

N appears, in the Goth. dialects, as often holding merely the place of a servile or redundant letter. In many instances it has been inserted in words making a transition from one language to another, although unknown in the original language; or in the same language in the lapse of ages. Thus Teut. *blinck-en*, *coruscare*, appears also as *blick-en*, id. Some have traced Germ. *blinck-en*, to wink, to the *v*, as signifying to shine: and indeed, the idea is not unnatural, as the brightness of the light of the sun often so affects the organ of vision, as to cause winking. But *Ihre*, with more verisimilitude, deduces Su.-G. *blink-a*, nictare, from *blig-a*, intentis oculis adspicere. "For," he says, "what does he who winks, but frequently shut and again open his eyes for a more distinct view of objects?"

NA, NAE, NE, *adv.* No, not, S.

And that him sar repent sall he,
That he the King contraryit ay,
Msy fall, quhen he it mend *na* may.

Barbour, ix. 471, MS.

Has not Troy all infyrit yit thame brynt?
Na: sll syc laubour is for nocht and tynt.

Doug. Virgil, 216, 20.

Ne, *Barbour*, ix. 454. V. NA, *conj.*

A.-S. *na*, *ne*, Moes.-G. *ne*, Dan. Isl. Su.-G. *nei*, anc. *ne*, Gr. *ve*, *νη*.

As the A.-S. often drops the *ae*, *e*, in *nae*, *ne*, joining it with verbs and nouns, so as to form one word, this idiom is retained in the S. B.; as *naes* for *nae is*, is not, A.-S. id. Moes.-G. and Alem. *nist* for *ni ist*; *naell* for *nae will*, will not, A.-S. *nille*, used interrogatively; as well as *yaes* for *yea is*, *yaell* for *yea will*?

As the A.-S. uses two negatives for expressing a negation, the same form of speech is retained by the vulgar in S.; as, *I never get nane*, I never get any. Chaucer uses this idiom; *I ne said none ill*.

[NA BUT, *adv.* Only, nevertheless, for all that, S.

[NA WAR. Had it not been for, but for, except that, *Barbour*, vii. 218, viii. 83; *na war it*, had it not been, *ibid.*, iii. 642.]

NA, NE, *conj.* 1. Neither.

He levyt nocht about that toun,
Towr standand, *na* stane *na* wall,
That he ne haly gert stroy thaim sll.

Barbour, ix. 454, MS.

Gyf so war now with me as than has bene,
Ne suld I never depart, my awin child dere,
From thy maist sweet embrasing for a were.

Nor our nychbour Mezentius in his spede
Suld na wyse moksand at this hsaard hede,
By swerd haif kelit sa fele corpis as alane is.

Doug. Virgil, 263, 13.

2. Nor.

A noble hart may haiff nane ess,
Na ellys nocht that may him pless,
Gyf fredom failyhe: for fre liking
Is yharnt our all othir thing.
Na he, that ay has levyt fre,
May nocht knaw weill the propyrté,
The angyr, *na* the wrechyt dome,
That is cowplyt to foule thryldome.

Barbour, i. 230, &c., MS.

Me vneuengit, thou sall neur victour be;—
Na for all thy proude wordis thou has spokin
Thou sal not endure into sic joy.

Doug. Virgil, 346, 6.

Nec, *Virg.*

3. Used both for neither, and nor.

Thay cursit coistis of this enchanterice,
That thay *ne* suld do enter, *ne* thame fynd,
Thare salis all with prosper followand wynd
Neptunus fillit.—

Doug. Virgil, 205, 8.

Bot off all thing wa worth tresonn!
For thair is nothir duk *ne* bsroun,—
That euir may wauch hym with tresounne.

Barbour, i. 576, MS.

A.-S. *na*, *ne*, *neque*, *nec*; Isl. *nea*, Sw. *nei*, *neque*,
Verel. Gael. *no*, is used in both senses.

NA, *conj.* But.

Away with drede, and take ns langar fere,
Quhat wenis thou, *na* this fame sall do the gude?

Doug. Virgil, 27, 29.

Feret haec aliquam tibi fama sslutem. *Virg.*

NA, *conj.* Than.

For fra thair fayis archeris war
Scalyt, as I said till yow ar,
That *na* thair wer, be gret thing,—
Thair woux as hardy, that thaim thought
Thair suld set all thair fayis at nocht.

Barbour, xiii. 85, MS.

Gyve thow thynkys to ala me,
Quhat tyme *na* nowe may better be,—
Wytht fredome, and wyth mare manhed?

Wyntown, vii. l. 76.

Quhen thair wsr mett, weylle *na* x thousand
Na chyftane was that tyme durst tak on hand,
To leide the range on Wallace to assail.

Wallace, lii. 257, MS.

Also ix. 1411.

S. *nor* is used in the same sense.
C. B. Gael. Ir. *na*, id.

NA, NAE, *adj.* No; not any, none.

The barowys thus war at discord,
That on *na* maner mycht accord.

Barbour, i. 69, MS.

[NAABAR, NAAVAR, *s.* The upper vertebra of a sheep's neck, the nape of the neck, Shetl. Isl. *nabbi*, a small protuberance, E. *knob*, S. *nab*.]

[NAAR, *adj.* Near, Shetl. Dan. *nær*, id.]

To NAAG, *v. a.* To tease. V. NAGG.

To NAB, *v. a.* 1. To peck, to peck at, Dumfr.; perhaps from *neb*, the beak; as Serenius defines *Peck*, *v.*, *Hacka med naeb-ben*.

2. To strike, to punish, S., apparently an oblique sense of the E. verb.

[3. To seize, to grip, to hold fast, Clydes., Banffs.; *synon.* to *grab*.

4. To pick up, to steal, to carry off forcibly, *ibid.*

5. To capture, imprison; as, "He took leg-bail for it, but I *nabbit* him."

Dan. *nappe*, Sw. *nappa*, to catch, snatch. *Nab* is properly a cant term, common both in E. and S. It was added to Johnson's Diet. by Todd, but it has a wider range of meaning in S. than in E. The different senses given above are derived from the two leading ideas implied by the *v.*, viz.—striking and seizing with rapidity, like a bird of prey. V. KNAB.]

NAB, *s.* 1. A peck, a smart stroke, Ettr. For., Gall.

"Ane o' them gave me a *nab* on the crown that dowered me." *Perils of Man*, iii. 416.

"*Nab*, a blow on the head;" Gall. Encycl. V. KNAP, *s.* id.

[2. A snatch; hence, seizure, theft, Clydes.]

[NABBER, *s.* A pilferer, a thief, *ibid.*]

[NABBERY, *s.* Theft, *ibid.*]

[NABBIT, *part. adj.* Seized, caught, or carried off suddenly, S.]

[NAB, *s.* 1. A nob, nail, or peg, on which an article of dress may be hung, Clydes.

2. The highest part of a hill or prominence, Ayrs.

3. A cant term for the head, Clydes.

Isl. *nabbi*, a small prominence.]

[NAB, *s.* A person of rank or position. V. KNAB.]

[NABBY, NOBBY, *adj.* 1. Of rank or position, West of S.

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2. Neat, trim, well dressed; hence, applied to a person who dresses above his position, *ibid.* V. KNABBY.]

[NABBERY, NABRIE, *s.* V. KNABRIE.]

[NABITY, *adj.* Same as NABBY, *s.* 2, Clydes. Used also as a *s.*]

NABBLE, *s.* "A narrow-minded, greedy, laborious person;" Gall. Encycl.

This, I suppose, is from the Hebrew name *Nabal*, which, from the character given of the man in scripture, is a designation pretty generally conferred on a covetous person, S. Hence also,

NABALISH, *adj.* Covetous, griping, S.

NA CA DEED I. A phrase used in Orkn., as equivalent to "I will not."

Perhaps by a transposition, q. "No indeed, quoth I."

NACHET, NACKET, *s.*

Sic ballis, sic *nachettis*, and sic *tutivillaris*,—
Within this land was never hard nor sene.

Dunbar, *Bannatyne Poems*, p. 44, st. 14.

In the same poem, *nackets*, *Evergreen*, i. 105.

"A *nacquet*, in French, is a lad that marks at Tennis. It is now used for an insignificant person;" Lord Hailes, Note. A *little nacket*, a person who is small in size, S., q. a boy for assisting at play.

Bullet observes, that "*nacques* is the same as *lacques*," whence our modern *lacquey*. He adds, that the President Fauchet says, that, a century before his time, they had begun to call footmen *laquets* and *naquets*.

[NACK, *s.* A knock, a smart tap, Clydes.]

[To NACK, *v. a.* and *n.* To strike smartly or repeatedly, *ibid.*]

[NACKET, *s.* A smart blow; *synon.*, *fornacket*, Banffs.]

[NACK, *s.* Expertness; hence, the best method of doing, Clydes.]

NACKIE, *adj.* Active, clever. V. KNACKY.

NACKITY, NACKETIE, *adj.* Particularly expert at any piece of nice work; *synon.* *Nicknackie*.

[NACKERS, *s. pl.* Testes, Shetl.]

NACKET, *s.* 1. A bit of wood, stone, or bone, which boys use at the game of *Shinty*, S.

Perhaps it should rather be written *knacket*; as being evidently allied to Su.-G. *kneck*, *globulus lapideus*, *quo ludunt pueri*; Ihre. Perhaps this is the sense of *knakat*, as used by Stewart.

Among the wyves it sall be written,
Thou was ane *knakat* in the way.

Evergreen, i. 121.

q. something in the road that made one stumble.

2. A quantity of snuff made up in a cylindrical form, or a small roll of tobacco, S.

NACKET, *s.* 1. A small cake or loaf, Roxb.; *nackie*, Ayrs.

2. A luncheon, *ibid.*; a piece of bread eaten at noon; the same *with Nockit*, Galloway.

A hurly burly now began,
An' cudgels loud were thumpin—
The gazing crowd together ran
O'er cranes o' *nackets* jumpin.

Davidson's Seasons, p. 78.

V. KNOCKIT.

"Poor Triptolemus—seldom saw half so good a dinner as his guest's luncheon.—She could not but say that the young gentleman's *nacket* looked very good." *The Pirate*, i. 254-5.

Denominated, perhaps, from its being made up as a small parcel to be carried by one in travelling.

3. A small cake or loaf baked for children, Roxb.

NACKETY, *adj.* Conceited, S. V. under KNACK.

NACKIE, *s.* "A loaf of bread;" Gl. Picken, Ayr. V. NACKET.

NACKS, KNACKS, NAUKS, *s. pl.* A disease to which fowls are subject, in consequence of having taken too hot food, as warm porridge, &c., Roxb., Loth. It causes severe wheezing and breathlessness, resembling the *croup* in children.

The same account is given of its symptoms as of those of the *pip* in E.; as "a horny pellicle," resembling a seed, "grows on the tip of the tongue." The vulgar cure in Loth. is to smear the nostrils with butter and snuff.

NAUKIE, *adj.* Asthmatical, short-winded; as, "He wheezes like a *naukie* hen;" *ibid.*

Teut. *knoke*, callus, tuber; or Isl. *gnak-a*, stridere, *gnak*, stridor, from the noise caused by this disease, as the E. name *pip* is deduced from Lat. *pip-ire*, and Fr. *pepie*, id. from *pep-ier*, to peep.

NADKIN, *s.* 1. The taint which meat acquires from being too long kept; *Natkin*, id., Roxb.

2. Any close, or strong and disagreeable odour; as, "Jock's brought in a *natkin* wi' him," *ibid.*, Loth., Clydes.

3. It is applied to a taste of the same kind, *ibid.*

As it may have originally denoted a damp smell, it may be allied to Teut. *nat*, moist, *natheyd*, moistness. Perhaps *Knaggim* is originally the same.

[NAE, *adj.* No, none, West of S.]

NAEGAIT, NAEGAITS, *adv.* [No where]; in no wise, S.

[A term still in use, especially by young people when inclined to give an evasive answer to the question, Where have you been?]

NAELINS, *adv.* Used interrogatively, Aberd.

[NAE MOUS, NAE MOWS, *s. pl.* Lit. no jests, but generally used as an *adj.*; very difficult,

dangerous; as, "He tried it, but it was *nae mows*, he was glad to gie't up," Clydes.]

NAES. Is not, interrog. V. NA, *adv.*

[To NAFF, NYAFF, *v. n.* 1. To talk frivolously or saucily, Clydes.

2. To argue in a snappish way, like children disputing, *ibid.*]

NAFFING, *s.* 1. Frivolous chat or prattle, S. V. NYAFF.

[2. Angry disputing about trifles, Clydes.]

To NAG, *v. a.* To strike smartly, to beat, Lanarks.

Perhaps merely a corr. of E. *knack*, q. to strike so as to make a sharp noise.

NAG, *s.* A stroke at the play of *Nags*, Aberd., Clydes.

[NAGGIN, *s.* The act of striking on the knuckles with a marble, the punishment in the game of *Nags*, *ibid.*]

NAGS, *s. pl.* A particular game at *marbles* or *taw*, in which the loser is struck a certain number of times on the knuckles by the other players, with their marbles, *ibid.*

Probably from Teut. *knack-en*, confringere.

To NAG, *v. n.* To gibe, to taunt; to attack in a taunting way, to tease with unkind reflections; as, "He's aye *naggin* at ane;" Loth. *Naag*, id., Shetl.

This at first view might seem originally the same with the *v. Knack*, to taunt, q. v. But we must certainly trace it to Dan. *nagg-er*, "to torment, to vex, to fret, to mortify," &c. Wolf. This use seems borrowed from the idea of *gnawing*. This is the primary sense given of the *v.* by Baden; Rodo, corrodo. The sense of the term in Shetl. affords a presumption that it is from the latter origin. Perhaps we might add, Isl. *nagg*, vilis et taediosa contentio. Halderson gives *nagg-a* as not only signifying contererere, affricare, but litigare; and expl. *nagg*—vilis et taediosa contentio.

NAGGIE, NAGGIN, *s.* A cup, Lanarks. This is evidently a corr. of E. *noggin*.

NAGUS, *s.* One of the abusive designations used by Dunbar in his *Flying*.

Nyse *Nagus*, nipcaik, with thy schuldurs narrow. *Evergreen*, ii. 57.

It is uncertain, whether he gives Kennedy this name, from his attachment to the drink called *Negus*, or as equivalent to *Old Nick*; Su.-G. *Necken*, *Neccus*, a name given to the Neptune of the Northern nations, as Wachter thinks, from Dan. *nock-a*, to drown; Germ. *nicks*, Belg. *necker*, Isl. *nikr*, hippopotamus, monstrum vel daemon aquaticus.

NAIG, *s.* 1. A horse, a riding horse, S.; not used as *nag* in E. for "a small horse," but often applied to one of blood.

She tauld thee weel thou was a skellum ;—
That ev'ry *naig* was ca'd a shoe on,
The smith and thee gat roaring fou on.

Burns, iii. 23.

"The ladies came out with two gray plaids, and gat two work *naigs*, which bore them into Aberdeen." Spalding, ii. 183.

2. A stallion, S.

TO NAIG AWA', *v. n.* To move like a horse, or *nag*, that has a long, quick, and steady pace, Fife.

The most probable origin of *naig* or *nag*, as denoting a horse, is Isl. *hnegg-ia*, A.-S. *hnaeg-an*, to neigh, Su.-G. *gnegg-a*, id.

NAIL, *s.* A particular pain in the forehead, S.

Teut. *naeghel* in *d' ooghe*, pterygium, unguis.

* NAIL. *Aff at the nail*, or, *Gane aff at the nail*. 1. Applied to persons who, in their conduct, have laid aside all regard to propriety or decency; who transgress all ordinary rules; or no longer have any regard to appearances, S.

Lat. *clavus* is used frequently to denote rule or government. Dum *clavum rectum teneam*; As long as I do my part. Quintil. Also, as denoting a course of life; *Vixit inaequalis, clavum ut mutaret in horas*. Hor. In a similar sense, one may be said to have gone off at the nail, as denoting that one has lost the proper *hinge* of conduct; like any thing that is hung, when it loses the hold. Thus Kelly, explaining the Prov., "He is gone off at the nail," says; "Taken from scissors when the two sides go asunder." P. 173, 174.

The expression, however, may be understood metaph. in another sense; according to which *nail* refers to the human body. For *nagel*, unguis, was a term used by the ancient Goths and Germans, in computing relations. They reckoned seven degrees; the first was represented by the head, as denoting husband and wife; the second by the arm-pit, and referred to children, brothers and sisters; the third by the elbow, signifying the children of brothers and sisters; the fourth, by the wrist, denoting the grand-children of brothers and sisters; the fifth, by the joint by which the middle finger is inserted into the hand, respecting the grand-children of cousins, or what are called third cousins; the sixth, by the next joint; the seventh, or last, by the nail of the middle finger. This mode of computation was called in Alem. *sipzal*, Su.-G. *nagel-fare*. A relation in the seventh degree was hence denominated, Teut. *nagel-mage*, q. a nail-kinsman, one at the extreme of computation. V. Wachter, vo. *Nagel-mage*, and *Sipzal*; Ihre, *Nagel*.

It is conceivable, that the S. phrase in question might originate in those ages in which family and feudal connexion had the greatest influence. When one acted as an alien, relinquishing the society, or disregarding the interests of his own tribe, he might be said to *go off at the nail*; as denoting that he in effect renounced all the ties of blood. But this is offered merely as a conjecture.

2. It frequently signifies mad, wrong-headed, S. B.

3. *Aff* or *off the nail* is used to denote inebriety; tipsy.

"When I went up again intil the bed-room, I was what you would call a thought *aff the nail*, by the which my sleep wasna just what it should have been." The Steamboat, p. 300.

[NAIL. 1. Metaph. used for disposition, spirit, nature; as, to *The auld nail*, the original taint of evil, the old Adam; as, "He's the kindest man alive, but when he's fou, the *auld nail* sticks out," Clydes.

2. A *bad nail*, a bad disposition; as, "There's a *bad nail* in him;" also, in the opposite sense, as, "There's a *gude nail* in him," Shetl.]

[TO NAIL, *v. a.* 1. To strike smartly, to beat, a cant use of the term, Clydes.; part. pr. *nailin*.

2. To strike or shoot down from a distance; hence, to hit the mark, to kill, West of S., Banffs.

3. To make certain, to attest, to affirm, West of S.

Ev'n ministers, they hae hsen kenn'd

In holy rapture,

A rousing whid at times to vend,

And *nail't* wi' Scripture.

Burns' Death and Doctor Hornbook.

4. To grip, hold fast, secure, S.

In this sense it is used in modern E., as in the Pickwick Papers, p. 29, but it is a somewhat slang term; however, the popular party use of the *v.* is very like this, viz., "Let us *nail* our colours to the mast."

Isl. *nagli*, a spike, *nagl*, the human nail, Dan. *nagle*, Sw. *nagel*, in both senses, Goth. *ganagljan*, to nail. V. Prof. Skeat's Etym. Dict.]

[NAILIN, *s.* A beating, thrashing, Clydes.]

NAILS, *paring of*.

Dr. Shaw, when giving an account of the superstitious customs, retained in the province of Moray, which he considers as handed down from the Druids, gives the following account:

"In hectic and consumptive disease, they pare the nails of the patient, put these parings into a rag cut from his clothes, then wave their hand with the rag thrice round his head, crying *Deas-Soil*, after which they bury the rag in some unknown place. I have seen this done: and Pliny, in his Natural History, mentions it as practised by the Magians or Druids of his time." Hist. of Moray, p. 248. V. Plin. L. xxviii. c. 2. 7.

NAILS, *s. pl.* The refuse of wool, Su.-G. V. BACKINGS.

NAIN, *adj.* Own, S.; in Angus, q. *nyawn*; as, "his *nyawn*," his own.

Aft, whan I sang o' Peggy's jet-black een,
Or play'd the charms o' my *nain* bonny Jean,
In joyfu' raptures, ilka pleasant chiel
Admir'd the tune, and said I play'd it weel.

Picken's Poems, 1788, p. 19.

"But your address is no tint, I teuk it hame wi' me when I sent awa' my *nain*." Donaldsoniad, Thom's Works, p. 370.

Bockin red bleed the fleep, mair cawm,
Ran hame to his *nain* mammy.
Christmas Ba'ing, Skinner's Misc. Poet., p. 125.

This has originated, like *Tane* and *Tother*, entirely from the accidental connection of letters. *Mine, ain*, my own, (A.-S. *min agen*); and *thine ain*, thy own, (A.-S. *thin agen*) being pronounced as if one word; or the *n*, as if belonging to the latter part of the word; the same mode of pronunciation has been occasionally adopted where it did not intervene. V. NAWN.

NAIP, *s.* The summit of a house, or something resembling a chimney-top, S. B.

Far in a how they spy a little sheald;
Some peep of reek out at the *naip* appears.
Ross's Helenore, p. 75.

This seems allied to Isl. *hnappr*, globus, *nap-ar*, prominent, *nauf*, prominitia, rupium crepido; Su.-G. *knaepp*, vertex, summitas montis; E. the *knap* of a hill.

NAIPRIE, *s.* Table linen, S.

"In verry deid the Gray Freirs was a plaice weill providit;—thair scheitis, blancattis, beddis and cover-tours war sick, that no Erle in Scotland had the better; thair *naiprie* was fyne; thay war bot aucht personis in convent, and yit had aucht punscheonis of salt beif, (consider the tyme of the yeir, the 11th of *Maii*), wyne, beir and aill, besyidis stoir of victuellis efsairing thairto." Knox's Hist., p. 128.

Ital. *napparie*, lingues de table, Veneroni; Fr. *nappe*, a table-cloth. Johnson mentions *napery*, but without any authority; the word being scarcely known in E.

It has, however, been formerly in use. For Palsgr. expl. *naprie*, "store of linen," giving Fr. *linge* as synon., B. iii. F. 49, b.

NAIT, *s.* Need.

—I had mekill mair *nait* sum friendship to find.
Rauf Coylear, Aij, h.

Moes.-G. *nauth*, Isl. *naud*, necessitas.

NAITHERANS, *conj.* Neither. V. NETHERANS.

NAITHLY, *adv.* "Neatly, genteelly, handsomely," Rudd.

Thartyll ane part of the nycht ekis sche,—
And ek her pure damesellis, as sche may,
Naithly exercis, for to wirk the lyne,
To snoif the spyndyll, and lang thredes twyne.
Doug. Virgil, 256, 51.

If this be the sense, it may be from A.-S. *nithlice*, molliter, muliebriter. It may, however, signify, industriously; A.-S. *nythlice*, studiosus.

[NAITIR, *s.* Nature, temper, disposition, S.]

[NAITIR, NAITRAL, *adj.* Natural; according to nature or disposition; growing wild, Clydes., Banffs.; as, *naitir-glover*, *naitir-girs*, *naitir-wid*, clover, grass, wood, growing naturally.]

[NAITRAL-HEARTIT, *adj.* 1. Kind, affectionate, *ibid.*

2. Applied to the soil, rich, fertile, Banffs.]

[NAITRAL-HEARTITNESS, *s.* Kindness, affection.]

NAKIT, *pret. v.* 1. Stripped, deprived; literally, made naked.

— Write their frenesyis,
Quhilk of thy sympil cunning *nakit* the.
Palice of Honour, i. 1.
Quhilkis of thy *sempill* cunning *nakit* the.
Edin. Ed. 1579.

Su.-G. *nakit-a*, exuere, nudare.

"He callit the pepill to ane counsall, and *nakit* him —of al ornamentis pertaining to the dignite consular." Bellend. T. Liv., p. 117.

2. Destitute of, *Nakit of counsall*, devoid of counsel; Bellend. Cron., p. 27. Repr.

[Pure, unalloyed; as, "the *nakit truth*," Clydes.

Not uncommonly this term is employed to denote *pure spirits, whiskey neat*; as, "I'll jist-tak the *nakit truth*, if ye like."]

NAKYN, *adj.* No kind of, S.; [*nakyn thing*, in no degree.]

And he him sparyt *nakyn* thing.
Barbour, v. 362, MS.

V. KIN.

NALE, *s.* Given as an old word signifying an ale-house, Roxb.

This, I suspect, is a cant term used as an abbreviation, q. *an ale*, for "an alehouse." I observe no similar word.

To NAM, *v. a.* To seize quickly, and with some degree of violence, Roxb.

It sometimes includes the idea of the disappointment the person meets with, of whom the advantage is taken; as, "Aha! I've *nam'd* ye there, my lad."

This *v.* in its form most nearly resembles Su.-G. *nam-a*, id. V. NOME and NUMMYN.

NAM, am not, q. *ne am*.

Y *nam* sibbe him na mare,
Ich aught to ben his man.
Sir Tristrem, p. 42.

Chaucer, *n'am*.

[NAM NAM, *adj.* A childish expression, signifying "good, good," employed when one is eating some nice thing, Renfrews.]

NAMEKOUTH, *adj.* Famous, renowned.

There was also craftellie schape and mark
The *namekouth* hous, quhilk *Labyrinthus* hait.
Doug. Virgil, 163, 21.

A.-S. *namcutha*, id. nomine notus, inclutus, insignis; from *nam*, name, and *cuth*, known. V. COUTH.

NAMELY, *adj.* Famous, celebrated; a term used by Highlanders, when they condescend to speak *Saxon*.

"'Nay, for that matter,' said Moome, 'Sky was always *namely* for witches.'" Clan Albin, i. 206.

[NAMLY, NAMELYE, *adv.* Especially, Barbour, iv. 763.]

[NAMSHACH, *s.* An inquiry, a hurt, Banffs. V. AMSCHACH.]

[To NAMSHACH, *v. a.* To hurt or injure severely, *ibid.*]

NANMONIE, *s.* A little while, Orkn.

It has been supposed that this may be corr. from *mamentie*, used in the same sense, Perth., q. "a little moment." But the idea is inadmissible. Isl. *namunda* signifies, circa id tempus; also, ad manus; from *mund*, denoting both an indefinite time, and the hand, with *na*, a particle indicating proximity. *Mund* is also rendered momentum; so that *na mund* might mean "about a moment."

NAN, NANNIE, NANCE, NANCY, NANZE, *s.*
Names substituted for Agnes, S.; although some view the first two as belonging to *Anne*. *Nannie* and *Nanze* are undoubtedly for *Agnes*, S.

NANCY-PRETTY, *s.* London Pride, a flower; corr. from *None so pretty*.

NANE, *adj.* No, none, S.

Thus I declsre the *nane* vncertane thing,
Bot verry soithisist taikynys and warnyng.
Doug. Virgil, 241, 18.

A.-S. *nan*, Alem. *nih ein*, i.e., not one.

NANES, NANYS, *s.* For the *nanys*, on purpose, for the purpose; Chaucer, *nonnes*, E. *nonce*.

Thare stude ane dirk, and profound cause fast by,
All ful of cragis, and thir scharp flynt stanys,
Quhillk was weil dykit and closit for the *nanys*.
Doug. Virgil, 171, 26.

This word has been viewed as of ecclesiastical origin. It may, indeed, be allied to L. B. *nona*, the prayers said at noon. Isl. *non*, sometimes signifies the mass. *Geck tha kongur til kyrkio, oc for til nono*; The King entered into the church, that he might attend the service performed at noon. Heims Kring., ap. Ihre.

In the convents, during summer, the monks used to have a repast after the *nones* or service at mid-day, called *Biberes nonales*, or *Refectio nonae*. Du Cange quotes a variety of statutes on this subject, vo. *Nona*, *Biberis*. If we may suppose that the good fathers occasionally looked forward with some degree of anxiety to this hour, the phrase, for the *nones* or *nanis*, might become proverbial for denoting any thing on which the mind was ardently set. This is probably the origin of Dan. *none*, a beverage, a collation.

Tyrwhitt supposes it to have been "originally a corruption of Lat.; that from *pro-nunc* came for the *nunc*, and so, for the *nonce*; just as from *ad-nunc* came *anon*." Note, v. 381. But this idea is very whimsical, and receives no support from *anon*, which has an origin totally different. V. ONANE.

It has occurred to me, however, that it may with fully as much plausibility be deduced from Su.-G. *naenn-as*, snc. *naenn-a*, to prevail with one's self to do a thing, to have a mind to do it; Isl. *nenn-a*, id. *Nonne*, a me impetrare possum, Gunnlaug. S. Gl.

Since writing this, I have observed that Seren. has adopted the same idea. "Nonce, Isl. *nenna*, *nennang*, arbitrium. Su.-G. *nenna*, *nennas*, a se impetrare, posse."

[NANNIE, NANNY, *s.* 1. A familiar name for Agnes. V. NAN.]

2. A female goat; a *nannie-goat*, S.]

NAP, *s.* 1. A little round wooden dish made of staves, Dumfr.

2. A milk vat, *ibid.* *Boyn*, synon.

The *Nap* is of the same form with the *Gaan*, but larger. "*Napps*, small vessels made of wood, for holding milk; little tubs termed *boynes* in some places of Scotland, and *coags* in other[s];" Gall. Encycl. The *boyn*, however, generally denotes a larger vessel.

This is undoubtedly the same with Teut. *nap*, cyathus, scyphus, pater[a]poculum, Kilian. Germ. *nappf*. Hence the old Teut. designation for a toper, *naphouder*, q. a *nap-holder*, pocillator. This term, has, indeed, been generally diffused. For A.-S. *nappe* and *knæp*, signify cyathus, "a cup, a pot, a dish, a platter," Somner. In this language it was expressly used in the sense retained in our times; *And gates meolcu thri nappes fulle*; Et tres cyathos lactis caprini plenos. MS. ap. Somn. *Hnæp* is used in the same sense. Gloss. Pez. *naph*, crater, *napho*, craterarum. *Naph* id. Willeram. Alem. *naph*, Isl. *nap*, Su.-G. *napp*, Ital. *nappo*, Armor. *anaf*, O. Fr. *hanap*, id. Verelius renders the Isl. term poculum argenteum; for *nap* and *silfurnap* seem to have been used as synonymous. This word is viewed by some as formed from Isl. *hnapp-a*, poculum usque ad fundum ebibere, to empty one's cup to the bottom. Others prefer Su.-G. *naf*, which denotes what is concave. Here we have obviously the origin of E. *nappy* applied to ale, as denoting its inebriating quality, though Dr. Johns. views it as alluding to the nap of cloth, q. frothy.

NAPPIE, *s.* "A wooden dish," Ayrs., Gl. Picken.

NAP, *s.* A cant term for ale, or a stronger kind of beer, Aberd.

Nor did we drink o' gilpin water;
But reemin *nap*, wi' houp weel heartit.

Tarras's Poems, p. 24.

V. NAPPY.

[To NAP, *v. n.* To spring, to start clear; a fishing term, Banffs.]

When a line becomes entangled on the bottom, it is pulled with as great a strain as possible, and when suddenly let go; the recoil commonly causes the hook to spring, and the line is said to *nap*, Gl. Banffs.]

NAP, NYAP, *s.* A bite, a morsel taken hastily, a snatch, Dumfr.

Nap and *Stoo* is communicated as a Dumfriesshire phrase, equivalent to "a bite and cutting entirely." It seems to signify complete consumption of any viands. *Nap* is the same with *Gnap*, S. B., q. v.

[NAP, *adj.* 1. Expert, skilful, ready, S.; *nappie* is also used.

2. Desirous, eager, and ready for, as, "I'm *nap* for breakfast."]]

NAPPIE, *adj.* Strong, vigorous; "a *nappie* callan," a strong boy, Ayrs.

Isl. *knapp-r*, arctus; *knappir kostir*, res arctae.

[NAP, *s.* A stroke, a blow; also, a tap, a knock.]]

[To NAP, *v. a.* and *n.* To knock, to strike; also, to hammer.]]

[NAPPER, *s.* A beetle, a mall; as, a *clath-napper*.]

NAPPIE, NAPPY, *adj.* Brittle, [easily broken; synon. *crumple*.]

Wi' cheese an' *nappie* noor-cakes, suld
An' young weel fill'd an' daft are,
Wha winna be sae crons an' bauld
For a lang towmont after
As on this day.

Rev. J. Nicol's Poems, i. 27.

Perhaps, *q.* whst *knaps*, or is easily broken, as being crimp.
It indeed properly signifies that which breaks with a knack.

[**NAPPIN, NAPPING, *s.*** Knocking, beating, hammering.]

* **NAPKIN, *s.*** "A handkerchief. Obsolete. This sense is retained in Scotland;" Johns. ["So called about Sheffield in Yorkshire." Ray. "It is frequently found in old plays, and is not yet obsolete." Halliwell's Dict.]

It may be observed that it is used in two senses, *pocket-napkin*, also a *neck-napkin* or *cravat, S.*

Johnson deduces the term from *nap* as signifying "down, villous substance." This, indeed, seems the origin; from A.-S. *knoppa*, "villus, the nap of the cloth. Belgic, *noppe*;" Somner. Su.-G. *nopp*, id. The termination *kin* seems to denote that this is *napery*, or cloth of a small size. V. **KIN**, term.

NAPPER o' NAPS, *s.* A sheep-stealer, Roxb.; given as old.

This is a cant phrase inserted by Grose in his Class. Dict. *Napper* is expl. by itself, "a cheat or thief;" and to *nap*, "to cheat at dice." It may, however, be an ancient term; as Teut. *knapp-en* signifies to lay hold of; prehendere; apprehendere, Kilian.

NAPPIE, NAPPY, *adj.* V. under **NAP**.

NAPPIT, *part. adj.* Crabbed, ill-humoured, Aberd.; *Cappit*, synon.

Teut. *knapp-en*, crepitare; or *knap*, slacer, agilis.

NAPPLE, *s.* "A sweet wild root," Gl. Galloway; apparently *Orobis tuberosus*, or Heath-pea, S. B. *knapparts*.

—The pied *napple* rankly grows,
An' winnestraes excel the grov'ling fog.

Davidson's Seasons, p. 441.

This is what Mætaggart calls *Napple-root*, "the black knotty root of an herb, diligently digged for and greedily chewed by boys; its taste being rather pleasant." V. **KNAPPARTS**.

NAPPY, *s.* Ale, strong ale, S. O.

An' whyles twapennie worth o' *nappy*
Csn mak the bodies unco happy.

Burns' Works, iii. 6.

This is merely an elliptical use of the E. *adj.*, *q.* "nappy drink."

* **NAPPY, *adj.*** Tipsy, elevated with drink, S.

The auld wives sat and they chew'd,
And when that the carles grew *nappy*,
They danc'd as weel as they dow'd,
Wi' a crack o' their thumbs and a *kappie*.

Patie's Wedding, Herd's Coll., ii. 191.

The E. word has been expl. by some writers, "inebriating." But this sense seems unknown. Serenius, *vo. Nappy*, refers to Isl. *hnyf-a*, exhanrire. This is

expl. by Verelius, *Poculum usque sb fundum ebibere*. Haldorson renders it, *cornu evacuaré*.

NAPSIE, *s.* "A little fat animal, such as a sheep;" Gall. Encycl.

Allied perhaps to *nap*, E. a knop, as denoting what is protuberant.

NAR, *prep.* Near, S., Yorks. V. **NER**.

NAR, *adj.* Nearer, nigher; A.-S. *near*, comp. of *neah*, nigh.

Quhen sll wes done, we had not bene the *nar*.
Poems, Sixteenth Century, 292.

NAR-SIDE, *s.* The left side, as opposed to *Aff-side*, the right side of any object, Mearns; being the side *nearest* to him who mounts on horseback, drives a team, &c.

NAR, *conj.* Nor.

This fremyt goddess held hir ene fixt ffast
Apoun the ground, *nar* blenkis list thaym cast.

Doug. Virgûl, 23, 7.

NAR. Were not.

Blither with outhen wens
Never ner *nar* thai.

Sir Tristrem, p. 148, st. 14.

i.e., never nearly *ne were* they.

So blithe sl bi dene,
Nar thsi never sra.

Ibid., st. 15.

Ne were they never before.

TO NARR, NERR, NURR, *v. n.* "To snarl as dogs. Teut. *knarren*, grunniere," Sibb.

This is merely E. *gnar*, written according to the pronunciation. A.-S. *gnyr-an*, id.

NARROW-NEBBIT, *adj.* Contracted in one's views with respect to religious matters, superstitiously strict, apt to take, or pretend to take, offence on trivial grounds, S. from *Neb*, the nose, *q. v.*

NARVIS, *adj.* Of, or belonging to Norway.

Narvis talloun, tallow brought from Norway.

"Ilk last of *Narvis talloun*, ii ounce." Skene, Verb. Sign. *vo. Bullion*.

Sw. *Norwegz*, Norwegian, *Norwegz man*, a Norwegian; or the genit. of *Norige*, Norway; *Noriges rike*, regnum Norvegiæ; Verel. Ind. *vo. Norran*, *Noregs-veldi*.

NAS, was not.

Nas never Ysonde so wo,
No Tristrem, sothe to say.

Sir Tristrem, p. 114.

Nas, Chancer, id. A.-S. *nas*, i.e., *ne was*, non erat, Lye.

TO NASH, *v. n.* To prate, to talk impudently, S.; most probably from Teut. *knaschen*, frendere, stridere. Hence the phrase, "a *nashin'* body," a little pert chattering creature.

[**NASH, *s.*** Pert, insolent talk; *snash*, is also used, S.]

NASH-GAB, s. Insolent talk, Roxb.; [a pert, chattering person, Clydes.]

“There’s the Philistines, as ye ca’ them, are gaun to whirry awa’ Mr. Harry, and a’ wi’ your *nash-gab*.” Tales of my Landlord, ii. 194. In other counties, it is *Snash-gab*.

[**NASHIE, NASHIN, adj.** Talkative, chattering, Clydes.]

NASK, s. A withe for binding cattle, Caithn.

“The tenants residing near a lake paid a given number of trout annually, and if there was any wood or shrubbery on the farms, they paid so many *nasks* (binders made of birch twigs), to secure the laird’s cattle in the byre.” Agr. Surv. Caithn., p. 41.

NAT, adv. Not.

Suffer *nat* to birn our schyppis in a rage.
Doug. Virgil, 29, 33.

Nat, id. is used by Chaucer and other O. E. writers, so late as the reign of Elizabeth; A.-S. *nate*, non.

NAT. Know not.

Thow Phebus lychnare of the planetis all,
I *nat* qhah dealis I the cleps sall.
Doug. Virgil, 4, 12.

Rudd. acknowledges that he had improperly inserted *know* before *nat*, without observing that it was a contraction.

A.-S. *nat*, i.e., *ne wat*, non scio, Lye.

To NATCH, v. a. To seize, to lay hold of violently; often used as denoting the act of a messenger in arresting one as a prisoner, S. B.

Teut. *naeck-en*, attingere? q. to lay hold of legally by *touching*. I see no evidence that any cognate of the *v. snatch* has been used without *s* initial.

To NATCH, v. a. To notch, Aberd.

NATCH, s. A notch, *ibid*.

It is probably in this sense that the term is used, as denoting the notch or incision made by a tailor in cutting cloth.

Losh man! hae mercy wi’ your *natch*.
Burns’ Epistle to a Taylor.

To NATE, v. a. To need, Clydes. V. **NOTE, v.**

NATE, NAIT, s. Need; also use, business.

And forth scho drew the Troiane swerd fute hate,
Ane wapen was neuer wrocht for sic ane *nate*.
Doug. Virgil, 122, 52.

Chaucer, *note*, Isl. *not*, id. V. **NOTE**.

NATHELESS, adv. Notwithstanding, nevertheless, S.

“But if you liked a barley scone and a drink of bland—*natheless* it is ill travelling on a full stomach.” The Pirate, i. 254.

A.-S. *no the laes*, id. *nihilominus*.

NATHER, conj. Neither.

—“Gif *nather* his Hienes, nor Advocat, be warnit to the said service, the samin, with the retour, sasine, and all that followis thairupon, may be reducit.” Balfour’s Pract., p. 425.

A.-S. *nather*, *nawther*, id. from *ne*, the negative particle, and *ather*, uterque. V. **ATHER**.

NATHING, s. Nothing, S. In old MSS. it is generally written as two words.

—He had *na thing* for to dispend.
Barbour, i. 319, MS.

NATIE, adj. Tenacious, niggardly, Shetl.; synon. with *Nittie* and *Neetie*, q. v.

NATIVE, s. The place of one’s nativity, Perth.

NATKIN, s. A disagreeable taste or smell. V. **NADKIN**.

NATRIE, NATTRIE, NYATRIE, adj. Ill-tempered, crabbed, irascible, Aberd., Mearns; pron. q. *Nyattrie*.

This may be merely a provincial variety of *Atry*, *Attrie*, stern, grim. Or, as this seems to be formed from Su.-G. *etter*, venenum, *natrie* may be allied to A.-S. *naedre*, *naeddre*, serpens, Isl. *nadra*, vipera. See, however, **NATTER, v.**

To NATTER, v. n. To chatter, conveying the idea of peevishness, ill humour, or discontentment, Roxb.; *Nyatter*, Dumfr., Gall.

“*Nyatterin*—to keep chattering when others are speaking;” Gall. Encyl. It is expl. “chiding, grumbling continually,” Dumfr.

NATTERIN, part. adj. Chattering in a fretful way, *ibid*.

Teut. *knoter-en*, garrere, minutizare, murmurare. In modern Belg. the sibilation is prefixed; *snater-en*, “to chatter, to talk impudently;” Sewel. The Teut. word appears to be formed from Isl. *gnaud-a*, lamentari, misere queri, *gnaud*, querela miserorum; *gnudd-a*, murmurare, *gnudd*, murmur, frequens rogatio; Su.-G. *knot-a*, submurmurare. V. **NYATTER**.

[**NATRIE, NATTERY, adj.** Ill-natured, crabbed, irascible, *ibid*. V. **NATRIE**.]

To NATTLE, v. a. 1. To nibble; to chew with difficulty, as old people do with the stumps of their teeth, Roxb.

2. To nip; as, “To *nattle* a rose,” to nip it in pieces, *ibid*.

Isl. *knill-a* exactly corresponds: *Vellico*, paululum pugno, vel petito; G. Andr. Haldorson overlooks this verb; but mentions *knot-a*, vellicare.

***NATURAL, NATURALE, NATURALL, NATURAILL, adj.** 1. Used in a sense directly the reverse of that of the term in E.; signifying lawful, as opposed to illegitimate.

“That ane richt excellent prince Johne duke of Albany, &c., tutour to the kingis grace, and gouvernour of this realme, anarlie *naturail* & lauchfull sone of vmquhile Alex^r. duke of Albany, &c., and of ane nobill lady dame Agnes of Bouloigne, is the secund personne of this realme, & anelie air to his said vmquhile fader. And that—Alexander Stewart, commendatour of Inchecheffray, *bastard* sone of the saidis vmquhile Alexander and Katherene [Sinclair the Erle of Cathnes dochtir] is & vndoutable suld be reput borue *bastard*, and vnlegittimate be ony mariage.” Acts Ja. V., 1516, Ed. 1814, p. 283. It is repeated *ibid*., p. 388.

"He is *naturale* sone of vmquhill George Fresser, lawchtfullie gottin in the band of matrimonie," &c. *Aberd. Reg.*, A. 1443, v. 18.

"He is lauchfull *naturall* sone," &c., "gottin lauchfullie in the band of matrimonie," &c. *Ibid.*, v. 24, p. 419.

"Dochter *naturall* & lauchfull," &c. *Ibid.*, v. 26. [*Naitrul*, *Natural* are used also in the sense of illegitimate.]

2. Kind, genial; used in regard to the weather, S. B. V. *NAITRAL*.

NATURALITIE, *s.* 1. Natural affection, that affection connected with propinquity of blood, S.

2. Naturalization; Fr. *naturalité*.

"The maist cristin king of France hes grautit ane lettre of *naturalitie* for him and his successouris, to all and sandrie Scottismen being in the realme of France, or salhappin to be in the samyn in ony tymes to cum, makand thame hable to brouke landis, heretageis, offices, digniteis, and benefices," &c. *Acts Mary*, 1558, Ed. 1814, p. 507.

NATURE, *adj.* 1. Fertile in spontaneously producing rich, succulent herbage; as, *nature grund*, land that produces rich grass abundantly, without having been sown with any seeds, S. O.

2. Rich, nourishing; applied to grass; as, *nature gerse*, *nature hay*, that is, rich grass and hay, produced by the ground spontaneously, S. O., Roxb.

"When they see a field carpeted with rich grasses, or those that grow luxuriant, they say that field produces *nature* grasses." *Agr. Surv. Ayr.*, p. 291.

NATURENESS, *s.* 1. Fertility in spontaneously producing rich herbage, S. O.

2. Richness, exuberance: applied to grass produced spontaneously, S. O.

These words are pronounced *naitur* and *naiturness*.

NATYR-WOO, *s.* 1. Fine wool, Mearns.

2. Wool that has been pulled off a sheep's skin from the root, and not shorn, *ibid.*; q. *Nature-wool*.

NAUCHLE, *s.* A dwarf; synonym. *Crute*, Upp. Clydes.

The *n* has the liquid sound as if *y* followed it, *nyouchle*.

Isl. *knocke*, metaphoric pusillus, pusio, G. Andr.

[*NAUCHLIE*, *adj.* Dwarfish, small and ill-shaped, *ibid.*]

[*NAUFRAGE*, *s.* Shipwreck, Lat. *naufragium*, *id.*]

[*NAUKIE*, *adj.* Asthmatic, wheezing, Roxb., Loth.]

NAUM, *s.* A heavy blow with a bludgeon, *Etr. For.*

NAUR, *prep.* Near; the pron. of some districts in S.

Sir John Cope took the north right far,
Yet near a rebel he came *naur*,
Until he landed at Dunbar,
Right early in a morning.

Jacobite Relics, ii. 111.

V. *NER*.

To *NAVELL*, *v. a.* To strike with the fist. V. under *NEIVE*.

NAVEN, *NAWYN*, *s.* A navy; shipping.

"Ther prouisionne of diuerse sortis is vonder grit, nocht alanerly be gryt multitude of men of veyr, and ane grit *naven* of schipis be seey-burde, bot as veil be secret machinations to blynd you be auereis."—*Compl. S.*, p. 141.

Schyr Nele Cambel befor send he,
For to get him *navyn* and meits.

Barbour, iii. 393, MS.

It has been observed that "the termination is Saxon," *Gl. Compl.* But the term is not to be found in that language. Mr. Macpherson views it as probably arbitrary. The term, however, occurs in the same form in other dialects. O. Sicamb. *nawwen*, Germ. *nawen*, *navis*, Kilian.

NAVIE. *Rid navie*.

"Magnus Rid, knyght of the ordour of the garter—was called be the Scottismen Magnus with the *rid navie*." *Pitscottie's Cron.*, p. 76.

In the Addenda, in regard to the reading of more recent manuscripts, it is said; "Magnus Reid is called Magnus Red-man, 'named with the Scots mans [Mans, the abbreviation of Magnus,] with the red maine.' The reading l. 12, should probably be *rid neive*." P. 619.

The conjecture is very natural, *neive* denoting the fist. But if this was the original term, it must have proceeded from a mistake, similar to that particularized by Godscroft.

"He was remarkable for his long and red beard, and was therefore called by the English *Nagnus Red-beard*, and by the Scots, in derision, *Nagnus with the red Naine*, as though his beard had bene an horse maine, because of the length and thickness thereof. The manuscript calleth him *Nagnus with the red hand*, taking the word (Maine) for the French word which signifieth an hand: but the attentive reader may perceive the error, and how it was a word merely Scottish [English, he should have said], and used by the Scots in derision." *Hist. Dougl.*, p. 178.

NAVUS-, *NAWUS-*, or *NAWVUS-BORE*, *s.* A hole in wood, occasioned by the expulsion of a knot, *Aberd.*

NAVYIS, *adv.* No wise; the same with *Nawayes*, *Nawiss*.

—"That all his hienes subjectis sall communicate amis everie yeir, and sall *navyis* pretend ony excuiss of deidlie feid, rancour, or malice to appeir towards thair nychtbouris—to abstene or to dehar himself fra participatioun of the said sacrament," &c. *Acts Ja. VI.*, 1598, Ed. 1814, p. 173.

The superstitious believe that, by looking at a *dead-candle* through such a hole, one will see the person's face whose death the candle portends.

For fear the poor dumb brutes sud smore,
He staps wi' strae ilk *navus-bore*,
An' ilka crevice darns.

W. Beattie's Tales, p. 30.

This is evidently the same word which has been given under the form of *Auwis-bore*.

Isl. *nafar* and Dan. *naver* signify terebra, an augre or wimble.

This, however, there is reason to believe, is not the true orthography. A very intelligent friend in Aberdeenshire, whom I have consulted on this subject, says; "I find that *Avus*, or *Auwus-bore*, is the original and proper word. W. Beattie must have mistaken a *navis-bore*, for an *avus-bore*. The word is variously pronounced by different people, *aivus*, *aiwus*, *avus*, *awus*, *yawus*."

NAWAYES, *adv.* No wise.

"The samin lykwayes *nawayes* previt that heid nor article of the said summondis." Acts Ja. VI, 1597, Ed. 1814, p. 128.

—"That the earle of Annandaill his taking place befor him in his present parliament could *nawayes* preiudge him of his richt," &c. Acts Cha. I., Ed. 1814, Vol. v. 139.

NAWISS, **NAWYSS**, *adv.* By no means, in no wise.

Now may I *nawiss* forthyg ga.

Barbour, iv. 214, MS.

Ryn eftre him, and him ourta,
And lat him *na wyss* pass thaim fra.

Ibid., vi. 594, MS.

NAWN, **NYAWN**, *adj.* Own. *His nyawn*; his own, what properly belongs to him, Angus.

The proper S. term is *awin*, *awn*, to which *n* has been prefixed from the sound which it assumes when connected with the possessive adj. denoting the first person; *mine awin*. V. NAIN.

[**NAWYN**, *s.* Shipping. V. NAVEN.]

NAXTE', *adj.* Nasty, filthy.

—I in danger, and doel, in dongon I dwelle,
Naxtē, and nedeful, naked on night.

Sir Gawain and Sir Gal., i. 15.

E. *nasty* is derived from Franc. *nazzo*, humidus, *nazzi*, humiditas; Germ. *netz-en*, humectare.

NAY, *adv.* Tyrwh. remarks that this "seems to be used sometimes as a noun. *It is no nay*; It cannot be denied."

Heir is ryaltie, said Rauf, aneuch for the nanis,
With all nobilnes anourmit, and that is *na nay*.

Rauf Coilyear, C. iij. h.

This world is not so strong; it is *no nay*

As it hath ben in olde times yore.

Chaucer, Clerkes Tale, v. 9015.

NAYSAY, **NA-SAY**, **NA-SAYIN**, *s.* A refusal, a nayword, S. The *v.* is also sometimes used, S.

Her laugh will lead you to the place
Where lies the happiness you want;
And plainly tells you to your face,
Nineteen *naysays* are half a grant.

Ramsay's Poems, ii. 207.

This is borrowed from the old S. Prov.—"Nineteen *nay says* of a maiden is but half a grant, spoken to encourage those who have had a denial from their mistress to attack them again." Kelly, p. 269.

NAYSAYER, *s.* One who denies or refuses, S.

"A sturdy beggar should have a stout *naysayer*." S. Prov., Kelly, p. 21.

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NAZE, *s.* A promontory, a headland, S.B.; the same with *Nes*, *Ness*.

"*Naze*, *ness*, and *mull* are also used to signify remarkable parts of land stretching out into the sea." Ewing's Geogr., Ed. 1st, p. 24.

NE, *conj.* Neither, nor. V. NA.

NE, *adv.* No; [not, when joined to verbs, *Barbour*, i. 293.] V. NA.

NE WAR. Were it not, unless, [but for that. V. NA WAR.]

Incontinent thay had to batal went,—

Ne war on thame the rosy Phebus rede

His very stedis had doukit ower the hede.

Doug. Virgil, 398, 40.

Alem. *ne uware idem est ac nisi*; *ne neware*, *nonnisi*; Schilter.

NE, *prep.* Near, nigh.

The lattir terme and day approchis *ne*
Of fatale force, and strangest destayne.

Doug. Virgil, 412, 10.

A.-S. *neah*, *neh*, Belg. *nae*, Alem. *nah*, Germ. *nahe*, Su.-G. *naa*, Dan. Isl. *na*, id.

To **NE**, *v. n.* To neigh as a horse.

The dynnyng of thare hors feit eik hard he,
Thare stamping sterage, and thare stedis *ne*.

Doug. Virgil, 398, 37.

A.-S. *hnaeg-an*, Teut. *naey-en*, Su.-G. *gnaegg-a*, id.

NE, *s.* Neighing, a neigh.

He sprentis furth, and ful proude waloppis he,
Hie strekand vp his hede with morny ane *ne*.

Doug. Virgil, 381, 20.

[**NEAP**, *s.* A turnip. V. NEEP.]

NEAPHLE, *s.* A trifle, a thing of no value, Dumfr.

Fr. *nipes*, trifles; Su.-G. *nipp*, a trifle.

***NEAR**, *adj.* 1. Close, niggardly, S.

[2. Closely related or connected; as, a *near-freen*.

3. The nearest possible; as, "That was a *near miss*," i.e., almost a miss, or the nearest possible to missing.

It is sometimes used in the opposite sense, viz. almost a hit, the nearest possible to a hit.

4. Left, left-hand; as, "the *near side* o' a horse;" so used in some districts of E.

5. Neither; as, "The *near o' ane o' them* did it," neither of them did it, West of S.]

[**NEAR-THE-BANE**, *adj.* Niggardly, sparingly, S.]

NEAR-BEHADDIN, *adj.* Niggardly, Roxb.: *Near-be-gaun*, synonym.

NEAR-GAWN, **NEAR-BE-GAWN**, *adj.* Niggardly, S.

Shall man, a niggard, *near-gawn* elf,
Rin to the tether's end for pelf;
Learn ilka cunyied scoundrel's trick,
Whan a's done sell his saul to Nick?

Fergusson's Poems, ii. 105.

There'll just be so bar to my pleasure,
A bar that's aft fill'd me wi' fear,
He's sic a hard, *near-be-gaven* miser,
He likes his saul less than his gear.—*Ibid.*, ii. 158.

From *near* and *gaand*, going. *Be* expletive sometimes intervenes. In the same way it is said of a parsimonious person, that he is *very near himsell*, S.

NEAR-HAND, NEAR-HAN, *adj.* Near, nigh; niggardly, S.

NEAR-HAND, NEAR-HAN, *adv.* Nearly, almost, S. V. NERHAND.

[NEAR-HANDNESS, NEAR-HANNESS, *s.* Nearness, short distance, Banffs., Clydes.; niggardliness, Clydes.]

NEAR HIMSELL. A phrase applied to a man who is very niggardly, or tenacious of his property, S.

"I'm no a man that's *near mysel'*;—walth—I wad like to use in moderation." Saxon and Gael, iii. 59.

NEAR-SIGHTED, *adj.* Short-sighted, S.

NEASE, *s.* Nose.

"Turne to faith, and it will make thee to turne to God, and swa conjoine thee with God, and make all thine actions to smell weill in his *nease*." Bruce's Serm. on the Sacr., p. 8, a. V. NEIS.

NEATY, NEATTY, *adj.* 1. Mere, having no other cause, S. B.

As they the water past, and up the brae,
Where Nory mony a time had went to play,
Her heart with *neatty* greif began to rise,
Whan she so greatly alter'd saw the guise.
Ross's Helenore, p. 79.

2. Identical, S. B.

Three lusty fellows gat of him a clank;—
And wha were they, but the same *neatty* three,
That with the raips gard him the colour dree;
Ibid., p. 47.

Perhaps allied to Isl. *nyt-ur*, *nytt*, commodus, probatus, q. the very thing in use, or approved by use. V. NOTE, *v.*

NEB, *s.* 1. The nose; now used rather in a ludicrous sense; as a *lang neb*, a long nose. Hence *Lang-nebbit*, *Narrow-nebbit*, q. v. *Sharp-nebbit*, having a sharp nose, S. *Neb* bears the same sense, A. Bor.

—Howe in a 'tato fur
There may Willie lie,
Wi' his *neb* boonermost,
An' his doup downermost, &c.
Jacobite Relics, i. 25.

'Twas on a cauld November e'en,—
The snell frost-win' made *nebs* an' een
To rin right sair.

T. Scott's Poems, p. 323.

It would seem that this was the original sense of the term; A.-S. *nebbe*, nasus, Isl. *nef*, nasus.

2. The beak of a fowl, S. A. Bor. *nib*, E.

"You may dight your *neb*, and flie up;" S. Prov., "taken from pullets who always wipe their bill upon the ground before they go to roost. You have ruined and undone your business, and now you may give over." Kelly, p. 390.

A.-S., Belg. *nebbe*, Su.-G. *naebb*, Dan. *neb*, Isl. *neib*, rostrum; Hoka *neff*, rostrum accipitris.

3. Any sharp point; as the *neb* (E. *nib*) of a pen; the *neb*, or point of a knife, &c., S.

4. Applied to the snout. "You breed of Kil-pike's swine, your *neb's* never out [of] an ill turn," S. Prov. p. 362.

The following passage conveys the same idea:—
"So ae morning siccan a fright as I got! twa unlucky red-coats were up for black-fishing or some siccan ploy, for the *neb* o' them's never out of mischief." Waverley, iii. 238.

5. To *gie* a thing a *neb*, to make it pungent, S. B.

NEB AND FEATHER, used as an *adv.* Completely, from top to toe; as, "She's dinkit out *neb and feather*," Teviotd.

[This phrase may be derived from the act of a bird preening itself, or from the operation of trimming an arrow.]

NEB AT THE GRUNSTANE. To *keep* one's *neb* at the *grunstane*, to keep one under, or at hard work, S.

NEB O' THE MIRE-SNIPE. "To come to the *neb* o' the mire-snipe;" to come to the last push; S. A.

"There was nae time to lose—it was come fairly to the *neb* o' the *miresnipe* wi' me." Brownie of Bodsbeck, i. 39.

NEB O' THE MORNING. "That part of the day between daylight and sun-rising;" Gall. Encycl.

This phraseology seems borrowed from the sharpness of the beak of a bird, as it follows; "There are few who do not love to keep the bed until the *neb gangs off the morning*. It is when the *neb* is on the morning that the hoar-frost is produced." *Ibid.*

TO NEB, *v. a.* and *n.* 1. To bill, to caress as doves do, Loth.; from *neb*, the beak or bill.

Near to him let his grace of Gordon stand,
For these two drakes may *neb*, go hand in hand.
Jacobite Relics, i. 241.

2. To scold, flyte; generally, to *miscall*, q. v., Clydes.

[NEBBIE, *adj.* Sharp-tongued, snappish; good at or given to scolding, *ibid.*]

NEBBIT, *part. adj.* 1. Having a beak or nose, S.

This term is frequently used in composition, as in *Lang-nebbit*, *Narrow-nebbit*, *Quhaup-nebbit*, q. v.

2. Having a hooked head. Thus *Nebbed staff* would seem to be synon. with *Kebbie* and *Nibbie*.

My daddy left me gear enough,
A couter, and an auld beam-plough,
A *nebbed staff*, &c.
Willie Winkie's Testament, *Herd's Coll.*, ii. 143.

NEB-CAP, *s.* The iron used for fencing the point of a shoe, Ettr. For. V. CAP-NEB.

NEBSIE, *s.* An impudent old woman, Roxb.

Perhaps from *Neb*, the nose, as in advanced life the nose often becomes a marked feature, and its approximation to the chin has sometimes exposed the owner to the imputation of sorcery.

[NEBIR, NEBIRT, *s.* Bait for fishing lines, Shetl.]

NECE, *s.* Grand-daughter. V. NEIPCE.

NECES, *s. pl.* Err. for *Netes.*]

"Item, ane pair of the like slevis of the skynnis of *neces* with the bord of the same." Inventories, A. 1561, p. 128. V. NETES.

NECESSAR, *adj.* Necessary, S. A. Fr. *neccessaire.* "The gryt adois *neccassar*;" Aberd. Reg.

To NECK, OR NICK, *with nay.* V. NYKIS.

NECK-BREAK, *s.* Ruin, destruction.

"Folks poring over much on the tentation is their *neck-break* and their snare; the man thought ay on these things—till he wracked his conscience by them." W. Guthrie's Sermon, p. 14.

The term is inverted in E.

— I must
Forsake the court; to do't or no, is certain
To me a *break-neck.*

Shakespear's Winter's Tale.

[NECKIN, *s.* Toying as lovers, courting: used also as a *part.*, Clydes.]

NECKIT, *s.* A tippet for a child, S. B. *Neckatee*, E., a handkerchief for a woman's neck, Johns.

NECK-VERSE, *s.* A cant term formerly used by the marauders on the Border.

Letter nor linc know I never a one,
Wer't my *neck-verse* at Hairibee.

Lay of the Last Minstrel, c. i. 24.

"*Hairibee*, the place of executing the Border marauders at Carlisle. The *neck-verse* is the beginning of the 51st psalm. *Miserere mei*, &c., anciently read by criminals claiming the benefit of clergy," N. *ibid.*

This phrase has been common in Henry VIII.'s time. Hence Tyndale says of the Roman clergy: "But hate thy neyghboure as moche as thou wylt,—yea robbe hym, morthur hym, and then come to them and welcome. They haue a sanctuary for thee, to saue thee, yea and a *necke uerse*, if thou canst *rede* but a lytle lately thoughte it be neuer so sorryly, so that thou be redy to receyue the beastes marke." Obedyence of a Crysten man, F. 69, a.

[NED, NEID, *s.* Need, extremity of peril or danger, Barbour, ii. 231.]

[NEDLYNGIS, *adv.* Of necessity, *Ibid.*, ix. 725. V. NEIDLINGIS.]

NEDWAYIS, *adv.* Of necessity. V. under NEID.]

"The behowis *nedwayis*, said the King,
To this thing her say thine awiss."

Barbour, xix. 156, MS.

A.-S. *neadwise*, necessary.

[NEDYT, *pret.* Needed, was needful, Barbour, iii. 692. V. NEID.]

[NEDDAR, NEDDER, *s.* An adder.]

[NEDDARCAP, NEDDERCAP, *s.* An ill-natured, cross-tempered person; generally applied to children.]

[NEDDER, NEDDERIN, *conj.* and *adj.* Neither, Banffs., Shetl.]

[NEDDER, *adj.* Nether, inferior, lower, Shetl. Isl. *nedri*, *nedare*, lower, Sw. *nedre*, Ger. *nieder.*]

NEDMIST, *adj.* Undermost, lowest in situation, S.

A.-S. *neothemest*, id. from *neothan*, under, Su.-G. *ned*. This is the correlate of *Ummist*, uppermost, q. v. V. NETH.

NEDEUM, *s.* "A gnawing pain," Gall.

Puir Girzey wi' her upset chin,
A *neduum* gnaws her ay within.

Gall. Encycl., p. 362, 363.

To NEDEUM, *v. n.* To thrill with pain, *ibid.*

"When a corn is biting a toe grievously, that toe is said to be *neduuming*;" *ibid.*

C. B. *cniv-iaw*, to afflict; *cniv*, trouble, pain; *cniv-gad*, molesting; *cnouad*, gnawing.

[NEEBIN, *part.* Nodding from drowsiness, dosing, Shetl. Isl. *hnipa*, to droop, *hnipinn*, to sit drooping.]

[NEEBOR, NEIBOR, *s.* A neighbour, companion, partner, bedfellow, husband, wife, West of S.; *neiper*, Banffs., Aberd.]

[NEEBOR, NEIBOR, *adj.* Neighbouring, adjoining, *ibid.*

Tells how a neebor lad cam o'er the moor
To do some errands, and convey her hame.

Burns, Cotter's Saturday Night.

[To NEEBOR, NEIBOR, *v. n.* To co-operate, generally followed by *in*; to act as partners, *ibid.*]

[NEEBORHEED, NEIBORHEID, *s.* Neighbourhood; *quid neeborheed*, friendship, good terms, *ibid*; *neiperheed*, Banffs., Aberd.]

[NEEBORLY, NEIBORLY, NEEBOR-LIKE, *adj.* and *adv.* Neighbourly, friendly, kindly disposed; as, "He's a *neeborly* body," *ibid.*]

NEED-BE, *s.* Necessity, expediency; applied to an afflictive dispensation of Providence, and apparently borrowed from 1 Pet. i. 6. S.

"He afterwards saw a remarkable providence in it, and *need-be* for it." Walker's Peden, p. 69.

NEEDLE-E'E, *s.* *Through the Needle-e'e*, a play among children, in which, a circle being formed, each takes one of his neighbours by the hands, the arms, being extended; and he, who takes the lead, passes under the arms of every second person, backwards and forwards, the rest following in the same order, while they repeat a certain rhyme, S.

"Another game played by a number of children, with a hold of one another, or *tickle-tails*, as it is tech-

nically called in Scotland, is *Through the needle e'e*. The immemorial rhyme for this alluring exercise is this:—

Brother Jack, if ye were mine,
I would give you claret wine;
Claret wine's gude and fine—
Through the *needle-e'e*, boys?

Blackw. Mag., Aug. 1821, p. 36.

It is the same game that in E. is called *Thread-the-Needle*.

It is played in a different manner in Teviotdale. Two stand together, facing each other, having their hands clinched, and lifted above their *breath*, so as to form an arch. Under this perhaps twenty or thirty children pass, holding each other by their clothes. When all have passed save one, the arms of the two, like a portcullis, fall down and detain this individual as prisoner. He, or she, is asked in a whisper, "Will ye be *Tod* or *Fern-buss*." If *Tod* is the answer, the person takes one side, and must wait till all are caught one by one. This being done, the *Tods* draw one way, and the *Ferns* another, the two candidates still keeping hold of each other's hands; and he, who can draw the other and his party to the opposite side of the street, and separate their hands, gains the victory.

This, like many of the sports of children, has an evident reference to a state of warfare.

NEEDLE-FISH, *s.* The Shorter Pipe-fish. V. STANG.

NEED-MADE-UP, *adj.* and *s.* Applied to any thing hastily prepared, as immediately necessary, Aberd.

NEEF, NEIF, *s.* Difficulty, doubt.

The staik indeed is unco great
I will confess alway;—
Great as it is, I needna voust;
I'm seer I hae nae *neef*
To get fat cou'd be ettl'd at
By sik a menseless thief.

Poems in the Buchan Dialect, p. 3.

Seer, sure, Aberd.

A.-S. *naefile*, want, *naefga*, a needy person; Su.-G. *napp*, difficulty, strait, whence *naepliga*, with difficulty; Belg. *nauw*, narrow, strait.

[NEEFE, NEEVE, NEFF, *s.* The fist, hand, Barbour, xvi. 129, Herd's Ed. V. NEIVE.]

[NEEF-FOU, NEFOW, *s.* A handful. V. under NEIVE.]

[NEEK-NACK, *adv.* Out and in, backwards and forwards, hither and thither, quickly, Banffs.]

NEEMIT, NIMMET, *s.* Dinner; in Loth. *neemit*, in Teviotd. *nimmet*.

This must be a corr. of A.-S. *non-mete*, "refectio, vel prandium, a meale or bever at that time. Howbeit of latter times *noone* is midday, and *non-mete*, dinner;" Somner. This corresponds with the Sw. name for dinner, *middag*, i.e., mid-day or noon; Tent. *noen-mael*, *noen-mael-tyd*, prandium. In Norfolk *noonings* denotes "workmen's dinner;" Grose.

NEEP, NEIP, *s.* 1. The old, though now vulgar, name for a turnip, S.

"Pulling of thair *nepie*." Aberd. Reg., A. 1538, v. 16.

But he maun hame but stocking or shoe,
To mump his *neeps*, his sybows, and leeks.

Jacobite Relics, i. 97.

"Raphanus, a radish. Rapum, a *neip*." Wedderburn's Vocab., p. 18.

[2. Anything ugly or ill-shaped, Banffs.]

3. A disagreeable or ill-tempered person, *ibid.*

4. A large, old-fashioned watch, Clydes.; a watch, Banffs.]

It is evidently from A.-S. *naep*, *id.* *rapa*; perhaps remotely from the synon. Lat. word *nap-us*, whence Fr. *naveau*, O. E. *naew*.

[To NEEP, *v. a.* To serve cattle with turnips, S.; part. pr., *neepin*, used also as a *s.*]

NEEP-HACK, *s.* 1. A pronged mattock for taking turnips from the ground during severe frost, Aug., Mearns.

[2. A turnip-rack, from which cattle are fed in the fields during winter, S. *neep-hack*, Clydes.]

[NEEP, *s.* A knoop or promontory, Shet. Isl. *nybba*, a knob, a peak, Norse, *nup*, a promontory.]

NE'ER-BE-LICKET, a vulgar phraseology equivalent to—nothing whatsoever, not a whit, S.

"I was at the search that our gudsire, Monkbarns, that then was, made wi' auld Rab Tull's assistance; but *ne'er-be-licket* could they find that was to their purpose." *Antiquary*, i. 200.

NEER-DO-GOOD, NEER-DO-GUDE, *s.* Synon. with *Neer-do-weel*, S.

"D'ye hear what the weel-favoured [weel-faur'd] young gentleman says, ye drunken *ne'er-do-good*?" *Waverley*, ii. 124.

"Back came the same reckless *ne'er-do-gude* to night, i' the very midst o' the thunder and fire,—to make a like attempt on our laird's roost of fat capons." *Blackw. Mag.*, May 1820, p. 163.

NE'ER-DO-WEEL, *adj.* Past mending, S.

"Eh! see if there isna our auld *ne'er-do-weel* deevil's buckie o' a mither—Hegh, sirs! but we are a hopefn' family, to be twa o' us in the Guard at ance." *Heart M. Loth.*, ii. 151.

"Some of the *ne'er-do-weel* clerks of the town were seen gaffawing—with Jeanie," &c. *Provost*, p. 279.

NEERDOWEEL, *s.* One whose conduct is so bad, as to give reason to think that he will *never do well*, S.

"Some hae a hantla [hantle o'] fauts, ye're only a *ne'er dowell*;" *Ramsay's Prov.*, p. 63.

NEESE, NEEZE, *s.* 1. "The nose," S. O., Gl. Picken.

[2. A sneeze, S.]

A.-S. Dan. *naese*, Su.-G. *naesa*, *id.*

To NEESE, *v. n.* To sneeze, S.; *neeze*, *id.* Gl. Grose.

A.-S. *nies-an*, Belg. *niez-en*, Germ. *niess-en*, Alem. *nios-an*, *nios-an*, Su.-G. *nios-a*, *id.*; all, as *Ihre* has observed, from A.-S. *naese*, Su.-G. *naesa*, &c., the nose, "the fountain of sternutation." V. NEIS.

"Sternuto, to *neize*. Sternutatio, *neizing*." Wedderb. Vocab., p. 19. In a later Ed., perhaps in accommodation to the E., this is changed to *sneize* and *sneizing*.

[NEESHIN, *s.* Snuff; *neeshin-mill*, a snuff-box, also called *sneechin-mill*.]

NEESING, NEESHIN, *s.* Sneezing, S. V. the *v.*

To NEESHIN, *v. n.* To desire the male, S. B. V. EASSIN.

[NEEST, *adj.* Nearest, next. V. NEIST.]

[NEEST, *s.* The least spark of fire, Shetl. Isl. *neisti*, *gneisti*, a spark.]

[To NEESTER, *v. n.* To crackle, to throw off sparks; also to creak, Shetl.; part. pr. *neesterin*, crackling, creaking, used also as a *s.*]

NEET, *s.* A parsimonious person, a niggard, Aberd.

This has been supposed to be merely a figurative use of E. *nit*, from its close adherence to the hair, as fitly transferred to one who keeps a *firm* hold of property. But this etymon is very doubtful.

NEETIE, *adj.* Avaricious, S. V. NITTIE, where this *adj.* is traced to a different source.

NEFF, *s.* The nave of a church.

"The embalmed body is yet to be seen, whole and intire, in a vault built by his grandchild King James VI., in the south-east corner of the *neff* of that stately church which stands to this day." Keith's Hist., p. 22.

Fr. *nef du temple*, id. For the different opinions as to the origin of this term, V. *Naf*, *Ihre*.

NEFF, *s.* A hand, [fist; also, a mitten.]

"Mantiolae, *neffs*, or hands." Wedderb. Vocab., p. 14.

It seems to be used for some kind of covering for the hands, as *mittens*; being conjoined with *Manica*, the sleeve, *Sudarium*, a napkin, &c., under the article, *De Vestibus*. V. NEIVE, NEIF.

NEFFIT, *s.* A puny creature, a pigmy, S., pron. *nyeffit*.

Most probably from *neif*, *q.* one who might be held in the hand of another. Belg. *nufje*, however, signifies a *chit*.

[NEFFOU, NEFFOW, *s.* A handful, a small quantity, Clydes., Loth.]

To NEFFOW, *v. a.* 1. To take in handfuls, Loth., Clydes.

2. To handle any animal; as, "Sandie, callant, lay down the kitlin; ye baggit, ye'll *neffow'd* a' away, that will ye," Roxb.; also pron. *Nieffu'*, *Niffu*. V. NEIVE and NEVEL.

To NEICH, NEYCH, NICH, NYGH, NYCIT, (*gutt.*), *v. a.* To approach, to come, or get nigh.

— The schipmen sa handlyt war,
That thal the schip on na maner
Mycht ger to cum the wall sa ner,
That thar fallbrig mycht *neych* thartill.

Barbour, xvii. 419, MS.

They wer sa nyss quhan men thame *nicht*,
They squeillit lyk ony gaittis.

Chr. Kirk, st. 2.

i.e., approached.

But it is improperly used with *t* in the pres.

Micht name thame note with invy, nor *nycht* thame to neir.

Gawon and Gol., i. 19.

Gif ony *nygh* wald him nere,
He bad thame rebaldis orere
With a ruyne.

Houlate, iii. 21.

The phrase is used by R. Brunne, p. 41—

Fyue wynter holy lasted that werre,
That neuer Eilred our kyng durst *negh* him *nerre*.

Also by Minot—

Wight men of the west
Neghed tham *nerr*.

Poems, p. 46.

I ne wist where to eat, ne at what place,
And it *nighed* nye the none, sud with Nede I met.

P. Ploughman, Fol. 111. b.

i.e., "and I was in want."

"And whanne he had entrid into Cafernaum, the centurien *neighede* to him." Wiclif, Matt. 8.

Neighe, Chaucer, id.

"To *nigh* a thing, to be close to it, to touch it. North." Gl. Grose.

"I *nyghe*, I drawe nere to a thing." Palsgr. B. iii. F. 306, b.

Moes-G. *nequh-jan*, A.-S. *nehw-an*, Su.-G. *naa*, *naekast*, Alem. *nach-an*, Germ. *nah-en*, Belg. *nak-en*, id. Isl. *na*, to touch. As the *v.* literally signifies to come *nigh*, *Ihre* derives it from the prep. *naa*, *prope*; as Schilter from Alem. *nah*, id. Otrifrid, *nah-ta imo*, *appropinquavit ei*.

NEID, NEIDE, *s.* Necessity. *O neide*, of necessity. *Most o neide*, must needs.

O der Wallace, wmquhill was stark and sur,
Thow *most o neide* in presounne till endur.

Wallace, ii. 207, MS.

[NEID, *adj.* Needful, of necessity, Barbour, x. 576, 39.]

[To NEID, *v. a.* To need, *ibid.*, xiii. 46.]

[NEID-BE, *s.* V. NEED-BE.]

NEID-FIRE, NEID-FYRE, *s.* 1. "The fire produced by the friction of two pieces of wood," S. Gl. Compl., p. 357, 358.

The following extract contains so distinct and interesting an account of this very ancient superstition, as used in Caithness, that my readers, I am persuaded, would scarcely forgive me did I attempt to abridge it:

"In those days, [1788] when the stock of any considerable farmer was seized with the murrain, he would send for one of the charm-doctors to superintend the raising of a *need-fire*. It was done by friction, thus; upon any small island, where the stream of a river or burn ran on each side, a circular booth was erected, of stone and turf, as it could be had, in which a semicircular or highland couple of birch, or other hard wood, was set; and, in short, a roof closed on it. A straight pole was set up in the centre of this building, the upper end fixed by a wooden pin to the top of the couple, and the lower end in an oblong *trink* in the earth or

floor; and lastly, another pole was set across horizontally, having both ends tapered, one end of which was supported in a hole in the side of the perpendicular pole, and the other end in a similar hole in the couple leg. The horizontal stick was called the auger, having four short arms or levers fixed in its centre, to work it by; the building having been thus finished, as many men as could be collected in the vicinity, (being divested of all kinds of metal in their clothes, &c.), would set to work with the said auger, two after two, constantly turning it round by the arms or levers, and others occasionally driving wedges of wood or stone behind the lower end of the upright pole, so as to press it the more on the end of the auger: by this constant friction and pressure, the ends of the auger would take fire, from which a fire would be instantly kindled, and thus the *needfire* would be accomplished. The fire in the farmer's house, &c., was immediately quenched with water, a fire kindled from this *needfire*, both in the farm-house and offices, and the cattle brought to feel the smoke of this new and sacred fire, which preserved them from the murrain. So much for superstition.—It is handed down by tradition, that the ancient Druids superintended a similar ceremony of raising a sacred fire, annually, on the first day of May. That day is still, both in the Gaelic and Irish dialects, called *Lá-beal-tin*, i.e., the day of Baal's fire, or the fire dedicated to Baal, or the Sun." Agr. Surv. Caithn., p. 200, 201.

"It is very probable," says Borlase, "that the *Tin-egin*, or forced fire, not long since used in the Isles as an antidote against the plague or murrain in cattle, is the remainder of a Druid custom." Antiq. of Cornwall, p. 130. He then quotes Martin, who gives the following account of it:—

"The inhabitants here did also make use of a fire called *Tin-Egin*, i.e., a forced fire, or fire of necessity, which they used as an antidote against the plague, or murrain in cattle; and it was perform'd thus: all the fires in the parish were extinguish'd, and then eighty-one married men, being thought the necessary number for effecting this design, took two great planks of wood, and nine of 'em were employ'd by turns, who by their repeated efforts rubbed one of the planks against the other until the heat thereof produced fire; and from this forc'd fire each family is supply'd with new fire, which is no sooner kindled than a pot full of water is quickly set on it, and afterwards sprinkled upon the people infected with the plague, or upon the cattle that have the murrain. And this they all say they find successful by experience: it was practis'd on the main land, opposite to the south of Skie, within these thirty years." Descr. Western Islands, p. 113.

As the Romans believed that the extinction of the perpetual fire of Vesta, whether this proceeded from carelessness or any other cause, was a certain prognostic of some great public calamity, it was not deemed lawful to rekindle it in any way but by *Neidfire*. The ceremony was performed in the same manner as that described above. The Vestal Virgins kept boring at a wooden table, till it caught fire. V. Fest. vo. *Ignis*. Simplicius, an ancient philosopher, gives an account of the process in language perfectly analogous to that used in the definition of our term. *Ignem è lignis excutiunt, alterum lignorum, tanquam terebram, in altero circumvertentes*. In Aristot. de Cælo, iii., We learn from Plutarch, that among the Greeks, if the sacred fire was extinguished, it might not be rekindled from any ordinary fire, but by means of vessels made of tiles in which they collected the rays of the sun, as in a focus. V. Pitisc. Lex. vo. *Ignis*, p. 307. Macrobius informs us, that, although this sacred fire had not gone out, it was annually extinguished, and rekindled on the first day of March, which was with the Romans

the first day of the year. For the use of *Neid-fire*, or *forced fire* as a charm for curing cattle, V. BLACK-SPAUL.

This is undoubtedly the same with Alem. *notfyr*, *notfeur*, id. *coactus ignis fricando*; Germ. *nodefyr*, *ignis sacrilegus*. In a council held in the time of Charlemagne, A. 742, it was ordained that every Bishop should take care that the people of God should not observe Pagan rites,—*sive illos sacrilegos ignes, quos Notfyres vocant*;—"or make those sacrilegious fires, which are called *Notfyres*." Capitular. Karloman, c. 5. In the *Indiculus of Superstitions and Pagan Rites* made by the Synod Liptinens., the following title is found; *De igne fricato, de ligno, id est, Nodfyr*. V. Schilter, p. 641. It is also written *Nedfres*, and *Nedfri*.

Lindembrog, in his Gl., thus explains the remains of this superstition: "The peasants in many places of Germany, at the feast of St. John, bind a rope around a stake drawn from a hedge, and drive it hither and thither, till it catches fire. This they carefully feed with stubble and dry wood heaped together, and they spread the collected ashes over their pot-herbs, confiding in vain superstition, that by this means they can drive away canker-worms. They therefore call this *Nodfeur*, q. *necessary fire*."

Spelman thinks that the first syllable is from A.-S. *neod*, obsequium; and thus that *nodfyres* were those made for doing *homage* to the heathen deities.

It is the opinion of Wachter, that this received its name from some kind of *calamity*, for averting which the superstitious kindled such a fire. For *not* signifies calamity.

But the most natural, as well as the best authenticated, origin of the word, is that found in the *Indiculus* referred to above. It seems properly to signify *forced fire*. Before observing that our term had any cognates, it had occurred to me, that it must be from A.-S. *nyd*, force, and *fyr*, fire; and that this idea was confirmed from the circumstances of a similar composition appearing in a variety of A.-S. words. Thus, *nyd-name* signifies taking by violence, rapine; *nydd-hæmed*, a rape; *nyd-gild*, one who pays against his will.

Fires of the same kind, Du Cange says, are still kindled in France, on the eve of St. John's day; vo. *Nedfri*.

These fires were condemned as sacrilegious, not as if it had been thought that there was any thing unlawful in kindling a fire in this manner, but because it was kindled with a superstitious design.

2. Spontaneous ignition, S.

"Quhen the bischop of Camelon was doand diuynne seruice in his pontifical, his staf tuk *neil fyre*, and mycht nocht be slokynnit quhil it wes resolutit to nocht." Bellend. Cron., B. x. c. 12. Lituus—repente igne correptus, Boeth.

"In Louthiane, Fiffe & Angus, grene treis & cornis tuk *neil fyre*." Ibid., B. xii. c. 12. Sponte incensæ, Boeth.

This is obviously an oblique use of the word; as denoting fire not kindled by ordinary means. Both senses refer to wood as taking fire of itself; although the one supposes friction, the other does not.

3. "*Neidfire* is used to express—also the phosphoric light of rotten wood," Gl. Compl., p. 357, 358.

4. It is likewise used as signifying *beacon*, S.

The ready page, with hurried hand,
Awak'd the *need-fire's* slumbering brand,
And ruddy blushed the heaven:

For a sheet of flame, from the turret high,
Waved like a blood-flag on the sky,
All flaring and uneven.

Lay of the Last Minstrel, c. iii. st. 29.

"*Neid-fire*, beacon," N. This is an improper and very oblique sense.

NEIDFORSE, *s.* Necessity. *On neidforse*, of necessity.

"But Morpheus, that slepye gode, assailyeit al my membra, ande oppressit my dul melancolius nature, quhilk gart al my spreitis vital ande animal be cum impotent & paralytic : quhar for on *neid forse*, I was constreneyt to be his aodiour." *Compl. S.*, p. 105.

"For emphasis, two words are united which have the same meaning, though one of them is derived from the Saxon, and the other from the French. A.-S. *nead* and *nead*, vis. Fr. *force*, vis." *Gl. Compl.*

The A.-S. word, however, in its various forms, *nead*, *neod*, *nid*, *nyd*, primarily signifies necessity. The term therefore properly denotes one species of necessity, that arising from force.

NEIDLINGIS, *adv.* Of necessity.

Your joly wo *neidlingis* moist I endite.

Doug. Virgil, *Prolog.* 93. 9.

A.-S. *neadling*, *nedling*, *nydling*, denotes one who serves from necessity; also a violent person, one who uses compulsion. But the term is apparently formed from the *s*, and termination *lingis*, q. v.

[**NEIDNA**, **NEEDNA**. Need not; is or are not necessary, S.]

[**NEID-WAY**, *adv.* Of necessity, *Barbour*, xix. 156; *neidwais*, necessarily, *V.* 242. *Skeat's Ed.*]

To NEIDNAIL, *v. a.* 1. To fasten securely by nails which are clinched, S.

This term is used figuratively by *Niniane Winyet*.

"Ye yourself, brother, of your magnificence and liberal hand, hes oppinit the yettis of hevvin to the faythful Fatheris, afore our Salvour, be hia dethe, resurrection, and glorious ascensaion, had preparit thairto this way to man; and ntheris your acoleris, ye know, mair cruelie hes in thare imaginatioun cloisit up, slotit, and *neidnailit* the samin yettis of our heretage (albeit now already opponit to the just) quhill the latter day of all." *Fourscoir Thre Questionis*, *Keith's Hist.*, App., p. 255.

2. A window is said to be *neidnail'd*, when it is so fixed with nails in the inside that the sash cannot be lifted up, S. This is an improper sense.

This term might seem literally to signify, *nail'd from necessity*. But it appears to have been originally synon. with *roove*, *E. rivet*. Sw. *net-nagla* still signifies to clinch or rivet. The first part of the word may therefore be the same with *naed-a*, id. *clavi cuspidem retundere*; i. e., to *roove* a nail.

NEIF, *s.* Difficulty, *Aberd.*

Wow, sirs! whan I first fill'd the tack
Of Mains of Mennie,
The farmers had nae *neif* to mak
An orrow penny.

W. Beattie's Tales, p. 10.

V. NEEF.

To NEIFFAR, *v. a.* To exchange. V. under **NEIVE**.

NEIGHBOUR-LIKE, *adj.* 1. Resembling those around us, in manners, in appearance, or in moral conduct, S.

2. Often implying the idea of assimilation in criminality, S.

"If ye gie me an order for my fees upon that money—I dare aay *Glossin* will make it forthcoming—I ken something about an escape from *Ellangowan*—aye, aye, he'll be glad to carry me through, and be *neighbour-like*." *Guy Mannering*, iii. 85.

An old crabbed fellow, who had been attending a meeting of creditors, when going home, was overheard by a friend pouring out curses by himself, without any restraint, on some unknown culprit. "Who is this," said the other, "who has so deeply injured you now?" "Nobody," replied he, "has injured me. But I am just thinking of the greatest rascal in the universe." "Who can this be?" rejoined his friend. "It is that scoundrel *Neighbour-like*," said he, "who has ruined more than all other rascals put together."

NEIGRE, **NEEGER**, *s.* A term of reproach, S. borrowed from Fr. *negre*, a negro.

NEIP, *s.* A turnip. V. **NEEP**.

NEIPCE, **NECE**, *s.* A grand-daughter.

"The like is to be understood of ane *Neipce*, or *Neipces*, ane or maa, begotten be the eldest sonne already deceased, quha suld be preferred to their father brother, anent the succession of their *Gudschirs* heritage; except apecial provision of tailyie be made in favours of the aires mail." *Skene*, *Verb. Sign.* vo. *Eneya*, *Sign.* L. 3.

For I the *nece* of mychty *Dardanus*,
And gude dochtir vnto the blissit *Venus*,
Of *Mirmidones* the realme sal neuer behaid.

Doug. Virgil, 64, 53.

As far as I have observed, *Skene* still uses *niece* for grand-daughter, thus translating *neptis* in the *Lat. V. Reg.*, *Maj. B. ii.*, c. 23, s. 3, c. 32, by mistake numbered as 33, also c. 33.

The origin is undoubtedly *neptis*, which was used by the *Romana* to denote a grand-daughter only, while the language remained in its purity. *Spartian* seems to have been among the first who applied the term to a brother's daughter. *Adrain*, p. 2, B. On this word the learned *Casaubon* says; *Juris auctoribus et vetustioribus Latinis nepos est tantum, o εκγυνος, filii aut filiae natus. Posterior aetas produxit vocia usum ad αδελφιδους, natos fratre aut sorore; quam solam vocia ejus notionem, vernaculus sermo noster et Italicus agnoscut. Not. in Spart.*, p. 6.

There seems to be no term, in the *Goth. dialects*, denoting a grand-daughter, which resembles the *Lat. A.-S. nift*, however, a niece, is evidently from *neptis*. For by *Aelfric* it is written *neptis*, which he explains, *brother dochter vel suster dohter*, *Gl.*, p. 75. *Germ. nift, nicht*, a niece. *A.-S. and Alem. nift* also signifies a step-daughter. *Moes.-G. nithjio*, a relation; *C. B. nith*, a niece. Both these *Wachter*, (vo. *Nicht*), derives from *Goth. nid*, genus, propago; observing that hence the term not only bore the sense of *neptis*, but denoted relations of every kind. To this origin he refers *Isl. nidur*, filius, *nidungar*, posteri, *nidin*, cognatio nepotum, *nidiar arf*, haereditas quae transit ad proximos adscendentes et collaterales. *Seren. views nidur*, deorsum, as the origin of the terms last mentioned, as referring to property which descends.

NEIPER, *s.* A prov. corr. of neighbour, *S.B.*

Well, *neiper*, *Ralph* replies, I ken that ye
Had aye a gweed and sound advice to gee.

Ross's Helenore, p. 91.

[NEIPERHEED, *s.* Neighbourhood; with adj. *gued*, friendship; with adj. *ill* or *bad*, enmity, Banffs.]

NEIPERTY, *s.* 1. Partnership, companionship, Aberd.

[2. The embrace of the sexes in generation, Banffs.]

To NEIR, NERE, *v. a.* To approach; also, to press hard upon.

Bot than the swypper tuskaud hound assays
And *neris* fast, ay reddy hym to hynt.
Doug. Virgil, 439, 30.

Tent. *naeder-en*, O. Fland. *naers-en*, Germ. *naher-n*, propinquare.

[NEIR, *adj.* Near, close, niggardly; closely connected; the left, *S.* V. NEAR.]

[NEIR, *adv.* Clean, closely; sparingly, niggardly; exactly, exactingly.]

[NEIR-BY, NEIR-TIL, *prep.* Near to, *S.* V. under NER.]

[NEIR-BY, NEIR-HAN', NEIR-HAND, *adv.* Nearly, almost, *S.* V. under NER.]

[NEIR-BLUDIT, *adj.* Closely-related, *S.* V. under NER.]

[NEIR-CUT, *s.* A shorter road, way, or method than the usual one, *S.*]

[NEIR-HAN, NEIR-HAND, *prep.* Near, close to. V. under NER.]

[NEIR-SICHTIT, NEIR-SIGHTED, *adj.* V. under NER.]

NEIRS, NERES, *s. pl.* The kidneys, *S.* corr. *eirs*.

I trow *Sanctam Ecclesiam*;
Bot nocht in thir Bischops nor freirs,
Quhilk will, for purging of thir *neirs*,
Sard up the ta raw and down the uther.
Lindsay's S. P. Rep., ii. 234.

Thair, I suppose, should be read for *thir*.

"Laborat nephritide, he hath the gravel in the *neirs*."
Wedderb. Vocab., p. 19.

"O.E. *Nere*. Ren." Prompt. Parv.

Isl. *nyra*, Su.-G. *niure*, Tent. *niere*, ren, *nieren*, renes.

NEIS, NES, *s.* The nose, *S.*

Of brokaris and sic baudry how suld I write?
Of quham the filth stynketh in Goddis *neis*.

Doug. Virgil, Prol. 96, 52.

—"Hir Majestie gat sume releif, quhilk lestit quhill Furisday at Ten houris at evin, at quhilk tyme hir Majestie awounit agane, and failyiet in hir sicht, hir feit and hir *neis* was cauld, quhilkis war handlit be extreme rubbing, drawing, and utheris cureis, he the space of four houris, that na creature culd indure gryter paine." Lett. B. of Ross to Abp. of Glasgow, Keith's Hist. App. p. 134.

A.-S. *naese*, *nese*, Su.-G. *naesa*, Alem. *nasa*, Isl. *noos*, *nasus*. V. NEASE.

NEIS-THYRLE, NES-THRYLL, *s.* Nostril, *S.*

Vntill Eneas als thare Prince absent
Ane rial chare richely arrayit he sent,
With twa sterne stedis therin yokit yfere,
Cummin of the kynd of heuinlye hors were,
At thare *neis thyrlis* the fyre fast suering out.
Doug. Virgil, 215, 33.

Out of the *nes-thryllys* twa,
The red bluid brystyd owt.

Wyntoun, vii. 8. 455.

"Eftir this the minister takis his spattel and vnctis the barnis *neysthirles* and the eiris, to signifie, that a christin man suld haue ane sweat savoir, that ia to say, ane gud name and fame that he may be callit a gud christin man, & also that he haie alwaie his eiris oppin to heir the word of God." Abp. Hamiltoun's Catech., Fol. 130 b, by mistake printed as 131.

A.-S. *naes-thyrly*, pl. from *naese*, and *thyrly*, *S.*, *thirl*, foramen.

[NEIS-WISE, *adj.* 1. Having or pretending to have acute smell, *S.*

2. Metaph., quick in perception, far-seeing, *S.*

3. With negative it implies ignorant, in the dark; as, "I didna mak him *neis-wise*," I did not enlighten him, I kept him in the dark. V. NOSEWISS.]

NEIST, NAYST, NEST, NIEST, *adj.* Nearest, next, *S.* *neist*, Westmorel.

Destynè swa mad hym ayre
Til Conrade this Emperoure,
And til hym hys *neyst* successoure.

Wyntoun, vi. 13. 236.

Ah chequer'd life!—As day gives joy,
The *neist* our hearts maun bleed.

Ramsay's Poems, i. 180.

A.-S. *neahst*, Su.-G. Dan. *naest*, Belg. *naast*, Germ. *nachste*, Pers. *nazd*, id. V. NE.

NEIST, NEYST, *prep.* Next.

Benedict *neyst* that wyf
Twa yhere Pape wes in hys lyf.

Wyntoun, vi. 6. 37.

NEIST, *adv.* Next, *S.*

A meaner phantom *neist* with meikle dread,
Attacks with senseless fear the weaker head.

Ramsay's Poems, i. 55.

[NEISTMOST, NEISTMEST, *adj.* Next; the next, *S.*]

NEITHERS, NETHERINS, *adv.* Neither, Renfr.

—Their auld forefathers,
Wha war nae blocks at dressin' *neithers*,
Wad ran as lang as they had sight
To seen their sons in sic a plight.

Picken's Poems, 1788, p. 61.

NEIVE, NEIF, *s.* 1. The fist, *S.* A. Bor. *nieve*, pl. *neiffis*, *nevys*, *newys*, *newffys*.

And now his handis raxit it euery stede,
Hard on the left *neif* was the scharp stele hede.

Doug. Virgil, 396, 37.

And *nevys* that stalwart war and squar,
That wout to spayn gret speris war,
Swa spaynyt aris, that men mycht se
Full off the hyde leve on the tre.

Barbour, iii. 581.

In MS. *newys*.

Thar mycht men se men ryve thair har:
And comouly knychtis gret full sar,
And their *neiffys* of samyn dryve,
And as woud men thair clsthyrs ryve.

Ibid., xx. 257, MS.

The fine for "ane straik with the steiked *neif*," i.e., a stroke with the closed fist, was twelve pennies, or one penny Sterling. Reg. Maj., B. iv., c. 42, § 15.

—Skin in blypes came haulrin
Aff's *nieves* that night.

Burns, iii. 136.

To *fald the nieve*, to clinch the fist. He *wad'y'd his nieve in my face*, S. He threatened to strike me with his fist, S. B.

2. *Hand to nieve*, familiarly hand and glove, S.

They baith gaed in, and down they sat,
And, *hand to nieve*, began to chat.

R. Galloway's Poems, p. 134.

Isl. *kneft*, *kneif*, Su.-G. *knæf*, now *naefwe*, Dan. *naeve*, *nefve*, id. Ibre seems to think that the word may be derived from *knæ*, which anciently denoted any knot or folding of a joint, in the human body, or otherwise. Thus *knefve* is defined by G. Andr., *pugnus, manus complicata*. This idea is much confirmed by the use of Isl. *hnue*, which not only signifies the space between two joints, in *ternodium digitorum a tergo palmarum*, but also, a knot, a clue, a globe, *nodus, glomus, globus*, G. Andr., p. 118.

This word does not appear in A.-S., or in any of the Germ. dialects of the Gothic. *Fyste* or *faust* was the term they used in the same sense, whence E. *fist*.

It is used, however, by Shakspeare, who probably knew it to be a North country word. In some editions it is written *neafe*, in others *neif*.

Give me thy *neafe*, Monsieur Mustardseed.

Midsummer N. Dream.

Sweet knight, I kiss thy *neif*.

K. Henry IV.

NEIVEFU', NIEVEFU', NEFFOW, s. 1. A handful, as much as can be held in the fist; often *neffow*, as a *neffow of meal*; *neife*full, id., A. Bor.

A *nievefu'* o' meal, or a gowpen o' aits,—
Wad hae made him as blythe as a beggar could be.
Jamieson's Popular Ball., i. 301.

Tho' here they scrape, an squeeze, an' growl,
Their worthless *nievefu'* of a soul
May in some future carcase howl,
The forest's fright.

Burns, iii. 246.

2. A small quantity of any dry substance composed of various parts; as, "a *neffow* o' woo," i.e., wool, Clydes.

3. Any person or thing very small and puny, *ibid*.

4. Used metaphorically and contemptuously to denote what is comparatively little, or of no value.

5. Applied to a death's-hold of what is viewed as worthy of grasping.

O wae be to the hand whilk drew na the glaive,
And cowed nae the rose frae the cap o' the brave;
To hae thri'en 'mang the Southron as Scotsmen sye
thraue,

Or 'taen a bloody *nievefu'* o' fame to the grave.
Lament L. Maxwell, Jacobite Relics, ii. 234.

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The S. phrase, *neffow o' meal*, is perfectly analogous to Su.-G. *naefwe miol*, tantum farinae, quantum manu continere possis. But Ibre observes that the ancients always said, *naefwe full*. This evidently corresponds to the origin of our word; *neif* and *fow* or *full*. Wideg. gives Sw. *en naefwe*, and *en naefwe ful*, as *synon.*, for "a handful."

NIVVIL, s. The same, only differently pronounced, S. B.

[To NEIVEFU', NEIFFOU, NEFFOW, v. a. To deal out in handfuls, S.]

NEIVIE-NICKNACK, s. "A fire-side game; a person puts a little trifle, such as a button, into one hand, shuts it close, the other hand is also shut; then they are whirled round and round one another,—before the one who intends to guess which hand the prize is in;" Gall. Encycl.

While the fists are whirled, the following lines are repeated, according to the Gallovidian form;

Neivie, Neivie, nick, nack,
What ans will ye take?
The right or the wrang;
Guess or it be lang.
Plot swa and plan;
I'll cheat ye gif I can.

[The Ayrshire form, however, is—

Neevie, neevie, nick, nack,
Whilk han' will ye tak;
Tak the richt or tak the wrang
I'll beguile ye gif I can.]

"He is a queer auld cull.—He gave me hslf a crown yince, and forbade me to play it awa' at pitch and toss." 'And you disobeyed him, of course?' 'Na—I played it awa' at *neevie-neevie-nick-nack*.'" *St. Ronan*, iii. 102.

"It would, perhaps, be in vain now to expect—that a gambler at cards or dice should stop the ruin of his own or of another's fortune, by playing at *nivy-nick-nack* or *pitch and toss*." &c. *Blackw. Mag.*, Aug. 1821, p. 37.

It is a kind of lottery; and seems to have been of French origin. Rabelais mentions *A la nicnoque*, as one of the games played by Gargantua. This is rendered by Urquhart, *Nivivivivivack*. *Transl.*, p. 94. The first part of the word seems to be from *Neive*, the fist being employed in the game. Shall we view *nick* as allied to the E. v. signifying "to touch luckily?"

NEVEL, NEVELL, NEVELL, s. A blow with the fist, S.

Wi' *nevels* I'm amaist fawn faint,
My chafts are dung a char.
Ramsay's Poems, i. 260.

Tho' some wi' *nevels* had sare snouts,
A' bygones were neglected.
A. Nicol's Poems, 1739, p. 76.

To NEVEL, NEVELL, NAVELL, NEFFLE, v. a. 1. To strike or beat with the fists, S.

Indeid thow sall beir mee a bevell,
With my neives I sal the *navell*.
Philotus, S. P. R., iii. 49.

The weaver gas him sturdie blows,
Till a' his sides war *nevell'd*.
Rev. J. Nicol's Poems, ii. 153.

Noll acknowledges the same root. To this also we may perhaps trace *Knuse, Know, and Gnidge*, q. v.

2. To take a hold with the fist, to take a

W 2

handful of anything, S. When used in this sense, it is pron. *neffle*.

Isl. *hnuf-a*, id. pugno prendo, from *hnefe*, the fist. Su.-G. *hnuff-a*, pugnis impetere, *naefs-a*, id.

As *neave* is used as a *s.*, its derivative *nevel* is also used as a *v.*, Yorks.

She'll deal her *neaves* about her, I hear tell,
Nean's yable to abide her crueltie ;
She'll nawpee and *nevel* them without a cause,
She'll macke them late their teeth naunt in their
hawse.

"*Nawpe* and *Nevill*, is to beat and strike;" Gl. *ibid.* Both terms seem to have the common origin given under *Neive*. But *nawpe* is immediately allied to Isl. *kneppe*, pello violenter propulso; G. Andr., p. 116, 117. *Neyve* is used for the fist, Lancash.

3. To knead well; to leave the marks of the knuckles on bread, Aysr.

Thick *nevel't* scones, beer-meal, or pease,—
I'd rather hae—
Than a' their fine blaw-flums o' teas,
That grow abroad.

Picken's Poems, 1788, p. 63.

4. To pommel, to beat with any kind of instrument; used improperly, Aysr.

"When we came to the spot; it was just a yird toad, and the laddie weans *nevelled* it to death with stones, before I could persuade them to give over." *Annals of the Parish*, p. 104.

NEVELLING, NEFFELLING, *s.* Fisticuffs, striking with the fist or folded hand, S.

—"Fra glouming thay came to schouldring, from schouldring they went to buffetis, and fra dry blawis be neiffis and *neveling*." Knox's Hist., p. 51, N. 2, Sign. It is *neffelling* in both MSS.

To NEIFFAR, NIFFER, *v. a.* 1. To exchange or barter; properly, to exchange what is held in one *fist*, for what is held in another, *q.* to pass from one *neive* to another, S.

"I know if we had wit, and knew well that ease slayeth us fools, we would desire a market where we might barter or *niffer* our lazy ease with a profitable cross." Rutherford's Lett., P. 1, ep. 78.

Stand yond, proud czar, I wadna *niffer* fame
With thee, for a' thy furs and paughty name.

Ramsay's Poems, ii. 322.

Wa is me! quhat mercat hath scho maid!
How *neiffarit* be parentis twa
Hyr bliss for hale, my luv for feid.

Jamieson's Popular Ball., ii. 322.

—"Confessis—that he staw [stole] aue gray staig of twa year old from James Weir at Carlok;—and that he *nifferit* that staig with aue John Buchanan," &c. Acts Cha. I., Ed. 1814, V. 447. V. NEIVE.

2. To higgel, South of S.

"Weel, Ratcliffe, I'll no stand *niffering* wi' ye; ye ken the way that favour's gotten in my office; ye maun be usefu'." Heart M. Loth., ii. 85.

This is an oblique sense of the *v. a.*, as people often higgel in bartering.

NEIFFER, NIFFER, *s.* A barter, an exchange, S.

Ye see your state wi' theirs compar'd,
And shudder at the *niffer*.

Burns, iii. 114.

NIFFERING, *i. e.*, The act of bartering.

"I should make a sweet bartering and *niffering*, and give old for new, if I could shuffle out self, and substitute Christ my Lord in place of myself." Rutherford's Lett., P. i., ep. 37.

To NEK, *v. a.* To prevent receiving check, "a term at chess, when the king cannot be guarded;" Ramsay.

—Under cure I gat sik chek,
Quhilk I nicht noch remuif nor nek,
But eyther stall or mait.

Cherrie and Slae, st. 16.

Perhaps from Su.-G. *nek-a*, to refuse.

[To NEK, NECK, *v. a.* To toy as lovers, to court; part. pr. *neckin*, *nekkin*, used also as a *s.* Clydes.]

[NEKBANE, *s.* Neck-bone, Barbour, i. 218.]

[NEKKYT, *adj.* Having a covering for the neck. Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 146. Dickson.]

[NEKLEDDERIS, *s. pl.* Neck-leathers for draught horses.

"Item, [the viij day of September, 1496], for a quibit hyde to be brestledderis and *nekledderis* to hamys, . . . xvj s." Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 293. Dickson.

This was for the horses of the King's "artailzery," then lying at Leith.]

To NELL, *v. n.* To *Nell* and *Talk*, to talk loudly, loquaciously, and frivolously, Clydes. *Now and Talk*, *synon.* Hence, "a *nellin* talk."

Probably from E. *knell*; A.-S. *cnyll-an*, to ring. Perhaps the word appears in its primary sense in Isl. *knall-a*, fuste tundere, to beat with a rope.

NELL, NELLY, *s.* Abbrev. of *Helen*, S.

[NEMMYT, *part. pa.* Named, appointed, Barbour, viii. 215. A.-S. *nemnan*, to name, call, call by name.]

NEPIS, *pl.* Turnips. V. NEEP.

NEPS, *s.* The abbrev. of *Elspeth* or *Elizabeth*.

NEPUOY, NEPOT, NEPHOY, NEPHEW, NEVO, NEVW, NEWU, *s.* 1. A grand-son.

The heldare douchtyr yhoure modyre hare ;
My modyr hyre syster wes yyoungare ;
To the stok I am swa *Newu*.

Pronevu yhe ar.—
Newu for til have wndon,
Is nowthir brodyr na syster sone ;
Bot fra the stok down ewynlykly
Discendand persownys lynealy
In the tothir, or the thryd gre,
Newu, or Pronevu suld be ;
As for til call the swne swne,
[Or] the dowchtrys swa to be dwne,
Hyr swne may be cald *Newu* :
This is of that word the wertu.

Wyntown, viii. 3. 85. 111, &c.

"Failyeng sonnes and daughters,—the richt of succession perteinis to the *Nepuoy* or *Neipse*, gotten vpon the sonne or the daughter." Skene Verb. Sign. vo. *Eneya*.

Urry and Tyrwhitt refer to Chaucer's Legend of Good Women (v. 2648) in proof that it denotes a grandson. But there it undoubtedly signifies nephew.

"We ar faderis, ye our sonnys, your sonnys ar our nepotis." Bellend. Cron., B. i., Fol. 6, b. 7, a.

"Some alledges the after-borne sonne to be mair richteous aire, then the Nephoy." Reg. Maj., B. ii., c. 33, s. 2. *Nephew*, *ibid.*, c. 25, s. 3.

Bot, lo, Panthus slippit the Grekis speris—
Harling him eftir his littill *neuo*.

Doug. Virgil, 49, 51.

Lat. *nepos*, a grandson. V. NEIPCE.

"The King beand deceit, his eldest sone, or his eldest *nepote*,—sall succed to the crown. The *nepote* gottin be the King's sone sall be preferrit to the *nepote* gottin on the King's dochter." Auld Lawis, Balfour's Pract., p. 682.

It is evident that this sense, in relation to a grandson, was given to the term, not only by ordinary writers, and individual lawyers, but legally admitted in the supreme courts of the nation.

"Anent the summondis maid be Johne Carlile spoun Gawin of Johnestoune, *nevo* & are [heir] of vmquhile Gavin of Johnestoune, to here lettrez decernit to distrenye him, his landis & gudis for the soume of an hundredth merkis recouerit of before apoun his said *grant-schir*. Bath the saidis partiis beand personally present, the said Gawin denyit that he wes are to his said *grant-schir*," &c. Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1494, p. 368.

2. A great grandson.

Thus Venus is introduced as saying to Jupiter.

Suffer that ying Ascanus mot be
Sauf fra all wappinnis, and of perellis fre ;
And at the leist in this ilk mortall stryffe
Suffir thy *neuo* to remane alyffe.

Doug. Virgil, 814, 12.

3. Posterity, lineal descendants, although remote.

The mene sessoun this Anchises the prince—
Gan rekin, and behald ententfully
Alhale the nowmer of his genology,
His tendir *nevois* and posterité,
Thare fatis, and thare fortouns every gre.

Doug. Virgil, 189, 11.

—Of quhais stok the *nevois* and ofspring
Vnder thare feit and lordschip sal behald
All landis sterit and reult as they wald.

Ibid., 208, 18.

Nepotes, Virg.

4. A brother's or sister's son.

Hys *newow*, Malcolme cald, for-thi
Herytabil in-til his lyf
The Erlwdme tuk til hym of Fyfe :
Eftyr that his Eme wes dede,
He Erle of Fyfe wes in his stede.

Wyntown, vii. 9. 328.

His Eyme Schyr Ranald to Rycardton come fast,—
And at the last rycht freindfully said he,
Welcum *Neuo*, welcum der sone to me.

Wallace, ii. 430, MS.

A.-S. *nepos*, brother *sune*, vel *suster sune*, that is, *nepa*. Gl. Aelfr., p. 75. *Nepa*, *nepa*, Lye ; Germ. *nef*, Fr. *neveu*. This is now the usual sense of the term, S., although, as I am informed, some old people still call their grand-children *nevoys*, Loth. Tweedd. This signification is, however, nearly obsolete.

5. Any relation by blood, although not in the straight line.

Bot this Pape the nynd Benet
Til Benet the auchtand, that that set
Held before, wes *newow* nere.

Wyntown, vi. 13. 57.

i. e., A near relation. "Benedict IX. succeeded. He was son of Alberic count of Tuscan, and a near relation of the two preceding Popes." Walch's Hist. Popes, p. 138. V. PRONEVW.

NEPUS-GABLE, s.

"There being then no *ronns* to the houses, at every place, especially where the *nepus-gables* were towards the streets, the rain came gushing in a spout." The Provost, p. 201.

Perhaps q. *knapp-house*, Su.-G. *knapp*, *knæpp*, vertex, summitas, and *hus*, domus; *kyrkonapp*, vertex templi vel summa turris. S. *Timpan*, synon.

NER, NERE, prep. Near, S.

A.-S. *ner*, Su.-G. Dan. *naer*. V. NYCHBOUR.

It is frequently used in composition; as *ner-by*, nearly, S. Belg. *byna*.

NERBY, NEAR BY, prep. Near to. *Nerby Glasgou*, near to that city, S.

It is also used as an *adv.* signifying nearly, almost; as, "I was *nerby dead*," I was almost lifeless, S.

The Germans invert the synonyme, *bey-nah*.

NER BY, NEAR BY, adv. Nearly, S.

"Sae aff I set, and Wasp wi' me, for ye wad really hae thought he kent where I was gaun, puir heast,—and here I am after a trot o' sixty mile or *near bye*." Guy Mannering, iii. 107.

NER-BLUDIT, adj. Nearly related, q. *near* in blood, Clydes.

[NER-CUT, NEIR-CUT, s. A path, way, or method that is shorter or more direct than the usual, S.]

NERHAND, NEAR HAND, prep. Near, just at hand, S.

Quhen thai the land wes rycht *ner hand*,
And quhen schippys war sailand *nsr*,
The se wald ryss on sic maner,
That off the wawys the weltrand hycht
Wald refe thaim oft off thair sycht.

Barbour, iii. 716, MS.

Four scooyr of speris *ner hand* thaim haid at rycht.

Wallace, iv. 545, MS.

"They were standing at that time when hee hung quicke vpon the crosse, so *near hand*, that he speakes to them from the crosse, and they hearde him." Rollocke on the Passion, p. 213.

"Hamilton, Lanerk his brother, the lord Gordon his sister's son, and the earl of Argyle—went quietly frae court, and rode to a place of Hamilton's mother's called Kinneil, where for a while they remained together, *nearhand* Linlithgow, syne went to Hamilton, and therefrae to Glasgow in sober manner, as they thought fit." Spalding, i. 326, 327.

It also occurs in O. E., "He was so sore taken with her loue that he went *nerehande* madde for her eake;" Palsgr., B. iii., F. 147, a.

"He played so long tyll he hade *nerehande* brokyn the glaise." *Ibid.*, F. 454.

NERE HAND, NERHAN, adv. Nearly, almost.

Swa bot full fwe wyth hym ar gane ;

He wes *nere hand* left hym alane.

Wyntown, viii. 26. 414.

NER-SICHTIT, adj. Shortsighted, purblind, S., a Goth. idiom; Su.-G. *naarsynt*, id.

NER TIL, prep. Near to, S.

NES, s. A promontory; generally pron. *ness*, S.

Than I my selfe, fra this was to me schaw,
Doun at the *nes* richt by the coistis law,
Ane void tumb rasit, and with loude voice thryis
Apoun thay wandring and wrachit gaisis cryis.
Doug. Virgil, 181, 40.

—"Before the last bell was rung, certane scholars came in pertly to the kirk, and took up their hail service books, and carried them down to the *Ness* with a coal of fire, there to have burnt them altogether; but there fell out such a sudden shower, that before they could win to the *Ness* the coal was drowned out." *Spalding*, i. 64.

Ness is used in the same sense in E. as a termination; but not by itself.

A.-S. *naessa*, *nesse*, Su.-G. *naes*, Belg. *neus*, id. This designation is undoubtedly borrowed from A.-S. *naese*, *nese*, a nose, as a promontory rises up in the sea, like the nose in the face. V. Wachter, p. 1120. V. NEIS and NESS.

NES-THRYLL. V. NEIS-THYRLE.

NESS. S. pl. *nessis*.

Madem, he said, rycht welcum mot ye be,
How plessis yow our ostyng for to se?
Rycht weyll, scho said, off frendschip haiff we neid;
God grant ye wald off our *nessis* to speid.

Wallace, viii. 1237, MS.

This term may denote territories, confines in general; from A.-S. *nesse*, *naesse*, a promontory, used obliquely. But it seems rather to signify vallies, low grounds, according to another signification of the same A.-S. word; *nessas*, profunda, locus depressa; Lye, vo. *Nesse*.

This sense corresponds with the description given of the site of Wallace's camp, when, as it is fabled, the Queen of England came to visit him.

—Chestynt a sted quhar thai suld bid all nycht,
Tentis on ground, and palyonis proudly pycht;
Intill a *wail*, he a small rywer fayr,
On ather sid quhar wyld der maid repayr.

Ibid., v. 1174, MS.

Early editors, according to the inexcusable liberties they have generally taken, when they did not understand any term, have thus altered the former passage:

God grant ye *will our errand for* to speed.

Ness is the term used, Edit. 1758, p. 231.

NESSCOCK, s. A small boil; *Nesscockle*, Strathmore.

"Furunculus, a *nesscock*." Wedderb. Vocab., p. 20.

This seems merely a corruption of *Arsecockle*, q. v.; formed perhaps by the separation of the letter *n* from *an* or *ane*, the article, when prefixed to the word.

[NEST, s. A number of articles of the same kind, generally of glass or china, fitted into each other and forming one clump or parcel, Accts. L. H. Treas., i. 300, Dickson.]

NET, s. The *omentum*, the caul, or film which covers the intestines, S.

Teut. *net*, omentum; diaphragma, Kilian; A.-S. *net*, *nette*, id.

NETES, s. pl. [Horned cattle; *skynne of nete*, cow-skin, dressed whole, i.e., with the hair, like furs. Isl. *naut*, cattle.]

"Item, ane pair of the like slevis of jennetis with the bord of the same. Item, ane pair of the like slevis

of the skynnys of *netes* with the bord of the same." Inventories, A. 1561, p. 123. V. NECES.

[Dr. Jamieson quite misunderstood this extract, and became merry over "the fur of this animal," which he called "a nondescript." But many a person, even now, wears not only sleeves but a sleeved-waistcoat of the same material, viz., cow or calf-skin dressed with the hair.

And "the bord of the same," was no doubt a border or trimming with the hair turned out, in order to set off the sleeves, which had the hair turned inside for warmth. In the same way the "slevis of jennetis," were sleeves of horse-skin dressed and trimmed in like manner.

By the way, the *peudenete*, *puদিনete*, to which Dr. J. refers, are certainly errors for *pie-d-nete*, spotted or speckled cattle, just the very ones whose skins would be selected then, as they are still, for such articles. V. PEUDENETE in Dict.

NETH, prep. Below, downwards.

Doune *neth* thai held, graith gydys can thaim leyr,
Abone Clossbarn Wallace approchyt ner.

Wallace, ix. 1750, MS.

A.-S. *neothan*, Su.-G. *ned*, Isl. *nedan*, infra.

NETHER, adv. Next, below, nearer, Ettr. For.

NETHER-END, s. The breech, S.

Meanwhile two herds upo' the sinny brae
Forgathering, straight down on tammocks clsp
Their *nether ends*, and talk their unco's o'er.

Davidson's Seasons, p. 5.

NETHIRMARE, adv. Farther down, farther below.

Tyll hellis fludis Enee socht *nethir mare*,
And Palinurus his sterisman fand there.

Doug. Virgil, 173, 31.

A.-S. *nither*, Isl. *nedre*, Su.-G. *neder*, downward, and *mare*, more. The phrase is perhaps tautological. For all these terms seem comparatives formed from those mentioned under NETH.

NETHMIST, NETHMOST, adj. Undermost, Aberd., Ettr. For.; the same with *Nedmist*, q. v.

NETHRING, s. Injury, depression, degrading; deposition.

— He delt sa curtasly
With me, that on nawyss suld I
Giff consaill till his *nethring*.

Barbour, xix. 155, MS.

V. NIDDER.

NETHELES, conj. Notwithstanding, nevertheless.

And *netheles* with support and correctioun,—
Yit with thy leif, Virgil, to follow the,
I wald into my vulgare rural grose,
Write sum sauoring of thy Eneadose.

Doug. Virgil, 3, 38.

Natheles is commonly used in the same sense by R. Glouc. A.-S. *na the laes*, id.

NETHER, NEDDIR, s. An adder. This in some counties is the invariable pron., *a nether*.

"*Neddyr* or *eddyr*, Serpens." Prompt. Parv. This corresponds with A.-S. *naeddre*, *nedder*, *neddre*, serpens, anguis, &c., a serpent, an adder; Somner. *Neidr* is the C. B. term, written by Lhuyd *neidir*; Corn. *naddy*; Ir., Gael. *nathair*; L. B. *nader-a*, id. Mr. Todd has inserted the term *Nedder* in the E. Dictionary, on the authority of Chaucer.

NETHERANS, NAITHERANS, NAITHERS, *conj.* Neither, West of S.

"I was for thinking at first it was—the houlets an' the wulcats tryin' wha wad mak the loudest scraigh; yet it was na like them *netherans* I thought again." Saint Patrick, i. 167.

"*Naitherans, Naithers*, neither, e.g., *I dinna like it naitherans*, I do not like it neither." Gl. Picken.

[NETTER, *s.* An adder. V. NETHER.]

[NETTERCAP, *s.* A peevish, cross-tempered person, Clydes. V. ETTERCAP.]

NETTERIE, *adj.* Ill-tempered, Tweedd.

Perhaps from A.-S. *naeddre*, Teut. *nater*, an adder, a serpent.

NETTLE-BROTH, *s.* Broth made of *net-tles*, as a substitute for greens, especially when gathered young in Spring, S.

NETTLE-EARNEST, *s.* In *nettle-earnest*, no longer disposed to bear jesting, but growing testy, Selkirks.

"'It's a queer place this,' quo he; 'ane canna speak a word but it's taen in *nettle-earnest*.'" Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 10. Perhaps *q.* stinging like a *nettle*.

NETTLIE, *adj.* Ill-humoured, peevish, S.A.

Isl. *knittileg-r* is rendered acer, as equivalent to Dan. *snild*, sharp, our *snell*. But I suppose that the *adj.* is formed from the name of the weed, as referring to its stinging quality.

NETTY, *s.* A woman who traverses the country in search of wool, Ettr. For.

NETTY, *adj.* Mere, sheer, Aberd.

The ns'er a bedle mair I'll spend
On ale or liquor;
Except it be for *netty* dreuth,
I tak a drap to wet my mouth.

W. *Beattie's Tales*, p. 16.

NEUCHELD (*gutt.*), *part. pa.* With calf; a term applied to a cow that is pregnant, Perth.

NEUCK-TIME, *s.* The name given, in W. Loth., to the twilight; immediately in reference to its being the season for pastime or gossiping among the working people.

Isl. *knauk*, labor taediosus, opus serville; *knauk-a*, cernuus laborare. Perhaps merely *q.* a *nook*, angle, or small portion of *time*.

NEUK, *s.* Corner, S.; same with *nook*, E. V. OO.

Far nook, the extremity of any thing, S.; *q.* the utmost corner.

"He will have us trained up in the exercise of believing and waiting; but I trow, instead of waiting, many a one of us be come to the *far nook* of our patience." Mich. Bruce's Lectures, &c., p. 48.

In the neuk. In child-bed, Galloway.

"He was sent to Wigton for a bottle of wine, and another of brandy, to comfort a few gossips who were

attending his first wife, then in the *neuk*." Caled. Merc., Mar. 3, 1823.

NEUKATYKE, *s.* 1. A designation given to a *collie*, or shepherd's dog, that is rough or shaggy, Fife.

2. Applied to a man who masters another easily in a struggle or broil; *He shook him like a neukatyke*, i.e., as easily as a powerful *collie* does a small dog, *ibid*.

To ca' a dog after sheep, or any other animal, is to hound him on them. The most natural idea therefore, is, that the phrase had originally been a *new ca'd tyke*, i.e., a dog that is quite fresh and vigorous, as being only *newly* hounded out, one that is not exhausted by running.

NEULL, NEULL'D, NULL'D, *adj.* Having very short horns, or rather mere stumps of horns, Roxb., Ayr. ; *Nittled*, *synon*.

["Ill-willy kye suld hae *neull* horns," Ayr.]
Teut. *knovel*, *knevel*, nodus.

[NEUTH, NEWTH, *prep.* Beneath, Barbour, xi. 538, 537.]

[NEVEL, NEVELL, *s.* and *v.* V. under NEIVE.]

NEVEW, NEVO, NEVOW. V. NEPUOY.

NEVIL-STONE, *s.* The key-stone of an arch.

"I admire the roofe of it [the Pantheon], being so large and so flat without any pillar to support it; and altho' it be a vault, it hath no *nevil-stone* to bind it in the middle, but in places thereof a round hole so wide that it lights the whole roome abundantly, nor is there any other window in the fabrick." Sir A. Balfour's Letters, p. 137.

Qu. if *q.* *navel-stone*, as being the central part?

To NEVIN, NEVIN, NYVIN, *v. a.* To name.

Quhat medis, said Spinagros, sic notis to *nevin*?
Gawan and Gol., ii. 16.

—We socht this cieté tyll,
As folkis flemyt fra thare natyue cuntré,
Vmquibile the maist souerane realme, trayst me,
That euer the son from the fer part of heuyn
Wyth his bemys ouer schane, or man couth *nevin*.
Doug. Virgil, 213, 1.

All thair namys to *nyvin* as new it nocht medis.
Houlaie, i. 3, MS.

By mistake *nyum*, Edit. Pink.

The *v.* occurs in R. Brunne, p. 20—

The date of Criste to *neuen* thus fele wers gon,
Auht hundreth euen, & sexti & on.

Chaucer uses *neven* in the same sense.

The *s.* occurs in Hardyng.

When he had reigned ful eyghtens yere,
Buried he was at Glostenbury to *neven*.

Chron., Fol. 116, b.

Skinner views this word as paragogical of *name*. Rudd. gives no other view of it. Sibb. calls it "a corruption of *name*." But it is evidently from Isl. *nafn*, Dan. *nafn*, a name, whence *naevn-er*, to name, to call.

[NEVIS, NEVYS, *s. pl.* Fists, Barbour, xx. 257. V. NEIVE.]

NEVOY, *s.* A nephew, S. V. NEPUOY.

* **NEW**, *adj.* OF **NEW**, newly, anew.

"It was reformed againe of *new*, better nor it wes befoir." Pitscottie's Cron., p. 57. O. E. id., Chaucer.

Ther can no man in humblesse him acquite
As woman can, ne can be half so trewe
As women ben, but it be falle of *newe*.
Clerke's Tale, v. 8814.

Obviously a Lat. idiom; *de novo*, id.

To **NEW**, *v. a.* To renovate, to renew; used in an oblique sense.

Rise and raik to our Roy, richest of rent,
Thow sll be *newit* at neid with nobillay enuch;
And dukit in our duchery all the duelling.

Gawan and Gol., iv. 6.

i. e., Thou shalt have new honours in abundance, be acknowledged as a duke, &c.

It occurs in a sense somewhat different in the S. Prov.; "It is a sary brewing, that's no good in the *newing*," i. e., when it is new; "spoken when people are much taken with new projects." Kelly, p. 181.

A.-S. *new-ian*, id. Part. pa. *niod*; Alem. *niu-uonne*, renovare, Schilter. Isl. Su.-G. *ny*, novus, whence *foer-ny-a*, to renew; Germ. *neu*, whence *er-neu-ern*, id.

Mr. Todd has inserted this as an O. E. word, used by Gower and Chaucer. It occurs in Prompt. Parv. "*Newyn* or *innuwyn*. Innouo.—*Newen* or *maken newe*."

NEWIN, **NEWYN**, *part. pr.* Renewing; recalling, or calling up anew.

Off sic mater I may nocht tary now,
Quhare gret dule is, bot redemyng agayne,
Newyn of it is bot ekyng of payne.

Wallace, vi. 103, MS.

Newing, Edit. 1754. The sense seems to be *newing*. V. **NEW**. I am not certain, however, that this does not signify, *naming*, from *Nevin*.

NEWINGIS, **NEWINGS**, *s. pl.* 1. News, a new thing, a fresh account of any thing.

—"Quhair ye say, your cumming in this cuntrie was—simple to propone vnto the people Jesus Christ crucified, to be the only Sauour of the world, praise be to God, that was na *newingis* in this cuntrie, or ye war borne." Q. Kennedy, *Ressoning with J. Knox*, iii. b.

"Quhair ye ar glaid to knaw, quhat ye suld impung, apperantie that sould be na *newingis* to yow," &c. *Ibid.*, D. ii. a.

2. Novelties, what one is not familiar with.

"Strokes were not *newingis* to him; and neither are they to you." *Ruth*. Lett. P. iii. ap. 27.

NEWIT, *part. pa.* Renewed. V. **NEW**.

NEWLINGIS, *adv.* Newly, recently, S. *newlins*.

Syk hansom to that folk gaiff he,
Rycht in the fyrst begynnyng,
Newlingis at his arwyng.

Barbour, v. 122, MS.

A.-S. *newlice*, Belg. *niewlijchs*, have the same sense. But this is formed from the *adj.* with the termination *lingis*, q. v.

NEWOUS, *adj.* Newfangled, fond or full of what is new, Clydes.

NEWOUSLIE, *adv.* In a newfangled way, *ibid.*

NEWOUSNESS, *s.* Newfangledness, *ibid.*

C. B. *newyz*, new; *newyz-iaw*, to make new; *newyz-a*, to innovate.

To **NEWSE**, *v. n.* To talk over the *news*, *Aberd.*

NEWSIE, *adj.* Fond of hearing or rehearsing *news*, *ibid.*

NEWCAL, *s.* A cow *newly calved*, *Loth.*, used as *pl.*

My faulds contain twice fifteen farrow nowt;
As mony *newcal* in my byers rowt.

Ramsay's Poems, ii. 122.

[**NEW-CA'D**, *adj.* Newly calved; as, *new-ca'd kye*, *Clydes*.]

NEW CHEESE. A sort of pudding made by summering the milk of a new-calved cow, *Aberd.*

[**NEW-FANGL'T**, *adj.* Newly invented, lately devised or introduced; as, "*new-fangl't notions*," *Clydes*.

2. Fond of, taken up with, or enthusiastic about a new thing, *ibid.*

"Ye're *new-fangl't* now- but wait a wee
Till ance ye've spun as lang as me,
I'll wad a dollar, Mr. Deil,
Ye'll gladly gie me hack my wheel."

Alex. Wilson, Eppie and the Deil, p. 48, Ed. 1876.]

[**NEW-YEAR'S-DAY**, **NEW-ZERE-DA**, **NEW-ZERDAYE**, **NEWZEREMES**. The first day of January, New Year tide.

Till the year 1600, the civil, ecclesiastical, and legal year began in Scotland on the 25th March; but in that year it began on the 1st January, in terms of an Act of the Privy Council, 17th Dec., 1599.]

Among the many superstitions connected with this day, the following is one which still keeps its place in *Ayrs*.

—"She was removed from mine to Abraham's bosom on Christmas day, and buried on Hogmanas; for it was thought uncanny to have a dead corpse in the house on the *new-year's-day*." *Annals Par.*, p. 50.

To **NEW**, *v. a.* To curb; to master, to humble, to maul, *Aberd.*; pron. *Nyow*. V. **NEW'D**, which is the *part.* of this *v.*

NEW'D, *part. pa.* "Oppressed, kept under," *Gl. Ross*, S. B.

'Bout then-a-days, we'd seldom met with cross,
Nor kent the ill of *conters*, or of loss,
But now the case is alter'd very sair,
And we sair *new'd* and kaim'd against the hair.

Ross's Helenore, p. 92.

As I have not met with this word anywhere else, it may be proper to give another example—

—Your sell, as well as I,
Has had bad hap, our fortun's ben but thry.
Anes on a day, I thought na to hae been
Sae sadly *new'd*, or sick mischances seen.

Ross's Helenore, First Edit., p. 43.

This, as synon. with *Nidder*, q. v., may be from the same source, A.-S. *neothan*, *infra*, q. "kept under," as explained. Or from A.-S. *neod-ian*, *nyd-ian*, *cogere*; part. *nied*, enforced, constrained, *Somner*. Isl. *naudga*, *neyde*, *cogo*, *subigo*, *vim facio*. It seems

to have more affinity to either of these, than to *Alc. nik-en, kenik-en*, incurvare; although this verb is conjoined with the cognate of *niddered*; *Kenichet unde genideret pin ih hartio*; *Incurvatus et humiliatus sum nimis*. Notker, ap. Schilt., p. 633.

Haldorson gives the *Isl. v.* in various forms; as it is well known that *g*, *h*, and *k*, are almost indiscriminately used as the initial letter in many Gothic words; and that they are all occasionally thrown out before *n*. *Gny-a, gnyd, gnuddi*, fricare; also, subigere; vi exponere. *Kny-a*, cogere, urgere; whence *knyer*, viri bellaces. *Nu-a*, conterere, part. *pa. nui*, the same with *Gny-a* and *Kny-a*. I need scarcely say that *new'd* nearly resembles *nuit*. He gives *Dan. gnid-e*, to rub, to grate, and *noed-e*, to force, to constrain, as synonymous.

NEWIS, NEWYS, NEWOUS, adj. Keeping under, holding in. "Parsimonious," Sibb. It generally signifies, earnestly desirous; also, covetous, greedy, Loth.

A.-S. *hneaw*, tenax, "that holdeth fast";—also, *niggish*, sparing, hard, covetous," Somner. Su.-G. *niugg*, *Isl. niugg*, *knoggr*, id. From the termination of our word, it would seem more nearly allied to Su.-G. *nidsk, nisk*, avarus, parcus, tenax, from *nid*, avaritia. A. Bor. *nything*, sparing of, Alem. *nied-en*, concupiscere.

NEWMOST, adj. Nethermost, lowest, S.B.

"My side happen'd to be *newmost*, an' the great hudden carlen was riding hockerty-cockerty upo' my shoulders in a hand-clap." Journal from London, p. 3. A.-S. *neothemest*, imus, infimus.

NEWTH, prep. Beneath.

The *New Park* all eschewit thal,
For thai wist weill the King was thar,
And *newth* the *New Park* gan thai far.
Barbour, xi. 537, MS.

V. NETH.

[NEW-YEAR'S-DAY. V. under NEW.]

[To NEYCH, v. a. To approach, come or get nigh, *Barbour*, xvii. 419, MS. V. NEICH.]

NEYPSIE, adj. Prim, precise in manners, Upp. Clydes.

The term may have been first applied to affectation in language; Teut. *knipp-en*, resecare, tondere, as we still speak of clipping the King's English, as our ancestors did of "*knapping* Southron," i.e., imitating the E. mode of pronunciation. Or it may be allied to Teut. *knipp-en*, arctare, to pinch, q. doing every thing in a constrained way.

[NEYST. 1. As an *adj.*, next, *Barbour*, xiv. 21, MS.

2. As a *prep.*, next, Wyntown, by whom it is used also as an *adv.* V. Gl. A.-S. *neahst*, id.]

To NIB, v. a. To press or pinch with the fingers. V. NIP.

They know'd all the kytral the face of it before;
And *nib'd* it sae doon now, to see it was a shame.
Montgomery, Watson's Coll., iii. 19.

V. WORLIN.

Isl. kneppe, coarcto; etiam pello, violenter propulso.

NIBAWAE, adj. Diminutive and meagre, Aberd.; q. resembling what is picked by the *nib* or beak of a fowl.

NIBBIE, s. A stick or walking-staff with a hooked head, used by shepherds, like the ancient crook. "Gin I get had o' my *nibbie*, I'se reesle yer riggin for ye;" Teviotd.

Gibbie is mentioned as synon. This, I suppose, is only a variety of *Kebbie*, id. *Nibbie* seems to signify a staff with a *nib*, *neb*, or beak, a *neb staff*.

NIBBIT, s. "Two pieces of oatmeal bread, spread over with butter, and laid face to face," Ayrs.

Braw butter'd *nibbits* ne'er wsd fail
To grace a cog o' champit kail,
Sent down wi' jaws o' nspy ale.

Picken's Poems, 1788, p. 63.

This may be q. *nieve-bit*, a piece of bread for the hand; or *knave-bit*, the portion given to a servant, as the uppermost slice of a loaf is called the *lown's-piece*.

* **NICE, adj.** Simple.

Quha thst dois deidis of petis,
And levis in pece and cheretis,
Is haldin a fule, and thst full *nice*.

Bannatyne Poems, p. 169.

"*Nice* is from Fr. *niais*, simple. Thus Chaucer, Cukow and Nightingale.

For he can makin of wiss folk full *nice*.

Thus also Dunbar;

Quhen I swoik, my dreme it was so *nice*.

Bannatyne Poems, p. 24."

Lord Hailes, Note. V. the following word.

It is rendered *foolish*, as used in O. E.

So tikelid me that *nyce* reverence,
That it me-de larger of despence.

Hoccleve's Poems, p. 41.

NICETE', NYCETE', s. Folly, simplicity.

Thaim thoct it was a *nyceté*,
For to mak thar lenger duelling,
Sen thai mycht nocht anoy the King.

Barbour, vii. 379, MS.

It seems to have had the same sense in O. E.

The kyng it was herd, & chastised his meyne,
& other afterward left of ther *nycete*.

R. Brunne, p. 123. *Hoccleve*, id.

Mr. Pinkerton derives this word immediately, as Lord Hailes does the *adj.*, from Fr. *niais*, which primarily signifies a young bird taken out of the nest, and hence a novice, a ninny, a gull. But neither of these learned writers has observed, that Fr. *nice* signifies slothful, dull, simple. It is probable, however, that *niais* is the origin; *niesz-er*, to deal simply or sillily, being derived from *niesz*, as synon. with *niais*. The Fr. word is probably from the Goth.; Moes.-G. *hnasquia*, mollis, A.-S. *hnesc*, *nesc*, tener, effeminatus, from *hnesc-ian*, mollire; Germ. *nasch-en*, Su.-G. *nask-a*, to love delicacies.

NICE-GABBIT, adj. Difficult to please as to food, Fife. V. GAB.

To NICH, NYGH, v. a. To approach. V. NEYCH.

To NICKER, NEIGHER, (gutt.) NICKER, v. n. 1. To neigh, S.

I'll gie thee s' these milk-white steids,
That prance and *nicker* at a speir;

And as muckle gud English gilt,
As four of their braid backs dow bear.
Minstrelsy Border, i. 65.

It is printed *nicher*, Ritson's *S. Songs*, ii. 10.

"And hark! what capul *nicker'd* proud?
Whase bugil gae that blast?"

Jamieson's Popul. Ball., i. 233.

"Little may an auld nag do, that mauna *nicker*;"
Ferguson's *S. Prov.*, p. 25. Ramsay writes it *nigher*.

Now Sol wi' his lang whip gae cracks
Upon his *neighering* coursers' backs.

Ramsay's Poems, ii. 558.

"*Nickering*. Neighing. North." Gl. Grose.

Isl. *knegg-ja*, A.-S. *gnaeg-an*, Su.-G. *gnaegg-ia*, id.

2. To laugh in a loud and ridiculous manner,
so as to resemble a horse neighing, S.

Now in the midst of them I scream,
Quhan toozlin on the haugh;
Than quhidder by thaim doun the stream,
Loud *nickerin* in a laugh.

Minstrelsy Border, iii. 361.

NICHER, NICKER, s. 1. A neigh, S.

When she cam to the harper's door,
There she gave mony a *nicker* and sneer;
"Rise up," quo' the wife, "thou lazy lass,
Let in thy master and his mare."

Minstrelsy Border, i. 85.

2. A horse laugh, S.

[NICHT, NYCHT, s. Night, darkness; *on nychtis*, by nights, by night, Barbour, vii. 506, MS. A.-S. *niht*, id.]

[To NICHT, NYCHT, NIGHT. 1. As a *v. impers.*, to darken, draw to night.

—It *nychtyd* fast: and thair
Thowcht til abyd thare to the day.

Wyntown, viii. 26. 77.

Su.-G. Isl. *natt-as*, ad noctem vergere, quasi noc-
tescere; Alem. *pi-nachten*; *pi-nachtel*, obscuraverit,
Schilter.

2. As a *v. a.*, to benight, cover with darkness;
as, "The sun 'clipse nichted a' the lan'," S.]

3. As a *v. n.*, to lodge during night.

"They *nichted* for their own pay in the Old town."
Spalding, i. 291.

4. To *Night Thegither*, to lodge under the
same roof, S.

—"I hae sworn to myself, and I'll keep my aith,
that you and I shall never *nicht thegither* again in the
same house, nor the same part o' the country."
Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 53.

Isl. *natt-o*, noctem peragere, pernoctare.

NICHTED, NICHTIT, *part. pa.* Benighted, S.

Nichted is used by Shakspeare in the sense of
darkened, black.

NICHT-COWL, s. A night-cap, S.

NICHT-HAWK, s. 1. A large white moth
which flies about hedges in summer even-
ings, Clydes.

2. A person who ranges about at night, *ibid.*

Probably the same with A.-S. *niht-buttorfleoge*, night-
butterfly, *blatta*; Lye.

NICHT-HAWKIN, *adj.* Addicted to nocturnal
roaming, *ibid.*

NICHT-HUSSING, NIGHT-HUSSING, s. A
night-cap for a female, Selkirks.

"Her mutch, or *night-hussing*, as she called it, was
tied close down over her cheeks and brow;—her grey
locks hanging dishevelled from under it." Brownie of
Bodsbeck, i. 209.

This might seem to be q. *housing*; Fr. *houssé*, co-
vered with a foot-cloth. But it is more probably
allied to *How, Hoo*, a cap or covering for the head;
perhaps from Su.-G. *hufwa*, *hwif*, a cap, and *saeng*, a
bed, q. a "bed-cap."

NICHT QUAIFFIS. Night-coifs. V. QUAIFFIS.

NICHTED, *part. pa.* Benighted, S. V.
NICHTIT.

NICHTYRTALE, s. *Be nychtyrtale*, by night,
in the night-time.

Bot a grete plane intil it was.
Thiddyrt thought the lord of Dowglas,
Be nychtyrtale, thair ost to bring.
The Bruce, xiv. 269, Edit. 1820.

When publishing this edition of Barbour, I hesitated
whether this might not be the name of a place. But a
learned friend has since supplied me with decisive proof
that it must signify "by night;" *on nychtyrtale* occur-
ing in this sense in a very ancient translation of
the Burgh Laws ascribed to David I.

"The propyr fleschewaris of the toune sal by bestis
to the oyse of the toune al tyme of the day at hym
lykis. Ande na fleschewar sal sla na by na best *on
nychtyrtale* bot *on lycht day* in thair bothys, ande thair
wyndowis beande opyn." Let. Quat. Burg., c. 66.
De nocte, Orig. Lat.

This word is used by Chaucer.

So hote he loved, that *by nightertale*
He slep no more than doth the nightingale.

Prol. v. 97.

Before observing Tyrwhitt's note, it occurred to me
that it might be q. *nichterne-tale*, from A.-S. *niht-erne*,
nocturnus, and *tale*, computus, as denoting the re-
ckoning or computation of the hours during night. But
perhaps his idea is preferable, that it is q. *niht-ern dael*,
nocturna portio. Lydgate uses *nightertyme*.

To NICK, *v. n.* A cant word signifying, "to
drink heartily; as, *he nicks fine*." Shirr.
Gl. S.B.

It is probable, however, that this word is of high
antiquity; for, in Su.-G. we find a synon. term, one
indeed radically the same. Singulare est, quod de
ebrio dicimus, *Hafwa naagot paa nocka*. This seems
literally to signify, To have some thing *notched* against
him. Thus, the phrase, *he nicks fine*, may properly
signify, he drinks so hard, that he causes many *nicks*
to be cut, as to the quantity of liquor he has called for.
V. NICKSTICK.

To NICK, NICKLE, *v. a.* 1. To strike off a
small bowl by a quick motion of the first
joint of the thumb pressing against the
forefinger; a term used at the game of
marbles or *taw*, S.

[2. To hit smartly or exactly, to hit the mark,
to notch or mark off, Clydes., Banffs.

3. To lop or cut off quickly ; to cut, to separate, Clydes.

"It's een a lang, lang time indeed,
Sin I began to *nick* the thread
An' choke the breath.
Folk mair do something for their bread,
An' sae mann Death."
Burns, Death and Dr. Hornbook.]

[NICK, *s.* A cut, incision, a slight mark ; allied to the E. *nick*, a notch.]

NICKET, *s.* A small notch, Sibb. Gl.

[NICKLE, *s.* 1. A smart stroke ; a fillip, the fillip given to a marble in the game of *taw*, Clydes., Banffs.

2. A player at *taw* ; as, "He's a good *nickle*," *ibid.*]

NICKSTICK BODIE. One who proceeds exactly according to rule ; as, if he has had one to dine with him, he will not ask him again without having a return in kind, Teviotdale.

NICKSTICK, *s.* A piece of wood, corresponding to another, on which notches are made ; a tally, S.

"We serve the family wi' bread, and he settles wi' huz ilka week—only he was in an unco kippage, when we sent him a book instead o' the *nick-sticks*, whilk, he said, were the true ancient way o' counting between tradesmen and customers." *Antiquary*, i. 321.

"You are to advert to keep an exact *nickstick* between you and the coalier, of the number of deals of coals received in, and pay him for every half score of deals come in."—"A *deal* of coals is 23 hundred lib. weight, N." D. of Queensberrie's Instructions, &c. *Trans. Antiq. Soc. Scot.*, p. 558.

This custom is still used by bakers. The word is evidently from S. *nick*, Su.-G. *nocka*, a notch, and *stick*. The simple mode of reckoning, by marking units on a rod, seems to have been the only one known to the Northern nations. This rod is in Sw. denominated *karfstocke*. Thus E. and S. *score* is used both for a tally, and for the notch made on it ; from Su.-G. *skaer-a*, incidere.

The Scandinavians, in like manner, formed their *Almanacks* by cutting marks on a piece of wood. V. *Wormii*, *Fast. Dan.* lib. 1, c. 2, also, *Museum Worm.*, p. 367. An almanack of this kind was in Denmark called *Primstaff* ; in Sweden *Runstaf*, i.e., a stick containing Runic characters. A similar custom prevailed among the peasants in some parts of France. V. *Ihre*, vo. *Runstaf*.

[NICK O' TIME. Exact time, just when wanted, opportunity, Clydes.]

NICK, *s.* 1. The angle contained between the beam of a plough and the handle on the hinder side, Orkn. *Asse* synonym.

2. A narrow opening between the summits of two hills, South of S.

This is perhaps merely a peculiar use of the E. word. "Nick, a hollow pass through moors, from which a great *balloch* or moor view is to be had." *Gall. Enc.* *Balloch*, itself, properly signifies a pass.

VOL. III.

NICK, NICKIE, NIKIE, *s.* 1. The abbrev. of the name *Nicol* ; sometimes of the female name *Nicolas*, S. "Nikie Bell ;" *Acts*, iii. 392.

[2. *Auld Nick, Nickie Ben*, a name for the devil ; V. *Burns' Death and Dr. Hornbook.*]

[NICKALIE TAES, *s. pl.* Long, small, slender toes, Shtl.]

To NICKER, *v. n.* To neigh. V. NICKER.

NICKERIE, *s.* *Little nickerie*, a kindly compellation of a child, Loth.

NICKERERS, *s. pl.* A cant term for new shoes, Roxb. ; probably from their making a creaking noise.

[NICKIE, NIKIE, *s.* V. under NICK.]

NICKIM, NICKUM, *s.* A wag, one given to mischievous tricks, although not as implying the idea of immorality, Fife, Aberd.

Perhaps q. *nick him*. If so, it has originally denoted deception. Isl. *hnick-r*, dolus, also apprehensio violenta, *hnick-ia*, raptare ; Haldorson.

NICK-NACK, *s.* 1. A gim-crack, a trifling curiosity, S.

Grose expl. *nicknacks*, "toys, baubles, or curiosities," *Class. Dict.*

2. Small wares, S. B.

Blankets and sheets a fouth I hae o' baith,
And in the kist, twa webs of wholesome clath ;
Some ither *nick nacks*, sic as pot and pan,
Cognes, caps, and spoons, I at a raffle wan.

Morison's Poems, p. 458.

[3. A precise person ; also, one who is clever and careful in doing nice work, Clydes.]

S.-G. *snicksnack* is composed in the same alliterative manner ; but differs in sense, signifying a taunt, a sarcasm. S. a *knack*. *Nicknack* is probably formed in allusion to the curious incisions anciently made on bits of wood, by the Goth. nations, which served the purpose of Almanacks, for regulating their festivals. V. *Worm. Fast. Dan.*, Lib. 2, c. 2.—5.

NICKNACKET, *s.* A trinket, S. A.

"*Nick-nackets*, trinkets ;" *Gl. Antiq.*

NICKNACKIE, *adj.* Dextrous in doing any piece of nice work, Roxb. ; synonym. *Nacketie*.

[NICKNAY. V. NIGNAY.]

To NICKS, NIX, *v. n.* To set up any thing as a mark and throw at it ; to take aim at any thing near ; as, to *nix* at a bottle, Roxb.

Teut. *naeck-en*, appropinquare ; attingere ; A.-S. *nihsta*, *nyest*, proximus ; q. a trial who shall be nearest to the mark.

NICNEVEN, *s.* A name given to the Scottish *Hecate* or mother-witch ; also called the *Gyrecarlin*.

Fra the sisters had seen the shape of that shit,
Little luck be thy lot there where thy lyes,

X 2

Thy fumard face, quoth the first, to flyt shall be fit.
Nicneven, quoth the next, shall nourish thee twyæ,
 To ride post to *Elphine* nane abler nor it.—
 Then a clear companie came soon after closs,
Nicneven with her Nymphs, in number anew,
 With charms from Caitness and Chanrie in Ross,
 Whose cunning consists in casting a clew.

Montgomerie, Watson's Coll., iii. 16.

"From that he past to St. Androis, quhair a notabill
 sorceres callit *Nicneven* was condemnit to the death and
 brunt." *Historie Ja. Sext.*, p. 66.

Mr. C. K. Sharpe remarks; "This name, generally given to the Queen of the Fairies, was probably bestowed upon her on account of her crimes." *Pref. to Law's Memor.*, xxviii. N.

On three headed *Hecatus* to hear them, they cry'd;
 As we have found in the field this fundling for-fairn,
 First, his father he forsakes in thee to confyde,
 Be vertue of thir words, and this *raw yearn*.
 And while this thrisethretty knots on this *blue* threed,
 And of thir mens members well sowed to a shoe,
 Which we have taen from top to tae,
 Even of a hundred men and mae;
 Now grant us, goddesse, or we gae,
 Our duties to doe.

Ibid., p. 17, 18.

It is not improbable, that this charm of the *clue*, contains an allusion to the Greek and Roman fable of one of the Fates holding the distaff, another spinning, and a third cutting the thread of human life.

There is no evidence that the first syllable of this name has any reference to *Nick*. For this is the Northern name given to "the angry spirit of the waters;" whereas *Nicneven's* operations seem to be confined to the earth and the air. *Neven* may be from *Isl. nafn*, a name, which seems sometimes to signify, celebrated, illustrious. Whether this designation has any affinity to the *Nehae* or nymphs, worshipped by the ancient Northern nations, it is impossible to say. Wachter views these as the same personages called *Mairae*, or *Matrons*, vo. *Neha*. But Keyser distinguishes between them: *Antiq. Septent.*, 263. 371.

Some peculiar necromancy must lie in casting a clew; as it is said of *Nicneven* and her nymphs,

Whose cunning consists in casting a clew.

This is one of the heathenish and detestable rites used on *Hallow-even*, by those who wish to know their future lot in the connubial state. The following is the account given of this ceremony in a note to *Burns's Poems*:—

"Whoever would, with success, try this spell, must strictly observe these directions: Steal out, all alone, to the *kiln*, and, darkling, throw into the pot, a clew of blue yarn; wind it in a new clew off the old one; and towards the latter end, something will hold the thread; demand, *wha hauds?* i. e., who holds; and answer will be returned from the kiln-pot, by naming the christian and surname of your future spouse." *Burns*, iii. 130.

Some particular virtue must be supposed to be in the colour: and there is reason to apprehend that this idea has been of long standing. It is referred to by *Montgomerie*, in the invocation he puts in the mouths of his speeches, in order to the accomplishment of their spells on a child represented as the brood of an *Incubus*. The Poet introduces *Hecate*, improperly printed *Hecatus*, as distinct from his *Nicneven*; although he has previously given the latter the honours ascribed to the former. He thought, perhaps, that the mother-witch of his own country owed some peculiar respect to the great enchantress of the classical writers.

Nicneven displays her power, not only by making a sieve, notwithstanding all the leaks, as secure as the tightest boat, but by withdrawing the milk from cows. Of the pretended brood of the *Incubus* it is further said;

Nicneven, as nourish, to teach it, gart take it,
 To sail sure in a seif, but compass or cart;

And milk of a hair tedder, though wives should be wrackt,
 [L. wrackit,]

And a cow give a chopin, was wont to give a quart.
 Many babes and bairns shall bless thy bair hairs,
 When they have neither milk nor meil,
 Compell'd for hunger for to steil.

Ibid., p. 20.

In the *Malleus Maleficarum*, we have a particular account of the manner of conducting this process.

Quaedam enim nocturnis temporibus et sacrstioribus utique ex inductione Diaboli, ob majorem offensam divinæ majestatis, quocunque angulo domus suae se collocant, urceum inter crura habentes, et dum cultrum vel aliquid instrumentum in parietem aut columnam infigunt, et manus ad mulgendum apponunt, tunc suum Diabolum, qui semper eis ad omnia cooperatur, invocant, et quod de tali vacca ei tali domo, quae anior, et quae magis in lacte sbundat, mulgere affectat, proponit, tunc subito diabolus ex mamillis illius vaccae lac recipit, et ad locum ubi Malefica residet, et quasi de illo instrumento flust reponit. P. 354.

But the author seems to have been ignorant of the importance of the *hair tedder*; although it is not yet entirely forgotten by the vulgar in this country.

NIDDER, *s.* "The second shoot that grain makes when growing; in dry seasons it never bursts the *nidder*;" *Gall. Encycl.*

"This and *niddering*," it is subjoined, "to pine and fret, to seem in a withering state, are the same." Perhaps rather from A.-S. *nither-ian*, as signifying detrudere, to thrust out, because here the grain pushes itself forth.

To NIDDER, **NITHER**, *v. a.* 1. To depress, to constrain, to keep under, S, [to depreciate, undervalue, *Shtl.*]

This seems to be the primary sense.

What think ye, man, will yon frank lassie please?
 Will ye our freedom purchase at this price?—
 Sair are we *nidder'd*, that is what ye ken;
 And but for her, we had been here the ben.

Ross's Helenore, p. 51.

Bat why a thief, like Sisyphus,

That's *nidder'd* sae in hell,

Sud here tak' fittiniment,

Is mair na' I can tell.

Poems in the Buchan Dialect, p. 4.

2. To press hard upon, to straiten; applied to bounds.

We haue bot sobir pussance, and no wounder,—
 On this half closit with the Tuskane flude;
 On yonder syde ar the Rutullanis rude,
Nidderis our honndis, as ful oft befallis,
 With thare harnes clattering about our wallis.

Doug. Virgil, 259, 17.

3. To pinch or bind up with cold, S. *Niddered*, pinched with cold; constrictus frigore, *Ang. Loth.* "*Nithered*, starved with cold." *Gl. Grose.*

Tho' snaw bend down the forest-trees,

An' burn an' river cease to flow;

Tho' nature's tide hae shor'd to freeze,

An' winter *nithers* a' below,

Blyth are we, &c.

Picken's Poems, i. 99.

4. Pinched with hunger; used both in the N. and S. of S. "Hungered, half-starved." *Shirr. Gl.* "Marred or stunted in growth," *Sibb.*

5. To stunt in growth, Roxb.

"*Nidderit, Nitheryt*, marred or stunted in growth;" Gl. Sibb.

Sibb. renders *niddering*, "niggardly, sparing;" Chron. S. P. i. 143, N.

6. To put out of shape, as by frequent handling and tossing. "*Nidderit & deformeit*;" Aberd. Reg.7. The *part*. is also used, in a loose sense, as equivalent to "plagued, warmly handled," Shirr. Gl.

—A fun-stane dees Sisyphus
Down to the yerd sair gnidge,—
But why a thief, like Sisyphus,
That's *nidder'd* sae in hell,
Snd here tak fittinment,
Is sair na' I cau tell.

Ajax's Speech, Poems Buch. Dial., p. 4.

Rudd. mentions A.-S. *nid-an*, *urgere*, *nyd-ed*, *coactus*; but more properly refers to *nyther*, *deorsum*. For our *v.* is perfectly synon. with Su.-G. *nedr-as*, anciently *nidr-as*, *deprimi*; whence *foer-nedr-a*, to humble, Teut. *ver-neder-en*, id. Ihre, certainly with propriety, views *ned*, *infra*, as the root. Hence *nedrig*, low in place, also, humble. A.-S. *nither-ian*, *ge-nither-an*, *deicere*, *humiliare*, to bring or pull down, to humble, (Somner), has a similar origin, from *nyther*.

R. Glouc. uses *anethered* for diminished.

The compaynye athes half muche *anethered* was.
Cron., p. 217.

i.e., on this half or side.

To NIDDLE, *v. n.* To trifle or play with the fingers; sometimes to be busily engaged with the fingers, without making progress, S.

Isl. *hundl-a*, to catch any thing with the fingers, *digitis prensare*, *tractare*, *hmitl-a*, *vellico*, to pinch, to pluck. G. Andr., Su.-G. *nidd-a*, to touch lightly; from Isl. *hnue*, *intermedium digitorum*.

To NIDDLE, *v. a.* "To overcome;" Gall. Enc.

A.-S. *nid-ian*, *urgere*, *cogere*; whence *nidling*, *exactor*; *nydling*, *qui ex necessitate servit*.

To NIDGE, *v. n.* To squeeze through a crowd, or any narrow place, with difficulty, Roxb. V. GNIDGE, *v. a.*NIDGELL, *s.* 1. "A fat froward young man;" Gall. Encycl.2. "A stiff lover, one whom no rival can displace;" *ibid.*

C. B. *cnodig*, signifies *fleshy*, *corpulent*, *fat*, from *cnawd*, *human flesh*; and *nozlid*, *juicy*, *sappy*. In the second sense it might seem rather allied to Teut. *knuds-en*, *tundere*, *batuere*.

NIEF, *s.* A female bond-servant.

"A *Nief* (id est, a villain woman) marrying a free-man, is thereby made free, and shall never be *Nief* after, without a special act done by her, as divorce, or confession in a court of record." *Spotiswoode's Practicks*, p. 309.

Cowel has given this term in the form of *Neife*, rendering it *nativa*. He quotes the Stat. of Edw. VI. and of R. (apparently Richard) I. cap. 2. The word is also in Jacob's Dict.

It had occurred to me that *Nief*, being explained by the singular phrase, "a villain woman," might be a corr. pronunciation of *knave*, which is equivalent to L. B. *villanus*. But Cowel more properly refers to Fr. *naif*, *naturalis*, a term applied, in that language, to one born a servant; *Naif*, *serf de naissance on d'origine*; *nativus*, Roquefort. It is also written *neif*, *ibid.* Du Cange quotes the laws of William the Conqueror, in proof that ancillae,—*servitute obnoxiae*, were denominated *niefes* and *naifs*, *ute contra viri, Villani*; *vo. Nativus*.

NIEL, *s.* The abbrev. of *Nigel*, S.NIEVE, *s.* The fist, S. V. NEIVE.[NIEVEFU, *s.* A handful. V. under NEIVE.]NIEVESHAKIN, NIEVESHAKING, *s.* 1. Something dropped from the hand of another, a windfall.

[2. A woman's quarrel, a scolding match, West of S.]

"Next her bosom bane—she wears Ronald Morison's gowden chain, whilk was won by the dour and bauld Lord Allan Morison at the storming o' Jerusalem, i' the days o' the godless Saracens. Sic a braw *nieve-shaking's* no to be got when the world's wind leaves the carcass of ilka uncanne carlin." *Blackw. Mag.*, Aug. 1820, p. 508. V. NEIVE.

To NIFFER, NYFFER, *v. a.* 1. To exchange. "Be way of *nyffering*, *coffing*, & *excambiun*." Aberd. Reg., A. 1541, V. 17. V. under NEIVE.

2. To higgle. V. under NEIFFAR.

[NIFFER, NIFFERIN, NYFFERING, *s.* An exchange. V. under NEIVE.]To NIFFLE, *v. n.* To trifle, to be insignificant in appearance, in conversation, or in conduct; "He's a *nifflin'* body;" Fife.NIFFNAFFS, (pron. *nyiffnyaffs*), *s. pl.* 1. Articles that are small and of little value, S.

2. It is sometimes used in relation to silly peculiarity of temper, displayed by attention to trifles, S.

3. In singular, it sometimes denotes a small person, or one who has not attained full strength, S. A.

"'Wha's this stripling that rides the good dun mare?' 'That's my bit *niff-naff* of a callant;' says my father." *Perils of Man*, ii. 229.

To NIFNAFF, *v. n.* To trifle, to speak or act in a silly way, S. synon. *kiow-ow*, S. B.

O my dear lassie, it is but daffin
To had thy wooer up ay *niff-naffin*.
Ramsay's Poems, ii. 263.

"*Niffynaffy fellow*, a trifer;" *Grose's Class. Dict.* From the sense of the *v.*, it might seem allied to Isl. *hnese*, the fist, *q.* to play with one's hands or fingers, like an idle awkward person.

NIFF-NAFFY, *adj.* Troublesome about trifles, S.; "fastidious; a phrase of contempt;" Gl. Antiq.

—"She departed, grumbling between her teeth, that she wad rather lock up a hail ward than be fiking about thae *niff-naffy* gentles that gae sae muckle fash wi' their fancies." Guy Mannering, iii. 92.

Fr. *nipes*, trifles. This is most probably from Sw. *nipp*, pl. *nipper*, id. V. the v.

NIGER (*g* hard), *s.* Corr. of *negro*, S.

—How graceless Ham leugh at his Dad,
Which made Canaan a *niger*.

Burns, iii. 63.

[To **NIGG**, *v. n.* To carp at, fret, scold, chide; *niag*, is another form, Shetl.]

NIGGAR, **NIGGER**, **NIGRE**, *s.* A miser, a person of hard exacting disposition, S.

A nephew he had, at the news he was glad,
An' leugh in his sleeve like to rive,
That by help of the buttoo, he came to be put in
What stored the suld *niggard's* hive.

A. Scott's Poems, p. 122.

Corr. from E. *niggard*. Isl. *nauggur*, *hnauggur*, *parcus*, *tenax*, Sw. *nügg*, *nügger*, id.

NIGGARS, *s. pl.* Two pieces of black iron, in the form of brick-bats, placed on the sides of cast-metal grates for contracting then in size, Roxb.

A. Bor. "*Niggards*, iron cheeks to a grate," Grose. evidently from E. *niggard*, as it is a parsimonious plan.

[**NIGHT-HUSSING**, *s.* V. under **NICHT**.]

[To **NIGGLE**, *v. a.* To ensnare, to entrap by ambuscade, Shetl.]

[**NIGGLER**, *s.* A term used in a boy's game; one of the number who is placed in ambush, *ibid.*]

NIG-MA-NIES, *s. pl.* "Unnecessary ornaments;" Gall. *Encycl.* V. **NIGNAYES**.

NIGNAG, *s.* A variety of *Nicknack*, Teviotd.

NIGNAYES, **NIGNYES**, *s. pl.* 1. Gim-cracks, trinkets, trifles, Shirr. Gl. pron. *nignies*, S.

Fr. *niquet* signifies a trifle, a bauble.

He was not for the French *nig naves*,
But briskly to his brethern says;
Good gentlemen, we may not doubt,
Wherefore the Duke of York's left out,
And is exempted from the *Test*,
Wherewith he doth turmoyl the rest;—
He thinks not fit to flench and flatter,
But to prove gallant in the matter:
And when he his designs commences,
Rears up Rome's kennels, yairda & fences.

Cleland's Poems, p. 92.

Perhaps *flench* should be *fleech*.

Poor Ponsies now the daffin saw,
Of gawn for *nignyes* to the law,
And bill'd the judge, that he wad please,
To give them the remaining cheese.

Ramsay's Poems, ii. 479, 480.

2. Whims, trifling scruples, peculiarities of temper or conduct, S.

I will not stay to clash and quibble
About your *nignaves*, I'll not nibble:
I'll with a bare word you redargue,
Tho' till your wind pipes burst you argue.
—Consider who's the church's Head,
And at your leisure, pray you read
Your oath, and explicating act;
And all you say's not worth a plack.

Cleland's Poems, p. 93.

From the contempt which the vulgar affect to pour on the forms of courtesy, acquired in civilized life, we might almost suppose that this term, in the latter sense, had originated from Su.-G. *nig-a*, A.-S. *hnig-an*, Isl. *hneig-a*, Germ. *neig-en*, to bow, to courtesy.

[To **NIGNAY**, *v. n.* To make a fuss about doing; "to show whimsical reluctance," Gl. Banffs. Part. *nignayin*, used also as a *s.*]

[**NIGNAYIN**, *adj.* Fussy, full of whims, *ibid.*]

[**NIGRAMANSY**, *s.* Necromancy; commonly called "*the black art*," Barbour, iv. 747. Lat. *nigromantia*.]

NILD. Expl. "Outwitted." Gl. Sibb.

This refers to Mr. Pinkerton's query, Gl. Maitl. with respect to the following passage:—

I semit sobir, and sueit, and sempil without fraude,
Bot I *nild* sextie desane that subtilar war halding.

Maitland's Poems, p. 54.

But, as has been observed since by the editor, (S. P. Rep., i. xxvi.), in Edit. 1508, it is—

I could sextie desave, &c.

[**NILE**, **NILE-HOLE**, *s.* 1. A hole bored in the bottom of a boat, below the aft-stern, in order to run off the bilge-water, Shetl.

2. The plug that fits into the hole, *ibid.*

Isl. *negla*, a plug to close a hole in a boat.]

NILL YE, **WILL YE**. A phrase still used in S. signifying, "Whether ye be reluctant or well pleased." A.-S. *nill-an*, *nolle*.

[**NIMM**, *adj.* Pleasant to the taste; used also like *nam*, *nom*, *q. v.*, Shetl.]

NINE-EYED-EEL. The Lesser Lamprey, Frith of Forth. V. **EEL**.

NINE-HOLES, *s. pl.* 1. The game of Nine men's Morris, S.

2. That piece of beef that is cut out immediately below the *brisket* or breast, S.; denominated from the vacancies left by the ribs.

The piece next to the *nine-holes* is called the *runner*, as extending the whole length of the ribs of the fore-part of the animal, S.

[**NIOGLE**, *s.* A kind of water-kelpie, Shetl. Goth. *gneg*, a horse, and *el*, water.]

* NIP, *s.* Bread, and especially cheese, is said to have a *nip*, when it tastes sharp or pungent, *S.*; evidently an oblique sense of the *E.* word.

[To NIP, *v. n.* To taste sharp or pungent; hence, to bite, *S.*]

[NIPPIE, *adj.* Sharp, acrid, or pungent to the taste, biting, *S.*]

[To NIP, *v. a.* 1. To pinch, bite, snap; as a crab with its claws, *S.*

2. To seize, hold fast, snatch; hence, to cheat, to steal, *S.*]

[To NIP *at*, *v. a.* To eat daintily or affectedly, *S.*]

To NIP, NIP *up*, or *awa*, *v. a.* To carry off any thing by theft; as implying the idea of alertness and expedition, *S.*

"Ye was set aff frae the oon for *nipping* the pyes;" Ramsay's *S. Prov.*, p. 87.

Then said she, Frae this back near thirty year,
Which is as yesterday to me as clear,
Frae your ain uncle's gate was *nip awa'*
That bonny hairn, 'twas thought by Junky Fa.
Ross's Helenore, p. 126.

Either immediately from the *v.* as used in the ordinary sense; or as allied to *Su.-G. napp-a*, *carpere*, *vellere*, *cito arripere*; *Isl. knippe*, *raptim moto*, *knupla*, *furtim derogito*, *panulum furari*.

Nip signifies a cheat, in cant language. Grose's *Class. Dict.* To *nip*, "to—bite, cheat, or wrong;" *Gl. Lancash.* Tim Bobbin.

[NIP, *s.* 1. A bite, a pinch, a smart tap; also the pain caused by any such act.]

2. A bite, a term used in fishing, *S.*

3. A small bit of any thing, *q.* as much as is *nipped* or broken off between the finger and thumb, *S.*; *nimp* is also used.

Su.-G. nypa, *id.*, *quantum primoribus digitis continere valemus*; *ibre*, *vo. Niupa*.

"If thou hast not laboured but hes bene idle all day, looke that thou put not a *nip* in thy mouth: for there is an inhibition, Let him not eate that labours not." Rollock on 2 *Thes.*, p. 140.

"Then must it not followe, he workes not; therefore he must not eate? O ye will say, that is very strait, if men and wemen eat not they will die. But I say, die as they will, the Lord vouchsafes not a *nip* on them except they worke." *Ibid.*, p. 150.

[4. A small quantity of spirits; as, a *nip* of whiskey,—generally half a glass, West of *S.* *Nipper* is so used in Banffs.]

* NIPPERS, *s. pl.* The common name for pincers, South of *S.* In *E.* the word denotes "small pincers."

[NIPPIE, NIPPOCK, *s.* A very small bit; dimin. of *nip*; *nipperkin*, *nippoekie* also used, *Clydes.*]

[NIPPIE, *adj.* Parsimonious, niggardly; apt to take advantage, tricky in money or business matters, *Clydes.*, *Banffs.*]

[NIPPIN', *part. adj.* 1. Same as NIPPIE, *adj.* *Banffs.*

2. Smarting, as a wound, paining, *S.*

3. As a *s.*, smarting, pain, *S.*]

NIPPERKIN, *s.* Dimin. of *nip*; a mere morsel, *Roxb.*, *Clydes.*

Apparently the same with *nipperkin*, which *Screnius* gives as an *E.* word corresponding with *Lat. triental*, as denoting a small measure. It would seem, indeed, that *Nipperkin* is sometimes used. *Grose* gives it as a cant term.

It may have originated from *nip*, a small bit, or *Teut. knyp-en*, *arctare*, whence *knyper*, *homo prae- pareus*.

NIPPIT, *adj.* 1. Niggardly, parsimonious, *S.*

—"Na, na, I ne'er likit to be *nippit* or pinging; gie me routhrie o' a' thing." *Saxon and Gael*, i. 121.

This term bears a striking analogy to *Su.-G. napp*, *knapp*, *Isl. naufr*, *knepp-er*, *arctus*, *exiguus*; *naep-peligen*, *anc. naept*, *aegre*, *vix*, *Dan. neppe*, *Isl. knept*, scarcely, with difficulty, narrowly. *Ihre* views *knipa*, to compress, as probably the origin. *Kilian* seems to be of the same opinion; giving *Teut. knijper*, *homo prae- pareus*, *sordidus*, in immediate connexion with *knyp-en*, *arctare*, *premere*, *E. nip*.

"A *nip*. A neat, thrifty, or rather penurious housewife. *Norf.*" *Gl. Grose*.

2. Too small, scanty, in any sense; often applied to clothes which confine, or are too short for, the person who wears them, *S.*

Solace is made to say that his coat is
—schort and *nippit*.

Lyndsay, S.P.R., ii. 29.

A *nippit* dinner, a scanty one, *S.* *Sw. knapp naering*, short allowance. *Haer aer knapt efter foedan*; Food is scarce here, *Wideg*.

NIP-CAIK, *s.* A name given to one who eats delicate food clandestinely, *S.*, from *nip* and *cake*.

Nyse Nagus, nipcaik, with thy schuldurs narrow.

Dunbar, Evergreen, ii. 57.

Perhaps it may here be equivalent to parasite.

[NIP-LOUSE, NIP-THE-LOUSE, *s.* A vulgar and low name for a tailor.]

NIPLUG, *s.* 1. Persons are said to be *at niplug*, when they quarrel, and are at the point of laying hold of each other, *q.* ready to pinch each other's ears, *S.*

[A vulgar, low name for a teacher, a school-master, *Clydes.*]

NIPPERTY-TIPPERTY, *adj.* Childishly exact, or affectedly neat, in reference, as it would seem, to the regular return of rhymes, *S. A.*

—"He's crack-brained and cockle-headed about his *nipperty-tipperty* poetry nonsense." *Rob Roy*, ii. 158.
Hippertie-tippertie is the pronunciation in *Roxb.*

and supposed to be the right one; from the v. *hip*, to hop, and *tiptoe*, q. "hopping on the tiptoes." See, however, TIPPERTY and TIPPERTIN. It is applied,

1. To a light unstable person; as, "a *hipperty-tippertie* lass."
2. To songs or tunes that are quick and rattling in their rhythm.

- NIP-SCART, *s.* 1. A niggardly person, Teviotd.
2. A crabbed or peevish person, Clydes.

The phrase *Nippit scart*, used in Angus, corresponds exactly with the first sense; according to which the word might seem to be composed of other two, both giving the idea of great parsimony. Did we view the second as the primary signification, we might consider the term as meant to intimate that the person to whom it is applied, is disposed to express his ill-humour by *nipping*, or pinching, and scratching all who approach him.

- NIP-SHOT, *s.* To play *nipshot*, to give the slip.

"Our great hope on earth, the city of London, has played *nipshot*; they are speaking of dissolving the assembly." Baillie's Lett., ii. 198.

Perhaps, q. to *nip* one's *shot*, to take one's play, by moving so as to preclude him. V. SHOT. Or it may have some allusion to a person's taking himself off, without paying his *shot* or share of a tavern-bill. Belg. *knippe*, however, signifies a snare, a trap; perhaps, q. to *shoot the snare*, i. e., to escape from it.

- [NIP-SICCAR, NIP-SICKER, *adj.* Captious, ill-natured, Shetl.]

- NIRB, *s.* 1. Anything of stunted growth, Ettr. For.

2. A dwarf, *ibid.* V. NIRLIE.

- NIRL, *s.* 1. A crumb, a small portion of anything, S.

2. A small knot, S. B., perhaps the same with A. Bor. *narle*, "a knot in a tangled skein of silk or thread," Grose.

3. It is often used to denote a puny dwarfish person, whether man or child, S. B. Sometimes an *adj.* is conjoined; as, a *weary nirl*, a feeble pigmy.

"Yon ane? Why he has na mair calf to his leg than a grey-hound.—And sic a whey face!—a perfect *nirl*! as I sall answer, I've seen as boardly a chiel in a glass bottle upon a doctor's shelf." Reg. Dalton, iii. 119.

In the last sense, it is certainly allied to Teut. *knorre*, tuber, nodus; E. *knur*, *knurle*.

- To NIRL, *v. a.* 1. To pinch with cold, Loth.

2. To contract, to make to shrink. "Thai pickles (grains of corn) hae been *nirled* wi' the drowth," or "wi' the frost," Loth. Hence,

NIRLED, *adj.* Stunted; applied to trees, Loth.; most probably q. *knurled*. "That's puir *nirlie* grain as ever I saw," Loth.

In this sense *Nirl* is allied to "O. E. *Nyrull*. *Pussillus*." Prompt. Parv. It is indeed printed *Nyruyll*. But this must certainly be viewed as an *erratum*. For under the synon. term, we read "*Nuruyll*, *dwerfe*. Supra in *Nyruyll*."

- NIRLIE, *adj.* 1. Very small, synon. with *Nirled*; as, "*Nirlie-headed* wheat;" South of S.

2. Niggardly; as, "a *nirlie* creature;" Loth.

This might seem allied to Isl. *nirbell*; vir parvus et sordidus; Ad *nirbla saman* sordide opes comparare; G. Andr.

NIRLES, *s. pl.* The name given in S. to a species of Measles, which has no appropriate name in E. It is said to be the *Rubeola variolodes* of Dr. Cullen. In the *Nirles*, the pimples are distinct and elevated, although smaller; in the common measles, they are confluent and flat.

—With Parlesse and Plurisies opprest,
And nip'd with the *Nirles*.

Montgomerie, Watson's Coll., iii. 14.

V. FEYK.

"Morbilli, the *nirles*." Wedderb. Vocab., p. 19.

- [To NIRR, *v. n.* To purr like a cat, Shetl., part. pr. *nirrin*, used also as a *s.* Dan. *knurre*, *id.*]

- [NIRS, *adj.* Harsh and disagreeable to the taste, Shetl.]

- [NIRT, *s.* A very small piece, *ibid.* Clydes.]

NISBIT, NIZBIT, *s.* The iron that passes across the nose of a horse, and joins the *branks* together, Ang.

From *neis*, nose, and *bit*. The latter is not, as Johns. imagines, from A.-S. *bitel*, but Su.-G. *beti*, lupula.

- NISE, *s.* Nose; properly *niz*, S. B.

The wabster's *nise* was dung ajee,
The bluid run o'er his beard.

Cock's Simple Strains, p. 136.

V. NEIS.

NISSAC, *s.* The name given to a porpoise.

"Delphinus Phocaena, (Linn. syst.) *Niseac*, (Niss of Pontoppidan), Pellach, Porpus." Edmonstone's Zetl., ii. 299.

Evidently a dimin. from Norw. *nisse*, expl. by Hallager, Delphinus Phocœna. Isl. *huisa* is rendered Delphinus minimus.

- [To NISSLLE, *v. a.* To beat with the fists, Clydes.]

- [NISSLIN, *s.* A beating, thrashing, *ibid.*]

- [NISTIE-COCK, *s.* A small supurating pimple, Shetl.]

- NIT, *s.* 1. A nut, the fruit of the hazel, S.

2. The wheel of a cross-bow; pl. *nittis*.
 "Item, sex corbolls with thair *nittis*, and certane auld ganyeis." Inventories, A. 1566, p. 172.
 "In the opposite side of the circumference was a much smaller notch, by the means of which the spring of the tricker kept the wheel firm, and in its place; this wheel is called the *nut* of the cross-bow." Grose's Military Hist., ii. 287.

NIT-GRIT, *adj.* Of the size of a *nut*, as large or *great*, South of S.

[NIT, *s.* A wanton female; dimin. *nittie*.]

[NITACK, NITTACK, *s.* A little saucy girl, Shetl.; *nittie* is also used.]

[NITTIE, *adj.* Clever, agile, smart, neat, *ibid.* Used also as a *s.*]

NITCH, *s.* A bundle or truss. V. KNITCH.

To NITE, *v. a.* To rap, to strike with a smart blow, S.

"And ye're baith king's officers too!—If it warna for the blood that's i' your master's veins, I wad *nite* your twa bits o' pows thegither." Brownie of Bodsbeck, i. 117. V. KNOIT, NOIT.

NITHER, NIDDER, *adj.* Nether, S. Isl. *nedre*. Rudd. vo. *Nethirmare*.

To NITHER, NITTER, *v. a.* To repress. V. KIDDER.

NITHERIE, *adj.* Wasted, growing feebly; as, "*nitherie* corn," that which is so feeble that it can scarcely be cut, Roxb. The same with *Niddered*. V. NIDDER, *v.*

[To NITTER, *v. n.* To grumble, complain, to be constantly finding fault, Clydes.]

[NITTERET, NITTERIE, *adj.* Ill-natured, sulky, or having the appearance of being so, *ibid.*]

[NITTERET, *s.* An ill-natured expression of countenance, Shetl.]

NITTERS, *s.* "A greedy, grubbing, impudent, withered female;" Gall. Encycl.

Avarice is obviously the prominent idea. Thus the term must claim a common origin with *NITTIE*, *q. v.*

NITTIE, NEETIE, *adj.* Parsimonious, niggardly covetous, S.

Su.-G. *gnetig*, Mod. Sax. *netig*, id. A.-S. *gnete nesse*, parsimony. O. E. *nything*, used both as an *adj.* and *s.*, seems radically the same.

If thou have hap tresour to win,
 Delight thou not too mickle therein,
 Ne *nything* thereof be.

Sir Penny, Ellis, Spec. E. Poetry, i. 271.

The ingenious Editor, after Warton, (Hist. Poet. iii. 94.) renders it *careless*. But the meaning is quite the reverse;—parsimonious. Somner refers to Medull. Grammat., where *tenax* is explained in E. *nything*. This he mentions under A.-S. *nithing*; which, if the origin, has considerably changed its meaning. This is the same with Su.-G. *niding*, a worthless person, one

on whom any abuse may be poured; which *Ihre* derives from *nid*, contumelia. A. Bor. *nithing*, sparing; as, *nithing of his pains*, unwilling to take any trouble. Sibb. views this as synon. with *niddering*; Chron. S. P., i. 143, N. But it would seem that they are radically different. V. NIDDER, *v.*

[NITTIE, *adj.* Clever, smart, Shetl. V. under NIT.]

NITTLES, *s. pl.* 1. Horns just appearing above the skin, on the head of an animal, Clydes.

2. Applied to the small stunted horns of sheep, *ib.*

Isl. *hnut-r*, a knob, a knot.

NITTLED, *adj.* Having horns of this description, *ibid.* *Neull'd*, synon.

[NITTLES, *s. pl.* Local pron. of *nettles*: to be on *nittles*, to be restless, peevish, or ill-humoured, Banffs.]

NITTY, *s.* Expl. a "little kuave," Gl. Aberd. V. under NIT.

But fowks will say it was na pretty
 To yoke sic twa in conjunct ditty,
 Them baith to hit;
 And ca' you but a twa-fac'd *nitty*,
 Wi' a' your wit.

Skinner's Misc. Poet., p. 187.

This may be viewed as claiming the same origin with the *adj.* *Nittie*, *q. v.*; if not from Teut. *neetigh*, *inutilis*, *nullius valoris*.

NIVIE-NICKNACK, *s.* V. NEIVIE-NICKNACK.

NIVLOCK, *s.* A bit of wood, around which the end of a *hair-tether* is fastened, for holding by, Banffs., Aberd.; from *nieve*, Su.-G. *naefwe*, the fist, and perhaps *lycka*, a knot, fibula, nodus; *Ihre*.

NIVVEL, NIVVIL, *s.* 1. The full of the fist, S. B. V. NEIVE.

[2. A blow with the fist, a *nevel*, *ibid.*]

[To NIVVEL, *v. a.* 1. To strike with the fist. V. NEVEL.

2. To grip or pinch with the fingers, Shetl. Isl. *hnefi*, *knefi*, the fist.]

[NIVVELIN, *s.* Pinching, *ibid.*]

NIXIE, *s.* A naiad, a water-nymph.

She who sits by haunted well,
 Is subject to the *Nixie's* spell;
 She who walks on lonely beach,
 To the mermaid's charmed speech.

The Pirate, iii. 19.

If a Pixie, seek thy ring,
 If a *Nixie* seek thy spring.

Ibid., ii. 246.

It might seem that this term is originally the same with Norw. *Nisse*, thus defined by Hallager, "a *Troll*, (monster), or a long-consumed substance, which appears as a little boy in a grey jacket with a red cap

on his head. He dwells especially in houses; and it is believed, that he brings good luck with him, for which reason they set down meat to him about evening. He is also known in Denmark." This hobgoblin is obviously the *Bronie* of our own country.

But the attributes of *Nisse* do not agree with those of *Nixie*. We must therefore turn our eye to Isl. *Nik-r*, hippopotamus, monstrum vel daemon *aquatilis*. G. Andr. Dan. *nicken*, *nocken*, Su.-G. *neeken*, Germ. *nicks*, Belg. *necker*, all signify, according to Ihre, daemon aquaticus. Hence also E. *nick*. *Nikur* was one of the names of Odin.

NIXIN, s. A play, in which cakes of gingerbread being placed on bits of wood, he who gives a certain sum to the owner of the cakes, has a right to throw at a given distance, with a *rung* about a yard long, and to claim as many cakes as he can displace, or clean ones in lieu of them, Roxb.

Su.-G. *nyck* signifies concussio. But it is most probably a cant term.

NIXT HAND, prep. Nighest to.

Nixt hand hir went Launina the maid.
Doug. Virgil, 380, 33.

NIXTIN, adj. Next.

The firsten shot was to neir, —
The *nixtin* shot thair foes hurt.
Battell of Balrinnis, Poems Sixteenth Cent., p. 353.

Both *firsten* and *nixtin* retain the A.-S. form of the dative and accusative; *nextan* from *next*, *next*, proximus.

NIXTOCUM, adj. Next. Aberd. Reg.

NIZ, s. The nose, Ang. V. **NEIS.**

[**NIZBIT, s.** Same as *nibbit*, q. v., Banffs.]

[**NIZZAN, s.** Exposure to severe weather, Gl. Banffs.]

[**To NIZZER, NISSER, v. n.** To contract, to become dried or stunted, Clydes. V. **GIZZEN.**]

[**NIZZERT, NISSART, adj.** Contracted, dried up, stunted, *ibid.*]

[**NIZZART, NISSART, s.** A lean person with a hard, sharp face, Gl. Banffs.]

NIZZERTIT, part. pa. Stunted in growth, Lanarks.

Nidder'd is used in the same sense. V. the *v.*, sense 5. It might perhaps be viewed as a corr. of this; did not Alem. *neiz*, denote affliction, *nez-en*, to hate, and Moes.-G. *neiths*, invidia, rancor.

NIZZELIN, part. adj. 1. Niggardly, parsimonious, S. B.

2. Spending much time about a trifling matter, especially when this proceeds from an avaricious disposition, S. B.

Su.-G. *nidsk*, *nisk*, covetous, from *nid*, avarice; A.-S. *nedling*, *nidling*, an usurer; Belg. *nyd-en*, to grudge.

It seems more nearly allied to Teut. *neusel-en*, frivolous. The primary sense of this Teut. word seems

to be, to be clandestinely poking into every corner, or searching with the nose like a dog; Nasu sive rostro tascitè scrutare; Kilian. The root is *neuse*, the nose. It is probable that Dan. *noesle*, "to be busy, to be taken up about some trifling thing, to be full of bustle," &c. (Wolff), which corresponds with the second sense of our term, has had a common origin; to which may be added Isl. *hnys-a*, Sw. *nos-a*, defined by Serenius in the very words used by Kilian.

[**To NIZZLE, v. a.** To beat with the fists, Clydes. V. **NISSLE.**]

NO, adv. This negative has peculiar emphasis in the Scottish language; and converts any adj. to which it is prefixed, into a strong affirmative of the contrary of its proper meaning; as, *no wyss*, mad; *no blate*, impudent, arrogant; *no canny*, dangerous, often including the idea of witchcraft or supernatural power.

NOAH'S ARK. An appearance in the atmosphere, when the clouds are parted in an elliptical form, which assumes somewhat of the likeness of a boat or yawl, pointed at both ends, S.

"The grey and misty appearance of the atmosphere, by which the present good weather was ushered in, is held by country people to be the strongest proof of its continuance. In addition to this, the Robin Redbreast has carolled from the house-tops, and *Noah's Ark* been seen in the heavens—omens which, in the opinion of many, are more to be depended on than either the rising or the falling of the barometer." *Dumfries Courier*, Edin. Ev. Cour., Sept. 18, 1817.

The prognostic, concerning the state of the weather, is formed from the direction of this ark in the heavens. If it extends from south to north, it is viewed as an indication of good weather; if from east to west, a squall of wind or rain is certainly looked for. Hence the old adage:

East and wast (west), the sign of a blast;
North and south, the sign of drouth.

The change, it is observed, generally takes place within twenty-four hours after this phenomenon.

It is singular that this prognostic should be interpreted quite in an opposite way on the other side of the Border. For Clarke, in his Survey of the Lakes of Cumberland, &c., expresses himself thus:

"I will add to those already mentioned that appearance in the heavens, called *Noah's Ark*; which being occasioned by a brisk west-wind rolling together a large number of small bright clouds into the form of a ship's hull, and exhibiting a beautiful mottled texture, is pointed North and South, and said to be an infallible sign of rain to happen within twenty-four hours." *Introd.* xlii.

NOB, s. A knob.

My neb is nytherit as a *nob*. I am but ans oule.
Houlate, l. 5.

The *k* used in the E. word is left out.

[**NOBILL, s.** Noble, Barbour, xi. 218.]

NOBLAY, s. 1. Nobleness of mind; as respecting one faithful to his engagements.

—As a man of gret *noblay*,
He held toward his trist his way,

Quhen the set day cummy was ;
He sped him fast toward the place
That he memmyt for to fycht.

Barbour, viii. 211, MS.

Nobley, Chaucer, nobility; *noblay*, Gower, id. In R. Glouc. description of King Lear, it is said—

He thogte on the *noblei*, that he had in y be. P. 34.

i. e., the noble state that he had been in.

And afterwards of Arthur ;
Tuelf yere he bylevede tho here wyth *nobleye* y now.
P. 180.

i. e., He lived twelve years with dignity enough.

2. It immediately respects courage, intrepidity.

Bot he that, throw his gret *noblay*,
Till perallis him abandownys ay,
Te recomfort his menyne,
Gerris that he be off sa gret heunté,
That meny tyme wnlkly thing
They bring rycht weill to gud ending.

Barbour, ix. 95, MS.

Sibb. mentions Fr. *noblesse*. But it is from O. Fr. *noblois*, of the same meaning, [*nobilite*, *noblete*.]

Si quiet les mondaines delices,
L'envoiserie, et le *noblois*. Dict. Trev.

[NOBLEIS, *s. pl.* Nobles, *Barbour*, ii. 182.]

[NOBLE, *s.* A gold coin long used in S., of which there were three varieties, the Hari Noble, an E. coin worth about 32/; the Rose Noble, an E. coin worth 36/; and the Angel Noble, also an E. coin, and worth about 24/. Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 24, 64, 353, Dickson.]

NOBLE, *s.* The Pogge, or Armed Bull-head, a fish; *Cottus cataphractus*, Linn. This is the name at Newhaven.

“*Cottus Cataphractus*. The pogge or Armed Bull-head;—*Noble*.” Neill's List of Fishes, p. 9.

[NOCHT, *s.* Nothing, naught, S.]

NOCHT, *adv.* Not.

Yheynt has he *nocht* sa mekill fre
As fre wyll te leyve, or do
That at hys hart hym drawis to.

Barbour, i. 246, MS.

In *The Bruce*, *nocht* is almost uniformly the MS. reading, where we find *not* in the printed copies. This error in orthography has been owing to the carelessness of transcribers, who have not observed that *nocht* is often written *not*, as a contr.

Noght is used in the same sense by R. Glouc., and *noght* by R. Brunne.

Moes.-G. *niwaiht*, nihil, from *ni*, no, and *waiht*, Isl. *waett*, Su.-G. *waetta*, the smallest thing that can be supposed; hence E. *whit*, S. *hait*. A.-S. *naht*, *noht*, nihil; also, non.

NOCHTIE, *adj.* 1. Puny in size, and at the same time contemptible in appearance; as, “O! she's a *nochtie* creature;” Ang.

2. Bad, unfit for any purpose; applied to an instrument, Aberd.

Q. a thing of nought, A.-S. *no-wiht*.

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NOCHTIS, *s.* Naught, of no value.

“In quhat proud arrogance and damnabil sacrilege is he specialie, and the utheris his fallowis in thair degre, sliddin; usurping the auctoritie of godly bischopes and utheris pastouris and preistis,—aluterlie aganis all lauchfull power onyway gevin be man to ony ministerie, that thai use in the kirk, except only be that titill, quhilk thai esteme *nochtis*.” N. Winyet's Quest. Keith, Hist. App., p. 222.

Nobtes, gen. of A.-S. *nohit*, nihil, q. “of nought.”

[NOCHT-BOT, *adv.* Only, merely, *Barbour*, i. 2.]

NOCHT-FOR-THI, *conj.* Nevertheless. V. FOR THI.

And *nocht for thi* his hand wes yeit
Wndyr the sterap, magre his.

Barbour, iii. 123, MS.

NOCHTGAYNESTANDAND, *conj.* Notwithstanding, Brechine Reg. F., 54.

NOCK, NOK, NOKK, *s.* 1. The nick or notch of a bow or arrow.

—The bowand *nokkis* met almaist,
And new hir handis raxit it enery sted,
Hard on the left neif was the scharp stele hede.
Doug. Virgil, 396, 35.

“*Nocke* of a bowe, [Fr.] oche de larc: *Nocke* of shafte, [Fr.] oche de la flesche;” Palsgr. B. iii. F. 50, b.

2. The corner or extremity of the sailyard.

Now the le scheyt, and new the luf thay slayk,
Set in ane fang, and threw the ra abake;
Bayth to and fra, al dyd thare *nokkys* wry:
Prosper blastys farth caryis the nauy.

Doug. Virgil, 156, 17.

3. The notch of a spindle, Shirr. Gl. S. B.

—Ane spindle wantand ane *nok*.
Bannatyne Poems, p. 160, st. 7.

Teut. *nocke*, crena, incisura; incisura sagittae. E. *nock* is synon. with *notch*. Sw. *nockor*, denticuli incisivi, Seren. Ital. *nocchia*. Isl. *knocke* is used in relation to a spindle, apparently as in sense 3. Unicolus, qualis est in fuso; G. Andr., p. 118.

NOCKIT, NOCKET, NOKKIT, *part. adj.* Notched.

With arrow reddy *nokkit* than Eurytione
Plukkit vp in hy his bow.

Doug. Virgil, 144, 50.

[To NOCK, *v. a.* To knock up, to exhaust, to hurt, Banffs.; synon. to *ding*, part. pa. *nockit*, exhausted.]

NOKKIT, NOCKET, NOKKET, *s.* A luncheon, a slight repast taken between breakfast and dinner, S. Aust. (*eleven-hours*, synon.) “perhaps *noon-cate*, or *cake*,” Sibb. Roxb. Gall.

“*Nocket*—a meal between breakfast and dinner.” A. Scott's Poems, 1811, p. 160, N.

NOCKET-TIME, *s.* The time for taking a luncheon, Roxb.

Wi' hamely cottage fare regal'd to be
At *nocket-time*, an' whan 'tis afternoon,

Y 2

By the moss-banks up' the velvet lea
Their table spread, ilk circle sits them down.
A. Scott's Poems, 1811, p. 160.

"Nocket, a mid-day lunch;" Gall. Encycl.

NOCKS, *s. pl.* "Little beautiful hills;"
Gall. Encycl.; the same with *Knock*, *q. v.*

* NOD, *s.* *The Land of Nod*, the state of
sleep. "He's awa to the *Land of Nod*," he
has fallen asleep, *S. Lands of Nod, Aberd.*

"And d'ye ken, lass," said Madge, "there's queer
things chanced since ye hae been in the *Land of Nod*."
Tales of my Landlord, S. 1. Vol. iii. 124.

This figure is evidently borrowed from the use of the
E. word, as denoting "the motion of the head in
drowsiness." But it has most probably been at first
employed as containing what is often mistaken for wit,
a ludicrous and profane allusion to the language of
scripture in regard to the conduct of the first murder-
er, Gen. iv. 16. "And Cain went out from the
presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the *land of Nod*."

[To NOD, *v. n.* To become sleepy, to fall
asleep in one's seat, to sleep, Clydes.]

[NODDIN, NODDING, *part., s., and adj.* Sleep-
ing, falling asleep, nodding in sleep. *Nid-
noddin*, is also used, as in the old song, and
sometimes *nid-noddy*, *ibid.*]

[* NODDY, *s.* A simpleton; also, a sleepy-
head: *noddy-head*, is also used, Clydes.]

[NODDY-HEADIT, *adj.* Sleepy-headed, dazed
with liquor, *ibid.*]

NODDLE-ARAIID, *adv.* Head foremost,
Teviotdale.

The latter part of this word may be allied to *Isl.*
araedi, impetus.

NODDY, *s.* A one-horse coach, moving on
two wheels, and open behind, *S.*

"There was a *noddy* at the door, bound for the town
of Greenock; so I stepped into it." *The Steam-Boat*,
p. 121.

The name may have been given from its *nodding*
motion.

To NODGE, *v. a.* To strike with the
knuckles, *S. B.*

This is nearly allied to *Gnidge*, although used in a
different sense. *V. GNIDGE and KNUSE.*

NODGE, *s.* A push or stroke, properly with
the knuckles, *Ayrs.*; *Dunsh, Punsh*, *synon.*

"They came to a cross-road, where my grand-
father, giving Master Kilspinnie a *nodge*, turned down
the one that went to the left." *R. Gilhaize, i. 85.*

"As we were thus employed, Mrs. Pringle gave me
a *nodge* on the elbow, and bade me look at an elderly
man, about fifty—something of the appearance of a
gausey good-humoured country laird." *The Steam-
Boat, p. 253.*

To NODGE, *v. n.* 1. To sit or go about in
a dull, stupid kind of state, *Ettr. For.*

2. To NODGE *alang*, to travel leisurely,
Dumfr.

C. B. nugiad denotes "broken motion." But per-
haps this *v.* is allied to *Teut. knodse*, *clava nodosa*, as
denoting stiffness of motion.

NOG, *s.* 1. A knob; a stake, driven into
the wall, having its extremity hooked, for
keeping hold of what is hung on it, *S.*

Nought left me, o' four and twenty gude ousen and ky,—
But a toom byre and a wide,
And the twelve *nogs* on ilka side.

Minstreley Border, i. 207.

2. A very large peg driven through *divots*, to
keep them in their proper place on the roof
of a cottage, *Dumfr.*

It seems originally the same with *Teut. knocke*, a
knot in a tree, *Sw. knagg, E. knag*, and perhaps with
Sw. knoge, the knuckle. The radical affinity of terms
of this form and signification is illustrated by *ahre, vo.*
Knae, the knee.

NOGGAN, *part. pr.* "Walking steadily,
and regularly nodding the head;" *Gall.*
Encycl.

Allied perhaps to *C. B. nugiaw*, to shake, to quiver,
nug, a shake. *Su.-G. nyck*, concussio; *Isl. hnok-a*,
moto.

NOGGIE, NOGGIN, *s.* A small wooden vessel
with an upright handle, *Dumfr.*

The *Coag* is a *Noggie* of a larger size, for milking
in; the *Luggie* being of an intermediate size. In
Galloway, it is pron. *Noggin*, like the E. word.

"*Noggins*, little wooden dishes;" *Gall. Encycl.*

[NOIS, *s.* Dirt, filth, noisomeness, *Lyndsay*,
Syde Taillis, l. 103.]

NOISOME, *adj.* Noisy, *Aberd.*; *q. noise-
some.*

NOIT, *s.* 1. A small rocky height.

"*Noits*, little rocky hills;" *Gall. Encycl.*

[2. A lump or swelling on the joint of the
great toe; called also a *noityon*, *Ayrs.*]

Isl. hnuttur, knuttur, a knot; hence a clump.

To NOIT, NYTE, *v. a.* To strike smartly, to
give a smart rap or stroke, *S. V. KNOIT.*

NOITING, *s.* A beating, *Lanarks.*

NOITLED, *part. adj.* "Intoxicated with
spirits;" *Gall. Encycl.*

Teut. neutel-en, frivole agere; *q.* brought into that
state in which one talks incoherently or foolishly.

NOK, *s.* A notch, &c. *V. NOCK.*

NOLD. Would not.

*I nold ye traist I said thys for dyspite,
For me lyst wyth no man nor bukis flyite.*

Doug. Virgil, 7, 55.

Nolde, *id.* is often used by Chaucer, according to
Tyrwhitt, for *ne wolde*. But A.-S. *nolde* frequently
occurs in the sense of *noluit*, as the pret. of *nell-an*,
nill-an, *nolle*, which is indeed contr. from *ne* and
will-an, not to will. *Ne willan* sometimes occurs
without the contr.

NOLDER, NODER, *conj.* Neither. *V.*
NOUTHER.

To NOLL, *v. a.* To press, beat or strike with the knuckles, S. B., sometimes *null*.

“To *Null*, to beat; as, He nulled him heartily;” Grose’s Class. Dict.

Alem. *knouel*, Dan. *knogle*, Germ. *knochel*, a joint, a knuckle. V. *Nevell*, under *NEIVE*.

But the *v.* has more direct affinity to Germ. *knull-en*, used in the same sense; “to knubble, to cuff soundly,” &c. Ludwig.

NOLL, *s.* A strong push or blow with the knuckles, S. B.

NOLL, *s.* A large piece of anything, as of bread, cheese, meat, &c., S. B.

It is equivalent to S. *knot*, Su.-G. *knœl*, tuber, a bump. This seems the primary sense of E. *knoll*, *q.* a knot or bump on the surface of the earth. *Knot* and *noll* seem to have the same origin, Isl. *hnue*, as denoting the form of the *knuckles*. V. *KNOR*.

NOLT, NOWT, *s.* 1. Black cattle, as distinguished from horses, and sheep. It properly denotes oxen.

“All persons clemand the office of keiping of the Kings forests and parks, sall suffer na maner of gudes, horse, meiris, *nolt*, sheip or vther cattell, to be pastured within the Kings forests.” Skene, Crimes, Tit. 4, c. 36, s. 7. V. also *Pitscottie*, p. 21.

Als bestial, as hors and *nowt*, within,
Among the fyr thai maid a hidwyas din.

Wallace, viii. 1058. MS.

Although a collective *n.* it is used in composition for an individual of the kind, as a *nowt-beast*, S.

2. Metaph. used to denote “a stupid fellow;” Gl. Surv. Moray.

“What garr’d ye blaw out the crusie, Davie, ye stupid *nout*?” St. Ksthleen, iii. 159.

3. I have heard the phrase, a *great muckle nout*, applied to a big, lumpish man, generally including the idea of inactivity, S.

[NOLT-FOOT, NOWT-FIT. 1. As a *s.*, the foot of an ox or cow, S.

2. As an *adj.*, Of, belonging to, or made from; as *nowt-fit-jelly*, S.]

-NOLT-HIRD, NOWT-HIRD, *s.* A neatherd, a keeper of cattle, S.

— Like as that the wyld wolf in his rage,—

Quhen that he has sum young grete oxin slane,

Or than werryit the *nolthird* on the plane.

Doug. Virgil, 394, 35.

“*Nout-herd*. A neat herd. North.” Gl. Grose.

NOLT-HORN, NOWT-HORN, *s.* The horn of an ox or cow, used for collecting cattle, &c., S.

A lang kail-gully hang down by his side,

And a meikle *nowt-horn* to rout on had he.

Humble Beggar, Herd’s Coll., ii. 29.

Of a very cold day it is proverbially said, “It’s enough to pierce a *nout-horn*,” S.

Isl. *naut*, Dan. *nod*, Sw. *nood*, *not*, an ox, *not*, oxen; Isl. *nauta madr*, a herdman. These are radically the same with A.-S. *neat*, jumentum, a labouring beast; *niten*, *nitenu*, pecora, Somner; E. *neat*.

But it is evident, that our term more nearly resembles those used in the Scandinavian dialects.

The description given of *Bos* by Linn. contains a striking proof of the great affinity between the S. and Sw.

Suecis *Noet* [*nout*, S.]; mas, *Tiur*; castratus, *Oxe*; junior, *Stut*, [S. *Stot*, id.]; foemiu. *Ko*, donec prima vice peperit, *Quija*, [before her first calf, a *quoy*, S.] Faun. Suec., p. 46, Ed. 1800.

NOLT-TATH, *s.* Luxuriant grass proceeding from dung, S. V. TATH.

NOME, *pret.* [Took, held; *part. pa.* taken, held.]

The crone he tuk upon that sammyne stane,
At Gadales send with his sone fra Spane,
Quhen Iber Scot fyrst in till Irland come,
At Cannmor syne king Fergus has it *nome*,
Brocht it till Scwne, and stapill maid it thar.

Wallace, i. 124, MS.

In all the edit. which I have seen, it is erroneously printed *won* or *wone*.

This is an O. E. word, which I do not recollect to have met with in this form in any other S. work. Doug. writes *nummyn*. Both *nam* and *nome* are used in the same sense by R. Glouc. and R. Brunne; Chaucer, *nome*, id.; from the O. E. *v. nime*, to take; A.-S. Alem. *nim-an*, Moes.-G. *nim-un*, Su.-G. *nam-a*, *naem-a*, Isl. *nem-a*, Germ. *nehm-en*. V. *NUMMYN*.

[NOMMER, NUMMER, *s.* Number, Lyndsay, Exper. and Courteour, l. 1743.]

NONE, *s.* 1. Noon.

And, sls sone as the *none* wes past,

Him thought weil he saw a fyr,

Be Turnberry byrmand weil schyr.

Barbour, iv. 617, MS.

[The Cambridge MS. has *moyn*, moon, which gives a much better meaning to the passage. If this is the correct reading, *none* is an err. for *mone*.]

The word formerly signified three o’clock afternoon, or the *ninth* hour, when the *nones*, a name hence given to certain prayers, were said. This term being used by Chaucer, Tyrwhitt expl. it, “the ninth hour of the natural day; nine o’clock in the morning; the hour of dinner.” According to Sibb., “perhaps the prayers, called the *nones*, were, in Chaucer’s time, recited three hours before, instead of three hours after, mid-day.” But it is more natural to suppose that Tyrwhitt was mistaken in his definition. For there is no evidence that, in Chaucer’s time, the *nones* were celebrated so early. A.-S. *non* uniformly signifies “the ninth hour of the day, which was at three of the clock afternoon;” Somner.

2. Dinner.

Gif seruandis of ane familie

Had daylie meit sufficientlis

Provydit for thame, and na mair;

Than gif the Stewart sa wald spair

And on this sort thair meit dispone,

Of ane dayis meit mak four dayis *none*,

Wald not thay seruandis hongerit be,

And leif in greit penuritie?

Diall. Clerk & Courteour, p. 21.

Fr. *none*, id. A.-S. *non-mete*, “refectio, vel prandium, a meale or bever at that time,” Somner; so called, because the priests used to take a repast after the celebration of the *nones*.

[NON-ENTREE, NONE-ENTRESS, *s.* The failure of an heir to renew investiture with the superior on the death of the holder,

called non-entry; also, the feudal casualty or fine payable to a superior on such failure. *Accts. L. H. Treasurer*, i. 211, 315. Ed. Dickson.]

NON-FIANCE, s.

"Essex much suspected, at least of *non-fiance* and misfortune; his army, through sickness and runaways, brought to 4000 or 5000 men, and these much malcontented that their general and they should be misprised." *Baillie's Lett.*, i. 391.

It seems to signify discredit, want of confidence; from Fr. *non*, the negative, and *fiance*, trust, confidence.

NONFINDING, part. pr. Not finding.

"In caiss of *nonfinding* souirtie, to denunce thaim rebellis lik as mene slaaris." *Acts Ja. V.*, 1525, Ed. 1814, p. 298.

NON OBSTANT. Notwithstanding. "*Non obstant that*," &c. *Aberd. Reg., Cent.* 16; from Lat. *non obstante*.

NONREDDING, s. Not cleaning, or clearing out. "The *nonredding* of his buicht," keeping his booth in a state of disorder. *Aberd. Reg.*, V. 15, p. 651.

NON-SOUNT, s. A term denoting a base coin.

"Now thay spair not panielie to brek down and convert gud and stark mony, cunyit in our cunye-house in our Soveranes les aige, into this thair corrupted scruef and baggages of Hard heidis and *Nonsounts*." *Knox's Hist.*, p. 164.

This is not to be viewed as the designation of any particular coin, but of base money in general. It is of Fr. origin. *Messieurs de non sont*, is a phrase mentioned by Cotgr. as applied to men who are supposed to be imperfect in a physical sense; perhaps from *non*, the negative particle, and *sonte*, the use or profit of rents that have been mortgaged, or detained by judicial authority, q. *no return*; or from L. B. *sont-ius*, verax, q. *not genuine*; or still more simply, from the 3rd p. pl. of the *v. subst.* q. *they are not*.

NON-SUCH, s. One without a parallel, S.

"If that *non-such* amongst mere men, the meek and zealous Moses, might have his spirit so provoked, as to speak unadvisedly with his lips, who ought not?" *M'Ward's Contend.*, p. 65.

NONE-SUCH, adj. Unparalleled.

"This would have discovered our iniquity—preventing that day of *none-such* calamity." *Ibid.*, p. 88.

[NONIS, s. The nonce, occasion, *Lyndsay, Exper. and Courteour*, l. 2139.]

NOOF, NUFE (Fr. u), adj. 1. Neat, trim, spruce, *Galloway, Dumfr.*

His tenement it was but sma',
Aught scrippint roods, an' that was a';
And yet his wife was always bra',

An' unco noof. *Davidson's Seasons*, p. 65.

2. Snug, *ibid.*

"*Noof*, snug; sheltered from the blast;" *Gall. Enc.*

To NOOK, NEUK, v. a. 1. To check, to snib; to put down, to humble, *Aberd.*

I'll wad her cuntray fouk sall no be dring
In seeking her, and gar us sadly rew
That ever we their name or nature knew;
Nae farther back 'bout them need we to look,
Than how of late they you and me did nook?

Ross's Helenore, First Edit., p. 88.

In the third edition it is *hook*, undoubtedly by mistake.

2. To trick, to outwit, to take in, *ibid.*

This may be allied to Isl. *hnauk-a*, cernuus laborare, servire, whence *knokin*, cernuus, pronus; *hnauk*, labor taediosus, opus servile; *Haldorson*. I suspect, however, that the *v.* has been formed from the *s. nook*, or *neuk*, understood figuratively, as the *s.* itself is used in this sense in the same district.

NOOK, NEUK, s. 1. To Keep, or Hold one in his ain Nook, to keep a person under, to keep one in awe, *Aberd.*

2. To Turn a Nook upon, to outwit, to overreach, *ibid.*

NOOL, s. A short horn, *Galloway*.

He views the warse, laughing wi' himsel
To see auld brawny glowr, and shake his nools.

Davidson's Seasons, p. 45.

"Nools, small horns which are not connected with the scull-bone;" *Gall. Encycl.*

Su.-G. *knobel*, a hump or knob; Germ. *knoll*, id. *Wachter* observes that it is from *nol*, a hillock, which the ancients wrote *hnol*, and applied to any kind of protuberance in the body, trees, &c., resembling a small eminence.

[NOOP, s. A lofty headland, precipitous towards the sea, and sloping towards the land, *Shetl.* Isl. *nupr*, the top of a mountain.]

NOOPING, part. pr. "Walking with eyes on the ground, and head nodding;" *Gall. Encycl.*

Isl. *gnoef*, nasus, prominens, *gnapte*, prominet; *hnipin*, gestu tristis, et se coarctans membris, G. Andr.

NOOST, s. The action of the grinders of a horse in chewing his food, *Roxb.*

Isl. *gnust-a*, stridere, *gnist-r*, stridor, whence *tanna-gniost-r*, stridor, dentium.

To NOOZLE, v. a. To press down, to beat, to strike against, *Teviotdale; Banffs.*

"Ye're still but a young man yet, son, an' experience may noozle some wit intil ye." *Winter Ev. Tales*, i. 14.

This might seem to be the same with E. *nuzzle*; as referring to the act of rubbing with the nose, or digging with the snout. Teut. *neusel-en*, naso sive rostro, scrutari; from *neuse*, nasus. But it is more probably a derivative from *Knuse, v.*, especially as it properly signifies to press down with the knees.

[NOOSLAN, s. Exposure to stormy weather; *noosle* is also used, *Banffs.*]

NOOZLE, s. A squeeze, a crush, *Ettr. For.*

"Ane grit man trippyt on myne feet, and fell belly-flaught on me with ane dreadful noozle." *Winter Ev. Tales*, ii. 42.

Belg. *kneusel-en*, is mentioned by *Ihre (vo. Knyster)* as synon. with *kneus-en*, to bruise. V. *KNUSE*.

NOP BED. A bed made of locks of wool, in E. denominated a *flock-bed*.

"That Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closebarne sall—pay to Johne of Grant—for twa *nop beddis* with the bous-teris XL s., for a fedder bed with the bouster XL s., five pare of schetis, price of the pare x s." Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1488, p. 98.

A.-S. *knoppa*, villus, Su.-G. *nopp*, id.; Teut. *nappe*, villus, floccus, tomentum.

NOP SEK. [A sack or holder for *nop* or *flock*; when filled would be a *nop-bed*.]

"That Henry Leis burgess of Edinburgh sall restore—the ruf of a bed, the courtingis of the samyn, a *nop sek*, iij pare of schetis," &c. Act. Audit., A. 1478, p. 67. Also Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1490, p. 176.

Apparently a *sack* or bag made of hard or coarse cloth. Su.-G. *noppa*, stupae.

NOR, conj. Than, S.

The gudwyf said, I reid yow lat thame ly,
They had lever sleip, *nor* be in laudery.

Dunbar, Maitland Poems, p. 75.

"Sum thair be also that under collour of seiking the Quenis authoritie, thinks to eschape the punishment of auld faultis, and hane licence in tyme to cum to oppres thair nichtbouris, that be febillir *nor* thai." Buchanan's Admon. to Trew Lordis, p. 6.

It is used in the same sense, A. Bor. V. Gl. Grose.

This, as far as I have observed, is not very ancient. *Na*, q.v. is used in the same sense by our earliest writers.

[To **NOR** (long o), *v. n.* To snore, Shetl.]

[**NOR**, *s.* A snore, *ibid.*]

[**NORALEG**, *s.* The lower leg-bone of a swine, used in making a "*snorick*," q. v. *ibid.*

Dan. *knurre*, Isl. *knurra*, to buzz, to murmur.]

[**NORDEN**, *adj.* Northern; used also as a *s.*, the northern part or division of an island or district, Shetl. V. **NORTHIN**.]

NORIE, *s.* The Puffin, Orkn. *Alca arctica*, Linn.; the *Tam Norie* of the Bass.

"Among these we may reckon—the pickternie, the *norie*, and culterneb." P. Kirkwall, Orkn. Statist. Acc., vii. 546. This in Orkn. is also called **ТОММХ** **НОДДИЕ**, q.v.

"Did I not hear a halloo?" "The skriegh of a *Tammie Norie*," answered Ochiltree, "I ken the skirl weel." Antiquary, i. 168.

Brand uses the term *Tominorie*.

"The fowls have their nests on the holms in a very beautiful order, all set in rows in the form of a dove-coat, and each kind or sort do nestle by themselves; as the Scarfs by themselves, so the Cetywaicks, *Tominories*, *Mawes*, &c." Descr. of Zetl., p. 119.

Norw. *noere* signifies puellus, homuncio, G. Andr., p. 186, q. the boy, or mannikin. Hence perhaps the reason of his being otherwise called by the diminutive of a man's name.

NORIE, *s.* A whim, a reverie, a maggot, S.; pl. *nories*.

"Dear gudeman, whaten a question's that to speer at me? What can hae put sic a *norie* i' your head as that?" Brownie of Bodsbeck, i. 7.

Let nae daft *norie* sae biass us,
As gar us dread,—

Taylor's Scott's Poems, p. 5.

Sw. *narr-as*, to trifle with one, illudere; *narr*, a fool?

NORIE, *s.* The abbreviation of *Eleanor*, or *Eleanora*, S.

[**NORIS**, *s.* A nurse. V. **NOYRIS**.]

[**NORIST**, *part. pa.* Nourished, Barbour, xix. 164.]

NORLAN, **NORLIN**, **NORLAND**, *adj.* Of or belonging to the North country, S. B.

Four and twanty siller bells
Wer a' tyed till his mane;
And yae tift o' the *norland* wind,
They tinkled ane by ane.

Percy's Reliques, ii. 235.

Quhan words he found, their elricht sound
Was like the *norlan* blast,
Fras yon deep glack at Catla's back,
That skeegs the dark-brown waste.

Minstrely Border, iii. 359.

As the orthography of this word is various, I am at a loss whether it has been originally q. *northland*, or allied to Isl. *nordlingr*, *norlingr*, aquilonarius. Perhaps *norlin* is the proper form. Dan. *nordlaend-r*, however, signifies a northern man.

NORLINS, *adv.* Northward, S. B.

They rub their een, and spy them round about,
Thinking what gate the day to hadd their rout.
Nas meiths they had, but *norlins* still to gae,
Kenning that gate that Flaviania lay.

Ross's Helenore, p. 75.

[**NORLE**, **NURLE**, *s.* A lump, knob, knot, Clydes.; a lump, a tumour, Banffs.]

[To **NORLE**, **NURLE**, *v. n.* To become knotty, to rise in lumps or knobs, Clydes.]

[To **NORLE**, *v. a.* To strike so as to produce lumps, Banffs.]

NORLICK, **KNURLICK**, *s.* A small lump, a tumour, a hard swelling occasioned by a blow, S. B.

"I wat she rais'd a *norlick* on my crown that wis nae well for twa days." Journal from London, p. 3.

A dimin. from E. *knur*, *knural*, a knot; or immediately from Teut. *knorre*, a knot, a knob, a small swelling. Su.-G. *knorrliq* is applied to the hair, when knotted or matted. These, perhaps, are all originally from Isl. *hnue*, internodius digitorum.

[**NORLIE**, **NURLIE**, *adj.* 1. Covered with small lumps or knobs; as, *nurlic taes*, Clydes.

2. Ill-shaped, rough, unevenly, *ibid.*

3. Applied to a person of a testy, cross-grained disposition, *ibid.*]

NORLOC, *s.* A cyst, growing on the head of some persons even to the size of an orange, S. B.; expressed S. A. by the use of the E. word *Wind-gall*.

This is evidently a dimin. from E. *knurle*, a knot. Teut. *knorre*, tuber, tuberculum.

NOR'LOCH. The corr. of *North loch*, the name of a body of stagnant water, which

formerly lay in the hollow between the High Street of Edinburgh and the ground on which Prince's Street now stands. Hence,

NOR'LOCH TROUT. A cant phrase formerly denoting a joint or leg of mutton, ordered for a club of citizens who used to meet in one of the *closets* leading down to the North loch. The invitation was given in these terms; "Will ye gang and eat a *Nor'loch trout*?"

The reason of the name is obvious. This was the only species of *fish* which the North loch, on which the shambles were situated, could supply.

[**NORN**, *adj.* Norse; as, "a *norn* veesick," a Norse ballad; Isl. *norrænn*, id.]

[**NORRALEG**, *s.* A needle without an eye, Shetl.]

[**To NORTH**, *v. n.* To blow from the north; to tend to the north, Banffs.]

[**NORTHALUE FORTH.** The country north of the Forth. Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 48, 50, Dickson.]

NORTHART, *adj.* Northern, of or belonging to the north, Aysr.; corr. from *Northward*.

Far o'er the braes, the *Northart* cauld
To distant climes had ta'en it's way.

Picken's Poems, i. 16.

NORTHIN, NORTHYN, NORTHIR, *adj.* Northerly.

"The thrid cardinal vynd is callit septemtrional or horial, quhilk vulgaris callis *northern* vynd." Compl. S., p. 95. *Northyn*, Barbour.

Sw. *nord*, *norden*, North; *nordan-waeder*, a north-wind, Seren.

[**NORHLANDE, NORTLAND**, *s.* The northern part of the country. Accts. L. H. Treas., i. 121, 241, Dickson.]

NORYSS, *s.* Nurse. V. **NOYRIS**.

[* **NOSE.** *Nose of the Pier*, the extreme end that fronts the sea, the point, Gl. Shetl.]

[**NOSEBAND**, *s.* *Noseband of the Lead-stane*, a loop of stout cord to which one end of the lead-stone is attached, the other end being fastened to the line, Gl. Shetl.]

NOSEBITT, *s.* Any thing that acts as a check or restraint.

—I will augment my bill
As I gett wiff in mair and mair
Of his proceedings heir and thair.
I sall leive blankis for to imbrow thame,
That he a *nosebitt* m[ay] belevie thame,
Whome to my buik salbe directit.

Legend Bp. St. Androis, Poems Sixteenth Cent., p. 343.

NOSEL, NOZLE, *s.* A small socket or aperture, S. A.

[**NOSETIRL**, *s.* A nostril, Shetl.]

NOSEWISE, (pron. *nosewyss*), *adj.* 1. Having, or pretending to have, an acute smell, S.

2. Used metaph. in relation to the mind, to denote one, who either is, or pretends to be, quick of perception.

"Your calumnies,—that the shew of worldly glorie hath turned me out of the path-way of Christ, that a man *nose-wise* (like you) might smell in my speeches the saour of a vaine-glorious, and selfe-pleasing humour,—are hut words of winde." Bp. Galloway's *Dikaiologie*, p. 173.

Germ. *naseweis*, self-witted, presumptuous, critical; Sw. *naeswis*, saucy, malapert.

Teut. *neuswis*, odorus, sagax; nasutus; curiosus.

NOSS, *s.* A term apparently of the same meaning with *Ness*, a promontory, Shetl.

"Who was't shot Will Paterson off the *Noss*?—the Dutchman that he saved from sinking, I trow." *The Pirate*, i. 246.

Su.-G. *nos*, the nose. It is generally admitted that the terms, denoting a promontory, are borrowed from that member which projects in the human face. Isl. *nos*, indeed denotes a promontory. V. *Ihre*, vo. *Næs*,

NOST, *s.* Noise, talking, speculation about any subject, S. B.

Allied perhaps to Su.-G. *knyst-a*, Dan. *knyst-er*, to mutter, to make a low noise, from Su.-G. *kny*, id.

We may add Isl. *gnist-a*, *gnest-a*, stridere, strepere; *gnist*, stridor.

NOT, know not.

Bot Timetes exhortis first of all
It for to lede and draw within the wal,—
Quhiddir for dissait I *not*, or for malice.

Doug. Virgil, 39, 43.

V. **NAT**.

NOTAR, NOTER, *s.* A notary public. "Ane *noter*," id. *Aberd. Reg.*; *Noter*, Gl. Lynds.

"They took instruments in the hands of two *notars* brought there for the purpose." *Spalding*, i. 63.

To NOTE, *v. a.* 1. To use in whatever way, S. B.

Than the agit Drances with curage hate
Begouth the fyrst hys toung for to *note*,
As he that was hayth glaid, ioyful and gay
For Turnus slauchter—

Doug. Virgil, 466, 55.

"*Nate* or *note*, uti; Northumb." *Ray's Coll.*, p. 46. A.-S. *not-ian*, *nytt-ian*, Moes.-G. *niut-an*, Su.-G. *niut-a*, anc. *nyt-a*, Isl. *niot-a*, to use, to enjoy.

2. To take victuals, to use in the way of sustenance.

He notes very little, he takes little food, S. B.

Teut. *nutt-en*, uti; vesci, sobrie degustare; Isl. *nautin*, eating, from *neitte*, vescor; Su.-G. *noet-a*, usu conficere, deterere, *Ihre*.

3. To need, to have occasion for, Ang. Mearns.

"*He would note it*, i.e., needs it, or has use for it." *Rudd*. vo. *Nate*. *Not*, needed Buchan.

As used in this sense, it might seem a different v., formed from Moes.-G. *naud*, Su.-G. *noed*, Belg. *noed*, necessity. But indeed the idea of necessity is very nearly allied to that of use.

NOTE, NOTT, NOT, s. 1. Use, purpose, office.

Sum slecht knyffis in the beistis throttis,
And vtheris (quhillk war ordant for sic *notis*)
The warme new blude keppit in coup and pece.
Doug. *Virgil*, 171, 47.

[A.-S. *notu*, use, Dan. *nytu*, id.]

2. Necessity, occasion for, S. B.

Alem. *not*, Su.-G. *noed*, id. Belg. *nut*, use, *nuttelyk*, useful.

NOTELESS, adj. Unnoticed, unknown, Gl. Shirr.

[NOTNA. Needed not, had no occasion for.]

NOTH, s. 1. Nothing, Aberd.

2. The cypher 0, *ibid.*

Probably a corr. of S. *nocht*, or of A.-S. *no-wiht*, nihil.

NOTOUR, NOTTOUR, adj. 1. Well known, notorious, S.

"Of things *nottour*, there are some which cannot be proven, and yet are true, as such a man is another's son.—Again, there are things *nottour*, which need no probation, which are *facti transeuntis*, as that a person did publicly commit murder." Steuart's Collections, B. iv., Tit. 3, § 18.

2. What is openly avowed and persisted in, notwithstanding all warnings to the contrary, S.

"We distinguish between simple and *notour* adultery. Notorious or open adulterers, who continue incorrigible, notwithstanding the censures of the church, were punished by 1551, c. 20, with the escheat of their moveables: but soon after, the punishment of notorious adultery was declared capital, by 1563, c. 74." Erskine's Instit., B. iv., T. 4, s. 53.

Fr. *notoire*, notorious, open.

[NOUCHT, s. Nothing, S.]

[NOUCHTIE, *adj.* Insignificant, trifling, worthless; as, "He's a *nouchtie* bodie," S.]

Cum *nouchtie* Newtrallis, with your bailfull band,
Ye haif ane cloik now reddy for the rayne,
For fair wether ans other ay at hand.
Henry Charteris, Adhortatioun of All Estatis, l. 50.]

NOUDS, NOWDS, s. pl. Fishes that are counted of little value, Ayr., Gall.

"*Nouds*, little fish, about the size of herring, with a horny skin, common in the Galloway seas." Gall. Encycl.; perhaps the Yellow Gurnard or Dragonet.

NOUP, NUPS, s. "A round headed eminence," Shetl., Dumfr. (Fr. *u.*) V. **NOOP.**

By slack and by skerry, by *noup* and by *voe*, &c.
The Pirate, ii. 142.

V. **AIR.**

[Isl. *nupr*, *gnupr*, a promontory.]

This is the same with *Knoop*, sense 3, q. v.

NOURICE, s. A nurse, S. O.

"The little *nourice* from the manse laid down on the turf without speaking, but with a heartsome smile, her

small wage of four pounds." Lights and Shadows, p. 218.

"O. E. *Noryce*. *Nutrix*." Prompt. Parv.

NOURICE-FEE, s. The wages given to a wet nurse, S.

Another said, O gin she had but milk,
Then sud she gae frae head to foot in silk;
With castings rare and a guesed *nourice-fee*,
To nurse the King of Elfin's heir Fizzee.
Ross's Helenore, p. 63.

NOURISKAP, s. 1. The place or situation of being a nurse, S.

2. The fee given to a nurse, S.

From A.-S. *norice*, a nurse, and *scipe*, Belg. *schap*, Su.-G. *skap*, a termination denoting a certain state. V. **NOYRIS.**

[**NOURN, s.** The north, Shetl. Isl. *norrænn*.]

NOUST, s. 1. A landing-place, an inlet for admitting a boat to approach the shore, especially where the entrance is rocky; called also *nouster*, Orkn.

2. It is also expl. "a sort of ditch in the shore, into which a boat is drawn for being moored."

A term evidently retained from the Norwegians; as it preserves not only the form, but nearly the signification of Isl. *naust*, statio navalis sub tecto; Haldorson. It seems originally to have signified the place where a vessel was stationed under cover, after it had reached the shore. Verelius expl. it, *navale*; and gives Sw. *bothus*, i.e., boat-house, as the synonym. *Navis statio*; G. Andr.

NOUT, s. Black cattle. V. **NOLT.**

NOUTHER, NOWTHIR, NOLDER, conj. Neither, S. A.-S. *nouther*, Franc. *newether*.

Nouther fortres, nor turrettis sure of were

Now graith they mare.—

Doug. *Virgil*, 102, 41.

Hardyng uses *nouther*—

The yere so then viii. c. was expresse,

Four and thirtie, *nouther* more ne less.

Chron. Fol. 104, h.

"And quhen thay haue gottin the benefice, gyf thay haue ane brother, or ane sone, ye suppose he can *nolder* sing nor say, norisheit in vice al his davis, fra hand he sal be montit on aue Mule with ane syde gown, & ane round bonett, & than it is questioun, quether he or his Mule knawis best to do his office. Perchance Balaame's Asse knew mair nor thay baith." Kennedy of Crosraguell, Compend. Tractiue, p. 80.

NOUVELLES, NOUELLES, s. pl. News, S.

"Dauid said til hym, I pray the that thou declair to me all the *nouelles* of the battel." Compl. S., p. 185.

During that nicht thair was nocht ellis,
Bot for heir of his *nouellis*.

Lyndsay's Warkis, 1592.

[**NOVELREIS, s. pl.** Novelty, Barbour, xix. 394, Cambridge, MS.; *noveltyis*, Edin. MS.]

NOVITY, s. Novelty; Fr. *nouveauté*.

"William Bailis alleged, no process, because the active title not produced. Halton repelled it. Mr.

William huffed at the *novity*, and offered a dollar for the Lords' answer." Fount. Dec. Suppl., iii. 146.

NOW, NOWE, s. [1. A knoll, a small eminence, a *brae*; also written *know*, *knowe*, q. v. S.]

2. The crown or top of the head, the noddle.

Out ovr the neck, athort his nitty *now*,
Ilk louse lyes linkand like a large lintbow.
Polwart's Flying, Watson's Coll., iii. 23.

In the same sense must we understand the S. Prov.

He had need to have a heal pow,
That calls his neighbour nitty *know*.
Kelly, p. 133.

"A little hill full of nits." *Ibid.*, N. He mistakes it, as if it were the same with E. *knoll*. But Ferguson gives it thus:

He would need a heal pow,
That calls his neighbour nitty *now*.

A.-S. *hnol*, id. vertex; whence E. *jobberno*; Germ. *nol*, *nal*, id. *Nal* occurs in this sense in the Salic law. For in France it was equivalent to *sinciput*. Like Lat. *vertex*, it not only denoted the head, but a mountain.

Isl. *kalk*, *kielke*, literally the cheek, metaph. denotes an isthmus, a promontory; G. Andr., p. 139.

O. E. *nole* was used in the same sense as S. *now*, which is probably corr. from it. "Heed, pate or *nole*, [Fr.] *caboché*." Palsgr., B. iii., F. 39, a. *Nolle*, occiput; Prompt. Parv. Thus in Otfrid,

Berga sculum suinan,
Ther nol then dal rinan.
Montes debent tabescere,
Collis vallem contingere. *Lib. i. c. 23.*

"Both," as Wachter observes, "denote something that is lofty and towering,—the head in the human frame, a hill in a plain." He is at a loss to determine which of these is the original sense. V. Wachter, vo. *Nal*. It seems, however, most likely that the metaph. was borrowed from the human body, as in other instances. The term *swyre*, signifying the neck, is transferred to the hollow or defile near the summit of a hill. A ridge of mountains undoubtedly derives its name from Isl. *hryggr*, Su.-G. *rygg*, dorsum, S. *rigging*; as Lat. *dorsum*, which primarily signifies the back of an animal, is transferred to a ridge; Germ. *racken*, id. The same is the origin of S. *rig*, E. *ridge* of land, because all ridges in ancient times were much raised towards the *crown*. It is probable, from analogy, that Su.-G. *backe*, a hill, has the same origin, although it differs in orthography from *bak*, tergum, and is traced to a different source by Northern etymologists. Of the same description are, the *brow* of a hill, and *ness*, a promontory, from Isl. *nes*, the nose; the *shoulder*, i. e., the slope of a hill, the *side*, the *hip*, the *shank*, the *foot*, &c., of a hill, S. What is called the *shank*, is otherwise denominated the *shin*, denoting that part of a hill by which it is conjoined with the plain. V. GRUNE.

The term *coast*, Doug. *coist*, seems applied to land bordering on the sea, from *coist*, the side in the human body, q. the side of the sea. We may also mention Lat. *os*, *ostium*, Germ. *munde*, E. *mouth*, transferred from the human body, to the place where a river empties itself into a larger one, or into the sea. An isthmus is called S. a *tongue* of land, Lat. *lingula*, Fr. *langue*, as *langue de terre*; also, E. a *neck* of land.

* **NOW, adv.** It is commonly used in S. in a sense unknown in E.

"He was never pleased with his work, who said, *Now*, when he had done with it;" S. Prov. "*Now*, at the having done a thing, is a word of discontent." *Kelly*, p. 144, 145.

"*Now* is now, and Yule's in winter," S. Prov.; "a return to them that say, *Now*, by way of resentment [rather, dissatisfaction]; a particle common in S." *Ibid.*, p. 256.

This is evidently a *paronomasia*, as the second *now* respects the common meaning of the term as regarding the present time.

To **NOW, v. n.** To *Now and Talk*, to talk loudly, loquaciously, and in a silly manner, Clydes. Hence the phrase, "a *nowan* talker."

Perhaps from Isl. *nog*, satis, *nog-r*, sufficiens, abundans, q. superabundant; or A.-S. *hneaw*, tenax, "that holdeth fast," Somner; q. persisting in discourse; or Fr. *nou-er*, to knit, to tie. The latter has undoubtedly the best claim, the *v.* being used in a moral sense concerning the bonds of friendship and society. Cet homme est entrant, flateur, il a bientôt *nouet* conversation. Il faut *nouer* une partie pour se divertir. *Dict. Trev.*

NOWDER, conj. Neither.

—"The said Marie Flemyng, comperand personalie, *nowder* did exhibit nor present the saidis jowellis, nor yit schew ony ressonabill caus quhy scho could not do the samyn." Inventories, A. 1577, p. 194. V. **NOUTHER**.

NO-WYSS, adj. 1. Foolish, without thought or reflection, Ang.

2. Deranged; as, "That's like a *no-wyss* body," *ib.*

To **NOWMER, NUMMER, v. a.** To reckon, to number.

"*Nowmert* money," a sum reckoned; *Aberd. Reg.*

[**NOWMER, NOWMR, NUMMER, s.** Number, S.]

[**NOWREIS, s.** A nurse, Lyndsay, *Compl. to the King*, l. 83. V. **NOYRIS**.]

[**NOWT, NOWT-FIT, NOWT-HORN, &c.** V. under **NOLT**.]

NOWTIT, part. adj. A potatoe is said to be *nowtit*, when it has a hollow in the heart, *Aberd.*

Isl. *hnud-r*, Dan. *knude*, tuber, tuberculum; q. swelled, or puffed up; or A.-S. *cnotta*, a knot.

To **NOY, v. a.** To annoy, to vex, to trouble.

The godly pepill he sall *noy*
Be cruell deith, and them distroy:
The King of Kingis he sall ganestand,
Syne be distroyit withouttin hand.

Lyndsay's Warkis, 1592, p. 150.

"I *noye*, I yrke one; I greue one;" Palsgr. iii. 306, b. Teut. *noy-en*, *noey-en*, id. Sw. *nog-a*, laedere. *Ihre* derives it from *noga*, parcus, accuratus, as properly applied to those who hurt or injure others by confinement, or by treating them with too much strictness. Hence,

NOY, s. Trouble, annoyance.

The King thar at had gret pité:
And tauld thaim petwisly agayne
The *noy*, the trawail, and the payne,
That he had tholyt, sen he thaim saw.

Barbour, iii. 554, S.

NOYIS, NOYS, s. 1. "Annoyance, damage,"
Gl. Wynt.

For constance, wyth a stedfast thowcht
To thole ay *noyis*, qwha sa mowcht,
May oftsys of walkly thyng
Men rycht welle to thars purpos bryng.
Wyntoun, viii. 36, 108.

This, however, I suspect, is the pl. of *noy*.

[2. Noise, disturbance, Barbour, v. 116, x.
411.]

NOYIT, *part. pa.* 1. Vexed, troubled, S.

2. Wrathful, raised to violent rage, S. B.
hite, *heyrd*, *synon.* The term implies that
there is at the same time a discovery of
pride.

It may, in both senses, be from the *v.* But it seems
doubtful, whether in the second, it be not rather allied to
Isl. *knj-a*, *knude*, movere; whence *ahnian*, instigatio,
commotio.

NOYOUS, *adj.* Noisome, disgusting.

I am *deformit*, *quoth* the foul, with *faltis* full fele,
Be nature *nytherit*, ane ouls *noyous* in nest.
Houlate, i. 20.

This is the reading in MS. instead of,

I am *descernit* of the foul, &c.
Be nature *nicherit* ane ouls *noy quhar* in nest.
S. P. Repr. iii. 157.

[NOYE, s. Noah, Lyndsay, Exper. & Court.
1. 1190.]

[NOYNE, s. Noon, Barbour, xvii. 130.]

NOYNSANKYS, s. *pl.* [Noon songs.]

"The Abbot and the Convent sall fynd all maner
of gratht that pertenyys to that werk quhil is wyrk-
ande—Willam sal haf alsua for ilk stane fynyne that
he fynys of lede iii d., and a stane of ilke hundyr that
he fynys til his travel. And that day that he wyrks
he sal haf a penny til his *noynsankis*." Chartulary, Aber-
broth., Fol. 24, A. 1394.

This undoubtedly signifies either meridian or dinner.
It is originally the same word with A.-S. *nonsang*, *can-
tus ad horam diei nonam*, the noon-song; and seems,
from the refection taken at this hour, to have been
occasionally used in the same sense with A.-S. *non-
mete*, "Refectio, vel prandium. A meale or bever at
that time;" Somner. This accurate writer adds;
"Howbeit of latter times *noone*, is mid-day, and *non-
mete*, dinner."

Lye has shewn that A.-S. *sanc* is used for *sang*, song.
Hence the termination *sankys*.

[To NOYNTTE, v. a. To anoint, S.]

[NOYNTMENT, NOINTMENT, s. Ointment;
anointing, S.]

NOYRIS, NORYSS, NURICE, s. Nurse; S.
noorise.

Nyrar that *noyris* in nest I nycht in ane.
Houlate, i. 4, MS.

His fyrst *noryss*, of the Newtoun of Ayr,
Till him scho come, quhil was full will of reid.
Wallace, ii. 257, MS.

For hir awin *nuris* in hir natyue land
Was beryit into assis broun or than.
Doug. Virgil, 122, 25.

But harkee, *noorise*, what I'm ga'ing to sae,
We will be back within a day or twas.
Ross's Helenore, p. 95.

"Mony a ane kisses the bairn for love of the *nurice*;"
Ramsay's S. Prov., p. 55.

Norm. Sax. *norice*, Fr. *nourisse*, id.
Sibb. has ingeniously remarked the apparent affinity
of this term to Su.-G. *naer-a*, *salvare*; also, *alere*;
whence *Nerigend*, the name of the Saviour, analogous
to A.-S. *haelend*, from *hael-an*, *salvare*. V. *Neren*, Gl.
Schilter.

[NUB, s. A knob, the rounded head of a
staff, a round wooden handle, Clydes.]

[NUBBIE, *adj.* Short and plump, dumpy;
generally applied to children; as, "He's a
wee nubbie, lauchin wean," *ibid.*; *synon.*,
stumpie, *stumpie stoussie*.]

NUBBIE, s. 1. A walking-staff with a hooked
head; perhaps q. *knobbie*, a stick with a
knob, Roxb.

Dan. *knub*, a knot in a tree.

2. "An unsocial person, worldly, yet lazy;"
Gall. Encycl.

Su.-G. *nubb*, quicquid formam habet justo minorem;
knubb, truncus brevis et nodosus, *knubbig*, nodosus;
as transferred to man, obesus. *En knubbig karl*, one
who is plump, or whose corpulence exceeds the pro-
portion of his stature, who is *as braid's he's lang*, S.

NUB BERRY, s. This, I am informed, is
the Cloud-berry or Knoutberry, *Rubus*
chamaemorus, Linn., Dumfr., Ettr. For.

"Upon the top of this hill, grows a small berry,
commonly called the *Nub Berry*. It bears some re-
semblance to the bramble berry, and is pleasant
enough to the taste. It is not improbable, that the
hill might derive its name from this berry, which
perhaps might be called the Queen of Berrys, or
Queensberry, as being thought the most delicious of
wild berries." P. Closeburn, Dumfr. Statist. Acc.,
xiii. 243.

Would it not have been worth while, to have brought
some queen or other to this spot, who had left her de-
signation to this berry, as being her favourite?

It has been conjectured that the name is q. *knoo*,
berry, from the fruit appearing like a *knob* or pro-
tuberance. As *knout-berry* is the more general E.
name, although *knout-berry* is also used, (V. Light-
foot); Skinner thinks that it has received this name,
either because the root is somewhat *knotted*, or because
the flowers seem to exhibit the form of a true lover's
knot."

NUCE, NESS, s. Destitute, in very necessi-
tous circumstances, Aberd.

"A *nuce* or *ness* family, means a destitute family."
P. Peterculter, Aberd. Statist. Acc., xvi. 385.
From Sn.-G. *noed*, necessity; or an oblique sense of
nisk, parsimonious.

[NUCKIE, s. 1. A fish-hook, Shetl.

2. The tassel of a cap, the knop on the top of
a night-cap, *ibid.*

Dan. *knokke*, a knot or knob.]

NUCKLE, *adj.* A *nuckle cow*, expl., a cow which has had one calf, and will calve soon again, Buchan.

Both this, and *Neucheld*, seem therefore to be originally the same with *Neucal*, q. v.

NUDGE, *s.* 1. A push or stroke with the knuckles, or the elbow, S.

"Macallum brought a pair of pipes might have served the piper of Donald of the Isles. But he gave my gudsire a *nudge* as he offered them;—so he had fair warning," &c. *Redgauntlet*, i. 252. V. NODGE, v. and GNIDGE.

[2. A slight movement, exertion, Clydes.

3. Annoyance, pain, sorrow, Banffs.]

[To NUDGE. 1. To push or strike with the knuckles or the elbow, S.

2. To move, or cause to move, Clydes., Banffs.

3. To annoy, to cause inconvenience, Banffs.]

NUFE, *adj.* Neat, spruce. V. NOOF.

NUGET, *s.* Expl. "one who is short of stature, and has a large belly," South of S.

Nudget, I suspect, is the proper orthography; q. resembling a thick stick or rung; Teut. *knudse*, *knodse*, *fustis*, *clava*; *clava nodosa*.

[To NUGG, *v. a.* and *n.* To nod the head, to jog with the elbow, Shetl.]

[NUGGIN, *s.* A slight repast, luncheon, Shetl. Dan. *knogen*, a small piece of meat, a morsel.]

NUIF, *adj.* Intimate, Ettr. For. V. KNUFF, *v.*

NUIK, *s.* The corner of anything, S. *nook*. E.

NUIKIT, NUIKEY, *part. adj.* Having corners; "a *three-nuikit* hat," S.

To NUIST, *v. n.* To eat in continuation, to be still munching, Roxb.

From the same origin with *Knuse*, *Nuse*, *v.*; or more immediately from that given under *Noost*, *s.*

To NUIST, *v. a.* To beat, to bruise, Lanarks., Gall.

"When two are boxing, and one gets the other's head beneath his arm, he is said to *nuist* him with the other hand;" Gall. Encycl.

Alem. *ge-chnistet* collidetur, Psa. 37. 34. He shall not be bruised or broken. This is undoubtedly from the same origin. Dan. *knust*, *part. pa.*, crushed, mangled. V. KNUSE.

NUIST, *s.* "A blow," *ibid.*

NUIST, *s.* "A greedy, ill-disposed, ignorant person;" Gall. Encycl.

NUIST, *s.* A large piece of anything, Upp. Clydes. V. KNOOST.

[NUK, NWK, *s.* A nook, Barbour, xvii. 93, MS.; also, a point, a headland, *ibid.*, iv. 556. V. NUIK.]

NULE-KNEED, *adj.* Having the knees so close as to strike against each other in walking; knock-kneed, S. perhaps q. *knuckle-kneed*, from *cnouel*. V. NOLL, *v.*

[NULLS. A game; to play at nulls, Shetl. Dan. *nul*, a cipher.]

[NUMMER, *s.* Number, a number, S.]

[To NUMMER, *v. a.* To number, to count, to mark with a number, S.]

NUMMYN, *part. pa.* 1. Taken. [Isl. *numinn*, *id.*]

—Within the portis and entré
Of my faderis lugeing I am cumin,
My fader than, quham I schupe to haue *nummyn*,
And caryit to the nerrest hillis hicht.

Doug. Virgil, 60, 6.

2. Reached, attained.

Bot forthirmore I will vnto the say,
Quhen thai the grund of Italy haiff *nummyn*,
Thay sall desire neur thidder to haue cummyn.
Doug. Virgil, 165, 43.

Both Rudd. and Sibb. render this word as if it were the infin. of the verb, whereas it is the *part. pa.* V. NOME.

To NUMP, *v. a.* Apparently a corr. of E. *mump*, to nibble.

He maun hame but stocking or shoe,
To *nump* his neeps, his sybows, and leeks,
And a wee bit bacon to help the broo.

Jacobite Relics, i. 97.

NUNCE, *s.* The Pope's legate, or nuncio.

"The Quenis Majestie is sa waik in hir persoun, that hir Majestie can nocht be empeschit with ony besines concerning the *Nunce*.—Thairfoir it is gude ye solicit the Cardinall of Lorraine to caus the *Nunce* tak patience, for hir Grace is verry desyrous to haif him heir, but always wald haif his cumming differrit to the Baptisme war endit." Bp. of Ross to Abp. of Glasg., Keith's Hist. App., ii. 135.

[To NUNN, *v. n.* To hum a tune, Shetl. Dan. *nyinne*, Isl. *nunna*, *id.*]

NUNREIS, *s.* A nunnery.

"He foundit the colleige of Bothwell and the *nunreis* of Lynclowden, quhilk wes eftir changit in ane colleige of preistis." Bellend. Cron., B. xvi., c. 12.

NUPE, *s.* A protuberance. V. NOUP.

NURDAY, NOORSDAY, *s.* New-year's-day. S. O.

NURDAY, *adj.* What is appropriate to the first day of the year, S. O.

Bra' canty chiels are a' asteer,
To glad their sauls wi' *Nurday* cheer.
Picken's Poems, 1788, p. 14.

NURG, NURGLE, *s.* "A short, squat, little, savage man;" Gall. Encycl.

NURISFATHER, s. Nursing-father.

—“His hienes hes very lyvlie expressit, to the unspeakable joy and comfort of the saidis estaitis, his most godlie and religious dispositioun as *nuris-father* of the kirk of God within his Maiesteis dominionis, to advance the trew ancient apostolik faith,” &c. Acts Ja. VI., 1609, Ed. 1814, p. 406. V. NOYRIS.

NURIS, s. A nurse. V. NOYRIS.

NURLING, s. “A person of a *nurring* disposition;” Gall. Encycl. V. NURR, v.

NURR, s. A decrepit person, Roxb.

Teut. *knorre*, tuber, nodus. V. KNURL.

To NURR, v. n. To growl, or snarl, like a dog when irritated, Roxb., Gall.

A.-S. *gnyr-an*, stridere, to gnash, Somner; Teut. *gnorr-en*, *knorr-en*, *knerr-en*, grunnire; fremdere, fremere; Su.-G. *knorr-a*, murmurare; Isl. *knurr-a*, id. Dan. *gnurr-er*, to growl. Our term has been originally the same with E. *gnar*, also *gnarl*, to snarl. Su.-G. *knorr-a*, id.; Sax. *gnarr-en*; proprie de canibus hirrientibus.

NURRIS-BRAID, adv. A word applied to persons who begin to work in so furious a way that they cannot hold on, Roxb.

Referring, perhaps, to the active exertions of a nurse, when she enters on her service. V. BRADE, to move quickly.

NURRIT, s. A little insignificant or dwarfish person, Roxb. V. NURR.

Perhaps a dimin. from Teut. *knorre*, tuber, tuberculum, nodus, E. *knur*, whence *knurled*, stunted in growth. In Dan. however, to which many Border words must be traced, *noor*, signifies an embryo. Norw. *noere*, puellus, pusio; and *nortur*, a diminutive from the other, homuncio; G. Andr., p. 186.

[NURTRUS, adj.] Cold, disagreeable, inclement, Shetl.]

To NUSE, v. a. To press down; to knead. V. KNUSE.

NUTTING-TYNE, s.

My daddy left me gear enough,—
A nebbed staff, a *nutting-tyne*,
A fishing waud with hook and line.

Willie Winkie's Testament, Herd's Coll., ii. 143.

Qu. if a forked instrument for pulling nuts from the tree? *Tine E.*, a fork. V. TYND.

[NYAFF, NYAFFLE, s.] Anything small of its kind, Shetl. V. GNAFF.]

To NYAFF, v. n. 1. To yelp, to bark, S. It properly denotes the noise made by a small dog; although sometimes applied to the pert chat of a saucy child, or of any person of a diminutive appearance. V. NIFFNAFFS.

2. To do any kind of work in a weak, trifling manner, Banffs.

3. To walk with a short step, *ibid.*]

NYAFFING, part. adj. Idle, insignificant, contemptible; as, “Had your tongue, ye *nyaffing*

thing,” Loth. It seems to include the idea of chattering. V. NYAFF, v. after *Newth*.

[To NYAFFLE, v. n.] Same as *to nyaff*, in 2nd and 3rd senses; part. pr. *nyafflin*, *nyafflan*, used also as a s., Banffs.]

To NYAM, v. a. To chew, Etrr. For.

Gael. *enamh-am*, has the same meaning; but this must be sounded *gnav*.

[NYARB, s.] A fretful, peevish complaint or quarrel, Banffs.]

[NYARBIN, adj.] Fretful, peevish, *ibid.*]

[NYARG, s.] Fretful, peevish, complaining, or quarreling. V. NYARB.]

To NYARG, [1.] To find fault, or to quarrel in a peevish, fretful manner, Banffs.]

2. To jeer, to taunt, Aberd.

NYARGIE, adj.] Jeering, *ibid.*

[NYARGIN, NYARGAN, s.] The act of finding fault or quarrelling in a peevish manner, Banffs.]

Isl. *narr-a*, Indubrio exponere, *narr-az*, scurrari.

NYARGLE, s. “A person fond of disputation,” who “reasons as a fool;” Gall. Encycl.

[To NYARGLE, v. n.] To wrangle or dispute in a peevish manner, *ibid.*]

NYARGLING, part. pr.] “Wrangling;” *ibid.*

It might seem to be compounded of Su.-G. *ny*, novus, and *iry-a*, obgannire, Isl. *jary-a*, contendere, q. “taking delight in renewing strife.”

To NYARR, NYARB, v. n.] To fret, to be discontented, Aberd.

This liquid sound nearly approaches that of Isl. *knurr-a*, murmurare; Teut. *knarr-en*, stridere.

NYAT, NYIT, s.] A smart stroke with the knuckles; as, “He gac me a *nyit* i' the neck;” Fife.

Perhaps radically the same with *Knoit*, *Noit*, although explained somewhat more strictly. It still more nearly resembles Isl. *hniot-a*, *niot-a*, ferire. The origin may be *hnue*, the Isl. term for the knuckles; or perhaps q. *neivit*, from *Neive*, the fist.

[NYATT, s.] A person of short stature and sharp temper, Banffs.]

To NYAT, v. a.] To strike in this manner, *ibid.*

To NYATTER, v. n.] 1. To chatter, Gall.

2. To speak in a grumbling and querulous manner, to be peevish, *ibid.*, Aberd. V. NATTER.

[NYATTER, s.] Peevish, chattering, grumbling, Banffs. V. under NATTER.]

[NYATTERAN, NYATTERIN, *s.* The act of chattering or grumbling in a peevish manner, *ibid.*]

NYATTERIE, NYATRIE, *adj.* Ill-tempered, crusty, peevish, *Aberd.*

A.-S. *naeddre*, *serpens*; as, *attrie*, *id.*, is from *ater*, *ateter*, *venenum*; *Isl. nadra*, *vipera*.

NYCHBOUR, NICHTBOUR, NYCHTBOUR, *s.*
1. A neighbour.

Sum men ar gevin to detractioun,—
And to thair *nichtbouris* hes no cherité.

Bellend. Cron. Excus. of the Prenter.

It is frequently written *nichtbour*, *nichtbour*; but, as would seem, corruptly.

“Gif it be a man that awe the hows, and bairnis it reklesly, or his wyfe, or his awin bairnis, quether his *nichtbouris* takis skaith or nane, attoure the skaith & schame that he tholis, he or thay salbe banist that towne for thre yeiris.” *Acts Ja. I., 1426, c. 85, Edit. 1566, c. 75. Murray.*

2. An inhabitant; or, perhaps, rather, a fellow-citizen. Thus the phrase, “the *nichtbouris* of this towne,” is used for the inhabitants, &c. *Aberd. Reg., Cent. 16.*

A.-S. *neah-ge-bure*, *Alem. nahgibur*, *Germ. nachbauer*, from *neah*, *nah*, *nach*, *near*, *nigh*, and *gebure*, *gibur*, *bauer*, an inhabitant,—*vicinus*, *colonus*; literally, one who dwells near.

In O.E. *ner* seems occasionally to have been used for neighbour.

—My frend & my nexte *ner* stondesth agen me.
R. Glouc., p. 328.

“Next neighbour,” *Gl. Hearne*; from A.-S. *adj. neah*, *vicinus*; compar. *near*, *propior*, *nigher*, whence E. *near*.

The term *near*, indeed, whether used as an *adj.*, a *prep.*, or an *adv.*, seems originally to have been a comparative. As A.-S. *near* is from *neah*, *Su.-G. naer* seems to have the same relation to *naa*, *prope*. It confirms this idea, that *next*, whether used as an *adj.*, a *prep.*, or an *adv.*, is evidently, in its original use, the superlative of A.-S. *neah*; *neahst*, *nehst*, i.e., the person or thing *nighest* or *most near* to another. *Su.-G. nachst*, *proxime*, is formed in the same manner from *naa*, *prope*; *Alem. nahist* from *nah*; *Germ. nechst* from *nahe*.

To NYCHTBOUR, *v. n.* To co-operate in an amicable manner, with those living in the vicinity, in the labours of husbandry.

“To marrow & *nichtbour* with wtheris, as thair wald ansur to the king & tone [town] thairupoun.” *Aberd. Reg., A. 1533, V. 16.*

NYCHTBOURHEID, NYCHTBOURSHIP, *s.*
That aid which those who lived adjacent to each other, were legally bound to give one another in the labours of husbandry; *synon. Marrowschip.*

“That he mycht nocht fynd him the *nichtbourheid* contentit in the said peticioun.” *Aberd. Reg., V. 16.*

“To find William Anderson sufficient *nichtbourheid* in bygging of his dykis.” *Ibid., V. 16.*

“He intendis to find me na *nichtbourship* to the teling [tilling] & laboring of the said landis.” *Ibid.*

“He was chargit to fynd *nichtbourship* to him, & big his dikis wp.” *Ibid., Cent. 16.*

“He wald nocht fynd me *nichtbourship*, quarthrow my gudis deid [died], swa that I may nocht fynd him *nichtbourheid* this yeir, &c. sen he wrangously deferrit to find me *nichtbourship* the last yeir foirsaid, that I be dischargit of his *nichtbourship* this yeir, becaus my gudis ar deid.” *Ibid., V. 16.*

From the last passage it is evident that neighbours were bound, by an act of the town-council at least, to give mutual aid in the labours of husbandry.

NYCHBOURLYKE, *adj.* Like one's neighbours, *S.*

“Thairfoir sall the proprietar—be bundin—to re-found the thrid part of money quhilkis thay deburse—in necessare and profitabill expensis,—the land being alsweill biggit as of befoir, and *nichtbourlyke.*” *Acts Mary, 1555, Ed. 1814, p. 491.*

This term is still much used. It occurs in the useful proverb; “*Neighbourlike* ruina half the world,” *S.*

NYCHLIT, *pret. v.* [Submitted, yielded, knuckled to. *V. NICKLE.*]

—Syn to the samyn forsuth thair assent hale;
That sen it *nichlit* Nature, thair alleris maistris,
Thair could nocht trete but entent of the temperale.
Houlate, l. 22.

This word is not distinct in the MS. It may signify, belonged to, as perhaps allied to A.-S. *neah-laecc-an*, *neotic-an*, *approximare*; *Alem. nahlihot*, *appropinquat*.

[NYCHTYD, *pret. v. impers.* Drew to night. *V. under NICHT.*]

NYCHTYRTALE. *Be nychtyrtale*, in the night-time, by night, *Barbour, xiv. 269, Ed. 1820.*

[NYIRR, *s.* 1. The gurr of an angry dog, *S.*
2. Peevishness, peevish fault-finding, *S.*]

[To NYIRR, *v. n.* 1. To snarl like an angry dog.

2. To reprove or to find fault in an angry manner, *Banffs.*; generally followed by the preps. *at* and *wi?*.]

[NYIRAN, NYIRIN, *s.* The act of snarling, showing a peevish disposition, or of angry fault-finding, *ibid.*]

[NYIRIN, *adj.* Snarling, apt to snarl, peevish, fretful, ill-tempered, *ibid.*]

NYKIS, *3rd p. pres. v.*

The renk restles he raid to Arthour the king.
Said, “Lord wendis on your way:
Yone berne *nykis* you with nay.
To prise hym forthir to pray
It helpis na thing.

Gawan and Gol., i. 9, Edit. 1508.

The same phrase was used so late as the time of Semple—

And sua he *neckit* thame with may,*
And brocht the teale bravelie about,
How Pluto come and pullit them out.

Leg. Bp. St. Androis, Poems Sixteenth Cent., p. 320.

* Read *nay*.

This may merely signify *nicks* or hits you *with nay*, i.e., gives you a denial. It may, however, be a tauto-

logy, such as is common with our old writers; allied to Su.-G. *nek-a*, to deny, from *nei*, no; q. he flatly denies.

NYLE, *s.* Corr. of *navel*, Fife. "Her *nyle's* at her mou," a coarse phrase applied to a woman far advanced in pregnancy.

A.-S. *nauel*, *nafel*, Su.-G. *nafte*, id. Ihre views *naf*, *cavitas*, as the root.

[NYMMIE, NYIMMIE, *s.* A very small piece, Loth.]

NYMNES, *s.* Neatness.

Thy cumly corps from end to end
So clenlie was enclos'd,
That Monus nocht culd discommend,
So weill thou wes compos'd:
Thy trymnes and *nymnes*,
Is turn'd to vyld estait,
Thy grace to, and face to,
Is alter'd of the lair.

Burel's Pilg., Watson's Coll., ii. 50.

The term may perhaps originally include the idea of smallness of size, often connected with that of neatness; as allied to Isl. *naum-r*, arctus, exiguus; A.-S. *naemingce*, contractio. Fr. *nimbot* denotes a dwarf.

[NYOWAN, *s.* A severe beating, Banffs.
V. NEW.

This form represents the local pron. of *Newin'*, part. pr. of *New*, to curb, to master.]

To NYSE, *v. a.* To beat, to pommel; a word used among boys, Loth.

Perhaps radically the same with *Nuse*. V. KNUSE.

To NYTE, *v. n.* To deny; pret. *nyt*.

His name and his nobillay was nought for to *nyte*.
Gawan and Gol., iii. 20.

—Thy commandement and stout begynning
Is sa douchty, I may the *nyte* nathing.

Doug. Virgil, 286, 9.

For sum wuld haiff the Balleoll king,
For he wes cumyn off the offspring
Off hyr that eldest systir was.

And othir sum *nyt* all that case;
And said that he thair king suld be
That war intill als ner degre,
And cumyn war of the neist male.

Barbour, i. 52, MS.

Isl. *neit-a*, Dan. *naegt-er*, id.

To NYTE, *v. a.* No strike smartly. V.
KNOIT.

[NYTTL, *v. a.* and *n.* To pick at, to pluck
or pinch at, Shetl.]

[NYTTLIN, *part.* and *s.* Picking, pinching,
ibid.]

NYUCKFIT, *s.* The snipe; a name supposed to be formed from its cry when ascending, Clydes.

NYUM, Houlate, i. 3. V. NEVIN.

To NYVIN, *v. a.* To name. V. NEVIN.