THE DICTION IN VOLUMES I AND II
OF SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY

By

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PREFACE
My purpose in making this study of the diction in volumes I and II of *Scribner's Monthly* is to show something of the development of the English language as spoken and written in the United States, and, in some measure, to illustrate the differences that exist between American English and the English language as it is used in England. A second purpose is to make a contribution to *The Historical Dictionary of American English*, which is being compiled at the University of Chicago under the supervision of Dr. W. A. Craigie.

The glossary which I have prepared includes words which seem to be of purely American origin, and those which may be classed as archaic, dialectal, colloquial, obsolete, and rare. In compliance with a request from Dr. Craigie, examples of ordinary words as used in the United States have also been listed. Some of these words are included in the various dictionaries of so-called Americanisms, but others are not. For the purpose of comparison, I have referred to *The New English Dictionary*, *Webster's New International Dictionary*, *Bartlett's Dictionary of Americanisms*, *Thornton's An American Glossary*, and *Tucker's American English*.

I wish to express my appreciation of the interest shown by Dr. Josephine Burnham, and of the assistance she has so kindly given. It

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1 All words found in the glossary have been written on individual slips and sent to Dr. Craigie.
is she who first aroused my interest in the linguistic field, and she
who has directed my own efforts. I also thank Dr. Craigie for his
suggestion of the text upon which this study is based, and for infor-
mation given by him concerning the procedure to follow in collecting
words.

E. B. B.

September 15, 1930.
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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DICTION
IN VOLUMES I AND II OF SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY

Before beginning an analysis of the diction in the early volumes of *Scribner's Monthly*, it will be in order to give a brief history of the magazine. *Scribner's Monthly* was founded in 1870 by J. G. Holland, in company with Messrs. Scribner, Armstrong, and Co., and Roswell Smith. In November, 1870, the first issue was published under the title *Scribner's Monthly, an Illustrated Magazine for the People*. With this issue, *Hours At Home and Putnam's Magazine* were absorbed; with the second, *The Riverside Magazine*; and in July, 1875, *Old and New*. In 1881 the original name was changed to *The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine*. For the nine months preceding June, 1930, *The Century* was published quarterly, and after the June issue it merged with *The Forum*.

The first editor was J. G. Holland, who held the position until 1881. Mr. Holland was of New England stock, and when he found that his medical practice was not successful, he turned, with the true Yankee spirit to other means of making a living. He traveled abroad, and previous to his editorship of *Scribner's Monthly*, had had a wide experience as a teacher and superintendent of public schools, as a writer and editor of various periodicals, and as a lecturer in the United States. He

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was, therefore, well fitted for this important position.

In selecting a text from which material is to be collected as a contribution to *The Historical Dictionary of American English*, it is important that the writers studied be truly representative of the American people, and that their work be of recognized literary value. At the suggestion of Dr. Craigie, *Scribner's Monthly* was chosen as the basis of this study, for the reason that it offered an opportunity to compare several individual authors, and the various sections of the country with their different aspects of life and environment.

In this survey only the articles and stories written by Americans, and those dealing with life and scenery in America, have been read. The editorials were studied, and from them some information has been obtained, especially concerning styles in dress, home life, and current questions and problems.

The first two volumes of *Scribner's Monthly* make the reader acquainted with many of the external details of American life of the time, and with some of the simple household conditions which then existed. Coming into existence in 1870, the magazine might have been expected to devote some space to the Civil War; yet not one article is written about it exclusively. It is true, a few words associated with that event, like Yankee, Union, and free papers, are worthy of

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mention. New questions were confronting the nation. Prohibition, woman suffrage, and labor conditions were among those discussed in the early issues of Scribner's. In connection with prohibition, new terms were coming into use. Thus, a person who favored the making and selling of intoxicating liquors was designated as wet, and one who opposed the same was spoken of as dry. Abstinence, temperance, and intemperance came to have a more narrow meaning than formerly, being at this time applied almost exclusively to the use of liquor, rather than of food. Excessive users of alcoholic beverages were called wine-bibbers, tipplers, and beer-guzzlers; and the places where liquor could be bought were known as rumshops, saloons, and grog-holes. There is no mention of speakeasies, blind-pigs, booze, jags, and drunken sots, etc., the reason being, perhaps, that these terms came into use later. The woman question produced such expressions as woman suffrage, woman's rights, and woman's rights. It is quite probable that some of the words here recorded were of recent origin at the time at which they appeared in Scribner's Monthly.

A widespread interest is naturally shown in the government of the United States, and in the political system. In these discussions occur words that are particularly characteristic of the United States, especially the names of officials, such as President, Vice-President, the President's Cabinet, the Congressmen, the Senators, the House, etc. Associated with the political system are such words as office-seekers, polls, party ticket, and party platform. The reader of Scribner's Monthly meets with such terms as put to a vote, repeatering (voting more than once), cau- ona, the President's right of veto, lobbying, and log-rolling.
The articles and stories discussing the United States post-office and money systems furnish numerous expressions characteristic of the country. In this group are greenbacks, continental money, legal tender, dollar, cent, penny, stamp, postal order, Wall Street, and go to the wall (to become bankrupt).

Discussions of public work and industry further reflect the spirit of the times, and in them are found many words used by the American laborer. A number of men working together are regarded as a gang, and the supervisor as boss, or foreman. When the workmen, or hands, are divided into groups for the purpose of working in relays, each group is called a shift.

Thus far, only matters which concerned the United States as a whole have been considered. In 1870, this country was still far from being a unit, for certain sections at that time remained only partially settled, being known, collectively as the frontier. A newly settled region was a settlement, and the inhabitants of it were settlers. A man might go into a new region where the land was held by the government, stake out a claim, file on it, by applying to the government for a title to the land, and, if the land was covered with timber, cut it down, and in the clearing thus made, erect a shanty with logs. This land, with the improvements made upon it, was a homestead. A squatter was a person who occupied a piece of land without securing a right to it. The prospector, or miner, still followed the mountain trails or made new ones with his burro or pack-mule, to which was lashed his outfit, on his way to a
gold rush, expecting to find rich diggings. Many other terms characteristic of early day American life in the West are used, such as needle-gun, lariat, bronco, and ford (to cross a stream at a shallow place by wading or swimming).

Since the United States has been settled in sections, at various times, and by different groups of people, some peculiarities are found to be common in some localities, but not in others. An object may be called by one name in one section of the country, and by another in some remote place. Thus, in the southern states a piece of land is usually spoken of as a plantation when used for agricultural purposes, and the owner as a planter; in the central states these are, respectively, farm and farmer, though, to be sure, the grazing lands are called ranches; and in the western states the terms used are ranch and rancher. In Scribner's the word ranch is sometimes used to designate a field of grass, and at others a place where fruit is grown. A scientific farmer is sometimes called an agriculturist.

Scribner's Monthly devotes considerable space to the natural history of the United States, for example, the articles describing the Yellowstone National Park. In the descriptions of the natural formations many geological terms are used, such as sinter, silica, insulation, tufa, obsidian, and alumina. The following land and sea animals, plants, insects, etc., are characteristic of this country: prairie dog, amiss, chip-munk, copperhead, clam, crab, cat-fish, kelp (a sea-weed), moss-bunker (a kind of fish), katy-did, locusts, bobolink, and supple-jack (a creeper growing in damp soils).
In addition to the public and geographical aspects of the United States, readers of *Scribner's Monthly* of 1870 and 1871 find many articles of interest that touch upon conditions of home life. In a letter written May 14, 1930, Dr. Craigie says, "We find that our collections [referring to those collected for the *Historical Dictionary of American English*] are deficient in material to illustrate the history of common things, e.g., articles of furniture and clothing, parts of a house, and so on... Anything that you can do to make up for this deficiency will be welcome." Accordingly, the following names of movables and household utensils have been included in the glossary: *dresser*, *bureau*, *table*, *side-board*, *armchair*, *lounge*, *settee*, *cooking-stove*, *saucepan*, *lampwick*, *spirit lamp*, *tallow candles*, *bed-clothing*, *bucket*, *dumb-waiter*, *tidies*, *crockery-ware*, *iron "gride"*, *washtubs*, *tones*, and *and-irons*. Some of these names are characteristic of the United States, some are no longer in use (moreover, some of the articles themselves have become old fashioned), and others are recorded merely for their importance in the history of the language.

A dwelling might contain a *kitchen*, a *dining-room*, a *sitting-room*, a *parlor*, a *best room*, or a *drawing-room*, though the last name was used more by the wealthier people, a *cloak cubby*, a *store-room*, and, sometimes, a *conservatory*. "Living-room" seems not to have come into use until later. Houses were described as having one, two, or three *stories*. The *cellar* was sometimes constructed under the house, and was considered a part of the building. The space under the roof is referred to as the *attic*. The word "garret", strange-
ly enough, is not used. Other parts of a house named in Scribner's are fire-place, door-post, and bow-window.

A very good picture of the fashions in clothing is presented in Scribner's Monthly. Many articles of apparel commonly seen in 1870 and '71 have since gone out of style or changed their names. For example, in 1870 a man's vest was called a waist-coat, as it still is in England, and in certain localities in this country; a bathing suit was a bathing-dress; and a lady's loose dress a wrapper. Boots was sometimes used as the name of footwear now designated as "shoes" and "slippers". Men and boys wore breeches or trousers, names since largely replaced by the simple word "pants". A lady's hat was usually spoken of as a bonnet. A roundabout was a boy's jacket, and a pinafore a girl's apron. Grown-ups, as well as children, wore mittens.

Fashions in dress materials and the styles in which they were made up may be deduced from the editorials. Besides the common calico and gingham for house dresses, there were various materials used in dresses for more formal wear. A stuff gown was one made of woolen material. The following fashion hints taken from an editorial of 1871 show that not only have styles changed, but also that certain terms used to designate them have become obsolete:

Bodices are pointed in front and lengthened into postillion basques behind • • • dresses and richus of soft muslin are much in vogue for demi-toilettes. 3

3 Scribner's Monthly, "Editorial", II, 209
A strong tendency exists toward the re-introduction of grapes . . . Knots and scarfs of this beautiful stuff are already plentiful. 4

Some idea of the social life of 1870 is given in Scribner's Monthly. In polite society the favorite dances were the cotillion and the promenade. A dancing party was sometimes referred to as a hop. More, a card game in which the right bower and the dance are employed, and croquet, an outdoor sport, seem to have been popular amusements.

People of this time seem to have been very much interested in sight-seeing and travel in general. Some of the means of travel were the railroad train, the carriage, the horse, the street car, the stage coach, and the sleigh on land; and the steamboat and the raft on the rivers and lakes.

An attempt is here made to show a few tendencies on the part of the American people to bring about certain changes in their language. It has been pointed out that new inventions and changes of living conditions have been responsible for the coinage of new words, and that the sectional divisions of the country have had some influence on the speech of the United States. On the other hand, it is a recognized fact that, though many forces have acted upon American speech, and though these forces have not been the same in all places, it is a unified language, not a group of dialects, as is the case of the spoken language in England (The written language of England, of course, is

4 Scribner's Monthly, "Editorial," II, 210
practically uniform). "The characteristics chiefly noted in American speech by all who have discussed it, are, first, its general uniformity throughout the country, so that dialects, properly speaking, are confined to recent immigrants, to the native whites of a few isolated areas, and to the negroes of the South; and, secondly, its impatient disregard of rule and precedent, and hence its large capacity (distinctly greater than that of the English of England) for taking in new words and phrases and for manufacturing new locutions out of its own materials." It must be admitted that some dialects do exist in the United States, although of less marked degree than in our mother country. A person from any section of the United States can readily understand the speech used in other localities, even though some differences are observed. In the first two volumes of Scribner's Monthly only a very few dialectal forms are to be found. This is due partly to the fact that in the material read there is a small percentage of conversation, and that the articles are of general, rather than local, significance.

Although the people of the United States have been in close contact with various nationalities, there has been no great borrowing from their languages, except in a few localities where some dialectal forms may be observed. J. R. Bartlett says:

"From the Indian, the Dutch, the German, the French, and the Spanish elements, there have been few contributions... From the arts, from new inventions, from new settlements, particularly those in the

mining districts, from commerce, many words have been adopted." 6

A study of volumes I and II of Scribner’s Monthly shows that actual direct borrowings from other languages is not extensive, as compared with the additions made to the language of the American people by other means. From the American Indian only a few words have been adopted into the English language; for example, wigwam, tomahawk, moccasin, and maize are among the few words designating Indian objects which are directly or indirectly derived from aboriginal sources. Canoe, Indian corn, and war-dance embody elements from various European languages. Except for dialectal expressions, the American negro has added nothing to our vocabulary, though a few words have been coined for use in connection with him, commonest among which are dark-sy and colored man. Other noteworthy borrowed words observed in Scribner's Monthly (not all of them peculiar to this country) are bouffante, marquet-e, cabriolet, and trousseau from the French; 7 boas and stiver from the Dutch; and lingo from the Spanish.

But such words constitute only a small part of our additions to the English language, since it was brought over to America by the Pilgrims and other settlers. Nor are the strictly coined words a large per cent of the whole. Where, then, have we obtained the greater part of the contributions to the English language which have been made in America during the past three hundred years? The following statement

7 Cf. P. xviii
from H. L. Mencken throws some light upon the question:

"But of more importance than its sheer inventions, if only because much more numerous, are its extensions to the vocabulary, both absolutely and in ready workableness, by the devices of rhetoric."

By this Mr. Mencken means that many words have been added to the American speech by changing a word from one part of speech to another, either by using the same form of the word, or by changing it slightly to suit its new purpose. Numerous expressions observed in Scribner's seem to corroborate Mencken's statement. Words ordinarily used as nouns here perform the services of verbs, such as to instance (to give an illustration or instance), to arise (to talk), to toe for clams (to dig with the toes). Nouns and adjectives also are found used interchangeably. Although not all these inventions are of strictly American origin, they have, nevertheless, been more freely adopted as standard forms in this country. In England, where more regard is paid to conventions, such changes have been brought about more slowly. Many words in good usage in the United States are banned in England. Concerning this situation, William Dean Howells, the American novelist, says:

"On our lips our continental English will differ more and more from the insular English, and we believe this is not deplorable, but desirable."

The following examples show something of the difference between

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the British and the American use of words, though railway and luggage were observed in the volumes of Scribner’s considered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American</th>
<th>British</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>baggage</td>
<td>luggage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bureau</td>
<td>chest of drawers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>editorial</td>
<td>leader, or leading article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freight</td>
<td>goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>news-dealer</td>
<td>news-agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outbuildings</td>
<td>offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poor house</td>
<td>workhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>press (printing)</td>
<td>machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>railroad</td>
<td>railway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shoe-making</td>
<td>boot-making</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Scribner’s Monthly of 1870 and ’71 a tendency to use certain forms and expressions seems to be characteristic of the period. One of the most noticeable is the forming of compound words by means of the hyphen. Among such compound forms noted are short-handed, needle-sam, apple-jacks, and Jack-Straws. Several writers, including the editor, make use of the suffix -al in adjectives which now commonly drop the suffix, for example, dynamical, didactical, aesthetical, and quadrupedal. Recently borrowed words, especially from the French, are printed in italics. Trouseau, bouffante, and gabriolat, now in common usage, are found in that form. Another custom practiced by the writers in Scrib-
The use of quotation marks to enclose words not recognized as standard, such as the slang expressions "hot corn" sellers and "live" preachers.

Among the archaic words and forms used are amongst, spelt, yeacute;cent, learnt, and burden. A few words observed in Scribner's are classed by Webster as obsolete; examples are knot (a group of people), and committal. Liable is frequently used in place of "likely", and between for "among". There are a few cases in which a participle is left dangling without its noun, and a past participle is sometimes misused for the preterite form of a verb. Striking uses of prepositions frequently occur. Such expressions as sit to an artist, northward of the college, and take to the peanut business probably were common idioms at the time of their appearance in Scribner's.

In addition to the mannerisms common to the period, a few are characteristic of individual writers. In Natasqua, a story about two New England fishermen, Rebecca Harding Davis presents one character, the elder of the fishermen, who probably is typical of the natives of the region in his use of kin for "can", ken't for "can't", yaller for "yellow", wa'n't for "wasn't", and some'at for "somewhat". Mrs. Davis has a fancy for adjectives ending in the suffix -ish, like babvish, womanish, and mulish, and for verbs of saying which indicate the speaker's manner and tone, for example, blustered, clucked, fluttered, and piped. She speaks of a fisherman who toes and crabs for crabs, words evidently caught from the local speech of the coast dwellers.
D. O. G. Townley uses several old-fashioned expressions like amongst, whilst, penny-worths of copper, well-nigh, and handsome fortune. Whilst and amongst were used by other writers also, though less often.

Edward Eggleston, who seems to have been a popular contributor to Scribner's, presents a few provincial expressions used by people of certain localities, especially in Indiana. In this group are ef (if), good-for-nuthin', air (are), passel (crowd), and a purpose. In the author's own language are help (hired girl), pick (select), and smart (bright or intelligent).

The most interesting writer in Scribner's from the standpoint of diction is the editor. He freely employs such idioms as show the white feather, fritter away opportunities, knuckle down, and ghost of a chance. Delicious is a favorite adjective. It is used to describe poetry, music and travel. Monkeys, a place where monks reside, and scrimmey eaters appear to have been coined by Mr. Holland. Instance, hector, and inventory are made to perform the function of verbs.

The contributors of Scribner's Monthly seem, on the whole, to have been both gifted and duly qualified as writers, and this study is indebted to them for whatever worth it may have as a contribution to the history of the American language.
GLOSSARY
aback, adv.  

Everybody is taken aback ...  

G. Hamilton

aborescent, adj.  

... waters, rocks, and aborescent wonders of the inland valleys.  

J. G. Holland

about face  

... the men working there turned right about face ...  

Mary E. Dodge

abstinence, n.  

Signing the abstinence pledge for a month ...  

E. E. Sterns

a-bud, adj.  

Vines are a-bud.  

J.G. Holland

abundant, adj.  

He must win an abundant victory.  

W. G. Wilkinson
Act up to

... acting up to a high public sentiment among them.

M. E. Douge

Academician, n.

... Cornelius Van Bryant, afterwards an Academician.

D. O. C. Townley

Adamic, adj.

Assuming that only the Adamic race perished ...

Nenoch L. Fancher

Adit, n.

At length a narrow drift or adit was pushed through from the west shaft ...

W. Gladden

Administration, n.

... the action ... had alienated many of the supporters of the Administration.

L. L. Grumae

Admixture, n.

... but it may be questioned if this admixture greatly strengthens our body politic.

F. N. Horton
adown, adv.
Spiria and hawthorne with minute leaves adown their brown branches.

J. G. Holland

adown, adv.
A swift line of light ran all adown the bed.

Tracton

advanced, adj.
Quite as likely, again, the "advanced" preacher selects a "live" subject.

W. G. Wilkinson

advantage, n.
... the consumer will not advantage by Mr. Sampson's experiment...

Wm. F. G. Shanks

aesthetical, adj.
Essayists on art ... have attempted to construct an aesthetical science ...

J. G. Holland

afford, v., spare, permit
A fraction of a company ... were all that could be afforded for our escort.

M. F. Laafford
afore, *adv.*

"... but they generally gets ketched afore they start."

M. E. Dodge

aforetime, *adv.*

"... the discovery was made that the aforetime clear and sweet water... was being fast polluted and poisoned..."

Newton Crane

after all said and done

"... the institution truly a home to them, to be looked back upon in after-life with pride and gratitude, never with a sense of disgrace."

M. E. Dodge

against the grain, *adv.*

"... to show you how against the grain it goes."

J. G. Holland

agency, *n.*

"... a group of boys and girls who had thus fallen in with each other after having been happily located by the agency."

M. E. Dodge
aggravate, v.

This pleasing noise is much aggravated by pulling their heels.

E. B. Stereo

a-going

"... set the performance at once a-going."

J. G. Holland

agriculturist, n.

... a storehouse of information is collected by which agriculturists may arrive at a knowledge of a character of the climate...

T. B. Maury

air

"If you want to be a boy and trot off with that air passel of fools."

Edward Eggleston

airs, n.

But the melodeon ... behaved well. It put on no airs...

M. E. Dodge

alight, adj.

So many mishaps occurred ... that we erected a street lamp...

and kept it alight every dark night.

N. P. Langford

alive, adj., active

One [crater] near the summit, still alive.

N. P. Langford
alive, adj., active

One crater near the summit, still alive.

N. P. Langford

aliveness, n.

... the aliveness—there ought to be that word...

J. G. Holland

all in all

Take the French Canadian classes for all in all...

W. George Beers

all of a tremor

... everybody standing, all of a tremor, on tip-toe.

J. G. Holland

allotment, n.

Allotments of land were let at an annual rental...

F. C. Bates

alumina, n.

... an analysis ... gives the following result: silica, 36.7;
alumina, 52.4;...

N. P. Langford
a-marrying,

... the minister must needs go off a-marrying, ...

G. Hamilton

ambrotypes, n.

The picture flatters her, --ambrotypes always do.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

Americanize, v.

"Can these men be Americanized?"

James L. Bowen

amiss, a.miss.

... the terrible grizzly and formidable amiss make their lairs.

N. P. Langford

amongst, a.mongst.

Amongst the curiosities of the war literature of England, ...

J. G. Holland

amongst, a.mongst.

... whose latest work ... is ranked amongst the first of modern works of art.

D. C. C. Townley

amulet, n.

"Now send me some amulet that will enable me to win the love of ..."

Edward Eggleston
amulet, n. II, 74

"Now send me some amulets that will enable me to win the love of . . . ."

Edward Eggleston

ancestress, n. II, 286

. . . when her skin-clad ancestress sat in her hut of mud . . .

Abby Sage Richardson

agent, prep.; concerning 11, 593

. . . murmurous speculations agent "unknown ethereal influences."

Edward Spencer

animalcule, n. I, 408

. . . lighted up from beneath by the nightly glow of myriads of phosphorescent animalcules . . .

T. B. Maury

ape, v., pretend, imitate I, 168

"I'm tired of our miserable aping, and our paste jewelry, and gold that is washed brass."

R. H. Davis

app.anage, n. II, 322

Alast what voluminous appanage of this world's gear!

J. G. Holland
apple of his eye

. . . the Secretary of the Treasury, whose running plan . . . is the "apple of his eye." . . .

L. L. Crouse

appreciation, n., evaluation, opinion

The name "Hell Broth Springs," which we gave to them, fully expressed our appreciation of their character.

N. P. Langford

a purpose, adv.

"I believe the wicked minx dropped it over a purpose."

Edward Eggleston

arbitrament, n.

. . . the bloody arbitrament between France and Germany . . .

J. G. Holland

arcana, n.

He lives in the arcana of nature and reads her secrets . . .

Edward Eggleston

are (air), v.

"What a good-for-nothin' Gawky air, Ben Lamson."

Edward Eggleston
I, 152

... his arm-chair ... was to be taken to his new place of confinement.

J. R. Thompson

II, 203

Arm in arm

Arm in arm with wide sleeves, collarettes and capes have come again into view.

J. G. Holland

II, 278

asparkle, adj.

... when ... lights coming out below, made the city all asparkle.

Louisa Bushnell

I, 415

as regards

... they have been nearly unanimous as regards the tracks of these violent meteors.

T. B. Maury

II, 16

asunder, adv., apart

Springs six and eight feet in diameter, but four feet asunder ...

H. P. Langford

I, 37

Asylum, n.

"Of course there's a strong prejudice against the Asylum among the children of the poor."

H. E. Dodge
a-top, adv. I, 455

... formed of a couple of painted wooden pillars, ... braced a-top by a frail cross-piece.

J. G. Holland

attently, adv. II, 274

Listening attently, one had a sense of hollowness . . .

Louisa Bushnell

audience-room, n. II, 454

"The large audience-room was very full . . . ."

J. G. Holland

authoress, n. II, 328

Louisa Otto, an authoress of considerable fame . . .

J. G. Holland

awful, adv., excessive I, 36

"He's an awful kind man, Dr. Brooks is," said a youngster.

M. E. Dodge

awful, adv. I, 36

"He beats the children—do you say?" "O awful, sir!" returned the smallest boy.

M. E. Dodge
awful, adj.  

The place was awful in its inexpressible beauty and quiet.

R. H. Davis

awning, n.  

Here is a news-stand shaded by a red-fringed and white and blue striped awning, . . .

E. E. Sterns
babyish, adj.

Her babyish mouth, her thin blue-veined hand ...  

Rebecca Harding Davis

back up, v.

... those camels got their backs up at being employed in the slave-trade ...

W. C. Stoddard

back-log, n.

You want, first, a large back-log ...

Charles Dudley Warner

backslide, v., to break away from one's religion

They speak of ... a backsliding brother ...

W. C. Wilkinson

bad un, n.

... some of them may fairly come under the denomination of "bad uns."

J. R. Thompson
bagatelle, n.

Thousands of acres were fought for a bagatelle.

F. C. Bates

bagage, n.

All travelers carried baggage...

F. C. Bates

baleen, n.

The development of baleen in the mouth of the whale...

J. G. Holland

bar, n., court system

... the great rival estates of oratory—the bar, the forum, and the senate.

W. C. Wilkinson

barque, n.

The same storm...caused the destruction of...two barques...

T. B. Maury

bar-tender, n.

The English custom of female bar-tenders is to my mind horrible...

F. C. Bates
base, n. II, 16

The river ... was impregnated with the mineral bases of adjacent springs.

N. P. Langford

basket-ware, n. I, 164

Where in the world did you pick up this old blue basket-ware china?

Rebecca Harding Davis

bastard, n. II, 70

... the offspring of European emigration, whose bartered votes and bastard naturalization have given them the power they wield.

F. H. Norton

bastion, n. II, 621

Before us towered Sugar Loaf like a stupendous bastion of Titanic mold.

S. G. W. Benjamin

batch, n. I, 531

In 1639 a company ... sent out its last batch of settlements, ...

F. C. Bates

bathing-dress, n. I, 60

The soft brown bathing-dress clung to her rounded limbs.

Rebecca Harding Davis
batter, v.

It batters down the rock-bound shore with resistless force.

T. E. Clark

beach-wagon, n.

... or he can drive you both down in the beach-wagon.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

bear-leader, n.

... Vernon, who could not hide his mortification at being thus discovered as an involuntary bear-leader.

H. T. Fackerman

beat, v.

"He beats the children—do you say?"

Mary E. Dodge

beat about, v.

Quite as likely, ... the preacher ... beats about his ... hour in a point-no-point dissertation.

W. C. Wilkinson

beau, n.

Two or three hackneyed beaux, ... do the polite for two or three generations of beauties ...
bed-clothing, n.

... he secured a very large supply of bed-clothing ...

J. R. Thompson

bedding, n.

All the children's clothing, bedding, and towels are made in the institution.

Mary E. Dodge

beef-moccasin, n.

The days of beef-moccasins have vanished ...

W. George Beers

beer-garden, n.

... photographs ... were ... for sale in all the German beer-gardens on the Bowery.

E. E. Sterns

beer-guzzling, n., swallowing liquor greedily

Some clever magazine had just undertaken to show how beer-guzzling by the gallon is justified.

W. C. Wilkinson

beetling, adj.

... and went down at the foot of the beetling crags.

S. G. W. Benjamin
beetling, adj.  

Beetling cliffs ... met the eye at every turn.

J. T. Headley

beggar, v.  

The grandeur and vast extent of the view from this elevation beggar description.

N. P. Langford

behindhand, adj.  

... my poor father, ... , was always behindhand with my allowance.

F. C. Bates

bent, n.  

Each teacher follows the bent of his or her own preferences ... 

J. L. Bowen

bent, n.  

... and if he had been given a different bent ... 

J. G. Holland

beside, prep.  

... very few there beside the family.

J. G. Holland
beside, adv.

... and beside I can't afford any better.

E. Woodruffe

best foot foremost

"The great end of our young ladies is to put the best foot foremost."

Alexander Hyde

best room, n.

He slipped out of the best room ... 

Edward Eggleston

betimes, adv.

Crocuses were astir betimes this year.

J. G. Holland

better-half, n.

A few special domestic virtues of the habitants' better-halves

commend them to good Christians ... 

W. George Beers

between, prep., among

... a property, that divided between ten children, gave each of them $5,000.

E. Woodruffe
there has been, considerable duality between the chemists in the newspapers.  

W. Gladden

be up to, v.  

Of course she don't know what I am up to, but you must prepare to capitulate.  

Edward Eggleston

bias, v.  

At it was, I resolved not to let the goodness in his face bias me.  

Mary E. Dodge

bight, n.  

... there are currents ..., which may carry away in a bight hundreds of yards if the line, ...  

T. E. Clark

bijouterie, n., jewelry of gold richly adorned  
Reluctant opulence ... showers Gems, lace, silver, bijouterie, bronze, in reckless profusion.  

J. G. Holland

billet, n.  

... dogs, ... burdened by a billet of wood hung to the neck, ...  

S. G. W. Benjamin
"The boy's bin like a son to me, you know."

Rebecca Harding Davis

Before long the Mercantile Library Association will have a bindery of its own.

J. H. G. Hassard

... I was swept along by it until violently dashed against the forward bitts.

I. I. Hayes

... if one is to drink bitters and gins and the like...

Charles Dudley Warner

... never attempting to set down in plain black and white things that cannot be so recorded.

Mary E. Dodge

... she found her mother engaged in active conflict with a blackberry-bush that had caught her... trimming.

Rebecca Harding Davis
blend, v. II, 437

Colors should be blended together with natural tints.

J. G. Holland

blend, v. II, 437

... the brooding mother-love, the father's blent with love and pain.

J. G. Holland

blobs, n., oval mass I, 61

The jelly-fish, in luminous blobs, rose here and there in the sheet of dark water.

Rebecca Harding Davis

block, n. I, 497

... long blocks of comfortable dwellings.

Trafton

blonde, n. II, 323

The bones in her girlish neck are hidden with blonde.

J. G. Holland

blood-royal, n. I, 62

We are of the blood-royal of intellect.

Rebecca Harding Davis
blue-stocking, n., a literary woman (colloquial)  II, 630

We've got a first-rate chance to see how a blue-stocking keeps house.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

Blues, n.  I, 589

The silence alone is enough to give a well-man the blues.

P. O. Bates

Bluff, n.  II, 116

We were compelled to make our camp at the base of a range of bluffs.

M. F. Langford

Bluster, v.  I, 65

"It is very improbable," blustered the major, angrily.

Rebecca Harding Davis

Bluster, n.  II, 452

With all his egotism and meddlesomeness and bluster . . .

J. G. Holland

Boarding-house, n.  I, 358

... a few have the ... look of men who have breakfasted badly

at a cheap boarding-house . . .

J. R. G. Hassard
... this sawdust kicked up such a terrible bobbery ...

W. Gladden

body politic, n.

It is a healthy sign for the body politic ...

Newton Crane

bogy, n.

Bogies guard the bins of choicest apples.

Charles Dudley Warner

bonnes, n.

Bonnes and babies gossiped and frolicked ...

J. G. Holland

booked up, adj.

... an able jury, some member of which is booked up on every point of the case.

J. G. Holland

book-keeping, n.

... laboring under his book-keeping duties ...

Mary E. Dodge
book-learning, n.  I, 66

He has . . . a heterogeneous mass of book-learning.

Rebecca H. Davis

bootblack, n.  I, 115

... newsboys and bootblacks . . . forsake the "extra" and the brush.

E. E. Sterns

bootless, adj.  I, 285

... the fish-hawk, coming home . . . from its bootless search after prey.

Rebecca H. Davis

bore, n.  I, 405

It was followed by a "bore", or spring-tide.

T. B. Maury

boss, n.  I, 49

"They do pretty well," said their 'boss'. [Speaking of the one who was teaching boys the shoe-making trade.]

Mary E. Dodge

boss, v.  I, 424

To boss the job, says the carpenter, who has joined us, not professionally, however.

Gail Hamilton
... stopping here and there to sketch and botanize.

J. S.

botto., n.

Or if they compel our goods to come in their bottoms, we may compel theirs to come in ours.

Horace Bushnell

bouffante, adv.

... skirts worn bouffante or plain ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

bound-boy, n.

... he had come at nine years of age to be a "bound-boy" to "Old Man Pogue."

Edward Eggleston

bower, n., the knave of trumps in a game of cards

"She is his right bower. He means to play her some day and win."

Rebecca Harding Davis

Bowery, n., a street in New York City notorious for tawdry display

"I look like a soubrette at the Bowery," she said aloud.

Rebecca Harding Davis
bow window, n.

For lining a bow window, where plants are to hang.

J. G. Holland

brace of articles, n.

In fairness it must be said that much contained in the brace of articles is only too true.

Samuel W. Duffield

brackish, adj., saltish

The water... cold and brackish on the hottest day, sunk... beneath him.

Rebecca Harding Davis

brag, n.

The Major's glitter and brag had paralyzed him, as with the spell of an evil eye.

Rebecca Harding Davis

braid, n., false hair

"It's that braid I got at Bury's."

Rebecca Harding Davis

branch, n.

... the low-murmuring brook ("branch") they call it in the "dialect."

Edward Eggleston
bravo, n. II, 131

... the drums peal out a bravo to the men who have done their duty.

William Wells

break loose, v. I, 36

"Why for breakin' loose, ma'am."

Mary E. Dodge

break-water, n. I, 193

Caution is a good break-water against vanity ... 

Edward Eggleston

breeches, n. I, 163

He sat down and began to pull the leather-colored breeches down over his knees ... 

Rebecca Harding Davis

brick, n. I, 601

"Oh! my father is a regular brick, and never refuses me anything necessary for a gentleman."

Ellice Woodruffe

bride-cake, n. II, 322

... odors of bride-cake pervade ... 

J. G. Holland
brides-maid, n.

... and the three blushing brides-maids!

J. G. Holland

brier, n.

The path, too, is tangled with briars.

Adeline Trafford

brieffless, adj.

... even the briefless barristers ... must have more education ...

W. George Beers

brig, n.

The same storm, ... caused the destruction of ... four brigs,

... ...

T. B. Maury

bring down the house, v.

... it took but little to "bring down the house" horses included.

F. C. Bates

bring up, v.

But you will see men of means bring up their families in mud or log huts.

F. C. Bates
brisk, adj.  
Then indeed the clerks must be brisk.  

J. R. G. Hassard  

brogue, n.  
... his Scotch pronunciation decided, not amounting to a "brogue."  

J. G. Holland  

broidery, n.  
There are hill-slopes ... which glitter just now in a Spring-time broidery of flowers.  

J. G. Holland  

broncho, n., a small horse of the western plains in N. A.  
Our provisions ... were securely lashed to the backs of twelve bronchos.  

N. P. Langford  

brothers Boteler, n., Boteler brothers  
We rode to the solitary ranch of the brothers Boteler.  

N. P. Langford  

browse, v.  
... the animals ... browsing the dry stunted herbage covered with dust.  

J. R. Headley
bucket, n.

On the car we may observe a fellow-passenger with a bucket or a basket in his hand.

W. Gladden

bugbear, n.

Sable Island is the bugbear of the mariners coasting in this vicinity.

S. G. B. Benjamin

buggy, n.

Then John drove up in theuggy . . . his first care was to shake hands with the deacon.

Edward Eggleston

build, n., design, pattern of architecture

. . . one of those picturesque cottages of modern build.

D. C. C. Townley

build, v., a stock term, meaning to endeavor to raise the market price of

. . . the purpose of suspension was to pull the market to normal rates.

Edward Grapcey

bulletin, n.

It was bulletined at noon . . . in the Merchant’s Exchange at Chicago.

T. B. Maury
bully, L.

Still, we do our bullying by our own hearth-stones • • •

G. Hamilton

bun, ne.

Here a female Falstaff • • • vends • • • soggy yellow buns.

E. L. Sterns

bunch grass, ne.

Large droves of cattle were feeding upon the bunch grass • • •

N. P. Langford

buncombe, ad.

Captain Oscar • • • made a buncombe speech • • •

Edward Eggleston

bunk, ne.

For sleeping accommodation we fitted up some bunks in an out-building near the store • • •

F. G. Bates

Bureau, ne.

The foregoing bulletin was prepared by • • • the Chief of the

Meteorological Bureau.

T. B. Maury
burn, v.

He burnt up the health and the prosperity of the nation.

J. G. Holland

burn, v.

... over which the hulls and machinery of two steamers, burnt in 1849, lay imbedded.

A. J. Twombly

by George

By George! what gall and wormwood that must be for a girl to drink!

Rebecca Harding Davis

by-word, n.

... made our village a by-word of beauty ...

Saxe Holm
cabriolet, n.  

Colonel M. . . . descended from the cabriolet of a vehicle.

H. T. Tuckerman

cabinet, n.  

About the first of the week this matter came up for consideration in Cabinet.

L. L. Grounse

cabby, n.  


J. G. Holland

cackle, n.  

. . . fluttering her skirts with a pathetic little cackle.

Rebecca Harding Davis

calico, adj.  

Pink and lilac calico dresses for Sunday wear abound; . . .

Mary E. Dodge
calico, n., a dress made of cotton

She was not like the raw-boned women he knew, in their sleazy pink calicoes.

Rebecca Harding Davis

California saddle, n.

Each man was supplied with a strong horse, well equipped with California saddle, bridle, and cantinas.

N. P. Langford

calisthenium, n.

... besides the College, we find the Calisthenium.

H. H. McFarland

calk up, v.

... Captain Mccarty "wet down" and "calked up" his cracked-open sides at pleasure.

L. L. Crounse

caltrop, n., a sort of thistle

Or would he make a general practice of strewing caltrops under the feet of his pew-holders...?

Samuel N. Duffield

campaign, n.

It is a happy circumstance for the poor soldiers that the scenes of the campaign are not all shadows.

William Wells
camp-fever, n.

... over two thousand American soldiers swept off by camp-fever

... Newton Crane

can (kin), v.

"It’s curious," thought Inskip, "that the boy kin think of tradin’
in oysters."

Rebecca Harding Davis

Cannel coal, n., a coal of fine texture and little lustre, containing
much volatile matter, etc.

Or that for a tithe of the same her fireless grate would sparkle
with Cannel coal for a winter long.

J. G. Holland

canoe, n.

To the left of the wharf is a large Maori war canoe... F. G. Bates

can’t (ken’t), v.

But there was a secret in that story of your birth that I ken’t
puzzle out yet.

Rebecca Harding Davis
Each man was supplied with a strong horse, well equipped with California saddle, bridle, and cantinas.

N. P. Langford

canton, n., a district, or territorial division of a country

Breathless • • • lies the fair lake—pride of four cantons.

Adeline Trafford

cap and crown, n.

She was the cap and crown of his social success.

Rebecca Harding Davis

capital, adj.

... a capital place to crack butternuts on.

Charles Dudley Warner

caravansary, n.

Huge caravansaries, however commodious, do not do this.

J. T. Headley

caricle, n., a small • • one-horse carriage.

The light caricle carries pleasant parties • • •

W. George Beers
Carman, a., a carter

... one sad eye dwelling on their fragile perfections, the other cast wildly forth in search of the coming Carman.

J. G. Holland

carriage road, a.

we moved on, following a wide, well-graded carriage road, ...

Mary L. Dodge

carriage-way, a.

To the left of the main carriage-way ... are the reservoir and the water-works.

Newton Crane

carpeting, n.

... strips of home-made rag carpeting ...  

W. George Beers

carven, v.

... huge carven forms of beasts glare upon us ...  

J. R. G. Hassard

case, a.

The other homes ... were all in similar case.

Abby Sage Richardson
catch, n.

The Squid has had a splendid 'catch.' [of fish]

I. H. Hayes

catch (ketch), n.

"Try to run away, they do ...; but they generally gets ketched afore they start."

Mary E. Dodge

cat-fish, n.

It is the pleasant place of residence of many gentlemen ... who come here to the "cat-fish and coffee" suppers ...

Newton Crane

caucus, n.

The motion is put and carried, and immediately a lively caucus ensues.

G. Hamilton

cent, n.

"why, when business is dull, I sell 'em for five cents such a little bouquet as this," ..."?

E. E. Sterns

Celestial, n., a Chinaman

Scarcely one of the Celestials ... knew a word of English ..."

James L. Bowen
cell-mate, n.  

... in eight days his cell-mate was removed.

J. R. Thompson

certify, y.  

Probably Pope was not yet certified of the real character of the little 
estray from the East.

Benson J. Lossing

chaffer, v., to bargain or negotiate  

They chaffer and haggle, each afraid of the acute powers of the 
other, until their bargain is complete.

Thomas Larnette

chalet, n., a cottage or house, esp. a country house, built in the 
style of a Swiss cottage  

... it [cottage] ... reminding us a good deal of those grace-
ful chalets which Calmellet paints so well.

J. G. Holland

champ, v., to bite repeatedly and noisily  

One ... is prancing on, champing the bit ... .

J. G. Holland

chap, n.  

Some chaps hide away in the water-tanks, and so slip off when the 
way comes.

Mary E. Dodge
Our guides, . . ., spoke kindly of their charges, finding some good even in the worst.

Mary E. Dodge

Even afterward, the institution would follow up its young charges, . . . until right habits were established . . .

Mary E. Dodge

This proud insignia has been charity bestowed.

William Wells

He had not done badly with his life so far, beginning as the charity child of a poor crab-fisher.

Rebecca Harding Davis

The lights and shadows were playing chase with the children . . .

Louisa Bushnell

After the brief prayer came his little morning chat or lecture . . .

Mary E. Dodge
checkered, adj.  

... man whose life was checkered with fitful descendencies.

J. G. Holland

cheek, n.  

Law students who, with inordinate "cheek" announce themselves ready to devote their talents ...  

W. George Beers

cheek by jowl  

French vivacity cheek by jowl with English phlegm ...  

W. George Beers

chicken-heart, n.  

If he had known what a terrified chicken-heart was beating for life under Romy's cloak, ...  

Rebecca Harding Davis

childer, v.  

Patrick, ... buys a couple of quarts for Bridget and the "childer" and Hans takes home a paper-bag full to his blue-eyed wife and chubby babies.  

E. E. Sterns

chime, v.  

The red-shirted individual ... chimes in with the same chorus ...  

E. E. Sterns
A few glances through the chinks of the casement...

Emo L. Fancher

Straws—Leghorn, Dunstable, Chip, are the novelties of the season.

J. G. Holland

we were sure of a run after a chip-muk or a squirrel...

J. G. Holland

Since she was a pink-faced, coquettish little chit...

Rebecca Harding Davis

Commercial note is good enough, ... for the commonplace chit-chat of average correspondence.

J. G. Holland

... even the tiny, odd chair-loft was full to overflowing.

J. G. Holland
chrism, n., sacred symbol or consecration

Like the poet, a true salau-maker is set apart from his brethren by a mystic chrism all his own.

J. G. Holland

chromo, n.

Maps, charts, pretty chromos and lithographs, adorn the walls.

Mary E. Dodge

chores, n.

... the "chores" are to be done.

Charles Dudley Warner

churchling, n.

But we churchlings have so discomfitunanced amusements...

G. Hamilton

cinnabar, adj., a red color; vermillion

The pennatula, which during the day is a cinnabar color, floats in phosphorescent light.

T. E. Clark

cinnamon, n.

I wanted some of the blessed old cinamons... so I ran down into the vegetable-garden whither Tom had banished them.

Mrs. E. A. Walker
circuit, n.  
... the lawyer was off on circuit ...  
G. Hamilton

city-bred, adj.  
He did it naturally, as few city-bred men would have had the art to do.  
Rebecca Harding Davis

city-limits, n.  
A shabby village street, ... made it easier to realize that ... we still were within city-limits ...  
Mary E. Dodge

claim, n., a piece of public land taken up by a squatter with the intention of purchasing later from the government  
I remember how he took me all over his claim ...  
Edward Eggleston

clam, n.  
... when she was gone he would sink back into Dick Dort, clam and oyster trader ...  
Rebecca H. Davis

 clam-digger, n.  
I am a clam-digger to you, that's all!  
Rebecca Harding Davis
"I do not see . . . " he said, clapping hat on irritably.

Rebecca Harding Davis

ciaret, adj.

Tiarella leaves just tipped with ciaret color . . .

Saxe Holm

clean, adv.

. . . I see it so often passing clean out of range . . .

Horace Bushnell

clear, adv.

From that sun, clear back to the first trace of purple . . .

J. S.

clear, adv.

It is intended that the pier shall sink clear through the sand.

A. S. Twombly

clearing, n.

. . . as he scampered along the rail-fence to or from a clump of oaks in the clearing.

J. G. Holland
cloak-cubby, n.

Imagine my feelings when I found myself in the 'cloak-cubby,' as we called it, a deep dark closet . . .

Mrs. E. A. Walker

clock-work, n.

It seemed like some stately machine in which study-slides, play-slides, and work-slides shifted themselves silently in and out by means of internal clock-work.

Mary E. Dodge

cluck, v.

While the Major fumed and clucked about . . .

Rebecca Harding Davis

clump, n.

. . . as he scampered along the rail-fence to or from a clump of oaks in the clearing.

J. G. Holland

cock-loft, n.

Private people take to the attics, . . . existing for the time with their families in one little cock-loft.

Thomas Emette
co-emigrants, n.

... some were of the Society of Friends, ... , and co-emigrants to the New World.

Newton Crane

coffer-dam, n.

A coffer-dam, or diving bell (A), is constructed and floated.

A. S. Twombly

coffin, n.

The old man ... remembered vaguely a carpenter he had seen once finishing off a lot of coffins.

Rebecca Harding Davis

cognize, v., to recognize

... it is no harder for him to cognize the one than the other.

J. G. Holland

cold snap, n.

... during cold snaps are in their glory.

W. George Beers

collarette, n.

... collarettes and capes ... have come again into view.

J. G. Holland
collate, v., to compare critically

... where a student often wants to collate all the accessible authorities on a given subject ...

J. H. G. Hassard

colonial, adj.

Possibly it was built in colonial times ...

Traiton

color, v., to alter the truth somewhat

She told everything; colored, altered, lied a little sometimes.

Rebecca Harding Davis

colored, adj.

We also employed two colored boys as cooks.

R. P. Langford

come by, v.

... luxuries ... are cheaper, easier to come by ...

J. G. Holland

come pass, v.

And so it had come pass that ...

Saxe Holm
Towards it the clouds scurry in haste, like late comers, whipped on by the angry wind. . . .

Trafton

But the good seed is sown, and sooner or later it comes to fruit.

Mary E. Dodge

Many of the business men came to grief soon after the reaction began.

F. C. Bates

Mr. Langton kept an observant eye on Miss Vaux's comings-in and goings-out.

Rebecca Harding Davis

. . . commerce between instructor and student is so carried forward as to draw out the student's power of observation . . .

H. H. McFarland
... the Commissioners unhesitatingly gave the preference to this one.

W. Gladden

committal, n.

But, with lawyer-like caution, he thought he would put off the committal as long as possible.

Edward Eggleston

commons, n., the mass of the people

... irregularities and roughnesses so often complained of in college commons.

Alexander Hyde

commune, v.

"what shall we do with our loaves and fishes?" comuned the villagers ...

G. Hamilton

compassionate, v., to sympathize with

The problem has to be settled ... without a spectator to compassionate the vanquished.

T. E. Clark
compost, n., a fertilizing mixture or compound

Heaps of compost have been waiting long months for this special moment.

J. G. Holland

compound, y., to mix

Here is an old man compounding red lemonade in a huge tin pan.

E. E. Sterns

compound, n., an inclosure containing a house, etc., especially one occupied by foreigners

... we ... were riding ... through the gates of the compound which surrounded our friend's residence.

Gilman P. Briggs

con, y.

He used to con his guide-book and then extemporize ...

H. T. Tuckerman

concave, n.

... the circular cards, which it was the custom then to insert in the concave of watch cases.

D. O. C. Townley
concourse, n.

It is not much more than a shaded "concourse," destitute of every attribute of a park.

Newton Crane

concrete, n.

... a vast number of immense boulders, stones, and concrete...

T. S. Clark

confectionery, n., sweetmeats

... scores of baskets and stands stocked with orderly heaps of fruit or piles of confectionery are scattered along the side-walks.

E. E. Sterns

confronting, adj.

The two confronting racks could be readily united by a bridge.

N. P. Langford

Congress, n.

The fact of the application coming to the notice of Congress, however, a member of the opposition seized the opportunity for a point against the Administration.

L. L. Grouse
Congressional, adj.  

... an intelligent being, such as Judge Parker, ... or any of our Congressional friends.

Rebecca Harding Davis

Congressman, n.  

"..." he told each of the three Congressmen who were bidden to dinner in turn as they arrived.

Rebecca Harding Davis

conservatory, n.  

Out from the conservatory ...  

Trafton

considerable, adj.  

It is only at a considerable distance ...  

T. E. Clark

considerable, adj., a great deal  

... a bitterness of feeling ... which lasted for a considerable time.

F. C. Bates

constitutional, n.  

The slug taking, as is his wont, an early constitutional on top of the leaves.

J. G. Holland
Continental, adj. I, 118
There are American coins on one of these boards, . . . and . . .
and a little pile of dingy old paper "Continental money."

E. E. Sterns

Continental, adj. I, 234

. . . and Charles Thompson, first and long the confidential secre-
tary of the continental Congress.

Newton Crane

convey, v., to manage with privacy or craft I, 114

. . . and they thus escape the temptation . . . to "convey", as
Ancient Pistol smoothly puts it.

E. E. Sterns

convey, v., to accompany or escort II, 625

. . . my forgetful father, who had gallantly convoyed me thither,
had thoughtlessly driven home without me.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

cookery, n. I, 360

I know that he has been accustomed always . . . to a cookery that
would kill and undeveloped American.

Edward Eggleston
cooking-stove, m.

Mrs. H. says you may have her cooking-stove.

G. Hamilton

coolie, m., cheap labor from the Orient

...and it is thus ... that we owe the immigration of Chinese California to the coolie system.

F. H. Norton

copperhead, m.

'Take that band of yaller paint off her; it looks like the ring about a copperhead's neck.'

Rebecca Harding Davis

coral-bushes, n.

Around the coral-bushes play the humming birds of the ocean ...

T. S. Clark

cordon, n., a line or circle

The park authorities provide a cordon of policemen ...

Newton Crane

corner, v., to get the better of one in an argument

... the old doctor and the young parson were soon hurling at one another ... At last, perhaps because he was a little cornered, Hubert said: ...

Edward Eggleston
correctant, n. I, 43

Chastisement he considers the right word and the right thing—chastisement adopted as a stimulant or correctant.

Mary E. Dodge

cosiness, n. II, 274

... the restaurants stood with open doors, giving ... glimpses of their cosiness of little tables ...

Louisa Bushnell
cotillion, n., a dance I, 426

They are talking instead of dancing up in the ball-room, but they don't look much more solemn than the average American going through a cotillion.

Gail Hamilton
countenance, n. II, 545

... they carefully avoid giving any countenance to the crude theory ...

James Richardson
country-seat, n. II, 284

... a charming villa, as the Italians call a pleasant country seat.

Benson J. Lossing
County, n.

New Zealand is divided into nine provinces and one county.

F. C. Bates

cow, v.

The life long swagger had been completely cowed out of him.

Rebecca Harding Davis

cowed, adj.

... and a few have the cowed and shabby look of men who have breakfasted at a cheap boarding house and slept in a mean little hall bedroom.

J. R. G. Hassard

crab, v., to catch

Two or three days before he had found her too far out in Inskip's boat, trying to crab.

Rebecca Harding Davis

crabfisher, n.

He had not done badly ..., beginning as the charity child of a poor crab-fisher.

Rebecca Harding Davis

crack, adj.

"P" was our crack ward.

Susan Coolidge
crack, n.

In controlling even the worst children, violent measures are never allowed, . . . beyond a few strokes with a light rattan ("cracks" the children call them).

Mary E. Dodge

cram, v., to study hard

Cornelia, . . . excused herself on the ground that she was cramming for her final examination . . .

Edward Eggleston

cramming, adj.

Dr. Webster and his "cramming" followers have had their day.

J. G. Holland

cramming, n.

. . . parents of the pupils in the Boston Latin School in protesting against the system of long hours and cramming enforced in that school in particular.

J. G. Holland

crane, n.

Over the fire swings an iron crane . . .

Charles Dudley Warner
With the equipments we have described, . . . they examine every cranny.

T. E. Clark

crape, n.

The custom of keeping a piece of crape suspended . . .

J. T. Headley

crape, n.

A strong tendency exists toward the re-introduction of crapes.

J. G. Holland

crave, v.

. . . that picturesque individual . . . presented himself at the door of the cabin to crave some little courtesy . . .

Edward Eggleston

crockeryware, n.

Why, there was the . . . crockeryware to be bought, . . .

G. Hamilton

crony, n.

"Go and bid good-bye to your crony, Mr. Inskip."

Rebecca Harding Davis
cropping, n.  
There is no universal cropping of heads, as in some institutions.  
Mary E. Dodge

croquet, n.  
A few girls are playing croquet.  
Mary E. Dodge

crows, n., tribe of Indians  
It was not pleasant ... to learn that twenty-five lodges of  
crows had gone up the valley ...  
E. P. Langford

crossfoot, n.  
... the charts ... were adorned at this point by the crows-feet that call for a chain of mountains ...  
W. C. Stoddard

crunch, v.  
A quick, decisive step was heard crunching on the dry grass outside.  
Rebecca Harding Davis

cub, n., young child  
When I was a romantic cub of fifteen ...  
Rebecca Harding Davis
curry, m. II, 514

... whose mouth, however, was stuffed so full of "curry" as to prevent his remark...

Gilman F. Briggs

custom House, n. I, 118

A dealer near the custom House spreads his stock... on the railing and the sidewalk.

E. E. Sterns

cut, v. I, 68

"They would cut him at once! and he's been so long in getting into society!"

Rebecca Harding Davis

cutting, n. I, 115

... then, taking the track, we enter a deep cutting, and are soon at what was once the western portal of the tunnel.

W. Gladden

cut-off, n. II, 252

... and you will find in the patent office models... of beehives and cannons, steam cut-offs, and baby-jumpers.

Edward Eggleston
cut off, v. 

All the principal papers of Paris were here until Von Molthe suddenly cut off the supply; • • •

J. H. G. Hassard

cut up, adj. 

You look horribly cut up, father. You're not worrying about this matter of Romy's?

Rebecca Harding Davis

cyclone, n. 

I purpose . . . to determine the tracks and behavior of the cyclones that sweep over and desolate our land.

T. B. Maury
daily, n., daily newspaper

Perhaps, when the great revolution comes, so feelingly prophesied now and then by indignant "dailies," . . .

J. G. Holland

dandling, n., a moving up and down . . . so as to give the dryer every variety of jolt, from a gentle dandling to an upset.

W. George Beers

darkey, n., a negro

Some of 'em say it's a darkey without a head, and other say it's a white chap with a black face.

darkling, adj., obscure, dark . . . the old mahogany cabinet, with its drawer on drawer darkling to the ceiling.

J. G. Holland

dasher, n.

. . . a twirl of the dasher . . .

J. G. Holland
day-book, n., a book in which the transactions of the day are entered.

J. R. C. Hassard

... clerks, who ... have never had much leisure to devote to any kind of books except day-books and ledgers.

day-dawn, n.: It was neither night, nor day—dawn nor twilight.

Edward Eggleston

dead, adj., absolute ... the very insignificant article of salt ... was nearly a dead necessity ...

Horace Bushnell

dead-faint, n. ... I ... fell against the door in a dead-faint.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

dead-set, adj. ... Jennie's father is 'dead-set' against the match.

Edward Eggleston

deal, n., fir or pine wood ... making ... our way towards the Gulf of St. Lawrence, to take in a cargo of deals for London.
debris, n. I, 155
The little Haupt tunnel was quickly filled with debris . . .
W. Gladden

defile, n. II, 129
As they defiled through the mountain passes of Alsace . . .
William Wells

delf, n., earthenware II, 428
... a fragment of delf--part of a broken plate left by an English lunch party . . .
H. T. Tuckerman

delicatest, adj. I, 458
The note . . . blushes inaudible pink or delicatest lilac . . .
J. G. Holland

delicious, adj. II, 215
The delicious verses in which Tennyson tells of the famous guest . . .
J. G. Holland

delicious, adj. II, 111
... what must have been one of the most delicious journeys ever made by a solitary traveler.
J. G. Holland
... and suddenly the soul is thronged with visitants, delightful, sometimes holy ...

Louisa Bushnell

demi-toilette, n.

Dresses ... of soft muslin ... are much in vogue for demi-toilettres.

J. G. Holland

demoralize, v.

This sad mischance completely demoralized Trenck.

J. R. Thompson

Department, n.

... a long list of outrages ... had accumulated on the records of the Department of State.

L. L. Crounse

depot, n.

... Mr. Crocker shrewdly suggested that there might be a depot in Florida ...
Where would be the natural frontiers which politicians so much desiderate?

T. A. Clark

despond, v., to despair, lose courage

... we purposely give to those who despond of any good results

... the darkest view of the subject...

T. B. Maury

detail, v.

General Washburn detailed four of our company to guard the pack train.

N. P. Langford

devise, n.

But what the devil was she thinking of under the sweetness?

Rebecca Harding Davis

dew-claw, n., the rudimentary inner toe of the foot, especially the hindfoot, of some dogs

No dog that is not entirely jet black, and has not the wee-foot and dew-claw, is of the unmixed Newfoundland breed.

S. G. W. Benjamin
didactical, adj.
The dynamical formula has been merely translated into the language of didactical ethics...

Edward Spencer

digging, n.
I was an old Californian, and the stories of rich diggings... made me impatient to join the adventurers.

F. C. Bates

dignitary, n.
... waited upon by some of the dignitaries of the town...

Adeline Trafton

dint, n., force, power
One... and the other got off with a year's confinement, by dint of Trenck's money.

J. R. Thompson

directest, adj.
... a well-devised and properly-conducted system of public schools is the directest, cheapest, surest and best means...

J. G. Holland

dirt, n.
There is nothing to fear save noise, darkness, and dirt.

W. Gladden
disengaged, adj.  

"Will you step this way, sir? Mr. Durand is disengaged."

D. O. C. Townley

disrelish, n.  

... my disrelish for this unseasonable magnanimity was just then stimulated by a cloud of dust...

Mrs. E. A. Walker

distemperament, n.  

... men were unconscious of the fragilities and distemperaments of their organizations...

Edward Spencer

distich, n., two rows of verses  

... a "concessive retort" made by Sampson, and that in a poetical distich...

R. W. Wright

district school, n.  

He worked in the summer and attended district school...

Mary E. Dodge
divertissement, n., diversion, amusement

... they could not have produced a divertissement more exquisitely absurd than the Shaker dance.

J. G. Holland

do, v.

We ... had "done" that city, with its unlimited store of wonders

Gilman P. Briggs

do business, v.

Mr. Wood ... afterward did business in London.

J. R. G. Hassard

dock, n.

... it is no longer necessary, ... to lay the vessel up in dock,

T. E. Clark

dock, n.

... put two of their frigates ... on the dock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard for repairs.

L. L. Crouse
Many of the inmates are boys who, as "dock-rats", house-thieves, have grown preternaturally quick-witted...

Mary E. Dodge

dog-eared, adj.

to the last poor fragmentary leaves of the dog-eared volume.

Edward Spencer

dollar, n.

Some days I don't get a dollar, and again I take fifty dollars in a single afternoon.

E. E. Sterns

domestic, n., household servant

women discuss the manifold incapacities of the domestics who infest their kitchens.

Abby Sage Richardson

donation, n.

Additional French-roofed buildings will cost not less than $100,000, to be paid for by donations.

Mary E. Dodge

donjon, n., inner tower or stronghold of a castle

Beside the gates are two donjons, formed like a square...

J. T. Headley
Then the Society set to work, the annual expenses being met equally by the private donors and the city government.

Mary E. Dodge

don't, v.  

**... why a theologian should say he don't know.**

E. L. Fancher

doors. n.  

**... but that detracted no more ... than a pin-mark from the symmetry of a door-post.**

J. S.

doors. n.  

**... you can get it in the street, in your door-yard ...**

F. C. Bates

dote, v.  

**As for the women in business, they dote on him.**

Rebecca Harding Davis

dome-tailed, adj.  

**... the tops are dome-tailed into each other.**

J. G. Holland
down, prep.

"I get on better'n . . . at the Ward school down town."

Mary E. Dodge

draught, n.

... he has since completed the rough draughts of the Keep Museum.

J. R. G. Hassard

draughts, n.

They have a curious game of draughts . . .

W. George Beers

drawing-room, n.

... the little room opening from the hall—half boudoir, yet hardly more than an alcove of the drawing-room.

Trafton

dreadfully, adv.

"But your fisherman is dreadfully rough, I suppose."

Rebecca Harding Davis

dreadfully, adv.

... "treated his mother dreadfully."

Mary E. Dodge
dregs, n., lower class

"Let us come in contact with the people. The very dregs of the people . . . ."

Rebecca Harding Davis

dresser, n.

There were crab-nets . . . ., a dresser with dishes.

Rebecca Harding Davis

dressing-sack, n., a loose garment worn by women while dressing.

But I can brush it nicely for you, while you put on this dressing-sack . . . .

Mrs. E. A. Walker

dribble, v.

"But it's a peculiar habit not to shut a door," dribbled Mrs. Vaux.

Rebecca Harding Davis

drift, n., a small tunnel

Drifts were run out for considerable distances on either side the line, to drain off the water . . . .

W. Gladden

drive, n.

Other tracts of land . . . . to be connected by drives with the park are to be obtained by purchase.

Newton Crane
drop in, v.

... he took it into his head for some reason, to "drop in" on old Doctor Hood.

Edward Eggleston

drop off, v.

... and many of these drop off as soon as they have voted.

J. R. G. Hassard

drove, n.

Large droves of cattle were feeding upon the bunch grass.

N. P. Langford

dragget, n., a coarse woolen felt or woven cloth

... and it can be ordered by the yard, like dragget.

J. G. Holland

drum-fish, n.

There lay an immense Jew-, or drum-fish, a well-known denizen of southern waters ...

dry, adj., opposed to sale of intoxicants

"Dry or wet, Mr. Dort? Indifferent, eh? ..."

Rebecca Harding Davis
dry goods, n.
- - - a single large dry goods firm.

Julia A Holmes

dualine (dualin), n.,
- - - there has been, if you will excuse the expression, considerable dualine between the chemists in the newspapers . . .

W. Gladden

due, n.
Let us give him his due . . .

J. G. Holland

dug-way, n., an excavated way or road
A painful and most circuitous dug-way . . .

J. S.

dull, v.
It always dulls everybody but itself.

Trafton

duly elected thereto
One, a lawyer . . . holds the office of State Attorney, having been duly elected thereto by his district.

Mary E. Dodge
dumb-waiter, n.

She sends it up to the library in a dumb-waiter ...  

J. R. G. Hassard

dumps, n., low spirits  

... all are asleep but myself, and I believe I'm in the dumps.  

J. G. Holland

dun, n.  

Paul's office was taken from him by a change of political rulers, and beset by duns and difficulties ...  

Ellice Woodruffe

Dunstable  

Straws--Leghorn, Dunstable, Chip, are the novelties of the season.  

J. G. Holland

dynamical, adj.  

The dynamical formula has been merely translated into the language of didactical ethics.  

Edward Spencer
East, n.

... the Hoosac Tunnel route ... the most feasible line of communication between the East and the West.

W. Gladden

eat words

Why this haste ... to eat one's words ... 

J. G. Holland

educational, adj.

The government has made very liberal land endowments for educational purposes ... 

F. G. Bates

ef, conj.

"If you want to be a fool and trot off with that air passel of fools."

Edward Eggleston

eft, n., a lizardlike animal

... like the queer brown efts who inhabit old books.

J. G. Holland
This last was a daughter... and most of the daughter's hard earnings went to eke out the scanty subsistence at home.

Edward Eggleston

... a card... which is designed to keep... pickpockets from elbowing the silver.

J. G. Holland

"We ought to have a committee on carriages," suggests one of the elect ladies.

G. Hamilton

We were completely embayed, with no possible chance of beating out.

I, I, Hayes

It is only at a considerable distance from its embouchure that the water of a river mixes with that of the ocean... 

T. E. Clark
emergent, adj., necessary, demanding attention

Several ... found excuse for their withdrawal in various emergent occupations.

N. P. Langford

emprise, n., enterprise, endeavor, adventure

... combining ... the laborious pursuits of manufacturing industry, with the gentler but more influential emprises of the mind.

Thomas D'Arcy曼

enframed, adj.

... and here and there ... are little gems, enframed.

D. C. C. Townley

engage, v.

... "engaged your ... help before you engaged a wife"

Edward Eggleston

engineering, n.

... pierce the mountain barrier ... without any difficult engineering.

W. Gladden

engraft, v.

... it can be safely engrafted upon the more firmly established labor system ...
enounce, *v., to set forth, to state publicly

... oracular manner in which he enounces the law ...

J. G. Holland

eremite, *n., a religious recluse or solitary

How terrible were the temptations that sometimes assailed the religious eremites ...

Edward Eggleston

erst, *adv., formerly

... the old estates, where erst courtly ladies promenaded ...

Newton Crane

estray, *n.

we profess to ... accept willingly ... waifs and estrays from every nation.

F. H. Norton

euchre, *n., a card game

The Major often made a successful point in his life-long game of euchre.

Rebecca Harding Davis

exorciating, *adj.

... the drunken inspector ... will spend nearly the whole night in exorcising psalmody.

J. T. Headley
executive, n.

The governor gets a salary ... and the members of the executive about the same as the cabinet officers at Washington.

F. C. Bates

executive, adj.

... the action of the executive and judicial authorities of the United States ...

L. L. Crouse

exercise, v.

They were exercising in mental arithmetic.

Mary E. Dodge

express, n.

... sent by express ...

J. R. G. Hassard

externality, n.

Scores of painters will ... give ... a scientific fervor for externalities.

J. G. Holland

extra, n., a special edition of a newspaper

... newsboys ... forsake the "extra."

E. E. Sterns
fag, v.
I fagged away, often heart-sick and weary . . .

E. Woodruffe

faint-lined, adj.
. . . so broad that it was at first faint-lined . . .

J. S.

fall in, v., come together, assemble
. . . a group of boys and girls who has thus fallen in with each other . . .

Mary E. Dodge

falsity, n.
. . . she detected a flaw and felt that there was a falsity somewhere.

Mary E. Dodge

farm-house, n.
. . . to apply at the nearest farm-house for food . . .

J. R. Thompson
fast, adj.  
This was true, for Centend, ... was too elegant to enjoy fast city life ...  
E. Woodruffe

fast, adj.  
... a fancy smoking cap for a fast man.  
Thomas Emmette

fatherly, adj.  
... just a few simple, fatherly words.  
Mary E. Dodge

feed, n.  
Large droves of cattle were feeding upon the bunch grass.  
N. P. Langford

fee-simple, n., a fee without limitation to any particular class of heirs or restriction upon alienation  
... her birds and bees possess the land in fee-simple ...  
J. G. Holland

female, adj.  
... congenial female society to an ambitious man ...  
Edward Eggleston
I, 173

These immense loads must be taken across the river in some other way, than by ferriage.

A. S. Tombly

II, 622

... but individuals of the genuine Newfoundlander stock... fetch from eighty to one hundred dollars.

J. G. W. Benjamin

II, 209

Fichu, n., a kind of ornamental three-cornered cape

Dresses and fichus of soft muslin...

J. G. Holland

I, 159

... as though her shallow fidgety soul had been... called to judgment before God.

Rebecca Harding Davis

II, 300

Young Mas' Jeemes an' I have fit de fight...

Thomas Dunn English

I, 39

... heartily, and in perfect order filed out of their places...

Mary E. Dodge
The half-breed who had "filed on" the claim alongside Lindsley's...

Edward Eggleston

It was a world made up of the Major, and cheap finery, ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

"We got good learning and ...
"First-rate learning," put in another.

Mary E. Dodge

The former had just caught four fishes.

N. P. Langford

As for the fish girls of the coast, he saw now how strong an infusion of the man and animal there was in them.

Rebecca Harding Davis

... I went to seek my fortune in a fishing-smack.

I. I. Hayes
fisticuffs, n., a fight with the fists; boxing

A fair bout at fisticuffs . . . is not understood by them.

Thomas Emette

fit, adj.

"No, I won't touch ye; I ain't fit."

Traiton

fix, n.

. . . to imagine yourself some great man in a great fix.

H. T. Tuckerman

fix up, v.

. . . "be sure you fix up a match with some of those country girls."

Edward Eggleston

flag, v.

. . . conversation is apt to flag after dinner.

Edward Eggleston

flag, v.

Perhaps you knew old Tom, who flagged at the Cherry street crossing.

J. G. Holland
flake, n.

and the stages and flakes or platforms for drying the fish are to be seen at every hamlet.

S. G. W. Benjamin

flat, n.

... it flows harmlessly over low and sandy flats.

T. E. Clark

flavor, n.

... who cannot feel in this exquisite romance ... the true flavor of poetry.

J. G. Holland

flaw, n.

... she detected a flaw ...

Mary E. Dodge

flimsy, adj.

... strangers, who come with the flimsiest credentials ...

J. G. Holland

flip, n. a spiced and sweetened drink consisting of ale, beer, cider, or other liquor

mugs of flip

Charles Dudley Warner
flirt, n.  
Mrs. Vaux gave an impatient little flirt in her chair.
Rebecca Harding Davis

flirt, v., to turn from one thing to another  
She had gone, flirting and giddy, into the world she lived in now.
Rebecca Harding Davis

flout, v.  
Her fearless blossoms flout the day.
J. G. Holland

flutter, v.  
"Major," fluttered Mrs. Vaux, "Romy tells me--"
Rebecca Harding Davis

flying physic  
There is much more talk nowadays than ever before of the expediency of flying physic . . .
Edward Spencer

foxy, adj.  
You only graduated at Yale, an old foxy mediaeval institution
Edward Eggleston
following-named, adj. II, 2

... our company consisted of the following-named gentlemen:

N. P. Langford

foot-hill, n. I, 153

The road leading to it passes over and among a series of conical foot-hills...

W. Gladden

footing, n. II, 209

... fluted ruffles of French organdy edged with footing.

J. G. Holland

footing, n. II, 230

A large deal has been accumulated in putting this library on such a splendid footing.

J. T. Headley

foot-road, n. II, 468

... all these spicy foot-roads were kept clear and level.

Saxe Holm

ford, v., to cross a stream at a ford. II, 15

We could easily have forded the stream.

N. P. Langford
foreknow, v.

... I foreknew what was to come.

Saxe Holm

foreman, n.

... the practical foreman of the gang of clay-diggers ...

Newton Crane

fore-stick, n.

Then you want a fore-stick on the andirons.

Charles Dudley Warner

forewarn, v.

... casualties that might have been diminished ... by a forewarning of the more famous storms of history.

T. B. Maury

fork over, v.

"Done," said I; "fork over."

Mrs. E. A. Walker

fork up, v., give, supply, pay up

"So the governor forked this up ..."

Ellice Woodruffe
...and even claimed unjustly a "forty" of Lindsley's town-plot.

Edward Eggleston

founder, m.

...photograph of ... the President of the institution as well as one of its founders.

M. E. Dodge

founder, m., to fill with water and sink

...the point where they saw the steamer founder...

T. B. Maury

foundling, m., an orphan, one whose parentage is uncertain

...I used rather to hug myself on the idea of being a foundling.

Rebecca Harding Davis

fowling-piece, m.

Even Bunks ... presented me with his fowling-piece.

I. I. Hayes

frame of mind

I felt in a peculiarly positive and practical frame of mind ...

M. E. Dodge
fray, n., a fight

... the small Amazon at the result of the fray.

E. E. Sterns

freak, n.

... among the delicate and wonderful freaks of nature's handiwork.

N. P. Langford

freecooter, n., a pirate

... the leader of these freecooters of the sea, ...

J. T. Headley

freehold, adj.

It was difficult to get freehold property at any price.

F. C. Bates

freeholder, n.

... the theory of the law being that freeholders own all the ground within their boundaries.

W. Gladden

freight, n.

Freight is generally sent in vessels ...

F. C. Bates
freshwoman, $n$.  II, 347

... and to bring them where they can enter as Freshmen, or Freshwomen ...

H. H. McFarland

fret, $v$.  II, 74

The brook was fretting at the stones.

Edward Eggleston

defret, $v$.  I, 212

Give up all that frets you ... in your city life ...

J. G. Holland

friable, adj., soft, unsubstantial, subject to wear.  II, 7

... capricious works wrought by erosion upon the friable rocks of Montana.

H. P. Langford

fritter, $v.$, to waste  II, 548

... the opportunities ... are frittered away ...

J. G. Holland

frittered up,  II, 226

... broken and frittered up by a ginger-bread frieze in mosaic.

J. G. Holland
frizz, v.  

If you would only braid it in front at night—not frizz it, you know, but wave it a little ...  

Mrs. E. A. Walker

frontier, n.  

where would be the natural frontiers which politicians so much desiderate?  

T. E. Clark

frontiersman, n.  

A man so ready to serve anybody as he, was idolized among frontiersmen ...  

Edward Eggleston

frousy, adj.  

with enormous spectacles on the end of her nose, frousy, unkempt hair ...  

William Wells

frown down, v.  

We turn to frown down the unhappy mortal who has dared to harbor a suspicion ...  

A. S. Twombly
fudge, n.

A fudge for the doubters!

J. G. Holland

full, adv.

She was full five years older than myself.

Julia C. E. Doré

full-blooded, adj.

... this full-blooded dogmatic young fellow ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

full-length, n.

... a full-length imperial photograph ...

Mary E. Dodge

fused, v.

While the Major fused and clicked about.

Rebecca Harding Davis

furbelow, v., to ornament

... although the deeper meaning and the human grace could not be altogether furbelowed from sight.

J. G. Holland
gaff topsails, n. I, 79

... carried no other canvas than fore and mainsails, fore and main gaff topsails; ... l. l. Hayes

gall, v. I, 58

... but this subject had galled the good-natured young fellow a little, ... rebecca Harding Davis

gang, n. II, 496

... this pioneer "gang" of Chinese ... w. f. g. shanks

gang, n. I, 150

... and some distance behind these another gang, who complete the work. w. gladden

gathering, n. I, 41

Thirty-four gatherings of the wards have been held ... Mary L. Dodge
gauchery, n., awkwardness

Those Americans . . . smacked by their gaucheries, . . .

J. G. Holland

gawk, n., simpleton; booby

"What a good-for-nuthin' gawk you air, Ben Lamson."

Edward Eggleston
gear, n., apparel

All his worldly gear was in one cotton handkerchief.

Edward Eggleston
general (abbrev. genl.), n.,

This smitten one was Genl. Jed Huntington.

D. O. C. Townley
genteeler, adj.

"I thought it would be genteeler for the boys and Romy."

Rebecca Harding Davis
gentry, n.

It frequently happened that the silver of the neighboring gentry and well-to-do farmers was intrusted to him to cipher.

D. O. C. Townley
get off, y.

One ... was warned ... and the other got off with a year's imprisonment.

J. R. Thompson

get on, y.

"I get on better'n I did at the hard school down in town."

Mary E. Dodge

get up, y.

... elegantly got up notebook ... 

H. T. Tuckerman

get up, y.

And most of 'em won't have any regular meals for two days beforehand, so as to get up an appetite.

G. Hamilton

get up a plot, y.

... while they are doing their best at getting up plots among the children ... 

Mary E. Dodge

ghost of a chance, n.

But he doesn't stand the ghost of a chance.

J. G. Holland
ghoul, n.  

But suddenly he was assailed by a troop of unwholesome ghouls.

S. G. W. Benjamin

ghoul-like, adj.  

... the ghoul-like voices of the miners coming out of the gloom ahead ...

W. Gladden

giddy, adj.; foolish  

She had gone, flirting and giddy, into the world she now lived in ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

gig, n.  

... the doctor's gig, ... dashes down the road.

J. G. Holland

gimp, n.  

The bench can be made ... of common wood, as a trimming of fringe or gimp ... will conceal every part except the legs ...

J. G. Holland

gingham, adj.  

... high-necked gingham aprons.

Mary E. Dodge
glad, adj.
we were glad of the picture.
Mary E. Dodge

gladiolus, n.
The gladiolus has its foe.
J. G. Holland

glancing, adj.
But beyond all these were . . . stupendous precipices, and glan-
ing pinnacles.
N. P. Langford

good deal, adv.
. . . it [cottage] reminding us a good deal of those graceful
chalets . . .
D. O. C. Townley

good-for-nuthin', adj.
"what a good-for-nuthin' gawk you air, Ben Lemson."
Edward Eggleston

goodish, adj.
. . . this goodish honesty she talked about . . .
Rebecca Harding Davis
It was ... odder still to see another boy pressing seams with a big "goose."

Mary E. Dodge

goose, n.

... they are soon forced to the wall.

F. C. Bates

governor, n., father

The governor forked this up ...

Elise Woodruffe

grain, n.

... had he possessed a grain of humor.

Gilman P. Briggs

grain of allowance

Bridger ... has been so much in the habit of embellishing his Indian adventures, that they are received by all who know him with many grains of allowance.

N. P. Langford

grasshopper, n.

... an army of moths and grasshoppers rose from the sedge before him ...

Rebecca Harding Davis
grated, adj.

From the grated windows there was a fine view.

J. R. Thompson

graver, n.

... he abandoned the graver ... for the pencil and palette.

D. O. G. Townley

green, adj.

... he has done enough to keep his memory green ...

D. O. G. Townley

greenbacks, n.

Dirty greenbacks were all that were left her with which to touch hers [child]

Rebecca Harding Davis

grid, n.

... those elegant state-rooms, those washtubs and iron "grids."

J. G. Holland

grind, n., a task master

Whether the old grind guessed something of Ben's plans of running away I cannot tell.

Edward Eggleston
gripe, v. II, 620

... the vessel ... "griped," that is had a tendency to fly into the wind ... 

S. G. W. Benjamin

grit, n. II, 434

... for I knew something of your grit ... 

J. G. Holland

grog-hole, n. I, 537

Grog-holes, billiard saloons, ... were all patronized. 

F. C. Bates

grog-shop, n. II, 236

Home influence ... keeping a man from dissolute companionship and the grog-shop. 

J. T. Headley

gross, n. I, 63

... he was shrewd enough to see that, in the gross, his education was better than the girl's. 

Rebecca Harding Davis

gulp, n., catching of the breath I, 63

"... let her have her own way," with a gulp.

Rebecca Harding Davis
gush, n.  II, 490

The robin's joyous gush . . .

Edmund C. Stedman

gutter, n.  I, 66

Miss Vaux is . . . too clear-sighted to throw herself into the gutter in that fashion.

Rebecca Harding Davis
hack, n.  
... we emerge ... and are put into a hack.

J. G. Holland

haggle, v., to wrangle, dispute  
They chaffer and haggle, each afraid of the acute powers of the other, until their bargain is complete.

Thomas Emmette

hallo, n.  
I walked up the beach and over the rocks, and halloed feebly.

I. I. Hayes

halloo, v.  
Desor hallooed to know if it were broken ... 

J. T. Headley

halloo, n.  
A loud halloo was responded to by a dozen sympathetic voices.

N. P. Langford
Every Spring-time a certain number of collections are brought to the hammer.

J. G. Holland

"How old are your youngest hands?"

Julia A. Holmes

... most of the members hang about the hall.

J. R. G. Hassard

She was accordingly convicted and hanged.

J. G. Holland

... he made a handsome fortune.

D. C. C. Townley

Mr. Ritchie realizing handsomely by the sale.

D. C. C. Townley
hangs a tale

... and hereby hangs a tale.

D. C. C. Townley

hap-hazard, adv.

They are then distributed hap-hazard ... 

J. G. Holland

happy-go-lucky, n.

... even children invested ... in ... shares of the "Happy-go-Lucky" ... company.

F. C. Bates

hard, adj.

You're not as hard and stern-looking as one might suppose.

Mary E. Dodge

hard, adj.

... New Zealanders are hard drinkers.

F. C. Bates

hard-mouthed, adj.

... and these mules are hard-mouthed.

Adeline Trafton
... loafers, and hard-up individuals of all classes.

F. C. Bates

hasty-pudding, n.

This semi-fluid was boiling ... much after the fashion of hasty-pudding ...""

N. P. Langford

have out, v.

Many a morning did Susie come to our house to "have out" the good cry ..."

E. Woodruffe

heading, n., a horizontal passage in a mine

About fifteen men are employed at this heading ..."

W. Gladden

headspring, n.

... he literally performed three of the most wonderful backward headsprings ever recorded.

N. P. Langford

head-quarters, n.

His "head-quarters" were on the railway or in the saddle.

Mary L. Dodge
heady, adj.

... intoxicated her like a draught of heady wine.

Rebecca Harding Davis

healthy, adj.

It is a healthy sign ... when cities begin to estimate their relative importance by the size of their lungs.

Newton Crane

heap, n.

... but there's a heap of philosophy in the text.

J. G. Holland

hearthstone, n.

The hearthstone is an enormous block of trap rock.

Charles Dudley Warner

heart of hearts

... and if ... in your heart of hearts, you are innocent ...

J. G. Holland

heat, n., ardor or passionateness

His heat and chagrin made him deaf ...

Rebecca Harding Davis
heave, v.

It was a simple truth . . . yet at this day Europe heaves to it . . .

J. T. Headley

Heaven save the mark

Heaven save the mark! If there was anything on earth I did not like it was a "superior" woman.

Julia G. R. Dorr

hector, v., to bluster; to swagger

I envy the chap who can hector it over the waiter on the strength of a bill of 15 cents.

J. G. Holland

help, n.

The family proper consisted of the father, . . . , and Huldah, the "help."

Edward Eggleston

hepatica

. . . in yonder woods, where hepatica, and May-blossoms, . . .
twinkle into life.

J. G. Holland

hey-day

Hey-day, my darling, where now?

Saxe Holm
higgledy-piggledy

Higgledy-piggledy, the big, the little, the light, the heavy, are dumped in the hall.

J. G. Holland

high-bred, adj., having good quality

The dress... was... as high-bred and aesthetic a triumph in its way as a fine picture.

Rebecca Harding Davis

high hand

Let them see to it, who are today taking high hand and loud voice to teach...

J. G. Holland

high sounding, adj.

... we might lend a higher sounding name than cottage.

D. C. G. Townley

highway, n.

The observant stroller along the highways and byways of the metropolis... 

E. E. Sterns

hireling, n.

... a sort of hireling whom Miss Vaux employs.

Rebecca Harding Davis
hirsute, adj., shaggy

... and his hirsute front, which gave him a weird seeming.

J. G. Holland

hitch, v., agree

So we hitch along, canvassing as we go ... .

G. Hamilton

hitch, v., to tie up

Here we unsaddled and hitched our horses.

N. F. Langford

hock-glass, n., a colored wine-glass

"Dry or wet, Mr. Dort? Indifferent, eh? Adolph, a hock-glass!"

Rebecca Harding Davis

hof

... as they ... disappear at the entrance of the--hof.

Adeline Trafton

hold office, v.

... no one but a clerk can vote or hold office in the institution.

J. R. G. Hassard
home-spun, adj.
The days of ... home-spun cloth have vanished.

W. George Beers

homestead, n.
In many parts ... the homesteads and runs are not very comfortable-looking places.

F. G. Bates

honestly-shotted, adj., loaded with shot
It was an honestly-shotted and not a blank cartridge repute.

W. G. Wilkinson

hop, n., dance
In a hotel "hop" one will see half the girls with partners of their own sex.

J. G. Holland

horsey, adj.
One ... is prancing on, champing the bit, horsey from head to toe.

J. G. Holland
From that hour the revenge of this man, whose hot French was mixed with relentless Indian blood...  

Edward Eggleston

There are many negro women among the mysterious "hot corn" sellers.

E. E. Sterns

Cuban recognition... was a pending subject of discussion in the House...  

L. E. Crouse

she was most probably a servant or housekeeper...  

Rebecca Harding Davis

"Well, well, don't be huffy."  

Mrs. E. A. Walker

... he met the fellow going to be hung...  

J. G. Holland
idea, n.  
But every person had the idea that rich gold-fields existed there.

F. C. Bates

ilk, n., the same person or persons; the same thing

... you can turn your back upon certain other things, ... from Pagman and those of that ilk ...

J. G. Holland

ill at ease

But he was ill at ease.

Rebecca Harding Davis

ill-conditioned, adj.

Once there was, on the contrary, an ill-conditioned youth ...

Mrs. E. A. Walker

immense, adj.

... the air-chamber is of immense strength.

A. S. Twombly
impracticable, adj. II, 114

... but as the beach of the lake was in many places impracticable...

M. P. Langford

imregnated, adj. II, 15

We crossed a stream strongly impregnated with alum.

M. P. Langford

inaudible, adj. I, 458

... blushes inaudible pink ...

J. G. Holland

in charge, in keeping I, 46

The Institution has had some very bright negroes in charge.

Mary E. Dodge

incoming, n. II, 607

... I regarded his incomings and outgoings ...

Albert Webster, Jr.

inconsequent, adj. II, 434

Dicky's sermons were rather inconsequent ...

J. G. Holland
incubation, n.

... the two or three hours needed for the incubation of an idea.

Rebecca Harding Davis

Indian corn, n.

Indian corn is raised only for green food ... 

F. C. Bates

indifferent, adj.

... the price agreed upon ... was but indifferent payment for the time he gave.

D. C. G. Townley

ingraft, v.

... to ingraft the system upon long-established colleges ...

Alexander Hyde

in order to

... in order to their full organized development.

Horace Bushnell

in plenty

"... and there are clean paths in plenty."

H. T. Tuckerman
in point. II, 670

... are cases in point.

J. G. Holland

ins and outs I, 362

... he knew all the ins and outs of the girl's heart ...

Edward Eggleston

insinuate, n. II, 551

This dust insinuates itself into the carpet ...

J. G. Holland

in-shore, adv. I, 59

... they were pushing rapidly in-shore.

Rebecca Harding Davis

instalment, n. I, 41

... receiving and distributing fresh instalments of children ...

Mary E. Dodge

installment, n. I, 584

... the amount advanced being refunded ... in easy instalments.

F. G. Bates
instance, v.

To complete the exposition . . . we may instance the Hordaunt divorce case.

J. G. Holland

instance, n.

Members were initiated at the instance . . . of anxious office-seekers.

J. R. G. Hassard

intemperance, n.

... the sad results of intemperance.

J. G. Holland

in the clouds

... many members speak only in their own language, and the important measures are debated "in the clouds."

W. George Beers

in the neighborhood of

The Commissioners expended . . . in the neighborhood of nine millions of dollars.

W. Gladden

inventory, v.

... and trousseaus are inventoried by the daily prints . . .

J. G. Holland
inwoven, adj.

... the inwoven branches of the trees ...

H. H. McFarland

iron-clad, n.

Afterwards he constructed fourteen iron-clads for the United States.

A. S. Twombly

ironwood, n.

It lodged in the top of an ironwood.

Edward Eggleston

irritative, n.

... the people are ignorant of the effect of such irritatives.

J. G. Holland
jack-straw, n., bits of wood, ivory, or bone used in playing a game

I, 53

... mallets thrust at him like a medley of jack-straws.

Mary E. Dodge

jail, n.

I, 541

He was placed under arrest... he declared his own house was a jail...

F. C. Bates

jail-bird, n.

I, 129

... it may be said that "jail-birds" is not necessarily a term of reproach.

J. R. Thompson

jam, v.

II, 172

... until there is no room to jam another in.

A. E. Twombly

jam, n.

II, 235

The back and the jams are built up of great stones...

Charles Dudley Warner
jasm, n.  
When a man has genuine "jasm" and irrepressibility ...  
J. G. Holland

jaundiced, adj.  
... the whole clerical fraternity is awry in the jaundiced vision of the critic.  
Samuel W. Duffield

Jersey (New Jersey), n.  
... we were dragging with us what they called in Jersey a "carry-all."

J. S.

jib, n.  
Both gaff topsails and the jib were carried away in the squall.  
I. H. Hayes

jibe, v., to swing around  
... a boat ... tacked and jibed silently ...  
Rebecca Harding Davis

jibe, (gibe), n., sail, push  
Richard gave the boat an impatient jibe.  
Rebecca Harding Davis
job, n.

"All who get through their job before the bell rings . . ."

Mary E. Dodge

journeyman, adj.

... evidence of poverty of thought in execution and journeyman rashness and coarseness . . .

J. G. Holland

junk, n.

Vessels and Japanese junks, dismantled off the coast of Japan . . .

T. B. Maury
katydid, n. 1, 164

The katydid began to drone on the bark.

Rebecca Harding Davis

kelp, n., seaweed 1, 60

... a woman was picking up bits of kelp.

Rebecca Harding Davis

kerosene, n. 1, 557

... afterwards the streets were lighted with kerosene, and still later with gas.

F. C. Bates

kin (can), v. 1, 165

"Kin I ask you how you purpose to manage it, ma'am?"

Rebecca Harding Davis

knack, n. 11, 103

Salad mayonnaise requires experience and a certain knack.

J. G. Holland
Vienna and Nuremberg send their knick-knacks, consisting of pipes, purses, ...  

Thomas Emsette

The spray of the sea ... in little concretions or knobs of salt on hedges ...  

T. B. Maury

The gentlemen gathered in a little knot at a little distance.  

Trafiton

Knots and scarfs of this beautiful stuff are already plentiful.  

J. G. Holland

There is ... a very healthy dread of Russia in all English minds ... but there is no knuckling down ...  

J. G. Holland
La, interj.

Let we haven't half committees enough.

G. Hamilton

labor movement

... a dissertation on ... the "labor movement."

W. C. Wilkinson

lack-luster, adj.

A pair of blue, lack-luster eyes ... .

Susan Coolidge

lager, n., beer

They ... live on 'mahogany break' ... and a glass of lager.

E. E. Sterns

lager-beer, n.

It is true that Italy sends us more organ-grinders, and Germany lager-beer brewers.

F. H. Horton
lampoon, v., satirize, lash

... who would even lampoon his friends when they came to see his works.

J. G. Holland

lamp-wick, n.

... there was a strong smell of partially extinguished lamp-wick ...

J. R. Thompson

landscapist, n.

... and then a second-rate landscapist enters their body.

J. G. Holland

landsman, adj.

They were always laughing at my landsman ways.

I. I. Hayes

landsman, n.

Now this to a landsman may seem a very simple affair ... 

F. C. Bates

lash, v.

Our provisions ... were securely lashed to the backs of twelve bronchos.

N. P. Langford
lay up, v. I, 51

... no longer necessary ... to lay the vessel up in dock ...

T. E. Clark

lead a life I, 41

Others are partners and clerks ... leading useful lives.

Mary E. Dodge

learning, n. I, 36

"First-rate learning," put in the other.

Mary E. Dodge

learnt, v. II, 147

... and the master ... learnt the true state of the case.

Thomas Emmette

leathern, adj., made of leather II, 15

A thick leathern glove was no protection to the hand.

N. P. Langford

leave, n. II, 623

... secretly permitting him to draw breath without their leave.

S. G. W. Benjamin

legalism, n. II, 186

We charge, then, that legalism in the pulpit has had its day.

Samuel W. Duffield
legal tender, n.

The recent legal tender decision of the United States Supreme court...

J. G. Holland

legitimate, v.

But he insists that they shall legitimate their conclusions.

J. G. Holland

lend, v.

... we might lend a higher sounding name than cottage.

D. O. G. Townley

lesser, adj.

Besides these there are half a score of lesser parks...

Newton Crane

letter, n.

... he kept his promise to the letter.

Mary E. Dodge

levee, n.

"... I wore it at a levee of General Jackson."

H. T. Tuckerman
liable, adj., likely

... books are not liable to be misplaced.

J. R. G. Hassard

license, n.

The performance of the least amount of labor, with greatest degree of license ...

F. H. Horton

lick, v., strike or give blows

"You bet he licks 'em!"

Mary E. Dodge

life-boat, n.

The life-boat was launched ...

F. C. Bates

lighter, n.

Large vessels are obliged to ... discharge their cargoes into lighters.

F. C. Bates

like to be

When the duties to be laid are like to be only a temporary loss

Horace Bushnell
llama, a cloth made from the llama's hair

J. G. Holland

line, boundary

W. Gladden

Linea, sprays of Linea

Saxe Holm

lingo, language

H. T. Tuckerman

list, we rode away whither we listed.

J. S.

live, the "advanced" preacher selects a "live" subject

W. C. Wilkinson
live stock, n.

... numerous young children and other live stock ...

W. Gladden

loafer, n., an idler

... merchants, brokers, loafers, and hard-up individuals of all classes.

F. G. Bates

lobby, n.

... the lobby forces at the Capitol ...

Horace Bushnell

locust, n., a name given in America to some species of cicada

The locusts droned ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

lodge, n., a tribe or family

... twenty-five lodges of Crows had gone to the valley a few days before ...

N. P. Langford

lodge-pole, n.

The marks made in the soil by the travais (lodge-poles) ...

N. P. Langford
log, n., the record of a ship's voyage

... this in his hand was a mysterious "log" ...

I. I. Hayes

log-roll, n.

They log-roll, as it is called, in combinations of causes or even of party forces.

Horace Bushnell

longer, adj.

For longer purses there are hard woods in all combinations ...

J. G. Holland

long-lived livyer

You were to be a "long-lived livyer."

J. G. Holland

look after, v.

Aunt Judith ... "looked after" the household affairs ...

Edward Eggleston

look a dagger, v.

The women ... look daggers over at the two lonesome, unhappy men ...

G. Hamilton
look in the face

... it became necessary for the government to look the possibility of war square in the face ... 

L. L. Grouse

lookout, n.

"... they're on the lookout."

Mary E. Dodge

loom, v.

... this land, which I soon saw looming out through the thick atmosphere.

L. L. Hayes

loose the jesses

Then they "loose the jesses of the tongue," and while eating indulge in free and cheerful conversation.

H. H. McFarland

lop-ear, n.

... discovered that all which interfered with the man's happiness was a lop-ear on the near mare.

Samuel W. Duffield

lop-sided, adj.

... the unreasonableness of this one-eyed and lop-sided logic.

J. G. Holland
lord it over, v.

. . . feudal princes of Japan, who lord it over the masses of the people . . .

Gilman P. Briggs

lots, n.

"Yes'm. Lots of 'em breaks loose and runs away."

Mary E. Dodge

lounge, n.

The boys went . . . to sleep, one on the loungs, and one on the floor.

Edward Eggleston

lounge, v.

. . . a street stretching at right angles to the one along which I was lounging.

W. L. Alden

loverhood, n.

She had forgotten absolutely nothing excepting the loverhood of her lover.

Saxe Holm
luggage, n.  I, 587

... another sea swept over us, carrying away ... all the lug-
gage ... 

F. C. Bates

lumber, v.  II, 172

Immense omnibuses ... come lumbering along.

A. S. Twombly

lyceum, n.  I, 566

The best lyceum speakers are always secured ... 

J. R. G. Hassard
mad, adj., angry

"... he was mad and came to me and said, 'Huldah, you must eat when the rest do.'"

Edward Eggleston

maiden-hair, n.

... a maiden-hair shall rear and nod its delicate fronds.

J. G. Holland

main-chance

... what has turned us now to this new advocacy but the main-chance argument of selfishness ... ?

Horace Bushnell

Maine law, n., a law against the making and selling of liquor

... it originates with the friends of the Maine law ... 

J. G. Holland

maize, n.

Maize and other seed were brought ... 

F. C. Bates
make as though, v. II, 392

I made as though I did not see him . . .

Adeline Trafton

make expenses I, 119

"... I can hardly make expenses."

E. E. Sterns

make money I, 529

But the farmers all say that they can make no money . . .

F. C. Bates

maladresse, n. I, 498

The maladresse with which she hesitated and then came to meet him . . .

Trafton

mansard roof, n., a roof having two slopes on all sides I, 498

It has so far caught the spirit of modern times as to don a man-
sard roof . . .

Trafton

mansion-house, n. II, 275

... past some fine mansion-houses with steep roofs . . .

Louisa Bushnell
mantle, v., blush

... and blooming lassies... cheeks mantling with the roses of health.

S. G. W. Benjamin

manufactory, n., a factory

But the city grows, and with it its manufactories.

Newton Crane

mark, n.

They caught him there—acted up to the mark—and he kept his promise.

Mary E. Dodge

marl, n.

They had talked of fishing and marl.

Rebecca Harding Davis

marquetry, n., inlaid work, as in furniture

... a curious bit of marquetry in the form of a chair.

J. T. Headley

master-piece, n.

Well may the great master-pieces of his countrymen exercise an influence on the soul of every German.

Thomas Erneste
May-blossom, n.

... in yonder woods, where hepatica, and May-blossoms...

twinkle into life.

J. G. Holland

meanness, n.

... place of crimes, and institutions, and miseries; heroisms,

meannesses...

J. G. Holland

measure-worm, n.

... the measure-worm with the elm-foliage...

J. G. Holland

meeting-house, n.

The road in front of the meeting-house was crowded...

J. G. Holland

megrim, n., a kind of sick or nervous headache

Dispepsia is first cousin to the megrims.

Edward Spencer

melt into tears

... I melted into tears.

J. R. Thompson
mendaciously, adv., deceptively

... father, adding mendaciously, "we thought we would not disturb you..."

Mrs. E. A. Walker

mercandise, n.

... river waiting to bear ... his merchandise to New York.

W. Gladden

merchant, n.

Merchants and shop-keepers were not long in following the diggers to a new "rush."

F. C. Bates

mercantile, adj.

Others are partners and clerks in prosperous mercantile firms...

Mary E. Dodge

middling, adj.

... but the middling and lower classes verge upon the vulgar.

W. George Beers

midriff, n., the diaphragm

... he was frequently found with the feat half accomplished, resting upon the midriff..."
million of dollars

... to the amount of a million of dollars.

A. S. Twomey

minatory, adj., threatening, menacing

A minatory growl warned us of the near approach of a mountain lion.

N. P. Langford

minikin, n.

A fashionable note, whose irregular scrawl has consumed two of the minikin sheets...

J. G. Holland

ministry, n.

If the ministry are missing in the world's battle they ought to be rushed to the front.

Samuel W. Duffield

mischance, n.

This sad mishance completely demoralized Trench.

J. R. Thompson

mission chapel

His church was only a mission chapel...

Trafton
mite, n.  
I, 65

He had, in the mite of a heart, hidden ... a queer aching fondness ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

mobocracy, n., government of or by mob  
II, 63

... to introduce into the political system of our large cities the worst features of European mobocracy.

F. H. Horton

moccasin, n.  
II, 254

... offering importunately to sell "hompoes"--moccasins--to her father ...

Edward Eggleston

modicum, n., a small quantity or portion  
II, 212

The following day she had her modicum of gin and died.

J. G. Holland

money, n.  
I, 141

... one ... charged him with embezzlement of the moneys and diamonds intrusted to him.

J. R. Thompson
money-getter, n.  

... from the low standpoint of the vulgar money-getter.

J. R. G. Hassard

money-wise  

... and so come at last to be worth more, even money-wise, than placers of gold.

Horace Bushnell

moneywort, n.  

... smaller plants--mignonette, ... moneywort.

J. G. Holland

monitor, n.  

... since the fleet only consisted of his flag-ship the Severn, and the monitor Saugus.

L. L. Crounse

monkery, n.  

... their monkeries and nunneries, and relics and shrines are sinking to decay.

J. G. Holland

moot, v., to debate; discuss; propose  

Several plans have been mooted for forming a channel ...
mortar, n. II, 17

... thundering sounds... likened to frequent discharges of a distant mortar...

M. F. Langford

mossbunker, n. I, 60

"I have an idea," kicking it seaweed critically, "if the essence was extracted—as they do with mossbunkers."

Rebecca Harding Davis

mot, n., a pithy or witty saying II, 428

... and his one mot was calling the climbing devotees... the ne plus ultra of superstition.

H. T. Tuckerman

muddy, v. I, 58

The boat pushed along, muddying and cutting the fungus-like growth...

Rebecca Harding Davis

mulct, n., a fine or penalty II, 279

... the mulct or forfeit was made a large one...

R. W. Wright
"Obstinate old mule," she said inwardly.

Rebecca Harding Davis

... it does not provoke the mulishness of human nature to resist the truth.

Samuel W. Duffield

For it seemed to her that she was Fanny Dott again, in white muslin and pink sash ...

Rebecca Harding Davis
nag, n. II, 321
Instead of the forlorn nags that . . . were spurred into spasms of activity . . .

J. G. Holland

National Legislature, n. II, 94
Not only in the National Legislature, but in several of the State Legislatures, bills have been introduced.

J. G. Holland

naturalize, v. I, 596
Another of the representatives got naturalized . . .

F. C. Bates

navvy, n. II, 223
Ginxt's a "navvy," or out-door laborer.

J. G. Holland

near, adj. II, 187
. . . a lopt-eear on the near mare.

Samuel W. Duffield
needle-gun, n.

A needle-gun, • • • a pair of revolvers • • • completed the personal outfit • • •

N. P. Langford

negro, n.

A negro newsboy would be as great a rarity in New York as a black swan.

E. E. Sterns

negro minstrel, n.

• • • a company of American Negro Minstrels.

F. C. Bates

neither

Yet it is not strange neither • • •

Edward Spencer

net, v.

Mrs. Vaux was • • netting • • at some gaudy enormity of zephyr and beads.

Rebecca Harding Davis

new-comer, n.

All new-comers, • • • are medically examined • • •

Mary E. Dodge
New-England, n. I, 143

... New England is divided from the rest of the country ...

W. Gladden

New Englander, n. I, 55

... he left the parental roof ... as so many New Englanders had done before him.

Mary E. Dodge

new-fangled, adj. II, 519

This idea ... is no new-fangled idea.

Alexander Hyde

news-dealer, n. I, 115

The news-dealer ... stocks his stand ...

E. E. Sterns

news girl, n. I, 124

Here is a little news girl ...

E. E. Sterns

New Yorker, n. II, 37

There is another class of little New Yorkers ...

Mary E. Dodge
nidanoding, adj.

... glimpses of animated faces and nid-nodding bonnets.

J. G. Holland

nobler, n.

... dealings of poison at twenty-five cents the "nobler" (a drink, or small glass of liquor).

F. G. Bates

noise, v.

... and nothing transpires that is not immediately noised abroad.

J. G. Holland

nominate, v.

Yes, she is beautiful; you nominate her.

G. Hamilton

no mistake

"And Mary is splendid, and no mistake."

Edward Eggleston

nonce, n.; temporarily

... condescend to accept my horse for the nonce ...

Susan Archer Weiss
non-oomeatable, adj., not capable of being come at, or attained. II, 405
.. which are delicate enough .. to suggest .. the fairer ones of the Venus non-oomeatable.

D. O. C. Townley

none the less, adv.

But none the less does she find time for humble nooks ...

J. G. Holland

nor'easter, n.
The nor'easter was steadily rising.

Rebecca Harding Davis

northing, n., a north declination

... the brig failed to make the desired northing.

S. G. W. Benjamin

northward of

Northward of the college ... lies a circular flower garden.

H. H. McFarland

nothing daunted

Nothing daunted by moving cakes of ice ...

W. George Beers
noticeable, adj., important

But long before this noticeable event came about ...  

D. O. O. Townley

now-a-days, adv.

why, it's as precious now-a-days as molten gold.

Rebecca Harding Davis

numismatic, adj., pertaining to the science of coins

I knew one trapper who was a student of numismatics . .

Edward Eggleston

nutshell, n.

"And now there is the whole matter in a nutshell."

Rebecca Harding Davis
odds and ends  

... and odds and ends of interest hide the table covers.

D. C. C. Townley

of, prep. (in place of by)  

... in a climate favored of Heaven.

N. P. Langford

off-hand, adj.  

... a certain downright manner and an off-hand air of generosity...

J. G. Holland

office-boy, n.  

... and he was installed as office-boy.

Mary E. Dodge

office-seeker, n.  

Members were initiated at the instance ... of anxious office-seekers...

J. R. G. Hassard
off-look, n.  
First, a little east of our off-look, there projected ... a square 
stupendous tower ... 

J. S.

offscouring, n.  
... every Protestant is counted but the offscouring of decent 
society.

J. G. Holland

old-fashioned, adj.  
simultaneous blasting ... more effective than the old-fashioned 
method.

W. Gladden

on all-fours  
... passage so low that a person can creep through it only on 
all-fours.

Newton Crane

one-quarter  
... the piers of the other only about one-quarter as high.

A. S. Twombly
on my soul

I believe on my soul, what I suspected before . . .

Mrs. E. A. Walker

on the spot

. . . I'll make a fuss on the spot.

Edward Eggleston

oride, n.

. . . a lavish display of pure oride.

W. George Beers

other day, m., a few days ago

I had a letter from her the other day.

Rebecca Harding Davis

out-building, n.

. . . we fitted up some bunks in an out-building near the store.

F. C. Bates

outfit, n.

A needle-gun . . . completed the personal outfit of each member of the expedition.

M. F. Langford
outgoing, n.

... I regarded his incoming and outgoing ...

Albert Webster Jr.

out-Grundy Grundy

They even out-Grundy Grundy ...  

J. G. Holland

out in the cold, without certain advantages

That is the price which Massachusetts consents to pay rather than be left in the cold.

W. Gladden

outlay, n.

... the visitors would flock there ... in such numbers as would soon repay its outlay.

J. R. G. Hassard

out of date

"The furniture is dreadfully out of date ..."

Rebecca Harding Davis

out of sorts

Peter Bloch ... was out of sorts.

Susan Archer Weiss
out-of-the-way, adj.  
It was one of those out-of-the-way corners of the world...  
Rebecca Harding Davis

over-dress, n.  
... which is popular for bonnets, over-dresses, and hat-trimnings.  
J. G. Holland

overglossed, adj.  
To a well-bred man it would have been overglossed and stagey.
Rebecca Harding Davis

overtop, v.  
... his head overtopping his haunches.  
N. P. Langford

oyster-bed, n.  
Were oyster-beds and New York trade, and the boat, the real things after all?  
Rebecca Harding Davis
pack, v., to convey, carry

---

... all goods are packed on horses from the coast towns.

F. C. Bates

packer, n., one who loads pack-horses for a journey.

---

The dexterity with which a skilful packer will load and unload his horses is remarkable.

N. F. Langford

pack-train, n.

---

General Washburn detailed four of our company to guard the pack-train.

N. F. Langford

palliate, v., to cover with a mantle or cloak; disguise

---

... and while it does not palliate our sins it secures our acquiescence in condemning them.

Samuel W. Duffield

paly, adj.

---

... her magnificent hair of "paly gold" gleamed in the tender light.

Julia C. R. Dorr
... Hans takes home a paper-bag full ...

E. B. Sterns

parlor, A., sitting room

We went back to the parlor.

Our host was resting, half asleep.

Mary E. Dodge

parlor, A., best room

And your plants, too—I can't think how you make them grow so well in a parlor.

parquette, A.

... deal forms were arranged on the ground floor, and divided off into pit and parquette.

F. C. Bates

partridge berry, A., creeping wintergreen

... where he knew the partridge berry was ready ...

Saxe Holm

part-song, A.

Next came a part-song by a dozen or more picked singers.

Mary E. Dodge
party, n.  a person

Very few of these claims ... were taken up by parties who intended working them.

F. C. Bates

passel, n.  

"If you want to be a boy and trot off with that air passel of fools."

Edward Eggleston

passer-by, n.  

... coins that the swift current of passers-by tosses now and then upon his little commercial beach.

E. E. Sterns

paste, n.  

These paste and powder people here aren't fit for a young man who wants a woman.

Edward Eggleston

paste, adj.  

... the paste jewelry dangling from her neck and ears.

Rebecca Harding Davis

pasteboard, n.  

In the first a soiled fan ... ; in another a ... and a pasteboard box.

Mary E. Dodge
paunchy, adj.  I, 65

He had, ... hidden somewhere under the ... and paunchy breast, a queer aching fondness for the woman ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

daw, n.  I, 159

The touch of it, ... lingered on the man's rough paw.

Rebecca Harding Davis

day, v.  II, 408

"To use an expressive Americanism," says Mr. Jarvis ..., Central Parks day."

J. R. G. Hassard

pearl-divers, n.  I, 29

The pearl-divers not only run the risk of drowning ...

T. E. Clark

pearl-fishery, n.  I, 25

For this reason the pearl-fisheries are the theatre of dreadful struggles, ...

T. E. Clark

peep-show, n.  II, 146

... acrobats are in full activity, flanked by peep-shows ...

Thomas Emmette
A few little fellows on benches were busily pegging away at their work.

Mary E. Dodge

he had the hardihood to introduce the first of Wels' pegging machines against a determined strike.

Wm F. G. Shanks

... the frantic bois brules, fleeing pell-mell down the hill...

Edward Eggleston

... and does not charge a penny!

Rebecca Harding Davis

... and it is time that he were relieved of the lampoons of ill-natured correspondents and penny-a-liners.

J. G. Holland

... to... be content with the poor results obtained on pennyworths of copper.

D. Q. O. Townley
phrenzy, n.

We admit that we could wish for it a few bursts of such spontaneous phrenzy.

J. G. Holland

physic, n.

... if physic and physicians failed then ...

Edward Eggleston

picayune, adj., worth only a triple

His conduct brings no discredit on his older and staider conferees in the picayune traffic of the sidewalk.

E. E. Sterns

pick, v.

John did not like Amanda's assuming to pick a wife for him ...

Edward Eggleston

picked, adj.

Next came a part-song by a dozen or more picked singers.

Mary E. Dodge

picket-men, m., guards

This divided the labor among fourteen, who were to serve as picket-men twice each week.

N. P. Langford
Bathing, driving, ..., and picnic have given a healthful tone to the sea-side ...

J. G. Holland

Regarding this as a mere piece of affectation ...

H. T. Tuckerman

A boy, just out of pinafores.

Trafton

One day this ... man ... was recounting to him how he had pinked Lieutenant Schell the evening before.

J. R. Thompson

It was, ..., not so usual a craft in that sea as many others, being sharp at both ends, of the form known among seamen as a "pinkie."

I. I. Hayes

His little army sailed in pinnaces down Narraganset Bay.

Benson J. Lossing
"You ought to be careful, Remy," piped Mrs. Vaux.

Rebecca Harding Davis

Amid a number of pithy sentiments ...

S. G. W. Benjamin

"Something curious: to be ranked with the sea-horse that you dried, or the plaice with both eyes on one side, eh?"

Rebecca Harding Davis

"... good services done by him to the interests of the British Plantations in America."

Newton Crane

It is, however, somewhat difficult for the Florida farmers, or planters, ... to get their potatoes to market ...

W. Gladden

He went on for a while, calculating silently how many oysters would be needed for planting next week.

Rebecca Harding Davis
platform, n.

... all good men and women will find themselves upon a common platform, and the questions which agitate us now will have vanished.

J. G. Holland

play-ground, n.

Was it only the boys of the institution going to their play-ground?

Mary E. Dodge

pleasure-grounds, n.

Cincinnati and Chicago will soon have attractive pleasure-grounds

... Newton Crane

plumb-line, adj.

... to delineate the plumb-line uprightness of these mighty precipices.

J. S.

plummets, n.

The plummet is the oldest and simplest instrument for ascertaining the depth of the ocean.

T. E. Clark
... and plumped her brown arms into the suds again.

J. G. Holland

ponyphaeton, n.

If you refer to drive yourself, you and Frances can go in the ponyphaeton, and I will send Thomas down on foot ...

Mrs. E. A. Walker

posset, n., a beverage of hot milk curdled by some strong infusion

... was making a goat's-milk posset ...

Susan Archer Weiss

practice upon, v.

I have met with many trappers, but never one who was not fond of practicing upon the credulity of those who listened to his adventures.

N. P. Langford

prairie-dog, n.

... we may hope that this little owl, ... may also be so capable of gratitude as to resist the attractions of tender little prairie-dogs.

B. G. Wilder
preachment, n.

... the prelude to a sensible and genial preachment of temperance.

E. E. Sterns

president, n.

The modesty of the manner in which the President does his duty ...

L. L. Crouse

press, n.

In the older part of the cemetery, ... is the grave of ... one of the ... contributors to the press of Philadelphia.

Newton Grâné

presto, adv.

I had it re-framed the other day, and presto! it is another picture.

Trafton

pretty, adv.

... they obtained the names of a pretty fair roll of members.

J. R. G. Hassard

prevision, n., foresight; foreknowledge

It must have been in prevision of this base requital ...

Mrs. E. A. Walker
Prickle, v.

Spiria and hawthorne prickle with minute leaves adown their brown branches.

J. G. Holland

Print, n.

... and trousseaus are inventoried by the daily prints and spread before the country.

J. G. Holland

Prose, v.

He had fallen into the habit, therefore, for years, of prosing to himself about this unknown mother of Dick's...

Rebecca Harding Davis

Prosecute, v., to carry out

This barrier prevented Captain Reynolds... while prosecuting an expedition.

N. P. Langford

Proser, n.

... nor is the staid and sombre proser our typical clergyman.

Samuel W. Duffield
prospecting, adj.

In 1861 a man named Gabriel Reed went out on a prospecting tour, and discovered the precious metal . . .

F. C. Bates

purveyor, n., one who provides

Furthermore, . . . city servants do not trust these street purveyors beyond the kitchen door.

E. L. Sterns

pudding-faced, adj.

. . . the burden of some mighty scheme among them rests upon a pudding-faced, gaping-mouthed youngster.

Mary E. Dodge

pudding-stone, n.

. . . a thick stratum of cement and gavel resembling pudding-stone.

N. P. Langford

puffery, n.

It was a world made up of . . . and puffery and perpetual brag.

Rebecca Harding Davis

punt, n., flat bottomed boat.

We threw the punt to him, but did not see whether he was able to reach it.

I. I. Hayes
puny, adj.

The tools . . . cannot be wielded by puny people.

Charles Dudley Warner

purblind, adj.

Which is also purblind folly.

Rebecca Harding Davis

push, n.

What a queer way your country servants have of pushing themselves.

Edward Eggleston

put in, v.

"You bet he licks 'em!" put in another.

Mary E. Dodge

put out of the way, v.

It was not an uncommon thing . . . out in the world, for a certain class of children to be put out of the way.

Rebecca Harding Davis

put to a vote, v.

... and when the question was put to a vote of the whole body... the anti-removal party carried the day...

J. R. G. Hassard
put to rights, \textit{v}.

\ldots so the spars and rigging had been thoroughly overhauled and put to rights.

puzzle, \textit{v}.

"But there was a secret in that story of your birth that I ken't puzzle out yet."

Rebecca Harding Davis

pocket-money, \textit{n}.

\ldots as to pocket-money, my poor father, \ldots, was always behind-hand with my monthly allowance.

E. Woodruffe

point-no-point, \textit{adj}.

\ldots the advanced preacher \ldots beats about his impertinent hour in a point-no-point dissertation.

W. C. Wilkinson

poky, \textit{adj}.

"\ldots this room is; a great deal larger than the poky little sitting room in Fifteenth Street."

Rebecca Harding Davis
But he doubtless thought it politic to give him a holiday.

Edward Eggleston

The polls open on the third Tuesday in May at eight o'clock in the morning, and close at nine P. M.

J. R. G. Hassard

"'pon, ma'am, I believe they count for everything!"

Rebecca Harding Davis

Besides, he is as poor as a church-mouse.

E. Woodruffe

Dunedin has a benevolent asylum, but no poor-houses (or workhouses, as they are called in England).

F. C. Bates

... the sort of hat which we believe is called pork-pie.

J. G. Holland
porridge, n.

While the engineers were floundering in the porridge at the west end ... 

W. Gladden

position, n.

"How the devil am I to have position and style?"

Rebecca Harding Davis

post, n.

Their "posts," or places where horses are changed ... 

J. T. Headley

postage stamp, n.

Blank forms are obtained from the Post Office Department ... bearing on one side a two-cent postage stamp ... 

J. R. G. Hassard

postal order, n.

Of late years a postal order scheme has been perfected ... 

J. R. G. Hassard

postillion, adj.

Bodies are pointed in front and lengthened into postillion basques behind. 

J. G. Holland
President, m.

The modesty of the manner in which the President does his duty...

I. L. Crouse

press, m.

... one of the contributors to the press of Philadelphia.

Newton Crane

print, m.

... and trousseaus are inventoried by the daily prints and spread before the country.

J. G. Holland

prose, v.

He had fallen into the habit... of prosing to himself about this unknown mother of Dick's...

Rebecca Harding Davis

prospecting, adj.

In 1861 a man named Gabriel Reed went on a prospecting tour and discovered the precious metal...

F. C. Bates

put to a vote

... and when the question was put to a vote of the whole body the anti-removal party carried the day...

J. R. G. Hassard
quadrupedal, adj.  
... in others we became quadrapedal.

J. S.

Quaker-lady, n.  
... in yonder woods, where hopatica, and May-blossoms, and Quaker-ladies twinkle into life.

J. G. Holland

quench, v.  
... it was exceedingly difficult to quench the flame.

A. S. Twombly

quietus, n., a check upon one's activity  
Now was a good opportunity to give Langton his quietus.

Rebecca Harding Davis

quite, adv.  
On this occasion the number present was estimated to be about sixty thousand.

Newton Crane
quizzical, adj.

... he threw us a quizzical look ...  

Mary E. Dodge

quota, n.

The Emerald Isle furnishes a large quota to the ranks of these street-merchants.

E. E. Sterns
raft, n.

A floating log might suggest a raft or a boat . . .

J. T. Headley

rag-tag, n.

. . . the ordinary bewilderment of scraps and rag-tag of thoughts cleared away from her brain . . .

Rebecca Harding Davis

rail, n.

. . . the slight hand resting upon the rail of the Spanish saddle.

Adeline Trafton

rail-fence, n.

. . . as he scampers along the rail-fence to or from a clump of oaks.

J. G. Holland

railroad, n.

The western merchant, arriving . . . by railroad or a canal . . .

H. Gladden
railway, n.

The millions of acres of fertile land which are being opened for cultivation by our new and extensive lines of railway...  

F. H. Morton

ranch, n.

We rode to the solitary ranch of the brothers Boileler.  

N. P. Langford

ratan, n.

...violent measures are never allowed... beyond a few strokes with a light ratan.

Mary E. Dodge

ratchet, n., a wheel

A ratchet upon the cylinder turns the piston....  

W. Gladden

raw, adj.

He was thinking of what a confoundedly uncomfortable day it was.  

Rebecca Harding Davis

raw-boned, adj.

She was not like the raw-boned women he knew.  

Rebecca Harding Davis
reach, n.
II, 111

Now by twilight through smooth reaches, and broad still pools. . .

J. G. Holland

red-letter day, n.
II, 253

... she counted those red-letter days . . .

Edward Eggleston

red tape, n.
II, 302

The demand was . . . complied with as soon as the Spanish red tape would allow.

L. L. Crouse

reformatory, n.
I, 40

European reformatories retain children for a much longer period than ours.

Mary E. Dodge

relish, n.
I, 364

The steady advance of the popular relish for Thackeray is unmistakable.

J. R. G. Hassard

remove, n.
II, 339

Another place to be admired is at no great remove from the college.

H. H. MacFarland
rent-roll, n.  
II, 210

There was even a youthful nobleman with immense rent-roll . . .

J. G. Holland

repeater, n.  
I, 366

. . . repeaters changed their coats and hats after every vote . . .

J. R. G. Hassard

reprobate, n.  
I, 140

This gifted man was sad reprobate, whose self-indulgence led him into numberless scrapes.

J. R. Thompson

Republican, adj.  
I, 303

. . . the country—particularly the Republican part of it— . . .

L. L. Crouse

resolution (resolution—sp.), n.  
II, 8

We made a fresh resolution to travel as much in company as possible.

N. F. Langford

revivalist, n.  
II, 628

". . . you don't mean that roistering revivalist whom you wouldn't let me go and hear preach last winter . . .?"

Mrs. E. A. Walker
... and we as naturally associated the riant, joyous, serene loveliness of Raphael's canvases. 

Edward Spencer

rid (rode), v. I rid on.

Thomas Dunn English

rig, n. 

... the major and his four sons were in strict sail or rig.

Rebecca Harding Davis

right about face

... the men working there turned right about face as soon as we left our young hay-makers.

Mary E. Dodge

right back

"They mostly get brought right back, though, by the 'liceman."

Mary E. Dodge

right of way, n.

Now it appears that it is necessary for a railroad to obtain the right of way...

W. Gladden
roadstead, n., place where ships may rest in safety

... and the merchant vessels in the roadstead had time to provide
... against all risks.

T. B. Maury

roasting-spit, n.

... and a roasting-spit is turning in front.

Charles Dudley Warner

rock-bound, adj.

It batters down the rock-bound shore with relentless force.

T. E. Clark

rock-candy, n.

... the specified part of the agate looks like ... ice or rock-
candy.

J. G. Holland

rockery, n.

At its foot is a rockery, covered with creeping vines.

Newton Crane

rote, n.

... we could hear ... the deep rote of the long ocean swell.

S. G. W. Benjamin
rough, adj.

"But your fisherman is dreadfully rough, I suppose."

Rebecca Harding Davis

rough, n.

... even while "rough ing it" in the first days of a new gold rush.

Rebecca Harding Davis

round, n.

"You see us in the rough, sir . . . ."

Rebecca Harding Davis

round, v.

Once, when she rounds a corner, . . . . she hesitates and turns back.

Trafton

roundabout, n.

... swings, roundabouts, wildbeast shows, and acrobats are in full activity.

Thomas Emmette

round-about, n., a boy's jacket

He told him he ought to stop growing and wait for his round-about.

Edward Eggleston
rumshop, n., [colloq.]

He talked . . . showed them how they might . . . keep their employees away from the rum-shop and the billiard-room.

J. R. G. Hassard

run, n.

Before the discovery of gold-fields . . . but the profits were so large that a good run would be taken up . . .

F. G. Bates

run, v.

. . . the expense of "running the government" can be readily imagined.

F. G. Bates

run, v.

The pearl divers . . . run the risk of drowning . . .

T. E. Clark

run, v.

. . . he would "run" his moralities with the same vim that he does his vices.

J. G. Holland

run in, v.

. . . we steamed along slowly, so as to run in at daylight . . .

F. G. Bates
The problem has to be settled by continual ruses . . . without a spectator to compassionate the sorrows of the vanquished.

T. B. Clark

Merchants and shopkeepers were not long in following the diggers to a new "rush."

F. C. Bates

The pyramids of russets that lately rose on every side . . . are beginning to grow small.

J. G. Holland
sacque, n., a coat

Dick's stout figure in his sacque and trousers of brown tweed.

Rebecca Harding Davis

saloon, n.

A policeman listens to the noises of rude revelry.

E. E. Sterns

salvo, n.

... two batteries of artillery ready to fire a salvo.

J. T. Headley

saucepan, n.

With the saucepan, the Lucca oil he improvised a lamp.

J. R. Thompson

sayings, n.

There was nothing in her sayings or doings that I could quarrel with.

Julia C. R. Dorr
scallop (scallops), n.  

... the perfect shading of the scallops forming it.  

N. P. Langford  

scalp, n.  

... expected to send home Indian scalps as trophies ...  

Benson J. Lossing  

scapegrace, n.  

... our scapegrace was pardoned.  

J. R. Thompson  

scarce, adj. (for adv. scarcely)  

Scarce a stone's throw from his present home ...  

D. C. G. Townley  

school-house, n.  

On the right of the road ... is the school-house ...  

W. Gladden  

schooling, n.  

And here the usual experience of schooling is reversed.  

J. G. Holland
schoolmate, n.
She had been a schoolmate of his... 

Edward Eggleson

scrape, n.
... self-indulgence led him into numberless scrapes.

J. R. Thompson

scrimpy, adj., niggardly
How is a man to live... if all his guests are such scrimpy eaters!

J. G. Holland

scull, v., to propel a boat with a scull or oar
I sculled on with the same resolution as before.

I. I. Hayes

scuttle, v., to cut a hole in a boat
when you are at the other shore, out of reach of help, scuttle your boat...

Rebecca Harding Davis

seascape, n.
You know that landscape or seascape I picked up last year?

Trafton
... all of whom live with their parents in a single second-story room.

E. E. Sterns

section, n.

... we used to pass a thicket of pines on a hillside, a "section" that had been left there when the adjoining fields were cleared.

J. G. Holland

sell, n.

He was indignant at the mutilated antiques and called them a "sell."

H. W. Tuckerman

Senator, n.

There was a foreshadowed feeling of discontent among certain Senators...

L. L. Crouse

set, adj.

"They're so set in their way of teaching down here."

Mary L. Dodge

set, n.

And the Vaux boys? And their set on Fifth Avenue...

Rebecca Harding Davis
set on foot

... he had been robbed ... and "set on foot" by having his horse and provisions stolen.

M. P. Langford

settee, n.

"We want a committee," whispers Mrs. A, from one end of the settee.

G. Hamilton

set to rights

Romy, ... laughed at her mother, ... and began to set her to rights.

Rebecca Harding Davis

settlement, n.

Several settlements were formed on the east coast ... 

F. C. Bates

shade, n.

... with their divergent characteristics and different shades of manner.

W. George Beers

shakedown, n.

Not even a "shakedown" on the floor could be got in any of the hotels ... 

F. C. Bates
... Romaine Vaux has lived on sham and varnish until one would think her soul loathed it.

Rebecca Harding Davis

shanty, n.

The place consisted of about twenty shanties ...

F. C. Bates

sharp, adj.

"But there's lots of chances all the time, if you're sharp."

Mary E. Dodge

sheep-farming, n.

Sheep-farming ... is rather a drawback than otherwise to a country.

F. C. Bates

sheer, n.

... at length she took a sudden sheer to one side, and ... the water rushed in at a fearful rate.

I. I. Hayes

shift, n.

... there are three relays, or "shifts" as they are called ... 

W. Gladden
shirt-sleeves, n.

"I remember when he would come in ... and sit in his shirt-sleeves."

Rebecca Harding Davis

shoal, n., a school of fish

... and unprecedently large shoal of mackerel were running in.

Rebecca Harding Davis

shop, n.

They had been shopping together ... 

E. Woodruffe

shop-girl, n.

... and shop-girls stop their chattering ... to fill their reticules.

J. G. Holland

shoppy, adj.

The narrow and inconceivably "shoppy" habits of the Royal Academy ...

J. G. Holland

short-handed, adj., having insufficient workers

... but there were many ships in the bay that were short-handed ...
show white feather

... England has not shown the white feather before her formidable foes...

J. G. Holland

showy, adj.

... his first interested desire to marry a showy wife.

Edward Eggleston

shuck, n.

"The matter is, sir that those darkies... won't be worth shucks."

shut up shop

... he found that he must either "shut up shop" or employ Chinese.

Wm. F. G. Shanks

side-walk, n.

... when out on the side-walk driving his dog before a little wagon.

Mary E. Dodge

side-whiskers, n.

A large florid man with English side-whiskers advanced...

Rebecca Harding Davis
silvern, adj.  II, 323

... at home in the very scenes where their silvern infancy was passed...

J. G. Holland

sing, v. (sung, p.t.)  II, 14

we laughed and sung.

N. P. Langford

sing-song, adj.  II, 656

Another and another ... utter a few sing-song sentences ...  

J. G. Holland

sitting-room, n.  I, 192

"Undignified as ever!" said Amanda as she returned to the sitting-room.

Edward Eggleston

sit to  II, 428

... the way to get a good expression when sitting to an artist.

H. T. Tuckerman

skulker, n.  II, 98

There will always be skulkers, and the ingenuity of man will never suffice to hunt them out.

J. G. Holland
slat, n.  

A tiny sun-beam crept through the slats and fell on the floor.

Saxe Holm

sleazy, adj., thin, almost worn through  

She was not like the raw-boned women he knew, in their sleazy pick calicoes.

Rebecca Harding Davis

slender, adj.  

"Whisky Jim" ... with two or three Yankees, completed the slender crowd ...

Edward Eggleston

slip, n.  

... we consolwed ourselves with the resolve quietly to give him the slip on our arrival.

H. T. Tuckerman

slum, n.  

... one of the wretches who burrow and hide in the back slums of our towns.

Trafton

smart, adj.  

... he did like the prospect of meeting a smart girl ...

Edward Eggleston
snuggery, n., a small room or den

This is an artists' snuggery, sure enough.

D. C. C. Townley

soda water

Each has a counter, ... ice-cold soda water being the very best beverage ... 

E. E. Sterns

sojer, v.

... for the habit of "sojerine", bad as it is, is to be preferred to that premature stiffening of the brain ...

J. G. Holland

solid, adj.

To poke a wood fire is more solid enjoyment than almost anything else ... 

Charles Dudley Warner

so many

Land estimated at so many thousands of dollars per square foot ... 

Newton Crane

sorry, adj.

... and for the moment we became sorry rivals.

Albert Webster, Jr.
souse, adv.  
... when souse came a pail-ful of slop-water on our heads.

Alexander Hyde

South, n.  
... the colored population of the South.

F. H. Norton

southwester, n.  
A southwester took us towards Sable Island ...

S. G. W. Benjamin

spirit lamp  
... attempts have been made to use an oil or spirit lamp ...

T. E. Clark

splutter, v.  
Suddenly it began to splutter ...

N. P. Langford

spooney, adj.  
It is not in our little back parlor ... that this man of fashion is to become spooney.

E. Woodburn
spur, n.
We ascended the spur of a mountain.
N. P. Langford

spy, v.
We spied two boys within, raking hay.
Mary E. Dodge

squabble, n.
... but it is a degrading squabble ...
J. G. Holland

square off
Sometimes he startles and shames one of the fighting kind by
"squaring off" at him, on the spot.
Mary E. Dodge

square toe, n.
You are such an economical old square toe ...
E. Woodruffe

squatter, n., a person settling on land without a legal title
Squatters from the neighboring colonies ... took up large tracts of land.
F. C. Bates
stage-ride, n.

... and the stage-ride over the mountain is the grand feature of the journey.

W. Gladden

stagey, adj.

She is often stiff and "stagey."

J. G. Holland

stake out, v.

The country was about all staked out ... .

F. G. Bates

stamp, n., money

Carefully extracting a new ten-cent stamp ... places the money in the outstretched palm of the little seller ... .

E. E. Sterns

stand by

You see I stand by my principles.

Edward Eggleston

staple, n.

It ... furnishes them with the staple for many tales full of daring exploits.

N. P. Langford
State Legislature, n.

Not only in the National Legislature, but in several of the State Legislatures, bills have been introduced . . .

H. G. Holland

States, n.

It is supposed by many in the "States" . . .

S. G. b. Benjamin

steam-tug, n.

. . . two steam-tugs were ordered to the assistance of the San Francisco.

T. B. Maury

stone-coal, n.

. . . stone-coal, cinders, and clinkers formed the mass at the bottom.

A. S. Twombly

stone-dead, adj.

I looked down upon the one stone-dead beside me.

I. I. Hayes

stone's throw

Scarcely a stone's throw from his present home . . .

D. G. C. Townley
strike, v.

Did it never strike you that there were necessary blessings...  

J. G. Holland

strike the nail on the head  

Dort had a habit of striking the nail on the head without the least concern as to where the point went.  

Rebecca Harding Davis

stuff, adj.

Are you about to assume a stuff gown and plain bonnet?  

Trafton

stuff, n.

Knots and scarfs of this beautiful stuff are already plentiful.  

J. G. Holland

stump, v., confound, puzzle  

"But I will stump you yet, "doctor,""...  

Edward Eggleston

subject in hand  

They also insist on illustrations of the subject in hand.  

Samuel W. Duffield
suffrage, n.

The man who more than any other engages the suffrages of the
Academy-goers.

J. G. Holland

sun-bonnet, n.

There is a wrinkled old woman in a green sun-bonnet.

E. E. Sterns

Sunday-school, n.

... the house is occupied on Sunday by two Sunday-schools.

W. Gladden

supple-jack, n., a creeper growing in damp soils, usually attached
to trees

From the limbs hang hundreds of supple-jacks.

sure enough, adv.

This is an artists' snuggery, sure enough.

D. C. C. Townley

sure-footed, adj.

... these mules are sure-footed.

Adeline Trafton
surplusage, n.

His ascendancy must overflow with an ample surplusage.

W. G. Wilkinson

sutler, n., one who follows an army and sells provisions

Dunedin was well supplied with these sutlers to the digger army.

F. C. Bates

swag, n.

Princes street . . . was crowded with diggers, many of whom had their "swags" (tents, blankets, etc.) on their backs . . .

F. C. Bates

swagger, n.

The life-long swagger had been completely cowed out of him.

Rebecca Harding Davis

swamp, n.

. . . the water could have rushed down and . . . swamped us.

F. C. Bates
tack, v., to change the direction

... a boat with a spectral sail tacked and jibed silently as a ghost.

Rebecca Harding Davis

tail-board, n.

The springs are good, the box is shallow, and the tail-board lets down with a couple of hinges.

E. E. Stetson

take, v.

Often when the rivers are beginning to "take" or freeze ... 

W. George Beers

take stock

He "took stock" in a moment of all my economical arrangements ... 

Ellice Woodruffe

take things easy

The citizen now counts his gains, puts his house in order, takes things easy once more.

Thomas Emmett
You think of ... taking to the peanut business.

J. G. Holland

taking off

... it was papa's own particular iniquity ... which brought upon us all the miseries of her "taking off."

Mrs. E. A. Walker

tallow-candle, n.
The feeble flicker of the tallow-candle ...

Charles Dudley Warner

tame, adj.

All that we had previously witnessed seemed tame in comparison with the perfect grandeur and beauty of this display.

N. P. Langford

tarpaulin hat

... I discovered ... a tarpaulin hat.

I. I. Hayes

team, n.

... they were at once organized into "teams" of three ...

Wm F. G. Shanks
tea-water, n.

"Better be a tea-water man's horse, in New York, than a portrait painter anywhere."

D. C. C. Townley

temperance, n.

... he made a tour of the Union, teaching temperance.

E. B. Sterns

tenement-house, n.

... dwellers ... most of whom began life ... in the dingy shops and tenement-houses ...

Traffon

tent, n., to lodge

... one of the city people who came down for a whim to tent on the beach.

Rebecca Harding Davis

Territory, n., a region in U. S. prior to admission to statehood II, 2

Our ride ... through a well settled portion of the Territory was accomplished in four days.

N. P. Langford

text-book, n.

The pupils of the second and first classes study from advanced text-books.

Mary E. Dodge
Thanksgiving Day, M.

But now, as Thanksgiving Day drew near ...

Edward Eggleston

the thing

... so it must be "the thing," and inevitable, like Destiny.

J. G. Holland

threw, n.

Mauprat ... sympathized in threw and muscle with its progress.

J. G. Holland

thick-set, adj.

... a knot of partridge-berry vines thick-set with scarlet berries.

Saxe Holm

thorough-bred, n.

... a numerous stud of thorough-breds of imported stock was kept.

Newton Crane

through-cut, n.

... the level over which the Suez "through-cut" from sea to sea has been constructed ...

W. C. Stoddard
tiarella, n., a small genus of saxifragaceous herbs

Tiarella leaves just tipped with claret color...

Saxe Holm

ticket, n.

... the "Regular" ticket triumphed by a majority of 175.

J. R. G. Hassard

tickled to death

Any girl would be tickled to death to have me use her things to ornament my room.

W. Gladden

tide-water, n.

... these rivers are at precisely the same height above tide-water...

W. Gladden

tidy, n.

Very pretty tidies are made nowadays...

J. G. Holland

timber, n.

Hills covered with timber slope down to the water's edge...

F. C. Bates
time-piece, n.

There is order in a time-piece, he says.

Mary E. Dodge

tippet, n., a scarf or muffler

I... got my cap and a faithful little woolen tippet...

Albert Webster, Jr.

tippler, n.

It is not because they are tipplers themselves, or because they lack acquaintance with the said result of intemperance.

J. G. Holland

tip-top

"You never will learn wisdom, Jack, and buy your things tip-top."

Ellice Woodruffe

toady, v.

... she... sits listening to the Major toadying one man and bragging to the next.

Rebecca Harding Davis

tobacco, n.

Many other details of the work in tobacco... are performed by boys and girls.

Julia A. Holmes
What in tunket are you making such a to-do about it for?

Mrs. E. A. Walker

toe, v.

... toes for clams, eh?

Rebecca Harding Davis

tomahawk, n.

... the invaders ... swarmed into fort with gun, sword, and tomahawk.

Benson J. Lossing

tomahawk, v.

Instead of sparing the lives of these men ... the Maoris cruelly tomahawked them all.

F. C. Bates

toothsome, adj.

The most unlikely things turn out the most toothsome.

J. G. Holland

top-knot, n.

There is a strain after pinnacles and towers and top-knots in architecture ...
topsy, n.

I had seized the opportunity ... to rob my own disheveled crimps of a pair of little topsies, and rolled her soft chestnut hair over them.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

torpify, v.

The minister ... probably torpifies you with the ten-thousandth iteration of some doctrine ... .

W. C. Wilkinson

to the point

There was a necessity for him to speak to the point now ... .

Rebecca Harding Davis
tow, n., the coarse and broken part of flax or hemp

The wires which conduct the current enter the lamp by traversing a non-conducting plug of tow.

T. E. Clark
township, n.

Sunday afternoon I went up to a digging township on the bank of a river ... .

F. C. Bates

track, n.

... the track is to be laid up toward the mountain.

W. Gladden
trail, n., path

Following the slight Indian trail . . .

N. P. Langford

tramp, n.

The true soldier, as he seizes knapsack and musket for the tramp . . .

William Wells

tramway, n.

A rough tramway running out to the brink . . .

W. Gladden

trapper, n.

It was not pleasant . . . to be told by a trapper . . . that he had been robbed . . .

N. P. Langford

trick their beams

The very churches take on airs and "trick their beams."

J. G. Holland

tricky, adj.

Betwixt thy tricky spirit and the stars . . .

Edmund C. Stedman
truckle, v., to yield to another

On one side was Romy’s plan ... truckling to the Major ...

Rebecca Harding Davis

try, v.

Their children’s great delight is to try a new teacher.

Mary E. Dodge

tuft, n.

... said the other, tugging violently at a tangled tuft as he spoke ...

Mary E. Dodge

tuition, n.

... he was prepared for college under the tuition of Horace Bushnell.

D. O. C. Townley

tuque, n., a kind of warm cap

... and the peculiar worsted cap called a "tuque".

W. George Beers
Having pondered over all of these things carefully, ... I turned in, trusting to fortune for the future ... 

Trafton

Over-worked boys are not prone to patronize turning-poles.

Mary E. Dodge

"Repented of my misdeeds and turned over a new leaf."

Trafton

"Tut-tut, it's only my joke."

Rebecca Harding Davis

... his forefinger travels post-haste through the pockets of his waistcoat in search of a stray two-cent piece.

E. E. Sterns

The manner of his delivery was ... twitchy.

J. G. Holland
umber-brown, adj.  

... many-hued mosses, gold-flecked, ... deep-green, umber-brown.

J. G. Holland

unconversant, adj.  

... one unconversant with the material would hardly believe it to be the same in all the pictures.

J. G. Holland

unfit, v.  

... he deprecated any set system that unfitted inmates for subsequently mingling with the outside world.

Mary E. Dodge

Union, adj.  

The most curious flower-stand in New York is kept ... by a Union soldier.

E. E. Sterns

Union, n.  

... he made a tour of the Union.

E. E. Sterns
United States, n.

... gentleman who proposed ... to reconstruct the map of the United States ...

W. Gladden

unloose, v.

He stooped to unloose the rudder ... .

Rebecca Harding Davis

unreason, n.

... the most obdurate in passion and in unreason can, if he try, pursue ... .

Edward Spencer

unschooled, adj.

... that millions of children are growing up unschooled .

J. G. Holland

unwisdom, n.

... victims to the unwisdom of our school conductors.

J. G. Holland

up

"Then you up and say so," says Mrs. B ... .

G. Hamilton
up-country, adj. I, 526

Up-country store-keepers began asking accommodations... F. C. Bates

up-hill, adj. II, 406

But it was still up-hill work as far as money-getting was concerned. D. C. C. Townley

upon the spot I, 500

He was tempted to fall in love with her upon the spot. Trafton

upstart, n. II, 453

... ambitious upstarts, who mistake fluency for eloquence... W. George Beers

use up, v., exhaust I, 360

... he told me now... he had "used up" one woman's rights man... Edward Eggleston
vail, n.  II, 208

... the bride in her pearls and diamonds and long train and vail reaching to the ground.

J. G. Holland

verdancy, n.  II, 427

This offer ... at once enlightened us as to the verdancy of our uninvited guest.

H. T. Tuckerman

veto, v.  I, 191

All the plans ... that Huldan had entertained were vetoed ...

Edward Eggleston

vilifier, n.  I, 672

If ever there lived a professional villain of whom a professional vilifier could say ...

J. G. Holland

vogue, n.  I, 192

She could talk fluently about all the authors most in vogue ...

Edward Eggleston
voluntaryism, a.

The principle of voluntaryism renders the preacher pretty immediately independent.

W. C. Wilkinson

vowel-point, n.

The Hebrew language did not undergo the change effected by the introduction of the accents and vowel-points until ... 

R. W. Wright
waist-coat, n.

He dispenses with the vanities of waist-coat and neck-tie...

E. E. Sterns

walk of life

... artists and gentlemen prominent in other walks of life.

J. R. G. Hassard

wall street, n.

For many years... but last summer he... became a Wall street dealer.

E. E. Sterns

war-dance, n.

They begin their war-dance by jumping, clapping the hands on the thighs...

F. C. Bates

ward school

The range of study is about the same as that in the ward schools.

Mary E. Dodge
wasn't (wa'n't)  I, 289

"No, he wa'n't but a short time in the water . . ."

Rebecca Harding Davis

watering-place, n.  II, 655

... those who have visited the famous watering-places the past season . . .

J. G. Holland

water-rat, n.  I, 66

"These water-rats 'long-shore drink like fish."

Rebecca Harding Davis

water-works, n.  I, 226

Its southern extremity is at the Fairmount water-works . . .

Newton Crane

wavelet, n.  II, 295

I am not going to describe . . . that glorified cloud, and wave-

let, and mountain.

Julia C. R. Dorr

wax-work, n.  II, 262

... perhaps the young ladies will make wax-work.

Charles Dudley Warner
waylay, v.

I determined, therefore, to waylay him and form his acquaintance.

Albert Webster, Jr.

wayside, a.

We walked along, admiring the distance and gathering wayside flowers . . .

Mary E. Dodge

weanling, a.

How can a minister rebuke a sin of which he is as innocently ignorant as a weanling babe?

W. C. Wilkinson

wear, v., endure

How well he wears! As stately . . . as when Huntington painted him twenty years ago.

D. O. C. Townley

wear, n.

Lace, however, is the favorite wear.

J. G. Holland

weekly, a.

Here is a news-stand . . . and a pictorial array of . . . illustrated weeklies.

E. E. Sterns
weep a little weep

So, woman-like, I began to "weep a little weep."

Julia C. R. Dorr

well-bred, adj.

To a well-bred man it would have been overglossed and stagey.

Rebecca Harding Davis

well-nigh, adv.

... the broad hall, its walls well-nigh hidden by rare engravings.

D. C. C. Townley

well-to-do, n.

... sharp lines drawn between the well-to-do and the poverty-stricken.

Saxe Holm

West, A.

The commercial intercourse of New England with the West has been greatly obstructed ...

W. Gladden

wet, adj., permitting or favoring the sale of intoxicants.

"Dry or wet, Mr. Dort? ... Adolph, hock-glass!"

Rebecca Harding Davis
wet nurse

At nine o'clock the wet nurse brought the baby in . . .

Susan Holm

wetted

... is carefully wetted with a sponge . . .

J. G. Holland

what not

... springs, sprays, and what not.

J. G. Holland

teezy, adj.

... the epoch is barren of anything but ... wheezy odds to victory . . .

J. G. Holland

whilst, conj.

... whilst up at the castle there was to be . . . a grand feast . . .

Susan A Weiss

whim, n.

One of the old people who came for a whim to tent on the beach . . .

Rebecca Harding Davis
whip-lash, n. II, 172
... their driver shooting ... and playing his heavy whip-lash about their sides.

A. S. Twombly

white, n. I, 551
... many bloody engagements between the natives and whites.

F. C. Bates

whole-witted, adj. II, 684
It is an idiotic room, any way, with doors enough to bewilder a more whole-witted man than I.

Mrs. E. A. Walker

wigwam, n. I, 573
The wattlings of the wigwams were fired ...

Benson J. Lossing

wine-bibber, n. I, 674
The wine-bibber and the beer-drinker ... must be made to feel that they are socially disgraced by their habits.

J. G. Holland

withering, adj. II, 130
... the men were wavering under a withering fire from the heights they were storming.

William Wells
womanish, adj.  
Romy had never been so womanish, so yielding as today.

Rebecca Harding Davis

woman question  
... the preacher ... beats about ... in a ... dissertation on the "woman question."

W. C. Wilkinson

woman's righter  
We were discussing the woman question. I am a "Woman's righter."

Edward Eggleston
Y

Yankee, adj.  

... he ... won much reputation as a genuine "Yankee peddler."

E. E. Storns

Yankee, n.  

"Whiskey Jim" ... with two or three Yankees, completed the slender crowd ... 

Edward Eggleston

yolept  

"Once there was an amorous youth," yolept Clarence Hooper ... 

Mrs. E. A. Walker

yellow (yaller), adj.  

"Take that band of yaller paint off her."

Rebecca Harding Davis

Yosemite (Yo-Semite), n.  

Our preparations for visiting the great Yo-Semite Valley were of the most pioneer description.

J. S.
Bibliography


