

turn to B.-T., we learn that the word is taken from Ælfc. Gl. 116 = Somner 80, 65 = Wrt. Voc. 61, 43. From the Supplement to B.-T. we gather sub *ahwīlc* (?) the additional information that the gloss cited is: *Terribilis ahwīlc vel egeslic vel dryslīc*. It is printed in Wright-Wülcker 191²⁷; I have long had it on my list of 'Addenda and Corrigenda from the Glosses' under the above caption. The word is interesting as the first trace of the intrusion of ON. *agi* = OE. *ege* into the vocabulary of the Anglo-Saxon. It is quite plain that *ahwīlc* is scribe's mistake for *ahwīlc* and (*h*)*w* represents ON. *g* as pronounced by the contemporaries of Ælfric.

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OTTO B. SCHLUTTER.

OE. *CLÉAT* = MODERN ENGLISH *CLEAT*.
 OE. (*GE*)*STÉAPAN* = MODERN ENGLISH *TO STEEP*

Of modern *cleat* the *NED* says that although it is evidenced only from the 14th century, it clearly goes back to an unrecorded OE. *cléat*: — W. Ger. **klaut*, O. Sax. type **klôt*, represented by M. Du. *kloot*, Du. *kloot* 'ball' to which OHG. *chlôz* MHG. *klôz* 'lump, clump, ball, pommel of sword, wedge' and mod. Ger. *Klosz* correspond. Also Kluge in the 8th as well as in the 9th edition of his Etymological Dictionary makes it appear as if OE. *cléat* was unrecorded. However, it seems to me there can hardly be any doubt that the word is actually on record in the following gloss preserved in the *Corpus Glossary* P 411, Pittacium. *osperi* ¹⁾ *clut. cleot*. The *o* of *cleot* represents a normal OE. *a* just as the *a* of E 411, *ansceat* 'exintera' represents a normal OE. *o*, though it is just possible that the memory of *andscéatan* 'exsinuare' may be responsible for the *a* we read. Compare also A 359 *ansuaep* 'afflarat' for *ansueop*. Also I 466 *gestoepid* 'initiatum' is a case in point. For *gestoepid* represents a normal *gestéapid* 'steeped'; compare OHG. *arstaufit* 'catechizat' which I recognize in Ahd. Gl. I 72¹¹ *cathazizat arstaupit*. OHG. *arstoufit* is rendering of a Latin *imbuit* (sc. *doctrina Christiana*) as we can safely infer from such glosses as *catezizatur, inbuitur* (*Leiden Glossary* ed. Glogger I, 23 = Hessels I, 20) which refers to *ei qui catechizatur* of Conc. Nic. XIV p. 118, as pointed out by Glogger and Hessels. As to the meaning of 'to steep' in the sense of 'to initiate', see the *NED* which is right in bringing the word back to OE. *stéapan*, but errs in starring it as though it were unrecorded. If the editors had heeded what I had brought forward on the subject in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* I, 323 and later on in *Anglia* N. F. XIV, 296, they could not but have realized that the gloss in the *Corpus Glossary* I 466 is good authority for the OE. *stéapan* they posit. I erred in positing *stéapan* accepted by Holthausen and Hall. The latter, progressive lexicographer that he is, books this *stéapan* in the first column of page 277 of his revised *Anglo-*

¹⁾ Hessels asks: Is this an Anglo-Saxon word? I answer, it might be taken to stand for *ō sperī = on sperī* 'in lancea', but all this is very problematic.

Saxon Dictionary, no doubt on the strength of my elucidation, thus: *gestépan* 'to initiate, consecrate' and gives as source WW. For his third edition I recommend the following correction: "*gestépan* (WW. 28³¹ = *Corpus Glossary* I 466) see *gestépan*" which with the meaning indicated should be inserted on page 275, second column, right after *stéap* m. 'stoup'.

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OTTO B. SCHLUTTER.

OE. *HÉOLCA* 'PRUINA': ON. *HÉLA* 'PRUINA'.

One of the most interesting words preserved to us by the *Lambeth Psalter* is the one contained in the following gloss on Ps. 118⁸⁸ sicut uter in pruina, *swa swa bytte on heolcan*. Sievers was the first, if I mistake not, to take note of the word in the 3^d edition of his *Angelsächsische Grammatik*, and from there it passed over into the 1st edition of Clark Hall's *Dictionary* in 1894, and four years later the *Bosworth-Toller* recorded it, giving *Lambeth Ps.* 118⁸⁸ as the source. In the revised edition of his dictionary Hall has seen fit to drop the word as he has dropped other words he ought to have retained. For the dropping of the *heolca* 'hoar-frost' he exhibited in the 1st edition, on the strength of Cook—Sievers' *Old English grammar* 81, there is not the slightest reason. Some years ago, I believe, I drew privately Prof. Lidén's attention to its connection with ON. *héla* 'pruina' and I argued that the Old English form to be posited was *héolca* rather than Sievers' *heolca*. Later on I put down my observations on *héolca* in the form of an article to be published in *Anglia*, but this article seems to have shared the fate of many an other one sent to the editor — it never reached him. I held and hold that *héol-* of *héolca* goes back to an original *hihl-* connected with Sanscrit *çícīras* which ¹⁾ is cited by Walde sub *calere* and Falk-Torp sub **hihlôn* **hehlôn* as the congener of ON. *héla*. OE. *héolca* is a diminutive like *geolca*.

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OTTO B. SCHLUTTER.

TRACES OF THE MASCULINE GENDER OF OE. *EORÞE*. OE. **BÆSN*, *BÝSN* 'FERMENTUM'.

According to Hans Hecht's edition of Wærferth's translation of Gregory's *Dialogues*, page 93¹⁸, the summary of the second book, chapter XXV, dealing with a miracle wrought by St. Benedict, reads in Ms. H thus: *Hu se eorþe awarep þone munucnapan of his byrgenne*. Again for *seo eorþe* in the following passage taken from Ælfric's *Nativity of St. Mary*: "*hwi sceolde seo eorþe hyre wæstmæs ofteon þam unscyldigum sæde for ðam scyldigan sædere*

1) explained "kühl, kalt". According to what Falk-Torp print on page 84 of their *Wortschatz der germanischen Sprachinheit* there is a Sanscrit masculine (neutre)noun *çícīra* "Kühle, Kälte, Frost, adjective "kühl, kalt".