

INTRODUCTION.

is written also *εμπαργος*; and it may be inquired whether the English *spin*, is not from the same root as *σπιν*, web or wool, *σπινος*, a spindle. *σπινος*, to spin. *Sprout* in English is in Welsh *brota*.

We find the Welsh *ybrig*, the English *spig*, is a compound of *ys*, a prefix denoting issuing or proceeding from, like the Lat. *ex*, and *brig*, top, summit.

Ysgor, a separate part, a share; *ysgar*, *ysgaru*, to divide; *ysgarian*, to separate, is composed of *ys* and *car*, according to Owen; but the real root appears distinctly in the Gr. *σείρα*. This is the English *shear*, *shire*.

Ysgegiare, to shake by laying hold of the throat, to shake roughly, is a compound of *ys* and *cegiare*, to choke, from *ceg*, the mouth, an entrance, a choking. This may be the English *shake*; Sax. *scacan*.

Ysgan, a robe made of skin; *ys* and *cin*, a spread or covering.

Ysgodi, to shade; *ysgoda*, a shade; *ys* and *caud*.

Ysgrob, what is drawn up or puckered, a scrip; *ys* and *crab*, what shrinks. See Eng. *crab*, *crabbed*.

Ysgrau, to scrape; *ys* and *craw*, claws, from *crec*.

Ysgrec, a scream, a shriek, *ysgreiae*, to shriek, from *crec*, a shriek, *crecian*, to shriek, from *crec*, *creg*, hoarse, rough, from *rhg*, *rhg*, that is rough; the grain so named for its roughness. This is the English *rough*, *Lat. rarus*. Here we have the whole process of formation, from the root of rough.

We retain the Welsh *crecian*, to shriek, in our common word, to *creak*, and with a formative prefix, we have *shriek*, and our vulgar *scream*. The Latin *ruga*, a wrinkle, Eng. *rug*, *shrug*, are probably from the same source.

Ysgrienu, to write, *Lat. scribo*, from *ysgriv*, a writing, from *eriv*, a mark cut, a row of notches; *crieviae*, to cut, to grove; from *rhiv*, something that divides. Hence *scribere*.

Ysgub, a shed or besom, *ysgubae*, to sweep, *Lat. scopæ*, from *cub*, a collection, a heap, a cube.

Ysgud, something that whirls; *ysgudlar*, to whisk or scud; from *cud*, celerity, flight; *ysguth*, *ysguthar*, the same.

Ysguth, a push; *ysguthiae*, to push or thrust; from *guth*, *guthion*, the same; probably allied to Eng. *shoot*. The Welsh has *ysguthu*, to jet or spout, from the same root.

Yslac, slack, loose; *yslaciar*, to slacken; from *llac*, loose, *slack*, *llaciar*, to slacken, from *llac*, *slack*, *sluggish*; allied to Eng. *long* and *slow*.

Yslap, to slap, to flap, from *yslab*, what is lengthened or distended, from *llab*, a flag, a strip, a stroke. *Llabi*, a tall, plain person, a strippling, a looby, a lubber, is from the same root; *llobiaw*, to slap.

Ysled, a sled, from *lled*, says Owen, which denotes breadth, but it is probably from the root of *slide*, a word probably from the same root as *lled*, that is, to extend, to stretch along.

Ysmot, a patch, a spot; *ysmotiar*, to spot, to dapple, from *mod*, Eng. *moor*.

Ysmeciar, *ysmygu*, to dim with smoke, from *mug*, *smoke*. So smooth from Welsh *myth*.

Yspail, *spail*, from *pail*, farina, says Owen. I should say from the root of *palea*, straw, refuse, that is, from the root of *peel*, to strip. *Yspeiliota*, to be piffing.

Yspeliaw, to expel, from *pel*, a ball, says Owen; but this is the Latin *expello*, from *pello*. Ball may be from the same root.

Yspig, a spike, a spine; *yspigae*, to spike; from *pig*, a sharp point, a pike. Hence Eng. *spigot*.

Yspin, a spine, from *pin*, *pen*.

Ysgynu, to ascend, *Lat. ascendo*, from *cyn*, first, chief, foremost. The radical sense is to shoot up.

Ysluc, a slough, from *lluc*, a collection of water, a lake.

Yspar, a spear, from *pâr*, a cause or principle of producing, the germ or seed of a thing, a spear. This consists of the same elements as *bar*, a spit and Eng. *bar*, and in Italian *bar* is *sbarra*. The primary sense is to shoot, thrust, drive.

Yspine, a finch, from *pin*, *gyn*, fine brisk; a spig, a finch.

Ysplan, clear, bright; *ysplana*, to explain; from *plan*, that is parted off, a ray, a shoot, a planting, a plane; whence *plant*, a child; Eng. *a plant*; *plannu*, to shoot, as a plant. Hence *splendor*, *W. ysplander*.

Ysporhi, to support, from *porth*, a bearing, a port, passage, &c. *Lat. porta*, *porto*.

Ystac, a stack, a heap; *ystac*, a standard; from *tag*, a state of being still or elongated.

Ystad, a state; *ystadie*, to stay; from *tad*, that spreads, a continuity. The primary sense is to spread.

Ystain, that is to tread; a stain; *tin*, *Lat. stannum*; *ystaniaw*, to spread over, to stain; *ystannu*, to tin, or cover with tin; from *taen*, a spread, a layer. *Qu. is tin from spreading?*

Ystaul, a stool, from *taul*, a cast or throw. The sense is to set, to throw down. *Tuel* is that which forms a bulk, from *tor*, a swell, a prominence.

Ystern, a storm, from *terna*, that is stretched, but the sense is a rushing, from *stern*.

Ystrym, a stream, from *trym*, compact, trim, that is, stretched, straight, from extending.

Ystump, a stump, from *tuemp*, a round mass, a lump.

Yswatue, to squat, from *yswad*, a throw, or falling down, from *gwad*, a

denial; *gwadu*, to deny, or disown. If this deduction is correct, the sense of denial is a throwing or thrusting back, a repelling. It is so in other words.

Yswitau, to chirp, twitter, from *yswid*, that makes a quick turn. *Qu. twitter*.

In some of the foregoing words, it appears evident that the Welsh prefix, *ys*, is an alteration of the Latin *ex*, and the words, in which this is the case, were probably borrowed from the Latin, while the Roman armies had possession of England. But there is a vast number of words, with this prefix, which are not of Latin origin; and whether *ys* is a native prefix in the Welsh, may be a question. One thing is certain, that *s* before another consonant, and coalescing with it, is, in a great number of words, a prefix.

The modern Italian affords abundant proof of the extensive use of *s*, as the remains or representative of *ex*; as *shallare*, to unpeck, unbrace; *sharabare*, to behead; *shatter*, to abate; *shancare*, to pluck off branches; *shanciare*, to discharge; *shancolare*, to incommode; *shancordia*, discord; *shancare*, to break the horns; *shancare*, to pull off the crust; and a great number of others.

Now if the same manner of forming words with this prefix has actually prevailed among the northern nations of Europe, we may rationally suppose that many English words, and perhaps all of this class, are thus formed. This scater may be formed from a root in *Cd*; *shape*, from *Cb*, *Cf* or *Cp*; *shift*, from the root of *Lat. callos*; *slip*, from the root of *Lat. labor*; *smart*, from the root of *Lat. amarus*, bitter, Heb. *כר*, *smite*, from the root of Latin *mitto*; *span*, from the root of *pan*, to stretch; *spat*, from the root of *bar*; *speak*, from the root of *Lat. roco*; *speak*, from the root of *pd*, perhaps *Lat. peto*; *steal*, from the root of *Lat. tollo*; *steep*, from the root of *deep*; *stretch*, from the root of *reach*; *sweep*, from the root of *ripe*; *swan*, from *uan*, white; *swell*, from the root of *well*, Sax. *wellum*, to boil, &c. That many English and other Teutonic and Gothic words are thus formed, appears to be certain.

These facts being admitted, let us examine a little further. In Russ. *sadiba* is a wedding. Is not this formed on the root of *wed*, with *s* for a prefix? *Snear* is a quarrel. Is not this formed on the root of *vary*, variance, or of *spar*? *Sverlo* is a borer; *qu. bore* and *vera*; *seertinyau*, to roll; *qu. Lat. verto*; *skora*, furs, peltry; *qu. Fr. cuir*; *shot*, a beast; *qu. cattle*; *skupayu*, to purchase in gross; *qu. cheap*, *Dan. kiøben*, and its root; *slabst*, weak; *qu. Lat. labor*, *lapis*; *slagayu*, to fold; *qu. lay*, and *placo*; *slungu*, to pour out liquors; *qu. Lat. libo*; *slupayu*, to peel off bark or skin; *qu. Lat. liber*; *sinnyau*, to take away; *qu. Sax. neman*, to take; *snova*, new; *qu. Lat. novus*; *snig*, *snieg*, snow; *Fr. neige*. The *Lat. nimis* is from this root, with *g* opened to *v*. Russ. *spletyau*, to plait, &c.

The Russ. prefix *so* occurs in a great number of words; *sobirayu*, to collect or assemble, precisely the Heb. and Ch. *בָּרַךְ*.

It now becomes an interesting question, to determine how far any analogy exists between the languages of the Japhetic and Shemitic families, in regard to prefixes. For example, in the Shemitic languages, *z* is a prefix of extensive use, corresponding almost exactly with the English and Dutch *by*, the Saxon *bi*, and German *bei*. This preposition and prefix has several senses in the Saxon which are now obsolete; but its present prevailing sense occurs in all the Shemitic languages. *בְּיָמֵינוּ*, *by* a strong east wind.

Ex. xiv. 21. Compare the following definitions of this preposition; the Sax. from Lye, and the Shemitic from Castle.

Sax. *de*, *e*, *ex*, *in*, *secus*, *ad*, *juncta*, *secundum*, *pro*, *per*, *super*, *propter*, *circa*.

Heb. Ch. *Syr. in*, *e*, *ex*, *cum*, *propter*, *usque*, *ad*, *adeo*, *ad*, *super*, *per*, *contra*, *ante*.

Eth. *in*, *per*, *propter*, *cum*, *secundum*, *apud*.

Ar. *in*, *cum*, *propter*, *per*, *ad*, *ex*.

In Numbers. xiv. 34, it signifies according to, or after; *בְּכִסְפֵּינוּ*, according to the number of days. This signification is now perhaps obsolete in English, but was common in the Saxon; as, "*be his nægnum*," according to his strength; *pro viribus suis*. So "*be ðam mæstan*," by the most, is now expressed by, at the most.

Now it is remarkable that this word in Hebrew, Arabic and Persic, is the preposition used in oaths, precisely as it is in English. Gen. xxii. 16; *By*

myself have I sworn. Arabic, *ballah* or by Allah; Persic, *بِهَدَا*, *beh-ehoda*, or *begoda*, *by God*, the very words now used in English. The evidence then is decisive that the Shemitic prefix *z* is the Teutonic *bi*, *by*, *bei*, contracted, and this Teutonic word is certainly a contraction of *big*, which is used in the Saxon, especially in compound words, as in *big-spell*, (*big-spell*) in a tale; *big-tandan*, to stand by. This prefix then was in universal use by the original stock of mankind, before the dispersion; and this word alone is demonstrative proof of the common origin of the Shemitic and Teutonic languages. Now it is equally certain that this is the prefix *b*, and probably *p*, before *l* and *r*, in *black*, *braigh*, and a multitude of words in all the modern languages; and probably the same letter is a prefix in many Shemitic words.

We know that *be* in the Saxon *be-tellan*, and Dutch *bedelen*, is a prefix, as the Saxon verb is found in all the Teutonic and Gothic languages. The Hebrew and Chaldee *בָּרַךְ* corresponds exactly in elements and in significa-