

ON PLACE NAMES IN GENERAL, AND THE HAMPSHIRE PLACE NAMES IN PARTICULAR.

BY G. B. GRUNDY, D.LITT., OXON.

The place-name is an all-pervading feature of modern life, so that men are wont to assume that it meant to our forefathers exactly what it means to us. It was, of course, at all times a designation of a locality; but it has varied both in quality and quantity at different times in the world's history. It is, for instance, a significant fact that in the official geographical works of the Roman Empire a large number of names are found in the locative case; and many of them are only known to the modern world in that form. That of itself implies that the connection of a name with a locality was in the mind of the Roman of a nature differing from modern ideas of the association between name and place. In the same way in the earliest Saxon documents the place-name appears in a locative form, and such expressions as "*locus qui vocatur aet draeghtun*," "the place which is called 'at Drayton,'" is the ordinary mode of indicating a locality. This shows that the attachment of a name to a locality was not in ancient times so close as it is now. In the later Saxon times this locative form seems to have been passing out of use, and the more direct concept had, to a large extent, supplanted it.

But a more striking and more important feature of ancient nomenclature is that a far larger number of natural and artificial objects on the surface of the land were called and known by individual names than is the case at the present day. Lack of means of communication caused men to pass their lives in much smaller areas than they do now-a-days; and so the minutiae of the topography of the limited region in which they lived appealed to them in a way that they cannot appeal to us. Every hollow, every plot of land, every trickle of water, and, it would seem, every remarkable tree had its name by which it was known to all the dwellers in the neighbourhood. Nor was this due merely to the unconscious action of minds working within a limited area. It was a practical necessity in the days before maps; and maps, even of England, are a comparatively modern introduction. It was requisite that every field should have its own name, so that it could for the ordinary purposes of life be distinguished from the other fields in the neighbourhood. It is so even now in the rural districts where the farmer and the agricultural labourer have no twenty-five inch maps with their numbered enclosures. Increase of maps leads to the disuse of local names, especially among the

educated classes. Education, too, tends, even in its simplest form, to make people acquainted with the points of the compass, so that a farmer may become accustomed to speak of a field called formerly by some special name as "the field which lies west of the rickyard." Thus the field-name among place-names is dying out. How great a part it played in former days may be realised by the fact that there were as many local names in some of the larger parishes of England as might be found in the map of the whole of England contained in an ordinary atlas. Yet many of the field-names which survived in the middle of the last century were just as important factors in the study of the nomenclature of the country as the names of the largest towns. Such a name as "the wergs" throws more incidental light on past economic history than does the name "London."

That place-names vary in type in different regions is, of course, a truism. The names of a mountainous district could hardly be expected to display the same characteristics as those of a plain; and even the slight physical differences between the various counties of the south of England produce variations in the type. But these variations in names are not merely due to physical differences, but arise also from economic causes. A people given to pastoral pursuits will evolve place-names which differ largely from those which prevail among a people given to arable agriculture; and in the British Isles the contrast in type is so noticeable between the names in districts settled by Anglo-Saxons and those in which a Celtic population has survived may be largely due to the economic cause. Whatever may have been the economic life of ancient Britain in pre-Saxon days, it is quite certain that it was not of a type in which arable agriculture played the overwhelming part which it played in the Saxon period. It may be suspected that the disappearance of Celtic names from that part of England in which the Saxon settled was due to a certain extent to a change in the economic life of the country. This may indeed have been a minor cause; but it was certainly a contributory cause of the phenomenon.

The English place-name is of a definite type of structure. It consists of a generic term which may stand alone, but is usually preceded by a specific or individual term. The generic term in common use are comparatively few in number, whereas the specific and individual terms present an almost infinite variety of form.

The common generic terms may be classified under certain headings:—

1. Natural features: *hyll* (-hill), names of rivers, *healh* (hollow, taking the forms -nall, -nell, -hall in modern names), *cumb* (-combe), *denu* (-dean), *slaed* (-slade), *burna* (-bourne), *lacu*, "stream" (taking the form -lake), *wyll*, *wiell*, "spring" (-well), *broc* (-brook), *ora*, "bank" (-or); etc.

2. Surface characteristics not implying human habitation: *feld*, "open country" or "moorland" (-field), *wudu* (-wood), *hyrst* (-hurst), *hangra*, "hanging wood" (-hangar), *haeth* (-heath); etc.

3. Antiquities: *burh*, "camp" (-bury, -borough), *beorh*, "barrow" (-bury, -berry, -borough), *hlacw*, "barrow" (-low, -stan (-stone)).

4. Names implying human habitation: *tun* (-ton), *weorh* (-worth), *ham* (-ham), *wic* (-wick, -wyke, Week), *stede* (-stead), *hamm*, "enclosed field" (-ham), *leah*, "rough pasture" (-leigh, -ley), *maed* (-mead), *stoc*, "palisaded enclosure" (-stoke).

Such are the commonest generic terms in the place-names of Saxon England. So common are they that, excluding field-names from the reckoning, they occur in at least eighty per cent. of the place-names of the country. Moreover, of this eighty per cent. the terms of class 4 implying human habitation, are undoubtedly the largest class.

The names in this class are the outcome of the economic life of the AS. age. To anyone who is acquainted with the outline of that life they convey a vast amount of information as to the characteristics which the localities to which they are attached presented in the period before the Norman Conquest, and, to a great extent for that matter, in the period which extended from the Conquest to the Enclosure Acts, the latter part of the eighteenth and the earlier part of the nineteenth century.

Inasmuch as the interest in place-names is not necessarily combined with a knowledge of the conditions of Saxon village life, it may be well to explain what those conditions were.

In the days when the means of communication in this country were in an elementary stage, when roads, with few exceptions, consisted of mere tracks but little suited to wheeled traffic and in bad seasons almost impassable to traffic of any kind, it was requisite for even the small village community to provide itself with the sheer necessities of life by producing them on its own land. Import from even a short distance would be difficult and from a long distance impossible. How much this was the case is clearly shown by the fact that the kings of England, even in post-Saxon times, had to make progresses through the country in order to consume the provisions produced by their various estates. The whole intent of the village economy was to make the community self-supporting. The main commodities to be supplied were corn, cattle and timber. Flax and woad were grown for the purpose of making and dyeing clothing. Bees were kept to supply honey in a land where sugar was unknown.

The local nomenclature of England is influenced enormously by these economic conditions.

There was so much similarity between the communities that it is possible to construct a typical example of the features which are to be found in all of them.

Whatever view may be held as to the nature of land tenure in early Saxon times, the purely territorial evolution of the village community may be recalled with fair certainty. In extent it is represented by the modern parish except where the parochial bounds have been modified in later times for ecclesiastical reasons. Territorially, the parish is of secular origin, an area adopted later for ecclesiastical convenience, though in many cases most inconvenient for ecclesiastical purposes. Its bounds are older than the parochial system; and those bounds were determined by including within the area of the lands of the community all such kinds of land as might supply those primary necessities above mentioned; or, if the land immediately surrounding the village centre could not supply those wants, by allotting to the community detached pieces of land which would meet the deficit. Hence the detached areas of parishes at the present day.¹

All that is known of the Anglo-Saxons at the period of settlement in this country, leads to the belief that they were not town dwellers. Many of the towns of the Roman period were never rebuilt after they were destroyed, and others remained in ruins for a long time before they were rebuilt. The village community seems to have been the largest unit of settlement, and for reason into which it is impossible to enter within the compass of this chapter, it seems that "tun" (-ton), was the term generally used for these original settlements. The "tun" never appears on the bounds of the land-units—parishes or tithings—of the AS. charters. It is the centre of the land-unit. It is also clear that it was not planted haphazard by the original settlers. Nor even was its site determined by amenity of situation. One consideration, and one only, determined that site—the position of the best arable land in the locality. Grain, rather than flesh, formed the staple food of the Saxon agriculturist, and therefore the ploughland was of most importance to him, apart from the fact that it demanded most of his labour. So it was convenient, or even necessary, for him to live either on it or in its immediate neighbourhood. Thus the village community begins with a small centre of population surrounded by a ring of arable land. Outside this is an area of uncultivated ground, usually wooded in part and open in part, affording rough pasturage for the cattle of the community. This was the *leah*, a term which appears very frequently in the name endings -ley and -leigh.

The problem of feeding the cattle in winter was a serious one in days when there was no grass seed from which to grow

¹ The deficiency was most usually in respect to hay land. The only hay land of the time was water meadow; and where a community had no such meadow land in its immediate neighbourhood, it will be found to have a detached piece of it outside the bounds of the main area of the parish. Even on the map of the present day it may be seen how many of the detached areas of parishes are near streams. Sometimes it is timber land which is wanting, and that is supplied in the same way.

crops of hay, and no root crops wherewith to provide winter feed. The sole hay land was the mead, consisting of water-meadows beside some brook or river where the grass grew luxuriantly. It was an absolutely necessary part of the economy of every community, for without it the cattle used for ploughing, for breeding and for dairy purposes, could not have been kept through the winter. Thus, if a land-unit did not contain mead land within its area, it was, by some process not now known, allotted a share of mead within a reasonable distance; and it is to these detached pieces of mead that the majority of the detached pieces of modern parishes own their origin.

The same was the case with the supply of timber. Stone-built houses were rare—perhaps non-existent in the early days of the settlement. Timber was then the house-building material. Hence, if a community had no timber land within its immediate neighbourhood it was allotted a detached piece of woodland somewhere in the district.

It would be hardly an exaggeration to say that half the place-names and field-names of England arise from the economic circumstances of the Saxon village community. It is in the field-names that this phenomenon is most apparent; but the majority even of the place-names originate from these circumstances.

It has been already said that *tun* (-ton) represents the centre of the early settlement. It means originally a farm, but acquires the meaning of "village" before the Saxon period has come to a close. In some countries, especially in East Anglia, a smaller type of settlement denoted by *ham*, "house," seems to have been common. In the originally uncultivated areas, the *leah*'s, surrounding the original settlements, individuals established *weorth*'s (-worth), for in the Saxon charters this term is nearly always accompanied by the name of an individual, who was either the original owner or the possessor at the time at which the charter was drawn up. Some of these "worths" developed into village communities; hence their appearance in modern village names. But even at the present day the name is usually that of a farm lying away from the village centre of the parish.

On or by the mead there sprang up farmsteads known as *wic*'s (-wick, -wyke, -wich), devoted to some special agricultural purpose, usually the production of butter or cheese. There are hundreds of these scattered throughout England—many more than appear on the face of an ordinary map; and even now two peculiarities may be noticed in their distribution: first, that they lie as a rule away from the village centre; and, secondly, that they are almost invariably situated near streams. It was natural that they should lie near the mead, the sole hay land of the country, where the winter fodder for the cattle would be stacked; and the mead was, as has been already pointed out, necessarily near

a stream. When, as it commonly the case, a place-name consists of two elements; the first is an attribute of the second. In the charters the *wic*'s are almost always accompanied by a descriptive attribute, whereas with the *worth*'s the attribute is almost always personal¹. Hence, while the *worth*'s seem to have been originally private property, the *wic*'s and *stede*'s seem to have been in common use and ownership by all holders in the village community. In post-Saxon times several ownership tends to develop with regard to them.

The *stede* (-stead, -sted), represents a mere farmstead, in all probability not originally accompanied by a dwelling. Such a stead might be situated anywhere within the area of the land of the community, or even in some great waste area, like the New Forest, at a long distance from the village centre.

To understand the old field-names it is necessary to realise that in outward appearance the cultivated lands of England presented an aspect very different from that of the present day. Live hedges did not exist; and the only permanent enclosures were small crofts in the immediate neighbourhood of houses, and the fences which prevented the various wild animals from straying from those *haga*'s, or game enclosures, which were an economic fact—or in the case of many village communities. In Hampshire, for instance, the open lands which stretch N. and N.W. from Winchester to the valley of the Test approximate much more closely to the appearance of the cultivated lands of early England than do the more enclosed lands of other parts of the county. It is true that live hedges came into use long before the Enclosure Acts of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth centuries; but a very

¹ In the case of the three terms, *weorth*, *wic* and *stede*, all of which denote objects which might be the subject of private property, both the charters and modern place-names bear marked testimony to the curious phenomenon that whereas, in the case of *weorth* the attribute, when it occurs, is nearly always a personal name in the genitive case; in that of *wic* and *stede* it is nearly always of a descriptive character. A personal name in the genitive might, of course, merely imply that the object had been originally named after an individual without being his property. But why should such a custom prevail almost universally in the case of *weorth*, and be all but non-existent in reference to *wic* and *stede*, terms which, whatever their specific meaning, do certainly denote objects having a large general resemblance to the object denoted by *weorth*? The only possible conclusion is that in the case of *weorth*, the personal genitive is a possessive genitive, and the name is that of an actual individual owner.

In the charters contained in Birch's edition, the statistics with regard to these three terms are, as follows:—

	No. of instances of Occurrence.	Attribute.			
		Personal.	Descriptive.	Uncertain.	None.
<i>Weorth</i> ...	75	54	8	11	2
<i>Wic</i> ...	45	2*	37	4	2
<i>Stede</i> ...	35	2	29	4	0

* Both patronymics.

It seems on the other hand as if *wic*'s and *stede*'s were not private property, but in common use, and in a sense, in common ownership by members of the village community. If we go to evidence later than the charters, viz., that of the modern map, it points to the fact that there was a certain tendency for *wic*'s and *stede*'s to pass into private ownership. But the process did not go very far, for in 70% of the cases of -wick, -wich, the attribute is descriptive; and the same is the case in 87% of the cases of -stead.

large number of the live hedges of the present day date from the time of those acts, and were due to the necessity imposed on the owners of the redistributed areas of enclosing their lands with a fence.

The field-names which recall the old economic circumstances of farming in this country belong largely to two classes: those which indicate the cultivation or, it may be, the industry carried on in the particular area, and those which refer to the shape of a particular piece of land. Apart from the enclosed crofts around houses, the only field areas which had definite boundaries were the ploughlands. These bounds were "meres" (AS. *maere*), called in later times "balks," that is to say, unploughed strips of earth which were very narrow between individual ploughlands or strips of ploughland, but of considerable breadth between the large groups of strips into which the ploughlands of the village were divided. The typical strip of ploughland was about a furlong in length by a chain in width, though there was no exactness in measure; and also these typical strips of about one acre each came in some instances to be divided up into strips of smaller width in the hands of several occupiers, in others to be joined together in the hands of one occupier. But the noteworthy point with regard to them was that they were all rectangular in shape; and so to the Saxon cultivator the rectangle was the typical shape of a plot of land. Hence any area marked by boundaries which departed from the common rectangular form was regarded not merely by the Saxon farmer, but also by his successors in England at any time up to the eighteenth century as peculiar, and was apt to be called by a name indicating its special shape.

Of these names *gara*, "gore," is most common both in Saxon and in later times. It signified a piece of ploughland of triangular shape. Among field-names of this type the most fantastic names are found in later times, such as Hammer, Frying-pan, and so forth. Hell or Ell is a common name signifying an L-shaped piece of land. A long narrow field was called a Sling; whilst Slip or Slipe is a strip of land beside a road. Piddle or Pightle is a very common name in Hampshire; but it means merely a field of small size.

Names implying former cultivation are very common throughout the country. The most interesting is Barton, the *bere-tun*, or "barley farm" of AS. times. In Hampshire it is still used as a "common" term, meaning a rickyard; but in Berkshire, curiously enough, it survives only as a place-name, judging from the evidence of the Tithe Awards. The widespread use of the name in AS. and later times seems to indicate that barley rather than wheat was the cereal most commonly cultivated in the earliest period of settlement—perhaps even to the end of the A.S. period. *Hwaet* (wheat) does occur as an element in

names, but is rarer. *Rige* (rye) is not uncommon as an element ; and such names as Rye Close are not uncommon if the S. of England. The growth of woad for the purpose of dyeing was evidently carried on ; but it must have passed out of use at an early period, for only in certain names containing the element Wad- does any memory of its cultivation survive. The cultivation of oats is recorded in many field-names ; but it is noticeable that the AS. *ate* is a very rare element in names of AS. date.

The old methods of cereal cultivation are recorded in many other terms which survive or half survive in topographical nomenclature. Reference has been made to the "*mere*" (AS. *maere*) or balk which separated the strips of ploughland. The termination -*mere* in modern place-names is sometimes traceable to this word rather than to the AS. *mere*, "pond" or "pool." As a "common" term it does not survive in Hampshire Tithe Awards, but in one or two of the Berkshire Awards it is still used—generally of the field roads which developed along the broad balks which separated the groups (or "furlongs") of ploughland from one another. The term "furlong" used in this last sense is common in Hants and the neighbouring counties. In Saxon times it was an indefinite measure of length, indicating merely the distance which a team of oxen could draw the plough without a temporary rest from the strain. On heavy soil or on land where the slopes were difficult, the furlong was shorter than on light soil or easy surfaces. Even now the old variations in the length of the furlong may be measured on those step like boundaries of parishes which indicate that at the time at which the by. was made the ploughland impinged on it at that part. But in later times "furlong" came to be used of a group of strips of ploughland or *aecer's* which were as a group left (in the S. of England) fallow one year out of every three—a piece of land of quite indefinite area. It is in this sense that "furlong" is used in field-names. As a measure it has in modern times resumed its old linear character, but its length has become stereotyped.

The land law of the early communities laid down after harvest, the ploughlands should be open to pasture for the cattle of all holders within the community. But while the crops were standing, it was necessary to fence them in order to keep the cattle from straying on to them ; but these fences were not of a permanent character. They were formed of hurdles, made of withy rods (AS. *withig*), which were removed when the crops were off. It is from these withy hurdles that the field-name Wergs, which occur several times in Hants, is derived. Another feature of AS. times is the *hinc*, which in the form "lynch" survives in many field-names, with its diminutives Lynchett and Lanchet. The construction of lynchets by ploughing was a laborious process, such as would only be resorted to in regions where the available arable land on the flat was already taken up. In the AS. charters

the term is so common—so much more common than in modern field-names—that it would suggest that the ploughland of those times was much more extensive than at the present day. Calculations may be made from the records of Domesday Book which show that such was indeed the case. All through the Down region of Hampshire, old lynchets now covered with grass may be seen.

Another economic feature of old times was the *hege-raewe* (hedgerow). At the present day the term is loosely used to denote a mere live hedge; though it would not be found that old agricultural labourers would use it in that sense. It did not apply to a "hedge" of any kind, but to a line of trees either left standing in process of clearing, or deliberately planted in order to shelter cultivated lands from the wind. In Hants and the neighbouring counties, such belts or rows of trees are still called "rows", though the name "belt" has come to be commonly applied to them. In the Isle of Wight the dialectic form "rew" is found.

The conversion of uncultivated into cultivated land has given rise to several terms common in local nomenclature. Of these the term Breach is very common indeed. It means land broken up by the plough, and is from the same root as the verb "break." Sometimes the reference is to the burning away of the scrub and other rough growth on the land as in the field-names Burnbake and Bakelands.

A piece of land detached from other property of an owner or occupier was known as a *sceat*, which has produced the terminal -shot in place-names and the term "shot" in field-names.¹

It is possible that in Hants this word has also taken the dialectic form "sheet."²

A complete discussion of the various terms used in field-names would fill a volume, and a very large one at that. All that has been attempted here is to explain the frequent use of those which are derived from, and throw light on, the old economic condition of the country.

Hampshire's place-names are, as might be expected, almost entirely of AS. origin. It is a county in which one of the earliest settlements of the Teutonic Invaders took place; and historians are generally of the opinion that in the time of these earliest settlements, the pre-existing population was either exterminated or driven to take refuge elsewhere. Whether this pre-existing population was entirely Celtic is a matter of uncertainty. On the other side of the Channel, in Gaul, anthropometric enquiry has proved, with high probability at any rate, that the Celts

¹ I ought to add that I am sure that "shot" in field-names acquired some other sense which I have so far not been able to discover.

² I say "possible" advisedly, for I am uncertain as to the origin of this term. The Dialect Dictionary says that the word "sheet" is a variant of "shoot," meaning I suppose, that which runs down hill, and applied especially to roads. But this fails to account for many instances of the term in Hants field-names.

were a dominant race ruling what was, it would seem, a larger aboriginal population. If such was the case in Gaul, it is highly probable that those offshoots of the Gallic Celts, who made their way into Britain, played there also the part of a dominant race among an aboriginal population. The tracing of names back to their origin in Celtic, is a matter of extremely delicate philological investigation; and, since the death of Sir John Rhys, there is no scholar in England who has the requisite knowledge. But it is admittedly the case that various names which go back to the pre-Saxon period cannot be traced to any Celtic origin, and must have had their source in a language spoken in these islands before the coming of the Celts. In Hampshire, as in most regions of England, the names of the larger rivers are pre-Saxon in origin. Such is the Kennet, which the Saxons called *Cynete*, a name evidently identical with *Cunetio*, the name of the Roman station near Marlborough. Then there is the Itchen, the Saxon name of which is only known to us in the oblique case, *Icenan*, though the probable nominative form *Icene* occurs in reference to the lands of Itchen Stoke. The river name Itchen, occurs also in S.E. Warwickshire, and it is just possible that a small brook in N. Hants was called by that name.

The oblique case of the AS. name of the Test was *Terstan*; and the nominative was probably *Terste*. The tributary of the Test which flows past Andover was certainly called *An* or *Ann*, a river-name which also occurs in Celtic Scotland.

There are two Avons in the county, the Wiltshire Avon on the W. border, and a small river which enters the Solent at Keyhaven. The name is, of course, Celtic.

The occurrence of the name Sturbridge on that tributary of the Itchen which flows past Chandlersford renders it more than probably that Stour (AS. *sture*), was the original name of that large brook.

The brook at Micheldever was called *Micel-defr* in former times. The second element is Celtic; and this element, which has the meaning "water," is also found in the variant form -dover in the names Andover and Candover. The Candover brook is called *Can-defr* in the AS. charters.

Of these various names *Afene* is undoubtedly Celtic, and *Sture* almost certainly so. *An* or *Ann* is probably Celtic; and probably both elements in *Can-defr* are Celtic also.¹

The origin of some of the other river names of Hants is uncertain. This is true of the Meon River in the eastern part of

¹ But I should mention that Dr. Henry Bradley has made to me the interesting suggestion that some of these stream-names, which have Celtic second elements, and a first element of untraceable origin preserve in this first element the pre-Celtic name of the stream. It is noticeably the case that the Celtic element has often the generic meaning "water," which suggests that it has been added to a term which was the original individual name of the stream.

the county. There is a Meon Hill about 5 miles S. of Stratford-on-Avon in Warwickshire.

On the extreme E. border, on the frontier of Sussex, is the River Rother, the name of which is Saxon in origin. But certain "Meon" charters show that this was not its original name, for in them it is called *Scir(e)*, a Saxon term which may refer to the brightness of the water, or may be identical with "shire" in the sense of boundary.

In the N. of the county the Enborne aspires almost to river rank. Its modern name does not appear in the charters, but may be ancient for all that. The charters impinge on the lower course of the stream, where it was called *Alr-burna*, the "Aldbourn"; whereas the name Enborne, which is possibly *Ened-burna*, or "Duck Bourne," was probably used on its upper waters, where a village called Enborne exists.

But its name got curiously corrupted. The "r" sound of the original *Alr-burna* weakened and died away; and probably by late mediæval times Alderbourn had become Aldbourne, which which became later, by a process of change common to words containing Ald-, Auburn, the name given to it in the Brimpton (Berks) TA. This would mean "Old Bourne."

Apart from the river names, the non-Saxon element in Hampshire place-names is small. Abbot's Ann, Amport (formerly Ann), Thruxton (again formerly Ann), Andover, and East Anton, all derive their names from the Ann stream already mentioned. Micheldever and Candover, Meon, Meonstoke, and Keyhaven are likewise named from the streams on which they stand.

But on the extreme E. edge of the county, in a region which must have been within the most westerly limits of the Andredes-weald, at least three names of undoubtedly Celtic origin survive, namely Liss, Glascombe, and Doscombe. It looks as if a remnant of the Celts may have maintained itself after the Saxon Conquest in the western fastnesses of the great forest.

In the N. part of the county the name Clere (AS. *Clearan* or *Cleran* in oblique cases), is not Saxon. The late Sir John Rhys told the present writer that he could not with certainty trace it to a Celtic source.

The first elements in the names Swarruton and Sombourn are certainly not Saxon; though what they are it is not possible to say. It is conceivable that they were the pre-Saxon, and possibly pre-Celtic, names of the local brooks.

It seems probable from the old records that not merely the Isle of Wight, but also the southern part at least of the Meon valley were settled by Jutes, not by Saxons. Bede (Hist. Eccles. IV. 13.) relates how Wulfhere of Mercia presented "Vectam . . . insulam et Meanuorum provinciam in gente Occidentalium Saxonum" to the king of the South Saxons. This would render

it probable that the district of the *Meonwara*, or "dwellers of Meone," extended to the old Sussex border. Bede (Hist Eccles. I. 15.) speaks also of the Jutes as inhabiting Kent and Wight; describing them also as a people living in that part of Wessex which is opposite to the Isle of Wight. As far as the Meon valley is concerned, the surviving place-names do not display any peculiar characteristic as compared with those of the rest of the county. But the name of the village of Exton on the Meon River is perhaps a reminiscence of the old tribal division. Its AS. name was *East Seaxna tun*, which has been interpreted as implying that some East Saxons from Essex were settled there. That is in itself improbable; and it is much more likely that the name means "East village of the Saxons," implying that it was locally the easternmost settlement of Saxons on the borders of a tribe of different nationality.

In the Isle of Wight on the other hand the place-names sometimes take forms not found in the rest of the county. Many personal names which appear as first elements in the place-names of the Island are not found in the rest of the county, whereas on the mainland the same personal name is apt to occur several times, and may be found in the place-names of other southern counties. Also the field-names of the island have certain peculiarities not found in those of the Hampshire mainland.

In the parish of Boldre on the S. edge of the New Forest two names of great interest are found. They are applied to two small streams called Rossen Gutter and Askin Gutter. These are not Saxon names. If they are not Norse names, then their occurrence close together in this part of Hants is one of the most extraordinary accidents in geographical nomenclature, for Rossen occurs in the name Rossendale in Lancashire as a form of the Norse personal name Roscetell, Roskil, or Roskin,¹ and Askin is a known form of the Norse personal name Ascetell. An attack of Danes on Southampton is recorded by the Saxon Chronicle in the year 980; and in 982 there was another raid on Hampshire. It is therefore possible that two stragglers from one of these raids were left behind, and settled in the wild forest land on the edge of what was afterwards the New Forest.²

With respect to the place-names of the county the interesting question arises whether their distribution throws any light on the distribution of population in the period during which the Saxon settlement was taking place. Everyone knows that Hampshire was the centre from which the West Saxons spread over that large area of Southern England which came to be called the

¹ See Wyld, Pl. N. Lancs.

² A remarkable confirmation of Dr. Grundy's suggestion is to be found in the "Sea-farers camp" at Ampress Hole on the estuary of the Lymington river. This camp is probably of Danish origin, as stated by Dr. Williams-Freeman (Field Archaeology, p. 37). If this is so, what could be more natural than to find Scandinavian place-names in its immediate vicinity? Ed.]

Kingdom of Wessex. The various stages of the Conquest as recorded in the Saxon Chronicle are¹ :—

- 495.—Landing of Cerdic and Cynric at Cerdices Ora.
- 501.—Landing of "Port" (sic) and his two sons at Portsmouth, and capture of the place.
- 514.—Further landing of West Saxons at Cerdices Ora.
- 519.—Cerdic and Cynric fight the Britons at Cerdices Ford.
- 527.—Cerdic and Cynric fight the Britons at Cerdices Leah.
- 530.—Cerdic and Cynric capture the Isle of Wight, slaying many men at Wihtgares Byrg (Carisbrook).
- 534.—Death of Cerdic, and succession of his son Cynric. He left the Isle of Wight to his nephews, Wihtgar and Stufe.
- 544.—Death of Wihtgar.
- 552.—Cynric defeats the Britons at Searobyrg (Salisbury).
- 556.—Cynric and Ceawlin fight the Britons at Berbyrg (? Barbury Camp, between Swindon and Marlborough).

This carries the record to a time when the kingdom had presumably extended to the full limits of Hampshire, and beyond that it is not necessary for the present purpose to carry it.

If the *Cerdices Beorh*, "Cerdic's Barrow," in the parish of Hurstbourne Priors be the burialplace of the celebrated Cerdic, then it is probable that the conquest had reached the northern limits of Hampshire before his death. But it must not be assumed that the invading Saxons settled within this period in every region of the county. The distribution of place-names shows that that was not the case.

As far as human settlement and habitation is concerned, place-names may be divided into four classes :—

- (1) Those the endings of which imply human habitation, viz., -ing, -ington, -ton, -ham, -worth, -thorpe or -throp, -cot.
- (2) Those the endings of which imply a nearness to a settlement, though not actual habitation, viz., -wick, -stead, -stoke, and perhaps, -ley or -leigh.
- (3) Those which imply that the sites were originally unsettled, viz., -field, -hurst, -wood, etc.
- (4) Those which leave the question of original human settlement uncertain, viz., -ford, -bridge, -bury, -borough.

It is only in certain cases that names give any special clue to the age of the settlement to which they are attached. It is, of course, impossible to assume that places which have names indicating human habitation (Class 1) are in all cases prior in

¹I do not imply by quoting these early traditions of the chronicle that I regard them as well authenticated history. But we have no other evidence worth calling such; and there may be a considerable element of truth in the traditions.

foundation to those of Class 2; though the latter do not imply that they were the habitations of men at the time at which they got their names, or we may even go further and say that they imply that they were not so. There is a still stronger probability that the name endings in Class 2 indicate an earlier settlement than so those in Class 3. of the name in Class 4 it can only be said they give no clue to the period of settlement; some may be early, some late centres of population.

The position may be summed up as follows.

At the time when the places of Class 1 received their names they were already human habitations; whereas those of Class 2, when they received their names were connected with settlements, but were not habitations. The names in Class 3 do not imply either that they were settlements or were connected with settlements at the time at which they got their names. Those of Class 4 are quite indeterminate in their significance, and cannot come into reckoning of the probable age of settlements.

Space does not permit of a full statement of the evidence for the conclusions which follow.¹

It is almost certain that the place-names in -ing, indicate the earliest stage of the settlement of the Anglo-Saxons in this country. In the counties which form the nuclei of the Saxon settlements in the S. of England, Kent, Suffolk, Essex, Hampshire and Norfolk, they form 18% of the names ending in -ing or -ton. In the counties of the middle stage of the settlement they form 2%. In the counties of later settlement they are practically non-existent. Furthermore in the counties of early settlement, the names in -ton seem, generally speaking, to indicate an earlier settlement than is implied by endings other than -ing. It is doubtful whether, though it is perhaps probable that, -ington names in these counties are of an earlier date than the other -ton names.²

Thus, as indicating probable age of settlement, the classes of names cited above may be divided as follows:—

- Class 1. (a) Names in -ing.
(b) Names in -ington (?)
(c) Names in -ton.
(d) Names in -worth, -ham, -thorp, -cot.

Class 2.

Class 3.

Hampshire must have been, in former days, one of the most heavily wooded districts in England. In the S.W. the forest,

¹ The evidence will—all well—be published in a paper "on the Meanings of certain Anglo-Saxon terms" which may appear in the 1922 issue of the *Modern Language Review*.

² Conclusions from -ington names are very uncertain because the -ing element is not necessarily derived from the patronymic ending -ing, but may originate in the weak gentile in -an, i.e., a modern -ington name may have originally had the AS. ending -an -tun. Only in cases where the old forms of the name are known can any safe conclusion be drawn.

known later as the New Forest, must have been connected by a continuous stretch of woodland with what was known as Clarendon Forest, in Wilts. This again approached, but probably did not touch Chute Forest on the N. The latter extended deep into the N.W. part of the county, and even in historical times had outliers in Hampshire, known as Doiley and Finkley Forests in the region N.W. of Whitchurch. But it is also clear that this woodland extended along the N. fringe of the county, between the Enborne river and the line of downs which runs from Kingsclere to Inkpen. On the E. this woodland joined in the neighbourhood of Mortimer, the great heaths of S.W. Surrey, which went S. towards Fleet and Aldershot, and so on southward till in Woolmer Forest it met the outliers of the Andredsweald of Sussex. I have spoken purposely of the heaths rather than of the pinewoods of N.E. Hants and W. Surrey, because there is a tradition that these pinewoods are of quite recent origin, in fact, that the Scotch pine came into the country in the reign of James I. On that point the present writer cannot express any opinion, but there is every reason to believe that this part of Hampshire and Surrey was at all times heavily wooded.

S. of Woolmer Forest the cultivated lands of the Rother valley drove N. into the Andredsweald, as the place-names of Sussex show; but both in the charters and in the character of the country at the present day there is plain evidence of continuous woodland having gone S. down the great escarpment which stands W. of the Rother valley above Petersfield. It is probable that this wooded district was interrupted S. of this point, but was taken up again by what is now the Forest of Bere just N. of Havant. Thus Hampshire was surrounded by a ring of woodland.

It goes perhaps without saying that the earliest settlements would not be made where it was necessary to clear the forest, but in open lands free of timber and scrub, and especially in those open lands which possessed the best lands for agricultural purposes. The distribution of -ton names in the county shows that practically the whole of the open unwooded country was settled at an early period of the conquest. The nucleus of these settlements was in the peculiarly open country which stretches from Winchester to the downs S. of Kingsclere. But it would seem that the earliest settlements of all were not in this part of the county. They were on the E. shore of Southampton Water, and E. of that along the shores of Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours. Five names in -ing occur there; whereas only two, Basing and Worting are found elsewhere, both of them near the headwaters of the Loddon. The coast W. of Southampton Water, from Lymington to Christchurch, was a region of early, though not perhaps of the earliest settlement. A patch of -ton settlements is on the open land where the headwaters of the Ann, a tributary of the Test, approach the Wiltshire border. S.E. of Basingstoke is a group

of -tons in a region which is still noticeable in that wooded district for its comparative absence of woodland. The other -ton groups are in river valleys, on the upper Itchen, and in patches along the course of the Meon. Along the Avon in Hampshire they are conspicuous by their absence; but then the lower course of this river was either heavy land,¹ or within the area of the woodland and heath of the W. part of the New Forest. The same phenomenon, due no doubt to the same cause, is apparent in the lower part of the Test valley. There is a small group of -tons on the headwaters of the Wey near Alton; and a larger group on the E. borders of the county in the gap between the woodlands of Froxfield and the Forest of Bere.

Historians have been accustomed to ascribe the earliest settlements to river valleys because, so they say, these formed the natural lines of advance and communication at the period of conquest. It is probable that this general statement is as far from the truth as it well could be. Save when a river was navigable, the river valley would in those earliest times have been in all probability the very last line which an invader would choose. A knowledge of such valleys as those of the Itchen and the Test would convince anyone that that waterlogged land must have been in former times a hopeless maze of marsh and bog, cut in all directions by deep water channels. The lines of actual advance in the invasions must have been along the watersheds where the ridgeways afforded what were, as far as we know the only through routes, other than the Roman roads, of pre-Saxon times. It is true that the settlers would in the first instance be likely to seize on land near rivers, partly to secure a water supply, partly because the best arable soil might be expected to occur in the river valleys. But this latter condition must be urged with some considerable reserve. Arable land in river bottoms is apt to be heavy, and consequently to be difficult to work, especially with the inferior draught animals available in those early times. The distribution of names on a geological map of England shows that the earliest class of settlements, the -ton settlements, are thickest on those geological formations, the surface of which is apt to provide light arable soil. Thus the broad streaks of the great oolite and of the chalk which run slantwise across the map of S. England are covered with a peculiarly large percentage of -ton names, even allowing for the fact that these names give out, and others take their place, in regions on the oolite and the chalk where forests are known to have existed. On the heavier lands, like the clays, the -ton names form a much smaller percentage; and names like

¹ The general geological distribution of place-names shows that the light ploughland, was, as a rule, taken up before the heavy ploughland was occupied. This was, no doubt, mainly due to its being so much easier to work, especially with the ox team.

-worth and -ham¹ which suggest settlements secondary in point of time, become more common. In Hampshire, and too in Wiltshire S. of the line of the Marlborough Downs, the light arable approaches very closely to the rivers, and thus the river valleys are full of -ton names. But in some other counties where the heavy land forms a broad belt near the rivers the -ton names have a tendency to lie away from them, and the names in the valleys themselves are rather of the type which we have called secondary settlements.²

As far as the line of advance taken by the early West Saxon invaders of Hampshire is concerned, there can be little doubt that their road inland was the Roman road from Bitterne to Winchester.

In the case of Hampshire singularly few of the places the names of which come in class 3 have developed into villages, though there are a certain number of hamlet names in -sted or -stead, -wick, -ley, or -leigh. The -leys are a doubtful element in primitive nomenclature. There is no question that the common use of the term *leah* in the historical period of the AS. age was to denote rough pasture surroundings the cultivated lands of the village—land of the same type and appearance, no doubt, as the commons of the present day. But it is not possible to say

¹ With regard to -ham, the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk are exceptional. I am inclined to suspect that the settlement of the Angles in East Anglia was, either in its nature or in its organisation, different originally from the settlements of the Saxons in the S. of England.

² Some statistics of the geological distribution of the names of places within the county which have become centres of population, may be interesting.

Formation.	Situation.	Nature.	Names.			
			Class 1. -ing -ton	Class 2. -worth -ham -cot -thorpe	Class 3. -stead -ley -wick -stoke	Class 4. -field etc.
Bagshot Beds & London Clay	N. & N.E.	Wooded	1	2	10	17
Bagshot Beds & London Clay	S.	Forest	0	4	13	13
Reading Beds	S.	Mostly Wooded	0	1	0	3
Chalk	W.	Forest	0	0	0	2
Chalk	N. & Middle	Forest	3	7	2	8
Chalk	N. & Middle	Wooded & Open	25	12	8	15
Chalk	N. & Middle	Open	20	10	8	16
Upper Greensand	N.		1	0	0	1
Upper Greensand	E.	Forest	1	1	6	3
Lower Greensand	E.		0	1	4	1
Gault	E.		0	0	0	0

whether the name had always been associated with pasture, or whether it merely connoted this type of land. The distribution of the -leys of Hampshire does not throw any decisive light on the question. It will be seen that there are -leys deep in the New Forest, and other -leys scattered throughout the woodland districts of the county, often at a considerable distance from any place the name of which suggests early settlement. Still pasture was rare and valuable, and cattle may have been driven long distances in order to provide them with it.

In the Isle of Wight the distribution of names is not such as to suggest any conclusion as to the nature of the settlement. But one thing is noticeable, namely that the -ton names are thickest on the two ridges which run E. and W. through the island; but distances are so small that the central plain and the S.E. part, though noticeable for the absence of such names, may have been in occupation of the inhabitants of the -ton at an early date.

One general fact is noticeable in Hampshire as well as in the other southern counties, namely, that early settlement is not dependent on lines of communication, but on the nature of the soil and on the absence of woodland. Neither the lines of the Roman roads nor of the great ridgeways are specially marked by place-names in -ton. In forest districts they are conspicuous by their absence. The economy of Saxon life was so self-centred in the small unit of the village community as to be in an economic sense independent of the world outside. Food stuffs and the material for clothing were produced on the spot and, so far as trade was concerned, the great highways of the country must have been used merely for pack-horse traffic, in articles which would in that age rank as luxuries.

The charters of Hampshire throw a certain amount of light on the nature of the settlements in certain of the forest regions of the county. The charters of these regions are exceptional in two ways, in that they are apt to refer to areas which are either larger or smaller than the areas included in the bounds of the charters of the regions of early settlement. The first of these characteristics is due to their giving the bounds of a group of small land units; the second to the fact that some of them give the bounds of only one of these unusually small units. This is shown especially in the charters of the region of St. Mary Bourne which came within the area of what was known in post-Saxon times as the Forest of Doiley, and in the great Meon group of charters which refers to lands which must originally have been within the westernmost limits of the Andredsweald. The parishes of East Meon and St. Mary Bourne are made up of tithings; and, as the charters show, the bounds of these tithings go back to Saxon times. These tithings are, in fact, survivals of Saxon land units, which had a hidage much smaller than that of the

usual and typical land unit. Two of the surveys of Meon charters present certain difficulties, owing to the landmarks cutting across the present parish along the bounds of former tithings; and the Meon charters vary from grants of the whole of the large manor of Meon, including Froxfield, and part of Privett and other parishes to small grants of the tithings of Combe, Farnfield and Peake. In the same way in the Doiley forest region we have AS. surveys of Whitchurch and St. Mary Bourne, both of which parishes are made up of tithings, and also of the tithings of Bradley and Stoke.¹ These tithings represent, I am inclined to think, late settlements of AS. times, where some settler or settlers carved out of the forest region a hide or two of land. When the secular land boundaries came to be adopted for the ecclesiastical purposes of the parish, these small units were found too small for that purpose and so were grouped together to form a parish.

Any minute consideration of the thousands of field-names of the county would involve the writing of many pages of text; and, as to their interpretation, the present writer will give all the detailed information which he has been able to acquire in a vocabulary, which he hopes to publish later.

Comparison with the names in other counties can only be made to a very limited extent, because collections of such names have only been made in the case of a few of the counties of England; and even those which have been made are in many cases of a partial and incomplete character. Still there are certain topographical terms used in Hampshire which are either not found, or occur very rarely in the neighbouring counties of Berkshire and Wiltshire. The fact that such contrasts exist shows that natural features such as the Forests of Clarendon and Chute, which cut off the county from Wiltshire and the Berkshire Downs, which intervene between it and West Berkshire, were obstacles to intercourse to this extent, at any rate, that they caused the regions on either side of them to develop differences of usage with respect to certain common topographical terms. It is not merely the case that many terms which occur in field-names in one county are not found among those of its neighbours. That is by no means surprising when the arbitrary and fanciful character of many field-names is taken into consideration. The contrast becomes striking when a term commonly used in one county is either rare in, or absent from, the field-names of a neighbour. The difference may be due to geological causes. The field-name Catsbrain, which occurs in Berkshire and Essex, and is common in parts of Oxfordshire, is not found in Hampshire. It is applied to land where stones of a certain shape, generally fossils, are scattered on the surface; and it is peculiarly common in oolite districts.

¹ In Wilts the AS. charters of the forest region, W. of Wilton present much the same peculiarities.

The term Comp or Compt, also spelt Quomp, and occurring in one instance in the compound Comphouse, is quite common in Hampshire. It does not occur in Berkshire; nor is it quoted in the glossaries or dictionaries. No instance of it is given in Mr. Waller's complete list of Essex field-names.

Throughout Hampshire, except in the N.W. part of the county, a quarry, chalkpit or sandpit is generally called a Dell. In the Berkshire Tithe Awards the term does not occur, and enquiry within the county establishes the assumption that it is not used. The contrast is remarkable—all the more so, as it would seem to originate in Saxon times. The modern word is derived from the AS. *del*, a word common in the AS. charters. In Sweet's Dictionary it is translated "valley." The dictionary of Bosworth and Toller does not mention the term. In Midland England the modern term is still used of a valley, if it can be so called of a certain type, really a gully of no great size or depth, cut in the land by a stream. It is almost certain that the AS. term had this meaning.

But it is equally certain that, as used in the charters, it very seldom has this meaning, whereas it is applied again and again to old stonepits and chalkpits, which may be identified with certainty at the present day. Moreover certain compounds of it, such as *crundel*, *trindel*, *sanddel*, and *waendel* existed in AS. times, compounds which are well accredited by the charters, but are either not found in the dictionaries, or, if there, are given tentative and usually mistaken meanings.

To one who knows the topography of the charters there can be no doubt that the common meaning of *del* is quarry, stonepit, or chalkpit, i.e., the meaning which it has in Hampshire field-names of the present day.

Reference has been made to the fact that the charters of Berks and Hants show in respect to the use of the AS. term *del* the same contrast that the Tithe Awards show with respect to "dell." In the Saxon charters of Hampshire the term *del* is used 22 times, and is found in lands scattered all over the area of the county. In the Berkshire charters it occurs only once, and that in a parish on the S. slope of the downs near the Hampshire border. In the Berkshire charters its place is taken by the compound *crundel*, which occurs 15 times in them, and in 14 out of the 15 cases in parishes on the downs. In Hampshire charters *crundel* occurs only twice, and in both cases in the Ecchinswell charter, on the Berkshire border. In Berks this term does not survive in modern nomenclature; but in Hants the place-name Crondall is derived from it; and in one of the parishes of S.E. Hants the term "crundel" is applied to a small stream valley. Both terms meant either "gully" or "quarry"; but *crundel* is specifically a quarry of a narrow elongated shape, like the stone-diggings which were so often made on the balks of ploughlands.

The two terms *del* and *crundel* have puzzled the dictionary makers; and it is only by determining the objects which they denote in the AS. charters that their meanings have become clear.¹ It so happens that a Hampshire Tithe award, that of Upton Grey, throws very clear light on this question. In this parish both "dell" and "crundell" appear in the Tithe Award. The former is applied to the ordinary chalkpits in the parish; the latter is applied to two chalkpits of elongated and irregular shape, the only two within the parish which display this characteristic. Such then is one meaning of this somewhat mysterious term.

The term "flood," which denotes a stream of some size, either due to an intermittent spring, or to winter rains and only running at that season, still survives as a "common" term in Hampshire. In Berkshire only one instance of it survives, referring to that source of the Pangbourne due to an intermittent spring which breaks out at average intervals of seven years and forms a considerable stream in a valley normally dry. The corresponding AS. term *floda* occurs three times in Berkshire charters; and in all three cases it refers to intermittent springs, which still exist in the Downs S.E. of Wantage. In Hampshire charters the cases in which the *floda*'s mentioned can be identified are those of streams which only run in rainy weather.

Barton as a "common" term meaning "rickyard" occurs frequently in Hampshire Tithe Awards; but it is not so used in those of Berkshire, though as a place-name it occurs in the county. "Lake" is from an AS. *lacu*, a term used of streams with a slow current. In the Berkshire charters it is frequently used of backwaters of the Thames. In Hampshire it is still used as a "common" term; but this use is not found in Berkshire, though it occurs as an element in place-names such as Stanlake.

There are two terms in AS. meaning "boundary," namely *maere* (or *gemaere*), and *meorce*. Though corresponding to "boundary" in its widest sense, yet it is plain that in the charters they are usually used in the more restricted sense of the "boundaries" or balks² which separated ploughlands from one another. In modern English *maere* has produced the term "mere," which has become all but obsolete; and *meorc* has produced "mark," which, in the sense of "boundary" is becoming antique.³ The modern term "mere" in the sense of "boundary" occurs in the Tithe Awards of one or two of the

¹ The whole evidence is treated fully in the paper which has been already mentioned, that on the meanings of certain Anglo-Saxon terms, which should appear in the Modern Language Review of 1922.

² "Balk" is a word of Celtic origin which seems to have come into use in England in post-Saxon times.

³ "Mere," meaning a "pool," is derived, of course, from the AS. *mere*, a pool or pond. The majority of the English place-names with the ending -mere are derived from this word; but some are from AS. *maere*.

out-of-the-way parishes of Berkshire, and is there applied to a Mere way which has developed along the balk of some ploughland. It is not found in Hampshire Awards, though the term Mark Way, applied to the same type of road, occurs in them. Mere Dyke occurs in Berkshire, and Mark Field in Hampshire. The contrast is no doubt due to a difference of usage which has sprung up in two different districts; but the interesting feature of the contrast is that it appears to go back to AS. times.

In the Hampshire charters *mearc* is used 52, whereas *maere* or *gemaere* is used only 14 times, of which 6 are doubtful cases owing to the copyists of the Winchester group of charters having continually written "ae" for "e," so that it is not always possible to say whether *maere* when used in these charters is *maere*, a boundary, or *mere*, a pond. In the Berkshire charters *mearc* occurs 11 times, and *maere* or *gemaere* 72 times.

The AS. *rith*, meaning a small stream, still survives as a "common" term on the Hampshire coast, where it is applied to several of the gutters which run through the mud of Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours. It does not occur in Berkshire.

Shard, meaning a gap in a fence, is common in Hampshire, but does not appear in Berkshire Tithe Awards.

In Berkshire Tithe Awards the expression "shooting on," meaning "running down to," is quite common. It does not occur in Hampshire Awards.

Sley or Sleigh, meaning a sheep pasture, occurs several times in Hampshire Awards, and is very common in Wiltshire; but it does not appear in Berkshire Tithe Awards.

Spearbed, also spelt Spirebed, occurs several times on the Test. It means apparently a bed of rushes, or, perhaps, an osier bed. It does not occur in the rest of Hampshire; nor is it used in Berkshire Tithe Awards.

VOCABULARY OF FIELD-NAMES.

[I have, as a rule, included in this list only those field-names of which I have been able to find the meaning. I mention the Berks and Essex field-names because I have fairly complete lists of them.]

Acre : original meaning, 'a strip of ploughland in the common field.'

Ailey : from 'aile,' a beard of barley. Probably a field where barley was grown.

Aldern : adj. 'containing alder trees.'

Anger : sometimes variant of **hanger**.

Are : possibly from mediæval 'are,' to plough.

Arne : sometimes from 'earn,' an eagle. Sometimes perhaps from dialectic 'arn,' an alder tree.

Ash : sometimes refers to the tree. Sometimes from 'ash,' stubble. Cf. Oatash, Wheatash.

- Ashen** : adj. corresponding to the last.
- Ashett** : may be a diminutive of ash ; but possibly a variant of **assart**, a piece of ground cleared for cultivation.
- Axe** : possible reference to shape of field ; but also possibly derived from AS. *Aesc*, ash-tree.
- Axen** : dialectic 'axen,' ashes, cinders.
- Backside** : a field behind a house.
- Bailey** : sometimes a division of a forest.
- Bake, Bakelands** : land reclaimed by mattock and by burning.
See also BURNBAKE.
- Bald** : from the Celtic, meaning 'marked with white.' Cf. piebald.
- Ball** : a rounded heap of earth used as a boundary mark.
- Bandy** : 'having a concave curve.'
- Bar** : a coarse kind of barley. Can also mean a horse-way up a hill.
- Barrow** : reference to existing or former tumulus.
- Barton** : used as a 'common' term in Hampshire, but not in Berkshire TA. 'Rickyard.'
- Beak** : variant of **Peak**. q.v.
- Belt** : trees planted as a wind shelter.
- Bight** : 'corner.'
- Birchen** : adj. from 'birch.'
- Blacklands** : generally a reference to poorness of soil.
- Blakelands** : variant of last.
- Blounce** : the plant valerian.
- Blunce** : probably variant of last.
- Boggoor** : possibly variant of **boggart**, scarecrow.
- Booth** : probably cowhouse.
- Bougde** : possibly 'bent,' 'crooked.' Cf. OE. 'bouked.'
- Braich** : see BREACH.
- Breach** : very common in Hants, Berks and Essex, and probably elsewhere. Land newly broken by the plough.
- Brim** : ME. 'edge.' In Hants occurs Brimstone, 'boundary stone.'
- Brinken** : possibly adj. from 'brink.'
- Brocas** : 'brooks.'
- Broke** : see BREACH.
- Broad Halfpenny** : toll paid to a lord for the privilege of setting up booths in a fair or market. Applied to a piece of down where such a fair was held.
- Buckthorn** : 'buck' in compounds means 'beech,' and is applied to vegetation which has seeds having a supposed resemblance to beech-mast. Cf. Buckwheat.
- Buddle** : the corn marigold.
- Buff** : a tuft of coarse grass or of flowers.
- Bun** : a dry stalk.
- Bunny** : a brick arch or wooden bridge covered with earth.
- Bur** : may mean either a burrow or a kind of stone.

- Burchen** : see BIRCHEN.
- Burgage** : a form of tenure proper to boroughs, where the occupier holds from the king or from the lord of the borough.
- Burnbake** : see BAKE.
- Burnt** : see BAKE.
- Burrow** : may refer to a camp, a barrow, or a rabbit-warren.
- Bury** : see BURROW.
- Bushet** : a little bush ?
- Butt** : used of strips of ploughland which, owing to the lie of the ground, could not be carried to the usual length of about a furlong. Also used of the ridge of plough between two furrows.
- Buttage** : probably means 'having the nature of butts.' See last.
- Butty** : adj. See BUTT.
- Bye** : 'lonely,' 'desolate.'
- Bylands** : see last.
- Cage** : a squirrel's nest.
- Caingar** : variant of 'coneygar,' rabbit-warren.
- Callow** : 'bare.'
- Cam** : 'crooked.'
- Cap** : used of fungi of various kinds.
- Chaplands** : 'chap,' used of earth cracked by heat.
- Chark** : charcoal.
- Chart** : woodland or rough common land.
- Chase** : a hunting area not in a forest.
- Chump** : a log or stump.
- Claggs** : dialectic 'claggy' means sticky or muddy.
- Clappgate** : a gate which shuts on two posts joined by a bar to a third post.
- Clapper** : generally means a rough bridge.
- Cleaver** : sometimes refers to the shape of a field ; sometimes from AS. *Clæfer*, 'clover.'
- Cleve, Cleeve** : AS. *Clif*, a steep slope.
- Clibs** : dialectic 'clibby' means sticky.
- Clobb** : a clod of earth or clay.
- Clouds** : AS. *Clud*, a rock.
- Coal** : refers usually to charcoal.
- Cocklestile** : probably a stile set askew in some way.
- Cockshot** : a way cut in a wood, where woodcock might be caught by nets.
- Goldharbour** : a name much more common than would appear from the small scale ordnance maps. Refers probably to a ruined dwelling. There is no reason to connect it specially with buildings of Roman date. The idea that it is only common in the neighbourhood of Roman roads is a mistaken one. No term resembling it either in form or meaning is found in the AS. charters.
- Cole** : probably refers in most cases to charcoal.

- Colly** : a dialectic word meaning 'dirt.'
- Common Field** : the old ploughland of the village community.
- Comp, Compt, Quomp** : occurs ten times in Hants. Does not occur in Berks. Meaning?
- Comphouse** : probably connected with the last.
- Coneygar** : rabbit-warren.
- Cop, Copp** : the head or top of anything. As a verb applied to anything of which the head has been taken off, lopped, or pollarded. Cf. Copythorn, 'copped thorn.'
- Copyhold** : often a reference to the common form of tenure where the tenant has nothing to show by way of title except a copy of the rolls made by the steward of the lord's court. But frequently a corruption of 'copped holt,' i.e., a wood in which the trees have been pollarded.
- Copythorn** : see COP.
- Corve** : possibly connected with ME. 'corven,' curved.
- Cossical** : found once in Hants; and once in Berks. Occurs in Oxon in the form Corsicle. Said to be a mediæval term in Algebra. Was it also a geometrical term implying a figure of some special shape?
- Costards** : may be a surname. Also the name of a large kind of apple. Cf. costermonger.
- Court** : usually refers to an old manorial court.
- Couthy** : pleasant, prosperous.
- Cowage** : probably a field used for pasturing cows. Words ending in -age are very common in field-names. In Hants:—burgage, huntage, buttage, copenage, bindage, granage, howage, leggage, lillage, graphage, marlage, harmage, harrage, rockage, steterage, stubbage, tapnage, warrage, worldage, yerrage, vernage; and in Essex:—hickerage, impage, hammage, hassage, popperage, turnage, stonage, shrubbage, spinnage, stammage, stubbage, twillage.
- Cowleaze** : cow pasture.
- Craft** : variant of Croft.
- Cramp** : a bend in a ditch or fence.
- Crams** : whins.
- Crane** : heron.
- Crate** : hurdle.
- Crawte, Crawl** : occurs four times in Selborne, and nowhere else. Meaning?
- Crech** : light or gravelly soil.
- Crock** : probable reference to pottery.
- Crocker** : potter.
- Crook** : turn or bend.
- Cross** : generally refers to a field which runs at right angles to the line of neighbouring fields.
- Crouch** : coarse kind of grass.
- Croud** : swelling or protuberance

Crowd : variant of last.
Crude : rough.
Crumples : kind of lily.
Crundle, Crundell : (r) a small rift in which a stream flows ;
 (2) a quarry.
Crutch : variant of **Crouch**.
Cuckold : the plant burdock.
Culver : wood pigeon.
Cunningher, Cunniger : see **CONEYGAR**.
Custards : see **COSTARDS**.
Cut : a ditch.
Daffy : containing daffodils.
Dagwell : probably a dripping spring. Cf. 'daglet,' an icicle.
Dandy : an orchid.
Dazel, Deasle : a right-hand corner.
Deafs : barren.
Deal : a portion or share of land.
Dee : 'D' shaped.
Deerleap : a certain space of land outside the boundary fence, allowed to the lord of the manor to enable proprietor to repair fences without trespassing. In Sussex it is 8ft. 6in. wide.
Dell : a quarry or chalkpit.
Delph, Delve : quarry.
Dicker : blotched.
Dill : the plant called Yellow Cup.
Dod : the plant Cat's Tail.
Dodpits : see last.
Dole : a meadow in which several people have shares. Cf. Dolestone, a boundary stone.
Dolpits : possibly connected with last.
Dorrel : a pollard.
Draught : in Wilts means a bundle of wood for hurdles.
Drawlegs : named from the stickiness of the soil.
Driftway, Drive, Drove, Drove way : a cattle way.
Droke : a filmy weed very common in standing water.
Drook : possibly variant of last.
Drudge : oats mixed with barley.
Dudman : a scarecrow.
Earsh : see **ERRISH**.
Eddish : AS. *Edisc*, 'stubble.' Also used of the aftermath of clover, hay, etc.
Ell : may be used of an L-shaped field ; but also may mean a shed placed against a building.
Errish ; stubble
Farthing : a quarter of anything, especially of a hide, virgate, or acre.
Ferruly : probably an adj. from the dialectic 'ferule,' giant fennel.

- Firedrake** : 'will o' the wisp.'
- Firestone** : flint.
- Flash** : pool or marshy place.
- Flashet** : probably diminutive of last.
- Fleck** : probably 'patch' or 'spot.'
- Fleet** : usually a tidal estuary, AS. *Fleet*; but may be applied to a sheet of inland water.
- Flex** : probably in most cases a variant of **Flax**.
- Flexed** : bent.
- Floats** : flood, or a side stream or backwater.
- Flood** : seems to be used of streams which flow only in rainy weather. Cf. AS. *Floda*.
- Flushole** : (1) pool or puddle; (2) stream from a mill-wheel.
- Fog** : aftermath or coarse grass.
- Foldshore** : the stake or shore which supports the hurdles of a sheepfold.
- Folly** : from the Fr. 'feuillée,' meaning a clump of trees.
- Foreshare** : occurs only in Stratfield Turgis. Meaning?
- Frame** : a wooden building.
- Frater** : probably implies a connection with a former friary.
- Frith** : AS. *Frith*, land where brushwood grows.
- Fuffety** : probably a variant of **fuffy**, meaning soft and spongy.
- Fulling Mill** : a cloth mill.
- Furlong** : a group of strips in the common field.
- Gains** : 'hide and gain,' meant originally arable land. To 'gain' land meant to till it.
- Gall** : has various meanings. (1) barren or unfertile spot in a field through which springs rise; (2) waste land; (3) a strip by the side of a road; (4) open space in a copse; (5) patch in a field where the crop has failed.
- Galley, Gally** : may be an adj. from last. May mean a scarecrow.
- Garlogs** : possible variant of **garlock**, wild mustard.
- Gason, Gasson, Gaston, Garson** : AS. *Gaerstun*, 'Grass Enclosure.'
- Gayless** : very uncertain. 'Gay Ground' means garden. This word may mean 'devoid of flowers.'
- Getting** : breeding.
- Gill** : ground ivy.
- Goar** : see **GORE**.
- Gore** : a triangular strip of ploughland.
- Gosen** : geese.
- Gospel Oak** : an oak where the gospel was read at the annual perambulation of the boundaries.
- Graphage** : reference to a hedge with a ditch alongside of it.
- Grawl** : variant of **gravel**.
- Great Ground** : occurs in many parishes in Hants and Berks. Is applied to one, and only one field in a parish or tithing. Probably has some technical meaning.

Grim : applied to banks and dykes. Implies supernatural origin. AS. *Grim*, 'fell,' 'dire.' Probably an attribute of the devil.

Grinch : a small bit.

Groat : crushed grain, especially of oats.

Gross : reference to fertility of soil.

Grub, Grubb, Grubbed, Grubbing : reference to removal of trees in order to bring ground into cultivation.

Gullet : a water channel.

Gully : a narrow stream valley.

Hackwood : occurs six times in Hants. Perhaps refers to the bird cherry.

Hain : enclosure, park.

Hail, Hale : AS. *Healh*, a small hollow.

Halfpenny : may sometimes refer to the original rent of a parcel of land. See also BROAD HALFPENNY.

Halmaker : AS. *Healm-aecer*, 'straw field.'

Ham : very common in Hants, Berks, and Essex. Sometimes from AS. *Ham*, 'house.' More frequently from AS. *Hamm*, 'enclosure.' Commonly used of enclosures near a river, because the 'mead,' originally in common occupation, was often divided up in severalty.

Hammer, Hamer : sometimes refers to shape of field ; sometimes is a bird name. Cf. yellow hammer.

Hance : the curved or rounded part of anything.

Handcross : a cross with horizontal arms.

Handle : a long, narrow, straight strip.

Handkerchief : occurs six times in Hants. Meaning ?

Hane : variant of **Hain**,

Hanger : a hanging wood.

Hangery : possibly adj. from last.

Hanging : very common in Hants, Berks and Essex. A field on a hill slope.

Hassick, Hassock : coarse grass.

Hat : a clump or ring of trees.

Hatch : a wicket gate or half-door.

Hatchett : probably diminutive of last.

Hatchgate : see HATCH. Generally applied to a gate dividing parishes or manors.

Hattock : a shock of sheaves of corn.

Haughboys : in Essex, **Hautboys**. Either the original name of the strawberry, or **Haut Bois**, high wood.

Haw : a fenced place. Cf. hawthorn.

Hay, Hayes : ground enclosed by a hedge.

Hazards : four times in Hants. Occurs also in Berks and Essex. Meaning ?

Headlands : the ends of a ploughed field where the plough turned.

- Humber**: a name for the cockchafer.
Hunger: very common variant of **Hanger**.
Hungry: applied to poor land.
Hurlock: a hard kind of chalk.
Hurn: AS. *Hyrne*, corner, nook.
Hurst: copse.
Hustle Cap: a boys' game of tossing halfpennies out of a cap.
Hyle: a heap.
Inham: an enclosure close to the farm or manor house to which it belongs.
Innicks, Innix: probably a corruption of Inwicks, i.e., dairy farms near to a village or to the owner's house.
Inlands: those who possessed *Boc-land*, or hereditary land, kept the inland near the house in their own hands, but let the outland to tenants.
Intake: land enclosed from a moor or common.
Johnlands: possibly connected with St. John's Day, June 24th. But 'John' is an element in various plant-names.
Kalis: the prickly saltwort.
Kemp: a kind of plantain.
Kench: a slice of an arable field containing a humber of furrows.
Kers-: frequently AS. *Caers*, watercress.
Kettle: (1) a swelling; (2) the purple orchid.
Kiln: refers to brick or tile field.
Kitt: a cattle house.
Kittstye: see **KITT**.
Knap, Knapp: AS. *Cnaep*, a small hill.
Knappy: adj. of last.
Knapshard: see **KNAP AND SHARD**.
Knave: probable reference to badness of soil. Occurs several times in Essex.
Knoll, Knowl: AS. *Cnoll*, a rounded hill.
Ladder: an element in several plant-names; but may refer to surface of field.
Lade: a ditch, or mill-race.
Lady: very common. An element in various plant-names.
Lag: a long, narrow, marshy meadow; sometimes beside a stream.
Lain: open tract of arable land at the foot of downs.
Lake: AS. *Lacu*, a slow-flowing stream. Still used in Hants. In Berks only occurs in compounds such as Stanlake.
Lampacre: possibly AS. *Lam-aecer*, a clayey strip of ploughland.
Lampard: mottled.
Lampole: AS. *Lam-pol*, clay pool.
Lanchard, Landshard, Landshare: literally 'something which cuts off or divides a piece of land.' The form 'landshare' occurs in Turgis, but not elsewhere. The terms are practically synonymous with 'balk,' a strip of grass or untilled land dividing two pieces of arable, or two allotments of a mead.

- Headstock** : seems to have been a stake marking the headland of a ploughland.
- Heaven** : either AS. *Efen*, level ; or old past participle of 'heave,' meaning 'raised.'
- Hedgerow** : a line of trees along a hedge.
- Hen** : a water fowl.
- Hern** : probably AS. *Hyrne*, nook or corner.
- Hevill** : may be variant of **Avile**, the second of two crops in a rotation of crops.
- Hide, Hyde** : in AS. times an area of land of no definite amount, held by one household. In later times came to mean a set quantity of land ; but the quantity was not the same in all parts of England. In later days sometimes merely implied ploughland.
- Hind** : probably means 'at the back of.'
- Hip, Hipp** : fruit of the wild rose.
- Hipple** : 'a little heap.'
- Hitchen** : the part of a field which is sown while the rest lies fallow.
- Hitches** : enclosures of hurdles in which sheep are penned when eating roots.
- Hoarstone, Horestone** : originally AS. *Har-stan*, 'grey stone,' or 'old stone.' Came to mean a boundary stone.
- Ho, Hoe** : AS. *Hoh*, promontory or ridge-end.
- Hob, Hobb** : a mound in which potatoes are stored.
- Hoborn** : perhaps 'potato store.'
- Hock-** : AS. *Hoc* 'mallow.'
- Hofflet** : three times in Hants. Meaning ?
- Hoggerde** : that which has been cut clumsily.
- Hogtrough** : four times in Hants. Always of a 'bottom' or valley. Refers to shape.
- Holl** : (1) a hollow ; (2) a dry ditch.
- Holland** : four times in Hants. Perhaps land in a hollow.
- Holless** : possibly variant of **hollis**, 'an oval pebble.'
- Holm, Holmes** : very common in Hants. May refer to holly ; may mean flat land near a river.
- Holmen** : adj. from 'holm,' holly.
- Holt** : a small wood.
- Holyrede** : reference to a cross in the neighbourhood.
- Honey** : very common. Refers to places where bees were kept in a time when sugar was unknown.
- Hook** : very common in Hants and Essex. Has various meanings ; (1) a piece of land on a slope ; (2) land tilled every year ; (3) a projecting corner, point or spit of land.
- Horn** : very common. Possibly AS. *Hyrne*, corner or nook.
- Hose** : a sheaf of corn.
- Hovel** : shed.
- Hull** : chaff of corn.
- Hum** : plant called horsemint.

- Latch** : variant of **Lache**, a wet ditch or bog.
Lay : a meadow ; a place in which animals lie.
Lazy : probably 'unproductive.'
Lea : AS. *Leah*, rough pasture.
Lead : (1) a water channel ; (2) a path.
Leaden : in Hants and Essex. Meaning ?
Leat : a mill stream.
Lee : see LEA.
Leg : a long, narrow meadow, generally running out of a larger piece. See LAG.
Leaze : AS. *Laes* (dat. *Laeswe*), a meadow.
Leigh : see LEA.
Leith : a meeting-place of roads ; also sometimes a variant of **Lith**.
Ley : in Hants a meadow which has been recently sown.
Lichett, Litchett : diminutive of Litch, a tangled mass of grass.
Lidstile : cf. Lidgate. A stile which divides common from private property, or ploughland from pasture.
Limmer : 'base,' 'low.' Refers possibly to badness of soil.
Lince : variant of **Lynch**.
Linch, Lynch : a ledge formed by ploughing on a hill-slope.
Linchet, Lynchet : diminutive of last.
Linchin : probably connected with Linch.
Line : flax.
Ling : heather.
Linhay : open shed in a farmyard.
Links : probably variant of **Linches**.
Lip : edge, rim.
Lippen : may mean 'wet' ; but possibly connected with Lip.
Lith : AS. *Hlith*, 'hill-slope.' In Hants dialect means a steep pasture.
Litten : a churchyard.
Living : in Hants means a farm.
Lobb : a field of irregular shape.
Lode : may mean a road across a marsh.
Louse : pasture land.
Lousy : lousy grass is hellebore ; but the term refers probably to land infested by weeds.
Lowance : dialectic for 'allowance.' Possibly refers to land originally held in common which has been later distributed in severalty.
Lucelands : in I. of W. Luce means a wheel-rut.
Luffs : may mean an incline or slope.
Lug, Lugg : may mean a rod in land measurement. But in Bishop's Waltham is applied to an embankment which formed the boundary of the bishop's park.
Luke : in Hants may mean the leaf of the turnip.
Lye : see LAY.

- Lyeway** : see last.
Lylands, Lyelands : see LYE.
Lynch : see LINC.
Lyne : see LINE.
Lythe : see LITH.
Maiden : applied to anything which has not been touched, e.g., to land which has not been ploughed.
Mains : demesne lands, i.e., lands in the occupation of the lord of the manor.
Mallard : marsh mallow.
Mames : variant of **Malm**, a kind of soil.
Mar, Marr : a form of Mere, pool.
Margery : a name of the stinking camomile.
Mark : boundary.
Markaway : boundary way.
Marvel : the herb hoarhound.
Mead : the old hay land, i.e., meadows near streams.
Mean : refers to land formerly in common. AS. *Maene*, 'common.'
Mere : either a pool, or, in Berks, a road which has developed along a balk. (AS. *Maere*.)
Merry : pleasant. Cf. Merrie England.
Minchen, Minchin : AS. *Mynchyn*, 'nuns.'
Mismaze : a 'maze.' Probably a reference to ground with bushes on it.
Missle : possibly 'missle,' mistletoe.
Mitch : idle. Possibly reference to fallow land.
Mockbeggar : applied to a deserted house.
Modus : e.g., 'land covered by modus.' A forced payment in lieu of tithe.
Money : may be the plant yellow rattle.
Moor : waterlogged ground near a stream.
Moplands : possibly from 'mop,' the gall of the wild rose.
Mousear : a species of hawkweed.
Mow : a cornstack in a barn.
Murrel : possibly 'morel,' black nightshade.
Must : mould, mildew.
Nap : see KNAPP.
Necklands : a narrow strip of land under the plough.
Nether : 'lower.'
Nith, Nyth : applied to low-lying land near a stream. Occurs twice in Hants, and also near Swindon in Wilts.
Node : a knob.
No Man's Land : land where a common right of pasturage existed.
Nythe : see NITH.
Oaket : diminutive of oak.
Oar, Oare : AS. *Ora*, hill-slope.
Oatash : oat stubble.

- Oatetch** : variant of last.
- Odway** : from Od, an obsolete form of 'wood.'
- Out** : 'lying away from' something ; 'distant.'
- Outridden** : see OUT and RIDDEN.
- Outsheet** : see OUT and SHEET.
- Oven** : refers generally to a kiln.
- Over** : upper. But -over, AS. *Ofer*, bank, slope.
- Outlands** : See OUT.
- Pale** : enclosure.
- Pane** : a plot of land more or less rectangular in shape.
- Paradise** : many fields get this name from having been used for the growth of a seed called by this name which was introduced into this country from N. Africa in late mediæval times.
- Park** : an enclosed place.
- Parlour** : common in Hants, and very common in Essex. Meaning?
- Parrick** : see PURROCK.
- Passage** : used of small fields in the New Forest.
- Patten** : a name for the yellow toadflax.
- Peak** : a field with an acute angle.
- Pell** : a large pond.
- Pen, Penn** : a fold.
- Penny** : very common in Hants and Essex. May perhaps refer to original rent.
- Pepper** : a common element in names in Hants and elsewhere. Formed part of the names of various plants which have a pungent taste. Cf. pepper-cress.
- Perry** : AS. *Pirige*, peartree.
- Pick** : see PEAK.
- Picked** : see PEAKED.
- Picket** : may mean a stake ; but may also refer to the sloe-bush.
- Pickhatch** : a kind of gate.
- Pickpen** : perhaps a pen of triangular shape.
- Pickpockets** : a name given to the plant shepherd's purse, because it impoverishes the land.
- Piddle** : an enclosure of small size.
- Piddling** : something which is contemptuously small.
- Pie** : refers probably in most cases to the magpie.
- Pightle** : see PIDDLE.
- Pike** : sometimes for turnpike ; but more often a variant of **Peak**.
- Pilgrim** : often a name given to land near old Pilgrims' Ways.
- Pill** : pool.
- Pillridden** : perhaps land where pools or ponds have been drained.
- Pin** : variant of **Pen**.
- Pinch** : a steep or difficult part of a road.
- Pingle** : a small, long, narrow enclosure.
- Pink** : is, amongst other things, a name of the linnet and chaffinch.

- Pinlands** : see perhaps PIN.
- Pipland** : may refer to plants such as the cowslip or primrose, the flowers of which grow in a cluster.
- Pitch** : declivity.
- Pittle** : see PIDDLE.
- Pitten** : possibly plural of Pit.
- Pixy** : part of various plant names.
- Plack** : a small piece of ground.
- Plain** : any piece of open, unwooded land.
- Plash** : a pool or puddle. Also land where water lies after heavy rain. Also a place where a road crosses a shallow unbridged stream.
- Plat, Platt** : a plot of ground. Seems to be used in Hants and Berks, especially of a small meadow near a stream.
- Pleck** : a small enclosure.
- Polk** : sometimes means a pool.
- Popple** : poplar.
- Portway** : usually interpreted as meaning 'town way.' But numerous instances of it suggest that it may mean a pack-way, i.e., a way along which goods were carried on pack-horses.
- Pot** : often refers to the existence of a brick or tile kiln.
- Povey** : a name of the owl.
- Pray** : a wooden pin used in thatching.
- Prickett** : a thorn-tree.
- Privet, Privett** : the shrub.
- Proud** : having luxurious vegetation.
- Puck** : a goblin or fiend.
- Pudding** : pudding grass is the pennyroyal.
- Puddock** : paddock.
- Pug** : a kind of loam.
- Punnygear, Punnygree** : a rabbit-warren.
- Purlieu** : a tract of land on the edge of a forest which has once been forest, but has been disafforested.
- Purrock** : AS. *Pearruc*, paddock or park.
- Puttock** : only occurs in Colemore and East Tisted. Perhaps a paddock.
- Pye** : magpie.
- Quab, Quabb** : a marshy place or bog.
- Quarrel** : quarry.
- Quarter Lands** : lands between the rut of a road and the side of it.
- Quavey** : soft or flabby.
- Quob** : see QUAB.
- Quomps** : see COMP.
- Race** : a small stream.
- Rack** : a narrow path or rut.
- Raftering** : 'ridging,' a peculiar mode of ploughing used in Hants, each ridge being separated by a furrow.

- Ragg** : a strip of land.
Rainbow : possibly reference to the iris plant.
Rake : see RACK.
Rave : twisted hazel for hurdles.
Ray : a path or track.
Read : see REED.
Readen : may mean either 'containing reeds,' or be a variant of **Reading**.
Reading : common in Hants and Essex. Ground cleared of brushwood.
Rede : a small trench or furrow.
Reed : see last.
Reeden : see READEN.
Reeve : may refer to the property of a reeve or bailiff. Also used of a small enclosure for cattle, pigs or poultry.
Rennett : yellow bedstraw (plant).
Rew : occurs once in Fawley in S. Hants, and very common in the I. of W., where it is evidently the local variant of 'row,' a belt of trees planted as a wind shelter.
Rewed : probably connected with last.
Rice : a small wood, or brushwood.
Rickbarton : a stackyard.
Rickpen : see last.
Rickstaddle : the supports of a rickstand.
Ridden : cleared land.
Rideland : probably from 'ride,' AS. *Rith*, a small stream.
Ridget : the small furrow in which turnip seed is sown.
Riding : sometimes variant of **Ridding**. Sometimes a road cut through a wood.
Rime, Rhyme : rim or edge.
Rithe : AS. *Rith*, a small stream. Survives in Hants, applied to the water courses which run through the mud of the harbours on the coast near Portsmouth. Does not occur in Berks.
Rocken : possibly plural of 'rock.'
Rodleaze : possibly a meadow on or near which withies grow.
Roman : part of the name of various plants.
Rotten : applied to lands with friable soil.
Roundabout : very common. Given in the dictionaries as 'the hedge of a copse.' In Hants it seems to be applied to fields which are either surrounded by timber or surround a copse.
Row : trees planted as wind-shelter.
Rowety, Rowetty : having on it 'rowet,' aftermath, or coarse grass.
Ruddle : red material formed of oxide of iron.
Rudland : 'rud' is a name of the marygold. But may mean 'red.'
Ruff : rough.

- Ruffity** : a name of the common gorse.
- Rye** : a field formerly used for growing rye.
- Saltern** : AS. *Sealt-aern*, 'salt store.' Common on the coast near Portsmouth.
- Sanderlands** : see probably SUNDERLANDS.
- Sandle** : cf. Sandleheath. AS. *Sand-del*, 'sandpit.'
- Sandlin** : possibly a name of the plover.
- Saulgrove** : a grove of sallow trees, of the willow tribe.
- Senna** : applied to plants with emetic properties.
- Serry** : mean or worthless.
- Several** : very common. Land in private occupation as contrasted with land held in common.
- Shade** : very common in the New Forest. An opening in a wood.
- Shadebush** : a bush where cattle collect in warm weather.
- Scantabout** : from 'scant,' to hedge in. A piece of land enclosed by a fence.
- Scarle** : a scarecrow.
- Scary** : askew.
- Sconce** : a small fort or earthwork.
- Scotland** : detached piece of land.
- Scour** : a bare place on a hillside.
- Scrag** : a stump of a tree.
- Screech** : name of various birds with a harsh cry, e.g., owl and missle thrush.
- Scrub** : a stunted tree ; also brushwood.
- Shard** : very common in Hants, though hardly used in Berks. It does not occur in Berks Tithe Awards. A gap in a fence.
- Shave** : a small copse.
- Shaw** : a small wood.
- Shear** : a crop of grass.
- Sheet** : very common. Is it a variant of 'shoot,' a field, or road running down hill ?
- Shelf** : AS. *Scylf*, a terrace of land.
- Shide** : a block or plank of wood.
- Shillings** : a rough shed.
- Shire Ground** : may mean land cut off from other land. Also may mean land under the control of the authorities of a shire.
- Shobland** : to 'shob' means to trim trees.
- Shoot** : see SHEET.
- Shooting** : 'running down hill.' In Berks Tithe Awards such expressions 'Field shooting on orchard' are very common. In Hants TA. they do not occur.
- Shop** : part of the names of various plants.
- Shord** : see SHARD.
- Shorlands** : possibly lands cut off from other lands.

Shot, Shott : very common in Hants, Berks and Essex. A detached piece of land. But the term seems to have acquired some wider meaning in modern times. Very common in certain parishes and very rare or non-existent in others. Possibly the later meaning of the term is land which has been hedged off or marked off in some way from neighbouring land from which it was previously undivided.

Shucks : a devil or spectre.

Shud : a shed.

Shuflands : lands with loose gravelly soil.

Shute : variant of **Shoot**, used in I. of W.

Sideland : may be used of the headland of a field, or of a field on a slope.

Sidelong : a field on the slope of a hill.

Silk : common as an attribute. Forms part of several plant-names.

Silver : almost certainly means, especially in the common name Silver Street, that coins have been found in the neighbourhood.

Sinkhole : a place where water sinks into the ground.

Skeels : a stratum or layer of soil.

Skeerlands : to 'skeer' is to 'mow over lightly.' Applied to pastures which have been summer-eaten; but not applied to meadows.

Skillands : to 'skill' is to hull oats.

Slab : a puddle or wet place.

Slade : a valley—probably one with wooded sides.

Slate : very common in Berks. In Hants means a pod or husk.

Slay : a sheep pasture on the downs.

Sleagh : probably variant of last.

Sley : variant of **Slay**.

Sling : common in Hants and Berks. A long, narrow field, or a strip of land beside a road.

Slink : in the I. of W. A small piece of wet meadow land.

Slip, Slipe : very common in Hants and Essex, and common in Berks. A narrow strip of land by road or river.

Slither : name probably due to slippery surface.

Sloe : sometimes the fruit of the white thorn; sometimes AS. *Sloh*, as slough or quagmire.

Slough : AS. *Sloh*, quagmire.

Sloven : sloven wood is the plant southern wood.

Slowhays : possibly a field hedged with white thorn.

Slummocks : probably refers to rough, untidy land.

Smee : the widgeon.

Smock : a windmill on a wooden base.

Smoke : sometimes variant of last.

Snap Wood : dry, broken branches.

Snarls : a snare.

- Snode** : smooth, level.
Soke : liberty of tenants from customary burdens and impositions.
Sole : a pond.
Sour : cold, wet, unfertile.
Squab : an unfledged bird.
Span Yard : a covered yard. Sometimes spelt Spaniard.
Spear : a reed.
Spearbed : see last. Common on the Test, but not apparently used on the Itchen.
Spearing : see SPEAR.
Spelt : corn.
Spindle : the shooting of corn.
Spine Oak : heart of oak.
Spital, Spittal : hospital.
Spittle : sometimes variant of last.
Splatt : a plot of ground.
Staple : AS. *Stapol*, a pole used as a landmark.
Star : part of the name of various plants.
Starve : a common attribute implying poor land.
Starveacre : see last.
Starveall : occurs three times in Hants, and is comparatively common in Berks as the name of a farm. Undoubtedly refers in most cases to poorness of land ; but in one instance seems to originate in AS. *Stific-Healh*, 'brushwood hollow.'
Stary : ragged, unkempt.
Stave : staff or pole.
Stean, Steane : stone.
Steplake : a stream dammed at intervals so as to form small waterfalls.
Sticelet : subst. In I. of W. Possibly diminutive of AS. *Sticels*, a 'thorn.'
Stirt, Sturt : takes also the forms Steart and Stert in Berks. Common in Hants AS. *Steort*, a tongue of land, especially one between two branches of a stream.
Stitch : the land between two furrows of a ploughed field. In I. of W. means a rood of land.
Stock : a stake. Very common.
Stoke : an enclosure.
Stoneall : stony land.
Stow : AS. *Stow*, a place. Seems to be used of places to which some real or fancied sanctity attached.
Street : very common in the S.E. counties, and especially in Kent. Came at quite an early date to be used of a road running between houses.
Strickland : probably variant of mediæval 'strickland,' an isthmus.
String : common in Hants, and very common in Berks. Any narrow strip of land.

- Stroud** : very common. AS. *Strod*, 'marsh.'
- Stub, Stubb** : the stump of a tree.
- Stubble** : ground where tree stumps have been grubbed up.
- Stubbing** : see last.
- Stubby** : see STUB.
- Stumpstile** : a stile with posts.
- Sunderland** : land lying away from an occupier's other land.
- Swain** : AS. *Swan*, a herdsman.
- Swath** : a line of mown grass. Seems to be applied to a piece of land having the breadth of a sweep of the scythe.
- Sways** : may mean a switch used by thatchers to bind their work.
- Sweet** : used of good land.
- Swelling** : probably from AS. *Swelgend*, an abyss or pit.
- Tantany** : may mean the smallest pig in a litter.
- Tegdown** : sheep down.
- Temple** : often refers to lands formerly the property of the Knights Templars.
- Thirds** : often refers to grass land where the crop belongs to one person and the soil to another.
- Thirt, Thwart** : applied to lanes running crosswise to the lie of neighbouring lands.
- Thirtlands** : see last.
- Thirland** : probably variant of last.
- Throat** : a narrow entrance.
- Till** : may mean clay or shale.
- Tilly** : adj. from last.
- Tilt** : a rough shelter.
- Toot Hill** : a hill where watch was kept.
- Totterdown** : a common name in Hants and Wilts. Possibly named from 'totter grass,' quaking grass.
- Trip** : in Hants dialect applied to a litter of pigs or a brood of chickens.
- Trounce** : in Hants dialect used of wheat.
- Tucker** : a fuller of cloth.
- Tundry** : used of tinder, or of water with an iridescent surface.
- Turbary, Turbery** : boggy ground.
- Undy, Updy** : both in Otterbourne. Evidently refer to upper and lower.
- Varlie, Vereley** : see VERE.
- Vatch** : dialectic for 'thatch.'
- Vayres** : I. of W. 'Vaire' means a weasel.
- Veare** : see VERE.
- Veerns** : ferns.
- Venus** : in some dialects means the plant aconite.
- Vere** : to draw two furrows in opposite directions so as to leave a trough of double width.
- Vernal** : probably AS. *Fer an-healh*, 'fern hollow.'
- Verny** : ferny.

- Venter** : a crop of grass, hay or straw.
- Vilands** : occurs three times in Hants. Meaning ?
- Vine** : occurs four times in Hants. Refers to former cultivation of the grape.
- Vineyard** : occurs five times in Hants. See last.
- Vinney** : mouldy.
- Wade** : may mean a ford.
- Wakeland** : occurs in Hants. Common in Essex. Meaning ?
- Wakener** : waggoner.
- Wales** : ridges.
- Want** : used of a mole in Wilts. Also used of a field where several roads meet.
- War** : may mean the knob of a tree.
- Ware** : may mean a weir.
- Wash** : generally used of a sheep-wash.
- Watershoot** : waterfall.
- Wath** : may mean a flat meadow near a stream.
- Wear** : weir.
- Weary** : vexatious. Used of bad land.
- Week** : variant of **Wick**, AS. *Wic*, a farm used for dairy purposes.
- Were** : weir.
- Wergs** : occurs twice in Hants. More common in Berks. Applied to hurdles of withies (AS. *Withig*), used for fencing round the Common Fields to keep the cattle off them while the crops were still ungathered.
- Wheatearish** : wheat stubble. Cf. wheatash, oatash, etc.
- Wheeler** : a wheelwright.
- Whippage** : I. of W. Perhaps connected with the term Whip-land, a term used in Wilts for land measured out, when ploughed, by the whip's length.
- Whiteshoot, Whiteshute** : a hill on a chalk road.
- Whitsun Meadow** : probably some arrangement with regard to the crops, pasture or tenure of the land fell at Whitsuntide.
- Whittem** : a kind of peartree.
- Wick** : see WEEK.
- Wicket** : a gate.
- Wield** : woodland.
- Wigmore** : very common in Hants and Berks. The name is so common that it is impossible to assume that the first element is a personal name. Possibly AS. *Wicga*, a kind of beetle, a term occurring in the name 'earwig.' AS. *Wicgan-mor*, 'Insect Marsh.'
- Willy** : willow.
- Wilsom** : indolent. Probably one of the numerous names given to bad land.
- Wimble** : may mean tall grass.
- Woar** : may mean border, edge or shore.
- Worg** : see WERG.

Wurgs : see WERGS.

Wych : see WEEK.

Wyck : see WEEK.

Yard : sometimes used of a yard of land, i.e., a quarter of an acre.

Yonder : an old comparative used in the sense of 'further.'

Zeals : possibly connected with former property of Lord Saye and Sele. That family held largely in N. Hants.