another estate. But long after the term *naif* had ceased to represent this subject race, and to imply a degree of bondage, it still carried with it the idea of service, and continued to be used as the appropriate name of a menial and help.

**NAIFSHIP, NEIFSHIP, NEYFSHIP, s.** State, condition, or service of a serf. V. **KNAVE-SHIP**.

**NAIL.** *Down on the nail*, promptly paid, paid in money, ready money.

**NAIL, NALE, NAL, NALL, s.** A weight of 7 lbs., used for wool; Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, I., 416, Halyburton's Ledger, p. 14, 43.

The form *nall* is found only in Halyburton's Ledger, and is improper. Indeed, the spelling found in that work is very misleading.

In Halliwell's Dict. the *nail* is represented as a weight of 8 lbs. used for articles of food.

**NAIMCOUTH, adj.** V. **NAMEKOUTH**.

**NAIT, s.** Use, occasion, purpose; other forms are *Nate*, *Nayt*, *Note*. Errat. in **DICT**.

The def. and etym. given by Jamieson are misleading. No doubt he wrote *need* in the common Scot. sense of *use, purpose*; but this is a mistake. And this led him into the other mistake of relating *nait* with Icel. *naud*, *need*, whereas it is from Icel. *neyti*, use, from *neyta*, to use. Besides, *naud* is the Norse form for *need*; it is *nauth* in Icel.

**NAIT, NATE, adj.** Neat, trim; also, deft, skilful, as in "*nait handis*," Douglas, *Virgil*, xii., ch. 7. Fr. *net*.

NAITRAL, *adj.* Natural, illegitimate. E. *natural*.

NAITRAL, *s.* A person of weak intellect, a silly person, a simpleton: E. *natural*.

*Naitral*, illegitimate, must be of comparatively modern use: for *natural*, which is really the same word, has almost invariably the meaning of *lawful*, legitimate. V. NATURAL.

NAKIT, *s.* Nakedness.

For this dispyt, quhen he was deid, anone  
Was dampnyt in the flud of Acherone  
Till suffer hungir, thirst, *nakit*, and cald.  
*Henryson, Orph. and Eur.*, l. 529, Bann. MS.

NAL, NALL, *s.* A nale or nail; a weight of 7 lbs., used for wool; Halyburton's Ledger, p. 14, 43, Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, I. 416, Sp. C.

NALD, NADE. Would not: for *ne wald, ne wad*. V. NOLD.

NAMED, *adj.* Edged, bordered, hemmed; Burgh Recs. Glasgow, II. 297, Rec. Soc.

NANE, *s.* No one, nobody, nothing.

The mitherless bairnie creeps to his lane bed,  
*Nane* covers his cauld back or haps his bare head.  
*Will. Thom, The Mitherless Bairn.*  
Is *nane* sa gude as leif of and mak na mair stryffe.  
*Rauf Coilzear*, l. 172.

Is *nane* sa gude as drink and gang to our bed.  
*Ibid.*, l. 261.

"*Is nane*," there is nothing.

NANES, NANIS, NANYS, NONIS, NONES, *s.* Nonce: "for the *nanes*," properly, *for-then anes*, for the once, i.e., occasion or present. Errat. in DICT.

Jamieson's definition and explanation of this term and phrase are altogether wrong. The whole entry must be deleted.

As explained by Sir F. Madden in his Gloss. to Sir Gawayne, the phrase, "*for the nanes*," is simply the A.-S. *for tham anes*, later, *for them anes*, written *for the nanes*. The *then* standing for *tham*, dat. of the def. article, and the adv. *anes* being used as a noun. This explanation, however, was first proposed by Price in his notes to Warton, II., 496.

NAPKIN, *s.* V. DICT.

Only in the last sentence of the note is there even an approach to the correct etym. In M. E. this word was written *napekin* and *napel*, dimin. forms of O. Fr. *nape*, a cloth, from which also have come *naprie* and *napron*.

NAPLE, *s.* An apple.

Befoir his face ane *naple* hang also,  
Fast at his mouth vpoun a twynid [threid].  
*Henryson, Orph. and Eur.*, l. 282, Bann. MS.

NAP O' THE KNEE, *s.* Knee-pan; West of S.

NAPRE, *s.* Napery. V. NAIPRIE.

NAPRON, NAPRIN, NAPERON, *s.* An apron.

These forms represent the common pron. in West and South of S. Brockett gives the last form as common in North of England.

*Napron* is not a corr. of E. *apron*, but the correct form of which *apron* is a corr. It is from Fr. *naperon*, a large cloth, which is a deriv. from O. Fr. *nape*, a cloth (Fr. *nappe*), from L. Lat. *napa*, corr. of Lat. *mappa*, a napkin, cloth. See Apron in Skeat's Etym. Dict.

NARENT, ABBOT OF. The Abbot of Unreason, a merry-making at the bringing in of summer, similar to that of Robin Hood and Little John; Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, I. 176, Rec. Soc.

For particulars regarding these summer games, see Brand's Pop. Antiq., pp. 144-6, ed. 1877.

NASH, NAISH, NESH, NESCH, *adj.* Tender, delicate, fragile, slim.

A.-S. *hnæsce*, *hnesce*, soft, tender: M. E. *nesh*.

NASK, *s.* V. DICT.

This term is of Celtic origin; evidently from Gael. *nasg*, *naishg*, to bind, make fast; M'Leod and Dewar.

TO NATE, NAIT, *v. a.* Forms of Note, to use, etc., q. v. Errat. in DICT.

So also regarding Nate, Nait, *s.* V. Note, and Nait. These mistakes are due to Jamieson's misuse of *need* for *use*, which is a very common error in Scot. still.

NATRIE, *adj.* V. DICT.

Del. the note in this entry, and see the explanation given under Natterin, and Natter.

TO NATTER, *v. n.* V. DICT.

A simpler and more direct etym. for this term is O. Norse *gnaddr*, to grumble, growl, a freq. of *gnadda*, Norse *gnadra*, Dan. *gnaddre*; all of which are from O. Norse *gnadd*, a grumbling. V. FRITZNER, AASEN, and CLEASBY.

TO NATTLE, *v. a.* V. DICT.

This is simply a doublet of *Natter*, regarding which see the note above.

NAUCHTIE, *adj.* V. [NOUCHTIE].

NAUST, *s.* V. NOUST.

*Noust*, which Jamieson obtained from Edmondston's Gloss. of the Shetl. and Orkn. Dialect, does not correctly represent the pron. of this term. It should be written, as it is still pron., in its old Icelandic form, *naust*. V. Dasent's Burnt Njal, p. cxviii.

The *naust* is a slip either natural or artificial into which a boat is drawn up for protection: a *nouster*, is a common landing place for boats: see Arcadian Sketch Book, Gloss.

NAY-SAY, *s.* A refusal, denial: as, "He winna tak a *nay-say*."

Common in North of E. also. V. Brockett's Gloss.

NAYTED, *part. pt.* Noted, celebrated. V. NATE, NOTE.

NEB, *s.* 1. The face, countenance; as, "I dinna like his looks: he has a gae dour *neb*."

A.-S. *neb*, face. And in the Ancren Riwle, p. 90, we find "ostende mihi faciem" (Song of Sol. ii. 14), rendered by "schaue thi *neb* to me.



2. End, termination; mouth, as of a river; as, "the water-*neb*," the river mouth.

Elderly people in Paisley and Renfrew generally call the mouth of the Cart, and the lands near the junction of the Cart and the Clyde, the *water-neb*, the *wattir-neb*. Addit. to *NEB*, q. v.

To *NECH*, *NEGH*, *NYCH* (gutt.), *v. a.* To tend to or towards, belong to, concern, fall to one by right or duty: pret. *nycht*, *nyght*, *Houlate*, l. 47. Addit. to *NEICH*.

Syne to the samyn forsuith thair assent haile,  
That sen it *necht* Natur, thar alleris maistris,  
Thair couth nocht trete but entent of the Temperale.  
*Houlate*, l. 276, Asloan MS.

In Bann. MS. *nychlit*, which is probably a mistake of the scribe for *nychit*, intended to be written *nychtit*, according to the practice of the 16th cent. of writing *t* after *ch* and *th*, as in *wiht*, *nychtbour*, &c. There are various similar mistakes in this version.

*NEDDIRMAIR*, *NEDDIRMAIST*. *V.* *NETHIRMARE*.

*NEDDY*, *NED*, *s.* A name for a donkey: "a tinkler's *neddy*," W. Watson's Poems, p. 100.

This term is common in London, and in various parts of Eng. as well.

*NEED*, *s.* This word is frequently used in Scot. in the sense of use, occasion, purpose; as, "I don't *need* it," i.e., I don't use it, or I have no use for it; "There is no *need* for it," i.e., no occasion for it; "To serve my present *need*," i.e., my present purpose. Various mistakes in the *Dict.* may be traced to the misuse of *need* for use. *V.* under *Nait*, *Nate*.

*NEET*, *s.* An egg of a louse, a louse. Addit. to *NEET*, q. v.

A.-S. *hnitu*, a nit; Du. *neet*, Sw. *gnet*, Dan. *gnid*, M. E. *nite*.

To *NEG*, *v. n.* A form of *NAG*, q. v.

*NEIF*, *NEYF*, *s.* A serf, servant. *V.* *Naif*.

*NEIFSHIP*, *NEYFSHIP*, *s.* *V.* *Naifship*.

*NEIFTY*, *NEYFTY*, *s.* Condition of a serf; also, the service exacted from a serf; Old Glasgow, p. 49.

To *NEIS*, *NEYS*, *v. n.* *V.* *NEESE*.

*NEKED*, *NEKID*, *s.* Nothing, next to nothing. Lat. *nequid*.

*NEK-HERING*, *s.* The largest and finest herring, picked fish, that are placed in the neck or top-layers of the barrel to catch purchasers.

Than with ane schout thus can the Cadgear say,  
"Abye, and thow ane *Nek-hering* sall haif,  
Is worth my capill, creillis, and all the laif."  
"Bot quhat wes yone the carll cryit on hie—"

"Schir," said the Foxe, "that I can tell trowlie:  
He said the *Nek-hering* wes in the creill."

"Kennis thow that hering?" "Yes, Schir, I ken it weil:  
And at the creill mouth I had it thryis but dout;  
The wecht of it neir tit my tuskis out."  
*Henryson*, *The Wolf, Fox, and Cadgear*, ll. 139, 165.

To *NEM*, *NEME*, *v. a.* To seize. *V.* *NAM*.

*NENT*, *NENST*, *NENS*, *prep.* Towards, against, opposite; as, "Turnin' *nent* the east." Short for *ANENT*, q. v.

To *NERE*, *v.* To come near, approach, gain upon, come up with.

Bot than the swipir Tuscan hund assais  
And *nerys* fast, ay redly hym to hynt.  
*Douglas*, *Virgil*, xii. ch. 12.

*NERES*, *NERIS*, *s. pl.* *V.* *NEIRS*.

*NERECRESS*, *NEIRCRESIS*, *s.* The fat about the kidneys.

"That na fleschour tak oute of ony mutoune the neris or the *nerecress* [quhyl] the feest of Mychelmess." Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, 4 June, 1444, Sp. C.

This regulation was enforced during the summer months in all the larger burghs; mutton being then in poor condition. An order to the same effect and in almost the same words is found in the Stirling Recs., of 25th May, 1526.

The Spalding Club vol. prints "*fra* the feest;" but this is evidently a mistake; even the date of the statute shows that *quhyl* i.e., until, is required.

Icel. *nyra*, Dan. *nyre*, Sw. *njure*, a kidney; and Fr. *graisse*, grease or fat.

*NERVIT*, *NERUIT*, *adj.* Ribbed, shot, threaded; "*neruit* with gold," Douglas, *Palice of Honour*, Pt. I. st. 47.

*NESH*, *adj.* Soft, tender. *V.* *Nash*.

*NESTLING*, *NESTLIN*, *NESSLIN*, *s.* The smallest bird of the nest, the weakling.

To *NETHER*, *NETTER*, *NEDDER*, *NITHER*, *NYTHER*, *v. a.* and *n.* To gnarl, shrivel; *Houlate*, l. 57, Asloan MS., Bann. MS. Addit. to *NIDDER*, q. v.

*NETHERHOLE*, *NETHERHOLL*, *s.* The blackhole, or lowest vault of a prison.

"Item, that na maner of persouns be fund walkand on the gait fra x houris furth of the nycht, vnder the payne of putting in the *netherhole* incontinent, exceptand folkis of honesty passand their leifull airands, and at thair haif bowetts or candillis within thair [hands] in taikin thairof." Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, 1498, l. 75, Rec. Soc.

*NETHIRMARE*, *NEDDIRMAIR*, *adj.* and *adv.* Lower, still lower, farther downward.

The dog slepit and fell unto the ground,  
And Orpheus attour his wame in stall.  
And *nethirmare* he went as ye heir sall.  
*Henryson*, *Orph. and Eur.*, l. 260, Laing's ed.

The term occurs in l. 345. In both cases the Bann. MS. reads *neddirmair*.

*NETHIRMEST*, *NEDDIRMAIST*, *NEDDIRMAST*, *adj.* Lowest; generally used as an empha-

tic or intensive form; as, "Theefs sall be put in the *neddirmaist* hole."

*Nethirmare* is a double compar., and *nethirmest* a double super. used, like all such forms, to mark emphasis.

A.-S. *neothera*, *neothra*, nether: with suffix *māra*, greater, *mæst*, most.

NEVE, NEUE, s. Fist. V. NEIVE.

To NEVEL, NEVELL, v. a. V. DICT.

Del. the note under s. 1: the statement is wrong.

NEWLINGIS, NEWLINS, *adv.* Anew, over again. Addit. to NEWLINGIS, q. v.

"... and thairfore desyrit the samyne *newlingis* againe to be granted for the honour and lovage of Godis service at thair altar of Sant Cubart." Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, I. 214, Rec. Soc.

NEWRDAY, NEWRSDAY, s. New-Year's-Day.

NEWRGIFT, s. New-Year's-Day gift.

NEWRNEEN, NEWRNSEEN, s. New-Year's-Even, the evening of New-Year's-Day.

These terms are still common in the West of S.

NEYF, NEYFSHIP. V. *Naif*.

NICE, NYCE, NYSE, *adj.* Foolish, stupid, ignorant, dull, lazy: also tricky, as in Kingis Quair, st. 155. Addit. to NICE, q. v. V. *Nyce*.

Del. the note which follows Niceté, under this entry in DICT. *Nice* has nothing to do with *niais*, which Hailes and Pinkerton and Jamieson adopted as its etym. Fr. *niais*, is from the Ital. *nidiace*, fresh from the nest, hence, silly; and *nice* is M. E. *nice*, from O. *nice*, simple, lazy, which came from Lat. *nescius*, ignorant. V. Skeat's Etym. Dict.

To NICHT, NYCHT, v. n. To stop work for the day, cease from labour when day-light closes. Addit. to NICHT, q. v.

"... all the remanent of the yeir, quhen the day is schort, till entyr to his werk at day lycht in the morwyng, laif at half hour to twelf at none, and *nycht* at ewyn." Burgh Recs. Stirling, 26 Aug. 1529.

This is an extract from the engagement which the magistrates made with their master-mason, and which on certain conditions was to last "enduryng his lyfetye."

The term is still so used in various districts of Scot.

NICHTING-TIME, NYCHTIN-TIME, s. The time when out-door labour ceases during the winter season, i.e., when day-light closes.

NICHTBOUR, s. V. NYCHBOUR.

NICHTBOURHEID, NYCHTBOURHEID, s. Site or ground adjacent; Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, III. 224. Addit. to NYCHTBOURHEID, q. v.

NICHTBOURSCAPE, NYCHBURSCAPE, s. Neighbourship, neighbourliness, the rights

and duties of neighbours: similar to *Nyctbourheid*, q. v.: Burgh Recs. Prestwick, 12 Feb. 1480-1, Mait. C.

NICHTWALK, s. A night-wake or night-watch over a corpse; also called a *lichtwake*; Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, I. 131, Rec. Soc.

NICHTYRTALE, s. V. DICT.

Jamieson's explanation of the *yr* in this term is not satisfactory. A simpler and more direct explanation of the term is the following one by Prof. Skeat.

Icel. *náttarþel*, by night, in the night-time. Here the *ar* is the Icel. genitive: and so also in *caterwaul*, the *cater* is equal to Icel. *kattar*.

To NICK, v. a. To outwit, balk, trick, befool, deceive: also, to answer in a mocking or insulting manner. V. NECK, v.

NICK, s. An act of trickery or deceit; a retort, gibe, jeer.

Sw. *neka*, to deny: Dan. *negte*.

NIDDRIT, *part. pt.* V. NIDDER.

NID NODDIN. V. under NOD.

NIDDY NODDY, s. and *adv.* Nodding and shaking, like an old or palzied person: also, in the pl. a contemptuous name for assumed airs or fine manners.

To think you birxies o' the town,  
Wi' ruffel't sark and moostet crown,  
Play siccan tricks on countra bodies,  
Wha're tentless o' yer *niddy noddies*.

W. Watson's Poems, p. 32.

An' ere we're half gate wi' our life,  
Our head plays *niddy noddy*.

*Ibid.*, p. 38.

To NIE, NYE, v. a. To approach. V. NEYCH, NECH.

NIKKY, s. V. NICK.

NILD. Errat. for *culd*, *could*. V. DICT.

This is a mis-reading of Pinkerton's transcriber: the Maitland MS. has *culd*. See Small's ed. of Dunbar's Poems, p. 33, S. T. S.

NILE, s. Blue or green mould or fungus, as on cheese: *niled cheese*, moulded or mouldy cheese; Orkn.

NILL, NIL, NYL. For *ne will*, will not: *nill ye will ye*, whether you are unwilling or willing, without consulting you, in spite of you: "An' that I'll do, *nill ye will ye*."

Jamieson's explanation of this phrase is defective. Like the Lat. form "*nolens volens*" it has various applications.

A.-S. *nyllan*, to be unwilling: made up of *ne*, not, and *willan*, to will.

To NIM, NIME, NYME, v. 1. As a v. a., to take or pick up hastily; to steal. V. NAM.



2. As a *v. n.*, to walk quickly, trip along.

A.-S. *niman*, to take.

NINE, NINES, *s.* Perfection: to the *nines*, up to the *nines*, to perfection, to the uttermost, in the grandest style: West of S.

NINE-TAILS, NINE-TAIL'D-CAT, *s.* The hangman's lash.

NIR, NYR, *adj.* and *adv.* Near: comp. *nirar*, *nyrar*; sup. *nirrest*, *nyrast*; Houlate, l. 47, Asloan MS., Bann. MS. V. NER.

NIRLOCK, NURLOCK, *s.* A small hard lump or swelling, an induration on the skin: mostly on the feet or hands. Dimin. of NIRL, *q. v.*

To NITHER. V. DICT. Kidder is a misprint for Nidder.

To NIVE, KNIVE, *v. a.* To pinch, grip; to lay turf on the ridge of a house in order to grip and cover the ends of the thatch; Orkn.

"Weel, trowth, lam, thou'll sthune be richt aneuch. Leuk'st thoo there, Maigie, at that saxear (six-oared boat) comean frae the haaf fu' tae the wayles (gun-wales) o' ling and tosch. Na nicht I trive, Maigie, but I see a brow new hoos *nived* wi' poanes (cut turf), an' na less than twa marks o' laund." Rambling Sketches in the Far North, p. 93.

Dan. *knife*, to pinch, grip.

NO, NA, *adv.* Not: *no far*, not far, near. Addit. to NO, *q. v.*

There's *no* a lad in a' the lan'  
Was match for my John Highlandman.

Burns, *Jolly Beggars*.

We are *na* fou, we're *no* that fou,  
But just a drappie in our e'e.

*Ibid.*, *Willie Brew'd a Peck o' Mant*.

*No* and *na* are the usual forms of negation in Scot.: a peculiarity which Jamieson has not made plain, although he uses many quotations that illustrate it. *No* for *not* is common all over the country; but in Aberdeen, Banff, etc., *na* and *nae* prevail. In the Lowlands generally, while frequently used with verbs, it is invariably used with nouns, adjectives, and adverbs; but in the S. F. counties it is equally so used with verbs, e.g. I *no* think, I *no* ken. When the negation follows the verb the form *na* is used, and is frequently joined to it, e.g. I ken *na*, I *kenna*. With aux. verbs this combination is very common, e.g. *canna*, *manna*, *wadna*.

NOBUT, *adv.* Only, just, no more than: as, "I've *nobut* saxpence." V. [NA BUT].

When so used *nobut* has the sense of *nocht but*; and when it occurs at the beginning of a sentence, it has a conjunctive sense and represents *No!* however, as in, "*Nobut*, I canna do that." In this latter sense it is common in the North of E. V. Brockett's Gloss.

For explanation of *no* and *but* see Skeat's Etym. Dict.

No FAR, *adv.* Not far, near. V. *No*.

NODDER, NODDIR, NOUDIR, *conj.* Neither. V. NOUTHER.

To NOIT, *v. a.* To use, wear; part. pt. *noited*; "the book's sair *noitit*," i.e., much worn or marked through use: West of S. V. NOTE.

A.-S. *notian*, to use; Sw. *nöta*, to wear, to be worn.

NOK. "A *nok*," an oak: a form adopted in alliterative poetry.

My neb is netherit as a *nok*, I am bot ane Owle.

Houlate, l. 57.

NOLL, *s.* V. DICT.

This word represents simply E. *knoll*, and the meanings noted are all secondary. M. E. *knol*, and A.-S. *cnol*, a hillock, are most prob. of Celtic origin, from Welsh *cnol*, a knoll, hillock, a dimin. form of Celtic *cnoc*, a hill, which in Gaelic means hill, knoll, hillock, and in Irish a hillock, a turnip. In Scot. *now*, *nowe*, *knowe*, which represent the pron. of *knoll*, means a hillock, brae, rounded eminence, the head, crown of the head. Comparing these various meanings, the leading idea which they suggest is that of roundness, not mass or eminence; and this is confirmed by Dutch *knol*, a turnip, and Swed. *knöl*, a bump. Besides, the term *knock*, as used in the names of hills, is invariably applied to rounded eminences, and to such only.

NONE-METE, *s.* Dinner. V. NEEMIT.

NONES, NONIS, *s.* Nonse. V. *Nanes*.

To NOOL, NULE, *v. n.* To submit, bow, yield, fawn, cringe: commonly written *Knool*, *q. v.* V. NOLL, *v.*

To *Knool down* at marbles is to place the closed fist on the ground, and expose the knuckles to the *nags*. Another form of the phrase, which is common in Eng. as well, is to *knuckle down*. V. under NAG.

NOOLED, NOOL'D, NOOLT, NULED, *part.* and *adj.* Subdued, crushed, dispirited, henpecked: as, "He's a pair *nool'd* body."

Prob. only a var. of *knool*, *knoll*, *knull*, to knuckle, beat with the fists, expressing the purpose of, and end gained by, the operation.

NOOL-KNEE, *adj.* V. *Nule-Kneed*.

NOONSHANKS, NONESHANKIS, NONE-SHANKIS, NUINSCHANKIS, NUMSCHANKIS, *s.* Afternoon repast; also the time allowed for it. Frequently called *four-hours*. Addit. to NOYN-SANKIS, *q. v.*

This repast was called *four-hours* from the time at which it was taken; and workmen were allowed half an hour for it. In some districts, however, as the following extract shows, *noonshanks* began at 3.30 p.m.

"The said Jhon haiffand ilk werk day ane half hour afor nyne houris afor none to his disjone, and ane othir half hour afor four houris eftyr none to his *nunshankis*." Burgh Recs. Stirling, 26 Aug., 1529.

Such was the arrangement with the master-mason of Stirling so long as he could commence work "ilk day in the morwyng at five houris;" but during the season of shorter days he had no *noonshanks*, and only a short meal-time at mid-day. So also was it with the master-mason of Dundee a few years later; for his engagement, dated 1536, distinctly states that in winter

he was to have "na tyme of licence of dennar nor noneshankis causs of the shortnes of the dais." Memorials of Angus and Mearns, I. 298.

*Noonshanks* was originally a *noon-drink*; for we are told that in certain cases labourers were allowed *none-mete*, i.e., noon-eating, and *none-schenche*, i.e. noon-drinking: *schenche* being a *s.* from M. E. *schenzen*, to pour out or distribute drink. (See *Nunmete* in Prompt. Parv., and Way's note on it.) And in certain circumstances this allowance of an *afternoon drink* is still kept up.

A.-S. *scencan*, to pour out drink, from which came M. E. *skenzen*, *schenken*, or *schenzen*; and from the latter form came *schenche* in *none-schenche*, which in Scot. became *noonshanks*, and in E. *nunchion*. V. Skeat's Etym. Dict.

**NOOT, s.** A shinty ball. V. *Note*.

Also called a *nacket*, that which is naked or knocked. Properly, however, the *noot* is a ball of hard wood turned and fitted for the game; and a *nacket* is a piece of wood, bone, or stone, used by players who have not a *noot*.

**NORTIR, NORTER, adj.** Northern. V. under **NORTH**.

**NOSE-ON-THE-GRUNSTANE.** A simile expressive of the hard grinding of poverty, of the result of improvidence, and of a lazy person compelled to work.

In the second sense the phrase is common in the North of E. V. Brocket's Gloss.

**NOT, s.** Naught, nothing; Court of Venus, ii. 973, 975, S.T.S. A form of **NOCHT**, q. v.

Prob. written *not* in MS.

**NOTE, NOT, NOTT, NOOT, s.** A knot, knob, ball; head, point, conclusion; also, a tool or weapon: hence, *to the note*, to the head or point, to the hammer, axe, etc.: cf. *neb*. V. **NOTE**.

Icel. *knútr*, a knot; Sw. *knut*; Dan. *knude*; A.-S. *cnotta*; Du. *knot*; Cf. Lat. *nodus*; Fr. *neud*.

**NOTIR, adj.** Known. V. **NOTOUR**.

**NOTOURLIE, NOTERLIE, NOTIRLIE, adv.** Well or widely known, publicly, notoriously; Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, I. 113, Douglas, IV. 94-4, ed. Small. V. **NOTOUR**.

**NOUMBLES, NOMBLES, NOWMYLLIS, s. pl.** The heart, spleen, lungs, and liver of an animal: "*nowmelys* of a beest," Prompt. Parv., q. v.

"... and at the sellaris thairof [i.e., of flesh-meat] be honestlie habilleit according to thair facultie with honest apronis convenient thairfore, and at thair sell nocht oppinly in the merkat thair nolt heids, *nowmyllis*, nor interallis of thair flesche bot quyetlie in private places." Burgh Recs. Edinburgh, I. 114, Rec. Soc.

This extract shows that the term is not limited to the entrails of a deer, as is sometimes stated. It has not yet passed out of use in the West of S., and may occasionally be heard on winter market-days when farmers' wives are bargaining with the butcher for the

materials to furnish a good haggis: a sheep's bag and *nombles* being principal elements thereof.

L. Lat. *numbile*, *numble*: O. Fr. *nombles*, the numbles, which Elyot defines, "as the hart, the splene, the lunges, and lyuer." V. Note in Prompt. Parv.

**NOVATION, NOUATION, s.** Innovation, novelty; Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, II. 43, Sp. C., B. R. Edinburgh, IV. 141, Rec. Soc.

This term occurs also in the Peebles Recs. in an entry dated 3rd March, 1559. The record is interesting, as it affords a glimpse of that old burgh when the Reformation movement began to stir it. On that day, it is recorded, "... the baillies of Peblis passed to the personale presens of John Wallace als apostat, and dischargit him to use ony *novationes* of common prayeris or preiching." They told him also that they would not assist him nor any of his sect or opinion, but would stand under the faith and obedience of their prince for the time. Little did they know about the force of the current that had just reached them. On 20th November of the following year 1560, the baillies of Peebles were commissioned by the inhabitants to go to Edinburgh to the Lords of the Congregation to secure the services of a faithful minister. Eight days afterwards, John Dikesone, the first minister in Peebles, was formally installed.

**NOW, NOWE, s.** V. **DICT**.

These forms represent the Sc. pron. of E. *knoll*, M. E. *knol*: Cf. *bow* for *boll*, *row* for *roll*, etc. And all the varieties of meaning given under **NOLL** and **Now** represent simply different applications of M. E. *Knol*.

**To NOW, v. a.** To knuckle, to strike or beat with the fist: a form of **NOLL**, of which it represents the common pron.

The millar was of manly mak,  
To meit him was na mowis;  
Thai durst nocht ten cum him to tak,  
So *nowit* be thair nowis.

*Chrystis Kirk of the Grene*, Bann. MS.

**NOWEL, s.** The central column round which a circular staircase winds; also, in pl. *nowellis*, stones to be used in constructing a newel.

"... for the wark of the tolbuith steipill, sex score four peice of free aisler stanes of the heughe of Kynguddies, thairof thrie scor sevin peice long wark for lintellis and *nowellis*, and the remanent schort wark for rebbitis." Burgh Recs. Aberdeen, II. 379, Sp. C.

"Newel (Old Eng. forms, Noel, Nowel, Nuel), the central column round which the steps of a circular staircase wind." Gloss. of Terms in Architecture, p. 169, ed. 1882.

O. Fr. *nual*, later *noyau*, "the stone of a plumme, the nuel or spindle of a winding staire;" Cotgr. From Lat. *nucalis*, resembling nuts; hence, applied to a fruitstone, an almond, and, from its central position, to the column of a winding stair.

**NOWN, adj.** Own: a common pron. in Orkn.: *nain* in more southern districts.

**NOWS AND THENS, adv.** Occasionally, at long intervals, rarely. The phrase is used also as a *s.*, as in, "He jist comes at *nows and thens*," i.e., at odd or rare times. South and West of S.

This phrase is still used in some districts of the North of Eng. V. Peacock's Gloss. of Lonsdale.



NOWT, *s.* Cattle, horned cattle. V. NOLT.

NOYNSANKIS, *s.* Afternoon repast; also, the time allowed for it. Errat. in DICT.

Jamieson's explanation of this term is altogether a mistake: therefore, del. the definition and the explanatory note given in DICT., and see corrections given under *Noonshanks*.

NOYSUM, *adj.* Hurtful, noxious, deadly; Douglas, Virgil, III. 59, 13, ed. Small.

Made up of M. E. *noy*, annoyance; and E. suffix *some*. *Noy* is short for *anoy*, from O. Fr. *anoi*, vexation. V. Skeat's Etym. Dict.

NUB-BERRY, *s.* V. DICT.

In last para. of this entry, l. 1, *knoo* is a misprint for *knob*.

NUDYT, NWDYT, *part. pt.* Naked, stripped, denuded. Lat. *nudare*.

“ . . . ordains hym to be *nudyt* of his fredome.”  
Burgh Recs. Prestwick, 30 Jan., 1551-2, p. 62, Mait. C.

NUK, NUKE, NUKIT, NUKKIT. V. under NUIK.

NULE, NOOL, *s.* A knob, protuberance. V. [KNULE].

NULED, NOOLED, *adj.* Having a knob or protuberance, swollen: as in a diseased joint.

NULE-KNEED, NOOL-KNEED, *adj.* Having enlarged or protuberant knee-joints; syn. *knuckle-kneed*, *knock-kneed*. Errat. in DICT.

Jamieson's definition of this term is misleading: it is really the def. of *knock-kneed*. And while a *knule-kneed* person is generally also *knock-kneed*, he is not necessarily so, and may be otherwise: but, be that as it may, the two words imply totally different ideas. *Nule* has nothing to do with the idea of knocking, but of protuberance; and when *nuled* knees do knock against each other, it is because the protuberances are the results of disease which has so weakened the joints that they bend inward under the person as he moves along.

NULE-TAES, NOOL-TAES, NULE-TAED. V. KNOUL-TAES.

To NULE, *v. a.* and *n.* V. KNOOL, *Nool*.

NULED, NOOLT, *part.* and *adj.* Mauled, subdued. V. *Nooled*.

NURISKAP, NURICEKIP, *s.* V. NOURISKAP.

NWREIS, NWRIS, *s.* A nurse. V. NURIS.

(Sup.) Y

NYCE, NYSE, *adj.* Ignorant, stupid, rude, offensive; Court of Venus, i. 739: also, full of tricks or capers, as, “the *nyce* ape,” Kingis Quair, st. 155; foolish, silly, Ibid., st. 129; Dunbar and Kennedy, l. 177.

*Nyse* is used in the last sense in Towneley Mysteries, p. 237. It is the M. E. *nicc*, foolish, simple, and afterwards fastidious; from O. Fr. *nicc*, lazy, simple; originally ignorant, from Lat. *nescius*. V. Skeat's Etym. Dict.

NYCELY, NYSELY, *adv.* Foolishly; Kingis Quair, st. 12, ed. Skeat.

To NYCH, *v. a.* V. NEICH, *Nech*.

NYCHLIT. Del. this entry in DICT.

This is certainly a mistake in the Bann. MS. for *nychit*, came nigh to, concerned. The Asloan MS. has *nechit*. V. under *Nech*.

NYDDRIT, NYDRYT, *part. pt.* V. NIDDER.

To NYE, *v. a.* V. NEYCH, *Nie*.

To NYE, *v. a.* To deny, refuse, forbid; pret. *nyt*; part. pt. *nyte*. Fr. *nier*.

And othir sum *nyt* all that case.

*Barbour*, i. 52.

To NYE, *v. a.* To annoy, vex, harass, distress, afflict; part. pt. *nyte*, a form of *noyit*, q. v.

The May Thisbe wald tine hir self sa nyte,

Caus Pyramus away and deid was quite.

*Rolland, Court of Venus*, iii. 229, S. T. S.

“Wald tine hir self,” resolved to kill herself or to perish. V. TINE.

The rendering of *nyte* given in the Gloss. is certainly wrong.

NYE, *s.* Trouble, difficulty, harm, distress, injury. A form of NOY, q. v.

To NYME, *v. a.* To seize. V. NAM, *Nim*.

NYSE, NYSELY. V. *Nyce*.

NYT, *pret.* Denied. V. NYE.

NYTE, *part. pt.* Annoyed. V. *Nye*.

NYTE, *v. a.* A form of NATE, NOTE, q. v.

To NYTE, *v. n.* V. DICT.

In l. 1, for *v. n.* read *v. a.*

To NYTE, *v. a.* V. DICT.

In l. 1, for No read To.

To NYTTL, *v. a.* and *n.* V. DICT.

Add to defin.:—A form of *Nattle*, with slightly different application.