

large vicious fly is called a *stout*, but according to Wright and Halliwell this is the Westmoreland name for the gadfly. Then the snipe is called a *snite*, which is the old English form, "The witless woodcock and his neighbor *snite*." (Drayton's "Owl.") Earthworms are termed *yesses*, which Wright gives as Dorset-shire and Halliwell as Somerset.

II. I have next to notice words still in general use, but employed by Newfoundlanders in a peculiar sense, this being sometimes the original or primary signification.

Perhaps in this respect the stranger is most frequently struck by the use of the words *plant* and *planter*. Neither has any reference to cultivating the soil. A planter is a man who undertakes fishing on his own account, a sort of middleman between the merchants and the fishermen. He owns or charters a vessel, receive all the supplies from the merchants, hires the men, deals with them, superintends the fishing, and on his return deals with the merchants for the fruits of the adventure, and settles with the men for their respective shares.

To many the most singular instance of this kind will be the use of the term *bachelor* women. Yet, as in Newfoundland, it originally denoted an unmarried person of either sex.

He would keep you
A *bachelor* still
And keep you not alone without a husband
But in a sickness.—Ben Jonson.

Scarcely less strange may appear the application of the term *barren* both to males and females. In the distribution of poor relief a complaint may be heard, "He is a barren man, and I have three children." So the word seems to have been understood by the translators of King James's version of the Bible. Deut. vii. 14: "There shall not be male or female barren among you."

Boughten, applied to an article, is used to signify that it has not been manufactured at home. The same use of the word was common in New England.

Bread with a Newfoundlander means hard biscuit, and soft baked bread is called *loaf*. The origin of this is easily understood. For a length of time the coast was frequented by fishermen, who made no permanent settlement on shore, and whose only bread was hard biscuit. In a similar way fish came to mean codfish.