

compelling it to obedient service,—these bristling words have a repellant look about them. They are a quick-set hedge surrounding the pleasant garden and keeping out all but the very resolute. They are like the flaming sword the angel flashed in perpetual circle before the gate of Eden's garden. Entrance into the study of electricity is rendered greatly difficult by the terms used.

The study of bugs is all the more difficult because of the armour of Latin and Greek words with which entomology is encased. But place-nomenclature has only a very few words requiring definition.

The principles of place-name giving are gathered up into one word—*Onomatology*, which those of my young readers acquainted with Greek can easily separate into its two parts: *Onoma*, a name; and *logos*, a discourse; in simple terms, onomatology means “talks about names, their derivations, etc.” Having mentioned the scientific name given to place-naming, I may as well mention, here and now, the fact that the central idea of onomatology—the axiom, like the axioms of geometry, that must be accepted as something not disputable,—is that local names are in no case arbitrary sounds. Isaac Taylor, who is a great authority on the place-names of “Old England,” says, “Local place-names are always ancient words or fragments of ancient words, each of them, in short, constituting the earliest chapter in the local history of the places to which they severally refer.”

There are two or three other words that may be deemed to be technical terms. There is the word *enchorial*. It carries the same meaning as indigenous. Possibly a better word would be autochthonic, meaning aboriginal.

When I was a boy Rev. Charles Churchill gave me this advice: “Never use a shilling word when a sixpenny one will do.” Acting on that advice I prefer *aboriginal* to any of the words used. We speak of the Indians as aborigines, meaning that they belong in a peculiar degree to the soil, never having been brought into the country from outside countries, or having found their way here so many thousand years ago (according to Mr. Fiske in “Discovery of America”) that they may be deemed to be aboriginal in a sense that no white persons can be so considered. Referring to place-names, the word *enchorial* means, of course, the place-name which has been attached to the place because of some local peculiarity or by the Indian inhabitants. Other place-names are imported.