

PERSPECTIVE. A reflecting-glass.
PERSPICIL. An optic-glass. It occurs in
 Albumazar, 1634, sig. B. iv.
PERSTAND. To understand. *Peele.*
PERSUADE. Persuasion.
PERSUADERS. Spurs. Also, pistols.
PERSWAY. To mitigate. Ben Jonson, iv. 428.
PERT. Beautifully delicate. It is the translation of *subtilis* in Gesta Rom. p. 142.
 For hete her clothes down sche dede
 Almost to her gerdyl stede,
 Than lay sche uncovert;
 Sche was as whyt as lylle yn May,
 Or snow that sneweth yn wynterys day,
 He seigh never non so *pert*.
Illustrations of Fairy Mythology, p. 11.
PERTE. (1) To part. Still in use.
 Then Thomas a sory man was he,
 The terys ran out of his een gray;
 Lufly lady, yet tell thou me
 If we shalle *perte* for ever and ay.
MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48, f. 125.
 (2) Of good appearance.
 Ther was no man in the kynges lande
 More *perte* then was he.
MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38, f. 244.
PERTELCHE. Openly. (*A.-N.*)
 Than syr Prlamous the prynce in presens of lordes
 Presez to his penowne, and *pertly* it hentes.
Morte Arthure, MS. Lincoln, f. 84.
PERTELOTE. The name of a hen.
PERTENERE. A partner.
 God graunt us mekenesse in angurs here,
 And grace to lede owre lyfe here soo,
 That may aftur be *pertenerere*
 Off hevene, whan we hens schall goo.
MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38, f. 14.
PERTRYCHE. A partridge.
 Ryght as the *pertryche* is constreyned undir the
 claus and nayles of the hauke, is as halfe deed for
 drede.
Caxton's Divers Fruitful Ghostly Maters.
PERTURBE. To trouble. *Palsgrave.*
PERTY. Part. *Lydgate.*
 God that sittis in Trinite,
 Gyffe thaym grace wel to the,
 That lystyns me a whyle;
 Alle that lovys of melody,
 Off hevon blisse God graunte tham *perty*,
 Theyrr soules shelde fro *peryle*.
MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48, f. 47.
PERUR. A kind of cup.
PERUSE. To examine, or survey.
 Monsieur Soublez having *perused* the fleet,
 returned to the king, and told him there was nothing
 ready; and that the mariners and souldiers would
 not yeeld to goe the voyage till they were paid their
 arrears.
MS. Harl. 383.
PERVEY. To provide. (*A.-N.*)
PERVINKE. The herb periwinkle. (*A.-S.*)
PERYE. A pear-tree. (*A.-N.*)
 But for hur lorde sche durste not done,
 That sate benethe and pleyed hym merye,
 Before the towre undur a *perye*.
MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38, f. 141.
PERYSSE. Pears. (*A.-N.*)
 Then was the tre ful of ripe *perysse*,
 And began down to falle.
MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48, f. 114.
PESANE. A gorget of mail or plate attached

to the helmet. "A pesane and a paunsone,"
 MS. Morte Arthure, f. 89.
PESATE. Is when a managed horse rises hand-
 somely before and upon his haunches, and at
 the same time bends his fore-legs up to his body.
PESE. (1) Peace. Perceval 980, 981.
 (2) To sooth; to appease.
 Tylle y be sewre of youre hartys ese,
 Nothing but hit may my grevys *pese*.
MS. Cantab. Ff. i. 6, f. 132.
PESEN. Peas. This is the common early form
 of the word, and occurs in Chaucer, Legende
 of Good Women, 648. Holloway gives the
 following couplet, as seen lately on a board in
 a pea-field in Berkshire—
 Shut the gate after you, I'll tell you the reason,
 Because the plgs shouldn't get into the *peason*.
 Ben Jonson has made the same words rhyme
 in his 133d epigram.
 As for his sallets, better never was
 Then acute sorrell, and sweet three-leav'd grasse,
 And for a sawce he seldome is at charges,
 For every crab-tree doth afford him vergis;
 His bantket sometimes is greene beanes and *peason*,
 Nuts, peares, plumes, apples, as they are in season.
Taylor's Workes, 1630, i. 97.
PESIBLE. Peaceable. (*A.-N.*)
PESIBLETE. A calm. (*A.-N.*)
PESK. A peach. Nominale MS.
PESON. An instrument in the form of a staff,
 with balls or crockets, used for weighing be-
 fore scales were employed.
PESS. A hassock. *Suffolk.*
PESSCOD-SCALDING. A kind of merry-
 making in summer evenings; the treat, green
 field peas boiled in the shells. *Yorksh.*
PESSIPE. A kind of cup.
PESTERED. Crowded. *Peele*, ii. 235.
PESTERMENT. Embarrassment. *North.*
PESTLE. (1) A leg of an animal, generally of a
 pig. A pestle of pork is still in common use.
 "Pestels of venison," Warner's Antiq. Culin.
 p. 98. "Pestell of fieshe, *jambon*," Palsgrave.
 A pestle-pie is a large standing pie which con-
 tains a whole gammon, and sometimes a couple
 of fowls and a neat's tongue, a favorite dish
 at country fairs, and at Christmas feasts.
 (2) A constable's staff.
PESTLE-HEAD. A blockhead.
PETE. Pity. See Cov. Myst.
 Long lay the kyng, there away wolde not hee;
 Dayly he properid batayle: the enmys durst not fyghte
 Lacke of logynge and vitayle it was grett *peté*,
 Casuid the gentill prynce to remeve, siche was Goddes
 myzte!
 Lowe, how the good Lorde his owne gentill knyghte,
 Because he shulde remembir hym in wele and in woo,
 Thus in every thyng, Lorde, thy wille be doo!
MS. Bibl. Reg. 17 D. xv.
PETEOSE. Merciful; compassionate.
 Many men spekes of lamentacioun,
 Off moders and of their gret desolacioun,
 Which that thay dyd indure
 When that their childer dy and passe,
 But of his *peteose* tender moder, alasre!
 I am verrey sure,
 The wo and payn passis alle othere.
MS. Bodl. e Mus. 166.