A STUDY
of
WORDS OF SCOTTISH LOWLAND DIALECT
in
JOHN WATSON'S BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH
by
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"In freta dum fluvii current,...
Semper honos nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt
Quae me cumque vocant terrae."
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INTRODUCTION

General Statement

In this thesis, it is proposed to trace as far as possible in John Watson's *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, the words of the Scottish Lowland dialect which vary from recognized standard English;

To give a brief life of John Watson connecting his work in Drumtochty (Logiealmond, Perthshire) with the language and characteristics of the people of Drumtochty;

To notice the rise, the period of use, and the decadence of the Scottish tongue;

To make a dictionary of the words of the Scottish Lowland dialect found in John Watson's *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. From this work a sentence is quoted illustrating the use of each word; numerous illustrations and parallels are given from the works of Scott, Stevenson, Barrie, Burns.

1. Letter from W. & R. Chambers, Edinburgh, to the author of the thesis: "Logiealmond in Perthshire is the location of Drumtochty."
THE SCOTTISH TONGUE

As set forth in Scottish words used
in Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush
by John Watson (Ian Maclaren)

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Watson considered himself a Scot of Scots.
He says of himself: "I am a pure Highlander. My mother was a Maclaren and came from Loch Tay and spoke the Gaelic tongue. My father was born at Braemar, and Gaelic was the language of my paternal grandfather."

Watson's father was a Receiver of Taxes and finally became Receiver-General of Taxes in Scotland. In 1850, he was stationed at Manningtree, a small town in Essex. In this year, on November third, John was born. At four years of age, Watson was taken to Scotland and lived with his parents at Perth. When Watson was twelve, his father was promoted to Stirling where Watson attended high school. In 1866 he began his college course in the University of Edinburgh, finishing this work in 1870. This was followed by a four year course in divinity at the New College of Edinburgh. Then Watson went to Germany for one semester's work in Tübingen, which completed his divinity course. He returned from Germany in 1874 and became assistant to

*Based upon the book "Ian Maclaren", The Life of the Rev.
John Watson, D. D., by W. Robertson Nicoll
Rev. Dr. Wilson in the Barclay Free Church, Edinburgh.

In this same year, he accepted a call to Logiealmond in Perthshire, which he was to make known to the world as Drumtochty. In 1877, he was called to Free St. Matthews Church, Glasgow, as colleague and successor to Dr. Samuel Miller. In 1880, he was called to the Sefton Park Church, Liverpool, at which place he remained as minister for twenty-five years, resigning in October 1905.

Dr. Watson made three tours or visits in America, the first in 1896, lasting three months; the second in 1899 of about three months; the third in 1907. On January 30, of this year, Dr. and Mrs. Watson sailed for America. After a short tour of lecturing and preaching he was stricken with tonsilitis and quinsy and passed away at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, May 6, 1907.

Watson will be briefly considered as A Man; A Minister, An Author.

**Watson, the Man**

He was a Celt and had the characteristics of his race. Nicoll says, "Watson possessed all the leading characteristics of the Highlander, for he was a Jacobite; he was fiercely patriotic and he was superstitious. He was a Jacobite through and through and like his Roman Catholic blood, so this Jacobite
strain came through his Highland mother. He had the strong vein of romance and melancholy of the Highlander who was moved to tears by the tales of long ago."

He was superstitious. Several instances are recorded of strange happenings in the manse during his stay in Logiealmond, such as his hearing footsteps and strange noises which could not be accounted for. He believed thoroughly in the supernatural and in the reality of spiritual communications. One day he felt a great desire to see a friend in Glasgow. He made the journey and was just in time to speak to his friend before he died. Other instances are related showing this characteristic of Watson's nature.

He considered the partition between this world and the next to be very thin. Spiritualism interested him from a religious point of view, and he did not hesitate to describe people who sneered at spiritualism as ignorant fools. He had the true Celt's fear of the future and was subject to curious fits of depression from which he suffered greatly. "But he never inflicted his melancholy moods on his family but kept more closely to his study until the mood passed. In a day or two he would emerge again as a man coming out into the sunshine." He was inclined to asceticism. The
Roman Catholic church made a strong appeal to him on this point though he had no sympathy with its sacerdotal theory.

"It is now known," says Nicoll, "that during the early years of his ministry he adopted much of the Roman Catholic discipline. He observed fasts, he wore a hair shirt." He finally gave over these methods but maintained that moderate asceticism as a discipline of character is of the highest value. "The shadow of early death brooded over his most intimate talk and letters, and amid the crowding engagements of his primo he seemed to be very conscious that all these wanderings were drawing towards the inevitable rest."

In all the account of Watson's life and work, we find that he is a loving, lovable man, a man not educated beyond a feeling and sympathy for all humanity, a man with an almost divine compassion for the lonely and the forsaken, a man with tenderness and forgiveness for the sinful and erring.

Watson, the Minister

Watson loved his people and was a good Shepherd. His people's cares and sorrows, their afflictions and bereavements, were upon his heart. He truly suffered when they suffered and rejoiced when they rejoiced.
No one was so friendless that he could not find a friend in Watson; no one so lost that Watson would not take him by the hand as brother. Even the characters of his books, whose actions are sometimes condemned in bitter irony, are, by him, in succeeding chapters redeemed and reclaimed.

No doubt the very ardor and zeal which he put into his work wore him out and caused his resignation from the Liverpool Sefton Park Church. He did not spare himself but gave to the utmost. Much could be written about his pastoral work but it is sufficient here to say that he was true to every trust, faithful to every duty as he saw it, a man of whom it could be truly said at last, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Watson, the Author

John Watson had been minister of the Sefton Park Church for fifteen years before the idea of authorship was presented to his mind. W. Robertson Nicoll, the editor of the EXPOSITOR (London), in 1890 wrote Watson asking for an occasional contribution. The result was the publication, in 1893, of the first four chapters of what is now known as Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush. He wrote under the pen name of Ian Maclaren,
Ian being the Gaelic form of his Christian name, John, and Maclaren the surname of his mother. The authorship was recognized at once. The completed book was published in 1894 and won immediate recognition both in America and England.

The title of the book was chosen on account of Watson's love for that Scots song, "There Grows a Bonnie Brier Bush in Oor Kailyard." Watson says, "I chose this title because the suggestion of the book is that in every garden, however small and humble, you may have a flower... This is the whole idea of my writing, to show the rose in places where many people only look for cabbages."

The setting of this book is in Logiealmond, Perthshire, Scotland. In looking for material on Drumtochty and its people, the present writer asked M. D. Leslie, Publisher, Perth, Scotland, to give him the name of some one to whom he might write for information. Mr. Leslie kindly sent the name of the Rev. J. E. M'Ouat, minister of the Logiealmond Free Church (the Free and United Presbyterian Churches formed a Union in 1907). The following letter from the Rev. M'Ouat will explain itself:
The Manse
Logiealmond, Perthshire
Scotland, 27th May 1926

Dear Sir:

Mr. D. Leslie, Publisher, Perth, sent me some time ago your letter to him making inquiries about the "Drumtochty" of "Ian Maclaren."

2. It is true that this neighborhood is the geographical background of Ian Maclaren's works, but the characters, though founded on the general characteristics of the people here in his time, are to a certain extent idealized and in some cases drawn from other sources. Mr. (afterwards Dr.) Watson was Minister here in the Free Church from Feb. 1875 till Sept. 1877, when he went to Glasgow. The older generation whom he knew have nearly all passed away, and the younger people, through the greater facilities for mixing with the world outside, have not the same chance of developing those strong points of individuality which make the characters in the books so attractive.

3. There are very few, if any, personal portraits in the books. The one most closely
portrayed is the old guard of the Methven train, Sandy Walker, who is described as "Peter Bruce". He is dead some years ago, but I knew him and he had many of the features of "Peter." As to place names "Kildrummie" is Methven; "Muirton" is Perth; and "Dunleith" is Crieff. The "Tochty", of course, is the River Almond. "Tochty House" is Logie House, the old mansion of the Logiealmond estate.

Yours faithfully,

J. E. M'Ouat.

Perhaps Watson's days in Drumtochty were his happiest days, for they were days spent among honest, sincere folk who loved their minister. Perhaps, too, in this place his soul had time and room to expand, to become a part of all that he saw and heard. There was time for the meditation and reflection that he loved so well. This condition of peace and serenity could not obtain in the toil and labor of his ministry in Glasgow and Liverpool. At the age of fifty-seven, Watson found himself tired, and resigned as minister of the Sefton Park Church.

His writings fall naturally into two groups, the "Dr. Watson" group, consisting of his writings
which are more or less of a theological nature; the "Ian Maclaren" group, consisting of his works of fiction based for the most part upon his various experiences as a minister.

"Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested," says Bacon. Maclaren's book, Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush should be chewed and digested, for it is a good book and worthy to be studied. It cannot be called a great book, yet it has certain elements of greatness. It is marked by four characteristics or qualities - directness, simplicity, sympathy, and humanness. That which impresses the reader most is the warmth, the fullness of Watson's nature. It enfolds and embraces all about him. At times in some of his most pathetic descriptions of "life among the lowly", the very warmth and fervor of his soul hurries him along and he is sometimes nearly carried over from true sentiment into sentimentality. Sometimes we begin to shudder lest he make the fatal error and cause us to weep, not at the pathos but at the error. However, he always pauses in time.

Again, Watson harrows up the feelings with a description of suffering and death and often needlessly so. He, himself, was well aware of this. He says,
"We ministers rarely see the brighter side of life. We are tolerated at weddings, I admit; we are more at home at funerals. People do not ask a minister to share family festivities. He most often hears painful disclosures and meets death from day to day. This is apt to have a very sobering effect on the mind."

Watson possesses the rare faculty of investing the commonplace things of life with an air of romance, of letting his readers look within the lives of those who drudge and toil for scanty daily bread and see the hearts that beat warm and true in response to all that is good and noble in human life. He tells us of the hopes and aspirations of a people whose lot was cast in humble places, of their joys, their tragedies, and above all of their lives of repression and silent sacrifice. Holmes might have had just such souls in mind when he wrote:

"Oh, hearts that break and give no sign,
Save whitening lips and faded tresses,
Till death pours out its cordial wine
Slow dropped from misery's crushing presses.
If singing breath or echoing chord
To every hidden pang were given,
What endless melodies were poured,
As sad as earth, as sweet as heaven."
SCOTTISH CHARACTERISTICS

Based on the Characters Described in
Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush

On account of the close association the Scotchman is becoming more and more like the Englishman. The old days seem to have gone and cannot be recalled. John Buchan says, "Very soon, I am afraid, an Englishman will not be able to connect a Scotsman with the Scots language or Scots theology, or even Scots drink; but we shall still be different, very different, not in externals perhaps, but in the things that matter, our characters and our minds."

What are some of the characteristics of the Scottish people? The Lowland Scotch, whose language we are considering, are related by blood to the people of Northumberland and Yorkshire, but seem to be separated quite widely from the people of the Highlands. This fact is brought out very strongly in Scott's Lady of the Lake, in the conversation between Rhoderic Dhu and Fitz-James. There seems to be, in spite of the native chivalry of each, a mutual antagonism that is carried out to the death. Strange to say, when Highlanders and Lowlanders meet in foreign countries their differences seem to be
forgotten, and in a common memory of Scotland, they become as brothers. Love of country and home is a marked characteristic of the Scottish people.

Most of the country is poor in soil and resources. The people who would survive must of necessity be thrifty of their sixpences. John Buchan says in describing eighteenth century Scotland, "We possess several descriptions from the point of view of English travelers, and what struck them all was the amazing poverty of the people. But what really surprised those travelers was the poverty of the gentry, who lived in grim, little, stone houses with small rooms and narrow windows and trees planted thick around for shelter against the winter winds." In fact, poverty seems to be the biggest factor in the history of the Scottish race. The homes were hard won and that which is hard won is always deeply loved, so a Scotchman has formed a deep and lasting attachment for his native land. I think this is one of the chief characteristics. Poverty teaches many wholesome, if rather bitter, lessons. It makes people self-reliant and toughens their fibre, it gives them initiative, it makes them take risks in life.

Perhaps the Scotchman's case is somewhat similar to that of the Spartan. An Athenian visiting Sparta and
noting the hard manner of life of its people, their black broth and coarse food, remarked, "No wonder a Spartan is brave, death itself is preferable to life under such conditions."

A life of ease and luxury does not make for strong character. The more luxury we have, the more we are likely to become timid and sluggish. I believe we can put down thrift as a great characteristic of the Scottish race. The story is told of a Scotchman looking for the first time at Niagara Falls. A companion remarked that it would bring good luck to throw a penny into the water. The Scotchman took a penny from his pocket, hesitated, looked at the tumbling waters for a minute and then turned to his companion and said, "Hae ye a bit string?"

A third characteristic of the Scotch is combative-ness and dourness. It is but natural that a people who have had to contend with poverty and hardships would develop these qualities of mind. A Scotchman will suffer persecution even unto death for what he believes is right. John Brown, the old Covenantter, died at the hands of Dundee rather than renounce his religion.

Scotland, until a later period, has not been free from disturbance. An English army, more than once, has
marched to the very walls of Edinburgh. A Teviotdale herdsman was often called upon to defend his master's property against a foray from Northumberland. The Highlands seem to be arrayed against the Lowlands, the Gael against the Saxon, according to Walter Scott. So the people who dwelt on the borders—and in a sense the whole of Scotland was a border—became a bold, hardy race. (John Buchan and Others, The Scottish Tongue.)

Writers seem to agree that the Scottish character is made up of two great elements, hard-headedness and romance, "sense and sentiment". G. Gregory Smith deals with this at length in his Scottish Literature in the chapter, "Two Moods". He says, "One characteristic, or mood, stands out clearly though it is not easy to describe in words. We stumble over 'actuality', 'grip of fact', 'sense of detail'. In Scott, for example, we find that much of his success in description, whether of scene, or movement, or conversation, is achieved by piling up the details."

In fact, the Scotchman has a prosaic side. Maclaren says, "Speech in Drumtocht distilled slowly, drop by drop, and the faces of our men were carved in stone. The Shorter Catechism has sharpened the intellect of the Scotchman until he is on the lookout for fine distinctions,
and on the watch against inaccuracy. Farmers who could state the esoteric doctrine of spiritual independence between the stilts of the plow and talk familiarly of coordinate jurisdiction with mutual subordination, were not likely to fall into the vice of generalization."

A Scotchman is as sparing of his adjectives as he is of his money. He seems to be afraid of overstatement. If misfortune comes upon him, he remarks, "It's no lichtsome." And when things go well with him, he says, "A' daurna' complain." This seems to be a characteristic handed down from rather ancient times, for we find it in Beowulf. Gummere, in "The Introduction" to The Oldest English Epic, says, "Litotes or emphasis by under-statement is a prime favorite with the poet of Beowulf; it can be found on almost every page." If it rains hard the Scotchman says, "It threatens tae be weet." If he is well and hearty, he says, when asked about his health, "Gaein' about, A'm thankful' to say." No one died in Drumtocht, he "slippet awa'." A Scotchman does not like to commit himself to a positive statement on any subject, says Maclaren, if he can find a way of escape, not because his mind is confused but because he is usually in despair for an accurate expression. And
so we have this side of the Scotchman, the business side, practical, hard-headed, exact, and accurate, the love of close observation and detail.

The Scotchman presents a strange union of opposites. If he loves the commonplace, he loves no less the romantic and tender things of life. He takes great delight in the supernatural, in stories and traditions. **Tam O'Shanter**, the greatest poem in the Scottish tongue, is founded upon tradition, and is a fine mingling of the real and unreal. Perhaps it is a reaction of the Scottish mind against the hard and practical that causes him to take a delight even in the "confusion of the senses, in the fun of things, thrown topsy-turvy, in the horns of elfland, and the voices of the mountains."

He likes contrast, the "flyting", the clash of intellect. "Flyting" seems to have been a characteristic of people in olden times. We read of a celebrated example in **Beowulf** where Unferth attempts to haze Beowulf at the first banquet and was badly beaten in the battle of words.

For all his canny, cautious, practical ways, the Scot has a deeply romantic and emotional side to his nature. This characteristic is set forth by every Scottish writer of note who delineates truly the life of his people. The Scotchman hides his love of romance
deep down in his heart and seems to be at all times covering it with a mask of gravity. There is nothing that he dislikes so much as a display of unusual emotion; and yet he seems to have this quality of tenderness and emotion deeper than other races, and it is all the deeper because it is hidden away. John Buchan says that the Scotch have a queer daftness in their blood; that they may be trusted to be prudent and sensible beyond the average up to a certain point, but when some half forgotten loyalty is awakened, then the Scotchman flings prudence to the winds.

The Scotch people had a fanatical love for the House of Stuarts, not because the Stuarts were worthy but simply and solely because the Stuarts were Scotchmen. When "Bonnie Prince Charlie" came among the Scotch to get their help in gaining his throne, the most prosaic of people became the most daft in his cause. They lost all sense of caution and became wild and reckless in their defense of about the poorest line of kings that ever sat upon the throne, for it certainly was not the greatness of the Stuarts that appealed to them but simply their sense of loyalty and their love of the romantic.

The Scottish characteristics brought out by Watson in his description of the people of Drumtocht are: Love
of home and country; self-reliance; thrift; dourness and combativeness; courage and boldness in a cause they believe to be just; fear of over-statement; the use of under-statement. This is one side of the Scotch. The other side is the love of the romantic, perhaps brought out all the more strongly because of their daily self-repression. When aroused they draw the sword and fling away the scabbard. Witness the defiance of Dr. Davidson, Minister, to the insolent factor of Lord Kilspendie in "An Appeal to Caesar."

So we have the two moods of the Scotch; one careful, cautious, thrifty, prudent, sagacious. The other mood, reckless of consequences, romantic, risking all in a cause, unconquerable.
History of the Scottish Language

Genealogical Diagram

Indo-European

Celtic

Irish Highland Welsh American

Gaelic

Primitive Teutonic

West North East

Germanic Germanic Germanic

Low High Old Gothic

German

Old Dutch Anglian

Triscian Saxon (Flemish)

Frisian

Lowland Scotch

Old Dutch

Anglian

Icelandic Norw. Swedish

(Dan.)

Note: The diagram above does not embrace all the languages of the Indo-European family. It includes the languages of the peoples who are more nearly related by blood to the Lowland Scotch and those closely related by reason of geographical position.
The line marked Celtic Border divides the Highlands from the Lowlands. Logiealmond (Drumtochty) lies in the Lowland of Perthshire.
History of the Scottish Language

The Scottish language, or the language of the Lowlands of Scotland, is of Teutonic origin, and has for its basis a Low German dialect originally spoken by the Angles whose home was in the southeast of the peninsula of Jutland in a district which is still known as Angeln. The Angles were one of the Teutonic tribes that invaded Britain in the fifth and sixth centuries of our era. They settled along the eastern seaboard and for a time were able to establish something like a political unity between the Humber and the Forth. The Anglo-Saxons subdued or expelled the Celts, whose language was completely replaced by the Low German dialect of the invaders. The dialects were four in number, viz. Northumbrian (or Anglian), which became the language of North England and Lowland Scotland; Mercian (also Anglian) from the Humber to the Thames; West Saxon, south and southwest of the Thames (excluding Cornwall) and Kentish.

1. Jamieson, John
   Dictionary of the Scottish Language with Supplement by W. M. Metcalfe, D. D. Introduction, p. ix

2. Warrack, A.
   Chambers's Scots Dialect Dictionary. Introduction, p. 14

3. Weekley, Ernest
"For Saxons and Angles come out of Germania; yet some Britons at wone nyelpe ham schortly ech Germans."

Terms - Scot, Scotch, Scottish.

The origin of the terms 'Scot,' 'Scotch,' 'Scottish' is interesting. Three authorities are quoted on this point, Higden's Polychronicon, Trevisa's Translation; G. Gregory Smith, and W. M. Metcalfe in Introduction to Supplement to Jamieson's Dictionary of the Scottish Language.

In Higden's Polychronicon, Trevisa's Translation, we find: "Afterward long tyme þe Scottes wér ylad by Duk Reuda and comé out of Þrlánd, þat ys þe propre contray of Scottes... Þrisch Scottes lêndede þ are for to harmye þe Britons ðer for þat þ alþe ys next to Þrlánd for to come alþ ending Britayn. And so þe Scottes, after Britons and Pictes, màde þe þridde maner people wonyng in Bretayn."

G. Gregory Smith says, "The terms 'Scot,' 'Scottish,' 'Scotland,' taken in their full modern significance, may lead the reader astray, unless he is careful to make

1. Higden's Polychronicon  Trevisa's Translation
   O. F. Emerson: A Middle English Reader, p. 222

2. Higden's Polychronicon  Trevisa's Translation
   O. F. Emerson: A Middle English Reader, p. 222
certain adjustments. The name 'Scots' was first applied, and applied exclusively, to the language of the area outside what we may name, loosely, the Lothians and Borders. It described the speech of the settlers in Alban, the Celts of the Goidelic branch, and, after their kings had brought the eastern territory of the Picts under their rule, the vernacular of the region north of the Forth. So it remained, alike to the Anglian colonists south of the Forth and to the Bretts or 'Welsh' of Strathclyde, and it continued to be applied even beyond the time when the dominion of these 'Scots' had been extended southward, and had become by the thirteenth century, identical, at least in nominal jurisdiction, with the later kingdom. From the 'Scottish' or 'Gaelic' point of view this extension was, both politically and linguistically, an anglicizing; for the rulers who gave their racial name to the larger 'Scotland' acquired the manners and speech of the stronger Anglian civilization, and by influence and policy intruded the Teutonic element along the eastern fringe of the older 'Scotland', and there probably the more easily because that region was the last to come under the Celtic power. The Scottish kings and their Anglian subjects of the Lothians and Fife spoke 'Inglis' (English) and called the speech of their northern people
and western neighbors 'Scots.' This alienation between the Anglicized Scot and the Gaelic Scot, made concrete for us in the story of Duncan and Macbeth, was strengthened by the Wars of Independence. When modern Scotland emerged from these troubles, not untouched by that Anglo-French civilization which she had defied in the open, the division between her southern and northern peoples had become absolute. For more than a century later 'Scots' means in Lothian writers and in dispatches of ambassadors at the Scottish Court, the Gaelic speech of the Highlands and Islands. It is the highest honor to be a Scot of Scotland, but the tongue must speak 'Inglis.' As the recognition of this confusion or the risk of confusion, in applying the term became more general and the usage proved more and more distasteful to northern patriotism, some change was necessary, if only for political reasons. Besides, though the speech was still 'English,' it was not standard and 'national,' with differences unknown in earlier periods. So by the sixteenth century the once discredited 'Scots' became by the force majeure of politics the proud title of the northern tongue, and Gaelic, MacGregor-like, had to surrender its name. By the will of the Sassenach it passed, with the Galloway and Carrick speech, as 'Erseh' or 'Trische.'

1. Smith, G. Gregory Scottish Literature, pp. 72-75
W. M. Metcalfe, in his supplement to Jamieson's *Dictionary of the Scottish Language*, observes, "The term 'Scots,' 'Scotch,' or 'Scottish,' was not always used to designate the language of the Scottish Lowlands. The first to so use it was Gavin Douglas (1474-1522). Previously it was used to designate those who spoke the Gaelic or Goidelic dialect of the Celtic language in the Highlands and in the West. They were known as 'the Scots,' their country was 'Scotland,' and their sovereign was the King of the Scots. Their language, on the other hand, was known as 'Irische' or 'Eirsche.' Their Teutonic neighbors in the Lowlands were known as the 'English' and their language as 'Inglis,' or 'English,' down to the time of Douglas and considerably later. It was so called by Wyntown (O. C. Bk., ProL. 1.25), by Barbour (Brus, Iv. 258), by Harry the Minstrel (Wallace, lx. 297), by Dunbar (The Golden Terge), and by Lindsay (Satyre of the Thrie Estaitis, 1.2597). So that down to the end of the fifteenth century what is now called Scots, or the Scottish language, was called Inglis, or English, but during the second half of the following century it began to be called Scots, Scotch, or Scottish."

The rise of Scots as a form of speech is so distinct from English that it deserves to be ranked as another language. No other group of English dialects, except those out of which the literary and polite spoken English grew, possesses the distinction which Scots achieved of being for centuries the speech of kings and scholars, of poets and historians, the language at once of the Court, the Government, the Church, and of Literature.

As has been shown before, the original Scots from their home in the north of Ireland, crossed over to the west coast of what is now called Scotland, and gradually gained an ascendancy in the country north of the Firth of Forth and Clyde. "In 843 A. D., their king, Kenneth Macalpin, was recognized as ruler over all this district, the original inhabitants, commonly known as Picts, henceforth constituting with the invaders a single nation. Whatever the language of the Picts may have been, that of the Scottish kingdom was Gaelic. But the Scottish kings were not content with their northern domain, and soon the British kingdom of Strathclyde, speaking Welsh, another Celtic language, came under their protection. Then Edinburgh, the great Anglian citadel, looking out on the

1. Wyld, Henry Gamil Historical Study of the Mother Tongue, p. 208
Scottish sea, was ceded to the northern conquerors.

Shortly after 790 A. D., Kenneth III, King of the Scots, came into possession of the Lothians, and one of the conditions of his occupation was that he should permit the province the use of its own laws and customs and Anglian speech. Henceforth, we have a Scottish dynasty ruling over an English speaking folk, and adopting the language and customs of its new subjects."

The War of Independence (1286-1328) separated definitely the two divisions of Anglia, and the Cheviots became a national boundary; but the language of the Scottish court was still called Inglis, and John of Fordoun, writing about 1400 A. D., tells us that the people occupying the coast and the Lowlands speak a Teutonic tongue, and the people of the Highlands and Islands use the Scottish language. Later on, Gaelic was contemptuously styled Yrisch or Ersch, and as national pride demanded a separate name for the national language, the old Inglis tongue of the Lowlands began to arrogate to itself the title of Scottish. The Scottish language in the modern sense thus has its root in the

Anglian of ancient Northumbria.

"Of the language spoken by the early inhabitants of Scotland, nothing is known. The arrival of these inhabitants is supposed to have taken place between the eighth and sixth centuries B. C. After them came the Goidels speaking Gaelic, or the Goidelic dialect of the Scottish tongue. After them came the Brythons, who were also Celts, and spoke the Celtic dialect known as the Bryton Welsh, or British. Next came the Gallician Scotch. These were Irishmen who came from Ireland and settled along the west coast of Scotland. Their language was Irish-Gaelic, closely allied to the Goidelic if not practically identical with it. Then we hear of the Picts, but what their language was is unknown. When the Angles arrived, these several languages or dialects were in actual use in various parts of the country. The Angles did not begin to settle in Britain until the first of the sixth century A. D." The Anglian kingdom was founded by Ida in 547, in the country between the Tyne and Forth. Twelve years later, Ella took

possession of the country between the Tyne and Humber, turned it into the Anglian province of Deira, and made the city of York his capital. Afterwards these two provinces were united and formed the kingdom of Northumbria, which was for a time the most flourishing and advancing state in Britain. It was from Northumbria but more especially from its northern province of Bernicia that the old Anglian dialect which afterwards developed into Lowland Scotch was spread.

The Angles, after various battles and contests with the neighboring tribes, seemed to have settled largely in the country from the Forth to the Clyde. In the 8th century a Pictish writer calls this district Saxonia. In 1018, the Northumbrian prince, Eadulf, was defeated by Malcom II, King of Scots. Eadulf ceded the northern part of Bernicia to Malcom and the Tweed became the permanent boundary between Scotland and England. The spread of the Anglian dialect in Scotland was not due wholly or chiefly to the force of arms. Other agencies brought it about. Among them may be mentioned (a) the adoption of the dialect as the language of the court, (b) the influence of the Roman Church, (c) the great literary activity of the Northumbrian monasteries, (d) the natural

1. Jamieson, John

Dictionary of the Scottish Language with Supplement by W. M. Metcalfe, D. D. Introduction, lx
fondness of the people for songs and stories, (e) the immigration of an immense number of Northumbrians of all classes who sought refuge from the ravages of the Danes and later from William the Conqueror.

**Periods of Literary Activity from the Opening of the Fourteenth Century**

1. **Early Period** — first quarter of the 14th century to the middle of last quarter of the 15th century.

2. **Middle Period** — from the close of the First to the time of the Union (1603).

3. **Third Period** — from the date of the Union to the present time.

**Early Period**

National Scots literature may be said to begin with Barbour's *Brus* (c. 1375). The language is directly descended from the Old Anglian speech of Northumberland and in its first phase it is identical with the northern English dialect. In the first part of the 14th century, Richard Rolle of Hampole, who lived near Doncaster in Yorkshire, wrote the *Pricke of Conscience*. About 1375, John Barbour, archdeacon of St. Machar, Aberdeen, wrote the *Brus*. The language of these books is identical. "It is quite different from the language used in
contemporary literature in the middle and south of England. We can say that the tongue of Barbour and Hampole, of Aberdeen and York, is the lineal descendant of the speech of Bede and Caedmon.

Middle Period

"After the War of Independence, 1286-1328, the Cheviot Hills formed the boundary between the two divisions of Anglia. The language of the southern division or northeastern England was affected by the speech of London and Oxford, the centers of learning and political authority. Gradually the speech of the 'Southron' supplanted this old dialect of the country as a literary medium. While the Anglian of Northumberland was decreasing in literary value, that of the Scottish area was flourishing in the Court at Edinburgh and in the University of St. Andrews with all the dignity of national life."

There is a curious bit of literary history just here. A brilliant group of Scottish writers arose during this period, who were designated as the "Scottish Chauereans." The principal men of this group are, James I, Robert Henryson, William Dunbar, Gavin Douglas,

2. Warrack, A. Chambers's Scots Dialect Dictionary Introduction, p.xi
Sir David Lindsay. In the years following his death, Chaucer received more recognition in Scotland than he did in England. This period is known as the Golden Age of Scottish Literature, in which the Scots could claim a truly national language.

"The language of this period is known as Middle Scots. In addition to preserving the features characteristic of the Northern English dialect, and the distinctly Scottish developments which belong to the literary language of the earlier period, it presents many developments and changes both in orthography and in grammar and contains a large infusion of words, particularly from the French and Latin languages."

Third Period, or Period of Decadence

In this period, owing to causes which will be enumerated, the Scottish language ceased to be a national language and became a dialect only, but truly a great dialect.

The Third Period in the history of the literary language of Scotland dates from the Union. It is a period of decadence. Many English words and idioms were adopted, the Scots tongue was gradually modified and the use of the English language crept in. Evidence of this decadence began to appear as early as the time of the Reformation

and may be seen in the writings of Sir David Lindsay and Knox. In the writing of these the forms go, also, do, dois, did, sore, so, no, more, work, muste, both for baith, one for ane, none for nane, fromme for fra, stone for stane, frequently occur. We have even it used as the termination of the third person singular, present indicative, like the Southern eth, as "It goith," "It bryngith to rememberance," "Doith pretend."

"The Anglicizing of the 'auld plane Scottis' was no doubt due to the intimate relations which existed between the leaders of the Reformation and those who were like minded with them beyond the Border, to the dependence of the Scottish Reformers on their English brethren for their religious literature, and above all, to the use in Scotland of the English version of the Holy Scriptures; for even the Arbuthnot and Bassendyne Bible; which Scotland regarded as peculiarly its own, being the first printed in the country (1576-79), was none other than the English Geneva version, without the slightest attempt at Northern adaptation either in words or spelling."

Other causes were, doubtless, the study of English literature and the desire on the part of Scottish authors to

find a larger circle of readers than was to be had in their own country.

"Auld plane Scottis", however, did not cease to be the literary language of the country without a struggle. The minutes of the Privy Council continued to be drawn up in it, as did the Acts of Parliament. Scots was used also in the inferior courts of the Church and to record the business of Town Councils. The Church historians, on the other hand, Calderwood, Spottiswood, and Row, for the most part abandoned Scots, while from 1638 the Acts of the General Assembly were written in English, in which words long and derived from the Latin predominate.

Scottish Tongue as a Literary Dialect

In the consideration of this subject two questions naturally arise:

1. Is there a literary dialect common to the various divisions of the Lowlands?

2. If there is such a literary dialect, has there been an attempt by writers to make it conform to Southern English?

Dialect in literature is given form and permanency by being in print. The speech of the people may vary from generation to generation, and especially when it is subjected to so many and to such powerful influences as were brought to bear upon the Scottish language. These influences reduced this language from a national language to a dialect.

To the reader of Burns, Scott, Barrie, Stevenson, and Watson, there would seem to be a fairly fixed common literary dialect in use in the Lowlands of Scotland; there is almost entire agreement among these authors as to grammar and spelling of the Scottish tongue.

There is, according to Wilson, a slight difference between the dialect of central Ayrshire, the birth place and early home of Burns, and the dialect of Lower Strathearn of Perthshire. Southeastern Perthshire contains the glen of Drumtochty. Sir James Wilson notes the difference and compares a number of words in each dialect with the corresponding English word. A few examples will suffice.

2. Wilson, Sir James The Dialect of Robert Burns as Spoken in Central Ayrshire, pp. 81-82
The first three columns are Wilson's; the material under Burns's Spelling is mine:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E*</th>
<th>P*</th>
<th>A*</th>
<th>Burns's Spelling</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>hand</td>
<td>hawnd</td>
<td>hawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>land</td>
<td>lawnd</td>
<td>lawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>Heelund</td>
<td>Heelun</td>
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</table>

(The main difference between P and A is the dropping of the letter d from the end of the word.)

In a few words, however, P does, like A, omit d but not at the end of the word:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>E*</th>
<th>P*</th>
<th>A*</th>
<th>Burns's Spelling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>candle</td>
<td>cawmul</td>
<td>cawmul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>thunder</td>
<td>thunner</td>
<td>thunner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Watson corroborates Wilson on the pronunciation of these words.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E*</th>
<th>P*</th>
<th>A*</th>
<th>Burns's Spelling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>dead</td>
<td>deed</td>
<td>daid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>bread</td>
<td>breed</td>
<td>braid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>meat</td>
<td>meet</td>
<td>mait</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It would seem that the Ayrshire dialect has under* gone some very marked modifications since the time of

* E - English  P - Perthshire  A - Ayrshire
Burns, or Burns must have far mis-spelled his native tongue. Or this point, W. A. Craigie says, "Burns in his writings made no attempt to reproduce the local dialect in any exact fashion but unquestionably adopted the standard which had been set by his predecessors in the field of Scottish poetry." This would bear out the idea of a common literary dialect. But Craigie goes on to say, "How far some of those features (essential features of the dialect) may have developed or become more marked since the latter part of the eighteenth century is a matter for philologists to discuss. Dialects are no more stationary than standard forms of speech and much may change in the course of a century and a half."

Wilson translates a few of Burns's poems into the Ayrshire dialect of today, using as his authorities for the pronunciation certain natives of Ayrshire, namely, "Mrs. Thomson, an intelligent old lady of eighty-four, James Brown, an old ploughman, Adam Dodds, a retired mole catcher, and Mr. and Mrs. Gibson."

1. Wilson, Sir James The Dialect of Robert Burns as Spoken in Central Ayrshire, Foreword by W. A. Craigie, p. 3
2. Wilson, Sir James The Dialect of Robert Burns as Spoken in Central Ayrshire, Foreword by W. A. Craigie, p. 4
3. Wilson, Sir James The Dialect of Robert Burns as Spoken in Central Ayrshire, Foreword by W. A. Craigie, p. 7
Examples of Pronunciation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Burns's Spelling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. good</td>
<td>guid</td>
<td>gid</td>
<td>guid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. shoes</td>
<td>shuin</td>
<td>shin</td>
<td>shoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. poor</td>
<td>puir</td>
<td>pair</td>
<td>puir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. school</td>
<td>seuil</td>
<td>skill</td>
<td>school</td>
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</table>

Sir James Wilson was born in Perthshire, about seventy miles from Ayrshire, and like the famous character of Rob Roy who declared, "My name is MacGregor and my foot is on my native heath," so Wilson's foot is on his native heath and he knows whereof he writes. His word must have great force and authority. But a few observations will be made on the point of a common literary dialect of the Lowlands which has been in use since the time before Burns and is still in use today.

W. M. Metcalfe, commenting on the Period of Decadence of the Scottish tongue, remarks, "But the language of the populace continued to be and still is Scots. It has a charm for the ordinary Scottish mind which the finest English fails to possess." Naturally the common forms

1. See letter from the Rev. J. E. M'Quat, p. 49, below, par. 4
of speech would become imbedded in the literature of the Lowlands and thus in a measure fixed. Such artists in the use of words as the five authors mentioned in the beginning of this chapter might have changed or altered a few words, but not many, for had they done so, some critic would have noted the fact. "A chield's amang you taking notes, and faith he'll prent it." And any attempt to make the language conform to Southern English would have been noted and "prented."

It is a far cry from Burns to Watson, and yet we not only find them, but also find authors of note in between these two extremes, writing in dialect and using substantially the same vocabulary.

Wilson translates some of the poems of Burns into the Ayrshire dialect of today and compares them with the original. It is all interesting and instructive but what does it prove? Granting that Burns did in some measure, make the spelling of his dialect conform to standard English, yet he did use a long list of dialect words that are in use today as noted above. Does Wilson attempt to prove that had Burns written in his native tongue then, he would have written in the dialect of Ayrshire as it is now? It seems that this is his inference, though he does not say so in so

many words. Burns died in 1796, one hundred and thirty years ago. The spoken dialect of Ayrshire could have undergone many changes since that time. Change in the spoken language is the law. Where Wilson seems to fall short is in not making any allowance for this change, and in conveying the impression at least that had Burns written in his native dialect, his dialect poems would appear as Wilson has "translated" them into the modern Ayrshire dialect.

That Wilson correctly sets forth the Scottish dialect of today no one would for a moment doubt. That Burns spoke the Ayrshire dialect as it is today, one could very seriously doubt.

Upon the point of a common literary dialect, it will be of much interest to quote from a letter from Rev. J. E. M'Quat of Drumtochty, to the present writer in response to a letter of inquiry concerning the Scottish tongue of today.

Logiealmond
Perth, Scotland, 21/7/26

1. I quite believe that "Ian Maclaren" heard the Scots tongue spoken here in his time pretty much as he represents it in his books. But he had experience

1. See letter from the Rev. J. E. M'Quat, p. 49 , par. 2.
as a boy, of other parts of Perthshire (see the Life) and may very likely have picked up words and phrases in different places.

2. The style has altered of late years, and only older people use some of the words which were common enough fifty to eighty years ago. I have known some old people use words which were quite new to me, though some of them are found in Watson and Barrie.

3. This difference, I attribute largely to the modern system of education, which tends to standardize forms of expression and does not give so much scope for individuality. This applies to manners, outlook on life, and other things as well as words.

4. I would not like to affirm positively that there is a standardized literary Scottish dialect; but I quite believe there is a common form as distinguished from local dialects. Each locality has certain peculiarities of its own, - such as, Aberdeenshire, the East coast, Ayrshire, etc., both in actual words and idioms. (E. G. "Sober" in Watson's books in the sense of "ill"; "curran" in Watson and Barrie, meaning a good number, etc. But much of the so-called "Scotch"
attempted by literary people is far from a true representation of the actual speech of the country.) (Punch's Scots jokes, for instance!)

I am afraid the good old Scottish vernacular is passing away and giving place to correct English on the one hand and a vulgarized modern "slang" on the other. Efforts are being made by Burns clubs and other agencies to preserve and popularize the true "Doric."

Yours sincerely

J. E. M'Cuat

In the support of the theory of a common literary dialect it is interesting to compare the glossaries of the works of Scott in regard to the dialects of different localities. The dialect words in The Fair Maid of Perth, The Fortunes of Nigel, The Heart of Midlothian, and others embracing the dialect are very similar. Scott knew too much of the speech of his country to make any serious mistakes in its use, and he was too honest a workman to attempt to manufacture dialect words and expressions.

1 See letter from the Rev. J. E. M'Cuat, page 49, above, par. 4.
Summary of the Subjects
Considered in the Introduction

John Watson, a Biographical Sketch (page 8).

Watson was by birth, residence, education, a Scot of Scots. This being true, he knew whereof he wrote, and used correctly the common literary dialect of the Lowlands.

Scottish Characteristics (page 18).

Two moods,-

a. Stern, giving attention to details; self-repressed, sparing of speech.

b. Fond of romance, devoted to a cause or principle.

History of the Scottish Language (page 26).

The Scottish language has come down from the Indo-European family of languages. Indo-European, Primitive Teutonic, West Germanic, Low German, Anglian Lowland Scotch. (See diagram page 26.) The home of the Angles was in the southeast of the peninsula of Jutland in a district which is still known as Angeln. (Page 29.) They invaded Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries A.D., and settled in along the eastern coast. The Anglian kingdom was founded by Ida, 547 A.D., in the country between the Tyne and Forth. In 559, Ella took possession of the country between the Tyne and Humber and made
the city of York his capital. These two formed the kingdom of Northumbria which lasted until 827. The old Anglian dialect of Northumbria (but more especially the dialect of its northern province, Bernicia) developed into Lowland Scotch. (See diagram page 26.) The word Scots is of Irish origin (see pages 30-33.) These originally Irish Scots came into possession of the Lothians. One of the conditions was that the province should use its own laws, customs, and Anglian speech. (See pages 34-35.) Thus a Scottish dynasty ruled over an English speaking people and adopted their language and customs.

The War of Independence (1286-1328) divided Anglia, and the Cheviot Hills became the national boundary. (Page 35.) Later on the Gaelic was styled Irish or Ersch, and the Inglis tongue of the Lowlands began to arrogate to itself the title of Scotch.

Gavin Douglas (1474-1522) first used the term Scotch, Scots, or Scottish, to designate the language of the Scottish Lowlands. (Page 33.)

Three Periods of Literary Activity (pages 38-42).

Early Scots. First quarter of 14th century to middle
of the last quarter of the 15th century. "Early Scots is directly descended from the Old Anglian speech and in its first phase is identical with the Northern English dialect."

Barbour's Brus

**Middle Scots.** Last quarter of 15th century to 1603.

James I
Robert Henryson
William Dunbar
Gavin Douglas
Sir David Lindsay

To this group has been applied the name of Scottish Chaucerians. In this period the Scottish language became a national language.

**Late Scots.** From 1603 to present time.

Ramsay
Fergusson
Burns
Scott
Aytoun
Crockett
Barrie
Stevenson

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1. Jamieson, John Dictionary of the Scottish Language Introduction to Supplement by W. M. Metcalfe, p. xiii
Period of Decadence. The causes were:

a. Failure of the Reformers to give the people a vernacular translation of the Bible. The consequent adoption of the English translation.

b. The union of crowns under James VI of Scotland and First of England.

c. The growth of Elizabethan literature.

The Scottish Tongue as a Literary Dialect (page 42).

From this chapter the conclusion is reached that:

a. There has been no attempt to make the Scottish dialect to conform to Southern English.

b. From the uniformity of the literary dialect from the time of Burns (1759-1796) to present time, we conclude that there is a common literary dialect.
A DICTIONARY OF WORDS OF
SCOTTISH LOWLAND DIALECT FOUND IN
WATSON'S BEHIND THE BONNIE BRIE BUSH

List of Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>adv.</td>
<td>adverb</td>
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<td>Gaelic</td>
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<td>Ancient</td>
<td>Ger.</td>
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<td>Anglo-Saxon</td>
<td>Goth.</td>
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<td>aux.</td>
<td>auxiliary</td>
<td>Gr.</td>
<td>Greek</td>
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<td>BBD.</td>
<td>Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush</td>
<td>Icel.</td>
<td>Icelandic</td>
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<td>Celt.</td>
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<td>Ir.</td>
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<td>compare</td>
<td>Isl.</td>
<td>German spelling for Iceland</td>
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<td>ON.</td>
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**Dictionaries Quoted**

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**Definitions**

Definitions are largely confined to the use of the words in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush.*
a', adj. Sc. form of w. all.

(AS. all, eall.) All.

When this letter is used with an apostrophe as a', it is meant to indicate that the double l is cut off according to pronunciation of Scotland, but this is merely of modern use.

"Keep's a', it's eneuch to mak the auld Domine turn in his grave." ...BBB. p. 4.

aboot, adv. Sc. form of w. about.

(AS. onbūtan for on be ṛutan, on, by, outside, ṛutan being adv. from prep. ut, out.) Moving around, astir, in circuit.

"Hillocks: 'Gaein' aboot, a'm thankful' to say, gaein' aboot." ...BBB. p. 186.

ae, adj. Sc.

(Cf. AS. ān, one.) One, only.

Although ae and ane both signify one they differ considerably in their application. Ae denotes an object viewed singly, alone. Ex. "Ae swallow disna make a simmer." Ane marks a distinction often where there is a number. Ex. "I saw three men; ane ran awa.'" "A puir cottar body that hed selt her ae coo."

...BBB. p. 144.

"Till first ae caper syne anither
Tam tint his reason a' thegither." ...Burns: Tam O' Shanter
aff, adv. Sc. form of off.

(AS. off.) Off.

"She saw him slip aff the road afore the last stile." ...BBB. p. 30.

"Forbye, he'll shape you aff fu' gleg
The out of Adam's philibeg." ...Burns on the Late Captain Grose's Peregrinations Through Scotland.

ahint, prep. and adv. Sc. equivalent of w. behind.

(Scotland, North Ireland.) (AS. hindan, aet hindan.) Behind in respect to place.

"There's something ahint that face." ...BBB. p. 25.

"May Hornie gie her doup a clink ahint his yett."

...Burns: Adam Armstrong's Prayer.

aifter, adv. Sc. form of after.

(AS. aefter was originally compar. of a prep. cogn. with Goth. af, off, not of aft.) After.

"Na, na, Domine, I see what yir aifter fine."

...BBB. p. 16.

ain, adj. Sc. form of w. own.

(AS. ægen, agen, orig. pp. of owe.) Own.

"My ain laddie - and the Doctor's - we maunna forget him." ...BBB. p. 16.

"Wha's ain dear lass, that he likes best,
Comes clinkin' down beside him!" ...Burns: The Holy Fair.
since, adv. Sc. form of w. once.
(ME. ones, ones, genitive of one.) Once.
"He hed the best hert in the pairish aince."
...BBB. p. 15.
"The big ha' Bible, ance (aince) his Father's pride." ...Burns: The Cottar's Saturday Night.

airms, n. Sc. form of w. arms.
(AS. arms.) Arms.
"Georgie gripped me wi' baith his wee airms round my neck."
...BBB. p. 37.

aither, conj. Sc. form of w. either.
(AS. ægther, for ægwaether from æge hwaether.) Either.
"The Pharisees didna think muckle o' his chance aither in this warld or that which is tae come."
...BBB. p. 251.

aits, n. Sc. form of w. oats.
Oats.
"That's a fine pucklie aits ye hae in the laigh park, Burnbrae." ...BBB. p. 63.
"Let husky Wheat the haughs adorn, An' Aits set up their awnie horn."
...Burns: Scotch Drink.
alone, adj. Sc. form of w. alone.
(al) plus one. ME. al, one; one is from AS. ān, one; German, allein.) Alone.
"'Lat weel alone, ' says I to the Domine."
...BBB. p. 33.
"I bear alone my lade o' care."
...Burns: Lament for James, Earl of Glencairn.

among, prep. Sc. form of w. among.
(AS. on gemang, from noun, gemang, mingling, crowd, from gemangen, to mingle.) Among.
"George 'ill be among the first sax, or my name
is no Jamieson."
...BBB. p. 20.
"How drink gaed round, in cogs an' caups,
Among the furms and benches." ...Burns: The Holy Fair.

ane, adj. Sc. form of w. one.
(AS. ān of which unstressed form gave English an, a.) One.
"An' when you think upo' your Mither
Mind to be kind to ane anither."
...Burns: Death and Dying Words of Poor Mailie.
"They treat ane anither on market days."
...BBB. p. 191.
anither, adj. and pro. Sc. form of w. another.

(For an other. In ME. often a nother.) Another.

"Besides, a'm judgin' that nane o' us can love
anither without lovin' Him, or hurt anither without
hurtin' Him." ...BBB. p. 34.

"The Rigid Righteous is a fool,
The Rigid Wise anither."

...Burns: Address to the Unco Guid.

anttern, adj. deriv. of anter.

(ME. auntren, to come by chance, to happen, befall.)

1. anterin, pp. adj. Wandering, occasional, meeting occasionally.

2. n. An occasional meeting or thing.

(auterin, antrin, Scotland in North country.

vbl. sb. an occasional one, one here and there.

ppl. adj. occasional, rare.)

"'See, Jamie," said Drumsheugh, as he went to the house,
'gin there be ony antern body in sicht afore we begin.'"

...BBB. p. 315.

argle-bargle, v.

(Icel. arg. enraged, jarg-a, to contend.) To contend,
to bandy backwards and forwards.

"...Ye maist needs set him up tae argle-bargle wi'
a stranger minister at the Free Kirk." ...BBB. p. 218.
atween, prep. Sc. form of w. between.

(Between is AS. betweenum from prep. be, by, and dat.
pl. of tween, twain.) Between.

In general use in Scotland, Ireland, England.

"Never mind, Mither, there's nae secrets atween us."

...BBB. p. 25.

"Ha'e had a bitter black out-cast atween themsel'."

...Burns: The Twa Herds.

auchteen, adj. Sc. form of w. eighteen.

(AS. eantha plus teen. AS. tyne, tene from ten.)

Eighteen.

"How old will you be?"

"Auchteen next Martinmas." ...BBB. p. 130.

"A prisoner aughteen years awa'!"

...Burns: Amang the Trees.


(AS. eald. AS. ealdian, to remain, to stay, to last,
to prolong.) Old.

"Men had been sent out by the auld schule in Domsie's
time." ...BBB. p. 9.

"Twas in that place o' Scotland's isle,
That bears the name o' Auld King Coil."

...Burns: The Twa Dogs.
ava', adv. In use in Scotland, Ireland, Northumberland.

At all, of all.

"Jessie declared that she wasna feared ava."

...BBB. p. 129.

"I've often wonder'd, honest Luath,
What sort o' life poor dogs like you have;
An' when the gentry's life I saw,
What way poor bodies liv'd ava."

...Burns: The Twa Dogs.

A'we, pron. Sc. form contraction for "I have."

"Man, A'we often thocht it was the prospeck' of the
Schule Board and its weary bit rules that finished
Domsie."

...BBB. p. 4.

awa, adv. Sc. form of w. away.

(AS. onweg, aweg, on the way.) Away; in a swoon.

Instead of using the name of the deceased it is
usual to speak of them that's awa'.

"It was maybe juist as weel he slippit awa' when
he did."

...BBB. p. 4.

"Whyles secour'd awa in lang excursion,
An' worry'd ither in diversion." ...Burns: The Twa Dogs.

awin', pros. part. of Eng. w. owe. Sc. form of Eng. w. owing.

(AS. agran, to possess, hence to possess another's
property; to owe.) Owing.

"Weel, doctor, what am a' awin' ye for the wife and
bairn?" 

...BBB. p. 249.
a'dae, n. Sc. form of w. ado.
(ME. to do.) Stir, excitement; in pl. difficulties, a pretense.
"What's a dae here, Hillocks?" he cries." ...BBB. p. 247

bairn, n.
(OE. bearn, Sw. barn, O. Teut. barne from beran, to bear.
Bairn is the Scotch form.) A child; often denotes advanced in life. Impliedly relation to parent.
"In summer the bairns annexed as much wood as they liked, playing tig among the trees." ...BBB. p. 6.
"Till bairns' bairns kindly cuddle your auld, gray hairs." ...Burns: Second Epistle to David.

bairnly, adv.
(Cf. bairn plus ly, like a bairn.) Childish.
"The smith said that he was thinkin' o' Annie's tribble, but ony wy a' ca' it reel bairnly."
...BBB. p. 292.

baith, adj. Sc. form of w. both.
(AS. ba, buta; Icel. báða.) Both.
"Geordie gripped me wi' baith his wee airms round my neck, and he cries over and over and over again, 'Is yon God?'" ...BBB. p. 37.
"Duncan sigh'd baith out and in Grat his een baith bleер't and blin'." ...Burns: Duncan Gray.
bane, n. Sc. form of Eng. w. bone.

(AS. ban.) Bone.

"He 'ill be slavin' his flesh aff his banes tae mak a fortune."

...BBB. p. 193.

barm, v. pres. part. barmin'.

(OE. beorma. Mod. Ger. barme.) v. To barm, to fret, to fume, to wax wroth. n. The froth that forms on the top of fermenting malt liquors which is used to leaven bread and to cause fermentation in other liquors. -NED. In sentence quoted below, participle is formed from verb use of noun, beorma.

"He said no a word on the wy back, but a' saw it wes barmin' in him." ...BBB. p. 212.

bedrel, n. Apparently a corruption of beadle, a church officer in Scotland.

(Originally OE. by deel.) A beadle, a sexton.

"...Sell a' thing else tae pay the wricht an' bedrel."

...BBB. p. 300.

befaen, Sc. form of w. befallen.

befallen, pret. of v. befall.

(AS. befeallan. ME. befallen.) Befallen.

"Moderator, this is a terrible calamity that hes befaen oor brither..." ...BBB. p. 133.
(AS. begennan, beginnen. ME. begennnen.) Began.
"But he begood to dwam in the end of the year, and
soughed awa' in the spring." ...BBB. p. 32.

ben, adv. prep. n.
1. adv. (Ben appears first in the 14th century.
There is no cognate in the Scandinavian language, so it must be a dial. variant of ME. binne, bin, within. OE. binnan, cognate with Dutch, German, binnen, within, toward the inner part. In, inside, within; in or into the parlour; in toward the speaker.
2. prep. In, within. Toward the inner apartment of a house. Also used as a preposition, 'Gae ben the house.' Used to denote intimacy, favor, or honor.
3. n. 'A But and a Ben' - a house containing two rooms. To come ben - to be advanced. Various uses: ben-end, benner, ben-house, the ben, there ben, ben-inno, benmost.

"Men who represented the piety of the district and were supposed to be 'far ben' in the Divine fellowship."
...BBB. p. 127.

"While frosty winds blaw in the drift
Ben to the chimla lug."
...Burns: Epistle to Davie.
bien, adj. (May have been from bien (F), well. In general use in Scotland.) Wealthy, well provided, possessing abundance. Warm, genial, applied to fire. Pleasant, comfortably situated. Happy, blissful. Splendid, showy. Good, excellent in its kind.

"Gin it be a bien man, tak half of what he offers."

...BBB. p. 298.

"I grudge a wee the Great folks gift That live sae bien and smug."

...Burns: Epistle to Davie, A Fellow Poet.

birkies, n. Sc. plural of berky.

(Allied perhaps to Icel, berkia, to boast. Birke signifies a town or city; it is evidently the same with AS. byrig, whence our burgh, borough. It might be naturally enough imagined that one who had been bred in the city would be distinguished by country people by some such term as this.) A lively young fellow.

"But thae young birkies gie oot 'at they see naebody comin' in."

...BBB. p. 203.

"Ye see yon birkie, ca'd a lord, Wha struts, and stares, and a' that."

...Burns: For A' That and A' That.
birse, n. and v. Sc.

1. n. (OE. byrst cognate OHG. burst. On. bursh.
SW. borst. DA. borste. 'bristle'.) 

2. v. (AS. brysan, to push or drive.) To bristle, to get suddenly angry. To bruise, to push or drive, to press or squeeze. In the 16th century birs, birss, for earlier birst.

"Ye can birse in fine, but it wud beat me to get by the door." ...BBB. p. 124.

"They lay a' tender mercies,
An tirl the hallions to the birses."

...Burns: Address to Beelzebub.

blate, adj. Sc.

(Icel. blæður, bland, soft.) Bashful, sheepish; modest, unassuming; curt, rough, uncivil.

"Five punds for four years; my word, yir no blate."

...BBB. p. 16.

"'Deil hae our soul, neighbor,' said the king,
reddening, 'but ye are not blate.'"

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel, p. 467.

blaw, v. pres. part. blawing. Sc. forms of w. blow and blowing.

(AS. blawan.) v. To blow, in a literal sense. To breathe; to brag; to boast; to magnify in narration; to flatter; to coax. To blaw in one's lug - to cajole
a person so that he may be guided at will.
"Ye 'ill bring a judgement on the laddies wi' yir blawing." ...BBB. p. 33.
"I winna blow about mysel,
As ill I like my fauts to tell."

...Burns: Epistle to John Lapraik, An Old Scottish Bard.

blude, n. Sc. form of w. blood.
(AS. blōd.) Blood.
"A'm a lonely man, wi' naebody o' ma ain blude tae care for me."

...BBB. p. 260.
"Five tomahawks wi' blude red rusted."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter

bocht, v. Sc. form of w. bought, pret. of buy.
(AS. bycgan, to purchase.) Buy.
"It wes the day I bocht the white coo."

...BBB. p. 25.

body, n.
(AS. bodig.) Signifies not only the body in general but the stature also. Strength, ability; a little or puny person in a contemptuous sense, especially where preceded by an adjective conveying a similar idea.
"But a'body kent he was a terrible scholar and a credit to the parish."

...BBB. p. 4.
"Gin a body meet a body
Comin' through the rye."

...Burns: Comin' Through the Rye.

**bonnie**, adj. bonie, bonye, bonny.

(Of uncertain origin. Presumably to be referred to OF. bon, bone, or its ME. naturalized form bon, bone, boone. No satisfactory account of its formation can be offered. -NED.) Beautiful, pretty. (Bonnie is used in the same sense by Shakespeare, but I suspect that it is properly Scotch. Johnson derives it from Fr. bon, bonne, good. This is by no means satisfactory but we must confess we can not substitute a better etymon. -Jamieson.)

"A faith' that brocht hame some bonnie thing frae the fair..." ...BBB. p. 34.

"She is bonnie enough to make amends for her lack of ancestry."

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel.

**booced**, v.

(AS. boocan.) boo, v. to bow, to bend. Pp. used as an adjective.

"It gar a ma hert greet tae see him sae booced an' dis'jackit."

...BB3. p. 137.

**braes**, n. brae.

(Now only Scotch and Northern dialect. Evidently
ON. bra equals OE. braew, bree, eyelid.) The word must have passed through the sense of 'eye-brow' to the 'brow of a hill.') The side of a hill; the bank of a river; a hill. (Conjoined with a name it denotes the upper part of a country. AS. bra-mar.) A large extent of hilly country. (Cognates: Welsh, bre, a mountain; Gael. bre, bri, bugh, a hill; Germ. brenner, denotes the tops of mountains. Icel. brau is the brow and bratt signifies a steep ascent. Brow both in Scotch and English in a sense nearly allied to brae as denoting an eminence or the edge of it.) "Kiltin' up the braes as hardy as a hielan' sheltie."

...BBB. p. 154.

"Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes."

...Burns: Afton Water.

brak, n. and v. Sc. form of break.

(AS. bree-an). To break; breaking up, breaking forth.

m. "It's ten years ago at the brak up o' the winter."

...BBB. p. 24.

v."I'll say't she never brak a fence

Thro' thievish greed." ...Burns: Poor Mailie's Elegy.

brake, n. Sc.

(ME. brake. Sb. Not found in northern writers. Said by Turner (1562) to be the equivalent of the northern
broken. It was possibly a shortened form. Perhaps due to broken being assumed by southern speakers to be a plural, bracken, broken. Sc. WE. (Northern) braken, apparently representing an ON. brakni, whence SW. bräken, Da. bregne, 'fern'. -HED.) A bracken, a female fern.

"A brake of gorse and bramble bushes." ...BBB. p. 6.

"As flies the partridge from the brake on fear-inspired wings." ...Burns: On a Bank of Flowers.

breeks, n. (pl. of breek), breeks, breiks.
(North of England and Scotch variant of breech.)
(This word occurs in the Gothic and in the Celtic dialects. Goth. and Icel. brak. AS. braec, brec. Welsh, brycean. Preserved in braccan. Gael. brigis. It was known to the Romans. Ovid insinuated that it was a Persian dress. Persica bracea.) Breeches.
(To breek — On a rainy day in shearing, the females tuck up their petticoats in the form of breeches somewhat.)

"And when ye see thae breeks comin' in." ...BBB. p. 245.

"Thir breeks o' mine, my only pair,
That ance were plush, o' gude blue hair."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.
breer, n. brece, braird. breard. N. Sc. —Jamieson.

(AS. brord. A prick or point, a lance, a javelin, the first blade or spire of grass or corn. —Bosworth-Toller.) The first appearance of grain above the ground. "His subject of discourse was the prospects of the turnip 'breer.'" ...BBB. p. 236.

briest, N. Sc. form of breast.

(AS. breast.) Breast.

"The heart was wizened in the breist o' him wi' pride an' diveenity." ...BBB. p. 165.

brither, n. Sc. form of brother.

(AS. brother.) Brother.

"I have all my brither's bairns tae keep." ...BBB. p. 17.

"Tam lo'ed him like a vera brither."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.


(AS. bringan.) Bring.

"Some bit lassie brocht her copybuke." ...BBB. p. 4.

buirdly, adj. burdly.

(Probably a modern perversion of the earlier Scotch buirdly, goodly, stout, burly. —NED.) Large and well-made. Perhaps E. burly is originally the same word. Poor perhaps akin to burdly.
"Saunders wes a buirdly man aince." ...BBB. p. 273.
"Buirdly chiels, and clever hizzies."

...Burns: The Twa Dogs.

buke, bouk, n. Sc. form of bulk.
(ME. bolke, a heap. Icel. bulki, a heap. -Skeat. In ME. by association with bouk. AS. buc, belly. It came to mean trunk of body. -Weekley.)
"An' he' a gaein' intae sma' buke, an' a dinna like that, neeburs." ...BBB. p. 292.

bukes, n. Sc. form of books.
(AS. bōc, beech tree.) A book, the Bible.
"George has his bukes brocht oot tae the garden and studies a' the day." ...BBB. p. 34.
"An write their names in his black beuk."

...Burns: Awa, Whigs, Awa.

bumbee, n.
(ME. bommen, to hum). (Latin, bombliare. Gr. bombein.) A bumble bee; bum, to buzz, used in respect to bees.
"'Bumbee Willie' as he had been pleasantly called by his companions." ...BBB. p. 10.

(AS. burne, burna. Cognates: Gael. burne. Germ. brun.) Water, particularly that which is taken from a fountain or well. A rivulet; a brook.
"He heard the burn running over the stones."

...BBB. p. 279.

"Whyles owre a linn the burnie plays."

...Burns: Halloween.

**Burnbrae, n.**

The acclivity at the bottom of which a rivulet runs. **Burn plus brae.** Name of a farm in Scotland; the tenant or owner is called by the name of the farm.

"When Burnbrae lost half his capital, he only said, 'It's no lightsome'." ...BBB. p. 186.

**by ordinar**, adv.

(CF. **ordinarie.**) Out of the common, extraordinary.

"The rail is by ordinar' fateegin'!" ...BBB. p. 186.

**busk**, v.

(ME. **buske, busken**, Cursor Mundi. Icel. **buask**, to get one's self ready. -Skeat.) (North of England, bus. Fr. **buse, busq.**, a plated body or other quilted thing. To deck with flowers or bushes. Dan. **busk**, bush. Affinity in Germ. **butzen, bussen.** To prepare; to make ready in general.) To dress, to attire one's self, to deck.

"Thae Muirtown drapers can busk out their windows that ye canna pass without lookin'." ...BBB. p. 213.
"But now they'll busk her like a fright."

...Burns: To W. Creech.

byre, n.

(AS. byre.) (Origin uncertain, perhaps allied to German bauer. Sw. byr, a village. May be derived from Icel. bu-, a cow.) Cow-barn or shed.

"And a'ran oot to catch Elsie and hide her in the byre."

...BBB. p. 164.

"Tu' is his barn, tu' is his byre."

...Burns: A Country Lassie.

car, v. Sc. form of call. pret. ca'd.

(CN. kalla, to cry loudly.) To cry out, to cry loudly. To drive. "To ca' cannie," - to go cautiously, carefully.

"They ca' cannie for a year or sae but the feein' market puts the feenishin' titch."

...BBB. p. 192.

"Some ca' the pleugh, some herd."

...Burns: A Cottar's Saturday Night.

caller, adj. Sc. and North dialect. (Origin unknown.)

Cool, refreshing, fresh, in proper season.

"There's the salt o' the sea, and the caller air o' the hills."

...BBB. p. 154.

"An' snuff the caller air."

...Burns: The Holy Fair.

(AS. cumnan. Cana, compounded of can and na. Cf. Ger. kennen, to know; konnen, to be.) Can denotes both power and skill.

"It canna be coals 'at he's wantin'." ...BBB. p. 11.

"An' forward, though I canna see
I guess an' fear." ...Burns: To a Mouse.

cannie, adj. Sc. also in North England dialect canny.
cannie, kaunie, wary, watchful, frugal; moderate in conduct; soft, easy, slow in motion; frugal management; safe, composed, deliberate; fortunate, lucky, possessed of knowledge; good, worthy; of instruments, well fitted.

"Na, na, a' daurna use that kin' o' langidge; it's no cannie." ...BBB. p. 189.

"Wi' cannie care, they've placed them."

...Burns: Halloween.

canty, adj. Sc.

(Ir. cainteach, talkative, prattling.) Lively, merry, brisk. Applied both to persons and things. Small neat.

"An' the bairns roond ye, couthy an' canty again."

...BBB. p. 257.

"Now they're crouse and canty beith!"

...Burns: Duncan Gray.
carried, adj. Sc. Derived from v. carry.

Applied to a person whose mind is so abstracted that he can not attend to what is said to him. In a wavering state of mind. Elevated in mind, overjoyed at any event so as not to seem in full possession of one's mental faculties.

"'Domsie's fair carried,' whispered Whinnie, 'it cowes a'." ...BBB. p. 23.

carritches, n. pl. of carritch. Sc. A corruption of catechism. Used somewhat metaphorically. Often used in the sense of reproof. "I gae him his carritch." There can be little doubt that this is the sense in which the English word 'carriage' is absurdly used. -Jamieson.

"We 'ill see what she can dae wi' the Carritches."

...BBB. p. 129.

cauf, n.

(AS. ceaf, chaff.) Chaff.

"But the corn maun be threshed first and the cauf cleaned off." ...BBB. p. 119.

"The cleanest corn that e'er was dight
May hae some pyles of caff in."

...Burns: Address to the Unco Guid.
cauld, adj. Sc. form of cold.

(AS. cæld.) Cold, cool, deliberate, dry in manner, not kind, deprived of heat.

"An' ye'll be cauld." ...BBB. p. 312.

"A creeping cauld, prosaic fog." ...Burns: To Miss Ferrier.

certes, adv. and n. certis, certy, certies.

(ME. certes. OF. certes.) Certainly.

n. in phrase, "My certie," - by my troth, take my word for it.

"Ma certes he'd hed his kail het this morning."

...BBB. p. 195.

"And certes, in fair Virtue's heavenly road,
The Cottage leaves the Palace far behind."

...Burns: The Cottar's Saturday Night.

chancy, adj. Sc.

(F. chance. OF. cheance. From cheior, to fall;

VI. endere for endere. Orig. of the "fall" of the dice.

-Weekley.) Fortunate, happy, lucky; foreboding good fortune. Anything viewed as inauspicious is said to be no chancy. Safe in a literal sense. The term is also used in the English sense of risky, hazardous.

"It's no chancy when a minister begins at the tail o' his subject." ...BBB. p. 227.
chief, adj. Sc. intimate (as friends.)

Nearly allied to the sense of the term as used in Proverbs xvi.28: A whisperer separateth chief friends. This however is given by Dr. Johnson as illustrating the sense of "eminent, extraordinary."

"Mr. Skinner...an' the minister's chief, ye ken..."

...Barrie: Window in Thrums, p. 19.

"They were comin' up as chief as ye like." ...BBB. p.164.

chief, n. Sc. (Apparently a variant of child. For child in its ordinary sense bairn is used. -MED.) A servant, a valet. A fellow used either in a good or bad sense; although more commonly as expressive of disrespect. A stripling, a young man. This sense is general through Scotland. But in North Scotland it is applied to a young man or woman. An appellation expressive of fondness. Used in the sense of child.

"An' though he be a dour chief, he's a faithful servant as ever lived." ...BBB. p. 275.

"I lippen'd to the chiel in truth."

...Burns: To Dr. Blacklock.

clachan, n. Sc. and North Irish.

(Gaelic. clachan.) A small village in which there is a parish church. A village in places bordering on the Highlands or where the Gael has formerly been spoken. Elsewhere it is called the kirkton.
"There iss a man in the clachan I am wanting to see."

...BBB. p. 152.

"The Clachan yill had made me cantiy."

...Burns: Death and Dr. Hornbrook.

craith, n. Sc. form of cloth.

craithes, pl. clothing, clothes.


"I haena a steek o' new claithes for four years."

...BBB. p. 14.

"My certie, but claithes does make a differ to a woman!" ...Barrie: The Little Minister, p. 75.

clap, n. Sc.

Rest. A lying down. (Meaning of the noun is derived from verb, clap, to couch, to lie down.)

"Ay, ay, ye like a clap at a time." ...BBB. p. 306.


cliipit, pret.

(ME. cliippen. Icel. klippa, to clip, cut the hair.)

Cut short. Probably an appellation borrowed from a sheep new shorn or clipped. The meaning of 'clippit' is cut short, used adjectively.

cocker, v. pres. part. cockering.

(OF. cogueliner, "to dandle, cocker, pamper a child.")
To fondle, indulge, pamper.

"What for are ye cockering up this lassie?" ...BBB. p. 170.

cogie, n. Sc.

(A diminutive from cog. It is probable that this word is radically allied to Sw. kages. E. cog. Dan. a small boat, a trough or tray. Germanic, kauch, a hollow vessel.) A small wooden bowl.

"It's ae thing tae feed a calf wi' milk and
anither tae gie it the empty cogie tae lick."

...BBB. p. 211.

"I never gat my cogie fou
Till I met wi' the Ploughman." ...Burns: The Ploughman.
collieshangie, n. Sc.

(Compound of collie and shangie. Collie, colley, cally.) A common name for the shepherd's dog. Colley, a cur dog. N. of Eng. Chaucer: "Run, Colle, our dogge."
Shangie. The chain by which dogs are coupled. Hence it has been supposed the term collie-shangie is a quarrel between two dogs bound by the same chain. Perhaps shangie is merely a liquid modification of Fr. chaingé, a chain.

"What kin' o' collieshangie is this ye've been carryin' on?" ...BBB. p. 218.
"Haud you heart in baith yer hands...dinna send it up like a bairn's kite into a collieshangie of the winds."...Weir of Hermiston, page 230.

compt. n. (Can not find origin of word.)

Company. -Warrack.

"Ithers declare ye ran in compt like twa dogs worrying sheep."...BBB. p. 219.

couthie, adj. Sc.

(AS. cūth.) Affable, agreeable in conversation, frank, facetious. Loving, affectionate, kind. Comfortable, giving satisfaction. Pleasant to the ear. In a general sense it is opposed to solitary, dreary, as expressing the comfort of society and friendship where one is far from home and friends.

"Saw gie her a couthy welcome, wumman."...BBB. p. 146.

"I mean, she was couthie but no sair in order."

...Barrie: The Little Minister, p. 60.


(Prob. of Scand. origin. Cf. Sw. kura, Dan. kure, to squat, and Germ. kauern, to cower.) To cover, to hide, to keep still in place.

"She cooried in ahint ma goon, and cried."

...BBB. p. 164.


(cot, cote. AS. cot, a dwelling.) One who
inhabits a cot or cottage; a cottager.

"A puir cottar body that hed selt her ae coo."  ...BBB. p. 144.

"The toil worn cotter frae his labor goes."

...Burns: The Cottar's Saturday Night.

coo, n. Sc. form of cow.

(AS. cu.) Cow.

"It wes the day I bocht the white coo."  ...BBB. p. 25.

course, n. Sc. form of course.

(Combined from F. cours, L. cursus, from currere, curs, to run.) Course. Adv. phrase, of course.

"Ye 'ill hae heard of Drumtochty, of course."

...BBB. p. 201.

coronach, n. Scotch and Irish.

(Irish, coranach. Gaelic, corranach, funeral cry, dirge.) A funeral song or lamentation in the Highlands of Scotland and Ireland.

"Lachlan seemed to lose the tune, and be falling into a coronach."  ...BBB. p. 169.


(Fr. contrarier, to thwart, to oppose.) To thwart, to contradict.

"A' told him tae keep a quiet sough, and no canter the elder."  ...BBB. p. 164.
cowed, pret.

( Ice. kuga, to cow. Dan. kue, to bow, coerce, subdue. - Skeat.) To surpass, beat, outdo.
"But the neelon's naethin' tae the goat, that
cowed a' thing, at the Fast tae." ...BBB. p. 212.


(Fr. craquer, signifies to boast; perhaps transposed from AS. cercian, to chatter; rather allied to Germ. kraken, to make a noise.)
n. Crack, boasting; chat, free conversation; any detached piece of entertaining conversation; a rumor generally plural in this sense; idle or unmeaning conversation.
v. To talk boastingly; to talk freely and familiarly, to chat; to talk together in a confused manner; to talk idly.
"And send her up tae hae a crack." ...BBB. p. 155.
"When he was blind drunk he would order me to see him safe hame but would he crack wi' me? Na, na!"
...Barrie: The Little Minister, p. 32.

cud, v. Sc. form of could, can. v. pret. could.

(AS. cunnan, to know; could, cuthe, pret. of cunnan.)
A defective auxiliary verb. To be able (to do something.) \textit{cudna}, could not.

"Never torture any puir soul, for that cud dae nae guid." \ldots BBB. p. 38.

cast, v.

cuist, pret. Sc. form of cast.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{(ON. cast, kasta. Cogn. with L. gestäre.)} To throw, emit, drive, toss.
\item \textit{"As for the weemen, he fair cuist a glamour ower them."} \ldots BBB. p. 290.
\item \textit{"Satan took stuff to mak a swine And cuist it in a corner."} \ldots Burns: Epigram on A. Horner.
\end{itemize}

cry, n.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{(OF. crier, to cry. L. quiritäre. Noun cry derived from verb.)} A call, summons, shout.
\item \textit{"I'll gie Marget Howe a cry in passin'."} \ldots BBB. p. 155.
\end{itemize}


\begin{itemize}
\item \textit{(AS. dōn. W. Ger.)} Do.
\item \textit{"'He'll dae! He'll dae!' cried Domsie aloud."} \ldots BBB. p. 11.
\item \textit{"'Oh, my dear, that'll no dae,' said Kirstie."} \ldots Stevenson: Weir of Hermiston, p. 223.
\end{itemize}

daidle, v. daidlin', pres. part. of daidle.

\begin{itemize}
\item Sc. and Northern dialect.
\item \textit{(Apparently Sc. form of daddle, to move or act slowly,}
or in a slovenly manner. -NED.) (Origin uncertain, -Webster.) To move or act slowly; to waddle, to be feeble; silly, mean spirited, pusillanimous.

"A wud tell the daidlin' wratch o' a cratur tae droon himsel' in the Tochtyn." ...BBB. p. 195.

daft, v. daffin', pres. part. Chiefly Sc. (v. daft.)
To make sport, toy, dally, talk or behave sportively, to talk nonsense.

"But there's naebody tae meet me, and daffin' wi' me."

...BBB. p. 261.

daft, adj. Now chiefly Sc. and North.

(In early ME. daffte corresponding to OE. gedaefte, mild, gentle, meek. Of person: wanting in intelligence, stupid, foolish. -NED.) Foolish, unwise, giddy, thoughtless, playful, blithe, sportive.

"There's nae use glowerin' at me for a' body's daft at a time." ...BBB. p. 282.

"Their tricks and craft hae put me daft."

...Burns: The Jolly Beggars.

daurna', v. Sc. form of dare not.

(AS. dearr, with past dorste, durst.) Dare not.

"Na, na, neighbours, we daurna' luik for a prize."

...BBB. p. 18.

"A running stream they daurna' cross."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.
dawtie, n. v. to daut. pp. dawtit, dauteed, to fondle.

Variants, dawtie, dawte, dawty.

Etymology unknown. Used 16th to 18th centuries. -NED.

(Sir R. Sibbald gives the verb from Danish daegg-er, to nourish, to bring up. -Jamieson.)

"Lachlan wes callin' Elsie his bonnie dawtie."

...BBB. p. 164.

"An' dawtit, twal-pint Hawkie's gane."

...Burns: Address to the Deil.


(CE. deafean. The transitive type die fan corresponds to the Gothic (ga) daubjan. -NED.) To stupify with noise or clamor.

"The gudewife is keepin' up a ding-dong frae mornin' till night...and a'm fair deaved."

...BBB. p. 237.

"If mair they deave us wi' their din."

...Burns: The Ordination.

dee, v. Sc. form of die.

(ON. deyja replacing AS. steartfan.) Die.

"Come back, or he'll dee through want o' his bairn."

...BBB. p. 141.

"A' want tae dee here and be becrried wi' Jeannie."

...Watson: Days of Auld Lang Syne, p. 58
deid, adj. Sc. form of dead.

(AS. ðead.) Dead.

"Naebody tae lift me intae ma coffin when a'm deid."

...BBB. p. 260.

denty, adj. Obs. form of dainty.

(OE. ðæintie, daintie, pleasure, tit-bit. L. dignitatem, worthiness. -NED.) Large, plump, comely, pleasant.

"It's a bonnie show and denty."

...BBB. p. 213.

didna, v. Sc. form of did not.

Did not.

"Didna I say, 'Ye hev a promisin' laddie?'"

...BBB. p. 25.

"I wonder I didna' think o' him sooner."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 20.


Does.

"Dis he think Annie 'ill live?"

...BBB. p. 268.

disna, v. Sc. form of does not.

Does not.

"If George Howe disna get to college, then he's the first scholar I've lost."

...BBB. p. 14.


"And div ye think I've often thocht Virgil saw His day afar off."

...BBB. p. 39.
dochter, n. Sc. form of daughter.
(AS. dohtor. Belg. dochter. Germ. tochter.)
Daughter.
"The auld man cudna be mair cast doon if he hed lost his dochter." ...BBB. p. 117.
(Donnered from Scotch verb donner. Perhaps from ME. doen, to din. -NED.) In a state of gross stupor. More emphatic than doitit. To stupify as with a blow or a loud noise.
"Ye donnerd idiot, are ye ettlin tae follow Drums afore yir time?" ...BBB. p. 237.
"Davy, ye donnard auld idiot, have ye no gane mad yet?" ...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel, p. 109.
doon, prep. Sc. form of down.
(AS. of dune, off hill.) Aphetic for adown.
"He...was half way doon the yaird afore I cud quiet him." ...BBB. p. 18.
(ME. doute, F. douter, L. dubitare. Ult. from duo, two.)
Often used in the sense of thinking.
"I doot it's somethin' wrang with Geordie." ...BBB. p. 11.
dottle, adj. Sc.
(Teut. verdootelt. -Jamieson) In a state of dotage or stupor.
"Anither oor o' Mactavish wud hae driven me dottle." ...BBB. p. 230.
douce, adj. douchy, adv.

(Fr. doux, douce, mild, gentle, quiet. Tractable, from L. dulcis.) Sober, sedate, not light or frivolous, applied both to persons and things. Modest - opposed to wanton conduct. Of respectable character in general. Soft, soothing, as applied to music. douchy, adv. sedately.

"The Session being all douce Scotchmen." ...BBB. p. 131.
"That frequent pass douce Wisdom's door."

...Burns: Address to Unco Guid.

dourness, n.

(Sc. and North. dial. Adaptation of L. durus or Fr. dur.) Stubbornness, gloom, melancholy, severity.

"If the rain was pouring at the Junction then Drumtochty stood two minutes longer through sheer native dourness." ...BBB. p. 233.

drap, n. Sc. form of drop.

(AS. dropa.) Drop.

"Just let this drap milk slip ower." ...BBB. p. 280.

"Has clad a score i' their last claith, By drap and pill." ...Burns: Death and Dr. Hornbrook.

dreich, adj. Obs. and dialetic. Form of dry. -NED.

Slow, lingering, tedious, dreary, dull, wearisome.
"A' hear that they have nae examination in humor at the college; it's an awfu' want, for it wud keep oot mony a dreich bodie." ...BBB. p. 211.

"When thou an' I were young and skeigh, An' stable-meals at fairs were drie barg." ...Burns: The Auld Farmer's New Year Morning Salutation to His Auld Mare, Maggie.

(AS. druncian, to be drunk, to get drowned, from pp. drincan.) Drown.

"A wud tell the...wretch...to droon himsel' in the Tochtty." ...BBB. p. 194.

drouthy, adj. Formed from drouth.
(AS. drugoth, dryness.) Dry, thirsty. Drouchelie, thirstily.

"He's a drouthy body, but he hes his feelin's, hes Posty." ...BBB. p. 46.

"And drouthy neebors, neebors meet."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter

Drumsheugh, n. drum plus heugh.
drum. Gael. The back or ridge of a hill. Also written drim.

heugh. A crag, a precipice. Sometimes used to denote a steep hill or bank. A glen with steep over-hanging braes or sides.
Drumsheugh. In Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush, the name of a farm. It is customary in Scotland to call the tenant of a farm by the name of the farm. "Drumsheugh" was the name given to one of the chief characters in Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush.

dune, pp. of do. Sc. form of done.
Here used as an adjective in a peculiar way.
"Sae dune" is so dune, so made; hence, in such a manner or way; and, finally, to that degree. -Skeat; quoted by W. M. Metcalfe in supplement to Jamieson's Dictionary.
"We're no sae dune mean as that in Drumtochty."

...BBB. p. 18.

dunge, v.
(Dunge seems to be synonymous with dang, as used by Burns.) To nudge, push; to butt.
"The amen near upset me masel' and a' hed tae dunge Jeems wi' ma elbow." ...BBB. p. 212.
"Oy, ay, my wife she dang me,
An' aft my wife did bang me."

...Burns: O Ay My Wife She Dang Me.

dyke, n. Sc.
A wall of stone or turf.
"His coat-tails were waving victoriously as he leaped a dyke." ...

...BBB. p. 23.
"He was a gash an' faithfu' tyke,
As ever lap a sheugh or dyke." ...Burns: The Twa Dogs.

disjackit, adj. (Warrack spells it "disjasket").
Forlorn, dejected, broken down, exhausted.
"It gars ma hert greet tae see him...sae boosed
an' disjackit." ...BBB. p. 137.

To faint, fall ill, to decline in health.
"But he begood to dwam in the end of the year."
...BBB. p. 32.

e'en, n. Sc. form of eyes.
Pl. of e'e, eye.
(AS. ëage.)
"I saw the look in his een that canna be mista'en."...BBB. p. 120.

"And turned me round to hide the flood
That in my een was swelling." ...Burns: When Wild Wars.

eneuch, adv. and adj. Sc. form of enough.
(AS. genog, whence enow; genoh, whence, enough.) Enough.
"He's weel eneuch if he hed grace in his heart."
...BBB. p. 13.

"I've wife eneuch for a' that." ...Burns: The Jolly Beggars.
ettercap, n. (Wrack spells the word ethercap and refers you to athercap meaning "dragon fly.") An ill-humored person. (ettercap, a spider. —Jamieson.)

"Gin a' hed imagined what the ettercap wes aifter a' wud hae seen ma feet in the fire afore they carried me tae the Free Kirk that night." "...BBB. p. 219.

ettle, n. and v. ettlin', pres. part. of v. ettle.

(ON. eftla.) Obs. except in North of England and in Scotland.
v. To hanker after, to be eager to do or begin.
n. Eagerness, anxiety.

"I wes ettlin' tae lay ma hands on the whup-ma-denty masel'..." "...BBB. p. 195.

"An' flew at Tam wi' furious ettle." "...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.

fa', v. Sc. form of fall.

(AS. foallan.) Fall.

"Wud ye read a bit tae me afore a' fa' ower?" "...BBB. p. 301.

"Nae mair then, we'll care then

Nae farther we can fa'." "...Burns: Epistle to Davie.

fad.

I can not find fad in the sense in which it is used in Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush, either in NED., or in Wright, EDD.)
Two-fold. 'Fad' must be a shortening of 'fauld' for we find in NED. this quotation, "My auntie who's twa-fauld with the rheumaties."

"He wes bent twa fad." ...BBB. p. 66.

faigs, n.

(CF. feid - pronounced feith - later fei. L. fides.)
An exclamation of surprise.
"Faigs, it's no cannie to be muckle wi' the body."
...BBB. p. 78.

faither, n. Sc. form of father.

(AS. faeder.) Father.
"But yon wesna a verra ceevil way to speak aboot his faither and mither." ...BBB. p. 76.

fair, n. fairin' - fair plus ing. -NED.

(CF. feire. L. feria, holiday.) A present bought at a fair.
"Daffin' wi' me aboot their fairin' or feeling my pockets." ...BBB. p. 261.

fash, fasch, v. Sc. and Northern dial. -NED.

(F. facher, OF. faschier. VL. Unrecorded form, fastidicäre from fastidium, disgust. -Weekley.)
To trouble, applied to the body; denoting what pains the mind; to molest, in a general sense.
"Dinna fash wi' medicine; gie her plenty o'
fresh milk and plenty o' air."

fault, n. Sc. form of fault.
(ME. falt, F. faute, VL. fallita, coming short,from fallere, to deceive. -Weekley.) Fault,
blame, injury, defect, want, negligence.
To find fault with, blame, to reprove.

"He hed just a fault, tae ma thinkin'." ...BBB. p. 311
"Ye've nought to do but mark and tell
Your neebours' faults and folly!"

...Burns: Address to Unco Guid.

fearsome, adj. and adv. fear plus some. Sc.
fear (AS. faer, sudden peril.)
some (AS. sum. Adj. suffix having primarily the
sense of like or same and indicating a considerable
degree of the thing or quality denoted in the first
part of the compound.) Frightful, causing fear.

"And he's carryin' on maist fearsome."

...BBB. p. 73.

"'This is a fearsome night," Henry said hoarsely."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 48.

fecht, v. Sc. form of fight.

(AS. feahtan.) To struggle, to toil, to contend.
"Whom the farmers regarded as a risky turnip
crop in a stiff clay that Domsie had to fecht awa'
in." ...BBB. p. 15.

"What Miltiades was 'at, if Cox could fecht sae
well oot o' mere deviltry surely the Greeks would
fecht terrible for their gods."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, page 62.

feck, n. Sc. and North. dial.
(The -most- feck; the bulk, the greatest part,
practically the whole. -MED.) Abundance, quantity.

"But it'd dune a feck o' mischief tae." ...BBB. p. 194.

"I hae been a Devil the feck o' my life
But ne'er in hell, till I met wi' a wife."

...Burns: The Carle of Kellyburn Braes.

feckless, (v. feck,) adj. Sc. and North.
(For effectless, -Weekley.)
Weak, feeble, as applied to the body. Feeble in
relation to the acts of the mind. Spiritless. Not
respectable, worthless.

"I wud tell the feckless wratch o' a cratur tae
droon himself in the Tochty." ...BBB. p. 195.

"As feckless as a wither'd rash."

...Burns: To Haggis.
feery-farry, n. N. Sc. (ferie-farie.)

(OF. feire. L. feria, holiday; farry (farie.)
A state of tumult or consternation. Bustle, disorder.

"Peter's in an awfu' feery-farry the nicht, neeburs."

...BBB. p. 145.

fell, adj. and adv. Obs. except in Scotland.


"It cannabe coals 'at he's wantin' for there's a fell puckle left." ...BBB. p. 11.

"I couldna' think what it was but I lauched richt, was that no fell like a humorist?"

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 58.

fettle, n. Obs. except Sc. and dial. -NED.

(Porh. from AS. fetel, belt, as the verb is used reflexively in ME. with sense like to gird oneself. Cf. to buckle to, -Weekley.) Energy, power. Temper, humor, as applied to the mind.

"A've cause tae be grateful for a guid mémory, and a' ve kept it in fine fettle wi' sermons."

...BBB. p. 224.
*fike, fyke, fikes, n. Sc.*

Bustle about what is trifling. Any trifling peculiarity in acting which causes trouble. A restless motion synonymous with *fidge*.

"It was maybe juist as weel for he wud hae taen ill with thae new fikes and mae college lad to warm his hert."  ...*BBB.* p. 4.

*fikey, fikie, fiky, adj. Sc. (v. *fike*.)*

Troublesome, especially as requiring minute attention. It is applied to persons as well as to things. In a restless or unsettled state like one still fidgeting.

"Noo, that's Maister Popinjay, as neat an' fikey a little marnie as ever a' saw in a black goon."

...*BBB.* p. 213.

*fit, n. Sc. form of *foot.*

(AS. *föt.*) Foot.

"She saw him...whEEP roound the fit o' the gairden."

...*BBB.* p. 30.

"Mall's nit lap out, wi' pridefu' fling,

An' her ain fit it brunt it."  ...Burns: *Halloween.*

*flichty, adj. Sc. form of *flighty.*

(Flighty der. from *flight.*  AS. *flyht* from *fly,*
also from *flee*, easily confused. -Weekley.) Light, fickle, volatile.

"There's nae doot he wes a wee flichty." ...BBB. p. 236.

**forbears**, n. pl. originally Sc.

(Fore, cogn. with for. As a prefix fore has the meaning of previous, before. -Weekley.) (Be-er, one who is or who exists before. -NED.) Ancestors, forefathers, forbears, syn. foreldris.

"Noo, a' dinna ken Donald's forbears masel, for he's frae Tayside." ...BBB. p. 77.

"His forbears' virtues all contrasted."

...Burns: On Duke of Queensberry.

**fore**, n.

(AS. See for in forbears.)

Not lost or spent, as money, etc. -Webster Int. Dicty.

"To the fore," remaining. -Warrack.

"That hundred's still tae the fore, ye ken."

...BBB. p. 299.

**forrit, forret, forrat**, adv. Sc.

(AS. foreward.) Forward.

"Are ye no gain forrit, Mistress Skene?" ...BBB. p. 63.

"There's ane, come forrit, honest Allan."

...Burns: Poem on Pastoral Poetry.
fouk, n. Sc. form of folk.

(AS. folc. ON. folk, division of an army.) Folk.
"I hae buried a' ma ain fouk." ...BBB. p. 32.

fourer, adj. Sc. form of four.

(AS. feeower.) Four.
"And a' helpit wi' her fourer bairns." ...BBB. p. 257.

fozzy, adj. Sc. -Webster.


fra, fray, frae, prep. Sc. form of from.

(ON. fra. AS. fram, orig. forward.) From.
"It canna be coals 'at he's wantin' frae the station." ...BBB. p. 11.

"The wind blew hallow frae the hills."

...Burns: Lament for Glen Cairn.

fraikin, n. Sc.

(Icel. fraegia, laudare, -Jamieson.) Flattery, sometimes fond discourse resembling flattery, although sincere and proceeding from that elevation of animal spirits which is produced by conviviality.
"Nac man can thole that kind o' fraikin' and a' never heard o' sic a thing in the parish." ...BBB. p. 284.
fright, n. Sc. form of fright.
(Northumbrian, fryhte, metathesis of AS. fyrhte.
Fright.
"Ye hae na forgotten, mither, the fright that
was on me that nicht." ...BBB. p. 37.

fule, n. Sc. form of fool.
(F. fol, L. follis, bellows, windbag.) Fool.
"Shame on you, John, to make a fule o' an auld
dune body." ...BBB. p. 90.

fushionless, fusionless, foisonless, adj. Chiefly Sc. -Webster.
(From foison, F. from L. fusio, a pouring, effusion.)
Insipid, pithless, without substance; unsubstantiated,
used in a moral sense.
"A wud tell the fushionless wratch to drown himsel'
in the Tochty." ...BBB. p. 195.
"An' he is but a fushionless carlie, O."
...Burns: The Dukes Dang O'er My Daddy.

gae, v. gaein', pres. part of gae. Sc. form of going.
(AS. gān.) To go; to walk.
"Yir surely no gaein' to pass oor hoose without
a glass o' milk?" ...BBB. p. 30.
"Greet no more, I'm gaen awa'."
...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 215.
gae, v.
gane, pp. of gae. Sc. form of gone.

"Their verra judgment hes gane frae the fowk o' Drumtochty." ...BBB. p. 288.

"And mercy's day is gane."

...Burns: Epitaph on Holy Willie.
(OE. gangan, gongan. Cogn. with Teutonic languages.-NED.)
To advance step by step, to walk, to go out, to travel on foot as opposed to riding. "To gang one's gait." To take one's self off. "To gang out o' one's self." To go distracted.

"But I'll no see Geordie sent to the plough tho' I gang frae door to door." ...BBB. p. 17.

"Tho' they may gang a kennin wrang,

To step aside is human." ...Burns: Address to Unco Guid.

gar, ger, v. Chiefly Sc. and North dialect.

(Anc. Sw. geora, Anc. giera, to do. -Jamieson)
The original sense of the Scandinavian verb 'to do', to make (something) is rare in English, which chiefly employs 'gar' with the meaning 'to cause' (to do or to be done) agreeing with one of the uses of the verb make. -NED.) To cause, to make, to force, to compel.
"Gin ye store the money some heir ye never saw 'ill
gar it flee." ...BBB. p. 17.

"Oh, gentle dames! It gars me gret to think
how monie counsels sweet...the husband free the wife
despises." ...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.

gey, gay, adj. and adv. Sc.
(F. gai. Cf. OHG. wahi, beautiful, good.) (Obs.
Of quantity: considerable, first-class, fair. Sc. or
dialect English. -Webster) Tolerable, middling,
considerable, worthy of notice. Adv. moderately, in-
differently.

"Sall, it was gey clever o' me." ...BBB. p. 148.

ghaist, n. Sc. form of ghost.
(AS. gæst, soul, spirit.) The spirit.

"Lachlan looked like a ghaist comin' in at the door."

...BBB. p. 132.

"Where ghaists and houlets nightly cry."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.

gillie, n.
(Gaelic, gillie, a lad, servant. Irish, gille, giola.
-NED.) A boy, attendant, servant, a page.

"Next morning a figure received Sir George on the
Kildrummie platform, whom that famous surgeon took for
a gillie." ...BBB. p. 262.
gin, conj. Sc. and dial. -NED.

(AS. gif.) If.

"Gin ye store the money ye hae scrapit." ...BBB. p. 17.
"Gin a body kiss a body." ...Burns: Comin' Through the Rye.

girle, v. Sc. -NED.
girling, pres. part. (Probably imitative. -Webster.)
To have one's teeth on edge, to tingle, to thrill; to thrill with horror; to shudder, to shiver.
"Just like the thrashing mill at Drumsheugh scraiking and girling till it's fairly off." ...BBB. p. 227.

girn, v. Obs. except in Scotland.
girnin', pres. part.

(Variant of grin with metathesis of v. -NED.)
To be crabbed or peevish, to whine and cry from ill-humor. Applied to children.
"It's maist aggravatin' 'at ye 'ill stand there giren' at the prices." ...BBB. p. 144.
"Soor Bigotry, on her last legs,
Girnin' looks back." ...Burns: Letter to J. Goudie.

gled, adj. Sc. form of glad.

(AS. gleded, glad.) Happy, joyous.
"Weel, I'm gled tae hear sic acconts o' Marget Hoo's son." ...BBB. p. 16.
gleg, adj. Sc. -Weekley.

(ON. gleær, Com. Teut. cf. AS. gleæw. -Weekley.)
Quick, clever. Quick of perception by means of any one of the senses; bright, vivid; sharp, keen, a gleg needle. Lively, brisk; sharp, pert in manner; smooth, slippery. Having a keen appetite; eager, keen, attentive, acute, clever.
"Domsie put Georgie Hoo or some ither gleg laddie."

...BBB. p. 4.
"Forbye, he'll shape you aff fu' gleg,
The cut of Adam's philibeg."

...Burns: On Grose's Peregrinations.

gless, n. Sc. form of glass.

(AS. glæs.) Glass.
"A gless of milk." ...BBB. p. 30.

gloamin', n. chiefly Sc. -NED.

(AS. glæmung, from glom, twilight, cogn. with glow, but not with gloom. -Weekley.) (From the Teutonic root glo. -NED.) Twilight; belonging to evening twilight.
"But a' canna dae without seein' Annie comin' tae meet me in the gloamin', and gaein' in an' oot the hoose." ...BBB. p. 255.
"The lovers that met...in the gloamin' are gone."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 15.

(It may possibly be from glow plus er. —NED.)

(glower. Obs. glore cogn. with glare, influenced in sound and sense by lower. Cf. Du. gleen, gluren, to peep, leer. Sw. dial. to shine, stare.) To stare, gaze; to look threateningly; scowl. n. An intent or angry look; a stare; a frown; a leer.

"There's nae use glowerin' at me for a body's daft at a time."

...BBB. p. 282.

"Some gapin', glowerin' contra laird."

...Burns: On W. Chalmers.

goan, n. Sc. form of gown.

(OF. goune. Apparently originally a fur garment. Ult. origin unknown.) Gown.

"The minister in his goan an' bans." ...BBB. p. 288.

gowden, adj. Sc. form of golden.

(AS. gold.) Golden.

"The purple heather is on the hills, and doon below the gowden corn." ...BBB. p. 141.

"Nae gowden stream thro' myrtles twines."

...Burns: Poem on Pastoral Poetry.

grawn, adj. Sc. form of grand.

(F. grand. L. grandis.) Grand.

"Ye gave us a grawn discourse this mornin'." ...BBB. p. 62
greet, v. Now only Sc. and North, dial. -NED.

(AS. græstan. O. Sax. grætan, Goth. grætan.) To weep, to cry, -South of England. This word is used by writers as late as Spenser.

"Dinna greet like that, John, nor break yir hert, for it's the will o' God." ...BBB. p. 88.

"What signifies coming to greet ower me?" said poor Effie, 'when you have killed me?"

...Scott: Heart of Midlothian, p. 293.

grieve, n. Archaic form of reeve.

(AS. geræfa, Northumberland, græfa.) An overseer, a monitor. Grieve still signifies the manager of any farm or the overseer of any work, as "the road-grieve"; he who has charge of making or mending roads.

"A'm thinkin' he sappit his constitution thae twa years he wes grieve aboot England." ...BBB. p. 235.

"Your factors, grieves, trustees, and bailies,
I canna say but they do gailies."

...Burns: Address to Beezelbub.


(Gooseberry. The goose is no doubt for groose; cf. dial. groser, grozet, grozell, gooseberry, the third of which is F. grosseille, from Ger. kraus, curly, as in krusbeere, kräuselbeere, from the minute hairs on some
varieties. -Weekley.) Gooseberry.

"Hopps' laddie ate grosarts till they hed to sit up a' nicht wi' him." ...BBB. p. 246.

"As plump an' gray as onie grozet."

...Burns: To a Louse.

**grue, n.** Sc. and North. dial. -NED.


"Ye wud think that auld Hornie wes gaerin' louse; it sent a grue doon my back." ...BBB. p. 73.

**grup, n.** Sc. form of grip.

(AS. gripa, handful, gripe, clutch.) Grip.

"He's losing his grup, ma ain fouk cudna keep their coontenance." ...BBB. p. 74.

**gude, adj.** Sc. form of good.


"I hae licht on it, and naethin' but gude thochts o' the Almichy." ...BBB. p. 35.

"I mind hoo gud he's been to me."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 68.
gudeman, Sc. form of goodman.

(Archaic.) Husband, master of the house.

"The doctor gied the gudeman an awfu' clearin' ."

...BBB. p. 238.

had, haud, Sc. form of hold. Obs. or Scot. and dialect.

Eng. var. of hold. -Webster.

(AS. healdan. Cf. Ger. halten, Goth. haldan.) To hold, to keep, maintain. ("To Ha'd or Bind," - a proverbial phrase expressive of violent excitement whether in respect of rage or of folly or of pride.

-Jamieson.)

"And Drumsheugh, he'll be naither to had nor bind in the kirk-yard." ...BBB. p. 27.

had, (hold) v.

haddin', pres. part. (see had.) Gaurding, defending, preserving.

"Aifter haddin' her ain twenty years tae be maistered by a Hielanman." ...BBB. p. 224.

hae, Sc. form of have.

(AS. habban.) (It is uncertain whether the L. cognate is habère or capère. -Weekley.) To take, to receive. Hae is often used in addressing one when anything is offered to him. To understand, as, 'I hae ye now' - I
now apprehend your meaning.

"He wesna maybe sae shairp as this body we hae now."

...BBB. p. 4.

hafflin, adi. Sc. variant of halfling.

halfling, n., and a. Scottish and Northern.

a. n. One not fully grown.
b. Not fully grown; about the age of fifteen. -NED.
A half grown boy or girl.

"Gae hame and send a hafflin for some medicine."

...BBB. p. 237.

"While Jenny hafflins is afraid to speak."

...Burns: A Cottar's Saturday Night.

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...BBB. p. 237.

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...Burns: A Cottar's Saturday Night.
hantle, n. Sc. and northern dial. Origin obs. -NED.
A considerable number, equivalent to much.
"Be sure God maun be a hantle kinder." ...BBB. p. 38.

(Icel. hiýp, hypía, putting on, wrapping. -Jamieson.)
To cover in order to conceal; to cover from cold, for defense; to defend from rain or snow; to screen from danger in battle.
"Mistress Hoo 'ill hap ye round, for we maunna let ye come tae only ill the first day yir oot."
...BBB. p. 172.
"'Twas when the stacks get on their winter-hap."
...Burns: The Brigs of Ayr.

haud, Sc. form of hold. (See had.) To hold, to keep.
"Neither to haud nor to bind."
"I dinna haud wi' her there." ...BBB. p. 166.
"O lord, let it haud for anither day and keep the snaw awa'." ...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 27.

haverin', pres. part. To talk foolishly, at random, nonsensically.
"A' hear he's fleelin' ower the Glen, yammerin' and haverin' like a starlin'.'" ...BBB. p. 180.
haver, n. origin unknown. -NED.
havers, pl. (see haver, verb.) Foolish or incoherent talk.

"But this is fair nonsense. Ye'll no mind the havers o' an auld dominie." ...BBB. p. 27.

heck, n. Chiefly Sc. and North. dial.

(Anc. Sw. haeck.) A rack for cattle. "At heck and manger" - in comfortable circumstances. -NED.

"She 'ill hae her run o' heck an' manger sae lang as she lives." ...BBB. p. 300.

hed, pret. of have. Sc. form of had. (See hae.)

"For he aye said to me ye hed been a prophet."

...BBB. p. 48.


High, tall, lofty, elevated. "Heich and how" - hill and dale.

"A' body's here except the heich Glen an' we mauna luke for them." ...BBB. p. 315.

"Maggie coost her head fu' heigh." ...Burns: Duncan Gray.

heid, n. Sc. form of head.

(AS. hēafod. Ger. haupt.) Head.

"And Puir Domsie standing in aheint the brier bush as if he cud never lift his heid again." ...BBB. p. 45.
het, adj. Sc. form of hot.

(AS. hät, hot. Cogn. with Goth. heito, fever.)
Het is not only to be viewed as an adjective but is used both as the pret. and part. of verb, to heat; as,
"I het it in the pan," "Cauld hae het again" - broth warmed on the second day. Figuratively used to denote a sermon that is repeated or preached again to the same audience. -Jamieson.

"'It's a het day, Maiister Anderson,' says Marget frae the gairden." ...BBB. p. 30.
"My spaviet Pegasus will limp,
Till ane he's fairly het." ...Burns: Epitaph to Davie.

hev, Sc. form of have. (see hae.)
"An' a'm wanting tae spend a' the time a' hev in the Glen." ...BBB. p. 293.

hicht, Sc. form of height. -NED.

(AS. hielthu, from high.) A height; an elevated place. Tallness. The greatest degree of increase, as, 'the hicht o' the day' - noon; or as sometimes expressed in E. - high noon. Thus, also, the moon is said to be 'at the hicht' when it is full moon.

"Drumtochty being haunted with anxiety lest any 'hicht' should end in a 'hawe.'" ...BBB. p. 42.

"Bye attour, my Gutcher has A hich house and a ligh ane."...Burns: The Last of Ecclefechan.
hielan', adj. Of or belonging to the Highland of Scotland. Common pronunciation.

"Flora 'ill be kiltin' up the braes as hardy as a hielan' sheltie." ...BBB. p. 154.

hinna, v. hin. Sc. form of have.

Have not.

"A' hinna time tae wait for dinner." ...BBB. p. 249.

hoast, n. Chiefly North. dial.

(The OE. hwosta is not known to have survived in ME; the extant northern work (from the 14th cent.) was apparently the cognate ON. hoste, cough, OLG. hosto.) Cough.

"Drumsheugh recommended the bottle which cured him of 'a hoast' in the fifties." ...BBB. p. 64.

"Now colic-grips, an' barkin hoast,
May kill us a'." ...Burns: Scotch Drink.

hoose, n. Sc. form of house.

(AS. hūs.) House.

"Div ye no ken that ye'v'e oocht to be in the hoose?" ...BBB. p. 237.

hoot awa', interj.

(Scotch and North. dial. Sw. hut, begone, used in taking one up sharply. Irish, ut, out. Gaelic, ut. Possibly connected in origin with hoot (hoot, v.).
ME. hüten is found about 1200. Compare with Sw. huta ut, to take one up sharply. Fr. huer, to hoot. -NED.) (From 12th century. Probably imitative. Cf. hoop, toot, hue. -Weekley.)

Hoot - interjection - expressive of dissatisfaction, of some degree of irritation, and sometimes of disbelief. Sc. equivalent to E. fy.

"'Hoot awa,' she responded, 'the meenut ony heads cam a' knew ma grund.'" ...BBB. p. 228.


(AS. horn, com. Teut.) Diminutive of horn. A name name given to the devil from the idea of his having horns.

"Ye wud think to hear him speak that auld Hornie wes gaein' louse in the parish." ...BBB. p. 78.

"Auld Hornie, Satan, Nick, or Clootie."

...Burns: Address to the Deil.

**houp**, v. Sc. form of hope.

n.

(AS. v. hopian. Cf. Du. hopen. Apparently a Low German word which appears later in Scand. and HG. hoffen.) Hope.

"Puir lassie, a' houp her father 'ill be kind tae her, for she's sair broken and looks liker deith than life."

...BBB. p. 148.
"And by that Stown! my faith an' houpe."

...Burns: The Jolly Beggars.

**howe,** n. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.
A hollow space, a valley, a glen, a flat tract of
land.

"Drumtochtty being haunted with anxiety lest any hicht
should end in a howe." ...BBB. p. 42.

"He hunted o' er height and o' er howe."

...Burns: The Black Headed Eagle.

(North. ME. holk. Cogn. with MLG. holken, LG. holken,
to hollow. Sw. halka. -NED.) To dig out, to
excavate, to burrow.

"It took the feck o' ten meenuts tae howk him an'
Jess oot ae snawy nicht." ...BBB. p. 290.

"And in kirk-yards renew their leagues
Owre howkit dead." ...Burns: Address to the Deil.

**hypothic,** n. Sc. form of F. hypothéque.
Formerly equivalent to annual rent. A pledge or
legal security for payment of rent or money due.

Sc. (Law Dict. F. hypothéque, "an engagement or pawning
of an immovable." L. hypotheca.) In phrase, "the whole
hypothic," the whole concern, or collection.

"A'll juist tell ye tho hale hypothic for sic a dis-
coorse ye may never hear a' the days o' yir life."

...BBB. p. 226.
"If the hale hypothic were to fa'...I would dee."

...Stevenson: Weir of Hermiston, p. 229.

ilka, adj. Sc. -NED.

(ilka, adj. Now Scotch. Originally two words, ilk a but from the 15th century usually written as one. -NED.)

(ilka, northern form of each. ilk, same.) (AS. ilca.)

Each, every.

"A'm thinking that ilka scholar is something added to the riches of the commonwealth." ...BBB. p. 17.

just, adv. Sc. form of just.

(F. juste, L. justus, from jus, law. Adv. sense, precisely, exactly, springs from adjective. -Weekley.)

Very, quite, only.

"It may be just as weel he slippit awa'." ...BBB. p. 4.

jundy, n. v. Sc. -NED.

The trot, the ordinary course; to jog with the elbow; to jostle.

"He puts on his glasses...and reads maybe ten verses, and then he's aff on a jundy again." ...BBB. p. 210.

"The warly race may drudge an' drive, Hog-shouter, jundie, stretch an' strive."

...Burns: To, W. Simpson.
kail, n. Northern form of cole. The normal North. Eng. spelling was cole, the Sc. kail, kail. Cole, cabbage.

(AS. cæwel, cáil, L. caulis, cogn. with G. kaulos, stalk.)

Broth made of colewart and other greens; food; dinner.

"But ma certes, he'd hed his kail het this mornin'." ...BBB. p. 195.

"Curse thou his basket and his store,
Kail an' potatoes." ...Burns: Holy Willie's Prayer.

keek, v. S. -Jamieson.

keekin', pres. part.

(Anc. Sw. kika, Belg. kyken.) To look with prying eye; to look by stealth.

"If ye didna catch them keekin' through their fingers tae see what like the kirk is, ye wud think they were prayin'." ...BBB. p. 209.

"But keek thro' ev'ry other man,
Wi' sharpen'd sly inspection."

...Burns: Epistle to a Young Friend.

ken, v. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.

kent, pret.

(AS. cenen. Cf. Du. kennen, Ger. kennen, Goth. kannjan.) To know, to understand.

"But a'body kent he was a terrible scholar and a credit tae the parish." ...BBB. p. 4.
"I ken the ways o' thae minister's preaching for Kirks." ...Barrie: Little Minister.

kilt, n. Scand. -Skeat.

(See kilt, verb.)

(Originally verb, to tuck up. Dan. kilte, also kilte op, perhaps cogn. with ON. kilting, skirt.)

A loose dress worn by Highlanders extending from the belly to the knee in form of a petticoat. -Jamieson.

"Man there's naebody wears a kilt forbye gemkeepers and tourist bodies." ...BBB. p. 220.

kilt, v. Apparently of Scand. origin. -NED.

kiltin', pres. part.

(Danish, kilte, to tuck up. On. had kilting, skirt, lap. -NED.) To do a thing neatly and skillfully.

(See also kilt, above.)

"Kiltin' up the braes as hardy as a heilan' sheltie." ...BBB. p. 154.


(ME. kirke, cf. Icel. kirkja, Swed. kyrka, borrowed AS. cirice, circe, a church. Of Greek origin. -Skeat.)

The true Catholic church, including all on earth who hold the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. The
church of Scotland, as distinguished from other reformed churches, or that of Rome. -Jamieson.
"Did ye no hear hoo the Frees wiled him intae their kirk, Sabbath past a week." ...BBB. p. 14.
"A cauld kirk, and in't but few."

...Burns: On Kirk of Lamington.

kirny, adj. Now chiefly dial. -NED.
(ME. kerne, v. To form the hard grains in the ear.
-NED.) Used of corn, full of grains.
"Eatin' naethin' but kirny aitmeal." ...BBB. p. 273.

kist, n. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.
(AS. cest, Germ. kist, Anc. Sw. hist-a, L. cest-a, a chest in general. AS. cyste, a coffin; Belg. dodkist.
-Jamieson.) A chest; a chest of drawers; a coffin.
"His library consisted of some fifty volumes of ancient divinity and lay on an old kist close to his hand." ...BBB. p. 107.

kittle, adj. Sc. and North. dial.
Originally Sc. from obs. kittle, to tickle.
(AS. citelian, cogn. with Du. kitzelen, Ger. kitzeln, and ult. ident. with tickle. -Weekley.) Ticklish, dangerous.
"A Hielan' ford is a kittle road in the snaw time." ...BBB. p. 266.
"Her pauley smile, her kittle c'en."

...Burns: Answers to the Guidwife.

knowe, n. Sc. and North. Eng. form of knoll. -NED.

(AS. anoll, hill-top. Cf. Du. knol, clod, ball, Ger. knollen, lump.) A little hill, a hillock.

"The foot of the cart road to Whinnie Knowe and the upland farms." ...BBB. p. 5.

"Until wi' daffin weary grown
Upon a knowe they sat them down."

...Burns: The Twa Dogs.


(AS. lād, way, course, cogn. with lead, leat, lode. -Weekley.) Mill race, watercourse.

"River wes up tae their waists and rinnin' like a mill lade." ...BBB. p. 314.

laigh, adj. Sc. -NED.

(laigh, layche. Anc. Sw. laag.) Low, low-lying.

"That's a fine puckle aits ye hae in the laigh park, Burnbrae." ...BBB. p. 63.

"While laigh descends the simmer sun."

...Burns: The Contented Cottager.

lang, adj. and adv. Sc. form of long.

(AS. lang. Du. and Ger. lang, cogn. with L. longus.)

The adverbial use seems to be derived from the adjective.
Adj. Long, continual, protracted, extended.

Adv. Through the whole extent or duration.

"Ay, ay, but we mann keep to the body sae lang as we're here, Tammas." ...BBB. p. 44.

"It's a lang story to tell."

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel, p. 678.

lassie, n. lass, origin unknown. -Weekley.

lassie diminutive of lass.

(ME. lasse, las (se); perhaps a prehistoric ON. lasga, weak, feminine of lasgar, unmarried. -NED.) A young girl.

"Some bit lassie brocht her copy-buke." ...BBB. p. 4.

"The wisest man the warl' saw He dearly loved the lassies, O."

...Burns: Green Grow the Rashes, O!

lauch, Sc. form of laugh.

lauchin', pres. part.

(AS. hliehhan. Merc. hlaehhan. Cf. Ger. lachen.)

Of imitative origin.) Laugh.

"It's nae lauchin' maitter, a' can tell ye."

...BBB. p. 213.

lave, obs. except in Scotland.

(OE. laf. -NED.) The remainder.

"The Almighty 'ill ken the lave Himsel'". ...BBB. p. 303.
lee, n.
lees, pl. Sc. form of lies.

(AS. lyge.) An untruth.
"Ye ken a' never tell lees like the grund ceety doctors." ...BBB. p. 154.

licht, n. chiefly Sc. -NED.

(AS. leocht, Ger. licht.) Light.
"That's the window I pit the light in to guide him hame in the dark winter nachts." ...BBB. p. 26.

lichtsome.

licht. (See preceding word.)

some. (AS. sum, common Teutonic. Cogn. with same and seem.)

Having light; cheerful, gay, lively.
"That's no lichtsome, doctor, no lichtsome av, for a' dinna ken ony man in Drumtocht sae bund up in his wife as Tammas." ...BBB. p. 259.

lilt, v. Chiefly Sc. -NED.

(ME. lulten, to sound, strike up loudly. Cf. Du. IG. lul, pipe. -Weekley.) To sing cheerfully.
"An' lilt 'Sing a song o' saxpence'." ...BBB. p. 291.
"An' lilt wi' holy clangor." ...Burns: The Ordination.

lippin, v. Chiefly Sc. of obscure origin. -NED.

To expect, hope, trust, rely, have confidence.

"An' ye'll lippin him the nicht tae Drumsheugh an' me." ...BBB. p. 274.
"I lippen'd to the chiel in trouth."

...Burns: To Dr. Blacklock.

Losh, n. A corruption of the name Lord.

(Lord. AS. hlafweard, hlaford, leaf-ward. Originally master of the house, husband; application to the Deity being due to its translating L. dominus, G. kunos.

-Weekley.) Sometimes used as an interjection, expressive of surprise, wonder, or astonishment, and at other times uttered as in unwarrantable prayer for the divine keeping.

"Losh, Drumsheugh, be quiet." ...BBB. p. 20.

"Losh, man! has mercy wi' your natch."

...Burns: Answer to a Poetical Epistle.

louse, adj. Sc. form of loose.

(ON. lauss, cogn. with AS. læas, and with lose.)

Unbound, untied.

"Ye wud think that auld Hornie wes gaein' louse in the parish." ...BBB. p. 78.


(AS. lōcian.) Look.

"We daurna luik for a prize." ...BBB. p. 19.


(AS. lufu. Cf. Ger. liebe.) To love.

"My laddie that I luve better than onythin' on earth."

...BBB. pp. 39-40.
"And I will luve thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry." ...Burns: A Red, Red, Rose.

ma, Sc. form of my.

my, shortened form of mine.

"George, ma mannie, tell yir father that I am comin' up to Whinnie Knowe." ...BBB. p. 11.

mair, adj. Sc. form of more.

(AS. māra, also mā, whence ME. mo.) More.

"I wud hae naething mair to ask." ...BBB. p. 14.

mairrit, pret. of marry. Sc. form of married.

(F. marier, L. maritāre, from maritus, married, from mas, mar, male.) Married.

"Isaac mairrit Rebecca." ...BBB. p. 128.

maister, n. Sc. form of master.

(Contains both AS. mægester, L. magister, and OF. maistre, mod. maître, L. magister. Cogn. with magnus, great. -Weekley.) Master.

"Ye maunna be ower hard on him, Maister Campbell."

...BBB. p. 113.

mannie, n. Sc. man plus ie. ie a diminutive suffix. -NED.

(AS. mann. Cf. Goth. manna, Sankrit, manu.) Term of endearment for a small boy; a little man.

"George, ma mannie, tell yir father that I am comin' up to Whinnie Knowe." ...BBB. p. 11.
manse, n. Sc. -Webster.

(manse, mansum, mansa, L. manere, to dwell, remain. -NED.) A Scottish minister's official residence.
"Geordie tramped ower the muir to the manse."

...BBB. p. 26.

marra, n. Sc. form of marrow.

(Of obscure origin. Possibly Scand. -NED.) A match, equal.
"It hasna a marra in Scotland." ...BBB. p. 154.

ma'sel, pro. Sc. form of myself.

A contraction.
"I've nae objection ma'sel to a nee'bur tastin' at a funeral." ...BBB. p. 45.

maun, aux. v. Chiefly Sc.

(ON. man, pres. tense of munn, must. -NED.) Must.
"Be sure God maun be a hantle kinder." ...BBB. p. 38.
"Some cock or cat, your rage maun stop."

...Burns: Address to the Deil.

maunna, v. Sc. form of must not. (See maun.)

"We maunna mention prizes, and first is fair madness."

...BBB. p. 20.

"The kirk may tell...to do such things I maunna."

...Burns: The Gowden Locks of Anna.
meenute, n. Sc. form of minute.
(F. minute, Late L. minuta, from minutus, small.) Minute.
"Start the verra meenute that ye get this letter."
...BBB. p. 142.

moisture, Sc. form of moisture.
(OF. moiste. I. musteus, like must or new wine; fresh, green, new, senses all found for moist in ME.) Moisture.
"He can aye keep up a shairp moisture on the skin."
...BBB. p. 246.

mighty, adj. Sc. form of mighty.
(AS. meahtig, mihtig, akin to Ger. machtig.) Mighty, stately, haughty, strange. Used of liquor, strong.
"'It'll be mighty,' cried Whinnie, now fairly a'fire."
...BBB. p. 27.
"Sa'll, she'll be in a mighty tantrum about this."
...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 27.

micht, v. Sc. form of night.
(AS. mihte, past of may. -Weekley.) Might.
"Ye tell me that God micht punish me to mak me better if I was bad."
...BBB. p. 37.

mickle, adj. Obs. exc. dial. and arch.
big, much.
"Yir trust wes mickle help tae him in his battle."

...BBB. p. 51.

"It's right anent the mickle kirk yonder."

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel, p. 55.


(mis plus handle. mis in majority of compounds is
AS. mis-, handle. AS. handle from hand. Mis equals
ill, wrongly; handle equals to touch, direct, treat.)

Mishandled.

"Ye ken he's been terrible mishanneled by accidents."

...BBB. p. 232.

mither, n. Sc. form of mother.

(AS. mödor.) Mother.

"We'll tell it first to his mither."

...BBB. p. 23.

word.

(AS. manig.) Many.

"He's been a kind freend to me and mony a puir laddie
in Drumtocht."

...BBB. p. 40.

"The policeman entreated...aye, mony a ane hae I
spoken to but not a man...would fling me a word."

...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 131.
mooth, n. Sc. form of mouth.
(AS. mūth. cf. Ger. mund, Goth. munths.) Mouth.
"The foam fleein' frae the horse's mooth."
...BBB. p. 241.
muckle, adj.
(See mickle.)
"It passes me hoo he kens sae muckle aboot the Deevil."
...BBB. p. 74.
"'Sal," Susie said,... 'I enjoyed sitting like a judge
upon them so muckle that I sair doubt it was kind o'
sport to me.'"...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 26.
mudge, n. Sc.
(OF. mûste, L. motus, Welsh, mud, a motion.) A motion,
movement, a stir.
"Man, it was hard on some but there wesna ane o' them
made a mudge."...BBB. p. 45.
muir, Sc. form of moor.
(AS. môr. Cf. archaic Du. moer, Ger. moor, fen.
Cogn. with ON. morr, and with mere.) Moor.
"Geordie tramped ower the muir to the manse."
...BBB. p. 26.
mune, n. Sc. form of moon.
(AS. môna, Com. Teut. Cf. Du. maun, Ger. mond,
ON. mûna, Goth. mēna.) Moon.
"It was a mercy the mune changed last week, Maister Menzies." ...BBB. p. 65.

nae, adj. Sc. and North. variant of na, or no, not one.

(None. AS. nān for ne ān, not one. As an adjective reduced to no. -Weekley.) No.

"Nae college lad to warm his hert." ...BBB. p. 4.

dane, adj. and adv. Sc. form of none.

(AS. nān, for ne ān, not one.) Not one, nobody, nothing.

"Nane o' us can love anither without lovin' Him."

...BBB. p. 34.

"Sal, am no none sure but what a'm a humorist, too."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 57.

naither, here correl. conj. Sc. form of neither.

(Altered - on either - from nauther nouther, contraction of AS. nahwaether.) Neither.

"He wud naither sit nor taste." ...BBB. p. 18.

nap, v. (knap) now dial. -NED.

knapped, pp.

(knap. Imitative. Cf. Ger. knappen. -Weekley.)

To knock, strike, hammer; to snap, break with a noise.

'He hath knapped the speare in sonder.' Ps. xlvi9, in the Bible of 1535.

"Sandy Stewart napped stones on the road." ...BBB. p. 234.
"Ye'd better taen up spades and shools, 
Or knappin hammers." Burns: Epistle to John Lapraik.

An incorrigible in wickedness, folly, or indolence.
"Nae fear o' him; thae neer-daе-weels haena the spunk."

...BBB. p. 195.

nicht, n. Sc. form of night.

"Div ye mind the nicht I called for ye." ...BBB. p. 35.

"It 'ill be nae body 'ats to bide a' nicht at the manse."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 20.

nip, v.
nippet, pret. Sc. form of nipped.
(ME. nippen. Not found in AS. though the (possibly) cognate Gnif, a knife, occurs.) To eat daintily, to taste sharp, to snatch, to run off quickly.

"He juist nippet up his verbs." ...BBB. p. 25.

"Ere the spoiler had nipt thee in blossom."

...Burns: On Death of Favorite Child.

noo, adv. Sc. form of now.
(AS. nú.) Now.
"He wasna maybe sae shairp at the elements as this pirjinct body we hae noo," ...BBB. p. 4.

"But I see noo what she was after."

...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 22.

oot, adv. Sc. form of out.


"For ye 'ill never gat a penny piece oot o' him."

...BBB. p. 14.

"He tried to get oot o' Christy what she wanted the chintz for." ...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 21.


(The pres. tense of AS. āgan is ah, the past tense is ahte. This became ME. ahte, ahte, oughte, oughte.) Ought, owe.

"Div ye no ken that ye ought tae be in the hoose?"

...BBB. p. 237.

ony, onie, adj. Sc. form of any.

(An indeterminate derivative of one. The ME. forms are numerous, as aeni, aeni, ani, oni. -Skeat.) Any.

"Are ony o' them shaping weel?" ...BBB. p. 15.

oneway, adv. Sc. form of anyway.

(See ony, way. AS. weg.) Anyway.
"It was a bonnie like pliskie oneway and hardly fit for an Auld Kirk elder." ...BBB. p. 219.

Ootgaeins, n. pl. of ootgae of Sc. form of outgo.
(Outgo equals out (see oot) plus go (AS. gān.) Outlay, expenditures.

"But what aboot his fees and ither ootgaeins?"

...BBB. p. 14.

Orra, adj. Sc. Of unascertained origin. -NED.
Occasional; idle, low, worthless, vagabond.

"Naethin' to mention at first, juist a gles at an orra time, a beerial or a merridge." ...BBB. p. 191.

"To drink their orra dudies." ...Burns: The Jolly Beggars.

Ower, owre, adv. and prep. Sc. form of over.

(AS. ofer.) Over.

"Did ye say the Almighty? I'm thinkin' that's ower grand a name for your God, Kirsty." ...BBB. p. 34.

"And ower the moorlands whistles shill."

...Burns: And Maun I Still On Menie Deat.

Oxtar, exter, Sc. and north dial. (A modified or extended form from OE. oxta. -NED.)

(AS. axtan, Teut. oxtel, id.) The arm pit. Used in a looser sense for the arm.

"A' wud hae taken him aff below my exter." ...BBB. p. 220.
"The Priest, he was oxter'd, the Clerk, he was carried." ...Burns: Meg o' the Mill.


"A' mind gettin' ma paiks for birdnestin' masel'." ...BBB. p. 12.

pairts, n. pl. (Now archaic, rare in speech. -NED.)

An intellectual gift or faculty; used in the plural.

"He had an unerring scent for 'pairts' in his laddies." ...BBB. p. 9.

peetiful', adj. Sc. form of pitiful.
(pity - piti plus ful. F. pitie, L. pietas, pietat-, piety, which in Late L. assumed sense of compassion.
ful, AS. full.) Pitiful.

"It's peetiful' when God's bairns fecht through greed and envy." ...BBB. p. 118.

pickle, puckle, n. Sc. and North dial. (Origin unknown. -NED.)

A grain of corn, a single seed, any minute particle, a small quantity, a few.

"I plead for a pickle notes to give a puir laddie a college education." ...BBB. p. 16.

"She gies the Herd a pickle nits." ...Burns: Halloween.
pint, n. Sc. form of point.
(F. point, prick, dat. L. punctum, points, act of piercing.) Point.

"My wy is tae place ilka head at the end o' a shelf and a' the pints aifter it in order." ...BBB. p. 224

perjinct, perjinct, adj. All Scot. -Webster.
(Can not find origin of word.) Precise, exact.

"He wasna maybe sae shairp at the elements as this perjinct body we hae noo." ...BBB. p. 4.

pirn, n. Sc. and North. dial. (Origin uncertain, -NED.)
A wheel or bobbin on which yarn or thread is wound.
A quill, or reed. 'To wind on a pirn' - to make a person repent his conduct.

"He'll wind a queer pirn afore he's done." ...BBB. p. 227.

(Late AS. putian, also potian, pýtan.) Put.

"An' pit in a penny." ...BBB. p. 15.

plaid, n.
(The same word as Gaelic plaide, Ir. plaid, blanket.
Ulterior etymology uncertain. -NED.) Garment, covering.

"She wes...wrapped in a plaid fair worn oot." ...BBB. p. 283.
"He row'd me sweetly in his plaid."

...Burns: Ca' the Ewes.

pleenishin', n. Chiefly Sc.

(plenish, Sc. OF. plenir, pleniss- from L. plenus, full.
-Weekley.) Household furniture.

"A' wudna come thro' the like o' yon again for half
the pleenishin' o' Hillocks." ...BBB. p. 222.

pliskie, n. Sc.

(AS. plaega, play, sport, with the termination isc or
isk expressive of increment. It is used in South of
Scotland in the sense of plight, condition. -Jamieson.)

A trick, properly of a mischievous kind, though not
necessarily including the idea of any evil design.

"It wes a bonnie like pliskie onyway, and hardly
fit for an Auld Kirk elder." ...BBB. p. 219.

"Deil na they never mair do guid,
Play'd her that pliskie!"

...Burns: The Author's Cry and Prayer.


ploisterin', pres. part.

(plowster, South Scotland. Ger. pladern, Teut.
plotsen, plotsen int water, in aquam irruere. -Jamieson.)

Both Webster and the Standard give this word as Sc. and
dial. (prov.), English but do not account for the origin.
To wade through mud or water.

"Hillocks, what are ye plotterin' about here for in the weet?" ...BBB. p. 237.


(Origin uncertain. -NED.) (ploy, frolic, OF. ploir, a variant of plait, a plea; L. placitum. -Supplement to Jamieson's Dictionary.) A frolic, amusement, employment, business.

"Nux Vomica, it's a fine ploy, and ye 'ill better gang on wi' the Nux till it's dune!" ...BBB. p. 248.

pluck, v.

pluckit, pret. Sc. form of plucked.

(AS. pluccian, ploccan.) To pluck.

"'He's pluckit up his speerit maist extraordinar,' Hillocks explained." ...BBB. p. 162.

pooin' pres. part of pull. Sc. form of pulling.

(AS. pullian.) Pulling.

"Till the bit mannie wud be pooin' the doctor's beard." ...BBB. p. 291.


(Origin seems uncertain. Jamieson refers to pref. v. to prove. Frene is the OF. form.) To prove, to taste, to find by examination.
"Elspeth Macfadyen... 'at prees the sermons in oor Glen." ...BBB. p. 203.

proof, adj. Sc. form of proud.
(Late AS. prūd, prūt, OF. prod. Late L. prodīs, back-
formation from prodēsse, -pro and esse, to be of value.
-Weekley.) Proud.

"And we were a' proof o' him." ...BBB. p. 50.

puckle, n. (v. pickle.) Sc.
A small quantity.

"For there's a fell puckle left," ...BBB. p. 11.

pucklie, Sc.? Not found in Jamieson or Warrack. But from
definition of puckle and the diminutive it, I should
infer that it means a small bit or area (in oats),
according to quotation taken from "Beside the Bonnie
Brier Bush."

"That's a fine pucklie a'its ye hae in the laigh park,
Burnbrae." ...BBB. p. 63.

puir, adj. Sc. form of poor.
(AF. poours, OF. poore, Mod. F. pauvre, L. pauper.)
Poor.

"I plead for a pickle notes to give a puir laddie a
college education." ...BBB. p. 16.
"There's matter enow mair than ae puir mind can bear." ...Scott: Heart of Midlothian.

pushedion, pret.

(Sc. and dial. Eng. var. of poison.)
(F. poison, L. potio-n-, drink, from potare, to drink.) Poison.

"If he hed been a shilpit, stuntit, ........ aratur, fed on tea an' made dishes and pushedion wi' bad air, Saunders wud hae nae chance." ...BBB, p. 273.

rael, adj. Sc. form of real.

(F. reel, OF. also real, Late L. realis, from res, thing.) Real.

"Ye can hae little rael pleasure in a merrige."

...BBB, p. 43.

ravelled, past part. ravel. Sc. and North Dial. of obscure origin. -NED.

(Du. rafeelen, to tangle, fray out; cogn. with A. arafian, to unwind (thread) and ult. with reeve. -Weekley.)

To speak in an irregular, incoherent manner; to wander in speech.

"'He's ravelled,' a' said to masel, 'without beginning or end.'" ...BBB. p. 225.
richt, adj. Sc. form of right.


"Yer richt, Domine. She weel deserves it." ...BBB. p. 23.

rinnin', Sc. form of running. Pres. part. of rin (run.)

(AS. rinnan.) Running.

"Grain fallin' like a rinnin' burn on the corn-room floor." ...BBB. p. 119.

rive, n. Sc. -Webster.

(Icel. ryf.) A portion of food torn off as by the teeth; a bite. -Webster.

"Ye get a rive at the Covenants ae meenute and a mouthfu' o' justification the next." ...BBB. p. 214.

"Nae doubt they'll rive it wi' the plew."

...Burns: Death and Dr. Hornbrook.


rochness, n. From adj. roch.

(Germ. rauh, L. rauclus. -Jamieson.)

Roughness, harshness.

"A' never jidged the waur o' him for his tich of rochness." ...BBB. p. 311.


(Originally intransitive of hawk ruffling its feathers. Origin unknown. Hence arouse, suggested by awake, arise. -Weekley.)
(Scand. -Skeat.) Rouse, excited, extolled.
"Ye did richt tae resist him; it 'ill maybe roose
the Glen tae mak a stand." ...BBB. p. 250.


(L. Gk. O. Persian. ME. rose, L. rosa, Greek, rodon,
O. Persian, varta, a rose. -Skeat.)
Rose (crysipelas) is so called from the color of the
eruption.
"Div ye no ken that ye've a titch o' the rose?"
...BBB. p. 237.

roup, n. Sc. and North.

(Du. roopen.) A sale by auction, an outcry, a shout.
"He fell back on a recent roup and would not again
break away." ...BBB. p. 27.
"Jess' chair...old Sneeky bought it at a roup in the
tenements." ...Barrie: A Window in Thrums, p. 12.

ruckle, n. Sc. and North. dial.

(Dimin. of ruck; apparently of Scand. origin, corres-
ponding to Norw. ruka.) A loose heap, a pile; in pl.
old, useless articles; ruins.
"I wud lay doon this auld worn-out ruckle o' a body o'
mine." ...BBB. p. 257.

sae, adv. Sc. form of so.

(AS. swā. Cf. Du. soo, Ger. so. ON. svā, Goth. swa.)
"He wasna maybe sae shairp at the elements." ...BBB. p. 4.
"'Ay,' said the King, 'say ye sae man?'

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel.

sair, adj., and adv. Sc. -Jamieson.


"Sair off," -greatly to be pitied.

"A sair life I had wi' Laurie Link Later."

...Scott: Fortunes of Nigel, p. 69.

"But I doot sair it canna be managed." ...BBB. p. 14.

sall, a strong expletive.

"Sall, he's a lad, Drumsheugh." ...BBB. p. 15.

sanct, n. and adj. -Jamieson.

I can find nothing further concerning the form of this word, hence I conclude it must be the Sc. form of saint.

(F. saint, L. sanctus, from sancire, to consecrate, cogn. with sacer.) A holy or godly person.

"Noo, here is my sanct and dive ye ken I've often thocht Virgil saw His day afar off." ...BBB. p. 39.

saut, adj. Sc. form of salt.

(AS. sealt.) Salt.

"Wile him aff tae the saut water." ...BBB. p. 293.

save, v.

savit, pret. Sc. form of saved.

(F. sauver, L. salvâre, from salvus, safe, cogn. with
salus, health.) Saved.
"There's a note or twa in that drawer a' savit."
  ...BBB. p. 300.

sax, adj. Sc. form of six.
  (AS. siex, sex.) Six.
  "George 'ill be among the first sax." ...BBB. p. 20.

schule, n. Sc. form of school.
  (ME. scape, OF. escale, L. schola.) A place of learning.
  "Think o' you and me, Hillocks, veesitin' the schule."
  ...BBB. p. 4.

Note: The sch in Sc. schule has the same sound as the
  sch in Ger. schule.


scaiking, pres. part.
  (Anc. SW. skrik-a, Icel. skraek-a, -Jamieson.)
  Denoting the cry of a fowl when displeased. To cry
  with importunity and in a discontented tone.
  "Just like the thrashing mill scaiking and girling
  till it's fairly aff." ...BBB. p. 227.

scrape, v.

scrapit, pret. Sc. form of scrape.
  (AS. scrapian or ON. skrappa. Cogn. with Du. schrappen,
  Ger. schrumpfen.) To scrape. Scrape also means to
  express scorn.
"Gin ye store the money ye hae scrapit." ...BBB. p. 17.

scrowie, n. Northern Scots.

(Isl. skyr, a slight shower.) A light shower of rain.

"It had been a bit scrowie, a scrowie being as far short of a shoer, as a shoer fell below weet."

...BBB. p. 234.

scunner, skunner, n. and v. Sc. and North.

(n. AS. scunning; v. AS. scunian.)

n. A loathing; any person or thing that excites disgust. v. To loathe, to be disgusted.

"His heart took mair scunner at genteelity than ever."

...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 56.

"Juist gruel, and encuch tae scunner ye wi' sugar."

...BBB. p. 205.

sell, pret. Sc. form of sold.

(AS. sellan. Cf. O.Sax. sellian, to give. OHG. sellen, to deliver up.) Sold.

"A puir cottar body that hed sell her ae coo."

...BBB. p. 144.


"He was a shachlin bit cratur and he lookit up at me."


"And how her new shoon fit her auld shachlin' feet."

...Burns: Lazy May a Braw Wooer.
sheltie, So.
(Perhaps corrupted from Shetland.)
A horse of the smallest size.
"An' kiltin' up the brass as hardy as a Hielen' sheltie." ...BBB. p. 154.

sherra, So. —Jamieson.
(AS. sceíngerēfa.) A sheriff.
"Burnbrae here is threatenin' ye wi' the Sherra."
...BBB. p. 218.

shilpit, n. So.
(Etymology unknown. —NED.) A person trembling always.
"If he had been a shilpit, stuntit, feckless, effeegy o' a cratur, fed on tea an' made dishes and pushed wi' bad air..." ...BBB. p. 273.

shoor, n. Sc. form of shower.
(AS. seúr.) A brief fall of rain.
"A scrowie being as far short of a shoor as a shoor fell below weet." ...BBB. p. 234.

Sc. —Jamieson.
(Sib in AS. means 'peace' but there was a derived word meaning 'relative'. These are further related to the Skt. sabhya-, relating to an assembly, trusty,
faithful. (Skeat.) Sib is found in the word gossip a sponsor in baptism, a cronie, literally, a God relative. The final p stands for b, and ss for ds. Related, similar.

"A'm jalousing that nae man can be a richt father tae his ain without being sib tae every bairn he sees."

...BBB. p. 165.

sic, adj. Sc. (Jamieson.)

(AS. swile, swyle, compound of so and like.) Such.

"Ye'll manage his keep and sic like."

...BBB. p. 14.

siller, n. Sc. form of silver.

(AS. seolfor; early form siclofr, (Skeat.) Money in general.

"A likely lad cudna win tae college for the want o' siller."

...BBB. p. 18.

skails, v. North. dial. and Sc. (NED.)

(Anc. Sw. Isl. skil-ia, Gael. scacil-am. (Jamieson.) To disperse, to dismiss.

"May the maister and his scholars meet some mornin' where the schule never skails."

...BBB. p. 40.

slip, v.

slippit, pret. Sc. form of slipped.

(Only slipor, slippery is found in AS. which has, however, the verb slīpan.) To glide, to pass away.

"It wes maybe juist as weel he slippit awa' when he did."

...BBB. p. 4.
smoor, smore, smure, smoir, n. Sc.
smoored, pret.
(AS. smorand, past. smorer.) To choke, to suppress, to extinguish, to smother.
"He's clean smoored wi' his ain goods." ...BBB. p. 214.

snaa, n. snow. Sc. form of snow.
(AS. snaaw, cogn. with L. nix, niv-, Gael. Ir. sneacht, Welsh, nyf.) Snow.
"A Hielan' ford is a kittle road in the snaa time."
...BBB. p. 266.

snod, adj. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.
(Of obscure origin. -NED.) Smooth, neat, trim, tidy.
"It gars ma hert greet tae see him sae boosed...him that wes that snod and firm." ...BBB. p. 137.
"She was snod but no unk a snod."
...Barrie: Little Minister.

sober, adj. Sc. -Jamieson.
Weak, feeble, in a poor state of health. Also, means poor.
"Ma mither aye wantit this read tae her when she wes sober." ...BBB. p. 302.

sonsy, adj. Sc. and Ir.
(From sonse, plenty, Gael. Ir. sonas, good fortune.) Lucky, fortunate, good-humored.
"They never suspected the sonsy, motherly woman."
...BBB. p. 208.
"Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face."

...Burns: To A Haggis.

sough, n. and v. From the 16th c. almost exclusively Sc. North. dial. until adopted in general literary use in the 19th c.

(AS. swōgan, cogn. with swēgan, to sound. ME. type, swok.) n. A whistling or sighing sound; a a hollow murmur. v. To whistle or sigh, as the wind.

"A told him tae keep a quiet sough, and no conter the elder." ...BBB. p. 164.

"My heart for fear gae sough for sough."

...Burns: The Battle of Sherra-Moor.


(Of sejourner.) To obtrude one's self on another for bed and board.

"But there's a pack of rascals 'ill sorn on their father as lang as he's livin'." ...BBB. p. 194.

spate, n. Orig. Sc. and North. -NED.

(Of obscure origin. -NED. Spait, spate, speat, a flood. Sc. Gael. speid, a great river flood; perhaps from spé, froth. -Jamieson.) A flood in the river; anything that hurries men away like a flood.

"They hae their first spatie and that gies them a bit fricht." ...BBB. p. 192.
"Nae bombast spates o' nonsensive swell."

...Burns: Poem on Pastoral Poetry.

spier, v. Chiefly Sc. and North. -NED.

(AS. spyrin, Icel. spyría.) To inquire.

"A thocht I wud come up and spier for ye."

...BBB. p. 33.

"'Aye,' said Sneeky, 'and I spiered at Dr. McQueen if I should vote for him."

...Barrie: Little Minister, p. 25.

steadin, n. Sc. and North.

(AS. sted, Anc. Sw. stad.) A site, building land.

"We 'ill get through this steadin' here tae the main road." ...BBB. p. 264.

steek, n. Sc.

(AS. stecce, a piece.) A stitch, an article of clothing.

"I haena a steek o' new claithes for four years."

...BBB. p. 14.

"As lang's my tail, whare thro' the steeks, The yellow letter'd Geordie keeks."

...Burns: The Twa Dogs.

stirk, n. pl. stirks.

(AS. stirc, styre, calf.) A bullock, or a heifer, between one and two years old. A stupid fellow.

"An' ye'll hear naething but Drumsheugh's stirks."

...BBB. p. 145.
stour, stoure, Sc. and North.

(AF. estur. -N. E. dial. stour - the etymological identity of the Sc. stoor with this sense (stoor, estur) is doubtful.) Dust in motion, trouble, vexation.

"But the stour of the cauf room is mair than anybody can abide." ...BBB. p. 119.

"For I maun crush amang the stoure,

Thy slender stem." ...Burns: To a Mountain Daisy.

strae, n. Sc. form of straw.

(AS. streaw, strow, cogn. with strew. Cf. L. stramen, straw, litter, cogn. with sternere, strea-, to strew.) Straw. ("Strae-death" - death in bed.)

"A' cam' on him rowing in the strae like a bairn."

...BBB. p. 212.

"Whare I kill'd ane a fair strae-death."

...Burns: Death and Dr. Hornbrook.

straight, adv. Sc. form of straight.

(ME. streght, pp. of stretch. -Weekley.) Straight.

"Mak straight for me, doctor, an' a'll gie ye the road oot." ...BBB. p. 266.

stravaig, v. Sc. and North. -NED.

stravagin, pres. part.

(Ital. stravagare, L. extravagare, to wander abroad.)

To go about idly, to stroll.
"Keep's a', wumman, what are ye stravagin' aboot there for out o' a body's sight?" ...BBB. p. 145.

stand, v.

stood, pret. Sc. form of stood.

(AS. standan, cogn. with L. stare, Sanskrit stha.)

Stood.

"But a' wish a' the Glen hed stood by MacIare kneelin' on the floor." ...BBB. p. 278.

sud, v. Sc. form of should.

(Shall. AS. seol, orig. a pret. with later past tense, secolde, whence should. -Weekley.) Should.

"And what for sud I educat Marget Hoo's bairn?"

...BBB. p. 16.

sudna', v. Sc. form of should not.

(See sud and na.)

"I say it as sudna', I hae buried a' my ain fouk."

...BBB. p. 32.

sune, adv. Sc. form of soon.

(AS. •ona.) Soon.

"And ye can begin business as sune as ye like."

...BBB. p. 126.


sweepit, pret. Sc. form of swept.

(ME. swepen, altered AS. swæpan.) Swept.
"First in the Humanity and first in the Greek, sweepit the field, Lord preserve us." ...BBB. p. 26.

(AS. sweerian, cogn. with Gothic swaran.) Swear.
"Hoo cud ony richt-thinkin' man sweer tae sic an awful word." ...BBB. p. 189.

syne, syn, adv. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.
Sc. form of since, without adv. -s. -Weekley.
(For sins contr. from OE. sithens, sithenes, from OE. sithen, also sithe, sin. AS. siththan, syththan.)
Since, ago, from a definite past until now.
"It's sax year syne noo, and he got up and was travellin' fell hearty like yersel'." ...BBB. p. 32.
"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days o' lang syne?" ...Burns: Auld Lang Syne.

tae, adv.
tae, Sc. form of to.
In quotation below tae represents too, an adverb. Too is a stressed form of to. Neither Warrack nor Jamieson gives the meaning of tae as too, hence I think the spelling tae must be an attracted spelling based on sound.
(AS. to, prep. Cogn. with L. enclitic, -do, as in quando.)
"Syne they had their dinner, and Domsie tae, wi' the Doctor." ...BBB. p. 4.

(ON. take, gradually replacing AS. nimian in ME. Cogn. with Goth. tōkan.) Take, to remove, abstract, deduct.

"Ye wud hae twa rewards nae man could tak fra ye."

...BBB. p. 17.

tartan, n. Orig. Sc.

(Of. tartarin. Med. L. tartarimum, rich material imported from China via Tartary, also called tarterne in ME. Partly due to F. têrtaine, a mixed fabric, OF. var. tertaine, with which of. 16 cent. Sc. tertane. Tartaryn, tartayne, tyrtaïne, all occur in will of Lady Clare (1360). -Weekley.)

"They can imagine the shepherd's tartan." ...BBB. p. 287.

"I' se gie him his tartan plaid fu' o' broken bane."

...Scott: Heart of Midlothian, page 468.

taste, v.

(Of. taster, to touch, handle. VL. taxitëre, frequentative taxëre, to handle, to touch, from root of tangere.) To partake of refreshments, to take a dram, to quench hunger or thirst. (This definition is based largely on the Scotch use of the word.)

"He wud naither sit nor taste, and was half way doon the yaird afore I cud quiet him." ...BBB. p. 18.
tawse, tawis, tawes, taws, n. Chiefly Sc.
(From taw. To prepare leather. AS. tawian, cogn. with tool.) A leather strap cut into thongs at one end, for the use of schoolmasters to punish with.
"And at times a boy got the tawse for his negligence."

...BBB. p. 8.

tell, v.
telt, pret.
(Burns used tell'd, as do north of England folk. T often takes the place of d in the termination of the past tense and past participle. This is a characteristic form of the Middle Scots period - last quarter of the 15th c. to 1603.) (AS. tellan, cogn. with tale; AS. talu, speech, number.)
"Drumsheugh telt me next market that his langidge... cudna be printed." ...BBB. p. 30.
touch, tough, adj. Sc. forms of tough.
(AS. tōh.) Tough. Used of the heart, not easily broken.
"It's maybe no fair tae ask sic a touch question."

...BBB. p. 128.

"The tulzie's tough 'tween Pitt an' Fox."

...Burns: Elegy on Year 1788.

thae, den. pron. and adj. Sc. form of those, these.
(Those. AS. thās, pl. of this in northern ME. gradually
replacing tho, AS. tha, pl. of that. It is thus a doublet of these from which it is now differentiated in sense. These, AS. thases, var. of thas, pl. of this. These, near at hand; those, yonder.)

"Drumtochty was a name in thae days wi' the lads he sent tae college." ...BBB. p. 4.

thegither, adv. Sc. form of together.
(AS. togaedere, cogn. with gather.) Together.

"Toots, Netherton, yir aff it a' thegither." ...BBB. p. 77.

thingie, dim. of thing.
(AS. thing.) Thing.

Thingie here used adverbially. "Wee thingie" - somewhat, a little bit.

"He's my only bairn, and a wee thingie quiet." ...BBB. p. 25.

think, v.

thocht, pret. Sc. form of thought.
(AS. thöht, gethöht, from think.) Thought.

"A' ve often thocht it was the prospeck o' the Schule Board that feenished Domsie." ...BBB. p. 4.

thole, v. Now North. dial or arch. -NED.
(AS. tholian. Com. Teut. Cf. O. Sax. tholon, OHG. dolon,
-whence Ger. geduld, patience, ON. thola, Goth. thulan; cogn. with L. tollere, tuli, tolerāre. -Weekley.) To endure, bear, suffer.

"But a' canna thole himsel'." ...BBB; p. 161.

thowless, adj. Sc. apparently a collateral Sc. form of thowless with which it agrees in sense. -NED.

(AS. theow, a servant, or theowian, to serve, and the particle les, less, feeble, insipid. -Jamieson.) Lacking energy, spirit, mettle, useless.

"A wud tell the...thowless...wratch...to droon himsel' in the Tochty." ...BBB. p. 195.

thraw, v.

thraun, thrawn, adj. and ppl. Sc. -NED.

(From throw, dial, form of throw. For sense cf. warped. Throw, AS. thrawan, to twist, turn.) Twisted, distorted, misshapen, uneven, crooked, cross-grained, ill-tempered, perverse, stubborn.

"Domsie's a thraun body at the best and he was clean infatuat' wi' George." ...BBB. p. 33.

"But lordly will, I hold it still
A mortal sin to throw that." ...Burns: The Holy Beggars.

threep, threap, v. Now Sc. and North. dial. -NED.

(AS. threpián.) To urge with pertinacity, to contend, to quarrel.
"For some o' the neeburs threep 'at it wes you."

...BBB. p. 218.

"Wad threap auld folk the thing misteuk."

...Burns: William Simpson.

tich, f. Sc. form of touch.

(F. toucher. Probably from an imit. toc, ground sense being to strike,) To touch, to strike.

"A' wudna hae minded...tho' he hed tichel the hundred."

...BBB. p. 224.

tig, n. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.

(Game of "touch", cf. tick. Tick, light, touch, sound. Imit. Cf. Norw. dial. tikka, to tap, touch lightly. -Weekley.)

A game among children in which one strikes another and runs off. He who is touched becomes pursuer in turn till he can tig or touch another on whom his office devolves.

"In summer the bairns annexed as much wood as they liked playing tig among the trees." ...BBB. p. 6.

tiravie, n. Sc. variant of tirrivee, a tantrum, commotion.

-Webster. (Can not find etymology of this word.)

Commotion, a passion, bustle, excitement.
"It's a crooded place, London, and the fouks are in a tiravie rinnin' here and rinnin' there."

...BBB. p. 201.

tod, n. Sc. and North. dial. -NED.

(Isl. toa, tove, -Jamieson. Akin to Du. toâde, a rag; Ger. zotte, shag, rag, a tuft of hair. Icel. toddi, a piece of a thing, a tod of wool. -Webster.) A fox, probably so named from its bushy tail.

"Like a tod aifter the chickens." ...BBB. p. 30.

"The thummart, wildcat, brok and tod."

...Burns: The Twa Herds.

toon, n. Sc. form of town.


"Or maybe it was the toon air." ...BBB. p. 153.

trachle, v. Sc.

trachled, pret. and pp.

(Gael. trachladh, to loosen; to drudge, to overtoll.)

To draggle, to trail; to drag one's self onward when fatigued.
"Just as he trachled in the bit schule o' Druntochty for Edinboro'." ...BBB. p. 35.

_troke_, v. Sc. form for _truck_.

_trokin',_ pres. part. Sc. form for _truckin'._ -NED.

(Fr. _troquer_, "to truck"). To potter, to be busy about trifles, to tamper with.

"He's fair fozzy wi' trokin' in his gairden."


"Wi' you no friendship I will troke
Nor cheap nor dear." ...Burns: To Mr. J. Kennedy.

_tribble_, n. Sc. form of _trouble_.

(F. _troubler_, OF. _torbler_, VL. _turbulère_, frequentative of _turbère_, to disturb, from _turbus_, disorder, throng.)

_Trouble._

"I always thought more of Peter MacIntosh when the mysterious tribble that needed the Perth doctor made no difference in his manner." ...BBB. p. 31.

_trimmil_, n. and v. Sc. form of _tremble_.

(F. _trembler_, VL. _tremulàre_, from _tremulus_, from _tremere_, to quake.) _Tremble._

n. _Tremor_ (inquotation given a noun.)

v. To _tremble_.

"Na, I dudna say stagger, but he micht gie a bit trimmil." ...BBB. p. 169.
troke, n. Sc.
trokes, pl.

(Et. See trokin', pres. part. of troke, v.)
Dealings, business, errands.
"A' got the van emptied and ma little trokes feenished." ...BBB. p. 146.

tryst, n. Chiefly Sc. before the 19th c.
(Originally the same word as triste. Apparently ety. related to trast, trust, but the nature of the relation is not clear. -NED.) An appointment to meet, an appointed meeting, a rendezvous.
"And he expects ye tae keep the tryst."

...BBB. p. 48.
"He gaed wi' Jeanie to the tryste."

...Burns: There Was a Lass.

twa, adj. Sc. form of two.

(AS. twā, fem. and neut. replacing masc. twain, AS. twēgen.) Two.
"Hoo, ye wad hae twa rewards nae man could tak fra ye."

...BBB. p. 17.

twal, adj. Sc. form of twelve.

(AS. twelf, from two, with second element ultimately cogn. with Lithuanian -lika, similarly used and perhaps with L. linquere, to leave, thus, "two left
over from ten.

"He aye turn up twal texts." ...BBB, p. 209.

"Some wee short hour ayont the twal."

...Burns: Death and Dr. Hornbrook.

uptak, n.

(From v. uptak, to understand, comprehend. Sw. uptaga and Dan. ontage, signify to take up literally.)

Understanding, comprehension, intelligence.

"Ye may get shairper fouk in the uptak' but ye 'ill no get a pairish with better feelin's."

...BBB, p. 45.

verra, vera, adj. and adv. Sc. form of very.

(ME. verray, OF. verai, VL. veracus, for verax, verac-, from verus, true.) Very.

"It was the verra nicht o' the Latin prose."

...BBB, p. 25.

wab, n. Sc. form of web.

(AS. webb, cogn. with weave.) Web.

"Ithers declare 'at he's got a wab o' claih."

...BBB, p. 244.

"To warp a plaiden wab." ...Burns: My Heart Was Ane.

will, v.


(AS. willan; cogn. with L. velle, to wish, Sanskrit, vr, to choose.)
"I wud na change places wi' the Duke o' Athole."

waes, contraction of wae is.

wae, Sc. form of woe.

("AS. wā, orig. an interj. of dismay. Wae me, woe is me.

"Wae me if oor Father had blotted out oor names frae the Book o' Life when he left His hoose."

wakely, adj. Sc. form of weakly.

("ON. veikr, cogn. with Gk. likein, to yield; weaken is from AS. waeæcan, from wac. -Weekley.

"What did yon wakely body come frae."

wale, n. Scand. Obs. except in North. dial.

("ME. wale; cf. Icel. val, choice; akin to Ger. wahl, Goth. waltjan and Eng. will. -Webster.

Choice, selection.

"And inside there's sic a wale o' stuff that the man canna get what he want."

"An' runts o' grace, the pick an' wale."


"A watch guard as thick as my finger on his wame."

BBB. p. 27.

BBB. p. 140.

BBB. p. 205.

BBB. p. 214.

BBB. p. 222.
want, v.

wantit, pret. Sc. form of wanted.

(ON. want, neuter of vamr, lacking, whence also vanta, to be lacking, and Eng. want.)

"I wantit tae say that if ye ever wish to speak to any woman as ye wud tae yir mither, come tae Whinnie Knowe." ...BBB. p. 102.

wark, n. Sc. form of work.

(AS. wyreca, past worhte - whence wrought - from noun weare.) Work.

"He needs my laddie for some grand wark in the ither world."

...BBB. p. 34.

warld, n. Sc. form of world.

(AS. woruld, worulđ. Compound of which the first element means man and second, cogn. with old, means age.) World.

"It's dune me a warld o' guid tae see Flora in her hame again."

...BBB. p. 155.


(AS. waerloca, from wær, truth, compact, lēogan, to lie.) A wizard; a man who is supposed to be in contact with the Devil. Isl. varðlokr, a magical song used for calling up evil spirits. -Jamieson.

"His hair hangin' round his face like a warlock and his een blazin' oot o' his head like fire."

...BBB. p. 221.
"Or caught wi' warlocks in the mirk
By Alloway's auld haunted kirk."

...Burns: Tam O'Shanter.

warstle, v. Sc. form of wrestle. (Note the metathesis.)

(AS. wraestlian from wrest.) Wrestle; to strive, to struggle, to contend.

"Neither can you warstle through the peat bogs and snow drifts." ...BBB. p. 243.

"He seem'd as he wi' Time had warstl'd lang."

...Burns: The Brigs of Ayr.

wastrel, wastril, n. dial. Eng. and Scot. -Webster.

(Cf. waster. ME. wastour, OF. wasteour.) A spendthrift, a ne'er-do-well, a vagrant, a thin, unhealthy looking person.

"Half the wastrels in the warld pay their passage hame wi' that Parable." ...BBB. p. 194.

wake, v.

wauken, pres. part. Sc. form of waken.

(AS. wacian, strong, intransitive; wecan, weak, transitive, cogn. with watch and L. vigil.) Waken.

"A'll wauken ye in the mornin'!" ...BBB. p. 274.

waur, adj. Sc. form of worse.

(AS. wiersa, wierrest, used as comparative and superlative of yerel.) Comparative of bad.

"Ye've ca'd me waur names than that in yir time."

...BBB. p. 155.
waif, Sc. and dial. Eng. -Webster.

wawfies, pl.

wawfie, -Warrack.

wawfies, pl. -Maclaren.

Webster and Warrack agree in definitions; Maclaren with them in meaning. Hence, the conclusion is reached that we have different forms of the same word.

(Perhaps from waif, ONF. for OF. gaiet, L. vacuus, unowned, lit. empty.) A rascal; a low, idle fellow. "If a' hed ma wull wi' thae wawfies."

...BBB. p. 194.

wecht, Sc. form for weight.

(ME. weght, wight, AS. wiht, gewight.) A great amount, an unperforated sheepskin or calf skin stretched over a hoop, for winnowing or carrying corn. "It wes na cannie for a man o' his wecht."

...BBB. p. 212.

"Three wechtfu's o' naething, Drumsheugh."

...BBB. p. 181.

"Meg fain wad to the Barn gaen,
To winn three wechts of naething."

...Burns: Halloween.

wechtfu', n. Sc.

(wech and fu'; see wecht.) As much as a 'wecht'
will contain.

"Three weechfu's o' naething, Drumsheugh."

...BBB. p. 181.


(ME. we, a bit, in a little, we, probably originally meaning, a little way, we for wei being finally taken as synonymous with little. -Webster. Skeat also connects wee with way.) Very small, little, a bit, as of space, time, or distance.

"He's my only bairn and a wee thingie quiet."

...BBB. p. 25.

"Mr. Dishart, you can pass unless you bide a wee and gie us your crack." ...Barrie: Little Minister.

**weel**, adj. and adv. Sc. form of well.

(AE. wel, probably cogn. with will and with L. volo, velle.) Well.

"She weel deserves it." ...BBB. p. 23.

**weesht**, whisht, Scand.

Natural exclamation, better represented by st, hush.

"'Weesht, weesht,' an' I tried tae quiet him'."

...BBB. p. 247.
weet, adj. Sc. form of wet.
(AS. waet, cogn. with water.) Wet.
"Geordie tramped ower the muir to the manse
throu' the weet an' the snow." ...BBB. p. 26.

be, v.

wes, pret. Sc. form of was.
(Be contains three stems, viz. be-, cogn. with
L. fu, G. phu; es-, cogn. with L. esse; and wes-;
was and were are from the wes- stem.) Was.
"It wes the day I bocht the white coo."
...BBB. p. 25.

(AS. hwæst, na; see na.) What kind of, what not.
"Maisters frae England, and tutors, and whatna',
but Drumtochty carried aff the croon." ...BBB. p. 26.

whaur, adv. Sc. form of where.
(AS. hwær, hwär, cogn. with who.) Where.
"As sure as deith a' didna ken whaur tae luik."
...BBB. p. 180.

while, n. Diminutive of while.
(AS. hwil, space of time.) A short time.
"There's nae saying but he might hang on a
while." ...BBB. p. 33.

(The word whoop is presumably Eng. and is preserved in the nearest cognate languages. Cf. Du. wippen, Low Ger. wippen.) To act or move nimbly.

"Sall she saw him slip aff the road afore the last stile and whoop round the fit o' the gairden." ...BBB. p. 30.

whinnie, Scand. -Sk neat. Diminutive of whin, forming
adj. from noun. Whin, grass, furze.
(whin, cogn. with SW. dial. hven, boggy field.)
Whinnie Knowe - a knoll producing whins or furze.
"The foot of the cart road to Whinnie Knowe and the upland farms." ...BBB. p. 5.

whup, whip, n. Under whup Warrack refers to whoop. There are several definitions for whoop. The one that applies to the quotation below is given (see whoop.)
An attack or touch of illness.
"If a body hes a bit whup o' illness."
...BBB. p. 153.


whuppit, pret. (See whoop.)

To run quickly, rush, jerk.

"And he whuppit by me like a three year auld laist Sabbath." ...BBB. p. 162.
whup-ma-denty, n.

(Compound of three words whose meaning seems to be "my smart dainty one" - a term of contempt.)
A fop, a conceited dandy.
"A' wes ettlin' tae lay ma hands on the whup-ma-denty masel'." ...BBB, p. 195.

wi, prep. Sc. form of with.

(AS. with. Has taken over sense of AS. mid, which it has superseded.) Commonly used for with; from, owing to, in consequence of, as, "Wi' bein' frae hame, I missed him."
"Think o' you and me Hillocks, veesitin' the schule and sittin' wi' bukes in oor hands watchin' the Inspector." ...BBB, p. 4.

win, North. Scotland.

(AS. gewinnan, to acquire, to gain, from winnan, to toil, suffer.) To attain or reach by effort or by difficulty; to succeed; to succeed in reaching a place.
"It wud be a scan'al to the pairish if a likely lad cudna win tae college for the want o' siller."

...BBB, p. 18.
"Like fortune's favors, tint as win."

...Burns: A Vision.

wrang, adj. Sc. form of wrong.

(Late AS. wrang, injustice, from wring. Cf. tort.)
Unjust, false.

"I canna see anything wrang in his doctrine."

wretch, n. Sc. form of wretch.

(AF. *wraececa*, outcast, exile, from *wrecan*, to expel, "wreak.") Wretch.

"'Miserly wratch' was the ceevilest word on his tongue." ...BBB. p. 18.

wright, n. Sc. form of wright.

(AF. *wyrhta*, worker, from *wyrcan*, to work.) A wright, a carpenter, worker.

Watson used 'wright' in the same sense that we use the word, undertaker; evidently, coffins were made by a carpenter, or "wright."

"A tray of glasses was placed on a table with great solemnity by the 'wright' who made no sign and invited none." ...BBB. p. 43.

will, v.

wud, pret. Sc. form of would. (See wad.)

"I wud pay every penny mysel'." ...BBB. p. 17.

wudna, Sc. form of would not. Compound of wud and na.

(See wud and na.)

"If ye kent a' ye wudna ask me." ...BBB. p. 16.

wull, v. Sc. form of will. (See wad.)
"But it's hard, Jess, that money wull buy life after a!" ...BBB. p. 253.

**wy**, n. Sc. form of way.

(AS. wæg. Cogn. with wain, and with L. via, way, vehere, to transport, Sanskrit, vah, to carry.) Way.

"He's changed, the body, some wy or ither, and there's a kind o' warmth aboot him ye canna get ower."

...BBB. p. 162.

**yammer**, v. Obs. or Scot. and dial. -Webster.

**yammerin**, pres. part.

(AS. geomrian, geomerian, from geomor, sad, sorrowful; akin to Du. and Ger. jammer, misery.) To shriek, to yell. Now generally used as signifying to fret, to whine, to whimper.

"A' hear he's fleein' ower the Glen and yammerin' and haverin' like a starlin'!" ...BBB. p. 180.

**yersel',** reflex. pro. Sc. form of yourself. Your plus self.

(AS. eower, AS. self, seolf.) Yourself.

"If we win the battle ye can set up for yersel in the Glen." ...BBB. p. 277.

**yir**, contraction. Sc. form for you are.

"Weel, yir wrang, Weelum." ...BBB. p. 12.
yon, pron. Now rare or dial.
That or those yonder. Yon in quotation refers to a conversation overheard. The meaning must be...
"to speak up like yon (as you did formerly or before) for God."
That, those.
"And it gar'd my heart leap to hear ye speak up like yon for God." ...BBB. p. 35.
Appendix I
Observations on the Dictionary

The Dictionary comprises four hundred and twenty-eight words of Scottish Lowland Dialect found in Maclaren's *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Each word has been carefully studied and in every case an authority or authorities have been consulted.

From a study of these words, certain conclusions have been reached concerning the Scottish Tongue.

1. The etymology alone of the words in the Dictionary proves that the Scottish Lowland Dialect is descended from the Old English.

2. The Scottish Tongue is related to the dialects of Northern England. Especially do the *New English Dictionary*, *Wright's English Dialect Dictionary*, and *Webster's International* emphasize this fact. The History of the Scottish Language (which see) and the etymology of its words corroborate each other.

3. Its Germanic origin is suggested by certain points of resemblance existing between the Scottish dialect and the German language of today based upon the sounds of certain letters and characteristic combinations of certain letters: *ch* in *loch* corresponds to *ch* in German *bush*. In fact, the Scotch is the only English dialect that retains the *ch* sound of its Germanic ancestry.
Foreign Elements in the Scottish Tongue.

1. German. High German. This, of all Teutonic languages, is the furthest removed from English, and the one from which fewest words are directly borrowed. In his *Etymological Dictionary* under "Distribution of Words," Skeat gives a list of thirty-six words in the English language taken directly from the German. Only one of these words, *skellum*, seems to have sifted into the Scottish dialect. Burns uses it in his famous *Tam O'Shanter*, "She tauld thee weel thou was a skellum."

2. Celtic. This is a general term for the languages now represented by the Irish, Gaelic, Welsh, Breton, Manx, and (until very recently) Cornish. The Celtic element in English comprises one hundred and sixty-seven words, one hundred directly from the languages enumerated above and sixty-seven from the same sources but coming indirectly into the English through other languages.
Watson uses only four outside of those that have become standard English: clachan, coronach, gillie, loch. Skeat marks these four as Gaelic or Celtic. Is it not remarkable that while Gaelic and the Anglian tongues were so closely associated, the language of the Gaelic conquerors should give way to the language of the Angles over whom they ruled? It speaks volumes for the inherent toughness and vitality of the Old English that it would conquer its conquerors.

3. Scandinavian. Many words were taken over from this language into English. Some of them seem either to have entered into the Scottish dialect but not into standard English, or to have remained in the Scottish dialect while lost in standard English. Of this class of words, Maclaren uses: brae, busk, marrow (equal, companion), sough, stith-(y), tod, wale. (V. Dictionary.)

4. French and Latin. These foreign elements entered into the Scottish language during the Middle Period. Warrack observes concerning this period: "We notice a great influx of Latin and French words; and the study of Chaucer and his


2. See Table of Languages, p. 26.

3. See Middle Period, p. 39.
followers has also a certain influence on the vocabulary and grammar." Metcalfe remarks concerning the same period that the chief sources of the enrichment of the language were the Celtic, French, and Latin.

An examination of two separate lists (Skeat's and Metcalfe's) show that the words of this period from the French and Latin do not in general survive in the Scottish dialect of today. Kail and bonny seem to be two words that have survived from Latin source.

Other Languages. Many other languages have contributed to the enrichment of English, but upon examination of Skeat's lists of these words taken over from other languages into the English, so few words are found in use in the Scottish dialect of today that their number may be considered as negligible.

Appendix II --- Dictionaries

The Dictionaries consulted most frequently in the preparation of Part II.


4. Skeat's Etymological Dictionary of the English Language.

5. Webster's New International Dictionary.


These dictionaries have been arranged alphabetically; they will now be considered somewhat in order of importance.

The New English Dictionary is the final authority in cases of conflict. It has been the greatest help in determining which words in Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush are Scottish. It gives the habitat of words. This some dictionaries do not do.

Webster's New International has been of great assistance in tracing the origin of words and in giving place where many dialect words are used. It seems to run parallel in many instances with the NED, but its scope is, of course, more limited.

Skeat's Etymological Dictionary is valuable. It is, as its name implies, an etymological dictionary. While Skeat traces a word whenever possible back to its source,

1. See Bibliography, page 5.

Note: In this division the dictionaries will be referred to briefly as Chambers's, Jamieson's, etc.
yet he seldom gives the home of a dialect word. He has been of no help in tracing Scottish words as such, for he does not classify any word as Scottish. It must be that he looks upon the Scottish dialect, on account of its Old English ancestry, as English and makes no further distinction. The New English and Webster’s Dictionaries mark many words as "Sc. and North. Dial." and a number as "Sc." only. Humor is not often found in a dictionary preface, yet Skeat in the preface to the First Edition of his dictionary, says, "My honest opinion is that those whose philological knowledge is but small may safely accept the results here given since they may else do worse." The naivete of this remark coming from a man of such immense attainments leaves nothing to be desired.

Weekley’s Dictionary. On origin of words, Weekley is clear and concise. He is very guarded in giving the habitat of dialect words. In this respect he follows somewhat afar the New English and Webster’s. His definitions are short and usually given more in the nature of an explanation or equivalent of the word under consideration than as a definition. Weekley agrees in a remarkable manner with the New English Dictionary.

Jamieson’s Dictionary of the Scottish Language.

This work should be used with caution. Jamieson marks
many words "S" (Scottish) that the New English Dictionary marks as Scotch Form, for example, take the verb have.

1. Hae, v. a. To have, S. -Jamieson.


And yet, perhaps, such points are open to debate.

In "Editor’s Preface" to Jamieson’s Dictionary is this statement: "Those Englishmen, who have taken but a superficial view of the Scottish language, will learn from this work, that it is neither a collection of barbarous sounds nor a corruption of their own tongue; but that, on the contrary, it has a common origin with the English; and that, while Englishmen have changed the sound, altered the spelling and dropped many words of their forefathers, Scotchmen have preserved to a great extent the primitive language of their Teutonic ancestors, in its native integrity, copiousness and force." (This observation is by John Longmuir.)

The foregoing is perhaps inspired more by patriotic feeling for the Scotch nation and its language than by a conclusion based on investigation and knowledge. And this last remark is based upon the evidence presented by the New English, Webster’s, and Weekley’s Dictionaries, together with other authorities cited in the Bibliography.
It must be that Jamieson does not intentionally lead one astray in the use of his dictionary. Yet in "Explanation of Contractions" used, he gives S as standing for Scottish or Scotland. Jamieson can not mean one part of the "Explanation" and not the other, both must go together. Therefore S means that the word after which it is placed is Scottish and still used in Scotland. It is hard to reconcile the first part of this statement of Jamieson's with the statements of great authorities such as the New English, Webster's, Weekley's dictionaries. Jamieson, no doubt, must mean, that such words as ca', bae, etc., are Scotch in form without regard to the etymology, and to show that the word is still in use in Scotland.

Chambers's Scots Dialect Dictionary. The word list is very complete. Many words not found in Jamieson are found in Chambers's Dictionary. The definitions are clear and exact, but there are no etymologies given. The list of words assigned to the Scottish dialect is, like that of Jamieson, very large; and again the same difficulty is encountered in reconciling conflicting claims. The same explanation must be sought that was sought in the case of Jamieson: The form and use, not the origin, determine the standing of a word—whether
it is to move in Scottish or English society.

Two Introductions

1. W. M. Metcalfe's Introduction to the Supplementary Dictionary of the Scottish Language. (Jamieson's Dictionary.)

2. William Grant's Introduction to Chambers's Scots Dialect Dictionary.

These two Introductions have been of very great value in tracing the rise, the national life, the decadence of the Scottish tongue.

Finis.