

first mention of the term *Moon*, after this planet has made her first appearance, that prevails with respect to that day of the week to which she gives her name. V. MONDAY. Some to prevent the dangerous consequences of the loquacity of a female tongue, will anxiously inquire at any male, "What is that which shines so clearly?" or, "What light is that!" that he may pronounce the portentous term. In this case, the charm is happily broken.

Another superstition, equally ridiculous and unaccountable, is still regarded by some. They deem it very unlucky to see the new moon for the first time, without having *silver* in one's pocket. Copper is of no avail.

It is a singular proof of the permanent influence of superstition, and of the affinity of nations that have been separated for thirteen centuries, that the very same idea is still retained among the native Irish.

"Next to the sun was the moon, which the Irish undoubtedly adored. Some remains of this worship may be traced even at this day; as particularly borrowing, if they should not have it about them, a piece of *silver* on the first night of a new moon, as an omen of plenty during the month; and at the same time saying in Irish, 'As you have found us in peace and prosperity, so leave us in grace and mercy.'" O'Halloran's Hist. Irel., i. 113.

Both Celts and Goths retain a superstitious regard for this planet, as having great influence on the lot of man.

"The moon, in her increase, full growth, and wane, are with them the emblems of a rising, flourishing, and declining fortune. At the last period of her revolution, they carefully avoid to engage in any business of importance; but the first and the middle they seize with avidity, presaging the most auspicious issue to their undertakings. Poor Martinus Scriblerus never more anxiously watched the blowing of the west wind to secure an heir to his genius, than the love-sick swain and his nymph for the coming of the new moon to be noosed together in matrimony. Should the planet happen to be at the height of her splendour when the ceremony is performed, their future life will be a scene of festivity, and all its paths strewed over with rosebuds of delight. But when her tapering horns are turned towards the N., passion becomes frost-bound, and seldom thaws till the genial season again approaches." P. Kirkmichael, Banffs. Statist. Acc., xii. 457.

"They do not marry but in the waxing of the moon. They would think the meat spoiled, were they to kill the cattle when that luminary is wanting [i. waning]." P. Kirkwall, Orkn. Statist. Acc., vii. 560.

In Renfrewshire, if a man's house be burnt during the wane of the moon, it is deemed unlucky. If the same misfortune take place when the moon is waxing, it is viewed as a presage of prosperity. In Orkney, also, it is reckoned unlucky to *fit*, or to remove from one habitation to another, during the waning of the moon. To secure a prosperous change of habitation, indeed, popular superstition requires the concurrence of three circumstances; that the moon be waxing, that the tide be flowing, and that the wind blow on the back of the person who removes. Of such importance is the last circumstance, that, even when there is a concurrence of the other two, some people, rather than *fit* with an adverse wind, will make the circuit of a whole island, in order to gain, as far as possible, the prosperous breeze.

This superstition, with respect to the fatal influence of a waning moon, seems to have been general in S. In Angus, it is believed, that, if a child be put from the breast during the waning of the moon, it will decay all the time that the moon continues to wane. As it is now discovered that the moon has an influence in various diseases, some suppose that it may have been

really observed, that the waning moon had been less favourable to children in this situation.

In Sweden, great influence is ascribed to the Moon, not only as regulating the weather, but as influencing the affairs of human life in general.

I am informed by a respectable Gentleman, who has resided many years in that country, that they have a sort of Lunar Calendar, said to have been handed down from the Monks, to which considerable regard is still paid. According to this, no stress is laid on the state of the weather on the first and second days of the moon. The third is of some account. But it is believed, that the weather, during the rest of the month, will correspond to that of the fourth and fifth days. It is thus expressed:—

Prima, secunda, nihil;  
Tertia, siliquid;  
Quarta, quinta, qualis,  
Tota Luna talis.

He justly remarks, that, as the Moon's influence on the waters of our earth has been long admitted, by a parity of reason, she may be supposed to affect our atmosphere, a less dense fluid; although it cannot be determined on any satisfactory ground at what particular period of her age the days of prognostication should be selected; or if it were supposed that her influence would be greater at any one period, that of the full moon might seem to have the best claim.

As in the dark ages, the belief of the influence of the Moon regulated every operation of agriculture, of economy, and even of medicine; at this day the lower orders in Sweden, and even a number of the better sort, will not fell a tree for agricultural purposes in the wane of the moon, else, it is believed, it will shrink and not be durable. A good housewife will not slaughter for her family, else the meat will shrivel and melt away in the pot. Many nostrums are reckoned effectual only when taken during the first days of the moon. Annual bleeding must by no means be performed in the wane. Gardeners, in planting and sowing their crops, pay particular attention to the state of the moon. V. ST. MARTIN'S DAY.

The superstitions of our own countrymen, and of the Swedes, on this head, equally confirm the account given by Cæsar concerning the ancient Germans, the forefathers of both. "As it was the custom with them," he says, "that their matrons, by the use of lots and prophecies, should declare, whether they should join in battle, or not, they said, that the Germans could not be victorious, if they should engage before the *new moon*." Bell. Gall., L. i., c. 50. They reckoned new, or full moon, the most auspicious season for entering on any business. The Swedes do not carry this farther than they did. Coeunt, says Tacitus, certis diebus, quum aut inchoatur Luna, aut impletur. Nam agendis rebus hoc auspiciatissimum initium credunt.

From a passage in one of Dunbar's Poems, it would appear to have been customary, in former times, to swear by the Moon.

Fra Symen saw it ferd upen this wysse,  
He had greit wonder; and *sneitris by the Mone*,  
Freyr Robert has richt weil his deiver done.

*Mailland's Poems*, p. 79.

It appears that the ancient Irish swore by this planet.

"When Ugainé the Great prevailed on the national estates to swear allegiance to himself and to his posterity, in exclusion of the other branches of the royal family, the oath, they took was—'By the sun, the moon, and stars.' The same was taken to Tuathal and his issue; and it was 'by the sun, moon, and stars,' that Loagaire vowed to exonerate the province of Leinster from an heavy tribute, long paid by them." O'Halloran's Hist. Irel., i. 113, 114.

It is strange that, in a land so long favoured with

clear gospel-light, some should still be so much under the influence of the grossest superstition, that they not only venture on divination, but in their unhallowed eagerness to dive into the secrets of futurity, even dare directly to give homage to "the Queen of heaven." We have the following account of this heathenish act—

"As soon as you see the first new moon of the new year, go to a place where you can set your feet upon a stone naturally fixed in the earth, and lean your back against a tree; and in that posture hail, or address, the moon in the words of the poem which are marked; if ever you are to be married, you will then see an apparition exactly resembling the future partner of your joys and sorrows."

The words referred to are—

"O, new Moon! I hail thee!  
 "And gif I'm ere to marry man,  
 "Or man to marry me,  
 "His face turn'd this way fast's ye can,  
 "Let me my true love see,  
 "This blessed night!"

*Rev. J. Nicol's Poems, i. 31, 32.*

#### V. YERD-FAST.

The same custom, with some slight variation, was formerly, at least, observed in England. Aubrey, whose mind must have been deeply imbued with superstition, with great gravity relates the virtue of this magical rite. Speaking of the various modes of obtaining information as to one's future lot in wedlock, he says:—

"Another way is, to charm the moon thus: At the first appearance of the new moon after new-year's day, go out in the evening, and stand over the spars of a gate or stile, looking on the moon, and say,

*All hail to the Moon, all hail to thee!  
 I pri'thee, good Moon, reveal to me,  
 This night who my husband (wife) must be.*

"You must presently after go to bed.

"I knew two gentlewomen that did thus when they were young maids, and they had dreams of those that married them." *Miscellanies, p. 138.*

It is well known that among the ancient Greeks and Romans the Moon was supposed to preside over magic. According to this attribute she was known by the name of Hecate. Hence Jason, when about to engage in magical ceremonies, has this invocation put in his mouth by Ovid—

—Modo Diva triformis J  
 Adjuvet, et presens ingentibus annuat ausis.  
*Metamorph. Lib. vii.*

But he waits three nights till the moon was full.  
 Tres aberant noctes, ut cornua tota coirent.  
 Efficere tunc orbem. —

She was called *triformis*, because she appeared as the Moon or Luna in heaven, as Diana on earth, and as Proserpine in hell.

She was also acknowledged as the goddess who presided over love. Hence, notwithstanding the great difference of character between Venus and the chaste Diana, it is asserted, that according to the heathen mythology, they were in fact the same. That the Moon, or Isis, was the guardian of love, is testified by Eudoxus, ap. Plutarch. *Lib. de Osiride et Iside.* She is exhibited in the same light by Seneca the Tragedian, in *Hippolyt.*

Hecate triformis, en ades coeptis favens,  
 Animum rigentem tristis Hippolyti doma:  
 Anare discat, mutuos ignes ferat.

The same thing appears from Theocritus, in *Pharmaceutr.* V. El. *Sched. de Dis German., p. 158—161.*

**MONETH, s.** A month. This form of the word is still retained by some old people, S.

—In the *moneth* that year of May,  
 James of Gladstany on a day

—Com, and askyt suppeval  
 At the Kyng of Scotland.

*Wyntown, ix. 24. 3.*

A.-S. *monath*, id. from *mona*, the moon, as denoting a revolution of that luminary. According to Mr. Tooke, "it means the period in which that planet *moneth*, or compleateth its orbit." *Divers. Purley, ii. 417.* The observation is very ingenious, although there are no vestiges of a verb of this form in the A.-S. or any of the Gothic languages. The termination *at*, to which A.-S. *ath*, seems equivalent, is, according to Wachter, the medium of the formation of substantives from verbs, and of abstracts from substantives.

The Anglo-Saxons, counting by lunar months reckoned thirteen in the year. The ancient northern nations were more happy in the names they gave to their months, than we who have borrowed from the Romans. For the particular designations were expressive of something peculiar to the season. The Anglo-Saxons, as Bede informs us, called January *Giuli*, as would seem, from the feast celebrated about this time; February, they called *Sol-monath*, because the sun, *Dan. soel*, began to extend his influence. *Rhed-monath* was their March, either from *Rheda*, a goddess to whom they sacrificed at this time; or, according to Wormius, from *red-en*, to prepare; because this was the season of preparation for nautical expeditions. April was named *Eostur-monath*, from the heathen goddess *Eostre*; May, *Trimilchi*, because in this month they began to *milch* their cattle *thrice* a day. June and July were called *Lida*, as being mild; A.-S. *lith, mollis, mitis.* August was *Weide-monath*, q. the month of weeds, because they abound then. *Haleg-monath* corresponded to our September, so called, because it was much devoted to religion; q. *holy* month. *Wynter-fyllit* was the name of October, q. full of winter. November was called *Blot-monath*, or the month of sacrifices, because the cattle that were slaughtered during this month were devoted to the gods. December, as well as January, was denominated *Giuli*. V. *Bed. de Tempore. Ratione, c. 13.*

The names which, according to *Verstegan*, were given to the months by the Pagan Saxons, or ancient Germans, differ considerably from those mentioned by Bede. January, he says, was called *Wolf-monat*, because at this time people are most in danger of being devoured by wolves, which, by reason of the severity of the season, finding it more difficult to obtain their usual prey, draw near to the haunts of men. February was called *Sprout-Kele*, because then the cole-wort begins to send forth its tender sprouts. March, *Lenct-monat*, because the days then begin, in *length*, to exceed the nights.—Hence the fast of *Lent*, as being observed at this time. April, May, June, and July, were designed *Oster-monat*, *Tri-milki*, *Weyd-monat*, and *Hey-monat*. But he views *Weyd-monat* as receiving its name, because the beasts did *weyd*, or go to feed, in the meadows; whence Teut. *weyd*, a meadow. August was called *Arn*, or rather *Barn-monat*, because the barns were then filled with corn. September, *Gerst-monat*, from *gerst*, barley, as being yielded in this month; and October, *Wyn-monat*, because although the ancient Germans had not wines of their own produce, they got them at this season from other countries. November they denominated *Wint-monat*, because of the prevalence of the winds. For, from this season, the Northern mariners confined themselves to their harbours till *Fare-maen*, or March, invited them to renew their expeditions. December was called *Winter-monat*. V. *Verstegan's Restitut., c. 3.*

The Danes still use distinctive names for the lunar months, by which they reckon their festivals. The first is *Diur-Rey*, or *Renden*; so called, because the wild beasts are then rutting. The second is *Thor-maen*, being consecrated to the god *Thor*. The third is *Fare-maen*, because at this time men begin to

fare, or set out on different expeditions. Wormius, however, derives it from *Faar*, sheep, as they are then put upon the tender grass. The fourth is *May-maen*, not from the Latin name, but from Dan. *at maye*, which signifies to adorn with verdant leaves and with flowers; as denoting the pleasantness of this month. The fifth is *Sommer-maen*, or summer month. The sixth *Orme-maen*, because of the abundance of worms and insects; or, according to Loccenius, because then worms are copiously bred from putrefaction; Antiq. Sueo.-G., p. 20. The seventh is *Hoe-maen*, or Hay-month, because about this time hay is made. The eighth is *Korn-maen*, because the corns are brought home. The ninth is *Fiske-maen*, as being accounted a month favourable for fishing. The tenth is *Saede-maen*, being the season for sowing. The eleventh is *Polse-maen*, as being the time when puddings are made, because the cattle are slaughtered during this month. The twelfth is *Jule-maen*, or Yule-month. It must be observed, however, that these months, as well as those of the Anglo-Saxons formerly mentioned, do not exactly correspond to ours. The thirteenth month, when it occurs, is inserted in summer, and called *overlobs-maen*, or intercalary month.

The following are the names given by the Danes to the solar months. January they call *Glug-manet*, from *glugge*, a window, vent, or opening, either, according to Wormius, because the windows are then shut, or because this month is, as it were, the window of the new year. February is *Blide-manet*, or cheerful month; March, *Tor-manet*; April, *Fare-manet*; May, *May-manet*; June, *Sker-Sommer*, (Wolf's Dict. *skiersommer*, probably from *skier*, clear, bright;) July, *Orme-manet*; August, *Hoest-manet*, or harvest-month; September, *Fiske-manet*; October, *Sede-manet*, or seed-month; November, *Slacte-manet*, or slaughter-month; and December, *Christ-manet*, because the season of Christmas.

The Swedes call January *Thor*, asserting that the worship of this heathen deity was appropriated to this season. February is named *Goe*, from *Goe*, the daughter of Thor, according to G. Andr. a very ancient king of Finland, whose son *Norus* is said to have given name to the Norwegians, of which nation he was the founder. This *Thor*, it has been said, was the son of *Fornioter*, the descendant of the elder *Odin* in the fifth generation. Some represent *Goia* or *Goe* as the same with *Freija*; Loccen. Antiq. Sueo-Goth., p. 19. Others identify her with *Ceres*, or the *Earth*, Gr. *Taa*: urging the probability of this idea, from its being pretended that *Goe* was carried off, from a search being annually made for her, and from the observation of a festival of nine days, in the month of February, which are consecrated to her memory. V. Ihre, vo. *Geoja*. March they call *Blida*; April, *Varant*, probably from Su.-G. *var*, the spring; May, *Maj*; June, *Hovilt*, (Ihre, *ha-fall*, corr. *hofvilt*,) the season of grass, from *ha*, gramin, and *falla*, nasci; July, *Hoant*, Ihre *Hovand*, literally the hay-cutting; August, *Skortant*, from *Skord*, harvest, which is derived from *skaer-a*, to cut; September, *Ost-monat*, as being the time of gathering in what has been cut down; October, November, and December, are *Slacte-monat*, *Winter-monat*, *Jola-monat*, or Yule-month.

In Icelandic, January is designed *Midsvetrar man-adrur*, or mid-winter; February, *Fostugangs*; March, *Janfndegra*, [Ol. Worm.] evidently, by an error of the press, for *Jaffndegra*, the equinox (*Jaffndaegre*, G. Andr.); April is called *Sumar*, or summer; May, *Fardaga*, probably from Su.-G. *Fardag*, the time appointed by law, in which old farmers remove to give place to the new, Ihre; from *far-a*, prolificisci, and *dag*, dies; June, *Noettleysu man*, perhaps from Su.-G. *noet*, Isl. *naut*, and *leys-a*, to loose, q. when the nout or cattle are let loose on the pastures; July, *Madka man*, or worm month; August, *Heyanna*, *Heyanna-man*, or hay-

cutting month, from *hey*, hay, and *aunn*, labour; September, *Addraata man*; October, *Slatrunar man*, from *slatrun*, mactatio, the killing of cattle; November, *Rydtidar man*; December, *Skamdeigis man*, because of the shortness of the day, from *skam*, short, and *deig*, a day. V. Worm. Fast. Dan., p. 39-48. V. Also Von Troil's Letters on Iceland, p. 117, 118, where the names of the months occur with very little variation.

The passage referred to is thus rendered by Creech: But now I'll charm him; Moon! shines bright and clear, To thee I will direct my secret prayer; To thee, and Hecate, whom dogs do dread, When stained with gore, she stalks amidst the dead. Now, now, I strew the flow'r; Moon, you can bow E'en Rhadamanth, and all that's fierce below.

The following address to this luminary forms the chorus of the greatest part of the pastoral:

Tell, sacred Moon, what first did raise my flame,  
And whence my pain, and whence my passion came.

*Idylliums*, p. 11, 15.

### MONESTING, s. Admonition, warning.

—Ye may se we haiff iii thingis

That makis us oft monestingis

For to be worthi, wiss, and wycht,

And till anoy thaim at our mycht.

V. MONYSS.

*Barbour*, iv. 533, MS.

### [MONIE, adj. V. MONY.]

[MONIE-FECK, s. A great number. V. FECK.]

[MO'NIMENT, s. A ridiculous person, a fool, Shetl.]

MONIPLIES, MONNYPLIES, s. pl. 1. That part of the tripe of a beast which consists of many folds, S.

"The food parches the stomach and intestines, hardens and concretes in the fold of the second stomach or monnyplies." Prize Essays Highl. Soc. S., ii. 218.

As Teut. *menigh-voud* signifies multiplex, *menigh-voude* is used nearly in the same sense with the S. word; echinus, bovis ventriculus, sic dictus a variis plicis, Kilian.

I am informed by a medical gentleman of great celebrity, that, of the four stomachs in ruminating animals, the moniplies is the third, or what professional men call the omasum.

2. Coarsely and vulgarly applied, in a ludicrous sense, to the intestines of man, S.

It temper'd weel our moniplies,

Ca'd ripples frae our backs.

*Taylor's S. Poems*, p. 143.

O. E. *myne-ye-ple*, synon with *manifold*, is applied to mail, or perhaps to the stuffing or quilting used instead of mail.

Thorowe rich male, and myne-ye-ple,  
Many sterne the stroke downe streight.

*Anc. Ballad of Chevy-Chase*, *Percy's Reliques*, i. 9.

Ed. Dubl. 1766.

"Monyppe, a N. C. word." Lamb's *Battle of Flodden*, Notes, p. 70.

MONKRIE, MUNKRIE, s. A monastic foundation or establishment.

—"Be diuerss actis of Parliament maid of befor concerning the reformatioun of religioun within this realme, the monkreis ar altogidder abolishit, and thair places and abbayis ar for the maist part left waist," &c. Acts, Ja. VI., 1581, Ed. 1814, p. 276.

Here the places and abbayis are distinguished from monkreis.

"He that said, Pray continually, the same said, Go labour and win thy living, otherwise thou shalt not eat. Away with *Munkries* and *Nunries*." Rollock on 1 Theas., p. 307.

Johns. restricts the E. word *monkery* to "the monastick life." The word is evidently formed of A.-S. *monac* or *munuc*, *monachus*, and *rice*, *munus*, *dominium*.

**MONONDAY, MONANDAY, s.** Monday, S.

Propter hoc hucusque in Anglia feria secunda Paschae *Blak-mononday* vulgariter nuncupatur. Fordun Scotichron., ii. 359.

"Upoun *Mononday*, the fyft of November, did the Frenche ische out of Leyth betymes, for keiping of the victuellis, quhilk suld have cum to us." Knox's Hist., p. 191.

A.-S. *Monan daeg*, id. the day consecrated to the Moon; literally, dies Lunae. For *monan* is the genit. of *mona*, the moon.

The name of the *second* day of the week affects some feeble minds with terror. If *Monanday*, or *Monday*, be first mentioned in company by a female, of what age or rank soever, they account it a most unlucky omen. But it gives relief to such minds, if the fatal term be first mentioned by a male. I know not, if this strange superstition be peculiar to the North of S.

This is evidently a ramification of the system of superstition, which in former ages was so generally extended, with respect to the supposed influence of the Moon. For a similar idea is entertained as to the mention of her name. Why the power of dissolving the charm is ascribed to the male sex, it is not easy to imagine. It cannot well be ascribed to the belief, that the Moon was herself of the weaker sex, and therefore controlled by the other. For the Gothic nations seem generally to have viewed the Moon as masculine.

Some, who might well be supposed more enlightened, will not give away money on this day of the week, or on the first day of the Moon.

The idea is completely inverted in Ireland, *Monday* being accounted the most lucky day in the week.

"No great undertaking can be auspiciously commenced in Ireland on any morning but *Monday morning*. 'O, please God we live till Monday morning, we'll set the slater to mend the roof of the house—On Monday morning we'll fall to and cut the turf—On Monday morning we'll see and begin mowing,'" &c. Edgeworth's *Castle Rackrent*, Gl. 185.

This is undoubtedly a relique of the ancient pagan worship of the Moon in Ireland. V. MONE.

**MONSTOUR, MUNSTOUR, s.** A muster.

"It is thoycht necessare that wappenschawingis be maid—at sic day or dayis and place as sall pleiss the schireff, &c. till assigne eftir the quantite of the schire, gif the *monstouris* can nocht be all tane in one day. And at the said *munstouris* be tane be the schireff." Acts Ja. V., 1540, Ed. 1814, p. 362. V. LAIF SOUNDAY.

*Moustouris*, in both instances, in Ed. 1566, fol. 130, b. The reading of the MS. had been viewed as an error. But it is evidently from Fr. *monstre*, id. L. B. *monstrum*, *militum recensio*; *monstr-are*, *milites censere*, Matth. Paris, 1253; from the primary sense of the v. in Lat., to shew, to exhibit.

**MONSTRANCE, s.** Perhaps shew, display.

"Ane greit *monstrance* of sylver." Aberd. Reg.

O. Fr. *monstrance* is used in the sense of preuve, exhibition; Roquefort.

[In the Romish Church, a framework of gold or silver in which the *host* is shewed to the congregation.

"Una *monstrantia* argentea, duos prope cubitos alta (eucharistiam vulgus appellat) ad Christi Corpus, adorationis causa, a populo deportandum, incredibili arte confecta, de aurata, ponderis . . . ." Regist. vas. argent., &c., in Coll. Reg. Aberd., 1542.]

[MONS MEG, s. A large gun or bombard formed of hoops and staves, now stationed in Edinburgh Castle, probably so called from the place of its manufacture, in Flanders, and appears first in 1489; in 1650, it is described as "the greit iron murderer, Muckle Meg"; it was removed to London in 1754, and restored to the Castle of Edinburgh in 1829. V. Mr. Dickson's Introduction to *Compt. Thes. Reg. Scot.*

"Sent awa' our croune, and our sword, and our sceptre, and *Mons Meg* to be kept by thae English pock-puddings in the Tower' Lunnon." Rob Roy, xxvii.

Oh, willawins! *Mons Meg*, for you;

ye was a cannon,

Could hit a man, had he been stannin,

In shire o' Fife,

Sax lang Scots miles ayont Clackmannan,

An' tak his life.

*Fergusson.*]

**MONTEYLE, s.** Err. for *Montane*, a mount.

The Inglis men sa rudly then

Kest amang thaim suerdis and mass,

That ymyd thaim a *monteyle* was,

Off wapynnys, that war warpyt thar.

*Barbour*, xi. 601.

Ital. *monticell-o*, L. B. *monticell-us*, collis.

**MONTH, MOUNTH, s.** 1. A mountain.

"The foure marmadyns that sang quhen Thetis was mareit on *month* Pillion, thai sang nocht sa sueit as did thir scheiphrydis." Compl. S., p. 99.

This general sense of the term was not unknown to O. E. writers. Hence Hardyng, in his advice directed to K. Edward IV., as to the most proper plan for conquering Scotland, says:

Betwixt the *mounthes* and the water of Tay,  
Which some do call mountaignes in our language,  
Pass eastward, with your armie daie by daie,  
From place to place with small carlage.

*Chron.*, Fol. 236, a.

He might probably use the word, as having heard it during his residence in Scotland.

2. The Grampian mountains, especially towards their eastern extremity. *To gang oure the Month*, to cross the Grampians, S. B.

The phrase is particularly used with respect to one pass, called the *Cairnie-month*, or *Cairn of Month*.

—He thocht weil that he would far  
Oute our the *Mounth* with his *menye*,  
To luk quha that his freind wald be.

*Barbour*, viii. 393, MS.

[And chiels shall come frae yent the *Cairn-a-mounth*  
right vousty.

Dr. Beattie in *Ross's Helenore.*]

A.-S. *monte*, *munt*, a mountain. C. B. *mynnyth*, *mynydd*, id. The latter is also the Armoric form of the word.

**MONTHS BORD.** The ridge of a mountain.

V. BORD.

**MONTUR, s.**

No mors for the faire fole, then for a rish rote,  
But for deel of the dembe best, that thus shold be dede,  
I mourne for no *montur*, for I may gete mare.

*Sir Gawain and Sir Gal.*, ii. 17.

"A saddle-horse; Fr. *monture*, *jumentum*." Sibb. Cotgr. renders *monture*, a saddle horse. It may, however, here signify the value of the horse in money; A.-S. *mynnitre*, *numisma*, from *mynet-ian*, to strike money; Su.-G. *mynet-a*.

**MONEY**, *adj.* 1. Many, *S. monny*, Lancash.

"Yit ane thyng bene necessar to auyse quidder the empire of ane or of *mony* be mair profitabill for your commoun weill." Bellend. Cron., Fol. 6. a. Wyntown, id.

2. Great, Border.

"God send, God send, fayr vedthir, fayr vedthir. *Money pricis, mony pricis.*" Compl. S., p. 62, 63.

"*Money pricis* is a popular phrase for a great price. *The key brought mony prices at the fair*, i. e., they sold dear." Gl. Compl.

It occurs in O. E. in the first sense—

And other *mony* luther lawes, that hys elderne adde ywrogt,  
He behet, that he wolde abate, & nathes he ne dude nogt.

*R. Glouc.*, p. 447.

A.-S. *monæg, maenig*, Sw. *monga*, Moes-G. *managai*, many.

**MONYCORDIS**, *s. pl.* A musical instrument.

—The Croude, and the *Monycordis*, the Gythornis gay. —

*Houlate*, iii. 10.

Probably of one string, from Gr. *μονοχορδος*, *unica intentus chorda*, Scapul. Lex. Lydgate writes *monacordys*. V. Ritson's E.M.R. Intr. cxcv. vol. i.

This is also written *Manicords*.

"I have a gentlewoman here—that sometimes brings you fresh to my memory, by playing on the *manicords* such lessons as I have oft heard from you." Lett. to John Forbes, Culloden Papers, p. 11.

Du Cange defines L. B. *monochordum*, *Instrumentum musicum, quod unica chorda constat*. *Nostris vulgo Manicordion*, By Cotgr. *manicordion* is said to be "an old-fashioned claricord."

The authors of *Dict. Trevoux* say that Du Cange is mistaken, as this instrument has seventy cords, although Scaliger reduces the number to thirty-five. It is in form of a spinet; and its strings are covered with scarlet cloth, to deaden and soften the sound. Hence it is denominated in Fr. *épinette sourde* or *muette*. It is especially used by nuns, who are learning to play, and are afraid of disturbing the silence of the dormitory.

**MONEYFEET**. "*Jock wi' the Monyfeet*," the more common name of the Centipede, *S.* In Ayr. its sex is changed, it being called *Jenny wi' the Monyfeet*; and also in Roxb. where it is *Maggie Monyfeet*.

"The worm—the worm is my bonny bridegroom, and *Jenny with the manyfeet* my bridal-maid. The mill-dam waters the wine o' the wedding, and the clay and the clod shall be my bedding." *Annals of the Parish*, p. 311.

In Angus, also, it is viewed as of the feminine gender, being called *Maggie wi' the Monyfeet*.

**MONEY LANG**. *This mony lang*, for a long time past, *S. B.*

"You took up the tune for him, and sung sae weel that there has na been the like o't i' the kirk of Knockfergus *this mony lang*—may be uever." *Glenfergus*, i. 346.

[**MONYMENTIS**, *s. pl.* Documents, *Barbour*, xx. 44, MS.]

To **MONYSS**, *v. a.* To warn, to admonish.

Thai may weill *monyss* as thai will :

And thai may hecht als to fulfill

With stalwart hart, thair bidding all.

*Barbour*, xii. 383, MS.

Therfor thai *monyist* thaim to be

Off gret worschip, and of bounté.

*Ibid.*, 379, MS.

Rudd derives this *v.* from Lat. *monéo*. But the Lat. *v.* seems merely to have had a common root with this, which we find, slightly diversified, in almost all the Northern languages; Su.-G. *man-a*, to exhort, to counsel; A.-S. *men-ian, mann-ian, man-igian, mon-ian, mon-egian*, to admonish; Alem. *man-on, ke-man-on*; Germ. *man-en, vermahn-en*; Belg. *vermaan-en*, Fenn. *man-aan*, id. A.-S. *monige, mung*, Germ. *vermahnung*, Belg. *vermaaning*, admonitio.

**MOO**, *s.* The act of lowing, *S.*

Like poor Italian piper, douf and dry,  
Thou rangest o'er thy food, among the queys,  
A' fearless o' thy moo, or cap'ring tail.

*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 46.

V. MUE.

**MOO**, *s.* The mouth, Galloway.

But Jock the bill dispers'd the tribe ;  
He smell'd her moo and smirked.

*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 59.

V. Mow.

[**MOO-BANN**, *s.* Lit., a word-o'-mouth, a whisper; as, "Nae ae *moo-bann*," not a word on the subject, Banffs.

From the same root as *ban*, a proclamation; A.-S. *gebann*, id.]

[To **MOO**, *v. n.* To crave, to feel hungry, Shetl.]

**MOODIE**, *adj.* Gallant, courageons.

O mony were the moodie men  
Lay gasping on the green.

*Ballad of Captain Carre*.

V. MODY, MUDY, *adj.*, sense 1.

**MOODIE-HILL**, *s.* A mole-hill.

He has pitched his sword in a moodie-hill,  
And he has leap'd twenty lang feet and three,  
And on his ain sword's point he lap,  
And dead upon the ground fell he.

*Minstrely Border*, iii. 103.

V. MOUDIE.

[**MOOI**, *s.* A sea-weed of a greenish colour, of which cattle are very fond, Shetl.]

[**MOOL**, *s.* The extreme point of a promontory or headland; same as *Mull*, Shetl.]

**MOOL**, *s.* A slipper; Spalding. V. MULLIS.

To **MOOL**, *v. a.* To crumble; also To **MOOL IN**. V. MULE, *v.*

**MOOLS**, *s.* Pulverized earth, &c. V. MULDIS.

[**MOOLS**, *s. pl.* Disease in the heels, Shetl. V. MULES.]

To **MOOLAT**, **MOOLET**, *v. n.* To whine, to murmur, Ayr.; synon. with *Chirm*. Hence,

MOOLETIN, *part. pr.* Whining, *ibid.* [Used also as a *s.* and as an *adj.*, Clydes.]

Perhaps radically allied to Teut. *muylen*, mutire, mussitare, cum indignatione et stomacho, (Kilian); whence *muylaert*, mussitator. The root is *muyl*, the mouth or snout; for the *v.* primarily signifies, to push out the mouth, to pout. Isl. *muli*, however, and Sw. *mulit*, signify cloudy, and metaph. sad, especially as applied to a sorrowful countenance.

MOOLIE-HEELS. Chilblains, S.; from *Mules*, *s. pl.* used in the same sense; *mools*, Shetl.

"*Moolie-heels*, a kind of chilblain troublesome to the heels in frosty weather." Gall. Encycl. V. MULES.

MOOLIE PUDDING. A school-game, Gall.

"*Moolie Pudding*.—One has to run with the hands locked, and *taen* [i.e., lay his hands on the heads of] the others." Gall. Encycl.

MOONLIGHT-FLITTING. A decampment by night, in the way of carrying off one's goods or furniture, for the purpose of escaping from one's creditors, or from arrestment, S.

"Conscious of possessing some secrets connected with the blessings of liberty and equality, which, he was well aware, if disclosed, would render his present situation no longer tenable, he made, what is termed, a *moon-light flitting*." Campbell, ii. 1. V. FLIT, *v. n.*

MOONOG, *s.* "A name for the cranberry or crawberry;" Gall. Encycl.

C. B. *moonug* denotes that which shoots out as a spire. But I scarcely think that this can apply.

To MOOP, MOUP, *v. n.* To nibble, to mump. V. MOUP.

[To MOOR, *v. n.* To snow heavily, Shetl. Isl. *mora*, to swarm.]

[MOORAKAVIE, *s.* A thick shower of drifting snow, Shetl. Isl. *mor*, a swarm, *kafald*, a thick fall of snow.]

MOORAWAV, *s.* Same as last, Shetl. [Isl. *mora*, to swarm, *vaf*, a wrapping, winding round.]

MOORAT, MOORIT, *adj.* Expl. "brownish colour in wool," Shetl.

"They [the sheep] are of different colours; as white, grey, black, speckled, and of a dusky brown called *moorit*." Edmonstone's Zetl., ii. 210.

Evidently from Isl. *morauð-r*, badius, ferrugineus, i.e., "brown mingled with black and red;" Nigropurpureus, suffusus, Verel. This is the colour called *murrey* in E., in Fr. *moree*, darkly red. Johns. views *Moro*, a Moor, as the root. But Ihre gives *morroed* as the Su.-G. term, color subfuscus, qualis esse solet terrae paludosae, quae ad pingendum vulgo adhibetur. It is sometimes written *roedmorug*. It is evidently from Su.-G. Isl. *mor*, thus defined by Verelius; Terrae quaedam species, unde color quidam suffusus [suffusus] conficitur ad tingendum pannum.

VOL. III.

[MOORATOOG, *s.* An ant, Shetl. Dan. *myre*, an ant, *myretue*, an ant-hill.]

MOOR-FOWL, *s.* Red Game, Gorcock, or Moor-cock, S. Bonasa Scotica, Brisson.

*Lagopus altera* Plinii.—The Moor-Cock, nostratibus the *Moor-fowl*, Sibb. Scot., p. 16.

"This parish abounds much more with *moor fowl* and black game than Kirkhill." P. Kiltarlity, Invern. Statist. Acc., xiii. 514.

This in Gacl. is called *Coileach-ruadh*, i.e., the red cock, while the Black cock is denominated *Coileach-dubh*, which has precisely the same meaning with our designation. V. Statist. Acc., xvii. 249.

The name is equivalent to *heath-cock*. V. MURE.

MOOR-GRASS, *s.* *Potentilla anserina*, S.

"Silver-weed, or Wild Tansey. Anglis. *Moor-Grass*. Scotis." Lightfoot, p. 268.

It has the same name in Upland as in E., *silveroert*. V. MURRICK.

MOOR-ILL, *s.* A disease of black cattle. V. MUIR-ILL.

[MOORIN. V. MOARIN, and MOOR.]

[To MOORK, *v. n.* To work patiently, to pore over one's work, Shetl.]

MOORS. *Brown Man of the Moors*. V. under BROWN.

"The Brown Man of the Moors is generally represented as bewitching the sheep, causing the ewes to *keb*, that is, to cast their lambs, or seen loosening the impending wreath of snow to precipitate its weight on such as take shelter, during the storm, under the bank of a torrent," &c. Concluding paragraph of the Black Dwarf.

[MOORT, *s.* A small thing, Shetl.]

MOOSE, *s.* That piece of flesh which lies in the shank-bone of a leg of mutton, S. V. MOUSE.

[MOOSE, *s.* A mouse, S. Dan. *muus*, id.]

[MOOSE-FA', *s.* A mouse-trap. Dan. *muus-fælde*, Norse, *musföll*, id.]

MOOSEWEB, MOUSEWEB, *s.* 1. The gossamer, the white cobwebs that float in the air, S.

The Swedes call a cobweb *dwaergsnaet*, from *dwaery*, whence apparently S. *droich*, a species of malevolent fairy or demon; very ingenious, and supposed often to assume the appearance of a spider, and to form these nets. The peasants of that country say, *Jorden naetjar sig*. "the earth covers itself with a net," when the whole surface of the ground is covered with *moose-webs*, which, it is commonly believed, indicates the seed-time. V. Ihre, vo. *Naet*.

2. Improperly used as denoting spiders' webs, S.

"It's a fell accident; but if I might gie my advice, an' I sud hae some experience, seeing the family I hae born an' brought to man's estate, I wad just pit a bit *mouseweb* till't. It was ay what I used when any of the bairns gat broken brows." Saxon and Gael., iii. 80.

The term occurs in this sense in the version of Ps. lxxxi. in the description of idols.

They haue hands can nouthar feill nor grop,  
Their fundyit feete can nouthar gang nor loupe.  
They can pronounce no voyce furth of their throts,  
They are ouergane with *mouse-webs* and motes.

*Poems, Sixteenth Cent., i. 102.*

3. Used metaph. in relation to phlegm in the throat or stomach, S.

Ye benders a', that dwell in joot,  
You'll tak your liquor clean-cap out,  
Synd your *mouse-webs* wi' reaming stout,  
While ye hae cash.

*Fergusson's Poems, ii. 42.*

This orthography is wrong. For the term has no affinity to the *mouse*.

Sibb. refers to Fr. *mousche*, a fly, q. a *fly-net*. But *mouse*, moss, mossy down, would have been a more natural origin; Teut. *mos*, moisture. For the term seems properly to respect those webs, which fly in the field, generated from moisture.

MOOSE-WEBB'D, *adj.* Covered with spider's webs.

— I was musin' i' my mind,—  
Wi' a toom pouch, an' plenishin hut mean,  
In a wee hut *mouse-webb'd*, an' far frae clean.

*Taylor's Scots Poems, p. 3.*

[MOOT, *s.* A small person or thing; same as MOORT, Shetl.]

[To MOOTEN, *v. n.* To grow mouldy like old bread, to decay, Shetl.]

To MOOTER. *V. MOUT* *awa'*.

MOOTH, *adj.* Misty. It is said to be a *mooth day*, when the air is thick and foggy, when there is flying mist in it, S. B.

Belg. *mottig*, id. *mottig weer*, drizzling weather; *mot-règen*, a drizzling rain; *mott-en*, to drizzle.

MOOTHLYE, *adv.* Softly, Ettr. For.

"I harde ane chylde nhaspe thilke sneck, as *moothlye* as ane snail quhan scho gaungs snowking owir thilke drowkyt swaird." Wint. Ev. Tales, ii. 41. *V. MURH.*

MOOTIE, *adj.* Parsinonious, niggardly, Loth. This, I suspect, has the same origin with *Moutit*. *V. MOUT, v.*

MOOTIT-LIKE, *adj.* Punny in size; having the appearance of a bird when moulting, S.

"I thought I saw ye lying in a lonesome place, an' no ane in the wide world to help or heed ye, till there was a poor bit black *mootit-like* corby came down frae the hills an' fed ye." Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 134.

Corr. from *E. Moutit*, to cast the feathers.

To MOOTLE, *v. a.* To nibble, to fritter away. Thus a child is said to *mottle it's piece*, Loth., Roxb.

Evidently a dimin. from *Mout, v.*, q. *v.*; although it has been deduced from Lat. *mutil-are*.

MOPPAT, *s.* An instrument for cleaning or wetting the inner part of a cannon.

"Item, nyne *moppatis* mountit, all serving to sindrie peceis." Inventories, A. 1563, p. 163.

*E. mop*, Lat. *mappa*.

MORADEN, *s.* Homage. *V. MANRENT.*

MORAY COACH. A cart, Banffs.; a cant term, used in ridicule of a neighbouring county; like the phrase, a *Tyburn Coach*.

MORE, MOR, *adj.* Great.

Eacak-Mourea-More

Gat Erc, and he gat Fergus's more.

*Wyn town, iii. 10. 52.*

He that wes callyd Fergus-More,  
In the thrid buks yhe hard before,  
Wes Fergus Erch Swin.—

*Ibid., iv. 8. 25.*

Used in O. E., as Mr. MacPherson has observed, "if there be no mistake."

Therof hs wolde be awreke, he suore hys more oth.

*R. Glouc., p. 391.*

*V. MARE, id.*

MORE, *s.* A heath. *V. MURE.*

MORGAN-STERNE, *s.* A club with a round head furnished with spikes, formerly used by those who were besieged in defending themselves against their assailants.

"The Dutch one morning taunting us, said, they did heare, there was a ship come from Denmarke to us, laden with tobacco and pipes; one of our souldiers shewing them over the worke a *morgan sterne*, made of a large stocke banded with iron like the shaft of a halbert, with a round globe at the end with crosse iron pikes, saith, Here is one of the tobacco pipes, wherewith we will beate out your braines, when ye intend to storne us." *Monro's Exped., P. I., p. 65.*

Su.-G. Dan. *morgen-stierne*, literally the morning-star; but the Teut. synon. *morghen-sterre* is not only expl. Lucifer, but also *clava aculeata*; Kilian. Belg. *morgenstar*, a club or cudgel with pricks; Sewcl. This is obviously a figurative, and partly a ludicrous, use of the term.

MORGEOUN, *s.* *V. MURGEOUN.*

MORGOZ'D, *part. adj.* Confused, Galloway.

"Any thing put into disorder, so that it cannot be righted, is said to be *morgoz'd*." *Gall. Encycl.*

Perhaps originally a sea term. *C. B. morgaseg*, a breaker in the sea. This seems to be a figurative word, being traced to *mor*, sea, and *caseg*, a mare, q. a sea-rider. *Mawrgais-iaw* is to try greatly; *mawrgwey*, a great fall. It may be allied, however, to *Gael. mor-chuis*, pomp; because of the disorder often caused by a great display of grandeur.

MORGUE, *s.* A solemn face, an imposing look, Fr.

"Finding the ennemie effronted, their heartes may bee, thereupon, so farre stayed, as to stande and perceive that all this supercilious shewe of a fierce assant is but a vaine and weakly backed bravado, which, to offer vs with a newe and high *morgue*, our adversaries have newlie bene animated by their late supplement of fresche forces from beyond sea." *Forbes's Defence, p. 65.*

MORIANE, *adj.* Black, swarthy, resembling a *Moor*.

The term occurs in a dialogue betwixt Honour, Gude-Fame, &c., p. 5, where we have the following description of David Rizzio:—

"Than come Dishonour and Infame our fais,  
And brought in ane to rule with raggit clais,

Thocht he wes blak and *moriane* of hew,  
In credite sone, and gorgins clais he grew,  
Thocht he wes forraine, and borne in Piemont  
Zit did he Lords of ancient blude surmont.  
He wes to hir, baith secret, trow and traist,  
With her estenit mair nor all the reast,  
In this mene tyme come hame than my Lord Darlie,  
Of quhais rair bewtie scho did sumpart fairlie," &c.

This word has certainly been used in O. E., as Cotgr. gives it as the sense of Fr. *more*, id. Fr. *morien*, id. Armor. *mauryan*, *moriein*; from Lat. *Mauritanus*, a moor.

**MORMAIR, s.** An ancient title of honour in S. V. MAIR.

**MORN, MORNE, s.** Morrow; *to morne*, to-morrow, S. *the morne*, id.

The hyns cryis for the come,  
The broustare the here schorne,  
The feist the fulder *to morne*  
Couatis ful yore.

*Doug. Virgil, Prol. 238, b. 18.*

*To morne*, to-morrow. Gl. Yorks. Dial.

"This is my first jorney, I sall end the same the *morne*." Lett. Buchanan's Detect., G. 7. a.

*Uther morne*, the day after to-morrow.

"He hes prayit me to remane upon him quhilk *ether morne*." Ibid., G. 8. b. Me rogavit, ut se expectarem in *diem perendinum*. Lat. Vers., p. 111.

A.-S. *morghen*, *morgen*; Alem. *morgan*, Su.-G. *morgon*; Isl. *morgun*, *morrow*; A.-S. *to morghen*, or *morgen*, to-morrow.

**MORN PE-MORNING.** The morn after daylight breaks, Gall.

"*Morn i'e-morning*, in the dead of winter, begins not until near eight o'clock." Gall. Encycl.

**MORNING, s.** 1. The name given to a glass of spirits taken before breakfast, not only in the Highlands, but by many Lowlanders, who pretend that this shocking custom is necessary to whet their appetite, S.

"Of this he took a copious dram, observing he had already taken his *morning* with Donald Bean Lean before his departure." Waverley, i. 269.

"Having declined Mrs. Flockhart's compliment of a *morning*, i.e., a matutinal dram, being probably the only man in the Chevalier's army by whom such a courtesy would have been rejected, he made his adieux, and departed with Callum." Ibid., ii. 320.

"*Morning*, morning dram;" Gl. Antiq.

2. A slight repast taken at rising, some hours before what is called breakfast, Dumfr.

**MORNING GIFT, s.** The gift conferred by a husband on his wife, on the morning after marriage.

King Ja. VI., "immediately after the marriage, contracted, and solemnized between" him and Anne of Denmark, "for the singular love and affection borne toward her, gave, granted, and confirmed to her, in forme of *morning gift*, all and hail, the Lordschippes of Dunfermeline." Acts Ja. VI., Parl. 13, c. 191.

This lordship was given to the Queen to be possessed by her as her own property during life. She was not to enter upon it in consequence of the King's decease. For his Majesty's grant gave her immediate

possession. Both the nature of the gift, and its designation, refer to a very ancient custom. *Morgongofwa* was the name given, in the Gothic laws, to the donation which the husband made to his wife on the day after marriage. This was also called *hindradags gaef*, or the gift on the succeeding day. Ipre informs us, that it appears from the laws of the Visigoths, that the gift called *tillgewaer*, and also *wingaf*, was different from the *hindradags gaef*; the former being a pledge given after the espousals, and the latter a gift bestowed the day after the consummation of the marriage; *tanquam servatae pudicitiae praemium*. In explaining *hindradags gaef*, this writer assigns a different reason for the gift; *Usurpatur de munere sponsi quo virginittatis damnnum pensabat, vo. Hin.*

A.-S. *morgen-gife* was used in the same sense; "The gift," says Lye, "which, under the name of dowry, was given to the young wife by her husband on the day after marriage." This the ancient Germans called *morgan-geba*, and *morgan-giba*; terms which frequently occur in their ancient laws. Hence Germ. *morgen-gabe*, a dowry. Wachter observes, however, that among the ancient Germans this designation was not given to the whole dowry, but only to that part of it which the husband gave to his newly-married wife; post primam noctem, *tanquam pretium virginittatis, ut apud Graecos Λιγαρθηνα*. This gift, he adds, was among the Longobards a fourth part of the husband's goods; and is everywhere distinguished from other dowries. A specimen of this kind of donation, written in A.-S., about the year 1000, is given in Hickeys's Diss. Epist., p. 76.

*Morghen-gave*, *morghen-gifte*, id. Kilian. But this learned writer erroneously observes that the husband conferred this gift on the marriage day, before the nuptial feast. The various terms *morgongofwa*, *morgan-gife*, &c., all literally mean, either a morning-gift, or a gift conferred on the morning; Alem. *morgon*, and A.-S. *morgen*, &c., signifying both the *morning*, and *to-morrow*. Thus, when this donation is in our law called *morning-gift*, it is not by corruption, but in consequence of a translation of the original phrase. I have not heard that it is customary anywhere in S. for the husband to make any gift of this kind. But perhaps we have a vestige of this ancient custom in the practice which still prevails in some parts of S., of relations and neighbours masking presents to the young wife on the morning after her marriage.

As I have not observed that this phrase occurs anywhere else in our laws, perhaps the use of it in this single instance may scarcely be deemed sufficient evidence of its having been common. It may be supposed that James might have borrowed it from the Danes. For when he made this gift to his Queen, he was at Upslo, in Norway, as the act declares. It is evident, however, from Reg. Maj. that every freeman was bound to endow his wife with a dowry at the kirk door on the day of marriage; B. ii., c. 16, s. 1, 2, 33. Skene also speaks of *morning gift*, as a term commonly used to denote "the gift of gades moveable or immoveable, quhilk the husband gives to his wife, the day or morning after the marriage." De Verb. Sign., vo. Dos.

In the Records, the reading is *Morowing Gift*. Acts, Ed. 1814, p. 565. V. MOROWING.

[**MORNIN-MUN, s.** The morning dawn, the gradual increase of the morning light, Orkn. V. MUN.]

[**MÖR-NOR-SWAAL**, (long o as in *more*.) "He can neither *mor-nor-swaal*," he is incapable of doing anything, Shetl.]

MOROWING, MOROWNING, *s.* Morning.

A *morowing* tyde, quhen at the some so schene  
Out raschit had his bemis frome the sky,  
Ane auld gude man befor the yet was sene.

*King Hart*, ii. 1.

So hapint it, intill ane fayr *morowning*,  
—Thir halis freiris thus walk thair furth ou hand.

*Dunbar, Mailland Poems*, p. 66.

Moes.-G. *maurgins*, A.-S. *Isl. morgen*, Su.-G. *morgan*, id.

Mr. Took ingeniously traces the A.-S. term, also written *mergen*, *merien*, *merne*, to Moes.-G. *mer-jan*, A.-S. *merr-an*, *myrr-an*, to dissipate, to disperse, to spread abroad, as suggesting the idea of the *dispersion* of the clouds or darkness. *Divers*, Purley, ii. 213, 214.

To MORROCH, *v. a.* To soil, Galloway.

"When any thing is trampled in a gutter, we say it is *morroch'd*." *Gall. Encycl.*

Corr. perhaps from C. B. *mathrath*, a laying flat; a trampling down; from *mathr-u*, to trample, to tread.

MORROW, *s.* A companion; or one thing which matches another, Shetl. V. MARROW.[MORROWLESS, *adj.* Without a match or fellow, Shetl.]MORSING-HORN, *s.* A flask for holding powder, or a priming horn.

—"In sua far as is possible, that all the three hundredre men be hagbutteris furnischit with powder, flask, *morsing-hornis*, and all thair geir belanging thairto." *Sedt. Counc.*, A. 1552, *Keith's Hist.*, App., p. 67.

Buff-coats, all frounced and broidered o'er,  
And *morsing-horns*\* and scarfs they wore.

*Lay of the Last Minstrel*, p. 115.

\* Powder-flasks.

## MORSING POWLDER. Powder used for priming.

"Item, sex barrellis of *morsing powder*." *Inventories*, A. 1566, p. 171. "Sex barrellis of culvering powder" are mentioned immediately before.

[O. Fr. *amorcher*, "to put powder into the touch-hole of a peece," *Cotgr.*, Fr. *amorcer*, to prime a gun, *amorce*, prime, priming.]

## MORT; A MORT.

He tellis thame ilk ane caik by caik;—  
And eitlis thame in the buith that smaik;  
— that he *mort* into ane rokkett.

*Bannatyne Poems*, p. 172, st. 7.

"Would that he died;" *Fr. meurt*, 3rd. p. s. ind. improperly used.

We will nocht ga with the but to the port,  
That is to say, unto the Kings yet;  
With the farder to go is nocht our det.  
Quhilk is the yet that we call now the port,  
Nocht but our graif to pas in as a *mort*.

*Priests of Peblis*, S. P. R., i. p. 47.

A phrase of this kind is still occasionally used. One is said to be *all a mort*, when he is stupified by a stroke or fall. It is also vulgar, E. "Struck dumb, confounded." *Grose's Class. Dict.*

Perhaps from the Fr. phrase, *a mort*, used in a variety of forms; *blessé à mort*, *jugé à mort*, &c.

MORT, *adj.* Fatal, deadly.

"We say, S. *a mort cold*, i.e., a deadly cold, an extreme cold, that may occasion death; and so Fr. *mortaison*, the dead time of the year," *Rudd*.

MORT, *s.* The skin of a sheep or lamb which has died; pron. *murt*, *Roxb.*

"*Morts* are the skins of sheep or lambs which die." *Agr. Surv. Roxb.*, N., p. 259.

MORT-WOOL, *s.* Wool of such skins, *ibid.*MORTGAGE, *s.* A particular mode of giving pledges; also denominated *Deid Wad*. V. WAD, *s.*\* MORTAL, *adj.* Dead drunk, S.[MORTCALD, *s.* A severe cold, influenza, Shetl. V. MORTH O' CAULD.]MORT-CLOTH, MORT-CLAITH, *s.* The pall, the velvet covering carried over the corpse at a funeral, S.

"The fund for their support and relief arises from—the weekly collections on Sundays, (about 8s. at an average), *mortcloths*, proclamation money, and the rents of a few seats in the church." *P. Glenberrie*, *Statist. Acc.*, xi. 452.

MORTFUNDYIT, *part. pa.* "Extremely cold, cold as death," *Rudd*.

The dew droppis congelit on stibbil and rynd,  
And scharp hailstansy *mortfundyt* of kynd,  
Hoppand on the thak and on the cansay by.

*Doug. Virgil*, *Prol.* 202, 31.

## V. MORT AND FUNDY.

The O. E. *v.* is evidently the same. "I *morfonde*, as a horse dothe that wexeth styffe by taking of a sodayne colde: Je me *morfons*,—Je *morfondis*. And you *morfonde* your horse, he wyll be the worse while he lyueth after;" *Palsgr. B.* iii. F. 304, a. V. also F. 373, in *I starue you for colde*. He derives the last part of the word from *fond-re* to melt. *Morfondre* is still used in Fr. in the sense given above; and as there is no evidence of a different orthography, it seems doubtful whether the first syllable has been originally *mort*, *q.* dead.

MORT-HEAD, *s.* 1. A death's head, S.

2. A large turnip excavated, with the representation of a face cut through the side, and a lighted candle put within. This is carried about under night, by mischievous boys, as an object of terror, S.

MORT-MUMLINGIS, *s. pl.* Prayers muttered or mumbled for the dead.

Thay tyrit God with tryfillis tume trentalis,—  
Mantand *mort-mumlingis* mixed with monye leis.

*Scott, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 197.

MORT-SAFE, *s.* A frame of cast iron with which a coffin is surrounded during five or six weeks, for the purpose of preventing the robbery of the grave, Fife.

MORTAR, *s.* 1. Coarse clay of a reddish colour, S.

"That coarse red clay, called *mortar*, is the basis of all the grounds in this part of Strathmore." *P. Bendorthy*, *Perths. Statist. Acc.*, xix. 339.

## 2. This clay as prepared for building, S.

The term is used precisely in the same sense, A. Bor. "*Mortar*, soil beaten up with water, formerly used in building ordinary walls, in contradiction to lime and sand, or cement." Gl. Grose.

It seems to have been denominated from its use in building, instead of what is properly called *mortar* in E.

**MORTAR-STONE, s.** A stone formerly used for preparing barley, by separating it from the husks; as serving the same purpose with a *mortar* in which substances are beaten, S.

**MORTERSHEEN, s.** That species of glanders, a disease in horses, which proves most fatal, S.

And now he's tane the *mortersheen*,  
See how he runs at nose and een,  
He'll poison a' thing there that's green.—

*The Old Horse, Duff's Poems*, p. 86.

—"The other two regiments—was scattered here and there, and many of the horses dead in the *mortechien*." Spalding, ii. 275.

This is otherwise spelled *mord de chien*.

"Drumcairne reported the debate betwixt Mr. James Horne and James Strahan, anent the horse infected with the *mord de chien*." Fountainhall, i. 406.

Fr. *mort aux chiens*, a carcase for the dogs; from the hopeless nature of this disease.

**MORTH O' CAULD.** "Those who receive a severe cold, get what is termed a *morth o' cauld*; which means, their death from cold;" Gall. Enc.

Fr. *mort*, death, or C.B. *marwyd*, dying, *marth-aw*, to become dead.

To **MORTIFY, v. a.** To dispoise lands or money to any corporation, for certain uses, from which there can be no alienation of the property; to give in mortmain, S.

"Feudal subjects granted in donation to churches, monasteries, or other corporations, for religious, charitable, or public uses, are said—to be *mortified*." Erskine's Instit., B. 2, Tit. 4, s. 10.

"Mrs. Carmichael—*mortified* £70 Sterling for educating and providing books for poor children." P. Dirleton, Loth. Statist. Acc., iii. 197.

The phrase in our old laws is not only, *mortificare terras*, but *dimittere terras ad manum mortuam*. Skene thinks that it is meant to signify the very reverse of what it expresses, the disposition of lands to a society, that is, to such heirs as *never die*. De Verb. Sign. vo. *Manus*. The most natural idea as to the use of this phraseology seems to be, that property, thus dispoised, cannot be recovered or alienated; the *hand*, to which it is given, being the same as if it were *dead*, incapable of giving it away to any other.

*Amortise* is used by Langland in the same sense.

If lewdemen knew this laten, they wold lok whom they geue,

And aduise them afore a fyue dayes or syxe,  
Er they *amortised* to monkes or chanons theyr rentes.  
Alas, lordes, and ladies, lewde counsell haue ye,  
To give from your heyres that your *ayles* you lefte,  
And gius it to bid for you to such as bene ryche.

P. *Ploughman*, Fol. 82, 1st Edit.

In that of 1561 we find *elders* used for *ayles*; perhaps as being better understood, for the meaning is nearly the same, *ayles* being undoubtedly from Fr. *ayeul*, a grandfather. *Bid*, i. e., pray.

**MORTIFICATION, s.** 1. The act of giving in mortmain, S.

"*Mortifications* may still be granted in favour of hospitals, either for the subsistence of the aged and infirm, or for the maintenance and education of indigent children, or in favour of universities, or other public lawful societies." Erskine's Instit., ut sup., s. 11.

English visitors have sometimes been much puzzled by the use of this term, so different from that with which they have been acquainted.

"'We have lately got a *mortification* here,' said a northern burgess to a gentleman from England. 'I am very sorry for it,' replied the Englishman.—The other stared, and added, 'Yes, a very considerable *mortification*; an old miser died the other day, and left us ten thousand pounds to build an hospital.' 'And call you that a *mortification*?' said the stranger.—'Yes,' replied the Scotchman, 'and we think it a very great one.'" Sir J. Carr's Caledonian Sketches, p. 212, 213.

The term has sometimes afforded scope for the humour of our own countrymen. V. next article.

2. The lands or money thus disposed, S.

"There are £400 Sterling of a fund for them, £200 of which is a *mortification* by Archibald Macneil, late tacksman of Sanderay." P. Barry, Invern. Statist. Acc., xiii. 340.

"4. Tennant's *mortification*, in 1739, for the relief of widows.—5. Mitchell's *mortification*, &c." Glasgow, Statist. Acc., v. 524.

**MASTER OF MORTIFICATIONS.** An officer in a burgh who has the charge of all the funds *mortified* to pious uses, S.

"In one great borough (Aberdeen, if I remember rightly) there is a municipal officer who takes care of these public endowments, and is thence called the *Master of Mortifications*. One would almost presume, that the term had its origin in the effect which such settlements usually produce upon the kinsmen of those by whom they are executed." Guy Mannering, ii. 314.

**MORTIFIER, s.** One who gives property in mortmain, S.

"The founder of the charity is—called *Mortifier*." Sir J. Carr's Caledonian Sketches, p. 212.

[**MORTMUMLINGIS, s. pl.** V. under **MORT.**]

**MORTON, MORTYM, s.** A species of wild fowl.

"They discharge any persons whatsomver, with in this realme, in any wyse to sell or buy—Teilles, Atteilles, Goldinges, *Mortyns*, Schidderems," &c. Acts Ja. VI., 1600, c. 23.

These are called, "Gordous, *Mortons*." Skene, Crimes, Tit. 3, c. 3, s. 9.

The *Morton*, the Murecock, the Myrsnyp in ane, Lychtit, as lerit men of law, by that lake.

*Houlate*, i. 17.

This is supposed to be the common Martin, *Hirundo urbica*, Linn.; often called *Mertym*, So. of S.

**MORUNGEOUS, adj.** In very bad humour; often conjoined with another term expressing the same idea; as *morungeous cankered*, very ill-humoured, S. B.

**MORWYNGIFT, s.** The same with *Morning Gift*.

"Our souerane lord ratifijt,—& be the autorite of parliament confirmit the donatioun & gift of our souerane lady the qwenis drowry & *morwyngift*." Acts Ja. IV., 1503, Ed. 1814, p. 240.

[**MOSE, s.** Dry rot, Orkn., Shetl.]

[**MOSEY, MOSIE, MOOSIE, adj.** 1. Covered with mould; mouldy, softened by mould, Ayr., Renfr.

2. Covered with thin soft hair, as a young bird is, *ibid*.

O. Fr. *moisé*, "mouldy, musty, fusty," Cotgr.]

[To **MOSKER, v. n.** To rot, to decay, *ibid*.]

**MOSINE, s.** The touchhole of a piece of ordnance; metaph. used.

—"They being deceived, cry, Peace, peace, euen while God is putting the fierie lunt vnto the *mosine* of their sudden destruction." Z. Boyd's Last Battell, p. 374.

Hence perhaps the vulgar term *motion-hole*, used in the same sense, S.

**MOSS, s.** The *Eriophorum vaginatum*, [Cotton-grass], Roxb.; *synon. Moss-crops*.

"Early in spring, sheep, in marshy districts, feed much upon the *Eriophorum vaginatum*, called by the farmers and their shepherds *moss*." Agr. Surv. Roxb., p. 108.

**MOSS, s.** 1. A marshy or boggy place, S. Lancash.

Some in a moss entryt ar thai,  
That had wele twa myle lang of breid.  
Out our that *moss* on fute thai yeld:  
And in thair hand thair horsse leid thai.  
And it wes rycht a noyus way.

*Barbour*, xix. 738. 740.

2. A place where peats may be digged, S.

"The fuel commonly used is peat and turf, obtained from in *mosses* general within its bounds. But the *mosses* are greatly exhausted, and some of the gentlemen burn coals in their houses." P. New-Machar, Aberd. Statist. Acc., vi. 472.

Su.-G. *maase*, *id.* also *mossa*; locus uliginosus. Hinc. *flotmoesa*, locus palustris, ubi terra aquae subtus stagnanti supernat. L. B. *mussa*, locus uliginosus. *Flotmoesa*, and our *Flow-moss*, q. v. are nearly allied.

[To **MOSS, v. n.** To work in a moss; to cut and prepare peats, Banffs., West of S.; part. pr. *moassin*, *mossan*, used also as s.]

[**MOSSER, s.** A person who works in a moss; one who is engaged in cutting and preparing peats, *ibid*.]

**MOSS-BLUTER, s.** The snipe, Roxb.

**MOSS-BOIL, s.** A fountain in a moss, Gall.

"*Moss-boils*, large moorland fountains, the sources of rivers;" Gall. Encycl.

Named, most probably, from their *boiling* up—Isl. *bull*, ebullitio, *bull-a*, ebullire.

**MOSS-BUMMER, s.** The Bittern, S.A. *Ardea stellaris*, Linn.

"The S. name," as an ingenious friend has remarked to me, "is emphatic and characteristic; for the bittern frequents peat-bogs; and, in spring, often utters a loud hollow sound, its call of love;—to the great admiration of the country people, who believe that it produces this sound by blowing into a reed."

This name is perfectly analogous to that which it receives, S. B. V. *MIRE-BUMPER*.

**MOSS-CHEEPER, s.** This seems to be the Marsh Titmouse of Willoughby, the *Parus Palustris* of Gesner.

"*Tilinga*, Titling or *Moss-cheeper*," Sibb. Scot., iii. 22. V. Pennant's Zool., p. 393. V. *CHEEP, v.*

2. This term is also used to denote the Titlark, *Alauda pratensis*, Linn.

"In descending the Uricoch hill, I found the nest of a titlark, or *Moss-cheeper*." Fleming's Tour in Atran.

**MOSS-CORNS, s. pl.** Silverweed, an herb, S. *Potentilla anserina*, Linn. They are also called *Moss-crops*, and *Moor-grass*. The E. name is nearly allied to the Sw., which is *silver-oert*; Linn. Flor. Suec., 452, i.e., silver-herb.

"For all his exertion, he found nothing to eat, save one or two *moss-corns*, and a ground walnut, with which he was obliged to content himself." Brownie of Bodsbeck, ii. 269.

**MOSS-CROPS, s. pl.** Cotton-rush, and Hare's-tail Rush, S. *Eriophorum angustifolium et vaginatum*, Linn.

"*Eriophorum polystachion, et vaginatum. Moss-crops, Scotis australibus*." Lightfoot, p. 1080.

"The chief food of sheep in winter, is the grass which they reject in summer.—Their earliest spring food is a plant bearing a white cotton head, vulgarly designed *Moss-crop*.—This is the *Cana* so often used by Ossian, and other northern bards, in their descriptions of the beauty of women." Pennecuik's Descr. Tweed., Ed. 1815, p. 53, N.

**MOSS-FA'EN, adj.** A term applied to trees, which have been hewed down, or overthrown by tempest or inundation, and gradually covered with *moss*, as lying where a morass has been formed; q. *moss-fallen*, S. B.

This is probably the origin of *Moss-faw*, in Fife used to denote a ruinous building. It may have received this sense only in a secondary way, or obliquely.

**MOSSEAW, s.** Any building in a ruinous state, Fife.

**MOSS-HAG, s.** Moss-ground that has formerly been broken up.

"I ne'er got ony gude by his doctrine, as ye ca't, but a gude fit o' the batts wi' sitting among the wat *moss-hags* for four hours at a yoking." Tales of my Landlord, ii. 167. V. *HAG*.

**MOSSMINGIN, s.** The name given in Clydes. to the Cranberry, *Myrtillus oxycoccus*.

**MOSS-TROOPER, s.** One of those "banditti who inhabited the marshy country of Liddisdale, and subsisted chiefly by rapine. People of this description in Ireland were called *Bogtrotters*, apparently for a similar reason." Gl. Sibb.

A fancied *moss-trooper*, the boy  
The truncheon of a spear bestrade,  
And round the hall, right merrily,  
In mimic foray rode.

*Lay of the Last Minstrel*, c. 1, st. 19.

"This was the usual appellation of the marauders upon the Border.—They are called *Moss-troopers*, because dwelling in the mosses, and riding in troops together. They dwell in the bounds, or meeting, of two kingdoms, but obey the laws of neither. They come to church as seldom as the 29th of February comes into the kalendar." Fuller's *Worthies*, *Ibid.* N.

This is ridiculously defined, in Bailey's *Dict.*, "A sort of robbers which were in the northern parts of Scotland."

[**MOST, s.** A mast, Mearns.]

**MOSTED, adj.** Crop-eared, Moray.

"The elf-bull is small, compared with earthly bulls, of a mouse-colour; *mosted* (crop-eared), with short corky horns." Northern *Antiq.*, p. 405.

Fr. *mousse*, "dulled, blunted, made edgelesse, or pointlesse;" Cotgr.

[**MOSTURE, MOSTOUR, s.** A muster, a parade; pl. *mostouris*, Lyndsay, *Exper.* and *Court.*, l. 3021.]

**MOT, aux. v.** May, S.

I find that the *v.* occurs in this form in O. E. V. *MAT.*

**MOT, s.** A word, Fr.

"Yet I may wryte un *mot* to your L. quhilk the Laird of Loffynorys schew me, sayand, That thair wes deverse of the new sect of the principallis that are in thir partis, that said till him, that I wes nocht qualifiet to resonne with Willok, because he wes chosen Primat of thair religioun in this realme, and I wes bot ane meyne man in our estait; swa that thair wes nane qualifiet to resonne with him bot my Lord of Sanct Androis." Crosraguell to Abp. of Glasgow, Keith's *Hist.*, App. p. 194.

[**TO MOTCH, v. a.** 1. To consume or waste imperceptibly, Banffs.

2. To eat slowly, quietly, daintily, *ibid.*]

[**MOTCHIN, MOTCHAN.** 1. As a *s.*, the act of wasting or consuming imperceptibly; the act of eating slowly, daintily, *ibid.*

2. As an *adj.*, fond of dainties, with the idea of eating in secret, *ibid.*]

\* **MOTE, s.** A crumb, a very small piece of any thing, Roxb.

**TO MOTE, v. a.** 1. To pick motes out of anything.

2. Used, by the vulgar, as a more delicate word for the act of lousing one's self or another, S.

3. *v. n.* Metaph. to use means for discovering imperfections.

Fer ethar is, quha syt down and *mote*,  
Ane vther sayaris faltis to spy and note,  
Than but offence or falt thame self to wryte.

*Doug. Virgil*, 485, 42.

**TO MOTE the blankets.** When a patient endeavours to pick imaginary specks from the bed-clothes, he is said to *mote* the blankets, which is regarded as a prognostication of immediate death.

"When I cam in an' saw her *moting the blankets*, I cried,—'Eh, sirs, will naeboddy rin for a minister.'" S. B.

**MOTTIE, MOTTY, adj.** Full of motes, S.

Syne in a clap, as thlick's the *motty* sin,  
They hamphis'd her with unco fike and din.

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 63.

*Sin*, i. e., sun.

"*Mottie*, full of motes or atoms;" Gl. Sibb.

**MOTE, s.** 1. A little hill or eminence, a barrow or tumulus.

"Efter this victory the Scottis and Pichtis with displayit banner convenit on ane lytyll *mote*." Bellend. *Cron.*, Fol. 8, b.

The reuthfull than and deuote prince Enee  
Performyt dewly thy funerall seruyce  
Apoun the sepulture, as custome was and gyse,  
Ane hepe of erd and litill *mote* gart vprayis.

*Doug. Virgil*, 204, 29.

Rudd. gives various derivations of this word; but he seems to have overlooked the true one, which is certainly A.-S. *mot*, Isl. *mote*, *conventus hominum*, a meeting; applied to a little hill, because anciently conventions were held on eminences: hence *Folkmote*, A.-S. Thus Spenser, as quoted by Johns.

"Those *hills* were appointed for two special uses, and built by two several nations. The one is that which you call *folknotes*, and signifies in the Saxon a meeting of folk."

A.-S. *mote*, *gemote*, not only denoted a meeting, but also the place where it was held. V. Lye. Hence our *Mote-hill* of Scone derived its name. It is also called *Omnia Terra*, which is supposed to refer to its being formed by earth brought thither by the Barons and other subjects, which they laid before the king. V. Skene, *Not. in Leg. Malc.*, c. 1, s. 2. But this is evidently a fable. Our Scotch kings anciently held their courts of justice on this tumulus; whence it was called *Mons Placiti de Seona*. It is indeed most probable, that it was formed artificially; as there is ground to suppose, the most of these hills were. Mounts are often called *Laws*, for the same reason for which these are called *Motes*, because the people *met* here, for the dispensation of *justice*. The phrase *Mons Placiti* is merely a version of *Mote-hill*, or *Mute-hill*, *Leg. Malc.* ut sup. For anciently the convention of the different orders of a state was called *Placitum*.

*Placita* vocabant, *conventus publicos totius regni ordinum, quibus reges ipsi præerunt, et in quibus de arduis regni negotiis et imminentibus bellis tractabatur.* *Annalis Francor.* Bertinian. An. 763. Pipinus Rex habuit *placitum* suum Nivernis. Du Cange. *Mota* was used in the same sense with *Placitum*, *curia*, *conventus*; apparently formed from the A.-S. word.

Du Cange shews that *Malbergium* has the same meaning, in the Salic Law, with *Mons Placiti*, or *Mute-hill*, in ours; from L. B. *mall-vm*, *placitum*, a place of public convention, where judgment was given: Dan. *male*, *mval*, a cause or action, and *berg*, *mons*. Hence many

places are still called *Molls*, because in ancient times these assemblies were held there. It has been supposed that A.-S. *mot*, *gemot*, may be traced to Goth. *motastada* used Luk., vii. 27, to denote the place of custom, q. the *moot-stadt*, or place of meeting. However, a very ancient scholiast on Mat., xxii. 19, *Shew me a penny*, renders the A.-S. word as signifying, *mot thaes cyning*. Now it has been observed by Junius, that if this mean *numisma census*, it would be in vain to look for another origin of *motastada*. But there is still a strong presumption, that this word is allied to A.-S. *gemot*, especially as in Moes-G. we find the verb, *mot-jan*, to meet.

2. *Mote* is sometimes improperly used for a high hill, as for that on which the Castle of Stirling is built.

"The Castell was not only strang be wallis, bot richt strenthly be nature of the crag, standing on ane hye *mote*, quhare na passage was, bot at ane part." Bellend. Cron., B. xiv. c. 10.

3. A rising ground, a knoll, S. B.

When he was full within their hearing got,  
With dreadful voice from off a rising *mot*,  
He call'd to stop.—

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 120.

V. MUTE, s. and v.

MOTH, *adj.* Warm, sultry, Loth.; perhaps the same with *Moch*, *mochy*, q. v. the air being close.

MOTHER, s. *The mother on beer*, &c., the lees working up, S. Germ. *moder*, id.

MOTHER-BROTHER, s. A maternal uncle.

—"The lordis would in no wayes—consent that the king sould pas in England at that time himself, to vse sick rigour and malice to his *mother-brother*." Pit-scottie's Cron., p. 401.

"Avunculus, the *mother-brother*." Wedderburn's Vocab., p. 11.

Sw. *moderbroder*, an uncle by the mother's side.

MOTHER-NAKED. V. MODYR-NAKYD.

MOTHER-SISTER, s. A maternal aunt.

"Matertera, the *mother-sister*." Wedd. Vocab., p. 11.

MOTHER-WIT, s. Common sense, sagacity, discretion, S. q. that wisdom which one has by birth, as distinguished from that which may be viewed as the fruit of instruction.

"No *mother-wit*, naturall philosophie, or carnall wisdom, is a sufficient rule to walk by in a way acceptable to God." Ferguson on Ephesians, p. 361.

"An ounce of *mother-wit*, is worth a pound of clergy;" Ferguson's S. Prov., p. 7.

[MOTHEWORT, s. 1. The mole, Banffs.

2. A person of small stature and dark complexion, with a profusion of hair, *ibid.*]

MOTTIE, *adj.* V. under MOTE.

[MOTTIE, *adj.* Profane, Banffs.]

MOTTYOCH'D, *part. adj.* Matted. V. MUTTYOCH'D.

MOU, s. The notch in the end of the beam, into which the rope used in drawing a plough, is fastened, Orkn.

MOU-PIN, s. A pin which fastens this rope to the beam, *ibid.*

[MOUCHT, *pret.* Might, Barbour, xvii. 118. V. MOCHT.]

MOUD, s. A moth, Selkirks.

His coat was thred about wi' green,  
The *mouds* had wrought it muckle harm,  
The poutches war an ell atween,  
The cuff was faldit up the arm.  
*Hogg's Mountain Bard*, p. 193.

The friendly breeze and nipping frost,  
The *mouds* assail'd;  
And put to rest ilk fretting host,  
That had prevail'd.

A. *Scott's Poems*, p. 83.

Chaucer writes *moughte*. Alem. *modo*, id.

MOUDIE, MOWDIE, s. A mole, S. V. MOWDIE.

"It's better than lying deep i' the cauld grund among *moudies* and shank banes." Blackw. Mag., June, 1820, p. 288.

An abbrev. of *Moldiewarp*, or *Moldiwart*; or of Su.-G. *mullwad*, which has the same meaning.

[MOUDIE-HILLAN, s. A mole-hill, Davidson's Seasons. V. HILLAN.]

MOUDIE-SKIN, s. A mole's skin.

The shilling moves the prison hold within,  
And scorns the limits of the *mouly-skin*.  
*Village Fair*, *Blackw. Mag.*, Jan. 1821, p. 425.

"*Mole-skin*, of which the purses of the Scottish peasantry were frequently made. It was reckoned lucky to possess one." Note.

[MOUGILDINS, s. *pl.* Piltacks or sillacks roasted with the livers inside them, Shetl.]

MOULD-BOARD, s. A wooden board on the Scottish plough, which turned over the furrow, S.

"She—endeavoured to counteract the effects it might produce—by such an education as might put him above the slightest thought of sacks [socks?], coulthers, stilts, *mould-boards*, or any thing connected with the servile drudgery of the plough." *The Pirate*, i. 72.

TO MOULIGH, v. n. To whimper, to whine, Ayr.

Isl. *moegl-a*, to murmur, *moegl*, act of murmuring. Teut. *muyl-en*, to project the snout from displeasure or indignation, to mutter, to murmur; from *muyl*, the mouth. This nearly resembles *Moolat*, v.

Ir. Gael. *maoligh-am*, to become dull, stupid.

MOULS, MOWLES, s. *pl.* Chilblains; now vulgarly denominated *Mooly heels*.

"*Pernio*, the *mouls*." Wedderb. Vocab., p. 19.

"*The Mowles*." Despaut. Gram., B. 7, b.

*Mowle* had been used in O. E. in a general sense.

"*Mowle soore*, [i.e., a sore]. *Pustula*." Prompt. Parv.

This had been the ancient name. V. MULES. The Dutch seem to view this disease with particular

detestation, if we may judge from two of the names given to it, both referring, like the vulgar designation, to the *heel*. These are *Kakhielen* and *Schythielen*. V. Nemnich, vo. *Perniones*.

### MOULY HEELS. V. MULES.

\* To MOUNT, *v. n.* To make ready, to make all necessary preparation for setting off, S.

I plays my part, and lats them win awa',  
I mounts, and with them aff what we could ca'.

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 70.

Borrowed, it would seem, from the idea of getting on horseback, in order to set off on an expedition.

It is often used actively in regard to apprelling one's self, S. Johns. gives a sense of the *v.* in E. though without any example, nearly allied, "to embellish with ornaments." This seems, however, to respect jewellery and other work of a similar kind.

### MOUNTAIN-DEW, *s.* A term for Highland whisky, S.

"One of the shepherds, who had all come down from the mountain-heights, and were collected together, (not without a quech of the *mountain-dew*, or water of life,) in a large shed, was sent out to bring the poor girl instantly into the house." *Lights and Shadows*, p. 372.

"The spectators and combatants adjourned to the inn, where bread, cheese, and *mountain-dew* were liberally provided for them." *Edin. Even. Cour.*, Jan. 22, 1821.

### MOUNTAIN DULSE. Mountain Laver, S. *Ulva Montana*, Linn.

MOUNTAIN-MEN, *s. pl.* 1. The persecuted Presbyterians in Scotland, who, during the tyrannical reigns of Charles II. and his brother James, were forced to flee to the mountains for refuge, S. V. HILL-FOLK.

"You know, said he, my son is come over to me lately, by whom I heard from my friends in the Highlands and Lowlands, and have good assurance of assistance from them, as also from a foot of our party in Scotland, called the *Mountaine Men*." *Sir P. Hume's Narrative*, p. 22.

2. The Presbyterians in this country, who do not acknowledge the lawfulness of the present civil government; as adhering to the principles of those who disowned the authority of Charles II. and James; S.

### MOUNTH, *s.* A mountain. V. MONTH.

MOUNTING, *s.* The ornamental trimming and furniture of any piece of dress, S.

"There is a lightness in cloathing as to colour, *mounting* as they call it, &c., and in dressing of the body, which may be seen in these dressings of the hair, in powderings, laces, ribbon, points, &c., which are so much in use with gallants of the time." *Durham, X. Command*, p. 363.

In E. *mount* is used as a *v.* signifying "to embellish with ornaments."

To MOUP, *v. a.* 1. To nibble, to mump; "generally used of children, or of old people, who have but few teeth, and make their lips

move fast, though they eat but slow;" Gl. Ramsay, S. pron. *moop*.

For fault of fude constrenyt so thay war  
The vthir metis all consumyt and done,  
The parings of thare brede to *moup* vp sone.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 208, 48.

My sheep and kye neglect to *moup* their food,  
And seem to think as in a dumpish mood.  
*Ramsay's Poems*, ii, 15.

O, may thou ne'er forgather up  
Wi' ony blastit, moorland toop;  
But ay keep mind to *moop* an' mell  
Wi' sheep o' credit like thysel!

*Burns*, iii, 79.

In the same sense a mouse is said "to *moup* at cheese," *Rudd*.

2. Used metaph., to impair by degrees.

"Ye have been bred about a mill, ye have *mouped* a' your manners;" *Ramsay's S. Prov.*, p. 82.

Probably corrupted from E. *mump*, which *Seren*. derives from Sw. *mums-a*, and this from *mun*, the mouth, q. *muns-a*, to labour with the mouth.

To MOUP, *v. n.* To fall off, to fail; *He's beginnin* to *moup*, he begins to fall off, S.

It is more generally applied to the external appearance, and equivalent to the phrase, *He looks moupit-like*, He resembles what has been nibbled or frittered away.

To MOUPER, *v. a.* To eat in the way of continued nibbling, *Roxb.*; a diminutive from *Moup*, *v. a.*

MOUPIN, *s.* V. under MOU.

MOURIE, *s.* 1. Gravel mingled with sand in its natural stratum, *Moray*.

[2. A gravelly sea-beach, *Banffs.*]

Isl. *moer*, solum grumis sterilibus obsitum; *G. Andr.*

MOURY, *adj.* Apparently, mellow, S.

"Make the land *moury* and soft, and open the same before it be sown with any sort of seed." *A. Napier's New Order of Gooding and Manuring*, *Trans. Antiq. Soc.*, ii, 154.

Su.-G. Isl. *mior*, tener, whence Isl. *miork-a*, tenuare; *mor*, pulvis minutus; *moer*, arvina; Su.-G. *moer*, mollis; Teut. *morwe*, mollis, tener; Sax. *moehr*; A.-S. *maerwa*, id.

MOUSE, *s.* The outmost fleshy part of a leg of mutton, when dressed; the bulb of flesh on the extremity of the shank, S. pron. *moose*. When roasted, it formerly used to be prepared with salt and pepper.

Teut. *muys*, carnosa pars in corpore; Belg. *muys van de hand*, the muscle of the hand, or the fleshy part between the thumb and middle finger; Alem. *musi*, lacerti; Raban. de part. corp. ap. Schilter.

[MOUSKIT, *adj.* Mouse-coloured, *Shetl.* Norse, *muskut*, id.]

MOUSE-WEB, *s.* V. MOOSE-WEB.

To MOUT, *v. n.* To moult, to throw the feathers, S.

"Anentis birdis and wylde foulis,—that na man destroy thair nestis, nor thair eggis, nor yit slay wylde foulis in *mouting* tyme." *Acts Ja. II.*, 1457, c. 94, Edit. 1566, c. 85. *Murray*.

It was written *mute* in O. E. "I *mute* as a hauke or birde dothe his fethers." Palsgr. B. iii. F. 305, b.  
Teut. *muyt-en*, plumas amittere sive mutare.

To **MOUT** *awa'*, (pron. *moot*) *v. a.* To take away piecemeal, S. nearly allied in signification to E. *fritter*.

[To **MOUTEN**, *v. a.* To melt, Banffs.]

To **MOUTER**, **MOUTLE**, *v. a.* The same with *mout awa'*, S.

This is probably derived from the verb *Mout*; or synon. with it, as Teut. *muyter-en* is used in the same sense with *muyt-en*, to mout. It might, however, be viewed as an oblique sense of the verb immediately preceding, because of the great diminution of the quantity of grain sent to a mill, in consequence of the various dues exacted in kind.

To **MOUTER**, *v. n.* To fret, to fall off in consequence of friction or some similar cause, Loth.

I hesitate whether the term, as thus used, is not a corr. of E. *moulder*, as it is applied to friable stones, rotten wood, &c.

**MOUTIT**, *part. pa.* Diminished, from whatever cause; scanty, bare.

This is applied both to things and to persons. Bread is said to be *moutit awa'*, when gradually lessened. It especially respects the conduct of children in carrying it away piecemeal in a clandestine manner. A person is said to be *moutit*, or *moutit-like*, when he waxes lean from a decline, or decreases in size from any other cause.

It is the same word which Doug. uses to express the stunted appearance of declining trees:

Not [nocht] throw the soil bot muskane treis sprowtit;—  
Auld rottin runtis quhairn na sap was leifit;  
Moch, all waist, widderit with granis *moutit*.

*Palace of Honour*, x. 3. Edin. Edit. 1579.

i. e., naked boughs or branches. *Quhairn* is evidently an errat. for *quhairin*. V. Moch.

It is probably, as Sibb. conjectures, a metaph. sense of S. *mout*, E. *moult*, to cast the feathers; Teut. *muyt-en*, id. Lat. *mut-o*, *-are*, to change, is viewed as the radical word. Nor can any resemblance more fitly express the idea of decrease or diminution, than that borrowed from the appearance of a bird when *moulting*. It must be observed, however, that Germ. *muss-en* simply signifies to lop, to curtail; also, *mutz-en*, Belg. *moets-en*, Ital. *mozz-are*, id. Hence, according to Wachter, E. *moot*, to pluck up by the roots; and, Fr. *mouton*, aries castratus; and a phrase used by the Swiss, *mutschly brots*, frustum panis.

**MOUTCHIT**, **MUTCHIT**, *s.* A disrespectful term applied to children; similar to *smatchet*, Teviotd. Fr. *mouschette*, a small fly.

To **MOUTER**, *v. a.* To take multure, or the fee in kind, for grinding corn, S.

It is good to be merry and wise,  
Quoth the miller, when he *mouter'd* twice.

V. **MULTURE**. *Ramsay's S. Prov.* p. 45.

[**MOUHFU'**, *s.* A mouthful, S.]

**MOUTH-POKE**, *s.* The bag suspended from a horse's neck, out of which he eats his corn, S.

[**MOUHTH-THANKLES**, *s.* The Vulva, pubes mulieris, Lyndsay, Answer to the Kingis Flyting, l. 33.]

To **MOUTLE**, *v. a.* Same as *To Mouter*, q. v.; pron. q. *mootle*, Clydes. *Mout*, synon. Roxb.

**MOUTON**, *s.* A French gold coin brought into S. in the reign of David II.

"This gold coin had the impression of the *Agnus Dei*, which the vulgar mistook for a sheep; hence it got the ridiculous name of *mouton*." Lord Hailes, *Annals*, ii. 231.

The meaning undoubtedly is, that this name was imposed by the vulgar in France.

To **MOUZE**, *v. n.* To plunder clandestinely.

"I would exhort by the way all worthy soldiers, who aime at credit, never to give themselves to *mouze* or plunder aside from the armie, lest they be punished, in dying ignominiously by the hands of cruell tyrants." *Monro's Exped.* P. II., p. 124.

Teut. *muyt-en*, tacite quaerere, abdita magno silentio inquirere; an emblem borrowed from the cat.

To **MOVE OF**, *v. n.* To descend according to a certain lineage, in reference to heritable property.

"The said personia has erit because thair fand the said James Callirwood lauchful are to the said vmquhile Patric Moffet, of the saidis landis, he nocht beand lauchfully descendit of the kyne & blude that the landis *movit of*, nouthir of faderis side nor moderis side." Act. Dom. Conc., A. 1479, p. 42.

Fr. *mouv-oir* "as *relever*, to hold land of;" L. B. *mov-ere*, dependere. De feudis dicitur, quae certis aerviis sunt obnoxia, et ab alio dependunt; Du Cange.

**MOVIR**, **MOUIR**, **MURE**, *adj.* Mild, gentle.

The Kyng than mad hym this answare  
On *movir* and on fayre manere.

*Wyntown*, vii. 6. 102.

Mr. MacPherson inquires, if this be "the same with *mure* in B. Harry?" It certainly is.

Ladyis wepyt, that was bathe mylde and *mur*.

*Wallace*, ii. 209, MS.

Perhaps from Belg. *morwe*, *murw*, Su.-G. *moer*, A.-S. *mearu*, mollis, Alem. *murwi*, tencritudine; Schilter. Hence,

**MOVIRLY**, **MOVYRLY**, *adv.* Mildly.

The Kyng than herd hym *movyrlly*,  
And answeyrd hym all gudlykly.

*Wyntown*, vi. 18. 243.

**MOW**, **MOUE**, *s.* 1. A heap, a pile; generally of grain, S. *bing*, synon.

He tuk a cultir hate glowand,  
That yeit wis in a fyr brynnand,  
And went him to the mekill hall,  
That then with corn wes fyllyt all;  
And heych wp in a *mow* it did;  
Bot it full lang wes nocht thar hid.

*Barbour*, iv. 117, MS.

A *mow* off corn he gyhyt thaim about,  
And cloyt weill, nane mycht persaive without.

*Wallace*, xi. 333, MS.

—Quhen the grete *bing* was vpbeildit hale,—  
Aboue the *move* the foresaid bed was maid,  
Quharin the figure of Enee scho layd.

*Doug. Virgil*, 117, 43.

Palsgrave explains *hey-move*, las de foyne; B. iii. F. 39, b.

I'll instantly set all my hines to thrashing  
Of a whole reeke of corne, which I will hide  
Under the ground; and with the straw thereof  
I'll stuff the out-sides of my other *mowes*.  
That done, I'll have 'hem emptie all my garners.  
*Ben. Jonson's Works*, i. 83.

[2. A heap of unthrashed grain, or of straw  
or hay, West of S., Banffs.]

The term is used more generally than in E.; for we say, a *Peat-mow*, a rick of peats, as well as *Barley-mow*, &c., S. Hence the phrase, "Success to the *Barley-mow*."

The S. word retains the sense of A.-S. *mowe*, *acervus*. This, I suspect, is also the proper sense of the E. word, although explained by Johnson, as denoting the "*loft* or *chamber* where any corn or hay is laid up."

MOW (pron. *moo*), *s.* 1. The mouth, S.

In cairful bed full oft, in myne intout,  
To tuitche I do appear  
Now syde nor [now] breist, now suet *mow* redolent,  
Of that suet bodye deir.

*Mailland Poems*, p. 216.

Fr. *moue* is used for the mouth, but rather as expressing an ungraceful projection of the lips. *Mow* may be from Su.-G. *mun*, os, oris; but perhaps rather from Teut. *muyll*, id.; *l* being generally sunk, at the end of a word, according to the S. pronunciation. I can scarcely think, that it is E. *mouth*, A.-S. *muth*, softened in pronunciation, although generally printed in our time, *mou'*, as if this were the case. For I recollect no instance of *th* being quiescent in S.

2. A distorted mouth, an antic gesture.

—And Brownys als, that can play kow,  
Behind the claitch with mony a *mow*.  
*Roull's Cursing, MS. Gl. Compl.*, p. 330.

3. Used in pl. in the sense of jest. *Is it mows or earnest*; Is it in jest or seriously?  
*Nae mows*, no jest, S.

The millar was of manly mak,  
To meit him was nae *mowis*.  
*Chr. Kirk*, st. 19.

Thair was nae *mowis* thair them amang;  
Naithing was hard but heavy knocks.  
*Battle Harlaw, Evergreen*, i. 86, st. 19.

O.E. "*mowe*, a scorne, [Fr.] *move*;" Palsgr. B. iii. F. 49, b.

Callender observes that Su.-G. *mopa*, signifies illudere. But *mys-a*, subridere, has more resemblance. It seems, however, borrowed from Fr. *faire le moué*, to make mouths at one.

To Mow, *v. n.* To jest, to speak in mockery.

Now tritill trattill, trow low,  
(Quod the third man) thou dois bot *mow*.  
*Lyndsay's Warkis*, 1592, p. 267.

O.E. id. "I *mowe* (with the mouthe), I mocke one; Je fays la moue;" Palsgr. B. iii. F. 304, b.

MOWAR, *s.* A mocker, one who holds up others to ridicule.

Juvenall, like ane *mowar* him allone,  
Stude scornand everie man as they yeld by.  
*Palice of Honour*, ii. 51.

From *mow*, *s.* 2, q. v.

MOWR, *s.* "Mock, jeer, flout;" Upp. Clydes.

Wl' mop an' *mowr*, an' glars an' glowr,  
Grim faces girn over the waves.  
*Marmaiden of Clyde, Edin. Mag. May*, 1820.

O. Teut. *morre*, os cum prominentibus labris; *morren*, grunnire; murmurare; tacite stomachare; Kilian; q. "to make mouths." This *mowr* is nearly allied in sense to E. *mop* conjoined with it, which is defined by Johnson, "a vry mouth made in contempt."

To MOW-BAND, *v. a.* To mention, to articulate, S.

Keep her in tune the best way that you can,  
But never *mow-band* till her onie man;  
For I am far mistaen, gin a' her care  
Spring not frae some of them that missing are.

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 41.

It is sometimes applied to cramp terms; at other times to those which are so indelicate that they ought not to be expressed, S.

And gossips, and het pints, and clashin',  
Mony a lie was there;  
And mony an ill-far'd tale, too,  
That I to *mow-band* wad blush.

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

This may be from Fr. *moue* and *band-er*, q. to bind the mouth. But I suspect that it is rather an oblique sense of Teut. *muyll-band-en*, capistrare, capistrum imponere, fiscellam ori appendare; Kilian, to muzzle. V. *Mow*.

MOW-BAND, *s.* A halter, Ayrs.

"*Mow-band*, halter;" Gl. Surv. Ayrs., p. 692.  
Teut. *muyll-band*, capistrum; *muyll-band-en*, capistrare.

MOW-BIT, *s.* A morsel of food, S.

Wl' skelps like this fock sit but seculd down  
To wether-gammon or how-towdy brown;  
Sair dung wl' dule, and fley'd for coming debt,  
They gar their *mou-bits* wl' their incomes met.  
*Fergusson's Poems*, ii. 75.

q. a *bit* for the *mouth*.

MOW-CUE, *s.* A twisted halter used for curbing a young horse, Roxb.

Perhaps from S. *mow*, the mouth, or Su.-G. *mul*, id., and *kufwa*, Isl. *kug-a*, supprimere, subjugare.

MOW-FRACHTY, *adj.* Agreeable to the taste, palatable, S.B.

From *mou*, *mow*, the mouth, and *frachty*. This, as signifying *desireable*, might be traced to Moes.-G. *friks*, avidus, cupidus; pl. *frikai*, used in composition. But perhaps it is rather from *fracht*, a freight or lading; q. an agreeable freight for the mouth.

[To MOW, *v. a.* and *n.* The vulgar pron. of *to mow*, to amble, to ride; also, to copulate; pret. *mowit*, Lyndsay, Kitteis Confessioun, l. 16.]

MOWBEIRARIS, *s. pl.* Apparently, gleaners who plunder the sheaves.

"That ther sall be na *mowbeiraris* upon paine of sliting of their sheitis, and standing in the *Brauld-yeane*." Council Book B. of Ayr; A. 15.—  
As this seems to respect the practice of gleaning in harvest, the term must denote *bearers of heaps*, viz., of ears gathered, to which they might occasionally add handfuls taken from the sheaves; from A.-S. *mowe*, *acervus*, strues; whence, says Lye, nostra *Mow*, *acervus feni*, hordei, &c. As they carried home their spoil in *sheets*, part of the punishment consisted in *slitting* these, that they might be prevented from again employing them for the same purpose. V. BRAIDYEANE.

**MOWCH**, *s.* A spy, an eavesdropper.

Auld berdit *mowch*! gude day! gude day!  
*Lyndsay, S. P. Repr.*, ii. 126.

Fr. *mousche, mouche*, id.

This is evidently the same with *Mush*, as it is now pronounced. V. **MUSH**.

**MOWDEWARP**, *s.* A mole. V. under **MOWDIE**.

**MOWDIE**, **MOWDY**, **MOUDIE**, *s.* A mole, S. A., Dumfr., Gall.

Wi' hungry maw he scoors frae knowe to knowe,  
In hopes of food in *mowdy*, mouse, or streaw.  
*Davidson's Poems*, p. 4.

V. what is said, as to the origin, under **MOUDIE**.

**MOWDIE-BROD**, *s.* A wooden board on the Scottish plough, which turned over the furrow, now exchanged for a cast-iron plate denominated a *Fur-side*, S.

This is probably a corr. of *Mould-board*. V. **MOWDIEWORT-BURD**.

**MOUDY-HILLAN**, *s.* A mole-hill, Gall.

They—round a tammock wheel, an', fleggin, toss  
The *moudy-hillan* to the air in stoor.

*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 25.

V. **HILLAN**.

**MOWDIE-HILLOCK**, *s.* A heap of earth thrown up by a mole, South of S.

**MOWDIE-HOOP**, *s.* A mole-hill, Fife; from *Mowdie*, a mole, and Teut. *hoop*, a heap.

**MOWDIE-MAN**, *s.* A mole-catcher, Gall.

"*Mowdie-men*, mole-catchers;" Gall. Encycl.

**MOWDIEWARK**, **MOWDEWARP**, **MODYWARP**, *s.* A mole, Upp. Lanarks. V. **MODYWART**.

"Let the bishops be *mowdewarps*: we will lay our treasures in heaven, where they be safe." Lett., A. Melville, Life, ii. 446, 447.

From *mold*, terra, and *weorpan*, jactare. It is provincial E.; for Verstegan says vo. *Awarpen*, "We call, in some parts of England, a mole, a *mouldwarp*, which is as much as to say a cast-earth." [Isl. *mold-varpa*, Ger. *maul-wurf*.]

**MOWDIEWORT-BURD**, *s.* The mould-board of a plough, Fife; elsewhere *mowdiewarp-burd*; as *throwing up the mold*, like a mole.

**MOWDIWART**, *s.* A designation improperly given to a coin.

—"My kind master took out from between several of the button-holes in the breast of my great coat, two gold *mowdiwarts*, three silver marks, and several placks and bodles." Perils of Man, p. 306.

The Portuguese denomination of a gold coin, *moidor*, had been running in the author's head when he wrote this; for such a term was never applied to Scottish money.

**MOWE**, *s.* Dust, S.

Rudd., illustrating *mold*, by A.-S. *molde*, Fland. *mul*, &c., says; "Hence S. *mowe*, for dust, as *Peat mowe*, i.e., peat dust." V. **PEAT-MOW**.

**MOWE**, *s.* 1. A motion.

— Of all the *mowis* in this mold, sen God merkit man, &c.

*Doug. Virgil*, Prol. 239, a. 54.

*Move* is sometimes used as a *s.*, in the same sense, S.

[2. In pl. *mowse*, pron. *moos*, kindly thoughts, good opinion; as, "I hae nae *mowse* o' that laddie," Ayrs.]

**MOWELL**, *adj.* Moveable, Aberd. Reg.

**MOWENCE**, *s.* [Mutation, change; O. Fr. *muance*, id. V. **Cotgr.**]

Bot God, that is off maist powesté,  
Reserwyt till his maistesté,  
For to know, in his prescience,  
Off allryn tyme the *mowence*.

*Barbour*, i. 134, MS.

[Jamieson's explanations of this word were not correct.]

[**MOWIT**, *v. pret. s.* Had copulation, *Lyndsay, Kittis Confessioun*, l. 16. V. **MOLL**, *v.*]

[**MOWR**, *s.* V. under **Mow**, *s.*

[**MOWSE**, *adj.* Dangerous, Gl. Banffs.]

**MOWSTER**, *s.* Muster, exhibition of forces.

"In the mene tyme the erle of Ros come with mony folkis to Perth, & maid his *mowster* to the Kyng." *Bellend. Cron.*, B. xv. c. 13.

**MOY**, **MOYE**, *adj.* 1. Gentle, mild, soft.

I wald na langre beir on brydil bot braid up my heid:  
Their nicht na mollat mak me *moy*, nor hald my  
mouth in;

I gar the reijues rak, and ryf into schundy,  
*Dunbar, Mailland Poems*, p. 57.

Venus with this all glad and full of ioye,  
Amyd the heuinly hald, rycht mylde and *moye*,  
Before Jupiter down hir self set.

*Doug. Virgil*, 478, 44.

2. Affecting great moderation in eating or drinking; *mim*, synon.

"A bit butt, and bit bend [ben], make a *moy* maiden at the board end;" S. Prov.; "a jocose reflection upon young maids, when they eat almost nothing at dinner; intimating, that if they had not eaten a little in the pantry or kitchen, they would eat better at the table;" Kelly, p. 31.

*Moy* is used in the sense of demure, A. Bor. Gl. Grose.

Rudd. derives it from Fr. *mol* or *mou*, id. Lat. *mollis*; Sibb. from Tent. *moy*, comptus, ornatus. I suspect that it is radically the same with *meek*. For Su.-G. *miuk* seems to be formed from Isl. *myggia*, humiliare. Verel. indeed gives *ob-miuka* as the Sw. synon. In like manner, Schilter deduces Teut. *muyck*, mollis, lenis, debilis, from *muoh-en*, *mu-en*, *muro-en*, vexare, affligere. What is a *meek* person, but one who is tamed and softened by affliction? Thus, our *moy* is evidently used, in the first passage, in allusion to a horse that is tamed by restraint and correction. Gael. *modh*, however, signifies modest.

**MOYLIE**, *adv.* Mildly.

Lo how that little word of luv  
Before me thair appeird,  
Sae myld lyke and chyld lyk,  
With bow three quarters scant;  
Synne *moylie* and coylie,  
He lukit lyke ane sant.

*Cherrie and Slae*, st. 8.

MOY, s. A certain measure; "Ane moy of salt." Aberd. Reg., A. 1538, V. 16.

"Twenty twa moys of gryt salt." Ibid., A. 1535, V. 16, p. 693.

Fr. *moye* is "a measure containing about six bushels;" Cotgr. *Muid* and *muy*, "a great vessel, or measure;" *ibid.* O. Fr. *moyan*, a tun. Ir. Gael. *miach*, a bushel.

MOYAN, s. A species of artillery.

—"Two great canons thrown-mouthed, *Mow* and her marrow, with two great Botcards, and two *Moyans*." Pitscottie, p. 143. V. BOTCARD.

These have been called *moyans*, as being of a middle size, to distinguish them from those designed great; Fr. *moyen*, moderate. The term is still used, in this sense, in the artillery-service.

Anciently all the great guns were christened, as it was called, and had particular names given them. As these two, *Mow* and her marrow, i.e., fellow or mate, are said to have been *thrown-mouthed*, what is now denominated *spring-bored*, or unequal in the bore, they seem to be the same that are afterwards called *Crook Mow* and *Deaf Meg*, *ibid.*, p. 191. *Mons Meg* received her name, as having been made at *Mons* in Flanders.

MOYEN, MOYAN, s. 1. Means for attaining any end whatsoever; [pl. *moyens*, ability, capability, power, Shetl.]

"Therefore the Prophet so straitly denounced death, that the King may be moved to lift his hope above nature, and all naturall *moyen*, and of God onlie to seek support." Bruce's Eleven Sermon. 1591. Sign. B. 8, a. Lond. Ed.—"all natural means." V. the v. sense 1.

2. Interest, means employed in behalf of another, S.

"By *moyen* he [Bothwell] got presence of the King in the garden, where he humbled himself upon his knees." Calderwood, p. 243.

"*Moyen* does mickle, but money does more;" S. Prov. Kelly, p. 243.

In this sense, it is sometimes obviously distinguished from *means*.

—"Whatsomever they craved, the king is forced to yield unto them, and leaves his true subjects wrecked in means and *moyan*, distressed, and under great misery, tyranny, bloodshed, and oppression, and ilk aene to do for himself." Spalding, i. 334.

3. Means of subsistence, money appropriated for the support of men in public office.

"But the Church—thought meet to intercede with the Regent and Estates, for establishing a sure and constant order in providing men to those places, when they should fall void, and settling a competent *moyen* for their entertainment." Spotswood, p. 258.

*Be the moyan of*, by means of.

"Therefore the Apostle says, 1 Cor. 12, 13, that *be the moyan* of his halie spirite, all wee quha are faithfull men and women, are baptized in one bodie of Christ; that is wee are conjoynd, and fastened vp with ane Christ, *be the moyan* (says hee) of ane spirite." Bruce's Sermon on the Sacr., 1590, Sign. I. 2, h. 3, a.

4. Temporal substance, property.

—"That Thomas Fowllis goldsmith and Robert Jowsie haif not onlie deburst the maist pairt of their awin *moyane* and guidis in his heinis service, bot also hes contractit mony gret debitis for furnesing his maiestie—in jowellis, cleything, reddy mony, and vther necessaries," &c. Acts Ja. VI., 1597, Ed. 1814, p. 166.

5. Undue means, such as secret influence, bribery. Fount. Dec. Suppl., 3. 48.

Fr. *moyen*, a mean. Gael. *moigh-en* is used to denote interest.

To MOYEN, MOYAN, v. a. 1. To accomplish by the use of means.

"Alwaies yee see this conjunction is *moyaned* be twa speciall moyans, be the moyan of the halie spirit, and be the moyan of faith." Bruce's Sermon on the Sacr., 1590, H. 3, b.

2. To procure; implying diligence, and often also interest, in assisting another to procure, S.

*Moyent*. A *weill-moyent man*, one who has good means for procuring any thing, S. B.

Fr. *moyenn-er*, to procure. This verb was anciently used in E., as denoting the use of means for attaining an end.

"At whose instigation and stiring I (Robert Copland) have me applied, *moiening* the helpe of God, to reduce and translate it." Ames's Hist. Printing, V. Divers. Purley, i. 299. Fr. *moyennant*, id.

MOYENER, MOYANER, s. One who employs means in favour of another.

"He hath maid death to vs a farther steppe to joy, and a *moyaner* of a straiter conjunction." Bruce's Eleven Sermon., 1591, B. 7, a.

"Quhilk ar the *moyaners* vpon the part of man?" Bruce's Sermon on the Sacr. 1580, H. 1, a.

MOYENLES, *adj.* Destitute of interest; [powerless, inactive, Shetl.]

Bot simple sauls, unskilfull, *moyenles*,  
The pair quhome strang oppressors dois oppres,  
Few of their right or causes will take keip.

Hume, Chron. S. P. iii. 373.

MOYLIE, s. 1. "A bullock wanting horns;" Gall. Encycl.

Gael. Ir. *maol*, "bald, blunt, without horns;" C. B. *moel*, bald, blunt, *moel-i*, to make bald.

2. "A mild good-natured person, tame—even to silliness," *ibid.*

The Ir. and Gael. term seems to admit a figurative sense in its derivatives. *Maolagh-im*, to become dull or stupid; *maol-aigeantach*, dull-witted, stupid; *maol-chluasach*, tame, gentle, inactive. These are analogous to what I consider as the secondary sense of *Moylie*.

[MOYLIE, *adv.* Mildly. V. under MOY, *adj.*]

[MOYN, MOYNE, s. The moon, Barbour, iv. 617, 127.]

MOYND, s. Apparently used for *mine*.

"Item, ane uther peice of gold of the *moynd*, unmol-tin." Inventories, A. 1542, p. 63.

MOYT.

Studs at the durs *Fair calling* hir vschsr, —  
And *Secretee* hir thrifty chamberere,  
That besy was in tyme to do seruisse,  
And othir *moyt* I cannot on auisse.

King's Quair, iii. 24.

This seems to signify, many; from O. Fr. *moult*, *mout*, *adv.* much, beaucoup, Dict. Trev.; Lat. *mult-um*.

MOZIE, s. "A *moidert-looking* person; a being with silly intellects;" Gall. Encycl.

**MOZIE**, *adj.* Sharp, acrimonious, ill-natured, having a sour look, Ayrs.

This would not seem to have any alliance, in signification, with *Mozy*. Gael. *muiseag* is expl. "threatening," and *mosach*, "rough, bristly;" Shaw.

**MOZY**, *adj.* Dark in complexion; a *black mozy body*, one who is swarthy, S. Isl. *mos-a*, musco tingere?

**MUA SICKNESS**. A disease of sheep, Zetl.

"The *Mua sickness*, or rot, is also one of the diseases with which the Zetland sheep are affected. The insects which infest the liver in this complaint, are often three quarters of an inch in diameter, and flap vigorously on a table when removed from their nidus." Edmonstone's Zetl., ii. 224.

Norw. *moe*, signifies dampness, moisture, and *my*, Dan. *myg*, soft; Isl. *miøve*, tenuis fio.

**MUCH**, *adj.* Big, great; also used as a *s.*, a great deal; as in E.]

**MUCHNESS**, *s.* Likeness, similarity; as, "Much of a *muchness*, great similarity, Clydes.]

**MUCH**, *s.* An infant's cap; properly, a woman's cap.; pl. *muchis*, *mechys*, Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 39, 41, Dickson. Ger. *mutze*.]

**MUCHT**, *v. aux.* Might, S. O.

Through miles o' dirt they *mucht* hae strutted  
As dry's a cork.

*Picken's Poems*, 1788, p. 39.

V. MOCHT.

**MUCK**, *s.* Dung, S.; [filth, dirt, Clydes.]

I give this term, common to E. and S., merely to take notice of a coarse, but very emphatical, expression proverbially used in S., and applied to one who is regarded as a drone in society, and a burden to others. *Ye're just fit to mak muck o' meal*, good for nothing but to consume food, literally to convert it into dung. V. GANGREL.

Although the verb, as well as the substantive, is used in E., this is a sense apparently peculiar to S. Su.-G. *mock-a*, stabula purgare, *fimum auferre*; from *mock*, *fimus*, which I here seems to view as allied to Isl. *mock-a*, *coacervare*.

To **MUCK**, *v. a.* 1. To carry out dung, to cleanse the stable or cow-house, S.; [*to muck-out*, Shetl.]

Hence the name of the Jacobite song, *The mucking of Geordie's byre*.

2. To lay on dung, to manure, S.

But now she's gane to *muck* the land,

An' fairly dead.

*Ruickbie's Wayside Cottager*, p. 177.

Isl. *myk-ia*, *stercorare*, is used in the same sense: for Haldorson gives it as synon. with Dan. *giøcd-er*, S. to *gude*, *gudin*, i.e., to enrich by manure.

**MUCK-CREEL**, *s.* A large lamper formerly used for carrying out dung to the fields, S. This was sometimes carried by women on their backs, at other times by horses.

"Ane pair of *mukreliis*;" Aberd. Reg., A. 1538, V. 16. V. HOUGHAM.

"He will say, I cannot put my hand to such a worke: No, put thy hand to the pleugh, and lead *muck creeles*, and goe to the vylest exercise, that is rather ore thou win not thy living by worke." Rollock on 2 Thes., p. 147.

**MUCK-FAIL**, *s.* The sward mixed with dung, used for manure, S. B.

"The practice of cutting up sward for manure or *muck-fail*, was prohibited by an Act of Parliament, made for the county of Aberdeen, so long ago as 1685, under a penalty of 100l. Scots bolls, *tolies quoties*, to the masters of the ground." P. Alford, Aberd. Statist. Acc., xv. 456, N. There is some mistake here as to the penalty." V. FAIL.

[**MUCK-HOUSE**, *s.* Dung-shed; also, a privy, Ayrs.]

**MUCK-MIDDEN**, **MUCK-MIDDING**, *s.* A dung-hill. V. MIDDEN.

"The council 1703, ratifies ane old act, ordering the inhabitants, that nae of them sell, on any pretence, *muckmiddins*, or *foulyie*, to any persone not a burges or inhabitant of the toun's territorie." Ure's Hist. Rutherglen, p. 69.

[To **MUCKAFY**, *v. a.* To make dirty, to defile; to cover with ordure, Shetl.]

[**MUCKIE**, **MUCKY**, *adj.* Filthy, dirty; foul with ordure, Clydes.]

[**MUCKIE**, **MYCKIE**, **MUCKIE-HOUSE**, **MUCK-HOUSE**, *s.* A privy, Clydes.  
Isl. *myki*, dung.]

[**MUCKIE-FIT**, *s.* A ploughman, a farm labourer, Banffs.]

**MUCKLE**, *adj.* 1. Great; used also as a *s.* V. MEKIL.

[*Muckle an' nae little* is a phrase common in the West of S. to express very much, a great deal, a large sum of, &c.; as "Muckle an' nae little siller he gied him."]

[2. Proud, haughty, pretentious; as, "Aye, he's a *muckle wee laird*," Clydes., Banffs.]

[**MUCKLE-BOOKIT**, *adj.* 1. Large, full-bodied, overgrown, S.

2. Great with child, S.]

**MUCKLE-CHAIR**, *s.* An old-fashioned arm-chair, S.

"*Muckle-chair*, the large arm-chair, common in all houses, whose inmates revere the memory of their forefathers." Gall. Encycl.

**MUCKLE-COAT**, *s.* A great coat, S.

Our goodman came hame at e'en,

And hame came he,

And there he saw a *muckle coat*,

Where nae coat shou'd be.

*Herd's Coll.*, ii. 174.

"Tis true I have a *muckle coat*,

But how can I depend on't?

For ne'er a button's frae the throat,

Down to the nether end on't!

*Ruickbie's Wayside Cottager*, p. 158.

MUCKLE-MOU'D, *adj.* Having a wide mouth, S.

—What though her mou' be the maist I hae seen.

—*Muckle-mou'd* fock hae a luck for their meat.

*Hogg's Mountain Bard*, p. 63.

MUCKLENESS, *s.* Largeness in size, S.

MUCKLE-WORTH, *adj.* Of great value, S.

MUD, *s.* A small nail or tack, commonly used in the heels of shoes in the country, Loth.

It differs from what is called a *tacket*, as having a very small head.

[MUDDER, *s.* Fine dust or powder, Shetl. Fr. *moudre*, to grind.]

To MUDDLE, *v. a.* "To drive, beat, or throw," Gl. Sibb.; perhaps rather to overthrow; used to express the ease and expedition with which a strong man overthrows a group of inferior combatants, and at the same time continuance in his work.

Heich Hutchoun with ane hissil ryss,

To red can throw thame rummil;

He *muddlit* thame down lyk ony myss;

He was na baty-bummil.

*Chr. Kirk*, st. 16.

Allied perhaps to A.-S. *midl-an*, to tame; or Su.-G. *midl-a*, to divide, to make peace between those at variance.

To MUDDLE, *v. n.* 1. To be busy at work, while making little progress, S. *Pingle*, synon. *Niddle*, is also nearly allied in signification.

2. To be busy in a clandestine way, doing work although unperceived, Ayr.; nearly synon. with *Grubble*.

"I'll gang warily and cannily o'er to Castle Rooksbrough mysel, and *muddle* about the root o' this affair till I get at it." Sir A. Wylie, ii. 21.

"The worthy lawyer—had been for some time in ill health, and unable to give regular attendance to his clients at the office, 'symptoms,' as the Leddy said when she heard it,—'that he felt the cauld hand o' death *muddling* about the root o' life.'" Entail, ii. 244.

It has been remarked to me that *Muddle* and *Puddle* convey nearly the same idea; with this difference, that the one regards dry, and the other wet, work.

3. To have carnal knowledge of a female, S. In this sense it occurs in an old song.

Teut. *moedelick*, molestus, laboriosus; *moed*, Su.-G. *moeda*, molestia.

To MUDDLE, *v. a.* To tickle a person, at the same time lying upon him to keep him down, Clydes.

This seems allied to Teut. *moddel-en*, fodicare, scrutari; as he who tickles another as it were *pokes* with his finger.

[MUDE, *s.* Courage, Barbour, xix. 622. A.-S. *mód*. V. MODE.]

MUDY, *adj.* V. MODY.

[MUD-FISH. Fish salted in barrels, Shetl.]

To MUDGE, *v. a.* 1. To move, to stir, to budge, S.

"My brither took the naig by the heid, to lead him hame.—Nowther fleechan nor whippan could mak him *mudge* a fit." Edin. Mag., Sept. 1818, p. 155.

"Ye may gang,—and lay the black kist i' the kirk-yard hole, but I'll no *mudge* the ba' o' my muckle tae in ony sic road." The Entail, i. 309.

[2. To rumour secretly; part. pr. *mudgin*, used also as a *s.*, Banffs.]

MUDGE, *s.* A motion, the act of stirring; also a rumour, S.

MUDGEONS, MUDYEONS, *s. pl.* Motions of the countenance denoting discontent, scorn, &c., Border, Roxb., Renfr.

With *mudyeons*, & *murgeons*, & moving the brain,

They lay it, they lift it, they louse it, they lace it;

They grap it, they grip it, it greets and they grane;

They bed it, they baw it, they bind it, they brace it.

*Montgomery, Watson's Coll.*, iii. 21.

This is quite a different word from *Murgeon*, which is now used to signify expressions of discontent, &c., by the voice; although the *v.* seems to have admitted formerly greater latitude of signification. They have still been viewed as totally different. For *Mudgeon* is evidently the same with that anciently written *Mudyeon*, and generally conjoined with it.

[Dutch, *moeyen*, to trouble, grieve, anger, *moeyenis*, trouble, vexation.]

[MUDVITE, MUDVEETICK, *s.* A swine, Shetl.]

MUDY. V. MODY.

MUDYEON, *s.* V. MUDGEONS.

To MUE, MOO, *v. n.* To low as a cow. It is pron. in both ways, S.

Germ. *mu*, vox vaccae naturalis; Inde *muhe*, bucula, *muh-en*, mugire; Wachter. V. BU, *v.*

[MUFF, *s.* An oppressive heat; also, a disagreeable smell, Shetl.]

MUFFITIES, MUFFITEES, *s. pl.* A kind of mittens, made either of leather or of knitted worsted, worn by old men, often for the purpose of keeping their shirts clean, Ang.

The term is used in the same sense, Orkn. [Isl. *muffa*, Dan. *maffe*, a muff.]

MUFFLES, *s. pl.* Mittens, gloves that do not cover the fingers, used by women, S.

Fr. *mouffle*, Belg. *mouffel*, a glove for winter.

To MUG, MUGGLE, *v. n.* To drizzle, Aberd.

MUG, MUGGLE, *s.* A drizzling rain, *ibid.*

MUGGY, MUGGLY, *adj.* Drizzly; also, thick, foggy, *ibid.*

Isl. *mugga*, caligo pluvia vel nivalis; *mygling-r*, caligo cum tenuissimo ningore; Haldorson.

To MUG, *v. a.* To soil, to defile. *Muggin*, part. pr. soiling one's self, using dirty practices in whatever way; Renfrews.

Dan. *moug*, soil, dirt; the same with *E. muck*.

To MUG, *v. a.* "To strike or *buck* a ball out from a wall, as is done in the game of the *wa' baw*;" Gall. Encycl.

C. B. *much*, hasty, quick; *much-iaw*, to hasten, to be quick.

[MUG, *s.* 1. An earthenware, pewter, or silver drinking vessel, *S.*

2. The hole into which a ball is rolled or thrown in certain games, Clydes.]

[To MUG, *v. a.* 1. To put the ball into the hole, *ibid.*

2. To thrash, Renfrs.]

MUGGER, *s.* One who deals in earthen vessels or *mugs*, hawking them through the country, South of *S.*

[MUGGIE, *s.* 1. A small mug, Clydes.]

2. Same as *mug*, *s.* 2; *Capie-hole*, Lanarks.

Perhaps from its resemblance to a round vessel, *E. mug*. As, however, *Su.-G. miugg* signifies clandestinely, *muggie* might originally respect the *hiding* of the ball in the hole.

To MUGGIE, *v. a.* Same as *to mug*, *q. v.*

MUGGY, *adj.* Topsy, a low word, *S.*, from *mug*, as denoting a drinking vessel.

"Now their common appellations is *Muggers*, or, what pleases them better, *Potters*. They purchase, at a cheap rate, the cast or faulty articles, at the different manufactories of earthen ware, which they carry for sale all over the country." *Scottish Gypsies*, *Edin. Month. Mag.*, May, 1817, p. 157.

MUGG, *s.* A particular breed of sheep; *pl. Muggs, S.*

"The sheep formerly in this county, called *Muggs*, were a tender, slow feeding animal, with wool over most of their faces, from whence the name of *Muggs*." *P. Ladykirk, Berwicks. Statist. Acc.*, viii. 73.

*Qu.* Is it meant that this is the signification of the word? This sheep itself is of *E.* extract, whatever be the origin of the term.

"In the lower part of the parish, there is the long legged English *Mug*, with wool, long, fine, and fit for combing." *P. Twynholm, Kirkcudb. Statist. Acc.*, xv. 86.

"A pollard, or polled sheep, *Scot. A. Mug*.—*Lana longissima, mollissima. Cornutis mitior, delicatior, mobisque proclivior.*" *Dr. Walker's Essay on Nat. Hist.*, p. 522.

The characteristic distinction in Galloway would seem to be different.

"*Mugg-sheep*, sheep all white-coloured,—lowland sheep." *Gall. Encycl.*

C. B. *mwyg* might seem to correspond with *Dr. Walker's* description; "That is soft or puffed;" *Owen*.

MUGGED, *adj.* Probably, rough; as formed from Gael. *mogach*, shaggy.

It occurs in "a Prophesie of the Death of the Marquis of Argyll,"—said to be "imprinted at Inverlochie," *A. 1656.*

It hath been prophesied of old,  
And by a preacher then foretold,  
That mugged mantle thou lies on  
In pieces shall be rent and torn, &c.  
*Abp. Law's Memorials*, p. 117.

MUGGART, MUGGER, *s.* The herb properly called [*Artemesia vulgaris*], *Mugwort*, *Ayrs.*; *Muggart*, *Gall.*; *Muggert*, *S. B.* "Muggart, the mugwort;" *Gall. Encycl.*

[MUGGART-KAIL, *s.* A dish made of mugwort, *Banffs.*]

[MUGGIE, MUGGY, *s.*, *adj.*, *v.* *V.* under *MUG.*]

[MUGGY, MUGGLY, *adj.* *Drizzly.* *V.* under *To MUG.*]

MUIR, *s.* A heath, &c. *V. MURE.*

MUIR-BAND, *s.* A hard subsoil composed of clayey sand impervious to water.

"Some [muirs] are of a thin poor clay, upon a bad till bottom; others of a thin surface of peat moss, wasted to a kind of black light earth, often mixed with sand, upon a subsoil of impervious till, or a compacted clayey sand, apparently ferruginous, like a bad species of sandstone not perfectly lapidified. This peculiar species of subsoil is provincially called, *Moor-band*, and, like the coarse clay or till bottom, is absolutely impervious to water." *Agr. Surv. Berw.*, p. 32.

MUIR-BURN. *V. MURE-BURN.*

MUIR-ILL, MOOR-ILL, *s.* A disease to which black cattle are subject; as some affirm, in consequence of eating a particular kind of grass, which makes them stale blood, *S.*

"*Mure-ill*, a disorder common among cattle, and thought to proceed from the animals eating poisonous herbs." *Gall. Encycl.*

"Though he helped *Lambside's* cow weel out of the *moor-ill*, yet the *louping-ill's* been sairer among his this season than ony season before." *Tales of my Landlord*, i. 200.

"It is infested with that distemper, so pernicious to cattle, called the *Wood-ill* or *Muir-ill*; the effects of which may, however, be certainly prevented by castor oil, or any other laxative." *P. Humble, Haddingt. Statist. Acc.*, vi. 160.

"*Muir-ill*.—This disorder is frequently confounded with the *urrair* or *gargle*, though the symptoms seem to be different."

"The *muir-ill* is supposed to be caused by eating a poisonous vegetable, or a small insect common on *muir* grounds. This produces a blister near the root of the tongue, the fluid of which, if swallowed, generally proves fatal to the animal. The disorder is indicated by a swelling of the head and eyes, attended with a running at the mouth, or discharge of saliva. The animal exhibits symptoms of severe sickness, and difficulty of breathing, which are soon followed by a shivering of the whole body, when the animal may be reckoned in imminent danger. On the first appearance of these symptoms, take the animal home, draw forth its tongue, and remove the blister completely with a piece of harn or coarse linen cloth. The part affected must then be rubbed with a mixture of salt and oatmeal.—I have saved a score of cattle by this simple process alone." *Prize Essays, Highl. Soc. S.*, ii. 217.

*V. ILL.*

**MUIRFOWL EGG.** A species of pear, S.

"The *Muirfowl egg* is another pear of good qualities, said to be originally Scottish." Neil's Hortie. Edin. Encycl., p. 212.

**MUIS, s. pl.** 1. Bushels.

"Annibal send to Cartage thre *muis* of gold ryngis, quhilkis he hed gottin on the fingaris of the maist nobil Romans that var slane, for ane testimonial of his grit victorie." Compl. S., p. 175.

"Fr. *muids* & *muid*, from Lat. *mod-ius*.—The word is in common use for a *measure*." Gl.

2. "Heaps, parcels," Sibb. V. Mow, s. 1.

**MUIST, MUST, s.** Musk, Border.

Thy smell was fell, and stronger than *muist*.

*Montgonerie, Watson's Coll.*, iii. 2.

Redolent odour vp from the rutis spreit,

—Aromaticke gummies, or ony fyne potioun;

*Must*, myr, aloyes, or confectionn.

*Doug. Virgil*, Prol. 401, 43.

Corrupted from Fr. *musque*, Lat. *mosch-us*.

**MUIST-BOX, s.** A box for smelling at, a musk-box. [V. MOIST-BALL.]

"I'll tell you news, Sirs, I carry a little *muist-box* (which is the word of God) in my bosom, and when I meet with the ill air of ill company, that's like to gar me swarf, I besmell myself with a sweet savour of it, and with the name of God, which is as ointment poured out." Mich. Bruce's Lect., &c., p. 68.

[Called *Hinger of Moist*, and *Muste-ball*, in Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 81, 83, Dickson.]

**MUITH, adj.** 1. Warm and misty, as applied to the weather. "A *muith* morning," a close, dull, warm, foggy morning, Roxb.; pron. as Fr. *u*.

2. Soft, calm, comfortable, *ibid*.

3. Cheerful, jovial, *ibid*., Lanarks.

C. B. *myyth*, mollis, "smooth, soft, *myyth-aw*, to mollify, to soften," Owen. Teut. *moedigh* corresponds with *Muith*, both as signifying soft, and cheerful; lenis; also, animosus.

This is the same with *Mooth*, S. B., q. v. Both are pronounced alike.

It assumes the form of *Meeth* in Aberdeens.

[**MUK, s.** Muck, filth, dung, Lyndsay, Syde Taillis, l. 98.]

**MUKITLAND AITTES.** Oats raised from ground that has been manured.

—"Thrie chalders victuall, half beir, half *mukitland aittes*," &c. Acts Cha. I., Ed. 1814, Vol. V. 144. V. MUCK, *v*.

**MUKERAR, s.** A miser, a usurer.

The wrache walis and wryngis for this warldis wrak,  
The *mukerar* murnys in his mynd the meil gaif na pryce.

*Doug. Virgil*, Prol., 238, b. 3.

V. MOCHRE.

**MULDE, MOOL, (pl. MULDES, MOOLS), s.**

1. Earth in a pulverised state, in general, S.

Now fields convuls'd like dashing waves,

Wild row along,

And out the ripen'd treasure laves

The *mools* amang.

*A. Scott's Poems*, p. 37.

"Laid in the *mouls* means laid in the grave." Gl. Antiquary.

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2. The earth of the grave, S.

—Did e'er this lyart head of mine

Think to have seen the cauldriife *mools* on thine?

*Ramsay's Poems*, ii. 9.

"He'll get enough one day, when his mouth's full of *mools*," S. Prov., "apoken of covetous people, who will never be satisfied while they are alive;" Kelly, p. 161.

3. The dust of the dead.

Nor I na nauy send to the sege of Troy,

Nor yit his fader Anchises graue schent,

I nouthir the *muldis* nor banis therof rent.

*Doug. Virgil*, 114, 46.

Rudd. renders this "the ground which is thrown on the dead in their graves." But it is the translation of *cineres*, used by Virgil,

"O wherein is your bonny arms

That wont to embrace me?"

"By worms they're eaten; in *mools* they're

rotten;

"Behold, Margaret, and see;

"And mind, for a' your mickle pride,

"Sae will become o' thee."

*Jamieson's Popul. Ball.*, i. 89.

Moes.-G. *mulda*, Su.-G. *mull*, A.-S. *mold*, Ial. *mold*, dust. According to Ihre, the root is *mol-a*, *comminuere*, q. to beat small. Hence,

**MULDE-METE, s.** 1. A funeral banquet.

Sum vther perordour caldronis gan vpset,

And skatterit endlangie the grene the colis het,

Vnder the spetis swakkis the roste in threte,

The raw spaldis ordanit for the *mulde mete*.

*Doug. Virgil*, 130, 47.

2. "The last food that a person eats before death. *To give one his muld mete*, Prov. Scot., i.e., to kill him;" Rudd.

"Sw. *multen*, putridus; *multna*, to moulder," Gl. Sibb. But it is evidently from the preceding word.

[**MULDER, s. and v.** V. under MULE, *v*.]

**MULDRIE, s.** Moulded work.

—Fullyery, bordouris of many precious stone,

Subtill *muldrie* wrocht mony day agona.

*Palice of Honour*, iii. 17.

Fr. *moulerie*, id.

**MULE, s.** A mould; as, a *button-mule*, S.; corr. from the E. word.

To MULE, MOOL, *v. a.* 1. To crumble, S.

Isl. *mol-a*, *confringere*, *comminuere*, *mola*, a crumb.

The *v. smol-a*, is used in Su.-G., contracted, as would

seem, from *smaa*, little, and *mola*, a fragment. Ial.

*smaa mole*, in Dan. *smule*, minuta mica; G. Andr., vo.

*Mola*.

2. *To mule in*, to crumble bread into a vessel, that it may be soaked with some liquid, S.

"Ye ken nathing but milk and bread, when it is *mool'd in* to you;" *Ramsay's S. Prov.*, p. 82.

Su.-G. *moelia*, bread, or any thing else bruised and steeped; Mod. Sax. *mulia*.

3. *To mule in with one*, to have intimacy with one, as those who crumble their bread into one vessel; q. to eat out of the same dish, S.

*I wadna mule in with him*, I would have no intimate fellowship with him.

R 2

Mony'll bite and sup, with little din,  
That wadna gree a straik at *mooling in*.  
*Ross's Helenore*, p. 85.

And there will be Alaster Sibbie,  
Wha in wi' black Betsy did *mool*.  
*Blythsome Bridal*, *Herd's Coll.*, ii. 24.

[To MULDER, MULLER, *v. a.* To break into small crumbs, to pulverise, Shetl., West of S.]

[MULDER, *s.* Small crumbs, or bread-dust, Shetl.]

MULIE, *adj.* 1. Full of crumbs; or of earth broken into very small pieces, Clydes.

[2. Friable, crumbling, that breaks or falls into crumbs; as, *mulie cheese*, Clydes., Perth.]

MULIN, MULOCK, MOOLIN, *s.* A crumb, S. Teut. *moelie*, *offa*; Alem. *gemalanez*, *pulverisatum*, Schilter, *vo. Malen*. V. the *v.*

"He's blawing his *moolins*;" a proverbial phrase, Loth.; which signifies that a man is on his last legs, that he is living on the last remnants of his fortune.

This is borrowed from the practice of boys, particularly of herds, who, after they have eaten the piece of oat-bread which they had carried to school, or to the field, take out the crumbs and blow the dust from them, that they may eat these also.

C. B. *mvluc*, *mvlug*, refuse, sweepings; from *mwl*, a mass, a lump. Ital. *molena*, a crumb of bread.

MULINESS, *s.* The state of being full of crumbs, &c., *ibid.*

[MULLIACK, MULLIO, *s.* A bundle or handful of gleanings, Shetl.]

MULLOCH, *s.* "The crumbled offal of a peat-stalk;" Gl. Surv. Moray.

This must be merely a determinate sense of *Mulock*, a crumb; q. the crumbled remains of a peat-stack. V. MULIN, MULOCK.

MULES, *s. pl.* Kibes, chilblains; most commonly *moolie heels*, S. Fr. *mules*; South of S.

"Mules, Moolie heels, childblains;" Gl. Sibb. V. MOOLIE HEELS.

MULETTIS, *s. pl.* Great mules.

—Syne to Berwick on the morne  
Uhair all men leuch my lord to scorn;  
Na *mulettis* thair his cofferis caries.

*Leg. Bp. St. Androis, Poems Sixteenth Cent.*, p. 328.

Fr. *mulet*, "a great mule; a beast much used in France for the carriage of sumpters," &c. Cotgr.

[MULIE, *adj.* 1. Slow, inactive, Shetl.]

2. Weak from want of food, *ibid.*]

MULIS, *s. pl.*

Thairfoir, Sir Will, I wald ye wist,  
Your Metaphysick fails;  
Gae leir yit a yeir yit  
Your Logick at the schulis,  
Sum day then ye may then  
Pass Master with the *Mulis*.

*Cherrie and Slae*, st. 60.

—Sed logicam saltem unum disce per annum,  
Perfectè ut valeas asinum condere pontem.

Lat. Vers., 1631.

I am at a loss to know whether this was used as a nickname for the Professors of a University, who were employed to examine candidates for graduation, or if there had been any ancient custom of putting a pair of slippers on the feet of him who was graduated; as a badge of his new honour. V. MULLIS.

[The Lat. Vers. evidently refers to the fifth Prop. of Euclid, which is generally known among students as the *Pons asinorum*, so that the *mulis* of the original correspond to the *asses* implied in the translation. Other rhymers have had their joke on this epithet, thus:—

But scarce had they proceeded to that problem  
Yclept the *Pons*, when very many stopped;  
Tom thought them right; since 'tis a "bridge for asses,"  
Then surely none except those creatures passes.

*The College*, Ed. 1825.]

MULL, MAOIL, *s.* A promontory, S.

"Near the very top of the *Mull*, (which signifies a promontory), and the boundary of the mainland to the north-east, a chapel had been reared in the dark ages;" Barry's Orkney, p. 25.

"*Maol*, *adj.*, signifies *bare* or *bald*, as *ceann maol*, baldhead. Hence it is applied to exposed points of land or promontories, and then becomes a substantive noun, and is written *maoil*, e.g., *maoil* of Kintyre, *maoil* of Galloway, *maoil* of Cara," &c. P. Gigha, Argyles. Statist. Acc., viii. 57, N.

Sibb. mentions Isl. *muli*, a steep bold cape, Gl. But I have not met with this word elsewhere. *Mule*, however, denotes a beak; os procerum ac eminentis rostrum; G. Andr., p. 181. Alem. *mula*, rostrum, Schilter. Now as *naes*, *ness*, a nose, is used to denote a promontory, from its resemblance to the prominence of the nose in the face; for the same reason, *mule* might have been used by the ancient Goths in a similar sense.

It confirms this idea that *Mule* is, in Orkney and Shetland, used in composition, or in the names of places, in a similar sense.

"The aera of this fortification, and of others of the same kind, I leave it to be judged upon, as such places are quite frequent, both in Shetland, such as the *Mule* of Unst, and in the other end of the mainland of Orkney, called the *Mule-head* of Deerness, the Burgh of Murray, and indeed in all other places denominated Burghs, that is to say, *insulated headlands projecting to the sea*." P. Birsay, Orkn. Statist. Acc., xiv. 324, N.

[MULL, *s.* The lip; *pl. mulls*, Shetl. Ger. *maul*, *id.*]

[To MULL, *v. a.* 1. To eat, to feed from the mouth, Shetl.

2. To kiss, *ibid.*]

[MULLINS, *s. pl.* Eatables, *ibid.*]

MULL, *s.* A virgin, a young woman.

Silver and gold that I nicht get,  
Beisands, broches, robes and rings,  
Frelie to gife, I wald nocht let,  
To please the *mulls* attour all things.

This is explained by what follows—

Bettir it were a man to serve  
With honour brave beneath a sheild,  
Nor her to pleis, thoct thou sould sterve,  
That will not luke on the in eild.

*Kennedy, Evergreen*, i. 116.

A.-S. *meoule*, *meoula*, a virgin, Hickes. Gramm. A.-S. p. 128, Moes.-G. *mawilo*, a damsel, Mar. v. 41. a dimin. from *mawi*, *id.*; as *barnilo*, a child, Lnk. i. 76, is formed from *barn*.

It is not improbable that Alem. *mal*, desponsatio, *maheldag*, dies desponsationis, *gemahela*, *mahela*, sponsa, *gemal*, conjux, and *mahalen*, desponsare, are to be traced to *mawilo* as their root.

**MULL, s.** A mule.

"Thou may consider that thay pretend nathing ellis, bot onlie the mainteinance and uphald of thair bairdit *mulls*, augmenting of thair unsatiable avarice, and continual doun thringing and swallowing upe thy pair lieges." Knox's Hist., p. 19.

*Mules*, Lond. Ed., p. 20. In MS. ii. it is *barbed mules*.

To **MULLER, v. a.** To crumble, *S.*, either corr. from *E. moulder*, or a dimin. from *MULE, v. q. v.*

**MULLIGRUMPHS, s. pl.** In the *mulligrumps*, sullen, discontented, sulky, Roxb.

Waes me, the *mulligrumps* she's ta'en  
An' toss'd him wi' a vengfu' wap  
Frae out her silk soft downy lap.

*A. Scott's Poems*, 1811, p. 19.

A variety of the low *E.* term *mulligrubs*; with this difference that the last syllable seems to refer to the grunting of a sow as an expression of ill-humour.

[**MULLIO, MULLIACK, s.** A bundle or handful of gleanings, Shetl. *V.* under *MULE, v.*]

**MULLIS, s. pl.** A kind of slippers, without quarters, usually made of fine cloth or velvet, and adorned with embroidery, anciently worn by persons of rank in their chambers.

"He had no coat, but a pair of black breeks, white socks, and a pair of *mools* on his feet." Spalding, ii. 218.

*Mules* still denotes slippers, Upp. Clydes. *V.* **MULIS.** A satirical poet describes the more general use of them as a proof of the increase of pride and luxury.

*Et tout est a la mode de France.*

Thair dry scarpens, bayths tryme and meit;  
Thair *mullis* glitteran on thair feit.

*Maitland Poems*, p. 184.

*Fr.* *mules*, id. pantofles, high slippers; *Ital.* *mulo*, *Hisp.* *mula*; *Teut.* *myul*, *muleus*, *sandalium*; *calceamenti* genus alto solum Kilian. *L. B.* *mula*, *crepida*, *Du Cange.* *Mullei*, *Isidor.*, p. 1310. *Mullei* similes sunt coturnorum solo alto; superiore autem parte cum osseis vel aereis malleolis ad quos lora deligabantur.

*Menage* derives the name from *mullei*, which, he says, were a certain kind of shoes, worn by the kings of *Alha*, and afterwards by the *Patricians*; *Isidore*, from their reddish colour, as resembling the *mullet*. *Dicta* autem sunt a colore rubro, qualis est *mulbi* piscis.

The counsel of *Tarraco*, *A.* 1591, forbade the use of ornamented *mullis* to the clergy. *Nullus clericus subuculam collari, et manicis rugatis seu lactucatis deferat*—sed nec *Mulas* ornamentis aureis, argenteis, aut sericis ornari patiatur. *Du Cange*, vo. *Mula*.

It is the *mule* or *mulo* of the *Pope*, ornamented with a cross of gold, that is touched with the lips, when his votaries are said to kiss his toe. *Le Pape a une croix d'or au bout de sa mule, qu' on va baiser avec un grand respect*; *Dict.* *Trev.*

[**MULLOCH, s.** *V.* under *MULE, v.*]

**MULREIN, s.** The Frog-fish, Frith of Forth.

"*Lophius piscatorius*, (*L. Europaeus* of *Dr. Shaw*); Frog-fish; Toad-fish; *Mulrein*.—Here it is named the *Mulrein* or *Marcellen*; sometimes the *Mertin*-fish." *Neill's List of Fishes*, p. 23.

From the description of this fish, we might suppose the name to have been formed from *Isl. mule*, os procerum ac eminens rostrum, and *ruen-a*, rapere, q. the fish that *snatches* with its mouth. This corresponds with another of its vulgar names, *Wide-gab*, q. *v.*

**MULTIPLE', MULTIPLIE, s.** Number, quantity.

Dicson, he said, wait thou thair *multiplé*?

iii thousand men thair power mycht nocht he,  
*Wallace*, ix. 1704, MS.

i. e., "Knowest thou their number?"

"Quhilk suld be ane gryt exempl till al princis, that thai gyf nocht there trest in ane particular pouer of *multiple* of men, bot rather, to set there trest in God." *Compl. S.*, p. 123.

*Fr.* *multiple*, manifold; *multiplié*, the multiplicand. The term is evidently used improperly.

**MULTURE, MOUTER, s.** The fee for grinding grain; properly that paid to the master of the mill, *S.*

The myllars mettis the *multure* wyth aus mete skant.

*Doug. Virgil, Prol.* 233, a 48.

"The *multure* is a quantity of grain, sometimes in kind, as wheat, oats, pease, &c.; and sometimes manufactured, as flour, meal, sheeling, &c., due to the proprietor of the mill, or his tacksman the *multurer*, for manufacturing the corn." *Erskine's Instit.*, B. 2, tit. 9, s. 19.

"Millers take ay the best *mouter* wi' their ain hand." *Ferguson's S. Prov.*, p. 25.

"*Moller*, the toll of a mill. North." *Gl. Grose.*

*Mooter*, Lancashire, id.

*Fr.* *mouture*, (as the *S.* word is pron.) *L. B.* *molitura*, from *Lat. mol-o*. Hence,

**MULTURER, s.** The tacksman of a mill, *S.*

**MUM, s.** A low, inarticulate sound, a mutter, *S. B.*

*Mumme* is used for *mutter* by *Langland*. Speaking of lawyers he says;

Thou mightest better mete the mist on Malverne hills,  
Than get a *mumme* of her mouth, til money be shewed.

*P. Ploughman*, Fol. 3, b.

"Let nons pretend the gospell of Christ to their idleness: fy on the mouth that speaks of Christ, and then is out of all calling and idle: speake not one word, or one *mum* of Christ, if thou hast not a calling and be exercised therein." *Rollock* on 2 *Thes.*, p. 140.

—I'll wad my head,

At the neist courting bout, but ye'll come speed.

But wha wad hae you, whan ye sit sas dumb,

And never open mou' to say a *mum*!

*Ross's Helenore*, p. 37.

The word might originally signify to intimate any thing by gestures, rather than by words; from *Teut. momm-en*, larvam agere; whence, as would seem, *mommel-en*, *Su.-G. mumm-a*, to mutter.

[To **MUM, v. n.** To make a low, inarticulate sound, to mutter; applied to reading, speaking, singing, *Clydes.*, *Banffs.*]

[**MUMMER, s.** One who reads, speaks, or sings in a low, indistinct tone, *ibid.*]

[**MUMMIN, s.** 1. Making a low, indistinct sound in reading, &c., *ibid.*

2. The sound made by one who mums, a murmur, *ibid.*]

MUM CHAIRTIS, *s. pl.*

Use not to skiff sthort the gait,  
Nor na *mum chairtis*, air nor lait.  
Be na dainser, for this daingeir  
Of yow be tane an ill consait  
That ye ar habill to waist geir.

*Mailland Poems*, p. 329.

An intelligent correspondent asks; "May not this mean the same as *E. whist*, so named from the silence observed during the game," q. the *silent cards*?

Urquhart translates, *A la chance*, one of the games played by Gargantua, "At the chance or *mum chance*." *Rabelais*, p. 94.

Mr. Pinkerton leaves this as not understood. From its connexion with *dancer* it certainly respects some amusement. *Chairtis* are undoubtedly *cards*, and refer to the amusement which bears the name. *Cairtis* is to this day the vulgar pron. Teut. *momme*, signifies a mask; larva, persona; Kilian. Perhaps *mum chairtis* may simply signify cards with figures on them, as the figures impressed may justly enough, from their grotesque appearance, be called *larvae*. Mention is made, however, in the account of an entertainment given by Cardinal Wolsey, of playing at *mum-chance*, which, Warton says, is a game of hazard with dice. *Hist.*, iii. 155. It may therefore be an error of some transcriber. What confirms this conjecture is, that *mum-chance* is mentioned as a game at cards in an old English Poem on the Death of the *Mass* by William Roy, written in Wolsey's time. In describing the Bishops, he says—

To play at the cards and the dice,  
Some of them are nothing nice;  
Both at hazard and *mum-chance*,  
They drink in gay golden bowls,  
The blood of poor simple souls  
Perishing for laik of sustenance.

*Ellis's Spec.*, ii. 15.

To MUMGE (*g* soft), *v. n.* To grumble, to fret; generally applied to children, when any request is refused, Roxb.

"Gae away when I bid ye—What are ye *mumgin* at?" *Brownie of Bodasbeck*, i. 5. V. To MUDGE.

MUMMING, *s.* [The sound made by the bee.]

With *mumming* and humming,  
The Bee now seeks his byke.

*Burel's Pilg.*, *Watson's Coll.*, ii. 26.

V. CALICRAT, and MUM.

MUMM'D, *part. pa.* Benumbed, tingling; used to denote that disagreeable sensation which one has in the hands, when one warms them too quickly after being very cold, Berwicks.

It seems merely a corruption of *E. benumbed*.

MUMNESS, *s.* The state of being benumbed, want of feeling in any part of the body, Loth.

[To MUMMYLL, *v. a.* and *n.* To mumble, *Lyndsay*, *The Cardinall*, l. 385.

To MUMP, *v. n.* 1. To hint, to aim at, S.

"I know your meaning by your *mumping*," *S. Prov.* Kelly, p. 183, addressed to those who either cannot, or do not express themselves distinctly.

Ye may speak plainer, lass, gin ye incline,  
As, by your *mumping*, I maist guess your mind.

*Shirreff's Poems*, p. 94.

2. To speak in an affected style, and so to disguise the words, in attempting fine pronunciation, that they can scarcely be understood, *Ettr. For.*

3. As a *v. a.*, [to express by signs or motions], to mimic in a ludicrous way.

"He nodded his head, and said to himsel', 'Now, if I hae nae *mumpit* the minister, my name's no John Gray o' Middleholm.'" *Hogg's Wint. Tales*, i. 334.

This is often used in the proverbial phrase: "I ken your meaning by your *mumping*;" *S. Kelly* gives it in an *E.* form, with *know*, adding; "I know by your motions and gestures what you would be at, and what you design." P. 183.

*Sibb.* explains *mumping*, "using significant gestures, mumming; Teut. *mumm-en*, mominium sive larvam agere; to frolic in disguise; *momme*, larva, persona."

MUMP, *s.* A "whisper, surmise." *Gl. Surv. Ayr.*, p. 693.

To MUMP, *v. n.* To hitch, to move by succussion, *Roxb.* Hence,

MUMP-THE-CUDDIE, *s.* A play of children, in which they sit on their *hunkers* or *hams*, with a hand in each hough, and, retaining this position, hop or hitch forward; he who arrives first at the fixed goal gaining the prize; *Roxb.*

This is nearly the same with what is elsewhere called *Dancing Curcuddie*. V. CURCUDDOCH.

Although the termination be the same, it would seem in the South, to have some reference to the *cuddie* or ass.

To MUMPLE, *v. n.* "To seem as if going to vomit," *Gall. Encycl.*

This may be corr. from *C. B. mungial*, to speak from the throat; as one might be said to do who reaches from *nausea*. Or it may be dimin. from *Mump*, as signifying to make faces.

MUMT-LIKE, *adj.* Having the appearance of stupor, *Loth.* q. *mummed*, *mummit*, resembling one who assumes a fictitious character. V. MUM'D.

MUN, *v. aux.* Must. V. MON.

MUN, MUNN, *s.* 1. A small and trifling article, *Upp. Clydes.*

*C. B. mun*, a separate particle; *mon*, a point.

2. A short-hafted spoon, *Galloway*, *cuttie*, *cuttymun*, synon.

"Each person of the family had a short hafted spoon made of horn, which they called a *mun*, with which they supped, and carried it in their pocket, or hung it by their side." *P. Tunngland*, *Statist. Acc.*, ix. 326.

"Sup with your head, the *Horner* is dead, he's dead that made the *muns*;" *S. Prov.*, *Kelly*, p. 295.

--Donald, tir'd wi' lang-kail in a *mun*,  
At's ain fireside, long'd for the slippery food  
And dainty cleading o' some unken'd land.

*Davidson's Seasons*, p. 12.

Can this be allied to *Isl. mund*, *mun*, the mouth?

3. "An old person with a very little face;"  
Gall. Encycl.

Probably it is corr. from Gael. *muigein*, a surly little fellow.

[MUN, *s.* Difference in size, number, or quantity, Shetl. Isl. *munr*, Norse, *mun*, id.]

[To MUN, *v. n.* 1. To differ or show a difference in size, number, or quantity, *ibid.*

2. To increase in size or amount, to fill up, to occupy space; as, "It never *muns*," applied to water poured into a vessel, *ibid.*]

MUN, *s.* Used for man (homo), Clydes., Renfr.

MUNDIE, *s.* Expl. "pitiful son of the earth; dimin. of *man*." Sibb.

Auld guckis, the *mundie*, sho is a gillie,  
Scho is a colt-foill, not a fillie.

*Philotus*, *S. P. R.*, iii. 37.

Perhaps it is rather allied to Teut. *mondigh*, pubes, major annis; puer quatuor decem annorum, Kilian. *Mondigh* also signifies loquacious.

MUNDS, *s.* The mouth. *I'll gie you i' the munds*, I will give you a stroke on the mouth; a phrase used by boys, Loth.

This is undoubtedly a very ancient word, Alem. Germ. *mund*, id. os, hiatus inter duo labra; Moes.-G. *munths*, whence A.-S. *muþ*, E. *mouth*, Isl. Sw. *mun*. Wachter mentions a variety of names into the composition of which this word enters.

To MUNGE, *v. n.* 1. To mumble, to grumble; to *gae moungin' about*, to go about in bad humour, Ettr. For., Roxb.; sometimes *Munch*, Roxb.

[2. To mention, repeat, blab; as, "Don't you *munge*," don't you mention it, Clydes. V. MENGE.]

Allied perhaps to Su.-G. *mums-a*, incertum manducare; as a mumbling sound might be supposed to resemble the feeble and *munching* action of the jaws, where teeth are wanting. Perhaps it is a Border relic of the Northumbrian Danes. For Dan. *mundhugges* signifies to scold, to quarrel, and *mundhuggen* is expl. by Baden, rixa, jurgium, lis, contentio. C. B. *munghial*, however, mentioned above, not only signifies to speak from the throat, but also to mutter, to speak indistinctly.

*Munger* is expl. "to mutter to one's self, or murmur; Shropsh." Grose.

[MUNI, *s.* The spinal cord, Shetl. Isl. *maena*, id.]

MUNIMENT, MUNYMENT. *s.* A legal document or writ in support of any claim; an old forensic term.

—"The rychtis, resonos, *munymenis*, & instrumentis of the sade Margretis herd, sene, & vnderstandin; The lordis auditoris decretis," &c. Act. Audit., A. 1482, p. 102.

"And all sic parteis to cum within the realme, bringing with thame thair rychtis, bullis, and *munimentis*." Acts Ja. IV. 1493, Ed. 1814, p. 233.

L. B. *munimina*, privilegia, praecepta, diplomata principum pro ecclesis et in earum favorem quod eis eae *muniantur* adversus invasores bonorum ecclesiasticorum. *Munimentum*, Vocabular. utriusque juris; *munimenta* dicuntur probationes et instrumenta quae causam muniunt. Chart. ap. Rymer, an. 1381; Du Cange.

Fr. *munimens*, "justification of allegations in law;" Cotgr.

To MUNK, *v. a.* To diminish, so as to bring anything below the proper size, Upp. Clydes.; *Scrimp* is given as synon.; corr. perhaps from *Mank*.

C. B. *man*, small.

MUNKIE, *s.* A small rope, with a loop or eye at one end for receiving a bit of wood, called a *knool*, at the other; used for binding up cattle to the *sta'tree*, or stake in a cow-house, Mearns. V. MINK.

Gael. *muince*, a collar, from *muin*, the neck. *Muin-giall* is also mentioned by Shaw, as, according to his belief, signifying "the headstall of a bride." C. B. *myngel*, *munget*, a collar; *munweg*, the neck.

MUNKRIE, *s.* A monastic foundation, a monastery. V. MONKRIE.

MUNKS, *s.* A halter for a horse, Fife. V. MUNKIE.

[MUNN, *s.* V. under MUN.]

MUNS, *s. pl.* The hollow behind the jawbone, Ettr. For.

This seems originally the same with *Munds*, as denoting the mouth. The Goth. terms had been used with considerable latitude, as Isl. and Su.-G. *munne*, denotes an opening of any kind, foramen, orificium, ostium.

MUNSHOCK, *s.* The name given to the red Billberry, or *Vitis Idaea*, by those who live in the Ochill hills.

Gael. *moin*, a mountain, or *moine*, a moss. *Subh* denotes a berry.

MUNSIE, *s.* 1. A name expressive of contempt or ridicule; a *bonny munsie*, a pretty figure indeed, ironically, S., perhaps a corr. of Fr. *monsieur*, which the vulgar pron. *monsie* and *monshie*.

[2. The jack of cards, Banffs.]

[MUNT, *s.* A blow, a stroke; from *mint*, to aim, Clydes.]

[MUNT, *v. pret.* Feigned, pretended. V. MINTE.]

MUNTER, *s.* A watch or clock of some kind.

"All—clocks, watches, and *munters*, boots and shoes, shal be given up by the merchant-sellers thereof, under—declaration to the commissioners," &c. Acts Cha. I., Ed. 1814, vi. 152.

Fr. *monstre*, *môntré*, "a watch or little clock that strikes not;" Cotgr.; from *monstr-er*, *môntr-er*, to shew, because it points out the time.

[MUNYEON, MUNYEOUN, MONYEOUN, *s.*  
A minion, Lyndsay, Squyer Meldrum, l.  
233.]

MUPETIGAGE, *s.* A fondling term  
addressed to a child, East Loth.

Fr. *mon petit gage*, *q.* my little pledge.

MUR, *adj.* V. MOVIR.

MURALYEIS, *s. pl.* Walls, fortifications.

—Lo, within the yet,  
Amid the clois *muralyeis* and pail,  
And doubyl dykis how thay thisme assail!

*Doug. Virgil*, 313, 14.

Fr. *muraille*, a wall; L. B. *murale*, *muratha*,  
*murayllia*; from Lat. *murus*.

[To MURD, *v. n.* To coax. V. MIRD.]

MURDIE-GRUPS, *s. pl.* The belly-ache,  
a colic, Upp. Clydes.

Either from Fr. *mord-re*, and O. Fr. *grip-er*, both  
signifying to gnaw, to pinch; or the first part of the  
word may be *mort de*, *q.* "ready to die with griping  
pain."

To MURDRES, MURTHREYS, *v. a.* To  
murder; part. pa. *murdrest*.

"Mony othir kingis of Northumberland in the samyn  
maner war ay fynaly *murdrist* be thair successouris."  
Bellend. Cron. B. x. c. 3.

In Murrawe syne he *murthrysyd* wss  
In-till the towne, is cald Foras.

*Wyntown*, vi. 9. 63.

Moes.-G. *maurthr-jan*. This Goth. term has as-  
sumed a great variety of forms in L. B., although not  
one precisely the same with this. V. Du Cange.

MURDRESAR, MURDREISAR, *s.* 1. A murderer.

"On the morrow Bassianus arrayed his folkis &  
exhortit thayn to remembir how they war to fecht for  
defence of equite aganis certane fals conspiratouris,  
specially aganis the treasonabill *murdresar* Carancec."  
Bellend. Cron., B. vi., c. 8.

2. A large cannon.

"Mak reddy your cannons,—quarter slangis, hede  
stikkis, *murdresaris*." Compl. S., p. 64.

The ingenious editor of this work quotes Coriat,  
when describing the cannon in the arsenal at Zurich,  
as saying; "Among them I saw one passing great  
*murdering* piece; both ends thereof were so exceeding  
wide, that a very corpulent man might easily enter the  
same."

Fr. *meurtriere*, "a murdering peece;" Cotgr. *Mur-  
thesers* are mentioned by Grose, in reference to the reign  
of Edw. VI., Milit. Hist., i. 402, 403.

MURE, MUIR, MOOR, *anc.* MORE, *s.* A heath,  
a flat covered with heath, S. *Moor* E.  
seems always to imply the idea of water, or  
marshiness, as denoting a fen. Then we  
use the term *moss*.

And the gud King held forth his way,  
Betwixt him and his man, quhill that  
Passyt owt throw the forest war;  
Syne in the *more* thai entryt thar.

*Barbour*, vii. 108, MS.

Out of a *more* a raven shal cum,  
And of hym a schrew shall flye,  
And seke the *more* withouten rest,  
After a crosse is made of ston,  
Hye and lowe, both est and west;  
But up he shal spede anon.

*True Thomas, Jamieson's Popul. Ball.*, ii. 37.

Broun *muris* kythit thare wissinyt mossy hew.

*Doug. Virgil*, 201. 6.

"Under a huge cairn in the E. moor (heath) of  
Ruthven, their dead are said to be buried." P. Ruth-  
ven, Forfars. Statist. Acc., xii. 298.

A.-S. *mor*, ericetum, heath-ground, Somner. Hence,  
he adds, "they render *Stanmore* in Lat., ericetum  
lapideum, i. e., the stoney heath." Isl. *moar*, terra  
arida inculca et inutilis, Verel. Ind. *Moor*, solum  
grumis sterilibus obsitum, G. Andr. Sw. *maer*, terra  
putris, Seren., i. e., rotten earth.

MURE-BURN, *s.* 1. The act of burning moors  
or heath, B.

"That the vnlaw of *mure-burne*, efter the Moneth  
of March be—fue pund in all tymes to-cum." Acts  
Ja. IV., 1503, c. 106, Edit. 1566, c. 71. Murray.

In describing the rapid diffusion of opinion, or influ-  
ence of example, an allusion is often made to the pro-  
gress of fire through dry heath; *It spreads like mure-  
burn*, S.

"When any thing like bad news spreads fast, we  
say, 'It goes like *mureburn*.'" Gall. Encycl.

2. Metaph., strife, contention, S., *q.* a flame  
like that of moor-burning.

"*Muirburn*, a contest, dispute;" Gl. Picken.

MURE-ILL, *s.* V. MUIR-ILL.

MURISH, *adj.* Of or belonging to *mure* or  
heath, S.

"The *murish* soil in East Lothian is of considerable  
extent." Agr. Surv. E. Loth., p. 283.

MURE-LAND, *s.* The higher and uncultivated  
part of a district, opposed to *Dale-land*, S.

MURE-LANDER, *s.* An inhabitant of the  
higher and uncultivated parts of a district,  
S.; also *Mure-man*, Clydes.

MURE-SICKNESS, *s.* A wasting disorder  
which attacks sheep, Shetl.

"A pining, or wasting, provincially called the *moor-  
sickness*, affects sheep, chiefly in autumn, though also  
at all other seasons. The cure for this disease is taking  
the sheep to good fresh grass; if on a limestone bottom,  
so much the better." Agr. Surv. Shetl., p. 66.

MURELAND, MOORLAND, *adj.* Of or belong-  
ing to heathy ground, S.

—Muirland Willie came to woo.

*Ramsay's Tea-Table Miscellany*, p. 7.

To MURGEON, *v. a.* 1. To mock one by  
making mouths or wry faces.

Scho skornit Jok, and skrippit at him;  
And *murgeonit* him with morkkis.

*Chr. Kirk*, st. 4.

Sibb. deduces it from Teut. *morkelen*, grunnire;  
*morre*, os cum prominentibus labris; Callander, from  
A.-S. *murnung*, murmuratio, querela; Goth. Isl. *mogla*,  
murmurare. But it has more affinity to Fr. *morguer*,  
to make a sour face; *morgueur*, a maker of strange  
mouths; *morgue*, a sour face, Arm. *morg*, id.

2. To murmur, to grumble, to complain, used as a neut. *v.*

In this sense it has more relation to A.-S. *murc-nung* mentioned above; or Germ. *murrisch*, murmuring, from *murr-en*, to murmur.

MURGEON, MORGEOUN, *s.* 1. A murmur, the act of grumbling, *S.*

With mudycons, & *murgeons*, & moving the brain,  
They lay it. *Montgomerie.*

V. MUDYEON.

—By rude unhallow'd fallows,  
They were surrounded to the gallows,  
Making sad ruefu' *murgeons*.

*Ramsay's Poems*, ii. 361.

2. Apparently as signifying muttering, in reference to the Mass.

"Vther things againe are not so necessare, as the consecration of the place, quhere the Messe is said, the altare stane, the blessing of the chalice, the water, the *murgeons*, singing, he that suld help to say Messe, and the rest." Bruce's Sermon on the Sacrament, Sign. K. 4, b.

Dunbar writes *morgeounis*, Maitl. P., p. 95.

3. *Murgeons*, violent gestures or twistings of the body, *Ettr. For.*

As Fr. *morguer* signifies to make a sour face, to make strange mouths, here there is merely a transition from the face to the body.

To MURGULLIE. V. MARGULYIE.

MURKIN, *adj.* Spoiled by keeping, applicable to grain, *Sletl.*

Isl. *morkinn*, murcus, *morkna*, mureus fio, putresco; Haldorson. Su.-G. *murken*, id.

MURKLE, *s.* A term of reproach or contempt, *Fife.*

Then but he ran wi' hasty breishell,  
An' laid on Hab a badger-reischell;  
"Gae tae ye'r wark, ye dernan *murkle*,  
An' ly nae thers in hurkle-durkle."

*MS. Poem.*

Teut. *morkel-en*, grunnire; murmurare, mussitare.

MURLAIN, *s.* A narrow-mouthed basket, of a round form, *S. B.*

And lightsome be her heart that bears  
The *murlain* and the creel.

*Jameson's Popul. Ball.*, ii. 354.

This perhaps might originally be a bag made of a skin, and thus the same with *Murling*, q. v.

To MURLE, *v. a.* 1. To moulder, to crumble down; *murl*, A. Bor. id. Ray, *Ayrs.* V.

MULE.

Thair manheid, and thair mense, this gait thay *murle*;  
For mariage thus unyts of ane churle.

*Priests of Peblis*, p. 13.

—"That sic guid auld stoops o' our kintra language sould be buriet few kens wherefor, ne'er a through-stane marks out where they're *murling* wi' their mither clay." *Ed. Mag.*, Apr. 1821, p. 352.

Perhaps from Su.-G. Isl. *mior*, tenuis, gracilis. Isl. *moar*, minutae uliginis; the vapours which appear rising from the earth; whence G. Andr. derives *morka*, exigua res.

*Murl* also signifies, a crumbling stone, free-stone.

[2. To eat slowly and in small quantities, Banffs.]

[MURLE, MURLIN, *s.* A crumb, a fragment, Banffs., West of S.]

[MURLICK, MURLICKIE, *s.* A very small crumb or fragment, *ibid.*]

[MURLIE, MURLY, *adj.* Friable, crumbling, easily crumbled; *ibid.*]

MURLIE, *s.* 1. Any small object, as a small bit of bread, *Ang.*

2. A fondling term for an infant, *Ang.*; either from the smallness of its size, or from the pleasing murmur it makes, when in good humour. V. MURR.

Sometimes *murlic-fikes* is used in the same sense, from the additional idea of a child being still in motion.

[MURLIN, *s.* 1. The act of crumbling; pl. *murlins*, crumbs, *ibid.*

2. The act of eating slowly or daintily, Banffs.]

[To MURLE, *v. n.* 1. To murmur or croodle like an infant; *Ayrs.*; to *murr*, is also used.

2. To hum a tune softly, to talk to one's self while musing, *ibid.*

MURLING, *s.* A soft murmur or hum, a gentle noise as from a purling stream, *Ang.*

[Su.-G. *morla*, to murmur, mutter, or speak softly. V. under To MURR.]

MURLING, MORTHLING, MURT, *s.* "The skin of a young lamb, or of a sheep soon after it has been shorn," *Sibb.*

He derives the term from *murth*, murder. It is merely E. *morling*, *mortling*.

MURLOCH, *s.* The young piked dog-fish, *Squalus acanthias*, *Liun.*

"There is a very delicate fish that may be had through the whole year, called by the country people *murloch*. It is very long in proportion to its thickness, and, in shape, resembles the dog-fish: it is covered with a very rough skin, like shagreen, of which it must be stripped." P. Jura, *Argyles. Statist. Acc.*, xii. 322.

The term seems Gael. Perhaps the first syllable is from *muir*, the sea. *Lochag, loth*, signify a colt.

I observe that my ingenious friend Mr. Neill views this as the *Squalus Mustelus*. "S. *Mustelus*. Smooth Hound; *Murloch*." List of Fishes in the Frith of Forth, p. 24.

MURMELL, *s.* Murmuring, a murmur.

And, for till saif us fra *murmell*,  
Schone Diligence fetch us Gude Counsell.

*Lyndsay, S. P. R.*, ii. 223.

Teut. *murmul-en*, murmurillare, submurmurare. This term seems formed from two verbs nearly synon., *murr-en*, murmurare, and *muyl-en*, mutire, mussitare, cum indignatione et stomacho. It occurs in Franc. *murmulo thie menigi*; Murmurabit multitudo; *Otfrid. ap. Schilter.*

Mr. Chalmers says that this is "for *murmur*, to suit the rhyme;" Gl. Lynds. But the word is O. Fr. *Murmeler*; *murmurer*, *marmotter*, *parler indistinctment*; *murmurare*; Roquefort.

[To MURMELL, *v. n.* To croodle like an infant, Clydes. V. *To Murle*. Part. pr. *murmlin*, used also as a *s.*]

MURMLED, *adj.* A man or beast is said to be *murmled about the feet*, when going lame, Loth., S.A.; sometimes *murbled*.

Probably from A.-S. *maeroca*, Su.-G. *moer*, Teut. *merve*, *murve*, Germ. *murb*, *tener*, *mollis*, *q.* made tender. Teut. *morven*, *mollire*.

It is highly probable, however, that it may be from the O. E. word "*mormall*, a sore," expl. by Fr. *loup*, Palsgr. iii. F. 49. This should perhaps be *loupe*, which Cotgr. renders "a flegmaticke lump, wenne, bunch, or swelling of flesh under the throat, bellie, &c.; also a little one on the wrist, *feet*, or *other joint*, gotten by a blow whereby a sinew being wrested rises, and grows hard." Skinner expl. it *gangraena*, *q.* *malum mortuum seu mortificans*.

To MURMURE, MURMOWR, *v. a.* 1. To calumniate by secret reflections.

"Giff ony maner of persoune *murmuris* ony Juge temporale or spirituale, als weill lordis of the Sessioun as vtheris, and previs nocht the samin sufficientlie, he salbe pvnist in semblane maner and sort as the said Juge or persoun quham he *murmuris*." Acts Ja. V., 1540, Ed. 1814, p. 374.

2. To complain upon.

"The toune is hauely [heavily] *murmowrit* be the landmen, that the wittel byaris of the merkatt scattis thame grytlie," &c. Aberd. Reg. V. SCATT, *v.*

Fr. *murmur-er*, "to repine at, or gairesay between the teeth;" Cotgr.

[To MURNE, *v. a.* and *n.* To mourn, lament, pret. *murnit*, part. pr. *murnyng*, Lyndsay, Squyer Meldrum, l. 691, 903.]

[MURNYN, MURNYNG, *s.* Mourning, lamentation, Barbour, ii. 469, iii. 350.]

MURPHY, *s.* A cant term for a potatoe, supposed to have been introduced from Ireland, Lanarks.

To MURR, *v. n.* To purr, as a cat, when well pleased; applied also to infants, S.

Though the priest alarmed the audience,  
An' drew fears frae mony een,  
Sandy heard a noise like baudrons  
*Murrin* i' the bed at e'en!

*Hogg's Mountain Bard*, p. 157.

Teut. *murr-en*, *morr-en*, *grunnire*, *murmurare*, Su.-G. *murr-a*, *mussitare*.

Isl. *murr-a*, Teut. *morr-en*, *murr-en*, *murmurare*; Su.-G. *morr-a*, *mussitare*, *strepere*, whence the frequentative *morla*, id., Fr. *murl-er*, to low, to bellow, is probably from the same source.

[MURRIN, *s.* The purring of a cat, the croodling of an infant, S.]

[MURR, *s.* 1. A drizzling rain, Orkn., Shetl. V. SMURR.

2. Small things in general, *ibid.*]

MURRICK, *s.* An esculent root, or vegetable, Shetl.

I find that Isl. *mura* signifies *radix argentina*, Silver-weed or Wild Tansey, *Potentilla anserina*. Whether this be meant, I cannot determine. Perhaps it is the same with *Mirrot*, a carrot, *q. v.*, in Sw. *marrot*. The S. name of Silver-weed is *Moor-grass*.

[MURRIE, MURRAY, *s.* A dark crimson or reddish brown colour, Accts. L. H. Treasurer, i. 155.]

MURRIOW, MURRIOWN, MURREON, *s.* A helmet or headpiece.

"Anc Captane or Souldiour, we can not tell, bot he had a reid clocke and a gilt *murriow*, enterit upoun a pure woman,—and began to spoille." Knox's Hist., p. 203.

*Murrow*, MS. i., *murriow*, MS. ii.

"At that same tyme arryvit furth of Fraunce Sir James Kirkaldye with ten thowsand crownes of gold, sum *murriownes*, corslettis, hagbuttis and wyne." Historie James Sext, p. 123. *Murreonis*, *ib.* p. 100.

Fr. *morion*, *morriow*, id. E. *murriow*.

Apparently a dimin. from one of the verbs mentioned under *Murr*, as signifying to murmur.

MURRLIN, *s.* "A very froward child, ever whining and ill-natured;" Gall. Encycl.

MURROCH, *s.* A name given to shell-fish in general, Ayrs.

Gael. *maorach*, shellfish; perhaps from *muir*, the sea. *Murac* denotes one species, the murex or purplefish. C. B. *morawg*, "that belongs to the sea;" Owen.

MURT, *s.* The skin of a lamb before castration-time, Teviotd. V. MURLING.

MURTH, MORTH, MURTHURE, *s.* Murder; Gl. Sibb.

A.-S. *morth*, Teut. *moord*, Su.-G. *mord*, Moes-G. *maurthr*, id.

To MURTHIER, *v. n.* To murmur softly as a child, Upp. Clydes.

MURYT, *pret.* Built up, inclosed in walls.

Thai thaim defendyt douchtely,  
And contenynt thaim sa manlily,  
That or day, throw mekill payn,  
Thai had *muryt* wp thair yat agayn.

*Barbour*, iv. 164, MS.

Fr. *mur-er*, Germ. *mauer-n*, to wall; Lat. *mur-us*, a wall.

To MUSALL, MISSEL, *v. a.* To cover up, to veil. *Mussallit*, part. pa.

"That na woman cum to kirk nor mercat with hir face *musallit*, or couerit, that scho may not be kend, vnder the pane of escheit of the courchie." Acts Ja. II., 1457, c. 78, Edit. 1566, c. 70. Murray.

It is also applied to the mind.

"Quhen men hes put out all light, and left naething in thair nature, but darknes; there can naething remaine, but a blind feare.—Therefore they that are this way *misseled* vp in thair saull, of all men in the earth they are maist miserable." Bruce's Serm. on the Sacr. 1590, O. 3, a.

Su.-G. *musla*, occultare; Fr. *emmusel-er*, to muffle up.

**MUSSAL, MYSSAL, MUSSALING, s.** A veil or kerchief covering part of the face.

—Your *myssel* quhen ye gang to gait,  
Fra some and wind baith air and lait,  
To keip that face sa fair.

*Philotus, S. P. Rep.*, iii. 14.

**MUSARDRY, s.** Musing, dreaming.

Quhat is your force, bot febling of the strenth?  
Your curius thochtis quhat bot *musardry*?

*Doug. Virgil*, Prol. 93, 22.

Fr. *musardie*, id., *musard*, a dreaming dumpish fellow, from *mus-er*, or, as Sibb. conjectures, Teut. *muis-en*, *abdita magno silentio inquirere*; supposed to allude to the caution of a cat when watching for mice; from *muis*, a mouse.

**MUSCHE, adj.** Mushed; tufted; for patching; meaning not clear.

“Ane of plane blak taffetie. Ane of blak *musche* taffetie.” Inventories, A. 1578, p. 228.

Cotgr. expl. *taffetas mouscheté*, “tuftuffata, or tufted taffata.” This is most probably the sense, as “blak *musche* taffetie” is distinguished from that which is “plane blak.” In Dict. Trev., however, we find *mouche* defined as signifying a patch of black taffeta worn by ladies on the face. Un petit morceau de taffetas noir que le Dames mettent sur leur visage pour ornement, on pour faire paroître leur teint plus blanc. It might thus signify that kind of taffeta usually worn for patches.

**MUSCHET, part. pa.** Signifying, notched, or spotted.

“Certane pecis of *muschet* arming furing.” Inventories, A. 1578, p. 231.

If the former be the sense, it is from the v. *Mush*, q. v. It may, however, denote armine with spots; from Fr. *mouscheté*, part. pa. of the v. *mouschet-er*, to spot; “to powder, or diversifie with many spots of sundrie, or the same, colours, especially black;” Cotgr.

**MUSCHINPRAT, s.** A great or important deed; used ironically; as, “That is a *muschinprat*,” Fife.

It had been originally applied to an improper action; Fr. *mechant*, bad, and *prat*, q. v.

**MUSE-WOB, s.** A spider’s web. V. MOOSE-WEB.

**MUSH, s.** One who goes between a lover and his mistress, in order to make up a match, Fife.

This word is undoubtedly from Fr. *mouche*, *mouche*, properly a fly, from Lat. *musca*; also used to denote “a spie, eave-dropper, informer, promooter;” Cotgr. Hence the v. *mouch-er*, “to spy, pry, sneake into corners, thrust his nose into every thing;” *ibid.*

*Mouche*, se dit figurément d’un Espion, de celui qui suit un autre pas à pas. *Explorator*. Entre les Sergens il y en a un qui fait la *mouche*, qui suit tous les pas de celui qui veulent prendre, et qui marque sa pist au coin de tous les rues où il passe; e’est delà qu’on a dit, une fine *mouche*; pour dire, un homme, qui a de la finesse, de l’habilité, pour attraper les autres. Il y avoit à Athènes une courtisane qui s’appelloit *Mouche*; et en se jouant sur son nom, on lui reprochoit qu’elle piquoit, et qu’elle suçoit ces amans jusqu’au sang.—Est aussi un jeu d’Écoliers, où l’un d’eux, choisi au sort, fait la *mouche*, sur qui tous les autres frappent, comme s’ils la vouloient chasser. Dict. Trev.

The good fathers seem disposed to deduce the

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term, as figuratively used, from the Athenian courtesan. But the source of this derivation seems rather to have a strong resemblance of the legendary tales of the monastery. A fly, being still in motion, and buzzing from place to place, the term, denoting it, seems to be properly enough transferred to a spy, because of the unremitting activity required in one who sustains this despicable character.

Hisp. *mosca*, corresponding with Fr. *mouche*, is the designation given to one of those spies used within the Inquisition, who endeavour to gain the confidence, and to discover the secrets, of the prisoners, that they may betray them to their persecutors. Travels of St. Leon, iii. 222. V. BLACKFOOT.

[**MUSH, MUSHIK, s.** A person of small stature, with dark complexion, and head well covered with hair, Banffs. Generally applied to women.]

**MUSH, s.** Muttering; *Neither hush na mush*, neither a whisper nor the sound of muttering, Ang.

This seems evidently allied to Isl. *muska-ra*, *musito*, *muska-ur*, *mussitatio*, G. Andr.; *muskr*, id. Lex. Haldorson.

To **MUSH, v. a.** 1. To cut out with a stamp, to nick or notch, to make into flounces. It is commonly applied to grave-clothes, part. pr. *musched*, *muschet*, scalloped, S.

His clothes were all *mush’d*,  
And his body lay streek’d.

*Old Song.*

[2. To scallop or plait the edge of a woman’s mutch or cap, Shetl., Clydes.]

Fr. *mouschet-er*, “to pinke, or cut with small cuts;” Cotgr.; also, *mouché*, curtailed; id. V. MUSCHET.

**MUSH, s.** A nick or notch, that especially which is made by scissors, *ibid.*

[**MUSHIN, s.** Scalloped or crimped work; also, cloth that is so ornamented, Clydes.]

[To **MUSH, MUSHLE, v. a.** To consume or use by slow degrees; implying also waste, Banffs.]

[**MUSH, MUSHLE, s.** Slow, constant use or consumption of a thing, *ibid.*]

[To **MUSHLE, v. a.** 1. Same as *to mush*, *ibid.*

2. To mix, to intermingle, to confuse, *ibid.*]

[**MUSHLE, s.** 1. Same as *mush*, *ibid.*

2. Mixture, intermingling, confusion.]

[**MUSHLED, adj.** Mixed up, intermingled; applied to persons whose descent is obscured or confused through inter-marriage of families, *ibid.*]

[**MUSHLIN, s.** 1. The act of consuming slowly but constantly.

2. The act of mixing or confusing.

3. Mixture, confusion, *ibid.*]

**MUSHINFOW**, *adj.* Crnel, W. Loth.; perhaps *q. mischant-fow*.

**MUSHOCH** (*gutt.*), *s.* "A heap of grain, thrashed out and laid aside in a corner for seed;" Gall. Encycl.

Probably a derivative from *Musk*, a confused heap; or as allied to Gael. *mosach*, rough, bristly, *mosan*, rough trash, such as chaff, &c.?

**MUSHOCH-RAPES**, *s. pl.* Ropes for surrounding grain, Gall.

"This grain is confined into as small a bulk as possible, by surrounding it with *mushoch-ropes*, thick ropes twisted on purpose." *Ibid.*

**MUSICKER**, *s.* A musician, S. O.

—"The shout got up that the *musickers* were coming." *The Entail*, ii. 244.

**MUSK**, *s.* 1. A mash, a pulp.

"Boil all these very well, till the grain is reduced to a *musk*; and keep the kettle or caldron covered." Maxwell's *Sel. Trans.*, p. 146.

2. A confused heap, Galloway.

"*Musk*—a vast of matters tossed together, such as straw, grain, hay, chaff, &c." Gall. Encycl.

[Allied to *mash* and *mask*, Sw. *mäske*, to mash, Dan. *mask*, a mash; also, Fr. *musse*, "a privy hoord,—and odd nook to lay a thing out of the way in;" Cotgr. *Isl. musk*, however, comes very near the sense given in the definition: *Acus, quisquiliae, palea*; item, *pulvis*; Haldorson.

**MUSK**, *s.* Moss, and synonym. with modern *fog*.

"*Muscus, musk* or *fog* of walls or trees;" Despaut. *Gram. D.* 4, b.

Evidently from the Lat. *muscus*, Ital. *mosc-o*, id.

**MUSKANE, MUSCANE**, *adj.* 1. Mossy, moss grown.

—*Muskane* treis sproutit,  
Combust, barrant, unblomit and unleifit,  
Auld rottin runtis, quharin na sap was leifit.  
*Pallice of Honour*, i. 3.

It occurs also in st. 19 and 58.

Teut. *mosch-en*, mucere, situm trahere; *mosch*, mouldiness; *mosachtigh*, mouldy, mossy.

2. Putrid, rotten.

"Than to ylk lordis bed past ane of thir men, al at ane set hour, ylkane of thame had in thair hand ane club of *muscane* tre, quhilk kest ane vncouth glance with the fische scalis in the myrk." Bellend. *Cron.*, B. x. c. 9. *Baculum putri ligno excussum.* Boeth.

[**MUSKER**, *s.* A small piece of anything, a small quantity, Shetl.]

[**MUSKERIN**, *s.* A term applied to occasional slight showers, *ibid.*]

**MUSLIN-KAIL**, *s.* "Broth composed simply of water, shelled barley, and greens," Gl. Shirr., S.

While ye are pleas'd to keep me hale,  
I'll sit down o'er my scanty meal,  
Be't water-brose, or *muslin-kail*,  
Wi' cheerfu' face.

*Burns*, iii. 90.

Perhaps *q. meslin-kail*, from the variety of ingredients; and thus from the same origin with *Maschlin*, *q. v.*

**MUSSIL-BROSE, MUSSLE-BROSE**, *s.* "*Brose* made from *muscles*. These shell-fish are boiled in their own sap, and this juice, when warm, is mingled with oatmeal." Gall. Encycl.

[To **MUSSLE**, *v. a.* To mix, to confuse, to put into a state of confusion, Ayr. V. **MUSHLE**.]

**MUSSLIN, MUSSLING**, *adj.*

"I shall in my stammering tong and *musling* speech doe what I can to allure you to the loue thereof." Boyd's *Last Battell*, p. 771.

If this does not signify mixed, *q. meslin*, perhaps snivelling; Fr. *muscleux*, E. *muzzelling*, tying up the muzzle, closing the nose. It may, however, signify disguised; as corresponding to "another tongue," Isa. xxviii. 11. V. **MUSALL**, *v.*

**MUST**, *s.* Mouldiness; [also, a disagreeable smell. Pron. with *u* long in Orkn. and Shetl.]

It is the riches that evir sall indure;  
Quhilk moth [mocht] nor *must* may nocht rust nor ket;  
And to mannis sawl it is eternal met.

*Henryson, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 125.

Johnson derives the verb from C. B. *mus*, stinking. Teut. *mos, mosch, mosse, mucor, sitns.*

**MUST**, *s.* 1. Musk. V. **MUIST**.

2. An old term, applied by the vulgar to hair-powder, or flour used for this purpose, S.

Perhaps it might anciently receive this name as being scented with *musk*, S. *must*.

To **MUST, MOUST**, *v. a.* To powder, S.

Ye good-for-naething souter hash,  
Tho' *musted* is your carrot pash,  
Tell me, I say, thou Captain Flash,—  
What right ye ha'e to wear this sash?

*Mayne's Siller Gun*, p. 66.

"Sae I ge'd my wa' hame, *musted* my head, and made ready a clean oerly, my purit handit sark, a staff an' a blew bonnet." H. Blyd's *Contract*, p. 4.

"Csn ye say wha the carle was wi' the black coat and the *musted* head wha was wi' the Laird of Cairnvreckan?" *Waverley*, ii. 197.

"Hout awa, ye auld gowk,—would ye creesh his bonny brown hair wi' your nasty ulyie, and then *moust* it like the auld minister's wig?" *Antiquary*, i. 229.

[**MUSTE-BALL**, *s.* A musk ball. V. under **MOIST**.]

**MUSTARDE-STONE**, *s.* "A mortar stone, a large stone mortar used to bruise barley in," Pink.

He was so fers he fell attour sne fek,  
And brak his heid upon the *mustarde stone*.

*Dunbar, Mailland Poems*, p. 84.

This, however, is not the mortar itself, but a large round stone, used in some parts of the country, by way of pestle, for bruising *mustard* seed in a stone or wooden vessel. It is still called the *mustard stane*.

[MUSTARTE-BULLET, *s.* A ball used for grinding mustard, Banffs.]

To MUSTER, MUSTUR, *v. n.* 1. To make a great shew or parade.

Or like ane anciant aik tre, mony yeris  
That grew spoun sum montane toppis hycht,—  
Sichlike Mezentius *musturis* in the feild,  
Wyth huge armour, baith spere, helm and scheild.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 347, 20.

Fland. *muyster-en*, indagare, Ital. *mostra*, Lat. *monstrare*, *q.* to shew one's self.

2. To talk with exceeding volubility, Clydes.

MUSTER, *s.* Excessive loquacity, *ibid.*

MUSTERER, *s.* An incessant talker, *ibid.*

Perhaps allied to Flandr. *muyster-en*, perscrutari, inquirere; loquacity being frequently the adjunct of great curiosity.

To MUT, *v. n.* To meet, to have intercourse with. V. MUTE, *v.*

Yeit mony fled and durst nocht bid Eduard,  
Sum in to Ross, and in the Illis past part.  
The Byschop Synclar agayn fled in to But;  
With that fals King he had no will to mut.

*Wallace*, x. 994, MS.

Moes.-G. *mot-jan*, Su.-G. *mot-a*, *moet-a*, Belg. *moet-en*, occurere, obviam ire. According to Skinner, in many places in E., the council-chamber is called the *Moot-house*, from A.-S. *mot*, *gemot*, meeting, and *house*. In the same sense, *moot-hall* is used. Moes.-G. *mota*, *motastad*, the place of the receipt of custom.

*Moot halle*, hall of judgment, Wiclif.

“Thanne knyghtes of the justice [i.e., soldiers of Pilate] token Jhesus in the *moot halle*, and gaderiden to hem all the company of knyghtes.” *Matt.* xxvii. V. MOTE.

Thre and Seren. deduce the Goth. verb, signifying to meet, from the prep. *mot*, contra, adversus. The derivation, however, may be inverted.

MUTCH, *s.* 1. A cap or coif, a head-dress for a woman, S.

Their toys and *mutches* were sse clean,  
They glanced in our ladies een.

*Ramsay's Tea-Table Miscellany*, p. 9.

This bonny blink will bleach my *mutches* clean,  
To glance into his een whom I love dear.

*Morison's Poems*, p. 148.

2. It seems also to have been occasionally used to denote a nightcap for a man.

“He had on his head a white pearly *mutch*; he had no coat, but a pair of black breeks, white socks, and a pair of mools on his feet. Thus is he and John Logie brought to the scaffold.” *Spalding*, ii. 218.

[Item, j elne of Hollandie clath for *muchis* to the King, price xs. *Compota Thesaur.*]

MUTCH-CAP, NIGHT-MUTCH, *s.* A night-cap, a night-cap for a female, S.

“*Mutches* called *night mutches*, of lining plane, the dozen, 1s.” *Rates*, A. 1611.

The same article affords a proof of the length to which luxury in dress had been carried, in our country, in this early period. For it follows:

“*Night mutches* embroudered with silke and gould, the peece—vi. l.” “*Night mutches* embroudered with gould and silver, the peece—xii. l.”

Thus it appears that some ladies had been willing to pay twelve pounds Scots of mere duty for a nightcap.

Teut. *mutse*, Germ. *mutze*, Su.-G. *myssa*, Fenn. *mysy*, id. Kilian defines *mutse*, so as to give us the

idea of that species of *mutch* in S. called a Toy. Amiculum, epomis: pileus latus, profundus et in scapulas usque demissus; “falling down on the shoulders.”

This term has found its way into the Latin of the lower ages; being used to denote a clerical head-dress. *Mussa*, *muza*, canonicorum amictus. *Almucium*, *almucia*, amiculum, seu amictus, quo canonici caput humerosque tegebant; Du Cange. Fr. *amuce*. The rest of the clergy, as well as the Bishops, were enjoined to wear this dress. *Ibid.*, vo. *Muza*. There was also a cowl, to which this name was given, proper to the monks. *Ihr* views all the terms, used in this sense, as formed from Alem. *muz-en*, to cover. V. Schilter, in vo.

Isl. *moet-r*, *mot-ur*, mitra, tiara muliebris, rica, (G. Andr., p. 181), is probably allied.

MUTCHKIN, *s.* A measure equal to an English pint, S.

“Swa weyis the Boll new maid, mair than the auld boll xli. pund, quhilk makis twa gallounis and a half, and a chopin of the auld met, and of the new met ordanit ix. pyntis and thre *mutchkinnis*.” *Acts Ja. I.*, 1426, c. 80, Edit. 1566.

“Qu. *mett-kan*, from Teut. *met-en*, metiri, and *kan*, vas;” Gl. Sibb. The Dutch use *mutsie* for a quart; Sw. *maatt*, a pint.

MUTCHKIN-STOUP, *s.* The vessel used for measuring a *mutchkin*, or English pint, S.

That *mutchken-stoup* it hads but dribs,

Then let's get in the tappit hen.

*Herd's Coll.*, ii. 227.

MUTE, MOOT, MOTE, MWT, *s.* 1. Meeting, interview; also, place of meeting, &c.

Wallang fled our, and durst nocht bid that *mute*;

In Pykardte als till him was na buts.

*Wallace*, viiii. 1525, MS.

2. The meeting of the Estates, a parliament, an assembly.

Throw England theive, and tak thes to thy futs,—

Ans horsmanshell thou call thee at the *Mute*,

And with that craft convoy thee throw the land.

*Kennedy, Evergreen*, ii. 72.

V. MUT, *v.*

3. A plea, an action at law.

“In this *mute* or pley of treason, anie frie man, major and of perfect age, is admitted to persew and accuse.” *Reg. Maj.*, B. iv., c. 2, s. 1.

“*Mote*, *mute*, pley, action, quarrell.—*Mute*, in the lawes of this realme is called *Placitum*.” *Skene*, Verb. Sign.

A.-S. *mot*, *ge-mot*, L. B. *mot-a*, conventus; or immediately from *mot-ian*, tractare, disputare.

4. A whisper, a hint, Fife.

Teut. *muyl-en*, susurrare.

5. Used metaph. with respect to what causes grief; properly, a quarrel.

“Sound comfort, and conviction of an eye to an idol, may as well dwell together as tears and joy; but let this do you no ill, I speak it for your encouragement, that ye may make the best out of your joys ye can, albeit ye find them mixed with *mutes*.” *Rutherford's Lett.*, P. i. ep. 50.

To MUTE, MWTE, MWT, *v. n.* 1. To plead, to answer to a challenge in a court of law, to appear in court in behalf of any one who is accused.

—"Ilke soyter of Baron, in the Schiref-court, may there, for his Lord, *mute* and answer without impediment." Baron Courts, c. 35, s. 1.

And thus thy freind, sa mekil of the mais,  
Is conntit ane of thy maist felloun fais ;  
And now with the he will necht gang sne fute  
Befoir this King, for the to count or *mute*.

*Priests of Peblis, S. P. R., i. 46.*

The E. verb *moot* is used only with respect to mock pleading. But most probably it anciently denoted serious pleading; from A.-S. *mol-ian*, tractare, disputare; *gemot-man*, concionator, an orator, an assembly-man; Somner. Du Cange observes, that, ss, with E. lawyers to *mote*, signifies *placitare*, the Scots use *mote* in the same sense; whence, he says, with them the *Mute-hill*, i. e., *mons placiti*; vo. *Mota*, 2.

2. To speak, to treat of, to discourse concerning; sometimes with the prep. *of*.

This marischell that Ik *off mute*,  
That Schyr Robert of Keyth was cauld,—  
In hy apen thaim gan he rid.

*Barbour, xiii. 60, MS. Wyntown, id.*

Mr. MacPherson refers to Sw. *be-mot-a*, to declare, Fr. *mot*, a word. But the Sw. verb is used merely in an oblique sense. It is formed from *mot-a*, to meet. In the same manner A.-S. *mol-ian*, to meet, signifies tractare, discutere; because the Goth. nations were wont to *meet* for the purpose of discussing public concerns.

3. To articulate.

The first sillabis that thow did *mute*,  
Was *pa da lyn* vpon the Lute ;  
Than playit I twenty springs perqueir,  
Quhilk was greit pietie for to heir.

*Lyndsay's Warkis, 1592, p. 263.*

4. To mutter, to whisper, or to mention any thing that ought to be kept secret, S.

"Shall we receiue the plaine aspiring tyrant and enemy,—to giue him the command of the watch, the centinels; to command, controll, that they *mute* not, stirr not; doe what hee list, yea, euen binde vp all the dogs, and mussell their mouthes, that they bite not, barke not, but at his pleasure?" D. Hume's Paralogie. V. Galloway's Dikaiologie, p. 95.

5. To complain, to mutter in the way of discontent, S.

Bet Englissmen, that Scotland gryppit all,  
Off benefyce thai leit him bruk bot small.  
Quben he saw weill tharfor he mycht nocht *mute*,  
To saiff his lyf thre yer he duelt in But.

*Wallace, vii. 935, MS.*

"Mr. Harry Guthrie made no din. His letter was a wand over his head to discipline him, if he should *mute*." Baillie's Lett., i. 382.

"This was read openly in the face of the Assembly, and in the ears of the Independents, who durst not *mute* against it." Ibid., i. 483.

It is used also as a *v. a.*

For thou sic malice of thy master *mutes*,  
It is weil set that thou sic barret brace.

*Kennedy, Evergreen, ii. 67.*

The verb, in these senses, may be from the same origin with the preceding verb. Teut. *muyt-en*, however, signifies to mutter, to murmur.

*Mote* is used nearly in the same sense in *Sir Peni*.

In kinges court es it no bote,  
Ogaines *Sir Peni* for to *mote* ;  
So mekill es he of myght,  
He es so witty and so strang,  
That be it never so mekill wrang,  
He will mak it right.

Warton renders this *dispute*, Hist. Poet., iii. 93. He reckons the poem coeval with Chaucer; and justly observes, that the Scots Poem, printed in Lord Hailes' Collection, has been formed from this.

But indeed it is most probable, that the one printed by Warton had the same origin. For many words and phrases occur in it, which are properly Scottish; as *trail syde*, *gase for goes*, *fase for foes*, &c.

[Teut. *muyten*, susurrare.]

MUTING, *s.* Assembly, meeting.

All thair dansis and play  
They movit in their mad *moting*.

*Colkelbie Sov, F. i. v. 386.*

A.-S. *mut*, conventus. V. MUTE, *s.*

[To MUTE, MOOT, *v. n.* To moult, to mew, Aysr. Lat. *mutare*, Fr. *muer*.]

[MUTE, MOOT, MUTIN, *s.* Moulting, *ibid.*]

MUTH, *adj.* Exhausted with fatigue.

Thare thai laid on that tyme sa fast ;  
Quha had the ware thare at the last,  
I wil noucht say ; bot quha best had,  
He wes but dout bathe *muth* and mad.

*Wyntown, ix. 17. 22.*

This seems to have been a proverbial phrase. For it is equivalent to that used elsewhere.

Of a gude rede all *mate* and *made*.

*Ibid., vii. 2. 30.*

V. MAIT.

It is perhaps tautological; for *muth* and *mad* seem to have nearly the same sense, q. completely exhausted with fatigue. Or the one may denote fatigue of body, the other that exhausture of animal spirits, or dejection of mind, which is the effect of great fatigue.

MUTH, *adj.* Warm, cheerful, &c. V. MUTH.

MUTHER, *s.* A term denoting a great number; as, "a *muther* o' beasts," a great drove of cattle; "a *muther* o' folk," &c.; sometimes *murther*, Fife; *myter*, Perth.

Teut. *mijte*, strues, meta. Gael. *mothar*, a tuft of trees. [V. MEITH, MUTE.]

MUTTER, *s.* The same with *Multure*, S.

"Mutter, the miller's fee for his *melders*;" if the *melder* be six bolls, the *mutter* is about the fortieth part;" Gall. Encycl.

MUTTIE, *s.* The name given to the vessel, used in a mill, for measuring meal, Loth. Its contents amount to half a stone weight.

It seems allied to Su.-G. *mutt*, a measure; Alem. *muttu*, id. Fr. *muid*, a measure of wine.

MUTTLE, *s.* A small knife, Shetl.

Perhaps q. *murtle*, from Isl. *mora*, cultellus, also *knifmora*.

MUTTON, *s.* A sheep; Fr. *mouton*, a wedder.

"Sic derth is rasit in the countrie, that ane *mutton* buck is deirarand farsurmountis the price of ane boll of quheit." Acts. Ja. VI., 1592. V. BUCK.

[MUTTON-TEE, *s.* A leg of mutton smoked and salted, Shetl.]

**MUTTYOCH'D, MOTTYOCH'D, part. adj.**

Matted, Galloway,

"When sheaves of corn grow together, after being cut in moist weather, we say that they are *muttyoch'd*, or matted together;" Gall. Encycl.

I can scarcely think that this is from E. *mat*. It has very much of a Celtic appearance; and may be either from Gael. *maothuigh-am*, to moisten, as referring to the cause; or from *meadaigh-am*, to grow, as regarding the effect. *Muttaiche*, Ir. *mutaidhe*, however, signify mouldiness, which may have been the original idea connected with the term. C. B. *mwythach* denotes the state of being puffed up; from *mwyth-aw*, to mollify, to soften, evidently allied to Gael. *maothuigh-am*.

**To MUZZLE, v. a. To mask.**

"They danced along the kirk-yard, Geillie Duncan, playing on a trumpet, and John Fian, *muzzled*, led the ring." *Newes from Scotl.*, 1591. *Law's Memor. Pref.* xxxvii. V. MUSSAL, v.

**MY, interj. Denoting great surprise, Roxb.**

Perhaps the same with Teut. *my*, me; used like Lat. *me*, O *me perditum!* *Miseram me!*

**MYANCE, s. Means; apparently used in the sense of wages, fee.**

In leichecraft he was homecyd,  
He wald haif for a nycht to byd  
A haiknay and the hurtman's hyd,  
So meikle he was of *myance*.

*Dunbar, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 20.

Fr. *moyen*, mean, endeavour. *Myance* seems properly a *s. pl.*, q. *moyens*. V. MOYEN.

**[MYAUT, s. The slightest noise, Banffs.]****[MYAUE, MYAUVE, s. The mew of a cat; also used like *myaut*, Clydes., Banffs. V. MIAUVE.]****MYCHARE, s. A covetous sordid fellow.**

Scho callit to hir cheir—

A milygant and a *mychare*.  
*Colkelbie Sow*, F. i. v. 56.

It is written *micher* by Chaucer and Skinner. According to the meaning attached to *mychyn*, *Prompt. Parv.*, it seems strictly to signify a pilferer. "*Mychyn* or prively stelyn smale thyngs. *Surripio*."

Fr. *miche*, a crumb, a small fragment. L. B. *mich-a*, id., *micar-ius*, qui micis vivit, vel eas recolligit, *Du Cange*; q. one who lives by gathering fragments.

**MYCHE, adj. Great, much.**

A sege shal he seche with a sessioun,  
That *myche* baret, and hale, to Bretayn shal bring.  
*Sir Gawain and Sir Gal.*, i. 23.

— The Latine cietezanis,  
Without thars wallis ischit out attanis,  
That with grete laude and *myche* solempnitè  
And tryumphe rial has ressaute Enee.

*Doug. Virgil*, 470, 25.

Su.-G. *mycken*, great, much; Isl. *miok*, *mikit*, much. Hence Hisp. *mucho*, as well as the E. word.

**[MYCHTY, adj. Mighty, powerful, Barbour, i. 474.]****MWDE. V. MODE.****MYDDIS, s. The middle, midst.**

Worthy Willame of Dowglas  
In-til his hart all angry was,

That Edynburchis castelle swa  
Dyd to the land a-noy and wa,  
Standand in *myddis* of the land.

*Wyntown*, viii. 38. 7.

Su.-G. *mid*, Moes.-G. *midja*, medius. Hence Su.-G. *midja*, medium, the middle of any thing.

**[MYDDIL-ERD, s. The earth, the world. V. under MIDDIL.]****MYDLEN, adj. Middle.**

All *mydlen* land thai brynt wp in a fyr,  
Brak parkis down, destroyit all the schyr.

*Wallace*, viii. 944, MS.

In edit. 1648, it is;

All *Mydlame* thsy burnt up in a firs;  
as if it were the name of a town. But it seems to denote the middle bounds of Yorkshire; A.-S. *midlen*, medius, whence E. *middling*.

**MYDLEST, adj. Middlemost, in the middle.**

Til Willams Rede he gave Ingland  
Thare-in to be Kyng ryngnand,  
For he hys sowne wes *mydlest*,  
He gawe hym thare-for hys conqwest.

*Wyntown*, vii. 2. 75.

A.-S. *midlaesta*, *midlesta*, medius; also, mediocris.

**MYDLIKE, MYDLIN, adj. Moderate, middling, mean, ordinary; also, in indifferent health.**

He said, "Methink, Marthokys sone,  
Rycht as Golmakmorn was wone  
To haif fra him all his meigne;  
Rycht swa all his fra ws has he."  
He set ensample thus *mydlike*,  
The quethir he mycht, mar mauerlik,  
Ijknyt hym to Gaudifer de Laryss,  
Quhen that the mycht Duk Betyss  
Assallyeit in Gadyrris the forrayours.

*Barbour*, iii. 71, MS.

The writer means, that Lorne, in comparing Bruce to Gaul the son of Morni, one of Fingal's heroes, used but an ordinary or vulgar comparison; where he might with propriety have likened him to one of the most celebrated heroes of romance.

A.-S. *medlice*, modicus, small, mean; Somner.

**[MYDWART, s. The middle; in *mydwart*, in the middle, Barbour, iii. 682, Skeat's Ed.]****[MYD-CAWSE, s. Middle of the causey, Barbour, xviii. 132.]****[MYD-WATER, MID-WATTER. 1. Middle of the stream or sea, Barbour, iii. 682, MS.]**

The term is still in use in this sense; but some of the editions of Barbour have *mydwart*, q. v.

**2. Metaph. applied to a person who is always in difficulties or trouble; as, "I ne'er saw him better, he's aye in *mid-wattir*," Clydes.]****MYID, MEID, s. A mark, Fife. V. MEITH.****MYIS (pl. of *mus*), mice; A.-S. Isl. *mys*.**

As he wes syttand at the mete,  
Wyth *mys* he wes swa wmbesete,  
That wyth hym and hys menyhè  
He mycht na way get sawfè.

*Wyntown*, vi. 14. 107.

**To MYITH, v. a. To indicate. V. MYTH.****MYKIL, adj. Great. V. MEKYL.**

MYLD, *s.* [Prob. a pattern for the bore of a gun.]

"Foure spindillis of yron for *myldis* of double and quarter falcoun." Inventories, A. 1578, p. 254.

"Nyne spindillis of yron sum for bowing and utberis *myld* spindillis for moyane, double, and quarter falcoun." *Ibid.*, p. 255.

MYLES, *s.* Expl. "wild spinnage," Loth.

This is the *Chenopodium album et viride*; the same with *Midden-Mylies*. In Etrr. For. this is sometimes eaten with salt, in times of scarcity.

MYLIES, *s. pl.* The small liuks on a fishing-rod, through which the line runs, S. V. MAILYIE.

To MYNDE, MYNE, *v. a.* 1. To undermine.

"The actioun—aganis Robert abbot of Halirudhous—for the wrangwis causing of James Ancrome masoune to *mynde* & cast doun a kiching & a stane wall of a land, & tenement belonging to the said Margret," &c. Act. Audit., A. 1488, p. 126.

We holk and *mynde* the corneris for the nanis,  
Quhil doun belife we tumlit all atanis.

*Doug. Virgil*, 54, 33.

*Myne*, id. 183. 35.

2. To dig in a mine, Tweedd.

MYNDE, MINDE, *s.* A mine in which metals or minerals are dug, Tweedd.

"Anent the—bringing hame of bulyoun gold and siluire, and the having furthe of the gold of the *mynde*," &c. Acts Ja. V., 1526, Ed. 1814, p. 306.

"He said ane *minde* undir erde, with sic ithand and continuall lauboure, that he ceissit nouthir day nor nicht, quhil ane passage wes maid fra the tentis to the castell of Fidená." Bellend. T. Liv., p. 341.

[To MYND, MYNE, *v. a.* 1. To remember, recollect. V. MIND, *v.*

2. To remind; as, "That *mynes* me o' my promise: be sure to *myne* me o't the morn," Clydes.]

[To MYND, MYNE, *v. n.* To wish, desire, care, like; as, "I don't *myne* to see him ava," *ibid.*]

[MYND, MYNE, *s.* 1. Remembrance, recollection, S.

2. A reminder, a hint, Clydes.

3. Inclination, desire, liking; as, "I've a good *mynd* to gie ye a lickiu," *ibid.*]

[MYNDLES, *adj.* Forgetful, thoughtless, oblivious, foolish, Gl. *Doug. Virgil*.]

To MYNG, MYNGE, *v. a.* To mix, to mingle.

Thre kynd of wolfis in the world now ryngis:

The first ar fals pervertaris of the lawis,  
Quhilk, undir poleit termes, faset *myngis*,  
Leitand, that all wer gospel that they schawis.

*Henryson, Bannatyne Poems*, p. 119.

*Myngit*, mingled, Bellend. Descr. Alb., c. 5.

A.-S. *meng-an*, Su.-G. *meng-a*, Germ. *mengen*, id. *chimengide*, permixtim, Isidor. ap. Schilt. *Chauc. menged*, mingled.

MYNIVER, *s.* A species of fur brought from Russia, that of the *Mus Ponticus*; E. *meniver* and *menever*.

"*Myniver* the mantle—iiii l." Rates, A. 1611.

I mention this word, as I have found it traced only to Fr. *menu vair*, id. But the term seems very ancient; C. B. *mynfyr*, genus quoddam pellitii, Boxhorn.

MYNKES, *s.* A species of fúr.

"Furres called *Mynkes*, vntawed the timber cont. 40 skins—xxiii l." Rates, A. 1611.

MYNMERKIN, *s.* V. MEMERKIN.

To MYNNES, MYNNIS, *v. a.* and *n.* To diminish, to grow less. "*Mynnising* of the paiss of bred of quhit of xxij vncc." *Aberd. Reg. Cent.* 16; i.e., "the weight of wheaten bread."

With the to wrestil, thou waxis euermore wicht;  
Eschew thine haut, and *mynnis* sall thy mycht.

*Doug. Virgil*, 98, 12.

Su.-G. *minsk-a*, id., from *min*, less; Lat. *min-us*.

[MYNZ, MYNSE, *pron.* and *s.* Mine, Clydes., Shetl.]

To MYPE, *v. n.* 1. To speak a great deal, Roxb.

2. To be very diligent; as, "a *mypin'* bodie," one who is constantly engaged, or *eydent*, *ibid.*

[MYRAKILL, *s.* A miracle; to *myrakill*, as a miracle, Barbour, xvii. 825.]

MYRIT, *pret.* Stupified, confounded,

*Rutulianis* vox affrayit with *myndis myrit*.

*Doug. Virgil*, 278, 35.

I scarcely think that this is the same with *merrit*, marred, as Rudd. conjectures; or from A.-S. *myrran*, profundere, perdere. It seems merely a metaph. use of the E. *v. la mire*, which is often applied, S. B., to a person in a state of perplexity, from whatever cause.

[MYRK, *adj.* Dark; used also as a *s.*, as in Burns' Tam o' Shanter.

Or catch'd by warlocks !' the *mirk*  
By Allowa suld haunted kirk.]

[MYRKNES, *s.* Darkness, Barbour, v. 106.]

MYRKEST, *adj.* Most rotten; or perhaps most wet.

The forseast ay rudly rabutyt he,  
Kepynt hys hors, and rycht wysly can fle,  
Quhill that he cum the *myrkest* mur amang.  
His hors gaiff our, and wald no forthy gang.

*Wallace*, v. 293, MS.

*Mirkest*, Edit. 1648. 1758.

This is most probably from the same source with Isl. *morkinn*, Su.-G. *murken*, rotten, putrid; *murket traa*, rotten wood. That part of a *moor* is said to be most rotten, which sinks most, or is most unfit to be trode on. G. Andr. connects the Isl. term with *moor*, solum grumis sterilibus obsitum; also clay. In Finland *maerkae* signifies humid.

[MYRTHIS, *s. pl.* Mirth, joy, merry making, Barbour, xvi. 237.]

[MYRTHLES, *adj.* Sad, melancholy, Lyndsay, The Dreame, l. 357.]

MYRTRE, *adj.* Of or belonging to Myrtle.  
The cyrculate wayis in hell Eneas saw,  
And fand quene Dido in the *myrtre* schaw.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 178, 34.

[MYS, MYSS, *s.* Fault, ill, evil. V. MISS.]

[MYSCANCE, *s.* Mishap, misfortune, Barbour, i. 221.]

MYSCANCY, *adj.* 1. Unlucky, unfortunate, S.

—Sa stranglie his freynd and fallow dere,  
That sa *myschancy* was, belouit he,  
That rather for his lyfe himselve left dee.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 291, 49.

2. Causing unhappiness.

Bot netheles intill oure blynd fury,  
Foryettand this richt ernstle thay wirk,  
And for to drug and draw wald neuer irk,  
Quhill that *myschancy* monstoure quentlie bet  
Amyd the hallowit tempill vp was set.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 47, 3.

[MYSCHEANT, *adj.* Wicked, bad, Lyndsay, Exper. and Court., l. 3374. Fr. *mechant*, id.]

[MYSCHEIFF, *s.* Misfortune, mishap, Barbour, ii. 45, i. 310.]

[MYSCHEVE, *v. a.* To hurt, Lyndsay, Exper. and Court., l. 2425.]

[MYSDYD, *pret.* Did amiss, Barbour, ii. 43.]

To MYSEFALL, *v. n.* To miscarry.

—Quha sa werrayis wrangwysly,  
Thal fend God all to gretunly,  
And thaim may happy to *mysfall*,  
And swa may tid that her we sall.  
*Barbour*, xii. 365, MS.

MYSFAR, *s.* Mischance, mishap. V. MISFARE.

Ingliss wardanis till London past but mar,  
And tauld the King off all thair get *mysfar*,  
How Wallace had Scotland fra thaim reduce.  
*Wallace*, xi. 940, MS.

To MYSKNAW, *v. a.* To be ignorant of.

Biddis thou me be sa nyce, I suld *mysknaw*  
This calm salt water, or stabill findis haw?  
*Doug. Virgil*, 156, 50.

“Thairefter he geuis his awin judgement, quhilk is contrarius to al the rest: affirmyng the samyn but older scripture or doctor. And thairfore, is dere of the rehersing, becauss it was enir *misknawin* to the kirk of God, and all the ancient fateris of the samyn.” Kennedy (Crossraguell), Compend. Tractiue, p. 92.

[To MYSLIKE, *v. a.* To displease, vex, S.]

[MYSLIKING, *s.* Displeasure, vexation, Barbour, iii. 516.]

To MYSTRAIST, *v. n.* To mistrust, to suspect.

Ner the castell he drew thaim priualy  
Intill a schaw; Sotheroun *mystraitil* nocht.  
*Wallace*, ix. 1620, MS.

V. TRAIST.

[To MYSTROW, *v. a.* To mistrust, suspect, Barbour, x. 327.]

[MYSTROWING, *s.* Suspicion, mistrust, *ibid.*, x. 329.]

MYSEL, *adj.* Leprous. V. MESALL.

MYSELL, MYSELWYN, *s.* Myself, S.

Set we it in fyr, it will wado *my sell*,  
Or loss my men; thar is no mor to tell.  
*Wallace*, iv. 421, MS.

I am sad off *my selwyn* sa,  
That I count not my liff a stra.  
*Barbour*, iii. 320, MS.

From *me* and *sylfne*, accus. masc. of *sylfe* ipse.

MYSIE, *s.* The abbrev. of *Marjory*, S. Monastery, ii. 41.; also of *Marianne*.

MYSSEL, *s.* A veil. V. MUSSAL, v.

[MYSTER, MYSTIR, *s.* Need, want. V. MISTER.]

MYSTIR, *adj.* Necessary, lacking, needful.

Then in schort time men nicht thaim se  
Schute all thair galayis to the se,  
And ber to se bayth ayr and ster,  
And other thingis that *mystir* wer.  
*Barbour*, iv. 631, MS.

[MYT, MYTE, *s.* A mite, a small piece, a wee bit, Barbour, iii. 198; *mytie*, a wee, wee bit, dimin. of *myte*.]

MYTING, *s.* 1. A term used to express smallness of size. It expresses contempt also in the following passage.

Mandrag, memerkyn, mismade *myting*.  
*Evergreen*, i. 120.

Perhaps from Teut. *myte*, *mylte*, acarus, a mite; or *myte*, any thing very minute, also, money of the basest kind.

2. A fondling designation for a child, pron. q. *mitten*, Ang.

To MYTH, MYITH, *v. a.* 1. To measure, to mete.

The myllare *mythis* the multure wyth ane mett skant,  
For drouth had drunkin vp his dam in the dry yere.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 233, a. 48.

A.-S. *met-an*, *met-gian*, metiri.

2. To mark, to observe.

Scho knew him weille, bot as of eloquence,  
Scho durst nocht weill in presens till him kyth,  
Full sor scho drede or Sotheron wald him *myth*.  
*Wallace*, v. 664, MS.

3. To shew, to indicate.

Thought he wes myghtles, his mercy can he thair *myth*,  
And wald that he nane harme hynt, with hart and with hand.

*Gawan and Gol.*, iii. 18.

i. e., Although his strength was so far gone in the fight, that it might have been supposed he would have been irritated, yet he shewed mercy.

For the bricht helme in twynkland sterny nycht  
*Mythis* Eurill with bemes schynand brycht.  
*Doug. Virgil*, 239, 36.

The feverous hew intil my face did *myith*  
 All my mal-eis ; for swa the horribill dreid  
 Hail me our aet, I nicht not say my creid.

*Palice of Honour*, i. 67.

“*Myith, mix.*” Gl. Pink. But there is no evidence that it ever bears this sense. It is radically the same with Isl. *mid-a*, locum signo,—or as explained by Verelius, *collimare*, to look straight at the mark. V. MEITH.

MYTH, *s.* A mark. V. MEITH.

MYTH, *s.* Marrow, Selkirks. Hence,

MYTHIE, *adj.* Of or belonging to marrow ; as, *a mythie bane*, a marrow-bone, or a bone full of marrow, *ibid.*

Isl. *meid*, *lardum pinguissimum balaenarum* ; C. B. *mwyd-ion*, *medulla* ; Boxborn.