

“doff;” “do out,” “dout;” “d’ huit,” “doit;” and “nathless” gives no sign of its being “ne’er the less.” “Sevennight” is now “sennight;” “moneth,” “month;” “sithence,” “since.” “Prithee” and “good bye” we write as we utter, although the first, of course, is “I pray thee;” and the latter, “Deus vobiscum,” “God be with you.”

Proper names which, as being foreign in their origin, exhibited a few years since, an apostrophe, are now printed without it; and the capital which followed it is reduced to the ranks. Were it the pleasure of Mr. Disraeli to take one more liberty with his patronymic, and terminate it with a *y* instead of an *i*, the next generation would scarcely notice in it any trace of Hebrew origin.

On observing a review lately of the Life of a certain Capodistrias, I by no means recognized in a moment an old acquaintance, Capod’ Istrias, whose name was familiar in mens’ mouths at the time of the Greek Revolution.

In like manner, Dorsay, Darcy, Doily, Dacier, are now common forms. This Anglicising process in regard to proper names of foreign origin, is, however, nothing new. Dalton, Dexter, Denroche, Dangerfield, and many another family appellation in *D*, were once written with an apostrophe. Dexter and Dangerfield suffer two violations; the one being properly D’Exter, *i.e.*, of Exeter, and the other D’Aungerville, not involving “field” at all. *Diaper* from *d’Iprès*, and *Dindon* from *d’Inde* are examples well known.

In another set of names which originally began with a vowel, a disguise is produced by the elision of the article; as in Langley, Larcher, &c. In others, again, it is the Anglicised sound only that causes us to forget that they are properly French, as Mallet, Calmet.

In this connexion it may be added that although the pronunciation *Pree-do* may be cultivated in some families, plain Cornishmen, among whom the name is common, persist in making it *Pri-deaux*, with an *x*, just as the rest of England will say *Vaux* and *Jacques*. And so I remember at Cambridge, Professor Prime’s name continued as it was, notwithstanding an effort at one time to improve it into *de la Prime*. So to recal Seymour and Sinclair to Saint Maur and St. Clair is as bootless an undertaking as it would be to resolve back into Hugh de Bras, the immortal Hudibras.

(To be continued.)