

etymologist must at every word repeat Rask's law (which they call Grimm's), and put down only the cognate forms which conform to that law; must never dispute what Diez or Bopp says, and never compare an English word with another out of the Indo-European family, as the Altaic, *i.e.* Finn, Hungarian, &c., and must never inquire into the origin of a root, but be satisfied that it exists "by nature." Mr. Wedgwood belongs to a wider school, which, while giving its due value to Rask's law in the Aryan family, believes that there is one law for the human mind in the creation of words, and that therefore the etymologist may draw his sound-analogies from any language, whenever the logical analogy of meaning justifies him in so doing. This one law (which has been termed the *imsonic*, from the Latin bases, *im*, of imitate, *Gr. mi-me*, and *son* sound) is—that words or names for things are made by man's articulate imitation and expression of the inarticulate sounds outside of him, and the interjectional sounds from within him; that these names are applied to the things making such sounds in nature, and causing such sounds from man; and that they are then transferred to objects within the range of sense that make no sounds (as of bright=noisy, to light*), and to objects above the range of sense (as spirit=breath, to the soul of man).

On reading Mr. Wedgwood's work we cannot help feeling that a fresh and independent mind has gone over the list of English words, has been attracted by many, and has followed these up to their sources, and out through their different channels of meaning, with rare diligence and happy intuition; but other words, perhaps as attractive to us, are left out altogether, or scarcely touched. As an instance of what we mean, let us take a word which illustrates the comparative honesty of our early kings and rulers, when contrasted with the rascality of continental sovereigns, and may therefore explain to some extent the cause of our commercial greatness (shall we add the desire of the Greeks for Prince Alfred?):—the word *bullion*. This Mr. Wedgwood shows to have first meant a boss, or bubble of metal, as it were,—"*bullions* and ornaments of plate engraven, a *bullion* of copper set on bridges or porticoes for an ornament—Baret's *Alveary*;" and he rightly treats it as an imsonic word, from the boiling or bubbling of boiling water. The second meaning is "a kind of gold and silver lace, doubtless from *Fr. bouillon*, in the sense of a puff or bunch, from the puffy texture of this kind of lace. The third is

Gold or silver uncoined. Considerable difficulty has been felt in ascertaining for the word in this sense, from the use of the equivalent terms,—*bilion* in French, and *cellon* in Spanish, in the sense of base metal, silver mixed with a large alloy of copper. The original meaning of the word *bullion*, *bilion*, was the mint or office where the precious metals were reduced to the proper alloy, and converted into stamped money, from the Latin *bilis*, a seal. In this sense the word appears in our early statutes. The 9 Ed. III., st. 2, c. 2, provides that all persons "puissent sauvement porter à les eschanges ou *bullion*, argent on plate." &c., for the purposes of exchange. The 27 Ed. III., st. 2, c. 14, provides "que toutz marchantz puissent sauvement porter à nostre *bullione* ou a nous eschanges." In these and other statutes all trafficking in coin was forbidden, except at the *bullion* or exchange of the king; and similar restrictions were enforced in France, where the tampering with the coin was carried to a much greater extent than in England, inasmuch as to earn for Philippe le Bel the title of *le faux monnoyeur*. Hence, among the French the carrying to the *bilion* their coined money became a familiar operation of daily life, and *porter au bilion*, *mettre au bilion*, are metaphorically applied to things that require remarking. The coined coin brought to be made up was termed "*monnaie de bilion*." [Cf. Cotgrave's *bilion*, base, cryed down, or called-in coin, which either hath no silver in it, or not so much as it should have] and hence *bilion* and the equivalent Spanish *velion* were very early used to signify the base mixture of which such coin was made, or generally a mixture of copper and silver.

In England the fortunes of the word have been different, and the Mint being regarded chiefly as the authority which determined the standard of the coin, the name of *bullion* has been given to the alloy or composition of the current coin permitted by the *Bullion* or Mint. Thus *bilion* is translated in Torriano's dictionary (A. N. 1687), "*lega*, *logogio* di metallo." From metal of standard fineness the signification has naturally passed in modern times to all gold and silver designed for the purpose of coinage.

Now compare with this full and satisfactory treatment of *bullion*, the article on Brother:—

* Compare here these imsonic words applied to colour, from Pott's *Etymolog. p. 87-8*, *Siamese*, *da-nom* blackish; *Hawaiian*, *ua-ua* red; *Tonga*, *oai-oai* black; *Otaheitan*, *oai-oai*, yellow.

BROTHER.—A term widely spread through the branches of the Indo-Germanic stock; Sanscr. *bhratri*; Zend. *brata*; Gael. *brathair*; W. *brad*; Slavon. *brate*; Latin *frater*.

One feels at first disappointed that a word so dear to all of us should receive such slight treatment, and one is inclined to grumble a little accordingly; but a little reflection shows us that this would be unreasonable, for Mr. Wedgwood has given us just what it was safe to give us, and no more; just enough to verify "Rask's Law of the change of Skr. *p*. to Lat. *f*." It would have been easy enough to have gone on, and said with others, that these words come from the Sanskrit *bhri*, to support, but our author's conscientiousness and modesty—characteristics so strongly marked of all his work—have saved him and us from this mistake. *Bhri*, with the suffix *tri*, can only form *bhartri*, which word occurs in the sense of protector, husband, king, &c., and is not the same as *bhratri*, brother. See the remarks in the review of Pott's "*Doppelung*," in THE READER of last week.

But we do have sometimes to regret Mr. Wedgwood's practice of omitting familiar words of classical origin. We turn to his second volume for the word *Family*, in its principal use one of the holiest words of our language, and in the tracking of which upwards into its present light of love from the original blackness of its meaning of a "slave gang," we promise ourselves a rare treat. But it is absent from Mr. Wedgwood's pages. It is a classical word, and he supposes us to know all about it. We can only beg him in his third volume, and in the new editions of his first and second volumes—that cannot fail to be called for—to pity our ignorance and have compassion on the shortness of our memories. However, though we do not find *family*, we do find a large number of our best and strongest words; and the treatment of the following in his second volume is, so far as we know, quite original, and for the most part satisfactory:—East, entice, farthingale, ferret, fetchandle, form, foul, frill, gala, gulligaskins, gazette, geason, goblin, guild (1, a feast, 2, a company, W. *quyl*), gaol, gun, ham, hem, hanker, harangue, harridan, hinder, hobby, hocus-pocus (see App. too); keel the pot; leach, lollipops, mad, mangle, massive, mastiff, many, menial, miff, mote, moth, mouldy, nasty, oat, pam, parley, paste, pester, pickle, pillory, pout, proud, pulley, punch—though for *proud* the Sanskritist would affirm that his derivation of *praudha* from the preposition *pra*, Latin *pre*, and *udha* lifted, from *eah*, the Latin *veh-ere*, was clear and indisputable, especially as *praudha* has the secondary meaning, bold, confident.

From the above list we quote *gazette*, *harangue*, *miff*, *muff*, for three of these give examples of Mr. Wedgwood's distinctive method of referring words to imsonic roots, and the *gazette* article also shows the reader how wrong it would be to call THE READER a "*gazette*," a thing "of idle chattings or vain prattlings."

"GAZETTE. Commonly derived from *gazetta*, a small Venetian coin, supposed to have been the price of the original newspaper. But the value of the *gazetta* was so small ('not worth a farthing of ours'—Fl.) that it never could have been the price either of a written or printed sheet. The radical meaning of the word is shown in *It. gazetta*, *gazette*, all manner of idle chattings or vain prattlings, but now generally used for running reports, daily news, intelligences, and advertisements as are daily invented and written unto foreign nations, viz. from Venice, Rome, and Amsterdam.—Fl. The object of the *gazette* was to communicate the political chit-chat of the day. The origin of the word is a representation of the chattering sound of birds or voice, constituting a wide-spread root in very different classes of language. Prov. *gazar*, *gazzalar*, *Fr. jaser*, to tattle, *It. gazza*, a magpie or chattering pie (as it is provincially called from its chattering voice); *guzzercora*, *guzzolare*, *gazzettare*, to chatter as a pie or a jay, to prate.—Fl.; *Fr. gazouiller* to twitter, to murmur; Pol. *gadac*, to talk, *gadugadu*, chit-chat; Malay *kata-kata*, discourse; Hung. *csator*, noise, racket; *csacogni*, to chatter or prattle, *csacognya*, a chatter-box, magpie, jack-daw."

"HARANGUE. The OFr. *raison*. M. Lat. *ratio*, were used in the sense of discourse. *Bel commensa multu au raison*.—Benoit, Chron. Norm. 22985. Hence *araisonner*, *araiser*, *araiser*, *araiser*, to address one, to discourse.

Les li que mot no sonast.
So li Sires l'arasonast. Fab. et Contes, li. 88.
He advised that he should not utter a word if his Lord should address him.

Ne desprimes pas porre gent.
Mais arentez les doucement.—Ib. li. 180.

Si se leva que tuit le relent
Et od beugne araisnement.
Lor commence a tuz a retraire
Son grand beuoli et son affaire.
Chron. Norm. li. p. 410.

It was then spelt with a *g* instead of *s*, *areguier*, giving rise to *E. arraign*. *Arasner*, *aregnier*, parler raison, faire rendre compte, dialoguer, haranguer.—Roquet. *Saul arainnad*.—Samuel.—addressed him.—Livre des Saul. *Arrepassade* consultu, i. c. ratiocinando.—Duc.

"Next, by a change similar to that which we see in *Sc. ring for reign*, OE. *lenyng for benign* (Squire of low Degree), *aregnier* was converted into *it. aringare*, the origin of *Fr. haranguer*. A precisely similar change is seen in OFr. *snuffiege*, *Sc. meugie*, from *mutate*.—Chron. Norm. 2. 5425.

"The usual derivation, to which Diez adheres, is from the notion of addressing a ring, the initial of *h* of *Fr. haranguer* being explained from the ON. *bringr*."

"MUFF. Ill-humour, displeasure, but usually in a slight degree. *G. muffen*, of dogs, to growl, to bark, thence to look surly or gruff, to mop and mow.—Kittner. Swab. *muff*, with dry mouth; Swiss *muffen*, to wrinkle the nose, to deride; *Castrais muff*, to sniff. Snuffing the air through the nose is a sign of anger and ill-temper. *G. schnuffen*, *schnuffen*, to be offended with a thing, to take it ill, to sniff at it."

"MUFF, I, to MUFFLE. To *muffe*, to wrap up the mouth or face.—B. And by extension to wrap up in a more general sense. *Du. muffe*, a winter glove or sleeve, a *muff* or warm wrap for the hands.

"It is exceedingly difficult to say decidedly whether the verb to *muffe* is directly from *Fr. muffe*, the snout or muzzle, *mouffle*, the chaps—*Trevoux* (as to *muzzle*, to bind the snout, from the substantive *muzzle*); or whether the name is not taken from causing the person muffed up to *muffe*, or speak indistinctly. To *muffe*, to muffle, or speak unintelligibly.—B. to *muff*, *muffe*, to speak indistinctly; to *muffe*, to stammer, to mumble.—Hal. *Du. maffelen*, *muffeln*, *Bouch mouffeler*, to move the jaws or lips. It is in favour of the last explanation that *Swab. mummel* was a muffler of white linen covering the face up to the eyes; *mummeln*, to mumble, to speak unintelligibly. But whichever be the true account of the matter the ultimate origin is the same, as *Fr. muffe*, *mouffe*, like so many other names of the mouth and face, are from the muttering sounds made by the action of the jaws, expressed by forms like those above mentioned. See *Muzzle*.

"2. A fool.—*Nares*. A stupid fellow.—*Hal. Du. maf*, dull, lazy, or what makes one so, (of the weather) sultry. *Jemant soor het maffe kanden*, to make a fool of one. Prov. *E. muffling*, a simpleton, from *muffle*, to stammer, and perhaps a *muff* may in the same way form *muff*, *muffle*, to speak indistinctly."

From these extracts the reader will see what manner of man Mr. Wedgwood is, and what range of ground he covers. The Imsonic theory which he has adopted, and the workings of which he has carefully tracked, is the true one, so far as the writer of this review can judge, and will, in time, be found sufficient to explain the origin of most (if not all) words, and the diversities of their meaning. The writer has studied Mr. Wedgwood's Papers for many years, and his Dictionary since it appeared, and does not hesitate to say that it is the best book on English etymology yet written, and worthy to be on the shelves of every scholar and student in England. Moreover, this place is claimed for the book whether the student reject the Imsonic theory or not, for in no other English work is so much historical and comparative matter brought together for the illustration of the etymologies of the English words with which it deals.

EXPLORATIONS IN EASTERN AFRICA.

(Continued.)

IN our last number we mainly confined our remarks to Livingstone and the Niassa Lake; in the present article we will occupy ourselves with other travellers who are dispersed about the eastern portion of Africa. Van der Decken has been busily engaged at Mombasa since his visit to the snow-bespinkled mountain of Kilimanjaro, in making preparations for an expedition to the more distant and far more important mountain Kemia. In the same region, an expedition of Indian naval officers is engaged upon one of the large streams to the north of Mombasa, which, like the Juba and the Ozi, appears to admit of navigation to a considerable distance and urgently demands investigation.

The chief interest of East African discovery now centres in the expedition of Speke, who with his companion Grant was last heard of in September 1861, at S. lat. 3 deg. just to the south of the Victoria Nianza Lake. In his tedious journey to this comparatively small distance, he had experienced all the obstructions familiar to the readers of African travel, though now to his own experience. In that very same region where, two years previously, he had tra-

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velled with perfect liberty, he has now been detained for months by famine, desertion, plunder, and severe fever. Mutability is characteristic of the barbarous tribes of Africa. Because a road is open to travellers in one year, there is no reliance to be placed on its security in the next. We cannot help thinking that Speke was rendered too sanguine by the successes of his first expedition, to realize the difficulties of the great journey to the White Nile upon which he is now engaged. He and his companions have many hardships to undergo, and it will probably be long before they emerge into the light of civilization; but there seems no reason for alarm about their safety. Their prestige of success has certainly been tarnished; their losses of property, the money of those parts, has been serious; but at the date of the their latest letters, Speke had recovered from illness, his scattered party was reunited; good interpreters had been engaged, and he was again on the advance.

Many efforts are made to succour Speke from the North, and possibly, in doing so, to anticipate his discovery of the sources of the White Nile. The chief of these expeditions are those of Petherick and Baker. The former has the advantage of long familiarity with the White Nile and the position of British Consul to the Soudan; but he travels with so large a party, including his wife, that his movements may be embarrassed when he arrives at Gondakoro, where river navigation ends and foot journeying must begin. Mr. Baker, the author of the "Rifle and the Hound in Ceylon," has started by himself on the same quest as Petherick, after several months' exciting sport in the country watered by the tributaries of the Atbara River. A large part of this district is new to geographers; we now learn that few districts remain in Africa where first-rate elephant shooting, and other sports of the highest class, can be enjoyed so readily as there. Abyssinia and its neighbourhood are brought very near to us by modern lines of communication. Massowa, its port on the Red Sea, is in regular communication with Suez; while those who prefer reaching it by way of the Nile find a regular service of camel posts, which convey them from a station between the first and second cataracts, by a hard twelve days' journey across the Bishari desert, to the confluence of the Atbara and the Nile.

To return to the expeditions in search of Speke. At a few days' sail above the mouth of the Atbara, we reach, as is well known, the confluence of the Blue and White Niles, and the great town of Khartum, which is the Ultima Thule of Egyptian civilization. Here, at a distance by river of nearly 2000 miles from Alexandria, or at twice the distance of the second cataract, is the starting point of the ivory traders. They equip boats, and engage armed crews, and traffic for a distance of yet another 1000 miles, among the barbarous nations of the White Nile: a succession of rapids impede further navigation. There is no reason to suppose that any white traveller has penetrated eighty miles to the south of Gondakoro, where these rapids begin, and which is itself in about the fourth degree of N. latitude. As for the strange route-map appended by Mr. Petherick to his book, and copied, without question, even in Mr. Keith Johnston's atlas, there appears no doubt that that gentleman, owing to his ignorance of all methods of astronomical determinations, was enormously erroneous in his estimates, and that his furthest station, instead of being on the Equator, and far to the westward of the Nile, was, in fact, not more than three or four days' march to the S.W. of Gondakoro.

We have thus traced the courses of the principal travellers now in the field, from the Atbara to the Zambesi; let us consider what insight we have gained by their experiences into the condition of the natives that inhabit that vast region. We may assert without fear of exaggeration, that nearly every part of Eastern Africa of which we have received certain information, is at this moment veiled by brutal wars. And we are further bound

to admit that their causes are discouraging to the arguments of those who believe that the panacea of African ills is the suppression of the foreign slave trade and the introduction of foreign commerce. First, as to the White Nile. We hear of numerous traders sailing with armed crews, of perhaps one hundred men in search of ivory. The gains of successful traffic are enormous, the risks to life and health are desperate; consequently the ventures are mainly undertaken by reckless men. The crews are enlisted in Khartum, which is one of the greatest sinks of iniquity upon earth, and their misdoings are a curse to the natives with whom their masters traffic. The greed of the ivory dealers, the inhumanity of their crews, and the turbulence of the natives are predisposing causes to continual and savage *mêlées*. The negroes give frequent offence: this is retaliated by merciless onslaught followed by plunder, which perpetuates the dispositions that led both to the offence and to the retaliation. Innocent actions are construed into guilty ones, in order that the crews of the trading vessels may have a show of reason for their inhumanity and robberies.

In short, we learn from numerous independent sources—German, English, and French—that the White Nile is one scene of lawlessness, beginning at a comparatively short distance above Khartum, and extending further than Gondakoro. The slave-trade is rife, but is harmless as a cause of disturbance. It is not developed to an extent that tempts one tribe to make war on its neighbour solely to procure slaves for the market. The captives acquired in the White Nile are only one result of the marauding attacks of the ivory-traders and their crews. They murder, burn, and rob under colour of retaliation; the objects of robbery are those things of value which come nearest to hand—it may be ivory, it may be slaves, or anything else.

The foreign slave trade is still active along the coast of Eastern Africa, between Zanzibar and the Zambesi; but the causes that led to the disputes which intercepted the progress of Speke, and to those which put a stop to the advance of Livingstone, are wholly unconnected with it. The first case was due to a disputed succession to a chieftainship, to a famine, and to a weakening of the power of the Sultan of Zanzibar. The latter was a mere marauding attack. The embroilment of two tribes, in which the members of the University Mission on the banks of the Shiré, took an unfortunate part, was due to the ejection of one of them from their homes, by the onslaught of a third.

F. G.

ART.

I.—MR. LEECH'S GALLERY.

MR. LEECH'S Gallery of Sketches in Oil was closed yesterday, after a most successful season. Although these sketches were but enlarged fac-similes of those with which we have been long familiar in the pages of *Punch*, yet they were touched by the master's hand, and thus attracted us by a fresh interest.

These sketches have formed one of the most popular exhibitions in London, and deservedly so; they pander to no false tastes, but, through the medium of an essentially English humour, lead our sympathies in the right direction; and the influence they have upon us tends to make us more kindly and genial and tolerant to our brethren, less satisfied with and more humble in ourselves.

Mr. Leech's genius as an artist is unique. He has many imitators; but the difference between them and their prototype is one not of degree, but of kind. There is a breadth about his view of the life of his generation which will make his collected works an epitome of that life, for the delight and instruction of the generations to come. It is a gross blunder to call him a caricaturist; he is a great artist. A moment's reflection will convince us of the difference that exists between him and the vulgar

caricaturists of the last century. His range of observation is bounded by no class or condition of life, but embraces all in a catholic view. Whether he exhibits to us a Duchess in her carriage, whose tall flunkie is peeling away at a knocker in Belgravia, or some urchin children in a go-cart, requesting "Jemima" to knock at the door of an empty house, he makes us feel, what we are too apt to forget, that there is the same human nature in both cases. He sows no division among us. We all like one another better when in his company. He has taught all classes to know each other and themselves better. He is only severe upon falsehood, which he does not spare in any shape; he is fond of exposing pretension and assumption, but he rejoices in modesty and pluck.

His progress as an artist has been remarkably sustained. It is by turning to his early drawings in *Punch*, that we become conscious of his advance. His work is, and always was, free from any vestige of vulgarity; but of late there has been a more complete and just sense of the fitness of what we may call the accessories, or background of his figures. A lady's boudoir has always the indications of such furniture or knick-knacks as would be found in such a place. The bedroom of *Paterfamilias* presents the picture of the comfortable middle-class matrimonial apartment. The nursery, the kitchen, the Government office, the club, will all be found in Mr. Leech's sketches to have the salient points touched off with a remarkable delicacy and taste. Of his hunting fields, his watering places, his Scotch salmon streams, we need not speak; they are happily immensely popular; which indicates a healthy love of nature in the nation at large, whose sympathies have been so truly touched by them.

Mr. Leech hardly required an exhibition to make him better known to us. We all rejoice to welcome him every week, and long may it be our privilege to do so, in the pages of *Punch*. Nor do we think that our estimate of his ability can be raised by such a reproduction of his works. Their merit is independent of size or colour; we have just as great pleasure in looking over the small woodcuts; and from them we form as high an opinion of his power as we are ever likely to do by subjecting them to any process of reproduction.

But we are cheered to think that this exhibition has been successful, and profitable at the same time, to an artist who will be remembered long after most of his contemporaries have been forgotten.

II.—WATER-COLOUR PAINTERS—LANCASHIRE RELIEF FUND.

THE appeal from Lancashire has been responded to by the Artists and Amateurs of the kingdom in a characteristic manner. One Exhibition, consisting of Water-colour paintings, chiefly by professional artists, is now open in New Bond Street. Another, to consist of Works by Artists and Amateurs, either in Oil or Water-colours, is announced to open, early in the week, at the Gallery in Suffolk Street. It would be difficult and invidious to estimate the value of such contributions as these. One man does nothing without hard brain work; another flings away, without much care, sketches that cost little effort in their manufacture. To each man his own sacrifice is well known; and it is for us to receive the general result, appreciating and interpreting kindly each man's offering. Every picture is a free gift from the Artist; and the whole collection is to be sold, either privately or by means of guinea subscription tickets, on the plan of the Art Union of London. We trust a handsome sum will be realized in favour of our Lancashire brothers. An acknowledgment to Lancashire is due from Artists especially. For some years past, the support of Art has chiefly come from the populous districts in the North. The works in Bond Street testify generally to a sense of this obligation. The contributions are often among the best works of their respective