

photographic studios; *pos.* for positive, and *mem.* for memorandum, in the office of the Military Secretary, would be all taken as pretty intelligible English. The Germans seem to have adopted the prenomens *Max* for Maximilian. *Cur* has been seriously derived from *curtail*—a hound supposed to be disqualified for the noble chase by caudal abbreviation. *Cheap* is *Cheapside*. Is not *chap* the *chapman* with whom we are transacting business?

At the University, the *hoi polloi* are the *poll*; *optimes* are *ops*; *sophisters* are *sophs*; the *domini*—the heads of houses and other magnates—are the dons, *i.e.*, the doms; a vice-chancellor or vice-president is occasionally the *vice*, a term which would have been grievously misunderstood by frequenters of Mysteries and Moralities—and which ought, if anything, to be *vi-ce*; but that, although the correct thing, would sound nearly as bad. At Oxford, Demies are *demi*, *i.e.*, *semi-communarii*, a sort of inferior fellow-commoners. The writers in "Blackwood," by an affectionate and not inelegant prosopopeia sometimes speak of their organ or magazine as *Maga*.

My specimens of words formed in a reverse way, by taking terminations instead of initial syllables, are not so numerous. *Drawing-*, for *withdrawing-room*, *story* for *history*, are not very striking; and it may be doubted that *brick* is *im-brec*. For the rest, take *cates* from *deli-cates*; *wig* from *periwig*, an anglicism for *perruque*; *bus* from *omnibus*; *bill* from *li-bell*; and finally, *copus*, from *episcopus*, a beverage in certain colleges at Cambridge.*

The few words said to be due to the initials of other words are all doubtful.

Maccabæus, the surname of the Jewish hero, B.C. 168, is attributed to the initials of the Hebrew words which signify "Who among the gods is like unto thee, Jehovah!" *AFRA* has been said to denote "Annus erat, regnante Augusto," although, more probably, it was originally "The Bronzes;" as we sometimes say "The Marbles," meaning the Arundel or other marbles in citing authorities for dates.

* Better known perhaps as Bishop; not peculiar, however, to Cambridge or England. When Hieronymus Jobs, a German Student, was asked by his examiner in Theology, *Quid est episcopus?* he replied, "an agreeable mixture of sugar, pomexranate juice, and red wine." See Mr. Brooks' late Translation of the Jobsiad, a Germ. poem, temp. 1784. The same young gentleman defined "Apostles" to be, "Tall jugs in which wine and beer are kept in villages."