



The butter's through the champ

*A glossary of words collected
from the McGRATH FAMILY
of CARRICKBRACKEN,
CAMLOUGH, CO. ARMAGH*

Brian Monaghan

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by

BRIAN MONAGHAN

*Táimid buíoch d'Ian Ó Dochartaigh, Doire, a thug tacaíocht
dúinn le costais foilsitheoireachta.*

*Cover illustration View of Camlough Mountain from top of Quarter Road.
Water colour and pencil by Francis Mc Shane.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

My sincere thanks are due both to the McGrath family and to mine.

Whilst it may ill-become one to praise his own, I have to acknowledge that their patience and understanding as I pestered them to repeat words, to explain what to them must have appeared quite obvious, and to confirm pronunciations, can best be described as remarkable.

I would also like to thank Mr. Joe Bradley of Bessbrook, Co. Armagh, a fine Gaelic scholar, and my colleague on the teaching staff of C.B.S. Glengormley, Co. Antrim. It was largely due to Joe's encouragement that this collection has ventured forth from oblivion into the light of day.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE:

Work on this project commenced during the long Summer vacation of 1978, when on the invitation of my maternal relations, the Mc Graths of Carrickbracken near Camlough, in South Armagh, I was spending a week with them on their small family farm.

Although the members of the family, my uncle, Gerry, and my two aunts, Monnina and Alicia, had all retired from the active running of the farm, as a rule, during the summer, help of any kind with the many maintenance tasks would have been appreciated. However, because of the extremely wet weather during that week much of the outdoor work had been cancelled.

This arrangement happily left me with time to spare, and so I conceived the idea of jotting down words which were in more or less daily use in the household, but which I quite arbitrarily deemed to be "unusual". To set this rather vague standard, I took as my metaphorical base-line those words and phrases which I would not have expected to hear during the course of a B.B.C. tv National News bulletin.

Many of the words and phrases quoted in the collection are no longer in vogue simply because the things, circumstances etc. to which they were once applied no longer exist. Indeed, the only time when one would possibly hear them used today would be in tales of reminiscence told by the old folk.

The compilation was undertaken purely for recreation, and I did not feel myself bound by any academic constraint. I had set myself to record, define, and if I thought necessary, to illustrate.

Whilst the work is serious in that it represents an attempt on my part to reveal what I perceive to be a certain body of truth, nevertheless, I think humour is present, and perhaps a healthy earthiness too.

I have also taken the liberty of including some examples of words and phrases drawn from sources other than from the Mc Grath household by way of adding colour and depth to the existing collection. Mayhap, if the whole truth were told, this inclusion of extraneous material was done as much for the sheer fun of it as for any other reason. However, I would stress that when such inclusions were made, the fact of their originating elsewhere is always noted.

I also feel obligated to add that this work has nothing whatever to say to those who would regard the people of Ireland, their speech and manners, as a legitimate butt for cynical humour.

Some, at least, of the examples quoted may be unique to the Mc Grath household, and would therefore be, to that extent, private. This is why I have chosen for the title the image of butter, at first lying concealed in the heat of a dish of mashed potato, but gradually becoming visible as it melts. However, I make no claim that any of the material here recorded is in fact exclusive to the family, to the district, or even to the country. On the

contrary, I am well aware that many of the examples given form part of common speech - even if one is unlikely to hear them on a B.B.C. News Bulletin.

I also realize that for some folk not a few of the words in the glossary may well possess a broader - or a narrower - spectrum of meaning, - or perhaps indeed a meaning quite different to that which I have ascribed to them.

In the harvesting of this collection I experienced two particular problems.

Firstly, was how to spell the words gathered. At the start I thought it would have been helpful to equip myself with several good dictionaries in Irish and in English. However I decided against this, because I thought that by so doing I ran the danger of unknowingly becoming prejudiced concerning the meaning of some of the words. This is not to say that dictionaries were altogether avoided, but their use was kept to a minimum. It is therefore quite likely that examples appear on the list, which although belonging to the realms of Standard English or Standard Irish, are unusually spelt.

Secondly, I experienced on occasion a very real temptation to make comment on the provenance of certain material. This temptation I think I managed to avoid, for such commentary would constitute another day's work, and involve a task quite different to that which I had set myself.

On yet another level I was made aware of a certain reluctance - not I hasten to add on the part of the members of the McGrath family, but from others whom I had approached for confirmation on pronunciations and so forth. Frequently I was met with: 'Ach, but sure thon's not the right way to say it at all', or some similar rebuttal. In this there appeared to be a strong, if unspoken, assumption, that only the English of South-Eastern England is acceptable and that any locally-flavoured speech is inferior.

Finally, one could perhaps be forgiven if, on perusing this glossary, he or she came to the conclusion that the McGraths must have been a very aggressive family indeed, so numerous are the pejorative terms, and titles of reproach herein listed. In point of fact, nothing could be further from the truth, for my experience tells me that unfailing kindness, gentle good humour, and open-handed generosity were triple corner-stones of their quiet lives.

ABOUT THE TEXT.

1. Each entry begins with the sample word. The entries are in alphabetical order.
2. If I thought it helpful the sample word is followed by what I think is a phonetic spelling. In this I have followed the convention of placing a tick (') after the vowel to be stressed. Underlined CH, thus: CH, indicates an aspirated C (or like the CH in the Irish-Scottish word LOCH).
3. Nouns, verbs, adjectives and other parts of speech are indicated by the abbreviations: NN, VB, ADJ. etc. POSS ADJ. represents "Possessive Adjective".
4. (cf) indicates that the word to which it refers is cross-referenced.
5. "Smth" represents an abbreviation for "something".

A.

ABLE:	Strong and healthy; willing to undertake hard work. (Usually, but not necessarily, physical work.) He's a big, able man. Can also mean clever or intelligent. She's very able. It is sometimes employed sarcastically to imply slyness or dishonesty.
ACH:	An interjection corresponding to "Oh!", and expressing surprise, dismissal, annoyance etc. Ach don't be so foolish.
ACTUALLY TO GOD:	An apparent corruption of the commonly used phrase "I declare to God." which is frequently prefixed to statements to emphasise veracity. Actually to God, he could run faster nor (cf) the horse!
ADAM'S ALE:	A drink of water. (Perhaps more accurately spring-water.) Give us a mug of Adam's Ale. (Note: "Us" is frequently used when "me" is intended.)
ADRAW:	To take it adraw - to be hurt or disappointed. She took it adraw that she wasn't invited.
AIRY:	Breezy and cold. It's an airy sort of a night.
AMADON (AM'-A-DON):	A foolish person. He's a real amadon.
ART:	A place, or perhaps a point of the compass. They were there from all arts and parts (commonly used phrase.) - People from over a wide area had gathered. (Note: In the pronunciation of ALTNAVEIGH the element ALT becomes ART, - thus ARTNAVEIGH. In the same way KILKEEL is frequently sounded KIRKEEL.)
AWAY:	An imperative standing on its own and used in place of "Go away!" Thus, Away home!
AYE:	Signifies affirmation. Yes.

B.

BACKENBARA (BACK'-EN-BAR-A):	A poisonous toadstool.
BAD:	Ill or sick, usually seriously so. He took bad yesterday, he became seriously ill yesterday.
BANNOCK:	A cake of bread, usually of the soda or wheaten varieties, and baked in the oven rather than on the griddle.
BARADUG (BAR'-A-DUG):	A type of box, two of which were carried, one on either side, by a donkey or a jennet. The bottoms were fitted with hinges and secured by wooden pegs. When these were withdrawn the bottoms could swing open and deposit the contents - usually manure - in the required spot.
BARGE:	To reprove severely. The teacher barged him for not paying attention.
BAT:	(1) A blow. Hit it a bat, - strike it. (2) A term implying exactitude. She left on the bat of seven, - she left at seven o' clock exactly.
BEETLE:	A short, stout pole normally used for crushing boiled potatoes as food for farm animals.
BING:	A potato pit. A mound of earth in a field from which potatoes have been dug, and under which surplus potatoes, protected by straw were stored for the winter.
BIRDS:	Young domestic fowl or chicks.
BIRL:	(NN.) A rapid spinning motion. "Give me a birl," - as said by e.g. a girl to her dancing partner in some traditional Irish dances, - whirl me rapidly in a circle. (VB.) To spin or whirl rapidly.
BISCAKE (BIS'-CAKE):	A biscuit. Give him a couple of biscuits. (Note: "Couple" does not always mean two, but rather several.)
BLAE (BLEY):	A certain quality of facial appearance. He's got very

	blae, - his face has become rather swollen and tinged with purple.
BLAEBERRY:	The wild berry of purple colour which grows among the heather of mountain and bog. (<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> .)
BLAYCHER (BLAY'-CHER):	A tool consisting of a long pole, equipped with a hook, and used for pulling light tree branches downwards. (Note: This word was neither used nor understood in the household, but was collected from a neighbour, the late Mr. Francie Doran of Camlough.)
BLETHER (BLETH'-ER):	(NN.) One who constantly talks stupidly or incoherently. He's an awful blether. (Note: The word would seem to imply a bladder or empty sac. Blether is pronounced to rhyme with LETHER, a locally used word for LADDER, - hence bladder.) (VB.) To talk stupidly. Quit your blethering.
BLIRT:	One who weeps easily; a childish person. Also perh. a brat.
BLOOTER:	(NN.) An awkward person. He's a blooter. Variant of above: James (or Jemmy) Blooter. He's a James (or Jemmy) Blooter. (VB.) To move clumsily. He blootered his way about the room. (Note: The verbal form is never used in conjunction with the James or Jemmy prefixes.)
BLOW:	(NN.) A braggart. It's well known that she's a blow. (VB.) To brag or boast. You've nothing to blow about.
BOAST:	(ADJ.) Hollow. A boast turnip, - a hollow turnip.
BOGGING:	Extremely dirty or filthy. Having cleaned out the shed, his clothes were bogging.
BOKE:	To vomit. The sick child boked.
BOTTLE:	An armful of threshed straw taken from a stack. He carried a bottle of straw to the cattle. (Note: The word "bottle" may also be very occasionally applied to hay, but is used solely in the context of hay and straw. It is never used to describe a similar commodity such as rushes etc.)

BRASH:	A single up-and-down movement of the churn-staff during churning by hand. He took a brash before he left. (Note: Churning was done in a dash-churn by rhythmically raising and lowering the churn-staff - a pole, the end of which was affixed to the centre of a specially perforated wooden disc - through the sour cream contained in the churn. The agitation thus caused produced butter. In this household, a visitor, no matter of what rank, was expected to "take a brash", should his call coincide with churning, because there was a danger - or so it was said - that the "luck of the churn" would depart with him when he left, did he not comply with the request. There appeared to exist some lingering trace of a former belief that not only would the butter not form if the departing visitor refused to take part in the churning, but that the visitor's own churn would unjustly yield twice as much butter because of his failure to co-operate. On the other hand, there was a suggestion on the part of the more cynical members of the family, that this custom merely represented a most convenient way of enlisting the help of obliging callers for what would otherwise have been quite a laborious task!)
BRAVE:	A word with a variety of undertones, all of which imply a degree of goodness or wholeness e.g: It's a brave day - the weather is quite good today; I'm feeling bravely - I feel quite well; I got a brave bit done - I am quite satisfied with the amount of work I did. etc.
BREEKS:	Trousers. A pair of breeks. Perh. applied mostly to brightly coloured trousers favoured by (granite) stonecutters.
BROCKER:	A particular field in the townland which had been, and perhaps still is, the haunt of badgers. The cow was in the brocker.
BUCK-EEJIT (BUCK EED'-YIT):	A very foolish person or one given to excessive clownage. He's always doing the buck-eejit. (cf under entry for E.)
BUCKLEBEGGAR (BUCK'- IL BEG'-AR):	The Registrar of civil marriages. They were married by the Bucklebeggar. They got married in the Bucklebeggar's office.
BUFF:	In the buff, - in the nude. (Always prefixed by either THE or a POSS. ADJ.) They were in their buff; she was in her buff etc.
BYRE:	A cowshed.

C.

CAILLEACH (COIL'-YACH):	The last remaining stalks of corn (oats) to be reaped at Harvest-time. These were bound into a sheaf, and deposited on the kitchen dresser to ensure the prosperity of the farm for the ensuing year. Cutting the Cailleach; they used to cut the Cailleach. (Note: In the Spring of 1966, the late Miss Kathleen Mc Grath informed me that the Cailleach was believed to be a fairy woman who was always clad in a checked apron, and who lived in the corn. As the scythe man approached at harvest-time, she fled through the corn before him, until she was driven to take refuge among the few remaining stalks left standing. As these were finally being cut, she was said to emerge stealthily, and then to race forth from the field unseen by any.)
CALDRA (CAL'-DRA):	A lazy and annoying man or youth. A lazy nuisance. Wee Tam's a caldra.
CALL (CAWL):	A need or necessity. There's no call for you to go yet. There's no call for all that coal. (Note: Generally, though not always, used in a negative context.)
CAP:	To stop or turn aside a bolting animal such as a pig or bullock by going in front of it to block its path. Cap that pig.
CARN:	A lazy fellow; a good-for-nothing. He's only a carn.
CAUR (CAWR):	A twisting of the face, as frequently done by children, in order to taunt others. Don't caur at me; stop cauring.
CEILI (KAY'-LEE):	(1) A type of social gathering at which the main forms of entertainment are Irish traditional dancing, Irish traditional singing, etc. She sang at the ceili last night. (2) A social call or visit to a (usually neighbouring) house. He was on his ceili at Murphy's. (Note: In this context, "ceili" is always preceded by "on his", "on her" etc.) (3) (VB) They used to ceili here; we go ceili-ing there.
CEILI-HOUSE (or CEILI-ING HOUSE):	A house which belongs to a popular individual or family, and in which neighbours gather socially – usually in the evenings.
CHAMP:	Boiled potatoes mashed with butter, and occasionally with

scallions or leeks added.

CHAT:	A tiny potato. (Note: These were used for the feeding of animals only, and were considered useless for human consumption. cf PORIYIN.)
CHAPEL:	A building devoted to Roman Catholic worship, -as opposed to CHURCH, a building dedicated to Protestant worship.
CHEW:	A word called to a barking dog to silence it. Chew ou' that, Doe! (Note: the phrase "ou that" is commonly used to reinforce a command, thus: go on ou' that; get out ou' that, etc. It is difficult to determine what exactly "ou" denotes, whether "or", or "out of", or indeed something else, - especially as it seems to be sounded in different ways, -ou, a, i, uh, etc.)
CHIN-COUGH (CHIN-COF):	Whooping-cough. That child has the chin-cough.
CHUCKEY:	A familiar or childish name for the domestic fowl.
CLABBAR (CLAB'-BAR):	Mud. His boots were all clabbar; that gap's full of clabbar.
CLAM:	A silly person; one who is slow to understand. (There are undertones of uselessness, of being a ne'er-do-well.) He's only a clam.
CLART:	A person, usually a woman or girl, of slovenly habits. A slut; a slattern.
CLASH:	Informing authority of the misdemeanour of others, and usually in a childish context. He clashed on me to the teacher. (Note: CLASH is always followed by "on me", "on her", etc.)
CLASH-BAG:	One who clashes; a tell-tale.
CLAUHER (CLAW'-HER):	(NN) A large spit or expectoration containing phlegm. (VB) Spitting thus. He clauhered on to the road.
CLEG (or CLAG.):	A particular kind of blood-sucking fly; a horsefly. (Note: About 1965, my late father, Joseph Monaghan of Banbridge, who died in 1984, gave me the following information:

	<p>"Near Banbridge, on the Dromore Road, was a disused quarry hole filled with water, and much frequented by local boys, who used it as a swimming pool. Irritated by clegs, they used to recite this rhyme: (circa 1920):</p> <p>"Oh Lord above, send down a dove, With teeth as sharp as razors, To bite the heads off all the clegs, That bite the quarry bathers.")</p>
CLIBE:	A large, unwieldy portion of smth. A clipe of bacon; a clipe of timber; a clipe of land, etc.
CLOCKING:	<p>The condition of a domestic hen which is ready to sit upon, and hatch, a clutch of eggs. A clocking hen.</p> <p>(Note: May also be applied to an idle person, to one who is loafing, thus: What are you clocking there for? She just clocks there all day, etc.)</p>
CLOD (CLAWD):	To throw or cast missiles (by hand). He was clodding stones, sods etc. (cf PEG.)
CLOUT:	<p>(1) A fragment of cloth; a rag. Give it a rub with a clout.</p> <p>(2) A lazy and untidy person. (There are undertones of uncouthness.)</p> <p>(3) A blow. He gave him a clout.</p> <p>(4) (VB) To strike. He clouted him.</p>
COGLEY:	Awkwardly balanced or crookedly set. That chair is sitting (all) cogley, perh. because of one leg being shorter than the others.
COLLEY:	Soot particles afloat in the atmosphere, and believed to be caused by a badly ventilated chimney.
COLLIE:	A type of sheepdog; a coward. He'll never make a footballer because he's too much of a collie.
COME-ALL-YE:	<p>A song or ballad beginning with the words: "Come all ye (e.g. honest Irishmen.)".</p> <p>May be applied to any long, usually narrative, song or ballad rendered at popular social gatherings. That's no poem, for it's only a come-all-ye.</p>
COME-HETHER (perh. COME-HITHER):	An invitation to approach one. A beckoning. She gave me the come-hether. Perh. also: He put the come-hether on her.
COMMONS:	The game of hurling. They had a game of commons. Perh. may

	also refer to camans, or hurling sticks.
CORN:	<p>Oats.</p> <p>(Note: This was applied only to oats. He was growing corn and barley. cf entry for MEAT.)</p>
COSSEY (the):	The name of a particular lane in the townland. The field at the head of the cossey has been ploughed.
COTTER-HOUSE:	A cottage. She was reared in a wee cotter-house.
COW-CLAP:	The excrement of cows or cattle.
COW'S LICK (or COW-LICK):	Occurs when the hair immediately above the forehead grows upward and backward. It was the boy with the cow's lick (cow-lick.)
COWP:	To overturn or capsize. Watch that jug or you'll cowp it. The table cowped (over).
CRAB:	<p>(1) A misbehaved child; a brat.</p> <p>(2) A cooling off in what had been a friendly relationship; a kind of mutual sulking. There's a crab (on) between them: is there a crab on? etc.</p>
CRAW:	<p>A small stone shed usually for sheltering pigs, hence a pig-craw. A small pig-sty.</p> <p>(Note: On the adjoining farm, which belonged to the late Mr. John Fearon, such a building was referred to as a "pig-cree". In Banbridge and its environs "pig-crew" was used.)</p>
CRAYTER (CRAY'-TER):	A creature. When "crayter" is used, there is normally an undertone of sympathy, thus: the poor crayter; the wee crayter, etc.
CYPHER (SIFE'-ER):	Foolish and exaggerated gesturing, frequently to impress others. She was cyphering about.

D.

DALE (08): A deal of smth; an amount of smth; a number (of things).
He hasn't a great dale of money, - he hasn't much money.
She owns a dale of land; it's not a dale of years since they were here, - they were here within the last few years.

DANDER: (NN) A leisurely walk; a stroll. I'll take a dander over; we'll go for a dander, etc.
(VB) To walk idly; to stroll.

DARK: Blind or sightless. That poor man's dark.

DILTY: Apparently carries the same meaning as LILTY, which cf.

DODGE: (VB) To walk.
(Note: There seems to be an element of resoluteness implied. It's raining heavily, but I'll just dodge on anyhow. You have been delayed, so I'll dodge along without you.)

DOTTER: To stumble awkwardly about; to stagger (perh. after the manner of a child learning to walk).

DRAWCHAY (DRAW'-CHAY): Dull, gloomy, dreary. May be applied to:
○ Weather, thus: that's an awful drawchay sort of a day.
○ Personal feelings, thus: I feel drawchay the day, - I feel out-of-sorts today; I feel sluggish.
(Note: In everyday speech "the day" invariably replaces "today", as "the morrow", - the morra - is substituted for "tomorrow".)

DROOTH: (1) Thirst. There's a drooth on her, - she is thirsty.
(2) One who drinks (usually alcohol) excessively.

DRY: Thirsty. I am very dry.

DUNDER: (NN.) A sudden jolt or blow. He hit (or gave) it a good dunder.
(VB.) He dundered against it.
(Note: 1. When used in the verbal context, "against" follows the verb.)
2. "Dunder" seems to embody the combined meaning of "blunder" and "dunt" (cf.)

DUNDERHEAD: A blockhead; a stupid person.

DUNGAREENS: A localism for dungarees.

DUNKLE (DUNK'-IL): A farm midden; a dunghill.

DUNT (of under DUNDER): A heavy blow or buffet. She dunted it with her fist. He gave it a dunt with his shoulder.

DWAM: A spasm of mild pain or illness. He's got a wee dwam this morning. (Variant: DWOM.)

E.

(Note: In the household, the pronunciation of the syllable "ed" in certain words resembles "eG". Hence "education" becomes something like eGucation".

In the same way "eejit" (cf buck-eejit) is pronounced to resemble "ee-git".)

F.

FADGE (FAJ):	A large piece of broken-off bread; a crudely-cut slice of bread. The child was eating a big fadge.
FAIR (on FAIRED):	Refers to a clearance after rain. It's nicely fair(ed) now; wait till it fairs a bit.
FARL:	A quarter section of the thin, circular bread-cake baked on a griddle.
FLIT:	Removal from one dwelling to another. They flitted last week; when they arrived on their holidays, they had that much stuff with them, you'd have thought it was a flitting.
FLITTER:	(VB) Destroy, (usually an article made of cloth). He flittered it, - he tore it beyond repair; he reduced it to rags.
FLITTERS:	(NN) Tatters. His clothes were in flitters. The dog made flitters of the mat.
FOOTER:	(NN) (1) One who lacks manual dexterity to a marked degree. (2) One who is constantly fidgeting; a fidget. He's an awful footer. (VB) To tinker aimlessly with smth.
FOOTER ABOUT:	(VB) To potter idly about. I was just footering about.
FORNINT:	In front of; before (as preposition). He was standing fornint his house. Variants: FORNINST; FORNENST; FORNENT.
FOSEY (FOE'-SEE):	Unhealthily soft in texture e.g. like dry rot in wood. That timber's all fosey. Variant: FOSED. That window-frame is badly fosed. (Note: I once overheard a man with Dromintee connections complain about the quality of bread from a certain bakery thus: "I don't like that bread because it always seems to be a sort of fosey-like." Within the context this seems to be a correct, albeit unusual, application of the word.)
FORBYE:	Also; as well as. She left him a big lump of money forbye the farm; ...and we went to Mass forbye.
FULL (pronounced to rhyme with GULL):	Drunk.

G.		(Note: This word seems to carry a degree of meaning contained in two other words, viz GOB - of above, and BLOOTER, for which. cf.)
GALOOT:	A graceless, ill-behaved lout.	
GAM:	One who is stupid; a fool.	
GANT:	(NN) A yawn. (VB) To yawn. She's ganting away there.	
GASAN (GAS'-AN. Pronounce the "g' as in "glad"):	A boy. (Note: While this word was clearly understood by the Mc Grath family, it was used by them on rare occasions only. I cannot say that I heard it in the district otherwise. The Mc Grath vocabulary seems to have absorbed it from the family's close association, by blood and friend-ship, with the late Mrs. Margaret Mc Evoy of Carrickrovaddy, Belleeks: and her brother, the late Mr. John Heaney of Dorsey Hearty, Cullyhanna. cf GESHER below.)	
GAVEL:	Localism for gable.	
GAWK:	(NN) One who stares in an idle manner; an onlooker prompted by idle curiosity. (VB) To look on stupidly or helplessly.	
GESHER:	A girl. (cf note for GASAN above.)	
GILGOWN:	The corn marigold. (Chrysanthemum segetum.)	
GIRN:	(NN) (1). A contortion of the features to register negative emotion - bad temper, etc. Take that girn off your face. (2) One who is habitually grumbling; one who is hard to please. (VB) Contorting the facial expression as in 1. above.	
GLAUR:	A slippery and almost unwashable glaze, as of oil, slime, etc, which forms on roadways and similar surfaces. The car skidded because of the glaur on the road.	
GLIT:	A misty film which sometimes develops on a surface which is being polished, e.g. glass etc, instead of the expected gloss. There's a glit on the mirror.	
GOB (GUB):	He got a dunder (cf) on the gob.	
GOBULOOTER (GOB'-UL OOT'-ER):	A loudmouth; a loutish boaster.	
GOOSEGAB (GOOSE'-GAB):	A gooseberry. She was stewing goosegabs.	
GORB:	One who frequently overeats; a glutton.	
GOWL:	A loud sound like that emitted by a baying hound. He let a gowl. (Note: In the household, as throughout the locality, "let" is often employed in conjunction with (usually) sudden sounds produced by a person or an animal, - thus he let a yell, she let a sneeze, it let a roar, etc.)	
GRAIP:	A four-pronged agricultural fork for lifting manure etc.	
GREAT:	Very friendly. I must keep great with them; he's very great with her; they're very great.	
GREESH:	The live ashes at the edge of an open fire; the red ashes remaining when the fire has gone out. Scrape over that greesh and put the taypot (teapot) on them.	
GROO:	A greyhound.	
GROUP (HOLE):	An opening in the wall of a cow-shed, which connects with the open drain in the floor, and large enough to facilitate the depositing of manure etc. on to the midden outside.	
GROUSE:	An habitual grumbler.	
GUG:	A childish name for an egg.	
GULDER:	(NN) A loud shout or yell -usually sudden. He let (cf) a gulder at the dog. (VB) To yell suddenly. What are you guldering about?	
GULLENTINES:	A pair of shears or large scissors.	
GULLION (GULL'-YUN):	A very muddy patch in a field, on a roadway etc. The cattle made a terrible gullion in the gap.	
GULPIN:	A person who is easily deceived; one who is over-credulous; one who acts in a very insensitive manner; an ignoramus.	

GUNK:	(NN) A disappointment; a let-down. The child got a gunk when the expected gift did not arrive. (VB) Carries implications of jilting as between lovers. She gunked him - she forsook him for another.
GUTTERS:	Mud. The lane was all gutters; there was gutters everyplace you looked. (ADJ. GUTTERY. It was an awful guttery street.)
GUTTY:	A light, canvas, gutta-percha soled shoe.
GYOR:	(The "GY" is pronounced like the "GI" in "give" - hence GI-OR) A small quantity of a liquid. Pour a gyor of milk into the tay (tea).

H.	
HAIT:	Something very insignificant; something worthless. That's not worth a hait; there's damn the hait wrong with it, - there is nothing wrong with it.
HAKE:	To steal (from) - usually apples from an orchard. They haked the orchard. Were the apples haked?
HANKICHER (<i>HANK'-I-CHER</i>):	Local pronunciation of "handkerchief".
HAP (UP):	To dress in warm clothes, or to cover up in clothing as a protection against cold. Hap yourself up well; she was well happed up.
HAPPING:	Warm clothing or coverings; often applied to bedclothes, blankets, quilts etc. Give me plenty of happing.
HASKEY:	Describes wind. Bitterly cold; very sharp or severe. That's a haskey breeze; it's a haskey kind of a day.
HEAD-O'-WIT:	Someone very wise or clever. Often used in an ironic or derogatory sense. The Professor's a head-o'-wit, yet he managed to trip on his shoe-lace.
HEAVENDERS:	Always prefixed by BY. An expletive corresponding to By Heavens. By heavenders, Nance, you're right.
HEELER:	An ill-mannered or mischievous girl or woman. (There are no undertones of immorality.) She's a heeler.
HESP:	(NN) A sliding bolt fitted to a door, gate, etc., to secure it when closed; a hasp; a chain and hook arrangement fixed to the outside of a door etc, allowing it to be held in place when open. Did you shut the hesp? (VB) To secure a door etc. as above. Make sure you hesp the door.
HINCH:	The buttock and upper rear portion of the thigh; the haunch.
HIRPLE (<i>HIR'-PIL</i>):	To limp; to walk painfully. The old man could only hirple about.
HOKE:	To rummage; to search (with a sense of digging). Hoke up a few potatoes. The pig had the field all hoked up. Hoke through that garbage, and you might come on something interesting.

HOME-DUNYUN (DUN'-YUN):	A person who seldom leaves home; someone greatly attached to his or her home. Paddy's a great home-dunyun.
HOTHERY (HOTH'-ER-EE):	Pronounce the TH as in THAT. Of worn, wrinkled, or shrivelled appearance. Applied almost exclusively to human beings. Poor Mick. He's got awful hothery since I saw him last.
HORN:	To attack with the horns after the manner of a bull etc.; to gore or butt. The bull horned him.
HULK:	A stout, lazy, loutish fellow.
HURD:	(VB) Local pronunciation of "herd". (Note: This applies to the practice of allowing a cow etc. to wander freely along the roads, grazing on the grassy margins as it went. The child in charge of the animal was said to be "hurding the cow")
Hut:	(VB) Past tense of hit'. He hut him. In the same way "sat" becomes "sut'", and "spat" becomes "sput". She sut on the floor: he sput out.

I.

INSENSE:	To impart knowledge of smth. to another. I can't insense it intil (cf following entry) him at all: Perh. I can't insense him with it at all. I could hardly insense it intil her. (Note: I. There seems to be an element of frustration implied in the use of this word, as it appears to be used only when the would-be recipient of the knowledge proves either reluctant or unable to absorb the information imparted. 2. "Insense" seems to be generally followed by "into" or "intil".)
INTIL (IN'-TIL):	Into. Rosie walked intil her house.
ITSELF:	Appears to be used to stress the word which it follows, e.g. If he made an effort itself, we'd understand. Well, did Mickey get a decent price itself? (Note: "Itself" frequently appears with "even" in a sentence or a question, to lend even greater stress: Does he even go to the chapel itself? Sure that fellow doesn't even put in his garden itself.)

J.

JAIMITY:	An expletive spoken in conjunction with a sacred name, and uttered on receiving a sudden fright, shock etc. Jaimity God! Jaimity Father!
JANDER:	(NN) 1. An angry quarrel or dispute. There's a jander going on between them. 2. One who frequently becomes involved in such bickering. Old Lizzie's a terrible jander. (VB) To quarrel or dispute as above. Themins (them ones) is never done jandering.
JAP:	(NN) A small splash of liquid as throw e.g from a brush. There are japs all over your good coat. (VB) To splash thus. He japped the window with whitewash.
JAR:	Perh. originally applied to an earthenware hot-water-bottle, but now used to describe a hot-water-bottle of any kind, whether earthenware or rubber. Would you like a jar in your bed? Have you the jars up yet? (Refers to upstairs in the beds.)
JAR-TUB:	A kitchen sink or wash-hand-basin. She washed herself in the jar-tub. A variant of above: JAW-TUB.
JEG:	(NN) A jag; a prick; a sudden spasm of any sharp pain. My stomach gave me a wee jeg this morning. (VB) To jag; to prick as with a thorn or other sharp-pointed object.
JORY:	(JORE'-EE) Generally applied to the smallest and most delicate pig in the litter, but may also be used to describe the frailest chick of the flock. Who's going to look after the wee jory? The jory died, etc.
JUST:	Often inserted at the end of a sentence. It seems to imply a degree of triviality. I am going to the field, just. He went for a walk, just.

K.

KEHOE (KI-HOE'):	A boy who is courting several girls at the same time; a male flirt.
KEO-BOY:	(Pronounce KEO in the same way as the element KEO in the surname Mc KEOWN.) A mischievous or giddy boy.
KILTIE:	One, usually a man, who wears a kilt. The kilties were marching this evening. He plays the bagpipes in the kiltie band.
KITCHEN:	Foods, such as meat and vegetables, served along with the usual staples of bread and potatoes. Even if you don't eat any bread, at least eat your kitchen.
KITE:	An irresponsibly light-hearted person.
KITLING (KIT'-LIN):	A kitten or young cat.
KITTER:	One who is left-handed.

L.

LAP:	To wind cord, cloth, etc. around anything; to wrap. He lapped a length of rope around the broken spar. Make sure the parcel is well lapped up.
LADY-FINGERS:	A wild plant with pink or reddish bell-shaped, inverted flowers; the foxglove. (<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> .)
LANGLE (LANG'-IL):	(NN) A fetter fashioned usually from lengths of discarded sacking, and secured to the legs of a domestic animal, (goat, etc.) which, while permitting it to walk quite freely, prevent it from running and from straying afar. I saw that the goat had a langle on it. The goat was langled. (VB) To langle. I will have to langle that goat.
LAYMITUR (LAIM'-IT-UR):	A lame fowl or farm animal. (May sometimes, though very rarely, be applied to a human being.)
LIG:	A giddy person. Stop doing the lig. (cf LUG.)
LIGGITY:	(NN) A foolishly merry person. He's a terrible liggity. (ADJ) She's a liggity kind of a lassie.
LILTY:	A woman or girl given to irresponsible clownage. (cf DILTY.)
LOANIN:	An unimportant country lane.
LOCK:	Amount. She gave him a wee lock of male (meal). He owns a brave (cf) lock of cattle. They have a tidy lock of money in the bank.
LOODER:	(VB) To thrash soundly. His father will looder him. (NN) A sound beating. That brat deserves a good loodering. (cf MALAVOGUE)
LUG:	An ear; a small handle like one of the two which projects from the rim of a cooking pot; a loutish fellow.

M.

MALAVOGUE (MAL-A-VOGUE):	(VB) To beat severely. I'll malavogue the thief if I lay hands on him. (NN) (MAL-A-VOGUE'-ING) He'll give the thief a malavogue'-ing. (cf under LOODER.)
MARVEL:	A marble; the small sphere with which the game of marbles is played.
MATE:	Meat; food in general, though more frequently applied to food for pigs and poultry. You're all right girl, when you can take your mate. A bucket of hens'/pigs' mate.
MEAT:	Applies almost exclusively to beef. Other meats such as lamb, turkey, chicken etc. are referred to by name. Thus "a meat sandwich" means almost exclusively a sandwich containing beef. (cf entry under CORN.)
MIDDLETIE (MID'-IL-TIE):	A piece of linen tow which secures the striker of a threshing flail to the handle.
MIND:	(VB) To remember. I mind the time when...; Ach I never minded - Oh, I did not remember.
MISSLY:	(ADJ) Used to describe something very useful, and which would be easily missed. One's front door would be a missly thing. To a car owner, a spare wheel would be missly.
MIZZLE:	(NN) A light rain; a drizzle. There's a wee mizzle coming on. (VB) To rain lightly; to drizzle. It was mizzling this morning.
MOILEY:	(ADJ) Hornless. A moiley cow, - a cow without horns. (NN) A hornless cow. Have you milked the black moiley yet?
MONTH'S MIND:	The custom of formally recalling a person's death one month after its occurrence through the celebration of a special Mass of remembrance. It'll be Jane's Month's Mind tomorrow. Will you be at Tom's Month's Mind?
MOSS:	A marsh or boggy area. He fell intil (cf) the moss. (Note: Although this word was not actively used in the household, the family was quite familiar with it from other places.)
MUSHAROON:	A mushroom.

N.

NAR:	A scar or permanent mark of a disfiguring nature on the human body. That lad has a nar on his face.
NIDDLE (<i>NID'-IL</i>):	To dawdle; to linger aimlessly and thus waste time. She's always niddling around the kitchen.
NOR:	Than.
NYARK:	(NN) (Sound the NY in the same way as the NY of the word CANYON. One who is bitter in speech and sentiment; one given to quarrelling. That fellow's such a nyark you couldn't live with him. (VB) To grumble aggressively and bitterly. He nyarked all day.

O.

OJUS:	(OH'-JUS) Odious; extremely. It's an ojus day, - today's weather is inclement. He's ojus bad (cf), - he's extremely ill.
OUL:	Old, though not necessarily implying old age. A word with a wide variety of undertone and meaning, ranging from denigration to affectionate familiarity, thus: A dirty oul jab (job); my oul comrade; an oul brat; an oul gulpin (cf), etc.
OUTBYE:	Outside (the house), yet near at hand. The men are working on the road outbye.
OXTER:	The armpit. She carried the wee hen under her oxter.

P.	
PACHAL (<i>PACH'-AL</i>):	An ungainly or physically clumsy person. Sure, that oul (cf) pachal couldn't dance.
PACKATUBBER:	(Perhaps PARKATUBBER.) A field in the townland in which there was a well.
PAD:	A path. A futpad, -a footpath.
PAHVEE:	(NN) A travelling salesman, especially a door-to-door salesman. (VB) To earn one's living thus. He goes pahvee-ing to England. (Note: In former times many men, natives of the Slieve Gullion region, worked as pedlars - usually of clothes. Such pedlars were called PAHVEES.)
PANT:	A very amusing incident. It's a real pant when them two starts their oul (cf) jandering (cf).
PEG:	To throw stones or other missiles. (cf CLOD.)
PELT:	(In the pelt; in his pelt; in her pely.) Naked; in the nude. (cf BUFF). He was wandering around in his/the pelt. They're in their pelt.
PERDA:	A potato. (Variants: PERDARS; PRIDDAS.)
PICKLE:	A small amount; a pinch - usually of a granular commodity. Put a pickle more sand in that cement. That soup could do with a pickle of salt.
PIG:	(VB) To farrow. My sow pigged last night. Well, how did she do? She done rightly. Ten good uns and a jory (cf).
PISH:	(NN) Urine. (VB) To urinate. You couldn't trust that dog, for he'd pish against your leg if you weren't looking.
PISTROG (<i>PIS'-TRUG</i>):	A superstitious custom or belief. Don't heed that, for it's only an oul (cf) pistrog.
PLAN:	A level field on a mountainside.

PLASTER:	(NN) A gushing, effusive, demonstrative person, who is insincere in his show of affection. He's a terrible plaster. (VB) To act as a plaster would. That child is always plastering.
PONGERS:	The arrangement of hooks hanging above an open fire, and on which pots, kettles, etc. can be suspended for cooking; pot- hooks. Hang the boiler on the pongers.
POOR:	Weak; defenceless; innocent. There are undertones of affection. The child who is suffering would be referred to as "the POOR child". The poor crayter (cf). - frequently said of someone suffering, and implying deep sympathy. (Note: While POOR was sometimes used to describe a state of destitution, it was not usual to employ it in this context. More commonly used descriptors were such phrases as "very badly off", "they had nothing", etc.)
PORIYIN (<i>POR'-I-YIN</i>):	A tiny potato not normally used for human consumption. Such undersized potatoes were selected from the main supply, and after boiling, were fed to pigs, poultry, etc. (cf CHAT.)
POSS:	To agitate clothes being laundered, in warm water; to wash smth. in warm water. (There are connotations of steeping involved.) (Note: The agitation of clothing being washed was carried out with the aid of a POSSER or DOLLY. This was a bell-shaped implement, made of copper, and perforated. It was equipped with a wooden handle, and the laundry was stirred gently through the warm soapy water by manipulating the dolly.)
POTYIN (<i>POT'-YIN</i>):	Illicitly distilled whiskey; poteen.
POUCE:	The dust raised in a scutch-mill (cf).
POUTHER (ABOUT):	To pouter about, - to potter about.
POUTHERED (OUT):	Describes soil which has been over-used and under-manured. Thon (cf) field's pouthered out.
POWER:	An extremely efficient, or generally excellent, person or thing. That farmer's a power. Your horse is a power.
POWERFUL:	Excellent; praiseworthy. He's a powerful worker. That's powerful weather.

PRACAS:	A lazy or untidy woman; a woman more given to idle gossip than to housekeeping.
PROG:	A gain or profit in a financial sense. He got left a great prog of a legacy. She has plenty of prog in the bank.
PRUCH:	A small, miserable dwelling; a hovel. They rared a big family in that wee pruch.
PUDYIN: (PUD'-YIN)	A small, fat person. More generally applied to a child. He's just a wee pudyin.
PUSSIN: (PUSS'-IN)	A small table-chicken under a certain weight, and of about a size to suit one diner.

Q.	
QUARE:	Queer, though not necessarily PECULIAR or STRANGE; to a marked degree; remarkable (ly). That's a quare day, - the weather today is remarkable (for whatever reason.). That's a quare coul' (cold) wind.
QUICK:	A hawthorn seedling suitable for replanting in a hedge etc.
QUIFF:	(NN) The hair (usually of a man or boy), when it has been properly barbered and brushed. You've got a great quiff the day. Give your hair a quiff. He has a wee quiff at the front. (VB) To quiff the hair, - to dress it properly.
QUILT:	One who is a pest; one of strong personality with whom it is difficult to deal.
QUIT:	To stop (and frequently used in its place). Four is quitting time. We always quit work at four. Quit shouting!

R.

RAW:	Uncouth or rude in manner. I've met raw men in my time, but you're the limit!
REDD:	(To redd, redd up, redd out.) To make tidy; to clear out (a room etc.) I must redd the kitchen before I go. He has the place well redd up. Are you going to redd out the barn?
REDDING:	(NN) A tidying-up; a cleaning out. She gave the house a good redding (out or up.)
RONYIN:	(ROAN'-YIN. The smallest article of clothing; A stitch (of clothing.) Put something on that baby, for he's lying there without so much as a ronyin on him.
ROOM (the):	A special apartment in a dwelling house in which visitors were (are) entertained.
ROOSTER:	The male of the domestic fowl.
ROUGHNESS:	Plenty. They look poor, but they have a roughness of money all the same. There's a good roughness of children in that house.
RUMMEL (RUM'-IL):	To wash (usually potatoes) by rummelling. Give the perdas (cf) a good rummel. (Note: Potatoes to be washed in this fashion were first placed in a container - usually a bucket - of water. They were then vigorously stirred to and fro by means of a short, stout pole commonly called a RUMMLIN'-STICK.)
RUNT:	The smallest and weakest pig in a litter. (cf JORY). May be applied to any weakling, whether human or animal.

S.

SAPPLE:	(SAP'-IL) (VB) To steep or soak. She sapples the clothes in that tub. He likes to sapple his feet in warm water.
SCALDY:	An unfledged wild bird; a nestling.
SCOM:	(Pronounced to rhyme with BOMB.) (NN) A light touch of flame; a light grilling. Give the steak a scom.
SCONCE (SKONS):	A shallow mountain valley, through which a torrent of flood-water gushes in wet weather, but which remains almost dry in the absence of rain.
SCOOT:	(1) To move hurriedly; to run. I'll scoot across to the shop. (2) To squirt a liquid in a jet; to throw liquid with some force from a vessel, e.g. jug, bucket etc.
SCOP:	A portion of barren, mountainous land. He owns a scop o' the mountain. (Note: SCOP does not usually stand on its own, but is employed in conjunction with "...of the mountain".)
SCORRIG (SCORR'-IG):	A small amount of liquid; a drop. Pour a wee scorrig o' milk into the cup.
SCORRIGAN (SCORR'-IG-AN):	Diminutive of SCORRIG; a "wee scorrig".
SCRA:	The vegetation-matted surface of uncultivated land. Before you dig a garden, you must clear away the scra.
SCRAB:	(NN) A scratch on the skin; a graze. He got a scrab on the hand. (VB) To scratch or graze. The cat scrabbed her.
SCRINGE (SKRINJ):	Pronounce to rhyme with BINGE. To produce a rasping sound like that made by metal grating against metal, stone etc. He scringed the knife-blade against the wall. (Note: This word also denotes the squeaking sound made by new shoes when they are being walked in. It was formerly alleged in the district that squeaking shoes had not been paid for!)
SCUD:	(NN) A glancing blow. (VB) To strike a glancing blow.
SCUNDER:	A dislike, usually sudden, against a food formerly relished. She took a scunder against eggs.

SCUTCHING:	The treatment of flax in a phase of the linen manufacturing process.
SCUTCH-MILL:	A mill in which scutching is carried out.
SEVENDIBLE (SEV-EN'-DIB-IL):	(ADV) Skilfully; efficiently. He done that sevendible. Make sure you do it sevendible.
SHADE:	(NN) The parting in the hair. Put a shade in your hair. (VB) 1. To part the hair. 2. To groom the hair generally. His hair was well shaded.
SHEUGH:	(SHUCH) A drain in a field, along a roadside etc.; may also be applied to any marshy or boggy area. It fell intil (cf) the sheugh.
SHOD:	(NN) A horse or donkey shoe. May also be applied to the horse-shoe shaped piece of metal which forms part of the heel of a hob-nailed boot.
SKELF:	A sharp splinter of wood, which, having pierced the skin, lodge beneath it. He got a skelf in his finger.
SKELP:	(NN) Variant rendering of SKELF above. A light blow; a slap. (VB) To strike lightly; to slap. She skelped the child.
SKIBBOO (SKIB-BOO'):	A merry, lighthearted fellow. Sometimes employed as a casual (as opposed to permanent) nickname. Come here Skibboo.
SKITE:	(NN) A splash. She got a skite from the water jug. (VB) To splash; to squirt; to shoot out as liquid under pressure. When I threw the stone into the well water skited out. The wet soap skited out of his grasp.
SKITTER:	1. (NN) An impertinent child; a brat. 2. (NN) Liquid faecal matter. (VB) To produce this.
SKITTERJAPS:	Freckles.
SLABBER:	(NN) One, who through incautious speech, reveals secrets entrusted to him or her; one who talks thoughtlessly or nonsensically; an over-sentimental person. (VB) 1. To do any of the above.

SLEEKED: (SLBEK'-ID)	Sly, cunning and treacherous. Don't trust that fellow, for he's inclined to be very sleeked.
SLIM:	Potato bread.
SLIPE:	1. A box-like vehicle mounted on iron runners like a sleigh, and drawn by a horse, pony etc. It was used to transport stones, manure etc. across soft ground. 2. A humorous name for the foot. Take your big slipes out of the way.
SLOAT:	To drink eagerly or greedily. Sloat that beer into you.
SLOOTER:	A quantity of liquid. I think there'll be a slooter (of rain) before the day's out. When you're watering, make sure to give each plant a good slooter.
SLUG:	A brief, but deep, drink of a beverage - usually from a bottle.
SLUNGE:	To lounge lazily; to loaf. (Note: Perhaps carries some of the combined meanings of SLOUCH and LOUNGE.)
SMIT:	To be infected by (or with). He was badly smit by the 'flu'. (Note: SMIT may also carry a positive connotation e.g: When I saw your new car, I was so smit by it that I decided to buy one the same.)
SMITTEN:	Infectious. Be careful of an illness like scarlet fever, for it's very smitten.
SMUDYIN (SMUD'-YIN):	A small oil lamp of a type frequently kept in a niche or on a shelf in the kitchen to light the room.
SNED:	To nip, or snip off the tops of plants e.g. turnips, in order to encourage growth. He spent the day snedding turnips.
SNOTTERS:	Nasal mucous; loose hanging ends of anything, e.g. loose straws hanging from the bottom of a sheaf of corn (cf).
SNOW-BROTH:	The slush which remains after snow has partially melted. The street is covered in snow-broth.
SONSY (SON'-SEE):	Big, handsome and of pleasing personality. Applicable

	to a woman only. She's a grand, sonsy woman.
SOUSE:	A blow. Jim gave him a good souse on the nose.
SPAG:	A humorous name for the foot.
SPOUTS:	A conduit through which drinking water gushes from a spring or other source.
SPRICKLEBAG (SPRICK'-LEE-BAG):	The stickleback, a tiny fresh-water fish, often pursued and caught by children. (Variants: SPRICK; SPRICKY-BAGS.)
SQUIG (SKWIG):	A small quantity of liquid; a drop. Pour in another squig o' milk there.
STARVE:	To be extremely cold. I am starving; that wind would starve you; he's starved etc.
STERK:	A bullock or heifer. He drove a lock (cf) o' sterks to the fair.
STOOKEY:	A person of limited outlook and imagination; one not easily impressed; one in in whom it is difficult to arouse feelings of interest, admiration etc.
STOOR:	A quantity of fine dust, especially when afloat in the atmosphere. Brush the path easy or you'll only raise stoor.
STOPPER:	A stone let into the ground between double gates, and into which a vertical sliding bar is set to secure the gates when closed.
STREET:	A farmyard. He keeps his cattle loose in his street at night.
STRUNT:	A bout of sulking. Jinny didn't like what I said about her, so she's off at her strunts again.
STRICKLE (STRIK'-IL):	A bat-shaped piece of timber covered with an adhering film of sand or other abrasive material, and used for sharpening scythes etc.
STUBBY:	A childish name for porridge. Would you take a bowl of stubby?
STUNK:	(In pronouncing this word, the T is sounded somewhere between the T of TIN and the TH of THEN.) To take a stunk, - to sulk.

	He took a stunk.
SUCKER:	A newly-farrowed, or unweaned piglet.
SUGGIN:	(SUG'-IN) A heavy garment of any kind. Often, but not always qualified by the addition of ...of a coat, jumper etc. Take that big suggin of an overcoat off you. I see you're wearing that suggin again etc.
SWITHER (To be in a):	To be in a state of indecision. He was in a swither about which cap to wear. Also, to swither, to be in swithers.

T.

TARGE (TARJ):	1. To administer a beating. I'll targe the devil out of you if I catch you. 2. One who complains frequently; a constant fault-finder.
TARRAH (TAR' -AH):	A terror. Does not so much mean something terrible, as something extraordinary. Isn't that a tarrah, now.
TASTE:	A small amount, usually of a liquid. Give me a taste of oil. She could do with a taste of soup.
TATIE (TAY'-TEE):	A potato. Variant: TATTY.
TEAR-ARSE (TARE-ARSE):	One who works vigorously and ostentatiously, but who has little to show for his labour. One who frequently promises another to do something, and who invariably fails to do so.
TEAR-LEATHERS (TARE-LEATHERS):	Tatters. His coat was in tear-leathers. The boy made tear-leathers of his exercise-book.
TEEM:	1. To rain heavily. It teemed from dawn to dusk. 2. To pour off cooking water from vegetables etc. which have been boiled. Teem them perdas (cf)
TENT:	A small quantity of a liquid. Pour a wee tent of whiskey into the glass.
THOLE:	(Sound the TH as in THIN.) To bear pain or discomfort uncomplainingly and patiently. I've no cure for you, so you'll just have to thole it.
THON:	(The TH sounded as in THEN.) Yon; yonder; that; those. Do you see thon hill? Do you mind (cf) thon time...? Did you put in thon hens?
THRISTLE (THRIS'-IL):	A thistle.
THROUGHOTHER (THROO'-OTHER):	1. Careless; untidy. He's a throughother kind of being. Her clothes are always very throughother. 2. Rather unwell. I feel throughother enough this morning.
TRA:	(NN) 1. One who is quick to state a grievance - either real or imaginary - and who frequently does so; an argumentative person.

2. An ongoing disagreement. Is there a tra on between them two?
3. (VB) Has them two started tra-ing again?

TRANYIN (TRAN'-YIN):	Something paltry and worthless. That was a hopeless team to be playing in the final, - not worth a tranyin. (Variant: TRAN'-YEEN.)
THRAPPLE (THRAP' PIL):	The throat or gullet. Something got stuck in her thrapple.
TRIBBAGES (TRIB'-IJIS):	A collection of small household or personal items. (There are connotations of their being largely useless.) That drawer is full of old tribbages.
TRINKET:	A rain-drainage channel, sometimes emptying into a shore or other outlet, like that between a footpath and thoroughfare.
TRUMPHERY (TRUMF'-ER-EE):	Junk. Clear all that trumphery out of the attic.
TURMIT:	Colloquialism for TURNIP.
TURN:	A task. I can't go to the concert till (cf) I've got my turns all done. Have you not your turns done yet?

V.

VALUE: Fun; enjoyment. There was great value at the dance last night.

VENISON: The meat of the goat or deer.

W.

WALLS: The roofless ruin of a building. McShane's walls.

WAN: A sudden or urgent need or want. There's a wan on him, - he needs something (e.g. food) urgently.

WANST: Once. Get over here at wanst.

WATERGRASS: Watercress.

WEDDINERS: Those attending a wedding; wedding-guests.

WEE: Small - sometimes, though not always - with connotations of endearment.
That wee boy's a nuisance.
(Note: This word frequently carries connotations of endearment alone, and with no reference to size at all. There seem to be undertones of vulnerability as well. The poor wee priest.
Was it the wee doctor you saw? She's a grand wee woman.)

WHACKEE: A clownish or irresponsible fellow. (Normally used in a light-hearted context.)

WHEESHT: Be silent. I told you to wheesht. Hou! (hold) your wheesht.

WHENEVER: Extensively used throughout the region as synonymous with WHEN or EACH TIME. I meet her whenever I go to Newry.

WHID: A summons; a sign; a warning. I entered when he gave me the whid. I said no more when I got the whid.

WHIN: Gorse; furze.

WHINGE (WHINJ): (NN) A person, usually a child, who weeps often, and for little apparent reason. She's an awful wee (cf) whinge.
(VB) To weep in a peevish manner.

WICKED: Vicious; short-tempered; severe in manner. He's one wicked wee man; that's a wicked dog they have.

WINDY-STILL: A window-sill.

WIT: Intelligence; common sense. Away (cf) and have a bit of wit (an exhortation to exercise one's intelligence.)

WOOL:	(VB) To pull roughly at smth; to tear at. The fox wooled the rabbit he had caught.
WOOLOCK:	(WOOL'-OCK) A small tangle of wool appearing on the surface of a woollen garment as a result of friction. There's a lot of woolocks on your jumper.
WOOLOCKY (WOOL'-OCK-EE):	Having many woolocks. A woolocky jersey.
WROUGHT (RAWT):	Worked. I mind (cf) the time I wrought in the mill.

Arna fhoilsiú ag Craobh an Iúir
de Chomhaltas Uladh



Gaeláras
Mhic Ardghail