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Burbot (bur'bot), or BURBOLT, a fish
of the cod family, genus *Lota*
(*L. vulgaris*), shaped somewhat like an
eel, but shorter, with a flat head. It
has two small barbs on the nose and an-
other on the chin. It is called also *Eel-*
pout or *Coney-fish*, and is said to arrive
at its greatest perfection in the Lake of
Geneva. It is delicate food. The spotted
burbot is found in the northern lakes
and rivers of N. America.

Burckhardt (burk'hart), JOHANN
LUDWIG, a noted
traveler, born at Lausanne in 1784; died
at Cairo in 1817. He undertook a journey
of exploration to the interior of Africa
for the African Association in 1809, as-
suming an Oriental name and costume;
spent some time in Syria, thence visited
Egypt and Nubia; spent several months
at Mecca, and visited Medina; and after
a short stay in Egypt died at Cairo while
preparing for his African journey. His
works are: *Travels in Nubia* (1819);
Travels in Syria and the Holy Land
(1822); *Travels in Arabia* (1829);
Notes on the Bedouins and Wahabys
(1830); and *Arabia Proverbs* (1831).

Burdekin (bur'de-kin), a river of the
N. E. of Queensland, with a
course of about 350 miles. With its
affluents it waters a large extent of
country, but it is useless for navigation.

Burdett (bur'det), SIR FRANCIS, an
English politician, born
in 1770, died in 1844. In 1796 he entered
parliament as member for Boroughbridge,
and advocated parliamentary reform and
various liberal measures. He afterwards
sat for Middlesex and in 1807-37 for
Westminster. In 1810 he was convicted
of breach of privilege, and after a
struggle between the police and the
populace, in which some lives were lost,
he was imprisoned in the Tower. In
1819 he was again imprisoned, and fined
£2000 for a libel. In his later years he
became a Tory, and represented North
Wiltshire. In 1793 he married the youngest
daughter of Thomas Coutts the banker.

Burdett-Coutts (koots), ANGELA
GEORGINA, daugh-
ter of the above, born in 1814, became
deservedly popular for the liberal use she
made of the immense wealth she inherited
from her grandfather (Thomas Coutts)
in public and private charities. In 1871
she received a peerage from the govern-
ment, and in 1881 married a Mr. Ashmead-
Bartlett, who assumed the name of
Burdett-Coutts. She died in 1906.

Bur'dette, ROBERT JONES, humorist,
born at Greensborough,

Pennsylvania, in 1844. He was in the
Union army 1862-65, became an editor
on the Burlington *Hawkeye* and later on
the Brooklyn *Eagle*. In 1887 he was
ordained a Baptist clergyman and in 1903
he was called to an important charge in
Los Angeles, California. His humorous
productions took the form of magazine
contributions, lectures, and speeches. He
died November 19, 1914.

Burdock (bur'dok), the popular
name of the composite
plant *Arctium lappa*, a coarse-looking
weed with globose flower-heads, the scales
of the involucre each furnished with a
hook. Burdocks are usually regarded as
troublesome weeds, but in some countries
the roots, young shoots, and young leaves
are used in soups, and the plant is culti-
vated with this view in Japan. It is com-
mon in the United States.

Burdwan (burd'wän). See *Bardwan*.

Bureau (bü'rö), in the United States
a chest of drawers; in France
a writing table or desk; also a government
department. In the United States the
term signifies certain subdivisions of an
executive department, as the bureau of
statistics, a division of the treasury de-
partment. *Bureaucracy* is a term applied
to those governments in which the busi-
ness of the administration is carried on
by departments, each under the control
of a chief, responsible to his administra-
tive superior but not amenable to the
common law of the land.

Bureau OF PAN-AMERICAN UNION,
formerly the International Bu-
reau of American Republics. A bureau
established at Washington as an outcome
of the Pan-American Conference of 1890,
its purpose being to keep the republics of
this continent in close touch with one
another in regard to commercial and other
interests, and thus promote fraternal re-
lations between them.

Burette (bü-ret'), a glass tube usually
graduated to fractions of a
centimeter, used for dividing a given por-
tion of any liquid into small quantities of
a definite amount or to gauge the amount
of liquid to be allowed to enter another
liquid; used in chemical work.

Burg (bürg), a town of Prussia, prov-
ince of Saxony, 14 miles N. E. of
Magdeburg. It has cloth manufactures,
boot industries, etc. Pop. 22,434.

Burgage Tenure (bur'gaj), in Eng-
land a tenure in
socage, whereby burgesses, citizens, or
townsmen hold their lands or tenements
of the king or other lord for a certain
yearly rent. In Scotland the term indi-
cates that tenure by which the property in
royal burghs is held under the crown,