

A STUDY OF THE DICTION IN CERTAIN STORIES BY  
MARY E. WILKINS (FREEMAN):  
A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORICAL DICTIONARY OF  
AMERICAN ENGLISH

by

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## PREFACE

"Keep a dictionary at your elbow," was the unforgettable advice of a favorite teacher of mine. What a heritage of mingled joy and grief she left me, my mathematics teacher and I alone know, for during those highschool days I spent many precious study-periods not only browsing but truly discovering in a shabby, dog-eared dictionary, when, according to the judgment of mature minds, I should have been delving into the intricacies of simultaneous equations or pursuing some unknown in its race toward infinity. (1) But "habit is ten times nature", so that habit persists. Words still fascinate me, and that dictionary-habit has developed into a thesis.

During my course in Elementary Old English, Dr. Josephine Burnham one day discussed the work that

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(1) James, William, Psychology. (quoted in Slater, John, Freshman Rhetoric, 1913 edition, p. 315)

Professor Sir William Craigie, of the University of Chicago, was doing on the Historical Dictionary of American English, and casually remarked that several graduate students at the University of Kansas were contributing to the prospective Dictionary by glossing material, literary or journalistic, which was considered typically American in both tone and vocabulary. Here was an inspiration! I, too, might make a slight contribution. Dr. Burnham approved my decision, and gave explicit directions for securing information from Professor Craigie. To my great disappointment I learned that he was in Europe, but the letter in which I enclosed a list of the books from which I wished to make selections for glossing, was answered by a research assistant, M. Mathews. At his suggestion I selected the following stories by Mary Eleanor Wilkins: (1) A New England Nun, A Village

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(1) Miss Wilkins married Dr. Charles Manning Freeman of Metuchen, N. J., January 1, 1902.

Singer, A Gala Dress, The Twelfth Guest, Sister Liddy, Calla-Lilies and Hannah, A Wayfaring Couple, A Poetess, Christmas Jenny, A Pot of Gold, The Scent of the Roses, and A Solitary. These twelve stories constitute the first 235 pages of the 1891 edition of A New England Nun and Other Stories.(1)

I found a first edition in the library at The Saint Mary College, Leavenworth, and became the possessor of the volume. I began glossing the stories, as directed, and, although prevented from doing consecutive work, I have succeeded in accumulating approximately 1100 words, --American words-- some of which have proved real "discoveries."

Rapidly, during all this time, my interest in words, especially in semantics, increased; simultaneously my interest in compilers and editors of dictionaries and glossaries grew apace. As an embryo

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(1) Published by Harper and Brothers, New York.

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writer wishes to see "what an author looks like," I wished to meet Professor Craigie, to talk with him. This I succeeded in doing, and as I sat in Room 409 in the Harper Memorial Library at the University of Chicago, during a snowstorm on March 19, 1932, and heard the internationally recognized Sir William Craigie discuss the compilation of the Historical Dictionary of American English, the American Dialect Dictionary, and the proposed Dialect Atlas, my interest widened, and I became intensely eager to get back to the University of Kansas and delve more deeply into the work on my thesis,--my contribution to this scholar's thesaurus of American English. Professor Craigie stressed the vastness of the work and the necessity of securing words from all possible sources. Amateurs, he said, frequently make the mistake of seeking only words which seem to them unusual, when often those in common use are much more significant. He emphasized, also, the value of

words peculiar to certain localities, citing some of the colorful words from the vocabulary of the Westerner. Many of these, he said, are found with surprising frequency in the diaries, letters, and records of the Easterners as well as in the local newspaper of the West, because the Easterners who moved to the new territory were not slow to adopt the speech of the gold-seekers, cattle-ranchers, gamblers and adventurers always associated with life west of the Mississippi.

The results of this interesting study could not have been accomplished without the kindly interest and assistance of those whom I take this opportunity to thank. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Josephine Burnham, who has given so unstintingly of her time and effort to direct and encourage me, and to check the glossary; to Dr. Edwin M. Hopkins for his timely suggestions; to Sister Mary Frances and Sister Leo Gonzaga, for assistance in proof-

reading and checking; to those in charge of the  
Harper Memorial Library at the University of  
Chicago; and of the Watkins Library at the  
University of Kansas.

Sister Mary Josepha

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## INTRODUCTION

### I Environmental Influence on Miss Wilkins' Diction

Sententiously enough John Macy wrote of Miss Wilkins, "Only an artist can do that,"<sup>(1)</sup> namely, accept life as it is and let it speak for itself. When in 1930 Mrs. Freeman died, she left no successor in New England.<sup>(2)</sup> As one piece of evidence for this statement may be noted the recent criticism of Edna Ferber's presentation of New England life in her novel, American Beauty.<sup>(3)</sup> No one could have felt the pulse of an isolated section of New England as Miss Wilkins had done. Bliss Perry only emphasizes this when he concludes that her world is not "a real world," but her own. "There is but one real world and that is God's world; ... what he [the novelist] calls the real world will be his

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(1) "The Passing of the Yankee," Bockman, v.73,p.618.

(2) Ibid. p. 617.

(3) Literary Digest, Dec. 5, 1931, v. 111, No. 10, p.14.

own world, ... a Thomas Hardy world, a Miss  
 (1)  
 Wilkins' world." Her opportunities for ob-  
 serving life were afforded by two country  
 towns, and during the impressionistic years  
 of her girlhood, by one only, Brattleboro,  
 (2)  
 Vermont. She was born in Randolph, Massa-  
 chusetts, a small town near Boston, in 1862,  
 the birthyear of O. Henry and of Margaret Deland.  
 Because of ill-health she was deprived of the  
 activities and associations of normal childhood,  
 so that as a girl her outlook was confined to  
 the household. Her sources of information were  
 the tales of gossiping women, who naturally  
 (3)  
 related family quarrels and dissensions.  
 "Like Emily Brontë, with whom in so many ways  
 she may be compared, she was almost wholly self-

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(1) A Study of Prose Fiction, p. 248.

(2) Thompson, Charles Minor, "Miss Wilkins: An Idealist  
 in Masquerade," Atlantic Monthly, v. 83, pp. 666.

(3) Ibid. p. 668.

educated and that in her own home. She was an imaginative child and early created for herself a world of her own from the materials of her reading ... This Hawthorne-like seclusion during a shy and dreamy childhood, this perpetual reading of poetry and old romance and far-off literatures, made upon her an indelible impression."<sup>(1)</sup>

The country town Miss Wilkins knew was in what Mr. Thompson has called "the third stage" of the development of New England. The first stage was obviously that of the founders; of the pioneers who came to the wilderness with faith, hope, and energy; the second, a state of isolated, humdrum ~~of~~ life, unbroken by an incident except the arrival of the stage-coach; a state in which personalities were weakened, narrowed, and deadened because men and women having no large matters to exercise naturally-active minds, gave importance to trifles, and lacking social life, grew morbid and

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(1) Pattee, F. L., Side-lights on American Literature, pp. 177-8.

wrong-headed. From such a town and from the lonely farms about it came the inmates of the two insane (1) asylums of Vermont. The third stage, that in which the telegraph and the railroad came, Mr. Thompson feels, should have well begun, but was not completed when Miss Wilkins lived in Brattlesboro. "With skillfully lavish use of homely detail" (2) did she present the trivial incidents of the life around her. "She was influenced, perhaps molded, by her times", wrote Professor Pattee. "The eighties, at the opening of which she began to work, stand in American fiction for 'local color'. In 1884, when her stories first began to appear in the Harper publications, the literature-of-locality tide, with its dialect and its strangeness of materials, was at its full." (3) Realizing that she must live by the fruits of her pen, and that there are fashions in literature as there are in dress, she had to be

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(1) Thompson, Charles M., Miss Wilkins: An Idealist in Masquerade; Atlantic Monthly, v.83, pp. 666 ff.

(2) Ibid. p. 669.

(3) Pattee, Fred Lewis, Side-lights on American Literature, p. 183.

aware of them or else write for posterity. She was not in a position to become a rebel even if she had so desired, so she began to make localized studies of the life about her, even as Miss Murfree and others were doing. (1) With her, however, the setting was interesting only for its effect upon the dwellers of her hill-country. She deals with the subtle influence of a hard, unlovely life upon temperament; she is the conscientious realist, who constructs her stories as carefully as Maupassant himself. In spite of the difference in moral angle, she writes more like Maupassant than any other American author. With her, the local-color story in English reached its highest point of finesse ... (2) Isolated, self-educated, Miss Wilkins "is one of the rare and vanishing crafts-women who progress by inspiration ... she joined to her first inspirational draft a professional finish." (3)

Her style is marked by extreme clearness. Her own sentences of French brevity, etch her clear pictures

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(1) Pattee, Fred Lewis, Side-lights on American Literature, p. 184.

(2) Canby, H. S., A Study of the Short Story, p. 85

(3) Williams, Blanche, C., Our Short Story Writers, p. 164

upon the mind of the reader. In her advice to The Girl Who Wants to Write she insists: "Above all things in the matter of style, strive for clarity ... if you lack complete mastery of a language use short sentences and simple words," and "if a writer in America ... carry (your) patriotism into (your) work; look upon the scene with American eyes and from an American viewpoint."<sup>(1)</sup> Truly, Miss Wilkins advised only after she had practiced the art of perfection and made her own contribution American. Though the reader may not be interested in the characters of her stories, he feels that he may "for twenty minutes, breathe the air of New England,"<sup>(2)</sup> so effectively do her stories present their setting. She had written the last act of the drama<sup>(3)</sup> that began at Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay.

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(1) Williams, Blanche, C., Our Short Story Writers, p. 180.

(2) Perry, Bliss, A Study of Prose Fiction, p. 314.

(3) Pattee, F. L., A History of American Literature Since 1870, p. 237.

II Miss Wilkins' Vocabulary as Reflecting  
New England Life

Miss Wilkins excels in presentation of detail.

Similar passages from two different stories will  
illustrate this:

The New England Nun, p. 2

Louisa had a damask napkin on her tea-tray where there were arranged a cut-glass tumbler full of teaspoons, a silver cream-pitcher, a china sugar-bowl, and one pink cup and saucer. (Notice the stress on china, when "ordinary" people were using crockery every day.)

A Gala Dress, p. 41

... their little square tea-table with its green-and-white china pot of weak tea, its plate of bread, and little glass-dish of butter, its two china cups, and thin silver spoons. (Frugality indicated in the "weak tea" suggests even more specifically than the first illustration.)

Though Miss Wilkins faithfully presented the New Englander, she makes a very careful distinction between the "real New Englander" and the "newcomer". In this passage from A Village Singer the typical New England female character is contrasted with the

character of the newcomer.

[Mr. Pollard, the minister] was incapable of understanding a woman like this [Candace Whitcomb, the singer] who had lived as quietly as he, and all the time held within herself the elements of Revolution ... He himself was not a typical New Englander; the national elements of character were not pronounced in him.

This is apparently the type that evolved in the character of Mrs. Penn, in The Revolt of Mother; an unprecedented evolution which seemed to surprise even the author who later admitted that Mrs. Penn was not "a real character".

Miss Wilkins belongs to a group of story-writers who work out their pictures with deliberate art. To the feminine reader she is especially gratifying because of the minuteness of detail she employs in describing the styles of dress. Most of the "gowns" and garments then in vogue have been "out of style" these many years; in fact many of them are so antique or perhaps merely obsolete, that they may be found only in a "fashionography."

## Articles of Dress and Adornment

"Wedding-garment" (12), Biblical enough, the reader passes by without question, but not so readily defined or identified are such articles of dress as print (3), rattan (149), spencer-cape (91), wrought lace (91), thibet (90), tier [apron] (83), tippet (91), alpaca (45), lutestring-ribbon (95), delaine (93), and barège. Occasionally, as in Sister Liddy, Miss Wilkins lists, through the dialogue of her characters, complete wardrobes, more specifically than a bride-to-be could list the contents of her trousseau.

Other words not as unfamiliar, yet belonging to an age that has passed, occur: scent [perfume] (94), shawl-pin (171), streamers (89), a sun-bonnet (150), cloth-gaiters (149), great trail [of a dress] (15), black mitts (150), feather-fan (91), tucks and laid work (95). Materials of which dresses were made are: silk, cotton, calico, gingham, delaine and cashmere. Flounces, tucks, laid-work, drawn silk, wrought lace are all used for trimming.

The simplicity of coiffure is unmistakable.

Hair was crimped, curled or "combed straight back". Betsey, the poetess, "wore her streaky light hair in curls like a young girl. The curls hung over her faded cheeks and almost concealed them." (143)

#### Houses and Household Furnishings

Intimate glimpses of the New England household are given in almost every one of the realistic sketches. The parlor or sitting-room, cool and darkened, is dignified with "stuffed furniture" (90), a lounge (73), and chairs with "hair-cloth arms" (24). An indispensable piece of furniture is "the parlor organ" (19). In the "entry", over against the wall, is a "card-table" (140). The carpet is "ingrain" (62); or, to indicate better financial conditions, past or present, of the inhabitants of the house, the carpet is a "Brussels" (90). Among the wall-decorations are "a framed sampler" (146), and "a steel engraving" (146). "Lace-curtains" on the windows; "wax flowers"

here or there; "pink shells" (148) and "chiny figgers" (91) on the mantel are the simple ornaments. The "autograph album" (4) represents the "hobby", and "Godey's Lady's Gift-Book", (4) the literary flair of the New England maiden. The "chimney-cupboard" (146) is an appreciated spot in the well-constructed home.

#### Flowers and Plants

Though New England presented many scenes of rugged beauty, of hill-side fields, of pointed firs, of colorful autumn and snow-bound homes in winter, Miss Wilkins seemed to have been largely oblivious of them. Her descriptive touches are inherent in and not appended to her story. The cold, barren features of the lowlands; clear spaces, corn-stubble, open fields, pastures, woodland and plow ridges,-- all she makes formidable, forbidding, never appealing or inspiring. She does not see or record more than a few of the numerous wild flowers that must have dotted

the pasture between the lonely farm and the deserted homestead. On the other hand, garden flowers blossoming in the door-yard she never neglects. As Minty and David [A Wayfaring Couple] leave their home forever, Minty does not fail to take a bit of its meager beauty with her:

Coming through her little dewy garden, Minty stopped and picked an enormous bouquet of zinnias, marigolds and balsams. (p. 125)

Betsey [A Poetess] admits, "I guess I've got more flowerin' beans than eatin' ones, anyway" ... I guess I planted sweet peas mostly." (p. 142)

Other plants and flowers Miss Wilkins mentions are: Sage-blows (142), portulaca (52), morning-glory (121), marigold (125), amaranth (167), balsam (125), rose-tree (24), life-ever-lasting (167), pink dog-bane (191), and sweet ferns (132).

#### Church Services

As one might conclude, the typical New Englander was a "church-going" individual, and none of Miss

Wilkins' characters were exceptions: Such terms as: communion-service (109), Sabbath (37), singing-seat (25), congregational-singing (32), audience-room (20), body-pews (108), women-singers (18), church-officers (18), paid musicians (19), prayer-meeting (26), settled-preacher (119), discourse (50), meeting-house (26), now rather remotely familiar, occur frequently.

#### Illustrations of Local Customs

The term, "selectmen", inseparable from political life, and "hastypudding", just as inseparable from the supper-table, remain distinctly characteristic of New England.

#### Articles and Terminology Characteristic of the Period

The following terms indicate articles now wholly or partly disused, or differently named: carpet-bag, ear-drops, featherbed, fire-place (in the kitchen), gold-headed cane, worsted hood, shawl-pin, a waterproof.

Although community singers no longer meet in singing-school, they do form a choral union. Occasionally one finds words that are not in general use today, though substitutes for them are common, e. g.

almshouse	now called the poor-house or poor farm
biddings	entreaties
blinds	shades
browned (skin)	tanned
cooking-stove	cook stove or range
meeting-bell	church-bell
state's prison	penitentiary or state prison
scent	perfume
shoe-deep	the word has apparently been lost and <u>ankle-deep</u> substituted
wood-sawyers	wood-sawers
spectacles	glasses
sage-blows	sage-blossoms

III Dialectal and Personal Peculiarities of  
Diction in the Stories Examined

H. L. Mencken, in his chapter on Spoken American As It Is, writes, "the dialect ... with its piquant neologisms, its high disdain of precedent, its complete lack of self-consciousness, is almost the antithesis of the hard and stiff speech that is expounded out of books. It derives its principles, not from the subtle logic of learned ... men, but from the rough-and-ready logic of every day. It has a vocabulary of its own, even a grammar of its own. Its verbs are conjugated in a way that defies all the injunctions of grammar books; it has its contumacious rules of tense, number and case; it has boldly re-established the double negative, once sound in English; it admits double comparatives, confusions in person, clipped infinitives ... it repudiates all the finer distinctions  
(1)  
between parts of speech."

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(1) Mencken, H. L., The American Language, p. 269

"This highly virile and defiant dialect, and not the fossilized English of the school-marm and her books, is the speech<sup>(1)</sup> of the characters in Miss Wilkins' stories.

So obviously does she illustrate the seven rules for Yankee dialect, prefixed by James Russell Lowell to the second series of the Biglow Papers,<sup>(2)</sup> that even a cursory reading of her stories reveals it. Her characters never give the rough sound to r when they can help it. They seldom sound final g or d; e. g. they say a-clawin', actin' as in ... "when you see other folks a-clawin' an' gettin' things an' actin' as if they was wuth havin'"(p.98). Curiously enough this one clause illustrates not only the tendency to drop

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(1) Mencken, H. L., The American Language, p. 270

(2) Lowell, James Russell, The Biglow Papers, Second Series, p. xxiv.

- (a) The genuine Yankee never gives the rough sound of r when he can help it, and often displays considerable ingenuity in avoiding it even before a vowel.
- (b) He seldom sounds the final g, a piece of self-denial, if we consider his partiality for nasals.
- (c) The h in such words as while, when, where, he omits altogether.
- (d) In regard to a, he shows some inconsistency, sometimes giving it a close and obscure sound, as hev for have, hendy for handy, ez for as, thet for that, and again giving it the broad sound it has in father, as hansome for handsome.
- (e) To the sound ou he prefixes an e (hard to exemplify except orally)
- (f) Au, in such words as daughter and slaughter he pronounces ah.
- (g) To the dish thus seasoned add a drawl ad libitum.

the final g and d, but the slighting of r and the prefixing of a in almost Chaucerian style.

The letter a is inconsistently used, sometimes representing a close and obscure sound as hev (103) and hed (124) for have and had; and again indicating a broad open sound as in darse (125) and arter (82) for dare and after. Nearly every word in the glossary to Lowell's Biglow Papers may be found in the vocabulary of the illiterate class Miss Wilkins depicts. Typically Yankee is the use of air, arter, fur (far), git, fust (first), hendy, jest (just), let on (confess), put out (provoked), riz (risen), sech, spry, bile (boil), airth (earth), peaked (pointed).

Another dialectic feature prevalent in the stories is the use of characteristic contractions that obliterate unaccented vowels, or the whole or part of an unaccented syllable, such as mor'n, older'n, on't, wa'n't, 'bout, 'most, 'scuse, side for beside. Expressions like "I s'pose he thought they couldn't

really prove anything ..." (106), "... it [the chiny figger] used to set side of the clock", (91), "I knew they'd hear on't." (111), "No, it wa'n't." (34) appear frequently.

Characteristically dialectic are Miss Wilkins' illustrations of grammatical peculiarities, "verbs confused as to tense, pronouns as to case; nouns and verbs disagreeing in number."<sup>(1)</sup> William Emmons come in to ask how you was"(34) ... "a boy just run; I saw him." (46) ... "It's cur'us how them oak leaves hang on." (82) ... "I don't see who he thinks he's spitin'." (185) ... "if anybody says so it's 'cause they're so spity." (165) ... "It's him", gasped Mrs. Childs. (79) "A girl don't light up like a rainbow" ... (184) ... "the vegetables is most ready to take up" ... (176) "Here's Alma and Wilson" ... (35) " I didn't know you was eatin' supper" ... (41). The omission of a word in a sentence occurs very frequently: What say? (34) Guess I'd better hitch up. (128) Betsey, you there? (141) Why, Mrs. Caxton! That you? (14) ... far's I can see. (172)

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(1) Mencken, H. L., The American Language, p. 276.

Another peculiarity contrary to present standard usage is found in the confusion of singular and plural forms, as: She has had her calla-lily five  
(1)  
year. (100) a hundred dollar (67) ... a couple of fresh biscuit (111) ... frying griddlecakes for the boarders' breakfasts. (231)

Double negatives abound: "you can't never marry that Way girl if you don't have it." [money] (31) ... "I don't want no crower" ... (211)

The reproduction of New England dialect in Miss Wilkins stories may be described as "vitaphonic" rather than "dictaphonic". As the vitaphone reproduces the "atmosphere" and sounds of the speaker's voice without the assistance of an intermediary, so she presents her characters and allows them to speak for themselves. They reproduce "life" as well as the speech of the locality; the dictaphone reproduces sound without the variations in tone.

Many interesting peculiarities of regional speech

(1) Emerson, O.F., The History of the English Language, p. 298, #349. In Chaucer there are of the latter sort [long neuters in O.E. that took no ending in the nominative and accusative plural] folk, der, 'deer' ... thing, yer, 'year', night, month, winter, pound.

are presented: "You're all the one that's to blame."  
 (69) "one thing after another went again him" (221)  
 "All the child I've got in this world." (74) "I ain't  
 goin' to be broke of my rest" (187) ... "she come out  
 bride in a blue silk dress." (95) ... "Nobody knows but  
 she belongs to a gang of burglars" (64) ... "no call  
 to say such things" (194) ... "Was she fair-complected?"  
 (94) ... "You can tell nobody you've a mind to."

The homely figurative language of the illiterate  
 New England people is revealed in such vigorous metaphors  
 as: "little rise left in me" (28); "sat with a heavy  
 settle" (92); "shake a stick at" (100); "shove her off  
 in the corner" (57); "she wanted to sound him" (15); "the  
 one sugar-plum they ain't able to git" (183); "all tagged  
 out" (38); ... "mean kind of a box I've got you into" (124);  
 ... "if I shut down on her" (106).

Recognized as reproducing faithfully, the dialect of  
 the New Englander, Miss Wilkins' stories are interesting  
 and valuable linguistically because they are illustrative  
 of many of the peculiarities of the language of America.

If her stories, and those of her contemporaries, indicate that dialect has been both an expression and a cause of the interstate knowledge and interstate sympathy that have linked the far-separated sections of the United States into closer bonds of union and fellowship, <sup>(1)</sup> then surely her own diction, purified in the severity of the New England atmosphere, indicates that the language of the American, which we have come to call the American Language, or the English Language in America, is not perfectly synonymous with, or entirely dependent upon the usage and the conventions of the language of literary England.

Handicapped by her lack of a complete mastery of language, Miss Wilkins displays faults characteristic of the self-made writer; faults interesting, indeed, to the student of linguistic development. She has a marked preference for rather unusual hyphenated words, such as: college-educated, newspaper-covered, corn-mush, dark-bonneted, lace-curtained, steady-faced, white-painted and

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(1) The Cambridge History of American Literature,  
vol. II, ch. v, pp. 360-361.

piazzaed, Mansard-roofed. While these combinations are original in their compactness, they by no means suggest a writer familiar with the art of blending strength and beauty in compound words.

In her own vocabulary Miss Wilkins frequently employs words and phrases that are as inelegant and commonplace as the utterances of her provincial characters. It is difficult to imagine language more unliterary than: Enough sight better (126); all alone by herself; pretty soon; directly in the sense of immediately; dressy for well-groomed. A further proof of this lack of literary dignity may be found in such expressions as: terrible horror (83); struck on the almshouse (92); good many flowers (122); deal of wide cotton lace (122); tried to make some conversation (207); considerable wear (39); scared glance (42); laid up with the rheumatism (65); look after her (33); after her call was done (150). "She [Miss Wilkins] could be so tactless as to speak of a house being natty; and use such colloquialisms as: the girl colored-up; the air felt

like snow; directly for at once; smart for efficient." (1)

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(1) Thompson, C.M., "Miss Wilkins: An Idealist in Masquerade," Atlantic Monthly, v. 83, p. 670.

## IV Some Results of Search in the Dictionaries

Apparently the term, door-yard, is distinctly American. The New English Dictionary attributes it solely to the United States, and cites illustrations from Emerson and Lowell. The closest approach to the date of Miss Wilkins' use of the word is probably Walt Whitman's When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed.

Words not exclusively American in use, but having a slightly different meaning in England are: almshouse, boss, brown-bread, chock-full, crimp [the hair] , sulky [noun, meaning a means of conveyance] , awful, meaning very great or difficult, e. g. "It'll be an awful job to put on a different flounce every time we wear it."

In several instances words have been glossed which post-date the entry in the New English Dictionary or in the Glossaries of Americanisms. For example, in wall-decorations, the sampler had not been noted later than Whittier's Among the Hills, which suggests that we may have lost record of the term in literature, though

commercially it has been used. "Whitman's Sampler" is familiar to all candy-lovers. The original meaning of the word, however, is employed in the package decoration only. Recently, a college year-book used the Sampler for its theme, and revived an interest in the word. The modern Petit Point in art needlework appears as a revival of the sampler. Lovers of old furniture, or antiques in general, sometimes collect or exhibit samplers.

In one home of "Miss Wilkins' world" a steel-engraving is used as a wall-ornament. The New English Dictionary records engraving, but does not have steel-engraving. The last entry for engraving is 1860.<sup>(1)</sup> A native New Englander, living in Kansas, possesses a steel-engraving she has owned since before 1880.

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(1) Slater, J. Herbert, Engravings and Their Value, London, 1912, (28) Steel was substituted for copper about 1820; (30) Steel engravings abounded in books published from 1830-1860.

As is pointed out in most histories of the subject, copper and steel engravings for general purposes have been abandoned because of the rapid development of photography and of engraving processes.

Words which have not been identified are: hide-and-coot, fish-horn, bob-squirt and flax-out. Hide-and-coot, apparently a children's game, is probably the same as hide-and-coop. Tommy, the little boy who "wore a calico tier that sagged to his heels in the back" twitches Polly Moss' dress and pleads, "Come outdoors and play hide-and-coot wis me, Polly." Because it is raining, Polly suggests remaining indoors "an' we'll roll the ball." Probably the ball was used in the game, but it has not been possible to discover the exact nature of the game. The New English Dictionary does not list hide-and-coot, nor does the English Dialect Dictionary. The latter does, however, record hide-and-coop and hide-and-hook, which may be identical with hide-and-coot. Dr. W. S. Johnson, of the University of Kansas, remembers hide-and-coop as another name for hide-and-seek.

The term, fish-horn, has been variously explained. The dictionaries and glossaries consulted, including the

Oxford, Century, Webster's, Skeat and the glossaries, Thompson's, Thornton's and Bartlett's, do not indicate the combination, but suggestions have come from New Englanders. One suggests that it was the horn used by fishermen on the coast for signaling each other. In New Jersey, according to Dr. E. M. Hopkins, of the University of Kansas, it was a peddler's horn. Suppositionally, as the context shows that it was used in a Fourth of July Celebration, <sup>(1)</sup> it was just another noise-maker. Perhaps it was only a horn in which the air-bladder of a fish was used to produce "the melancholy hoot".

Likewise, none of the dictionaries consulted record the combination flax-out. Professor W. S. Johnson, whose early background was Connecticut, says flax-out was generally used to mean give out; become fatigued, and was most frequently used in the passive, e.g. "He is all flaxed-out". Miss Wilkins used it in the active, and <sup>(2)</sup> from the context the phrase seemed to suggest more than

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(1) Text, p. 45. Every little while came the sharp bang of a fire-cracker, the crash of cannon, or the melancholy hoot of the fish-horn.

(2) Ibid. p. 180. These dretful smart, handsome folks are just the ones that flax out sometimes. They ain't nothin' more'n Fourth of July fireworks.

fatigued. The New English Dictionary gives the definition to wrap in fine linen, or prepare for burial, for the verb flax. By implication, then, perhaps synonymous with present-day slang, to put on the shelf, the expression suggests wear-out, burn-out or lose public favor.

The combination, bob squirt, as used by Miss Wilkins, baffles identification, though taken separately, the words are not unusual. The Oxford Dictionary defines squirt as a paltry or contemptible person, a fop, and adds that the term is a colloquialism used chiefly in the United States. Bartlett, in his Dictionary of Americanisms classifies the word as a vulgarism, meaning a foppish young fellow, a whippersnapper. Thornton, in An American Glossary, suggests a usage somewhat different. He classifies squirt as college slang of 1872, meaning a failure in recitation. The Yale Literary Magazine, (v. xxv, 192) illustrates the use of the word in the following sentence: [If he] makes dull recitations he is denominated a regular spoofs,

a complete squirt. In "A Village Singer" the words, bob squirt, seem to imply a most unpalatable foppish young man. Candace Whitcomb, the village singer, who has been replaced by a young lady, insists upon the minister's comparing her position with his own. "'Spose," she says, "they should turn you out in your old age, an' call in some bob squirt, how'd you feel?"

As the reader emerges from "Miss Wilkins' world" he is conscious of having "breathed the air of New England", but he is even more conscious of the fact that there is an American English language, which is a vital, living tongue, evolving rapidly, discarding worn-out words and phrases, preserving relics of out-worn customs and fashions, and yet evoking an interest in the foundations of a language that is destined to persist and to develop with multifarious changes and additions.

## EXPLANATIONS

This glossary has been compiled as a contribution to the Historical Dictionary of American English. The symbol (#) preceding an entry indicates that the word does not appear in the New English Dictionary on Historical Principles; the symbol (#) placed after the quotation indicates that the use of the word post-dates that in the New English Dictionary.

## GLOSSARY

- ABASH, verb, 56. She was evidently abashed by the company.
- ABROAD, adv., 44. They could not go abroad and feel any self-respect in those flimsy muslins and rusty woollens.
- A-CLAWING, verb, 98. ...when you see other folks a-clawing an' gettin' other things, an' actin' as if they was wuth havin'.
- ACT, verb, 153. I gave Sarah Rogers one of them nice printed ones, an' she acted glad to have it.
- AFIRE, adj., 187. ...I thought the house was afire...
- AFORE, adv., 120. "You jest lift in them lilies first, afore I git in," said she...
- A-HERE, adv., 195. "Look a-here, Jane," said she.
- AFTERNOON, noun, 1. It was late in the afternoon, and the light was waning.
- AFTERWARDS, adv., 122. Araminta had worked in the shop, too, before she was married. Afterwards David would not let her.
- AGAIN, prep. (against) 221. One thing after another went again him.
- AGAINST, prep., 122. (in preparation for; in welcome of) ...she dressed as punctiliously as if she had been a fine lady "against Davy comes home"...

A-GOIN', verb, 25. An' there ain't no amount of talking...a-goin' to stop me.

AIL, verb, 136. What ails him?

ALIEN, adj., 167. ...she had had an unfortunate love affair that was supposed to have tintured her whole life with an alien element.

AIN'T, verb, 25. An' there ain't no amount of talking...a-goin' to stop me.  
26. It [his voice] ain't given out though.

AIR, verb (are), 88. "They air a-takin' on her up to the cell now," said the...woman;  
163. "...Your bones ain't broke, air they."

AIRN, verb (earn), 84. ...looks more like an old cat that's had to airn it's [sic] own livin' than a human being.

AIR-TIGHT, adj., 103. She knelt down by the air-tight stove and began poking the fire.

ALL, adv. (all alone), 16. Louisa, all alone by herself that night, wept a little.

ALL, adj., 30. ...all her slender body was in motion.  
69. You're all the one that's to blame.  
74. All the child I've got in the world.  
123. The biscuits are all gettin' cold.

ALLERS, adv. (always), 103. ...but she give [sic] me no end of digs, the way she allers does.

ALMSHOUSE, noun, 81. There were no trees near the almshouse; it stood in its bare sandy lot...

ALPACA, noun, 43. I've been thinkin' of fixin' over my old alpaca a little...

AMARANTH, adj., 167. ...she carried them in the little basket which held...amaranth flowers...

- ANCHORITE, noun, 224. Nicholas Gunn, stern anchorite that he was, could not sleep for the cold.
- AN', conj. (and), 31. ...you shan't never have one cent of my money, an' you can't never marry that Way girl if you don't have it.
- ANTECEDENTS, noun, 43. Matilda's antecedents had come of wood-sawyers and garden laborers.
- ANTIPODES, noun, 206. ...but that only accentuated his beauty to a country girl like Anne, who thought naturally of menas antipodes of flowers and women.
- ANYWHERE, adv., 94. "Liddy, she could sing the best of anybody anywheres around," she continued.  
101. Well, I dunno, Marthy; Jenny don't go much of anywhere.
- APPENDIX, noun, 183. Jane had made an appendix to the decalogue to suit her own exigencies.
- APPETITE, noun, 11. ...the children listened and believed greedily, with a fascinated appetite for terror.
- APPLE-TREE, noun, 191. There were five old apple-trees in the field.
- APPRISE, verb, 7. He [Joe Dagget] had not apprised her [Louisa] of his coming.
- APPURTENANCE, noun, 1. Louisa Ellis could not remember that...she had mislaid one of these little feminine appurtenances, which had become...a very part of her personality.

- APT, adj., 63. It [Paulina's brown hair] was apt to part into little soft strands on her forehead.
- ARIGHT, adv., 15. ...she could hardly believe that she had heard aright...
- ARISE, verb, 223. The next morning a wind had arisen;
- ARM-CHAIR, noun, 220. An old man in a leather-cushioned arm-chair...turned his...face toward the others...
- ARRER, noun (arrow), 94. He [a real rich fellar from Bostown] was jest as straight as an arrer...
- ARTER, conj. adv. (after), 82. "It's cur'us how them oak leaves hang on arter the others have all fell off."  
prep., 69. Didn't you leave him there while you went to look arter me?
- AS BEST SHE COULD, 122. She had shifted as best she could.
- A-SIZZLING, adj., 53. ...I see [sic] them fire-crackers a-sizzling before Em'ly stepped in 'em.
- ASPARAGUS, noun, 146. Great plumy branches of asparagus waved over the tops of the looking-glass.
- AUDIENCE-ROOM, noun, 20. When Alma went down into the audience-room...the minister approached her.
- AUTOGRAPH, noun, 4. There was a square red autograph album, and a Young Lady's Gift-Book...

- AWFUL, adj., 48. It'll be an awful job to put on a different flounce every time we wear it.
- BACK, adv., 66. ...the note affair had occasioned much distress in the Childs family for a month back.
- BACK, adj., 140. The entry was...unfurnished except for a well-rubbed old card-table against the back wall.
- BACHELOR, adj., 20. The old bachelor tenor and the old maiden soprano had been wont to walk together...
- BADLY, adv., 113. She looked badly to-night; her soft eyes glittered...
- BAGGY, adj., 87. An old man with his baggy trousers hitched high, chopped something in a tray...
- BAREGE, adj., 149. She wore a green barege bonnet...
- BARE, adj., 87. The rain drove against the windows of the dining-room with its bare floor...
- BALSAM, noun, 125. Minty...picked an enormous bouquet of zinnias and...balsams...
- BALSAM-DROPPING, adj., 230. The truth was that this poor cot in the warm room seemed to him like a couch under the balsam-dropping cedars of Lebanon...
- BANDS, noun, 119. ...a young man whom I this morning joined in the bands [sic] of holy wedlock... has something...to communicate to you.
- BARK-WRINKLES, noun, 164. She made one think of those sylvan faces with features composed of bark-wrinkles and knot-holes, that one can fancy looking out of the trunks of trees.

- BE, verb, 161. "Stay where you be," he said imperatively.
- BEAT, verb, 5. "You do beat everything," said Dagget, trying to laugh again.  
197. It beats me, but I s'pose it's... love.
- BEAT OUT, participial adj., 218. I had them three coughin'-spells after I left the store, and I got 'most beat out.
- BEAU, noun, 212. Anyhow, she didn't write quite so often, and then I heard she'd got a beau.
- BEAUTIFULLEST, adj., 94. ...she had the... beautifullest leetle red mouth.
- BEDDIN', noun, 90. There I had...beddin' packed away in chists...
- BEDROOMS, noun, 86. ...doors in both sides led into the paupers' bedrooms.
- BEEF, noun, 87. The overseer sat at one end of the table and served the beef.
- BEFORE, prep. (in front of), 121. There was a little square of ground fenced in before each cottage.
- BEGGARY, noun, 131. They would have been reduced to a choice between beggary and starvation...
- BEGRETCH, verb, 52. "I s'pose I kinder begretched you that black silk," said she...

BELT, noun, 149. There was a narrow green belt ribbon around her long waist.

BENCHES, noun, 87. The rain drove against the windows of the dining-room...with its board tables and benches.

BEST, noun, 44. They mended their old muslins ...and wore one dress between them for best.  
adj., 174. Jonas Carey and his wife, dressed in their best clothes, started up the mountain road to Jenny Wrayne's.

BETTER, adv., 25. 'An' I've gone an' sung a good many times when I'd better be in bed.

BIBLE, noun, 222. ...he read awhile in the Bible;

BIDDINGS, noun, 79. The family called to mind... the obedience...which she yielded to their biddings...

BILE, verb (boil), 221. Old Eph he made her... bile onions.

BIRTHPLACE, noun, 93. ...but no one could trace her back to her birthplace...

BIRTHRIGHT, noun, 17. If Louisa Ellis had sold her birthright, she did not know it.

BISCUIT, noun, 111. She...bought...a couple of fresh biscuit for Martha's supper.

BIT, noun, 103. ...she fried a bit of ham and put it on Martha's plate.

BLACKBERRY, noun, 127. They could pick plenty of blackberries to eat.

BLACK-BONNETED, adj., 99. It held it's [sic] black-bonneted head back stiffly.

BLACKENED, adj., 194. Jane surveyed her blackened hands.

BLACK-MITTED, adj., 150. She carried her roll of poetry in a black-mitted hand.

BLAST, verb, 100. ...she's had her calla-lily five years, an' she ain't had but one bud, and that blasted.

BLINDS, noun, 214. She heard voices behind the parlor blinds.

BLOW OUT, verb, 66. When at nine o'clock Willard had not come, she blew out the parlor lamp...and went to bed.  
99. There ain't a soul been in to see 'em this week and 'tain't often they blow out this way.

BLOW, verb (bloom), 100. ...if I be miserable in health an' poor, flowers 'll blow for me, and that's more than they'll do for some folks...

BLOWING UP, verbal noun, 21. ...then I'm coming back to give Aunt Candace one blowing up.

BLUE-JAY, noun, 166. ..."guess you wouldn't if you was a wood-pecker or a blue-jay," she replied.

BLUE-SHIRTED, adj., 1. Some blue-shirted laborers...plodded past.

BOARD, adj., 87. The rain drove against the windows of the dining-room with its board tables...

BOARDER, noun, 104. Good evening, Mrs. Ward. Are your boarders in?

# BOB SQUIRT, noun, 26. S'pose they should turn you Mr. Pollard, the minister out in your old age, an' call in some young bob squirt, how'd you feel?

BODY, noun (N.E.D. The part of a dress which covers the body, as distinct from the arms.) 1868. N.E.D. Victoria Life in the Highlands. [Sic] 124. I and the girls were in royal Stewart skirts and shawls over black velvet bodies. 203. The daughter wore it with very little alteration in the...long prim body.

BODY-PEWS, noun (N.E.D. Quadrangular enclosures containing seats, in the nave or main aisle of a church.) 108. In one of the fore-most body-pews sat John Arnold...

BOLT-UPRIGHT, adj., 3. He sat bolt-upright... glancing with good-humored uneasiness around the room.

BONNETS, noun, 90. ...An' I ruther think I've had silk dresses an' bunnits an' caps.

BOOHOO, verb, 221. "Oh, Lor'!" says she, "I don't want no crower," and she boohooed right out...

- BOOT-AND-SHOE, noun, 109. There was a new boot-and-shoe manufactory there, and she thought she might get some employment.
- BOSS, noun, 123. The boss just called me into his office, an' told me they would not need my services no more.
- BOSTOWN, noun, 94. But Liddy she wouldn't look at none of them; she married a real rich fellar from Bostown.
- 'BOU**T**, adv., 31. I'm 'bout sick.
- BOWL, verb, 63. After...the wheels had bowled out of the yard with a quick dash, the mother turned to Christine.
- BOWIN' AN' SCRAPIN', adj., 94. ...when meetin' was done...all the young fellars used to be bowin' an' scrapin'.
- BOX, noun (predicament), 124. It's a mean kind of a box I've got you into.
- BOX-IN, verb, 121. A slim young maple, carefully boxed-in...
- BRACKET, noun, 217. ...in one corner was a rude bracket holding a bouquet of wax flowers.
- BRAID, verb, 13. She saw a girl...her strong yellow hair braided in a close knot.
- BREAK, verb, 187. I ain't goin' to be broke of my rest.
- BREAK OF, verb (deprived of), "I ain't goin' to be broke of my rest this way."

- BREAST-PIN, noun, 201. I s'pose he give this  
breast-pin,eh?
- BRED, adj., 2. Louisa Ellis was no richer nor  
better bred than they.
- BREW, verb, 131. Minty brewed for him a tea of  
green peppermint leaves.
- BRIDAL, adj., 234. ...they turned aside to look  
at the...bridal wreaths.
- BRIDE, noun, 95. An' she come out bride in a  
blue silk dress...
- BRIDLE, verb, 89. She bridled and began to  
speak, then she looked at the little soft  
soiled mass in her lap and paused.
- BRITTANY, adj., 90. I had a Brittany teapot.
- BROKE, (See BREAK)
- BROWN, verb, 206. He [Gilman Lane] was roughened  
and browned by his California life...
- BROWN-BREAD, noun, 45. Matilda had devoured...her  
brown-bread and cheese...
- BRUSSELS, adj., 90. There I had a whole house, with  
Brussels carpets on all the rooms except the  
kitchen...
- BUCKET, noun, 219... He took a wooden bucket, and  
went...to the spring.
- BURGLAR, noun, 64. Nobody knows but she belongs to  
a gang of burglars...
- BY-AND-BY, adv., 9. By-and-by her still must be laid  
away.

- CALICO, adj., 83. He wore a calico tier that sagged to his heels in the back, and showed in front of his little calico trousers.
- CALL, noun (errand), 150. She went home bouyantly...after her call was done.  
194. There ain't no call for you to say sech things as that...
- CALLA-LILIES, noun, 99. Can't you jest come over a minute and see my calla-lilies?
- CALLER, noun, 103. Mis' Newhall...pretended she wanted to see my caller...
- CAMBRIC, noun, 200. I wanted a piece of brown cambric to line my sleeves, an' I thought I'd see if you hadn't any.
- CANDLE, noun, 177. Jenny set her candle in the window...
- CANDLESTICK, noun, 171. On it were a clock and a candlestick...
- CANTED, participial adj., 55. His wife in her best black dress, sat smilingly, with her head canted a little to one side.
- CAPE-BONNET, noun, 50. Her cape-bonnet, was one-sided, but it was firmly tied.
- CARD-TABLE, noun, 140. The entry was...unfurnished except for a well-rubbed card-table against the back wall.

- CARPET-BAG, noun, 126. David carried the few clothes...in a carpet-bag.
- CART-PATH, noun, 167. ...then she struck into a cart-path which led up to the clearing where the house was.
- CASHMERE, noun, 63. She had on her best red cashmere...
- CASHMERE-PATTERNED, adj., 141. She wore a gay cashmere-patterned calico dress with her mourning bonnet.
- CASHMIRE, adj., 91. I had a fitch tippet...an' a cashmire shawl...
- CELEBRITY, noun, 45. The speeches by the local celebrities were delivered.
- CELL, noun, 88. They air a-taking on her up to the cell now.
- CEMETERY, noun, 234. Out in front of the cemetery stood a white horse and a covered wagon.
- CERTAINTY, noun, 210. So Clarissa in her patient certainty overlooked it all.
- CHANCE, verb, 11. Wayfarers chancing into Louisa's yard eyed him with respect.
- CHEAP, adj., 11. ...it is certain he was possessed of considerable cheap fame.
- CHEESE, noun, 113. The postmaster dealt out postage-stamps or cheeses to demand.

- CHIST, noun, 90. There I had a whole house with Brussels carpets...an' bedding packed away in chists.
- CHINY, adj. (China), 91. I had a Chiny figger, a girl with a basket of flowers on her arm once...it used to set side of the clock.
- CHIPPIES, noun, 172. I dunno but what bein' a missionary...to...starvin' chippies... is jest as good as some other kinds...
- CHIMNEY, adj., 146. Betsey...got an old black portfolio and pen and ink out of the chimney cupboard, and seated herself to work.
- CHOCK-FULL, adj., 189. It was an iron pot with a cover...an' it was chock-full of gold dollars.
- CHURCH-GOING, adj., 107. They had all been church-going people.
- CINNAMON, noun, 198. "Needs a little more cinnamon," she murmured.
- CLAP, verb, 84. Tommy...clapped out of the room...
- CLAPPING, adj., 83. Polly Moss stood at the window until a little boy trudged into the room, bringing his small feet down with a clapping noise.
- CLEAN, adv., 94. ...an' she had long, yaller curls a-hangin' clean down to her waist...

- CLEAR AWAY, verb, 61. ...we've been fussing long enough; we got all these dishes to clear away...
- CLEAR OUT, verb, 26. S'pose they should... tell you to clear out, how'd you like it?
- CLEARED, adj., 127. At last...they reached a cleared space...
- CLOSE-FISTED, adj., 111. She would not apply to him and the others, close-fisted...farmers, were afraid of some trap...in the transaction.
- CLOSET, noun, 40. The walls were full of closets and little cupboards...
- CLOTH-GAITERED, adj., 149. Betsey went on, setting her slim, cloth-gaitered feet daintily in the hot sand of the road.
- CLUMP, verb, 165. The old man clumped into the kitchen...
- COACH, noun, 95. An' she had a coach with lamps on the sides...an' a man to drive.
- COAT-SLEEVE, noun, 24. His arms in his shiny black coat-sleeves rested squarely...upon the...arms of the chair.
- COBBLE-STONE, noun, 121. The flower garden was divided into little fantastic beds edged with cobble-stones...

COBWEB, noun, 89. It was a flimsy rag, like a soiled cobweb.

COFFEE-POT, noun, 231. There was also...a new tin coffee-pot.

COLLEGE, noun, 157. The minister was...a country boy who had worked his way through a country college.

COLLEGE-EDUCATED, adj., 43. Their father had been college-educated and a doctor.

COME, verb, 33. She bade him go...to Mrs. Ford's, and ask her to come over.

COME ACROSS, verb, 14. And I hope one of these days you'll come across somebody else.

COME UP, verb, 180. ...I dun know as there is anybody 'round here that quite comes up to her...

COMMON, adj., 2. Their daily tables were laid with common crockery.

COMMOTION, noun, 1. This soft diurnal commotion was over Louisa Ellis also.

COMPANY, noun, 3. Under that was still another... that was Louisa's company apron.

COMMUNION-SERVICE, noun, 109. There was a communion-service to-day.

COMPETENCY, noun, 6. ...he had announced to Louisa his determination to strike out into new fields and secure a competency before they were married.

- COMPLETEST, adj., 195. ...but it seems to me as if bein' sure that anybody was all right an' honest was the completest kind of bein' married that anybody could have.
- CONFOUND, verb (used interjectionally), 125. "Confound him!" growled David.
- CONGREGATIONAL-SINGING, noun, 32. ...there was only congregational singing at the Sunday night prayer-meeting.
- CONSUMPTION, noun, 156. People said she had the old-fashioned consumption.
- CONSIDERABLE, adj., 39. The dress was black silk; ...even now there was considerable wear left in it.
- CONTRACTED, adj., 138. Whatever there was of sweet romance...in those simple, somewhat contracted country folks, was awakened.
- COOKING-STOVE, noun, 217. There was no furniture except a cooking-stove, a cot bed, one chair and a table...
- COOP UP, verb, 126. It was enough sight better than being cooped up in the shop...
- CORN, noun, 3. Louisa patted him [the dog, Caesar] and gave him corn cakes.  
81. ...now they [fields] showed...yellow corn stubble.  
220. ....and there he is a-livin' on corn meal and water.
- CORRIDOR, noun, 86. In the corridor Polly Moss played ball with the children.

- CORRUGATED, adj., 169. His face was sallow and severely corrugated, but the features were handsome.
- COT, adj., 217. There was no furniture except a...cot bed...
- COUGHIN'-SPELL, noun, 218. I had them...oughin'-spells...
- COTTAGE, noun, 19. Candace Whitcomb's cottage stood close to the south side of the church.
- COTTON, adj., 193. Her hands were black from her cotton gloves.
- COUNTRY, adj., 157. The minister was...a country boy who had worked his way through a country college.
- COUPLE, noun, 111. ...she bought with it...a couple of fresh biscuit for Martha's supper.
- COVERED, adj., 202. She had a covered plate in her hand.  
234. Out in front of the cemetery stood a white horse and a covered wagon.
- COW, verb, 31. Her threat of disinheriting him did not cow him at all.
- CRACKED, adj., 220. Somethin' went again' him;... an' he's cracked.
- CRANBERRY, noun, 54. On the opposite side of the table were a plate..and a little dish of cranberry sauce...
- CRAZY, adj., 30. "Look here, Aunt Candace," said he, "are you crazy?"

- CREAM-PITCHER, noun, 2. Louisa had a damask napkin on her tea-tray where were arranged a... silver cream-pitcher, a china bowl...
- CREASY, adj., 66. He searched there a day and a half a night, pulling all the soiled, creasy old papers out of the drawers.
- CREDIT, noun, 61. ...we ain't goin' to have you found dead in the road, for our own credit.
- CRETUR, noun, 172. Somebody wanted to kill the poor little cretur...
- CRIMP, verb, 200. I'll crimp your hair...
- CRINKLED, adj., 164. She was not an old woman, but her hair was iron-gray, and crinkled as close as gray moss.
- CROCKERY, adj., 1. Then she went into the garden with a little crocker bowl, to pick some currants for her tea.
- CROWER, noun, 221. Well, old Eph he jest goes out in the yard and he ketches a nice fat crower, an' he kills him, and picks him.  
222. ...the upshot of it was, he [Lawyer Holmes] sat down to the table, an' eat a good meal of the crower an' fixin's...
- CRUST, noun, 124. I've got a little feelin' ef I ain't one of the upper crust.
- CUPBOARD, noun, 40. ...the walls were full of closets and little cupboards.
- CUR'US, adj., 82. It's cur'us how them oak leaves hang on arter the others have all fell off.

- CURL, verb, 63. Her mother would not allow her to curl it.
- CURLED, adj., 119. His yellow, curled head towered up...
- CURRENTS, noun, 1. Then she went into the garden...to pick currants for her tea.
- CUSHINGS, noun, 95. An' she had a coach with lamps on the sides, an' blue satin cushings, to ride in, an' four horses to draw it, an' a man to drive.
- CUT, verb (slang, Made a getaway), 227. I waited till the house was still, an' then I cut.
- DAMASK, adj., 2. Louisa had a damask napkin on her tea-tray.
- DAPPLE, noun, 13. The road was be-spread with a beautiful dapple of silver and shadow.
- DARK-COMPLECTED, adj., 90. ...it [blue bunnit] warn't so becomin' as some you'd had, you was so dark-complected.
- DARNED, adj., 220. If a man is such a darned fool as to live on meal and matches, I ain't got nothin' to say.
- DARSE, verb (dare), 175. I want to tie it for him, but he won't let me, an' I don't darse to when he sets there like that.
- DEACON, noun, 106. And then he's a deacon of the church; he'd hate to do such a thing...
- DEAL, noun, 122. To-night she had on a flimsy blue muslin...and a deal of wide cotton lace.

- DEATH, noun, 89. ...she might have defended it to the death, but here before her eyes it silenced her.
- DECALOGUE, 183. Jane had made an appendix to the decatalogue.
- DELAINÉ, noun, 149. Betsey went down the street in her thinnest dress--an old delaine...  
adj., 93. The dim image of a certain delaine dress...sometimes floated before her eyes...
- DELICATE-LOOKING, adj., 102. People said of Hannah, "She is delicate-looking."
- DEPARTED, adj., 93. She feared that it was not worthy to be compared with the others' fine departed gowns; it paled even before Sally's pink calico.
- DEPOT, noun, 227. ...if you'd take me in till mornin' I could git down to the depot, an' go to Jackson before the selectmen come.
- DEPRECATORY, adj., 40. There was about these old women and all their belongings a certain gentle and deprecatory reticence.
- DESPRIT, adj. (desperate), 182. You don't s'pose he'll do anything desprit, do ye?
- DIG, noun, 103. Mis' Newhall, she's been in here, pretended she wanted to see my caller, but she give me no end of digs, the way she allers does.
- DINNER-PAIL, noun, 148. ...men with dinner-pails were tramping past the gate...

- DINNER-SUPPER, noun, 146. I'll have this bread  
and that jelly this noon, an' to-night  
I'll have a kind of dinner-supper with  
them potatoes warmed up with the pork...
- DIRECTLY, adv., 60. Christine went directly for  
her hood and shawl, and put them on.
- DIRECTION, noun, 54. ...no one...ever had any  
confidence in his ability in such  
directions.
- DISCOURSE, noun, 50. I thought we had a good  
discourse.
- DISH-WASHING, noun, 189. She assisted about the  
dish-washing after breakfast;...
- DISMISSAL, noun, 18. Candace Whitcomb...had  
lately been given her dismissal.
- DIURNAL, adj., 1. This soft diurnal commotion  
was over Louisa Ellis also.
- DO, verb, 30. After the...service was done Candace  
left the organ...  
32. She sat still until it was nearly time for  
the meeting to be done;...  
34. I wish---you'd go out when---meetin's  
done...  
150. She went home...after her call was done.  
185. Her sister had never done twitting her  
with it.
- DOG-BANE, noun, 191. ...she looked and saw Joseph  
Tenney's face through branches of pink dog-  
bane.
- DOINGS, noun (gerund), 123. ...there's work enough.  
It's some of the Lem Wheelock's doin's...

- DOLLAR, noun, 67. ...I'd ruther give a hundred dollar than had it happen.
- DOLLY-FACE, noun, 84. I'd enough sight ruther know a leetle somethin' than have a dolly-face myself.
- DOOR-POST, noun, 218. ...Nicholas...took off his cap, and beat it against the door-post to rid it of its dome of snow.
- DOOR-STEP, noun, 2. ...she sat on the back door-step and stemmed them (the currants).
- DOOR-YARD, noun, 160. The roads were glare and slippery with it, and so were the door-yards.#
- DOUGH-DISH, noun, 190. Jane strode after her, the hens' dough-dish in her hand.
- DOWN, adv., 106. ...He's down East somewhere.  
220. ..."I ain't got nothin' to say, so long as he pays me the money down," said he.
- DRAFT, noun, 148. ...she was forced to be very economical with the first draft. [of her poems]
- DRAG, verb, 145. ...It drags right off my head, the veil is so heavy.
- DRAW, verb, 164. ...I jest ask him to go out and draw a pail of water...
- DRAWN, adj. (gathered), 90. I had a white one [ bonnet ], drawn silk, an' a white feather on't, when I was married...

- DREADFUL, adj., 31. An' I ain't goin' to live a dreadful while longer, neither.
- DRETFUL, adv. (dreadful), 98. "I--s'pose I was dretful wicked," she whispered.  
34. I was--dreadful wrought up.
- DREADFULLY, adv., 156. ...the woman...reported that Betsey Dole looked dreadfully...
- DRETFULEST-LOOKIN', adj., 84. Seems to me she is about the dretfulest-lôokin' cretur that I ever did see...
- DROVE, verb, 51. You've drove me to it.
- DUMBIE, noun, 172. There she took that little dumbie out of the poorhouse.
- DUN, verb (don't), 26. I dun know but it would be a good idea...
- DURIN', adj. (continuing or lasting), 25. But she flats the whole durin' time.
- DYING, adj., 16. But if you wanted to keep on, I'd have stuck to you till my dying day.
- EAR-DROPS, noun, 95. ...an' she wore great long ear-drops that shone like everythin'.
- EATIN', adj., 142. I guess I've got more flowerin' beans than eatin' ones.
- EAT UP, participial adj., 221. ...an' they was 'most eat up with medicine and doctors' bills...
- EDGE, verb, 161. The old woman...began to edge off the door-step, with trembling knees...

EDGING, noun, 183. Elvira knitted a great deal of lace edging...

EF, conj., 138. ...he's got through the worst on't now, ef he's careful.

EFFERVESCENCE, noun, 60. It was as if this forlorn twelfth guest were the foreign element needed to produce a state of nervous effervescence in those staid, decorous people who surrounded her.

EKE, verb, 203. This one hundred and fifty eked out with a little sewing which Clarissa did, bought their food and clothes.

ENAMEL, verb, 160. The tree boughs...were enamelled with ice.

END, noun, 103. ...but she give me no end of digs.

ENGRAVING, noun, 146. ...a steel engraving of a female head...and sheaves of dried grasses ...were fastened to the walls... #

ENOUGH, adj., 84. I'd enough sight ruther know a leetle somethin' than have a dolly-face myself.

ENTRY, noun, 140. The front door was open; the woman had to reach to knock on it, as it swung into the entry.

EXCUSE, verb, 41. (see SCUSE)

EXIGENCY, noun, 183. Jane had made an appendix to the decalogue to suit her own exigencies;...

EXISTENCE, noun, 92. Their present was to them a state of simple existence...

- EXQUISITE, adj., 122. She had...an exquisite florid complexion.
- EYE, verb, 37. Emily eyed her sister.  
4. Louisa kept eying him with mild uneasiness.
- FAINTING-SPELL, noun, 73. One night she had a fainting-spell.
- FAIR, adj., 148. She found it difficult to procure enough paper for fair copies of her poems...
- FAIR-COMPLECTED, adj., 94. Was she fair-complected?
- FAIRLY, adv., 16. That afternoon...she [Louisa Ellis] felt fairly steeped in peace.
- FALL, verb, 82. It's cur'us how them oak leaves hang on arter the others have all fell off...
- FARM-WAGON, noun, 1. Now and then a farm-wagon tilted by...
- FAST, adv. (sure; certainly; without doubt), 106. But everybody...thinks she took it, fast enough.
- FEAST-DAY, noun, 60. Their discovery...gave them ...a fellow-feeling toward her on this feast-day...
- FEATHER, noun, 91. I had a white one [bonnet] drawn silk an' white feathers on't...
- FEATHER-BED, noun, 187. Jane lay down with a thud that made the feather-bed arise in billows.

- FEEDING, adj., 87. The rain drove against the windows of the dining-room with its... rows of feeding paupers.
- FELL, (past participle of fall--see FALL)
- FELLAR, noun, 94. ...all the young fellars used to be crowdin' 'round...  
173. I know that Anderson fellar went off an' married another girl...
- FEMALE, adj., 19. ...above Alma Way's...tones, arose another female voice, singing another hymn...
- FENCED-IN, adj., 121. There was a little square of ground fenced in before each cottage.
- FERN, noun, 132. She brushed through the sweet fern, knee deep...
- FERVID, adj., 17. Outside was the fervid summer afternoon.
- FIELD-MOUSE, noun, 167. A little field-mouse... had appreciative notice from Jenny Wrayne.
- FIGGER, noun, 91. I had a chiny figger...it used to set side the clock.
- FIGHT, noun, 30. ...on her island of exile she was still showing fight.
- FINE, adj., 55. Her fine manners spread their wings involuntarily.  
66. Then some fine sewing went on...
- FIRE, verb, 12. She [Louisa Ellis] ...never fired his [the dog's] dangerous temper with heating diet...of flesh and bones.

- FIREPLACE, noun, 130. She kindled a fire in the wide old fireplace in the kitchen;...
- FISH-HORN, noun, 45. Every little while came... the melancholy hoot of a fish-horn.
- FIT, adj., 195. I ain't no fit person for him.
- FITCH, adj. (pole-cat or skunk), 91. I had a fitch tippet an' muff cost twenty-five dollars;...
- FIX, verb (alter), 42. Oh, you've been fixin' your dress;
- FIXIN'S, noun, 221. ...old Eph he made her go an' ...bile onions...an' all the fixin's.
- FLANNEL, noun, 193. She suspected that the flannel was a poor bargain..
- FLAT, adj., 1. Louisa...got out a flat straw hat...  
verb, 36. You flatted a little on--- soul...
- # FLAX, verb, 180. These fretful smart, handsome folks are just the ones that flax out sometimes.
- FLESH, noun, 12. She...never fired his dangerous temper with heating...diet of flesh and bones.
- FLEW, verb, 86. ...her narrow shoulders worked as she ran; her mop of soft white hair flew out.
- FLING, verb, 89. Folks that ain't got no caps at all can't afford to be flingin' at them that has, if they ain't quite so nice as they was.

- FLIRT, noun (flounce), 85. Finally she arose and went out of the room with a flirt.
- FLOODGATE, noun, 28. A New England nature has a floodgate, and the power which it releases is an accumulation.
- FLOWER, noun, 135. This was Minty's true flower time.
- FLOWERIN', adj., 142. ...I guess I've got more flowerin' beans than eatin' ones, anyway.
- FOLK-LORE, adj., 138. ...Minty...was to figure henceforth as the heroine of one of the un-written folk-lore songs which were handed down from mother to daughter.
- FOLKS, noun, 81. It [the almshouse] seemed like the folks whom it sheltered...
- FOND, adj., 12. Joe Dagget had been fond of her, and working for her all these years.  
202. The few fond adjectives shone out like jewels among them.
- FOOTPATH, noun, 121. ...and the narrow footpath leading through...it...had on each side a fence...
- FOOTSTOOL, noun, 25. I thought it [photograph album] would make a beautiful footstool.
- FOREIGN, adj., 69. "He's a rascal," said Caleb, catching at the first note of foreign condemnation in his wife's words...
- FRAMED, adj., 146. ...a framed sampler, a steel engraving...were fastened to the walls...

- FRESH, adj., 111. She...bought with it...a couple of fresh biscuit for Martha's supper.
- FRET, verb, 138. He keeps frettin' 'cause she ain't got any more clothes here.
- FRYING-PAN, noun, 165. Jonas' wife went about getting out the frying-pan, crooning over her complaint all the time.
- FULL-FIGURED, adj., 13. She saw a girl tall and full-figured...looking fairer...in the moonlight.
- FUR, prep., 129. ...David May, you were good enough for me once fur all, don't you forget.
- FUR GONE, adj., 227. I ain't quite so fur gone yet.
- FURTHER, adv., 59. "Christine what?" Maria asked further.
- FUSE, verb, 11. Louisa had...little hope that he would not when...their interests...should be more completely fused in one.
- FUSS, verb, 164. Don't you fuss, he ain't hurt.  
noun, 106. ...They made a good deal of fuss about it at first, but Mr. Arnold didn't prosecute her.
- FUST, adv., 91. An' when I was fust married I used to live in a white house, with a flower-garden to one side.  
adj., 91. My fust baby had an elegant blue cashmire cloak, all worked with silk...
- FUSSY, adj., 26. Folks are gettin' as high-steppin' and fussy in a meetin'-house as they are in a tavern, nowadays.

GALLOWS, noun, 181. I s'pose if all Rose Tenney's relations were strung up on the gallows in a row, you'd want her just the same.

GANG, noun, 64. Nobody knows but she belongs to a gang of burglars...

GAP, noun, 141. She...went out of the yard through the gap in the hedge...

GARDEN-MOULD, noun, 149. Back and forth she went in the deepening twilight, her slender body strained to one side with the heavy water-pail, until the garden-mould looked dark and wet.

GAVE, (see GIVE)

GET, verb, 13. I ain't got a word to say.  
 28. He had a conviction that Candace was getting beyond herself.  
 93. She had gotten little more out of it.  
 123. The biscuits are all gettin' cold.  
 218. I guess I can git along now.

GILT, adj., 91. I had gilt vases as tall as that...

GIMCRACKS, noun, 232. My wife made them wax flowers an' them gimcracks.

GINGER, adj., 204. The two had packed a little blue ginger jar with those old rose leaves.

GINGHAM, adj., 3. Louisa took off her green gingham apron.

GIRL, noun, 31. ...you can't never marry that  
Way girl if you don't have it. [money]

GIT, (see GET)

GIT TWISTED, 173. ...if she did git kind of  
twisted out of the reg'lar road of lovin',  
she's in another one...

GIVE, verb, 26. If my voice has gi'en out, it  
stands to reason his has.

33. But Candace gave up at the first.

56. She had just given up teaching.

103. But she give me no end of digs...

GIVE YOU THE MITTEN, (see MITTEN)

GLARE, noun, 81. It [the almshouse] seemed  
like the folks whom it sheltered, out in  
the full glare of the day.

adj., 160. The roads were glare and  
slippery with it, and so were the door-  
yards.

GLOSSY, adj., 193. Her face was glossy with  
perspiration...

GO, verb, 14. I ain't goin' back on a woman  
that's waited for me fourteen years...

34. "William...come in...", Mrs. Ford  
said, after he was gone.

62. Paulina was going out that evening.

gerund, 124. I didn't know but you'd be fur  
goin' back on me, an' blamin' me...

GONE BY, adj., (worn out), 26. ...it would be a  
good idea to send everybody, as soon as they get  
old an' gone by...into a desert island.

GOLD-HEADED, adj., 108. He had a gold-headed cane.

GOOD, adj., 43. ...it [piece of ribbon] looks  
pretty good.

- GOOD-ARTERNOON, noun, 171. "Good-arternoon," she said...
- GOOD-LOOKING, adj., 129. ...I did an awful thing marryin' you...so good-lookin'...
- GOT, (see GET)
- GOURD, noun, 142. I planted some gourds.
- GOWN, noun, 65. Christine...in one of Paulina's old gowns, became a part of their existence...
- GOWND, noun, 92. I had a pink caliker gownd once...
- GRACIOUS, noun, 129. I wish to gracious that I had some folks or you had...
- GRAIN, noun, 85. "...Your nose is a leetle grain crooked, ain't it, Miss Handy?"
- GRASS, noun, 146. ...sheaves of dried grasses hung or were fastened to the walls...
- GRATEFULEST, adj., 138. She's the gratefulest thing you ever see...
- GRATULATION, noun, 93. Polly's poor clothes... had never given her any firm stimulus to gratulation.
- GRAVEL-WALK, noun, 30. ...she heard...an impetuous tread on the gravel-walk.
- GREAT-COAT, noun, 174. Old Jonas wore his great-coat...
- GREEK TESTAMENT, proper noun, 125-6. These last were a Greek Testament and a tiny pin cushion...

- GREEDILY, adv., 11. ...the children believed greedily with a fascinated appetite for terror.
- GREEN, adj., 149. Betsey went down the street in her thinnest dress--an old delaine, with delicate bunches of faded flowers on a faded green background.  
99. It strained its green-and-black woollen shawl tighter across its slim shoulders.
- GREENNESS, noun, 140. It was to her what greenness and crispness are to a plant.
- GRIDDLE-CAKE, noun, 231. She was frying griddle-cakes for the boarders' breakfasts.
- GRIT, noun, 232. I've got to go through with the whole of it like other folks, an' I guess I've got grit enough.
- GROOVE, noun, 58. Their customs had made deeper grooves in their roads...
- GROUND, noun, 149. Betsey went down the street in her thinnest dress--an old delaine with delicate bunches of faded flowers on a faded green ground.
- GROUND-PINE, noun, 163. ...long sprays of ground-pine were wound around her shoulders.
- HALF, adj., 93. ...she had a half mind to mention that...  
adv., 128. ...There it stood, tottering on its half-spokeless wheels...  
adj., 132. ...he lay most of the time muttering in a half-delirium.
- HAIR'S-BREADTH, noun, 12. ...no anticipation of disorder...no for**o**rbodings...were sufficient to turn her a hair's breadth.

HAIR-CLOTH, adj., 150. ...and Betsey sank into the hair-cloth rocker...

HAIR-PIN, noun, 188. ...Jane took the hair-pins out of her knot of hair with a conclusive air.

HANDKERCHER, noun, 94. ...she allers had scent on her handkercher.

HAND, noun, 67. I ain't laid hands on't.

HANDSOME, adj., 89. It was a handsome cap when it was new, anyhow...

HARD, adv., 215. It was snowing hard...

HARD UP, adj., 221. Seems old Eph got terrible hard up one time...

HARVEST-FIELD, noun, 12. There were harvest-fields on either hand...

HASTY-PUDDING, noun, 219. "[I] should like a fire to heat up my hasty-puddin' mighty well'... It [the bowl] was nearly full of cold hasty-pudding.

HAVE, verb, 33. ...she had her senses fully.  
34. I--hadn't ought to--spoke so...  
122. ...she had on a flimsy blue muslin...  
153. Had I ought to have been born with the wantin' to write poetry...

HAY, verb, 187. ...he was away all day haying in a distant field.

- HEAD, noun, 128. There was a great barn, which once sheltered many head of cattle, adjoining the house.
- HEADLONG, adj., 32. Wilson, with his...headlong common-sense, could have little to do with air-castles...
- HEAD OFF, verb, 34. I wish...you'd head off Alma an' Wilson, an' ask 'em to come in.
- HEAD UP, verb, 182. ...he headed up the other way.
- HEADWAY, noun, 29. He did not feel competent to make headway against such a tide of passion.
- HEAR, (see HEARED; also HEERD)
- HEARED, verb, 214. She heared voices behind the parlor blinds.
- HEARTY, adj., 103. The old woman liked something hearty for supper.
- HED, verb (had) (see also HAD and HAVE), 124. ...I didn't know but you'd be fur goin' back on me...'cause I'd hed such bad luck...
- HEDGE, noun, 140. The house was very close to the road, from which a tall evergreen hedge separated it...
- HEERD, verb, 50. I heerd a good many say they thought it was a good discourse...  
171. I've heerd the talk...
- HEIGHT, noun, 43. ...they had always realized their height above Matilda...
- HEMLOCK-TREE, noun, 163. She dragged a sled with a small hemlock-tree bound upon it.

- HEN-COOP, noun, 2. ...she stemmed them [the currants] throwing them [the stems] into the hen-coop
- HENDER, verb, 39. ...I've got a weakness in my stomach that henders me from standin' up as straight as you do...
- HERE, adv. (See also A-HERE), 195. "Look a-here, Jane," said she.
- HERSELF, pron., 149. ...than she made herself ready...
- HEV, verb (See also HAVE), 103. Ef you don't hev work, I don't see what's goin' to keep a roof over us.
- # HIDE AN' COOT, noun (Probably same as Hide-and-Coop, N.E.D., a game.), 83. Comé outdoors an' play hide an' coot wis me, Polly.
- HIGH, adv., 87. An old man with his baggy trousers hitched high, chopped something in a tray.
- HIGH-PITCHED, adj., 25. It wa'n't ever quite so high-pitched as that Way girl's, mebbe.
- HIGH-STEPPING, adj., 28. Folks are gettin' as high-steppin' an fussy in a meetin'-house as they are in a tavern nowadays.
- HILL-ROAD, noun, 128. There it stood...on its two half-spokeless wheels, which had borne it over so many of the steep New England hill-roads...
- HIRE, verb, 104. She proposed that they should hire her house...
- HIRED, adj., 95. I never knowed Liddy to be without a hired girl.

- HIT, verb, 26. Salvation don't hang on anybody's hittin' a high note.
- HITCH, verb, 87. An old man, with his baggy trousers hitched high, chopped something in a tray...  
162. She squatted down upon the icy path, and hitched along to Jonas.
- HOLD FORTH, verb, 26. I'd like to know if it wouldn't be more to the credit...to keep an old singer...if they didn't hold forth as smart as they used to.
- HOLT, noun, 98. ...it's dretful hard sometimes to keep holt of him, an' not look anywheres else...
- HOMELY, adj., 52. The homely old figure pushed past the flowers and into the house again.  
85. ...if anybody says so it's 'cause they're so...mortal homely themselves.
- HOME-COMING, noun, 56. It was to celebrate... her final home-coming, that her sister was giving a Christmas dinner...
- HOMESTEAD, noun, 8. It was the old homestead;...
- HOOD, noun, 56. The girl's...face was sheathed in an old worsted hood;...
- HOUSE, noun, 21. They reached the gate before Candace's little house.
- HOUSEWORK, noun, 15. The next day she did her housework...
- HONEST AND TRUE, adv., 123. Now, Davy, honest an' true, ain't you jokin'?
- HULL, adj., 184. I'd like to know the hull truth.

- HUSTLE, verb, 225. Nicholas hustled a coat off a peg...
- HUT, noun, 169. Jenny's house was hardly more than a weather-beaten hut...
- HUTCH, noun, 170. All around the room... were little rough cages and hutches...
- HUMAN, adj., 84. [she] "looks more like an old cat...than a human bein'."
- IF, conj., 31. I'd make one, if you did but know it.
- ILL, adj., 224. Nicholas never asked him if he were ill, he never questioned him at all.
- IMPERATIVELY, adv., 161. "Stay where you be," he said imperatively.
- IN, adv., 34. William Emmons come in to ask how you was!...  
83. She had no friends or relatives to take her in...
- INDIAN, proper adj., 220. The lounging men watched him furtively as he bought some Indian meal...  
(See also INJUN)
- INFINITESIMAL, adj., 151. Her income was almost infinitesimal:
- INGRAIN, adj., 62. The sitting-room was... comfortable with...its ingrain carpet...
- INJUDICIOUS, adj., 90. ...she had lost all her property through an injudicious male relative.

INJUN, adj. (See also INDIAN), 222. ...if Nicholas Gunn jest had a grain of old Eph's sense, he'd jest git better victuals...instead of livin' on Injun meal...

INTENSER, adj., 33. ...she was in a roar of intenser fire...

IN THE RIGHT OF IT, adv. phrase, 143. "I dare say you're in the right of it," she said...

IN THE WIND, adv. phrase, 184. A girl don't light up like a rainbow when she sees a fellar comin' if there ain't some-  
thin' in the wind.

INSCRIPTION, noun, 235. The lot held seven old, leaning stones...their inscriptions dimly traceable.

ITINERANT, adj., 119. ...the minister, an itinerant one,--requested the congregation to be seated.

JAR, noun, 131. She used an old earthen jar... for a milking-pail.

JAY, noun, 162. A jay flew on the fence within a few feet of him...

JEST, adv., 24. I know jest what I am about.  
46. A boy jest run; I saw him...

JILT, verb, 14. If you should jilt her tomorrow, I wouldn't have you...

JOINTED, adj., 149. ...she carried a small green parasol with a jointed handle.

JOKE, verb, 123. Now, Davy, honest an' true, ain't you jokin'?

- KEEPSAKE**, noun, 125. In the pocket of her blue dress were her...two keepsakes...
- KEP' ON**, verb, 123. I tried to talk, but he kep' on writin' in a book...
- KETCH**, verb, 221. ...he ketches a nice fat crower...
- KETTLE**, noun, 177. Jenny was bending over the potato kettle, and she did not look around.
- KINDER**, adv., 125. "I'd look kinder queer startin' out on a hundred-mile tramp with a maple tree over my shoulder," said David...
- KINDLING-WOOD**, noun, 22. I'll...break that old organ up into kindling-wood.
- KITTLE**, noun (See also KETTLE), 164. Now fill up the kittle, an' fry the sassages...
- KIND OF**, adv., 153. ...I s'pose he said it to her kind of confidential when she showed him the poetry...  
adv., 14. ...I ain't sorry...that we kind of let on how we felt to each other.
- KNEE-DEEP**, adj., 219. He tramped, knee-deep, down the road...
- KNIFE-BLADE**, noun, 61. ...Maria...seized her by the shoulders, which felt like knife-blades through the thin clothes.
- KNIFEFUL**, noun, 88. ...she brought around her knifeful of cabbage with a side-wise motion, and stretched her little red mouth to receive it.

KNITTED, adj., 183. She had quite a reputation for her knitted lace...

KNOTTY, adj., 129. They [apples] were small and knotty.

KNOT-HOLES, noun, 164. She made one think of those sylvan faces with features composed of bark-wrinkles and knot-holes, that one could fancy looking out of the trunks of trees.

KNOWED, verb, 86. "I knowed it," she said, "it's tore all to pieces again..."

LACE, noun, 183. She had a quite a reputation for her knitted lace...

LACE-CURTAIN, noun, 21. The wind stirred the looped lace-curtains.

LACE-CURTAINED, adj., 21. Wilson looked past the front yard...at the lace-curtained windows.

LAIID UP, adj., 65. Maria had hardly recovered when Caleb was laid up...

LACE-WORK, noun, 186. Elvira put up her lace-work.

LADY, noun, 4. There was a Young Lady's Gift-Book.

LAIID-WORK, noun, 95. ...she had a whole chist full of clothes...all tucks an' laid-work...

LAMP, noun, 3. She lighted her lamp and sat down again.

LAMP-LIGHT, noun, 75. ...her blue eyes blinked in the lamp-light...

LAMP-MAT, noun, 217. There was a lamp-mat on the table...

LAP, verb, 162. When he approached the dangerous spot his progress was hardly more perceptible than a scaly leaf-slug's. Repose almost lapped over motion.

LARDER, noun, 223. ...all their [the birds' larders were buried. [in snow]

LATCH, noun, 169. Finally he lifted the latch...

LAUGH, verb, 124. I'd laugh if we couldn't [git along].

LAVENDER, noun, 10. She gloated over her orderly bureau-drawers, with...their contents redolent with lavender and sweet clover and very purity.

LAY, verb, 67. I ain't laid hands on't.  
167. She had laid in a small stock of provisions, and she carried them in a basket...

31...I want to lay down.

LEADEN, adj., 130. ...his full, young face looked leaden.

LEAF, noun, 18. The trees were in full leaf.

LEAF-SLUG, noun, 162. When he approached the dangerous spot his progress was hardly more perceptible than a scaly leaf-slug's.

LEAN-TO, noun, 226. There was a little lean-to at the back, and there was some fuel stored in it.

LEASTWAYS, adv., 133. "I ain't goin' to, Davy.  
Leastways not fur more'n two."

LEATHER-CUSHIONED, adj., 220-1. An old man in  
 a leather-cushioned arm-chair...turned his  
 ...face toward the others...

LEETLE, adj., 67. I know a leetle somethin' yet.

LIABLE, adj., 122. Araminta had not wholly  
 escaped the suspicions liable to attach  
 themselves to a handsome unprotected girl  
 in a humble position.

LIEU, noun, 12. ...no anticipation of disorder...  
 in lieu of sweet peace and harmony...were  
 sufficient to turn her a hair's breadth.

LIFE-EVERLASTING, noun, 167. ...she carried them  
 in the basket which had held the little  
 bunches of life-everlasting and amaranth  
 flowers...

LIGHT, verb, 3. She lighted her lamp.

LIGHT UP, verb, 184. A girl don't light up  
 like a rainbow when she sees a fellar  
 comin' if there ain't somethin' in the  
 wind...

LINE, verb, 200. I wanted a piece of...cambric  
 to line my sleeves...

LIST, verb (please), 16. Louisa could sew  
 seams...as long as she listed.

LITTER, noun, 148. Her portfolio was piled  
 with a loose litter of written papers...

- LIVE AROUND, verb, 122. She had lived around in various families...until she was eighteen.
- LIV'S, adj., 165. I ain't very fond of sassages myself, an' I'd jest as liv's you'd have my cake as not.
- LOOK, noun, 1. There was a difference in the look of the tree shadows out in the yard.
- LOOK AFTER, verb (care for), 33. The doctor and Mrs. Ford came and looked after her.
- LOOKIN'-GLASS, noun, 85. She's gone to look at her nose in the lookin'-glass an' make sure it ain't crooked...
- LOOKOUT, noun, 31. I've got a little lookout for the credit of the family.
- LONGER, adv., 31. An' I ain't goin' to live a dreadful while longer...
- LONG-WAISTED, adj., 169. The minister was... clad in long-waisted and wrinkly black.
- LOOM, verb, 123. "I'm awful glad you've come," she said, when the...young fellow loomed up in the doorway.
- LOOP, noun, 182. ...she wore it [hair] in twisted loops over her ears;...
- LOOPED, adj., 24. The wind stirred the looped lace curtains.
- LOOSE, adj., 148. Her portfolio was piled with a loose litter of written papers...

LOP, verb (droop), 178. Jane Amesbury never  
"lopped", as she termed it.

LOT, noun, 4. Yes, I've been haying all day  
 down in the ten-acre lot.

LOUNGE, noun, 72. They got her on to the  
lounge...

LOVE-CRACKED, adj., 167. "Love-cracked," people  
 called her.

LOWLY-NATURED, adj., 68. Caleb, who was lowly-  
natured...made a call upon him quite a  
 formal affair...

LUMBERINGLY, adv., 23. But he stepped lumberingly  
 into the entry.

LUNCH-PAIL, noun, 44. Matilda came...with her tin  
lunch-pail on her arm.

LUTESTRING, adj., 95. An' she come out bride in  
 a...bunnit trimmed with lutestring ribbon.

MAD, adj., 27. I've been mad ever since to think  
 what a fool I was.

MAIDENLY, adj., 8. ...going about her neat  
maidenly possession, she felt as one  
 looking her last upon the faces of dear  
 friends.

MAINLY, adv., 231. ...I've had lots of trouble,  
 an' it come mainly through folks I set by;...

MAKE, verb, 149. ...then she made herself ready  
 to carry it to Mr. Caxton's.  
 207. He tried to make some conversation.

- MALE, adj., 90. ...she had lost all her property through an injudicious male relative.
- MANSARD-ROOFED, adj., 81. It was a new building, Mansard-roofed and well painted.
- MANTEL-SHELF, noun, 91. I had gilt vases... on my mantel-shelf.
- MANTILLY, noun, 95. ...she come out bride in... a black mantilly...
- MANTLE, noun, 21. ...the lace on her mantle fluttered...
- MANUFACTORY, noun, 109. There was a new boot-and-shoe manufactory there...
- MAPLE-TREE, noun, 125. I'd pull up that maple-tree if I could, and you'd carry it.
- MARKET-BASKET, noun, 223. Stephen Forster came up the road with his market-basket;...
- MARIGOLD, noun, 125. ...Minty...picked an enormous bouquet of...marigolds and balsams.
- MARRIAGE, noun, 66. There was a report that the marriage was to take place on Thanksgiving Day.
- MASSY SAKE, interj., 188. "Jane," she called, "wake up, for massy sake!"...
- MAYBE, adv., 7. Louisa's feet had turned into a path, smooth maybe under a calm serene sky...

- MEADOW, noun, 131. Two or three broad meadows away from the old house there were several cows pastured.
- MEADOW-LAND, noun, 219. He...went on between white meadow-lands and stretches of woods.
- MEAN, adj., 201. If he has, he's a mean scamp...
- MEANING, adj., 122. People had said she was a pretty wild kind of a girl, with a meaning look, before she was married.
- MEASURE, noun, 226. Nicholas got a measure of meal out of his cupboard...
- MEBBE, adv., 34. Mebbe--you'd better--brush it up a little.
- MECHANICAL,, adj., 34. Her eyes followed her sister everywhere with the mechanical persistency of a portrait.
- MEETIN'-HOUSE, noun, 26. Folks are gettin' as high-steppin'...in a meetin'-house as they are in a tavern, nowadays.
- MERE, adj., 1. There seemed to be a gentle stir arising over everything for the mere sake of subsidence.
- MERRYMAKING, noun, 204. She did not talk as she usually did on a return from a merrymaking.

- MESS, noun, 142. I didn't have more'n three or four messes...  
199. The idea of you shutting yourself up here, packing a mess of rose leaves into a jar!
- MIDSUMMER, noun, 167. She was a Christmas Jenny in midsummer, when she came down the mountain laden with green peas...
- MIND, noun, 52. You can tell nobody you're a mind to. [Sic]
- MINDING, gerund, 19. "It ain't worth minding," she whispered vigorously.
- MILKING-PAIL, noun, 132. She used an old earthen jar...for a milking-pail.
- MILD-VISAGED, adj., 10. No one knew the possible depths of remorse of which this mild-visaged...old dog might be capable.
- MIGHTY, adv., 31. ...this house would have been mighty nice an' convenient for you some day.  
124. It's mighty dull times now.
- MINNESINGER, noun, 96. Old Polly Moss...sang the praises of her sister Liddy as wildly... as any minnesinger his angel mistress...
- MISTAKING, noun, 127. No one lived in it; there was no mistaking that.
- MITTEN, noun, 201. Now I jest want to know if Gilman Lane give you the mitten...
- MOP, noun, 86. ...her mop of soft white hair flew out.

MORE'N, 49. It ain't more'n ten years since I saw her.

MORNING-GLORY, noun, 121. Some morning-glory vines were climbing up on strings toward the two front windows.

MORTAL, adv., 85. ...if anybody says so it's 'cause...they're so mortal homely themselves.

'MOST, adv., 143. I should 'most have thought... that you'd planted more real beans and peas instead of so many flowerin' ones.

MOSTLY, adv., 142. I guess I planted sweet-peas mostly...

'MOUNT, verb, 172. ...it 'mounts to jest about as much as sending money to missionaries...

MOURNING, noun, 141. She wore a gay...calico dress with her mourning bonnet...

MOVE, verb, 162. He seemed to scarcely move at all.

MUFF, noun, 91. I had a fitch tippet an' muff that cost twenty-five dollars.

N (contraction), see THAN, MORE'N, and OLDER'N

NAME, verb, 48. You was named for her.

NARROW, adj., 30. To this obscure woman, kept ...in a narrow track, singing...had been as much as Italy was to Napoleon.

- NARROW-LIVED, adj., 58. They were all narrow-lived country people.
- NASTY, adj., 89. I don't see how you can wear that nasty thing.
- NEAR-SIGHTED, adj., 143. Betsey was near-sighted.
- NECKTIE, noun, 196. ...he held his neck stiffly in his clean collar and white necktie.
- NERVE, noun, 19. ...her nerves were braced for the ascent.
- NEVER, adv., 161. The old man never said a word.
- NEW ENGLANDER, noun, 28. He himself was not a typical New Englander.
- NICE, adv., 52. ...it got burned some, but we mended it nice.
- NIGHT, noun, 65. Christine asleep of a night ...became a part of their existence...
- NIGHT-GOWN, noun, 147. ...seemed to see two childish forms...one purely human...; the other in a little straight white night-gown...
- NIPPIN', adj. (affected), [Obs., rare, N.E.D.], 29. Little soft-spoken nippin' thing, she won't make him no kind of wife.  
100. (To move rapidly) I can't help thinkin' of it sometimes when I see her go nippin' past...

- NO, adj., 103. ...she give me no end of digs...  
194. There ain't no call for you to say  
sech things.
- NOBODY, pronoun, 52. You can tell nobody you're  
a mind to.
- NOHOW, adv., 145. I wouldn't wear my black  
dress in it nohow; a black bonnet is  
bad enough.
- NON-COMMUNICANT, noun, 109. After the sermon Hannah  
rose quietly and went down the aisle with  
the non-communicants.
- NOON, noun, 202. When the noon bells were  
ringing, her Aunt Joanna appeared again.
- NOONTIDE, noun, 29. He missed his comfortable  
noontide rest.
- NOSE, noun, 180. Well, you can turn your nose  
up at Emma...all you want to; she's as  
good as Rose Tenney any day.
- NOTE-PAPER, noun, 149. She wrote it out on  
both sides of note-paper, in a neat  
cramped hand.
- NOTICE, noun, 27. An' there was the letter inside  
givin' me notice to quit.
- NOWADAYS, adv., 26. Folks are getting as high-  
steppin'...in a meetin'-house as they are  
in a tavern nowadays.
- OBLEEGE, verb, 218. I'm much obleeged to ye,  
Mr. Gunn...

OBITUARY, adj., 147. ...Betsey wrote poor little Willie Caxton's obituary poetry.

OBSOLETE, adj., 149. Her costume was obsolete even in the little country village...

ODDS, noun, 31. It don't make no odds what I'm doin' so for.

OFF, adv., 34. I wish you'd go out...an' head off Alma an' Wilson...

OFFISH, adj., 213. But she acted so cold and offish the first time I saw her that I thought sure she'd got over thinking anything of me.

OLDER'N, adj., 26. He's three years older'n I am.

OLD-FASHIONED, adj., 156. People said she had the old-fashioned consumption.

OLD-WOMANLY, adj., 40. ...skeletons there were none, except...a little innocent bone or two of old-womanly pride and sensitiveness.

ONCE IN A WHILE, adv., 74. Once in a while she stopped and turned herself about...

ONE, pron., 69. You're all the one that's to blame.

ONE-SIDED, adv., 50. Her cape-bonnet was on one-sided...

ON, prep., 82. I've got jest about sick on't.

ONTO, prep., 69. ...I wouldn't lay the blame onto anybody else.

- OPEN, adj., 60. ...all the open fields shone and flashed.
- OPERATIVE, noun (employee), 121. ...they [houses] had been built expressly for the operatives in the Saunders Cotton Mills.
- ORTER, verb (ought to), 89. You'd orter have seen the cap I had when my daughter was married.
- OTHER, adj., 231. There's...my other pants, but they're 'most worn out.
- OUT OF MY HEAD, adj. phrase, 158. "No, I ain't out of my head," said Betsey.
- OUT-SING, verb, 32. She did not need to out-sing her rival this evening.
- OVER, adv., 33. She bade him go...to Mrs. Ford's and ask her to come over.
- OVERSEER, noun, 87. The overseer sat at one end of the table and served the beef.
- OVER-SKIRT, noun, 39. The waist and over-skirt were trimmed with black velvet ribbon.
- PACK, verb, 27. I'd send the photograph album back quick's I could pack it...
- PADDED, adj., 81. ...there was a padded cell in case they waxed too violent.
- PAIL, noun, 160. ...Jonas Carey came out with a pail...

- PAINFULLY, adv., 100. When she turned to follow her in she limped painfully.
- PALATE, noun, 60. This taste...once fairly admitted...to their unaccustomed palates, served them as wine with their Christmas dinner.
- PALAVÉRIN', noun, 25. An' there ain't no amount of...palaverin' a-goin' to stop me.
- PALM-LEAF, noun, 150. ...Betsey sank into the hair-cloth rocker and waved a palm-leaf fan.
- PAN, noun, 87. ...an old woman peeled potatoes, and a young one washed pans at the sink.
- PANTRY, noun, 145. Betsey...set them [the beans] away in the pantry.
- PANTS, noun, 231. There's my...other pants...
- PARADE, noun, 22. He did not tell Alma...how she had stayed at home...to make a parade of her hard work...
- PARAPHERNALIA, noun, 147. Little Willie Caxton's angel was still himself to her, although decked in the paraphernalia of the resurrection.
- PARASOL, noun, 149. ...she carried a small green parasol...
- PARSIMONIOUSNESS, noun, 211. She was bent, in her parsimoniousness, on saving all that she could of the sweetness of the world...
- PARISH, noun, 119. ...this poor parish had no settled preacher...

- PARTICULAR, adv., 196. He washed him real particular.
- PASTURE, verb, 131. Two or three broad meadows away from the old house there were several cows pastured.
- PAST, adv., 1. Some blue-shirted laborers... plodded past.
- PATIENT, adj., 210. So Clarissa in her patient certainty overlooked it all.
- PAUPER, noun, 81. ...the village did not feel able to give its insane paupers separate support...
- PAY-NIGHT, noun, 123. ...What made you so late: it ain't pay-night?
- PEAKED, adj., 62. The sitting-room was...comfortable with its...little peaked clock on a corner of the high black shelf...
- PEDDLE, verb, 166. She went straight to the village and peddled her wares from house to house.
- PEEKIN', verb, 36. I ain't goin' to have Matilda Jennings peekin' an' pryin'...if I know it.
- PEG, noun, 225. Nicholas hustled a coat off of a peg...
- PEPPERY, adj., 52. The peppery sweetness of the nasturtiums came up in her face...
- PEPPERMINT, noun, 9. ...she used to occupy herself... distilling...essences...from peppermint...
- PERCHANCE, adv., 11. If perchance he sounded a hoarse bark, there was a panic.

- PERFORCE, adv., 6. ...the lace and Louisa  
commanded perforce his perfect respect...
- PERK, verb, 89. The pretty old one had taken  
off her cap and had it in her lap, perking  
up the lace...
- PERLITE, adj., 94. He spoke jest as perlite.
- PERSISTENCY, noun, 34. Her pitiful eyes followed  
her sister everywhere with the mechanical  
persistence of a portrait.
- PERTATERS, noun, 221. Then his hay crop failed,  
an' his pertaters had rotted...
- PERTICKLER, adj., 41. ...it wa'nt anything  
pertickler... (See also PARTICULAR)
- PESKY, adj., 85. "Pesky young one!" she muttered.
- PETTICOAT, noun, 86. She had on nothing but a  
woollen petticoat and a calico waist;...
- PHANTOM, noun, 128. ...Minty...found...the very  
phantom of an old sulky.
- PIAZZA, noun, 39. Out in front of the house was  
a piazza...
- <sup>A</sup>PIAZZED, adj., 191. ...she could see the Tenney house,  
white-painted and piazzed.
- PICTURE, noun, 93. My sister Liddy was jest as  
handsome as a pictur'...
- PICTURE-BOOK, noun, 176. There were picture-books and  
cards, and boxes of candy and oranges.

- PIECEMEAL, adj., 161. ...it seemed as if he had actually constructed himself, so piecemeal his rising had been.  
adv., 94. ...her category poured forth, not piecemeal, but in a flood, upon her astonished hearers.
- PINAFORE, noun, 169. The little boy was dressed like a girl, in a long blue gingham pinafore.
- PINE, adj., 109. ...a shattered...old grandfather leaned impressively upon his poor pine stick...
- PINE-TREE, noun, 169. Just before the house stood a tall pine-tree.
- PINK, noun, 90. ...I can smell them pinks an' roses...
- PITY-SAKES, interjection, 47. "What is the matter, Em'ly, for pity sakes?"
- PITCH, verb, 31. I'll just go over and pitch that old organ out of the window.  
noun, 161. ...the ice made a dangerous little pitch over them.
- PLAGUE, verb, 227. I coughed so, it used to plague the customers.
- PLOD, verb, 1. Some blue-shirted laborers... plodded past.
- PLOUGH, noun, 81. ...now they [the fields] showed ugly plough ridges sloping over the uneven ground.  
169. ...on the right, stretched the remains of Jenny's last summer's garden, full of plough-ridges and glistening corn-stubble.

- PLUME, verb, 92. ...at one time...they had something over which to plume themselves and feel that precious pride of possession.
- PLUM-PUDDING, noun, 176. The plum-puddin's all done...
- PLUMY, adj., 146. Great plummy bunches of asparagus waved over the tops of the lookin'-glass...
- PLUS, prep., 112. Martha plus her calla-lily might equal something almost beautiful-- who knew?
- POINT-BLANK, adv., 212. ...Now I'm going to ask you point-blank.
- POISON-IVY, noun, 191. ...she...saw Joseph Tenney's face...over masses of poison-ivy.
- POKE, verb, 140. She poked her little face forward, and her sharp pretty eyes took in the entry.
- POOR-HOUSE, noun, 172. There, she took that poor little dumbie out of the poor-house.
- PORRIDGE, noun, 226. Nicholas...prepared some porridge in a little stewpan.
- PORTFOLIO, noun, 146. Betsey...got an old black portfolio and pen and ink out of the chimney cupboard.
- PORTULACA, noun, 52. ...her foot cleared a yellow portulaca...
- POT, noun, 189. It was an iron pot with a cover...

- POT-POURRI, noun, 204. Years ago Gilman Lane had taught her how to make her first pot-pourri.
- POTTAGE, noun, 17. If Louisa Ellis had sold her birth-right she did not know it, the taste of the pottage was so delicious.
- POWER, noun, 92. ...this was merely the place where her working powers had failed her;...
- PRAYER-MEETING, noun, 32. ...there was only congregational singing at the Sunday-night prayer-meeting.
- PREACHER, noun, 119. ...this poor parish had no settled preacher...
- PREMISE, noun, 146. It seemed as if one, given the premises of herself and the room, could ...deduce what she would write...
- PRETTY, adv., 4. Yes, it's pretty hot work in the sun.  
151. ...it does read pretty well.
- PRETTY-LOOKING, adj., 4. "She's pretty-looking, too," remarked Louisa.
- PRICKLE, noun, 185. ...all the prickles in her nature seemed turned against sentiment...
- PRINCIPALLY, adv., 126. The Saundersville folk sang that kind of music principally.
- PRINT, noun, 3. Louisa took off her green... apron, disclosing a shorter one of pink and white print.
- PROSECUTE, verb, 80. It was prosecuted eagerly, but to no purpose.

- PRY, verb, 38. I ain't goin' to have Matilda Jennings...pryin' and tellin' things, if I know it.
- PSALM, adj., 25. ...I've got a right...to sing a psalm tune on a Sabbath day.
- PUMP, noun, 91. I had a pump in my kitchen sink... 160. When he had filled his pail he took it carefully from the pump spout.
- PUPPYHOOD, noun, 10. ...it was all on account of a sin committed when scarcely out of his puppyhood.
- PUT A STOP TO, 15. "This must be put a stop to," said she.
- QUIT, verb, 129. David May, you jest quit.
- QUITE, adv., 180. I dun know as there is anybody 'round here that quite comes up to her;...
- RAMPAGE, noun, 12. She pictures to herself Caesar [dog] on a rampage through the quiet ...village.
- RATHER, (see RUTHER)
- RARITY, noun, 37. ...a Fourth of July picnic is... little more of...a rarity.
- RATTAN, noun, 149. She wore a green barège bonnet, stiffened with rattans...
- RAVIN', adv., 188. ...if you don't quit talkin' 'bout that dream I shall go ravin' crazy...
- REACH, noun, 17. She gazed ahead through the long reach of future days strung together...

- READ, verb, 151. "...I don't know but it does read pretty well," said she.
- READY, adj., 149. ...then she made herself ready to carry it to Mrs. Caxton's.
- REAL, adv., 196. He washed him real partie-ular...  
 adj., 91. ...an' I had a tea-set, real chiny...
- REASON, noun, 25. He began to think she was losing her reason.
- RED-COVERED, adj., 62. The sitting room...was comfortable with its...red-covered card-table...
- RED-FLOWERING, adj., 140. The garden-patch... was all a gay spangle with...red-flowering beans...
- RED-PLUSH, adj., 25. Candace's feet were resting on a large red-plush photograph album.
- REFUGE, noun, 83. She had no refuge but the almshouse or the hospital...
- REGULAR, adj., 166. She had her regular customers.
- RELATIVE, noun, 90. ...she had lost all her property through an injudicious male relative.
- REST, noun, 187. I ain't goin' to be broke of my rest this way.
- RESTRAINEDLY, adv., 62. The sitting-room was... restrainedly comfortable with its ordinary village furnishings...
- RETURN, noun, 85. She drew breath, and paused for a return shot, but she got none.

- RIG UP, verb, 122. Every cent that he could spare went to "rig Minty up," as he put it.
- RIGHT, adv., 153. Yes, she said that right to my face...
- RIGHT, verb, 216. At last Stephen righted himself and kept on.
- RIGID, adj., 61. The ground was all bare and rigid.
- RISE, noun, 28. I'm goin' to let folks see there is a little rise left in me.
- RISING, adj., 81. The almshouse stood upon rising ground, so one could see it for a long distance.
- RIZ, adj., 183. I thought I'd have some riz biscuit in the mornin', Jonas thinks so much of 'em...
- ROAD, noun, 58. Their customs had made deeper grooves in their roads: they were more fastidious and jealous of their social rights than many in higher positions.
- ROCKING-CHAIR, noun, 82. ...she sat in a rocking-chair and leaned her head back.
- ROLL, noun, 63. There was a sudden roll of wheels in the yard.
- ROSE-TREE, noun, 24. A rose-tree outside the window waved.
- ROT, verb, 221. Then his hay crop failed, an' his pertaters had rotted, an' finally... his best cow died...

ROUGHENED, adj., 206. He was roughened and  
browned now by his California life...

ROUND, prep., 1. Louisa tied a green apron  
round her waist.

ROW, noun, 186. ...you don't mean to say  
you made all this row an' waked me up  
out of a sound sleep for a dream!

RUFFLE, noun, 100. I can't help thinkin'  
of it...when I see her go nippin'  
past with her ruffles and gimcracks...

RUN, verb, 26. He's three years older'n I  
am, if he does lead the choir an'  
run all the singin' in town.  
46. ...a boy just run; I saw him.  
121. They were coarse and gaudy, rather  
indelicate; her taste ran that way.

RUTHER, adv., 84. ...I'd enough sight ruther  
know a leetle somethin' than have a  
dolly-face...

SABBATH, noun, 37. I went to meetin' last  
Sabbath.

SAGE-BLOWS, noun (Sage-blossoms), 142. ...  
I always like them blue sage-blows.

SALT, adj., 87. ...although the world had  
lost its savor...it was still  
somewhat salt to their palates.

SALT PORK, noun, 130. He came back...bringing  
...a pound or so of salt pork...

- SAMPLER, noun, 146. ...a framed sampler was fastened to the wall. #
- SANE, adj., 81. ...so they lived in the almshouse with the sane paupers...
- SASSAGE-CAKE, noun, 164. Mis' Gill she sent us in two sassage-cakes.
- SATIN, adj., 94. ...he wore a beautiful coat an' a satin vest, an' he spoke jest as perlite.
- SAVOR, noun, 43. There had been in their lives a faint savor of gentility and aristocracy.
- SAVINGS-BANK, noun, 151. ...the interest at a low per cent of a tiny sum in the village savings-bank...had been paid.
- SAY, noun, 25. An' now I'm goin' to have my say.  
verb, 31. Well, what say! What have you got to say for yourself, acting the way you have?
- SCAMP, noun, 201. If he has, he's a mean scamp...  
74. That scamp!
- SCARCELY, adv., 162. He seemed to scarcely move at all.
- SCALLOP, noun, 170. ...his...hair...lay in a very flat and smooth scallop over his full white forehead.  
184. I'm jest goin' to make one scallop.

- SCARED, adj., 42. "Yes, I have," replied Emily, with a scared glance at Elizabeth.
- SCART, adj., 194. Come over 'cause he was scart, I s'pose.
- SCENT, noun (perfume), 94. ...an' she allers had scent on her handkercher.
- SCRAGGY, adj., 90. ...she towered up next the pretty old woman like a scraggy old pine beside a faded lily.
- SCUSE, verb, 41. I do hope you'll scuse me!
- SECH, adj., 94. ...nobody ever heerd sech singin'.
- SEE, verb, 6. He came twice a week to see Louisa Ellis.
- SEED, participle, 88. I've seed it a-comin' on fer a couple of days...  
171. (past tense of see), ...I knowed you was comin' up here when I seed you go by...
- SELECTMEN, noun, 227. She's goin' to get the selectmen to the house to-morrow mornin'.
- SELF-WONDERMENT, noun, 150. She had the pride and self-wonderment of recognized genius.
- SENSES, noun, 33.. ...she had her senses fully.
- SEPARATE, adj., 81. ...the village did not feel able to give its insane paupers separate support in a regular asylum...
- SERVANT, noun, 9. ...it would be contrary to all thrifty village traditions for her to keep more than one servant..
- SET, verb, 91. ...it [chiny figger] used to set side<sup>of</sup> the clock...  
25. I guess I've got a right to set down to my own organ.

- SET BY, verb (trusted in), 231. ...I've had lots of trouble, an't it come...through folks I set by;
- SETTIN', adj., (participle), 163. Oh, Jonas, you'll freeze, settin' there!
- SETTLE, noun, 82. She was short and stout, and she sat with a heavy settle as if she were stuffed with lead.
- SETTLED, adj., 119. ...this poor parish had no settled preacher.
- SHAFT, noun, 134. She took hold of the shafts and pulled it [the sulky] ...into the green yard.
- SHAKE A STICK, 100 (compare with). Ellen thought hers was pretty handsome, but it can't shake a stick at this.
- SHA'N'T, verb (negatived), 31. ...you sha'n't never have one cent of my money.
- SHAMEFACED, adj., 168. She had just become engaged to the young man, and was walking with him in broad daylight with a kind of shamefaced pride.
- SHAWL-PIN, noun, 171. She looked at them for a moment, and tightened her shawl-pin; then the restraint left her.
- SHELL, noun, 148. She glanced at a great pink shell on the shelf and remembered how she had often given it to the dead child to play with...
- SHELVE, verb, 215. The snow shelved out over the eaves; and clung in damp masses to the walls.

SHIFT, verb, 122. Since then she had shifted as best she could.

SHIRT-SLEEVE, noun, 122. They struggled along, the men in their calico shirt-sleeves, the girls in their soiled dresses...

SHOE-DEEP, adj., 174. The ice was all gone now; there had been a light fall of snow the day before, but it was not shoe-deep.

SHORT, adj., 66. I guess we may as well get a few things made up for you, Paulina, you're getting rather short.

SHOVE OFF, verb, 57. ...you ain't goin' to shove her off in the corner?...

SHOVEL, noun, 1. Some...laborers with shovels over their shoulders plodded past.

SHUT DOWN, verb, 106. She's been sewin' boots for Allen over in Wayne, but I heard the other day he was goin' to shut down on her.

SIDE OF, prep., 91. ...it [the chiny figger] used to set side of the clock...

SIDE-DOOR, noun, 74. ...she waded painfully through the yard to the side-door and knocked.

SIDE-GLANCE, noun, 93. When a new item of past property was given, there was always a side-glance in Polly's direction.

SIDEWISE, adj., 88. ...and she brought around her knifeful of cabbage with a sidewise motion and stretched her little red mouth to receive it.

- SIGHT, noun, 84. I'd enough sight rather know a leetle somethin' than have a dolly-face myself.  
 126. It was enough sight better than being cooped up in the shop...  
 139. He seems to think a sight on her; wants her to have everythin' and be dressed up.
- SIMPLE, adj., 92. Their present was to them a state of simple existence...
- SINGING-BOOK, noun, 19. Her little thin gloved hand clutching the singing-book, shook...
- SINGING-SCHOOL, noun, 20. He was the...leader of the...singing-schools.
- SINGING-SEAT, noun, 25.. Here I've sung in those singin' seats forty years.
- SINGULAR, adj., 82. She had singular bright eyes, and a sardonic smile around her mouth.
- SINK, noun, 87. ...an old woman peeled potatoes, and a young one washed pans at the sink.
- SITTING-ROOM, noun, 1. She had been peacefully sewing at her sitting-room window all afternoon.  
 72. She and Paulina happened to be alone in the sitting-room.
- SIZZLING, part., 53. ...I see them fire-cracker a-sizzlin' before Em'ly stepped in 'em.
- SKIRTED, part. adj., 126. Saundersville was a tiny rural...town, skirted...by forests.

- SLED, noun, 163. She left her sled in the road.
- SMART, adv., 26. I'd like to know if it wouldn't be more to the credit of folks...to keep an old singer an' an old minister if they didn't hold forth as smart as they used to.
- SMELL, noun, 100. The new grass was springing, and there was a smell of it in the air.
- SNOW-BOUND, adj., 220. He was snow-bound overnight in the village.
- SNOW-CRUST, noun, 160. The snow-crust had a thin coat of ice...
- SNOW-WIND, noun, 57. The chilly snow-wind came right in her sweet, rosy face.
- SOFT, adj., 202. If I had such soft letters lying around I'd burn 'em...
- SOFT-SPOKEN, adj., 29. Little soft-spoken, nippin' thing, she won't make him no kind of wife.
- SOME, adj., 127. We've got to find some place or other to stay to-night.
- SOMETHING, noun, 184. A girl don't light up like a rainbow when she sees a fellar comin' if there ain't somethin' in the wind..
- SOON, adv., 30. Pretty soon she heard a quick slam of her gate, and an impetuous tread on the gravel-walk.
- SOUND, verb, 15. She wanted to sound him without betraying too soon her own inclinations in the matter.

- SPANGLE, noun, 140. The garden-patch at the right of the house was all a gay spangle...
- SPARE, adj., 137. ...you go an' get the bed in the spare room ready.
- SPARKLE, noun, 224. The snow creak<sup>d</sup> underfoot, the air was full of sparkles...
- SPARROW, noun, 162. ... a sparrow pecked at some weeds...
- SPECTACLES, noun, 10. ...there were yellow rings which looked like spectacles around his... eyes.
- SPENCER, adj., 91. ...I had...a black silk spencer cape.
- SPIRITS, noun, 226. ...I ain't got no spirits; never keep any in the house.
- SPITE, noun, 123. He's always had a spite again' me...
- SPITY, adj., 85. ...if anybody says so it's 'cause they're so spity...so mortal homely themselves.
- SPOKE, past participle, 31. ...I'll tell you one thing...after the way you've spoke today.
- SPORT, noun, 58. There was a mixture of heartiness and sport in the young woman's manner.
- S'POSE, verb, 163. ...what do you s'pose she'll think?
- SPRIG, verb, 91. ...I had a tea-set...with a green sprig on it...
- SPRING, verb, 110. The new grass was springing...

SPUNK, noun, 80. I suppose I ain't showing much spunk about it...

SPY OUT, verb, 171. ...I knowed somebody was goin' to come up here an' spy her out...

SQUASH, noun, 167. ...she came down the mountain laden with green peas...and summer squashes.

SQUAT, verb, 162. She squatted down upon the icy path, and hitched along to Jonas.

STABBING, gerund, 125. ...she knew...why this foreman had turned him off, and this was her method of stabbing him for it.

STALL, noun, 128. ...it looked as if it would crumble to dust...if drawn out of its stall, like an old skeleton if lifted out of its coffin.

STAN', verb, 46. ...What made you stan' there in 'em?

STANCH, adj., 179. She required for her growth and support only a rude, stanch soil and a sky.

STAND, verb, 21. If you want to stand this kind of thing you may.

STANDIN'-ROOM, noun, 232. ...men's tracks cover the whole world, and there ain't standin'-room outside of 'em.

STEEL-ENGRAVING, (See ENGRAVING)

STIR UP, verb, 38. I'll stir up a cake for you to carry...

- STOCK, noun, 167. She had laid in a stock of provisions...
- STOCKIN', noun, 95. ...she had a pair of silk-stockin's...
- STORY, noun, 220. He ain't right in his upper story.
- STOOL, noun, 82. ...she sat on a stool on the other side of the stove...
- STOP, verb, 116. ...I ain't stopping there now...
- STOUT, adj., 227. I ain't never been very stout...
- STRAGGLE, verb, 52. ...her...foot just cleared a yellow portulaca which had straggled into her path...
- STRAIGHT BACK, adv., 122. She had flaxen hair, which...she combed straight back.
- STREAMER, noun, 89. All white wrought lace, an'... long streamers...on't.
- STRIKE OUT, verb, 6. ...he had announced his determination to strike out into new fields and secure a competency...
- STRING, noun, 121. Some morning-glory vines were climbing up on strings toward the...windows...
- STRING-BEANS, noun, 167. She was Christmas Jenny in summer, when she came down the mountain laden with...string-beans, and summer squashes.

- STRUCK, verb, 92. She had worked for scanty pay as long as she was able, and had then drifted and struck on the almshouse, where she had grown old.  
167. She had to follow it about a mile; then she struck into a cartpath which led up to the clearing where the house was.
- STRUNG UP, verb (participle), 173. He ought to ha' been strung up.
- STUCK, past part., 16. But if you wanted to keep on, I'd have stuck to you till my dying day.
- STUFFED, adj., 90. There I had a whole house, with stuffed furniture...
- SUNG, verb, 25. I sung the way I did on purpose.
- SUBSIDENCE, noun, 1. There seemed to be a gentle stir arising...for the mere sake of subsidence.  
89. But after her momentary subsidence she aroused herself...
- SUGAR-BOWL, noun, 2. Louisa had a damask napkin on her tea-tray where were arranged...a china sugar-bowl, and one pink china cup and saucer.
- SUGAR-PLUM, noun, 183. Folks that can't see nothin' in this world but the one sugar-plum they ain't able to git had better git out of it.
- SUITABLE, adv., 45. I allers believed in goin' dressed suitable for the occasion...
- SULKY, noun, 128. Minty...found a few old rusty tools in there...and a very phantom of an old sulky...tottering on its two half-spokeless wheels.  
136. "Dragged her sick husband in that 'ere sulky to see the doctor," she says.

SUMMER, noun, 142. Had any summer squash?

SUMPTUOUS, adj., 151. She had written obituary poems before, but never one had been printed in this sumptuous fashion.

SUN-BONNET, noun, 190. ...Elvira put on her sun-bonnet...

SUNDAY, noun, 108. Not one Sunday had she missed of stepping modestly up the aisle in her humble Sunday best...

SUNDAY-NIGHT, adj., 32. ...there was only congregational singing at the Sunday-night prayer-meeting.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, noun, 126. She even began to sing...a Sunday-school tune.

SUNG, verb, 107. The wind sung in her ears...

SUPERSTITION, noun, 173. The popular sentiment against Jenny...was the outcome of this characteristic, which was a remnant of the old New England witchcraft superstition.

SUPPER, noun, 41. I didn't know you was eatin' supper.

SUPPORT, noun, 81. ...the village did not feel able to give its insane paupers separate support...

SURMISE, noun, 66. ...there was much talk and surmise between Mrs. Childs and Maria...

- SURPRISE-PARTY, noun, 22. They went there last Thursday night and gave her an album and a surprise-party.
- SUZ, noun (sirs), Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language: ...an exclamation of astonishment; a mild expletive... Local U.S. 175. ...dear me suz, when we'd got most to your house, an' I was jest thinkin' we'd come 'long real comfort'ble.
- SWAY, verb, 24. She looked as if her words might sway her through the window.
- SWEET-CAKE, noun, 45. ...Emily nibbled daintily at her sweet-cake...
- SWEET-PEA, noun, 150. ...the fervent sweetness of the sweet-peas seemed to greet her like the voice of friends.
- SWISH, noun, 200. After Anne had danced out with a crisp swish of muslin skirts, Clarissa went on with her work.
- SWITCH, noun, 69. "It's just where you put it," interrupted Maria, taking up her sewing with a switch;...
- TAGGED OUT, part. adj., 38. "You're gettin' of it [the gala dress] all tagged out," she declared presently.
- TAKE, verb, 26. ...folks 'll be as took up with your sermons as when you was a young man.  
 verb, 70. I didn't think of her takin' on it so...  
 106. Didn't they take her up?
- TANTRUM, noun, 164. ...It's jest one of his tantrums...

- TASTE, noun, 60. This taste of mystery and unusualness...served them as wine with their Christmas dinner.  
122. She had not a fine taste, and admired the cheaply gorgeous.
- TAUT, adj., 38. ...she seemed to keep every inch of her stature firm and taut, old woman although she was.
- TAVERN, noun, 26. Folks are gettin' as... fussy in a meetin'-house as they are in a tavern...
- TEA, noun, 2. It took her a long time to prepare her tea.  
131. Minty brewed for him a tea of green peppermint leaves.
- TEAPOT, noun, 203. Old China teapots stood about...
- TEASPOON, noun, 2. Louisa had a damask napkin on her tea-tray where were arranged... a tumbler full of teaspoons...and one...cup and saucer.
- TEA-SET, noun, 91. ...I had a tea-set...with a green sprig on it...
- TEA-THINGS, noun, 3. Then she...washed the tea-things.
- TEA-TRAY, noun, 2. Louisa had a...napkin on her tea-tray.
- TEETH, noun, 229. When I've been walkin' in the teeth of my own will on one road, an' havin' all I can do to breast it, I ain't a-goin' to do it on another.

- TEND, verb, 227. ...I used to tend in a store till I got worse.
- TENEMENT, noun, 104. She had heard...the Mellens...were anxious to hire a tenement.
- TERRIBLE, adv., 221. Seems old Eph got terrible hard up one time...
- TERRIFIEDLY, adv., 161. "Oh, Jonas, air you hurt?" she cried, blinking...terrifiedly in the brilliant light.
- THAN, conj., 26. He's three years older'n I am.
- THAT'ERE, adj., 136. "Dragged her sick husband in that'ere sulky to see the doctor," she says...
- THEM, adj., 124. ...if you don't...eat them biscuits...
- THIBET, noun, 90. An' I had a good thibet; there was rows an' rows of velvet ribbon on it.
- THINKER, noun, 92. ...they were none of them thinkers, and there was no case of rapturous piety among them.
- THRESHOLD, noun, 27. But to go an' spill molasses, as it were, all over this threshold.
- TICKLED, part. adj., 27. Brought cake and oranges,... an' I was real tickled.  
138. If they wa'n't tickled.
- TIE, verb, 1. Louisa tied a green apron around her waist.

- TIER, noun (a child's apron), 83. He wore a calico tier that sagged to his heels in the back, and showed in front of his little calico trousers.
- TIDY, adj., 169. ...the front yard was tidy.
- TILTISH, adj., 64. Maria and Mrs. Childs, who ...erected a tiltish pyramid of milk-pans, to serve as an alarm signal in case the guest should try to leave her room.
- TINCTURE, verb, 167. ...she had an unfortunate love affair, that was supposed to have tintured her whole life with an alien element.
- TINTLESS, adj., 199. Clarissa's skin was tintless and faintly lined.
- TIPPET, noun (a neck-piece or collar; cf. modern choker), 91. I had a fitch tippet an' muff that cost twenty-five dollars...
- 'TIS, verb, 31. I tell you what 'tis, Aunt Candace, I won't stand it.
- TOE OUT, verb, 3. He sat bolt-upright, toeing out his heavy feet squarely.
- TO HOME, adv., 171. ...I knowed she wa'n't to home...
- TONSURE, noun, 108. ...In one of the...body-pews sat John Arnold, who wore his white hair like a tonsure.
- TOMFOOLERY, noun, 187. ...I ain't goin' to listen to any such tomfoolery--wakin' me up out of a sound sleep.

- TOPPIN', adj. (arrogant), 31. I ain't bound  
to give my reasons to a young fellar  
like you, if you do act so mighty toppin'.  
201. You needn't look so toppin'.
- TORE, participle, 86. ...it's all tore to  
pieces again...
- TOWARDS, prep., 121. Some morning-glory vines  
were climbing towards the...windows...
- TOWER UP, verb, 119. His yellow, curled head  
towered up bravely...
- TOWN-TALK, noun, 168. ...It's town-talk...
- TRACEABLE, adj., 235. The lot held seven...  
stones, their inscription scarcely  
traceable.
- TRACK, noun, 5. Louisa swept Joe Dagget's  
track carefully.  
30. To this...woman, kept relentlessly  
...in a narrow track, singing in the village  
choir meant as much as Italy was to  
Napoleon.
- TRADE, noun, 109. They had no work just then but  
trade was improving.
- TRAIL, noun, 95. ...her weddin' dress was white  
satin with a great trail to it...
- TRAILIN', verb, 44. ...you ain't goin' to wear that  
black silk trailin' round in the woods, are  
you?
- TRAMP, noun, 125. ...Minty and David started forth  
on a hundred-mile tramp.

- TRAY, noun, 89. An old man...chopped something in a tray.
- TREE-TOAD, noun, 3. The chorus of frogs floated in at the open window...and once in a while a long sharp drone from a tree-toad pierced it.
- TRIANGULAR, adj., 84. ...her...triangular face seemed to look from the middle of her flat chest.
- TRILL, verb, 141. ...then he [the bird] began to trill...
- TROTH-PLIGHT, noun (arch), 15. ... She could hardly believe...she would not do Joe a terrible injury should she break her troth-pledge.
- TROUSERS, noun, 83. He wore a calico tier that... showed in front of his little calico trousers...
- TUB, noun, 130. A man...told him that there was a tub factory in Bassett's...
- TUCK, noun, 95. ...she had...real fine cotton cloth, all tucks an' laid-work.
- TUMBLER, noun, 2. Louisa had a ...napkin on her tea-tray where were arranged a...tumbler full of teaspoons.  
146. ...vases and tumblers of flowers stood on the shelf and table.
- TUNE, noun, 20. Candace Whitcomb's voice clamored forth in another tune.
- TURN OFF, verb, 26. I'd like to know if it wouldn't be more to the credit of folks...to hold an old singer...rather than turn 'em off an' hurt their feelings.  
26. S'pose they should turn you off,...
- TURNING-OFF, adj., "No," said David, "It's turnin'-off night."

TURNIP, noun, 176. ...he could smell...the turnip and onions out there.

\*TWA\*N\*T, verb (contraction, included negative), 194. "Twa'n't ever much to him anyway; he wa'n't nothin' but a boy.

TWIST OUT, verb, 173. ...if she did git twisted out of the reg'lar road of lovin', she's in another one...

TWISTING, adj., 84. She had a twisting limp, and was so bent that she was not much taller than Tommy...

TWILIGHT, noun, 150. She was glad to...sit down in her parlor, damp and cool and dark as twilight...

TWITTING, gerund, 185. Her sister had never done twitting her with it;...

UNACCUSTOMED, adj., 60. This taste of mystery... once fairly admitted...to their unaccustomed palates, served them as wine with their Christmas dinner.

UNCOMMON, adv. (very), 234. They're uncommon forward.

UNDERPINNING, noun, 183. This was an old house; the underpinning sagged in place...

UNLATCH, verb, 60. Then she unlatched the door.

UNPOLISHED, adj., 157. ...he began to speak... with a certain force by reason of his unpolished honesty.

UNQUELLED, adj., 49. ...there was unquelled suspicion in her [Matilda's] eyes as they [she and Emily] parted at the Babcock gate.

UNUSUALNESS, noun, 60. This taste of...unusualness  
...served them as wine...

UNWINKINGLY, adv. 52. There were tears in Matilda's  
eyes, but she held them unwinkingly.

UP, adv. 33. But Candace gave up at once.  
125. ...before any of the neighbors were  
up, Minty and David started forth...  
prep., 182. ...he headed up the other way.

UPPER, adj., 124. I've got a little feelin', ef I  
ain't one of the upper crust.

UPSET, adj., 123. I declare I'm all upset. They  
ain't out of work, are they?

UPSHOT, noun, 222. ...the upshot of it was, he  
[Lawyer Holmes] sot down to the table an'  
eat a good meal of the crower an' fixin's...

UPSTAIRS, adv., 138. They're goin' to live up-  
stairs in Mis' Eaton's house.

USED TO, verb, 205. Didn't he used to?

VASE, noun, 91. "I had gilt vases as tall as that  
on my parlor mantel-shelf," said the dark  
old woman.

VEGETABLE, noun, 121. Some were miniature vegetable  
gardens.

VEINY, adj., 200. She gathered up the soft rose  
leaves with her little thin veiny hands and  
laid them in the jar with the greatest care.

VERNAL, adj., 147. ...one...could...read without  
seeing, those lines wherein flowers rhymed  
sweetly with vernal bowers...and heaven with  
even.

- VEST, noun, 228. "It's in my vest pocket, in my pocket book," said Stephen.
- VILLAGE, noun, 81. The village took pride in it; no town far or near had such a house for the poor.
- WAIST, noun, 1. Louisa tied a green apron around her waist.
- WALK IN, verb, 206. Won't you walk in?
- WANE, verb, 1. ... the light was waning..
- WANT, verb, 90. I always had good clothes;; my husband he wanted I should, an' he got 'em for me.
- WA'N'T, verb (contraction), implied negative,  
25. It wa'n't ever quite so high-pitched as that Way girl's mebbe.  
34. No, it wa'n't.
- WASH, noun, 231. ...That was in the wash, or I'd brought it.
- WATCH-CHAIN, noun, 111. She,..got out a... watch-chain which had belonged to her father...
- WATERPROOF, noun, 152. ...I'm going to have a waterproof if I live.
- WAX, adj., 232. My wife she made them wax flowers...
- WAY, noun, 55. It was a way she had when visiting...  
122. She lived around...partly working her way...

- WAYFARER, noun, 11. Wayfarers...eyed him with respect...
- WEATHER, verb, 24. Well, mebbe we can weather it...
- WEAR, noun, 39. ...there was considerable wear left in it. [the black silk dress]
- WEDDING CLOTHES, noun, 8. She...went to look on her wedding clothes.
- WEDDING-GARMENT, noun, 12. She put exquisite little stiches into her wedding garments.
- WEDLOCK, noun, 119. ...a young man whom I...joined in the bands of holy wedlock, has something... he wishes to communicate to you.
- WELL-TO-DO, adj., 151. Betsey, ...considered herself well-to-do.
- WENT, verb, 72. ...for all that, it went all over me.
- WHAT, pron., 3. Well, what say?
- WHEEL, noun, 63. There was a sudden roll of wheels in the yard.
- WHILE, noun, 31. ...I ain't goin' to live a dreadful while longer...
- WHILST, conj., 137. I would ha' done as much for him... whilst he was alive...
- WHINE, verb, 124. I ain't goin' to whine, and tease him for work.
- WHIT, noun, 8. She...was every whit as attractive as ever.

- WHITE, adj., 91. I had a white one, drawn silk...
- WHITE-FURRED, adj., 216. He looked like some winter-starved, white-furred animal...
- WHITE-LINEN, noun, 3. She sat gently erect, folding her slender hands in her white-linen lap.
- WHITE-PAINTED, adj., 191. ...she could see the Tenney house, white-painted, and piazz<sup>a</sup><sub>x</sub>ed, a village mansion.
- WHO, rel. pron., 155. The bird, who had been silent while she was out, began chirping again.
- WHOLE, adj., 184. (See HULL) I'd like to know the hull truth.
- WICKED, adj., 51. ...it's a wicked lie for fòlks to say so.
- WIDE, adj., 122. To-night she had on a flimsy blue muslin with...a deal of wide cotton lace.
- WILD, adj., 122. People said she was a pretty wild kind of a girl, with a meaning look...
- WILLOW, noun, 121. ...the footpath...had on each side a fence of bent willow boughs.
- WILTING, adj., 150. She went home...under the wilting sun, after her call was done.
- WINDER, noun, 181. Over here by the winder.
- WINDOW-PANE, noun, 9. She had throbs of genuine triumph at the sight of the window-panes which she polished until they shone like jewels.

- WINTER-STARVED, adj., 216. He looked like some winter-starved, white-furred animal, creeping painfully to cover.
- WIPE, verb, 85. Folks wouldn't wipe their feet on some folks, nor look twice at 'em, has praised it.
- WITCHCRAFT, adj., 173. The...sentiment against Jenny...was the outcome of this characteristic...a remnant of the old New England witchcraft superstition.
- WITCH-HUNT, noun, 174. ...it was a witch-hunt that went up the mountain that December afternoon.
- WONDERFUL, adj., 30. She had really possessed a fine voice, and it was wonderful how little she had lost it.
- WONT, adj., 20. The old bachelor tenor and the old maiden soprano had been wont to walk together.
- WONTEDNESS, noun, 33. ...the growths of all her springs and the delicate wontedness of her whole life were going down in it.
- WOOD, noun, 226. Nicholas came back quickly with his arms full of wood.
- WOODED, adj., 178. The mountain was wooded to its summit.
- WOODEN, adj., 219. He took a wooden bucket, and want...out of doors...
- WOODLAND, noun, 115. ...it [the money] came from the sale of some woodland that one of my uncles gave me when I was a child...
- WOODPECKER, noun, 162. A woodpecker flew into the tree...

- WOODS, noun, 33. "The woods are on fire," said Candace.
- WOOD-SAWYER, noun, 43. Matilda's antecedents had come of wood-sawyers and garden-laborers.
- WOOD-SLED, noun, 218. ...a wood-sled creaked in the road...
- WOOLLEN, noun, 44. They could not go abroad and feel any self-respect in those flimsy muslins and rusty woollens...  
58. They eyed this forlorn girl, in her... dingy woollens...
- WORE, verb, 109. ...you don't look as if it wore on you a bit.
- WORK-BASKET, noun, 5. ...he...hit Louisa's work-basket on the table and knocked it on the floor.
- WORK ONE'S WAY, verb phrase, 122. She had lived around in various families, partly dependent, partly working her way, until she was eighteen.
- WORKING, adj., 92. ...this was merely the place where her working powers had failed her.
- WORSTED, adj., 56. The girl's...face was sheathed in an old worsted hood.
- WORTH, (See WUTH)
- WRINKLY, adj., 169. The minister was...clad in long-waisted and wrinkly black.
- WROTE, participle, 200. They were wrote much as ten year ago, some of 'em.

- WROUGHT, adj., 89. All white wrought lace, an' bows of pink ribbon...on't.
- WUSS, adj., 88. That Agnes is wuss agin...
- WUST-LOOKIN', adj., 84. "The wust-lookin' object," growled the stout old woman.
- WUTH, adj., 98. ...when you see other folks a-clawin' an' gettin' other things, an' actin' as if they was wuth havin'.
- YEAR, noun, 25. Here I've sung in those singin'-seats forty year.
- YER, pron., 181. Where be yer?  
181. Oh, yes, I see yer.
- YIT, adv., 67. I know a leetle somethin' yit.
- YOU'RE, contraction--you are, 52. You can tell nobody you're [sic] a mind to.
- ZINNIA, noun, 125. ...Minty stooped and picked an enormous bouquet of zinnias and marigolds and balsams.

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