

the animal accordingly. Friar Jordanus reports that in India the Less, i. e. the neighbourhood of the Indus, "there be also coquodriles which are vulgarly called calcatrux; some of them be so big that they be bigger than the biggest horse. These animals be like lizards, and have a tail stretched over all, like unto a lizard's; and have a head like unto a swine's, and rows of teeth so powerful and horrible that no animal can escape their force, particularly in the water." (*Mirabilia*, p. 19.)—*Apropos* of lizards,—*alligator* for *al-ligarto*, THE lizard *par excellence*, is well-known. *Lizard-point*, on the Cornish coast, is said to be from *liz*=*cape*, and *ard*=*high*. In like manner, dormouse for *dormeuse* (*la souris dormeuse*), John Dory for *jaune dorée*, belfry for *befroi*, bellwether for *bélier*, i. e. *vellarius*, are vernacularisms too familiar to detain us here.—The name of the hawk (Lat. *accipiter*) has been curiously vernacularized in Italian into *astore*, which in the popular mind is supposed to imply that it is "the bird of Asturia." In Spanish and Portuguese it has become *azor*, whence the name of the *Azores*.—The *shual* (rendered "fox" in the English translation of the Hebrew Scriptures) has become a household word under the vernacularism *jackall*. We can easily see what was the transition-term to this very English-sounding word. It was, no doubt, the *ciacales* of Busbequius. He thus describes them:—"Lupi sunt, vulpibus majores, communibus lupis minores; voracitate tamen edendique ingluvie pares: gregatim incedunt; hominibus armentisque innoxii, furto magis et dolo, quam vi, victum quærentes: ab harum ferarum ingenio Turcæ, homines fraudulentos et versipelles, maxime Asiaticos, *ciacales* vocant." (P. 78, ed. Elzevir, 1660.)

A familiar, and even proverbial, word with our grandfathers was *popinjay*. This is *babagâ*, the Arabic for "parrot." The Mediæval Greeks made out of it *papagas*, and the French *papagai*. We, after our English manner, turned it into *popinjay*. The modern Greek is *papagallos*, with the notion implied that the bird so designated is a favourite pet with priests (*papas*). Hence the name is, *quasi* "the abbé's delight."—The gay costumes of mingled orange and scarlet, distinguishing the Swiss guards who lounge in the porticos of the Vatican, are strangely suggestive of this bird and its plumage. Many an Italian Hotspur has possibly found "popinjay" rising to his lips, as he eyed them.

4. Take, next, examples of vernacularisms in implements, fabrics, household stuff, &c.