

***The Romance of Names* in Notebooks VI.B.9 and VI.B.41 with additional use in *Finnegans Wake***

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Ernest Weekley's *The Romance of Names*<sup>1</sup>, first published in 1914, is the origin for two short lists of entries in notebooks VI.B.9 and VI.B.41, pages 125-126 and 132, respectively. Harvested at more than thirteen years apart, the notes represent Christian names, names of geographical features (Notebook VI.B.9) and surnames (Notebook VI.B.41) and their meanings.

Evidence in both notebooks shows that Joyce read *The Romance of Names* twice: first in June-July 1925 and second, in the autumn of 1938. Two entries: “pre-Norman” transcribed at VI.B.9.125(c) and “surnames after conquest” (VI.B.41.132(c)) that Joyce jotted down from page 68 in Weekley's book, strengthen our belief that he entered the material directly from the source and not by transferring units from one notebook to the other. In the current case, a book dealing with surnames and their meanings, he probably had *The Romance of Names* open at the same time as his notebook. This makes good sense as, in the latter stages of composition, Joyce was increasingly under time pressures to complete *Finnegans Wake*. That would also explain why and how he was able to cross out ‘bain (white)’ using instead ‘Gwynn’, and substitute ‘Gooch’ for ‘Gough’, names with the same meaning.

As it was the case with other previously identified indexes, the notes in both notebooks suggest random taking. In notebook VI.B.9 Joyce starts from page 60 in the source, then he returns to page 34, jumps to pages 68-70 and finishes with notes from pages 115 to 117. Only two of these notes were used for the revisions of Book I and Book II. Page 132 in notebook VI.B.41 shows the same pattern. Notes start from page 215 in *The Romance of Names*, and they end on the next page, 216 with two exceptions: notes (c) and (e) in our transcription were recorded from pages 68 and 170.

Joyce also used a number of other names from this source as detailed below and not (so far) found in a notebook. These identified units that we placed under the header ‘Other Usage’, come from page 169 (unit (1)) and 216, units (2) to (5). Joyce used these entries together with those from notebook VI.B.41 and several other Christian names in the same addition, for the revision of Book IV, *St. Patrick and the Druid*.

For the genetic transcription of both indexes we used the third revised edition of *The Romance of Names*, published in 1922.<sup>2</sup>

1. <https://archive.org/details/romanceofnames00weekrich/page/n8>.
2. <https://archive.org/details/romanceofnames011764mbp/page/n4>.

# THE ROMANCE OF NAMES

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“I conceive, I say, that my descent from that great restorer of learning is more creditable to me as a man of letters than if I had numbered in my genealogy all the brawling, bullet-headed, iron-fisted old Gothic barons since the days of Crenthemnachryme—not one of whom, I suppose, could write his own name.”  
(SCOTT, *The Antiquary*, ch. vi.)

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## Notebook VI.B.9

### VI.B.9.125

(a) **jago / jaques / Jaime**

*Romance of Names* 60: James is a very rare name in medieval rolls, being represented by Jacob, and no doubt partly by Jack (see p. 46). It is—

“Wrested from Jacob, the same as Jago<sup>2</sup> in Spanish, Jaques in French; which some Frenchified English, to their disgrace, have too much affected” (Camden).

It appears in *Gimson*, *Jemmett*, and the odd-looking *Gem*, while its French form is somewhat disguised in *Jeakes* and *Jex*.

60n2: *Jago* is found, with other Spanish names, in Cornwall; cf. *Bastian* or *Basten*, for Sebastian. VI.C.4.203(c)-(e)

(b) **ʳTooley S. Olaf >**

MS 47472-148, ScrTsTMA: ^+he met his honour on Lorenzo Tooley street+^ | *JJA* 45:187 | early 1927 | I.3§1.3/2.3/3.3 | *FW* 053.29

(c) **<Semark> / ʳ<Simatew> Simetew / Semmark / Selluc / and Sengine**

*Romance of Names* 34: When a name compounded with Saint begins with a vowel, we get such forms as *Tedman*, St. Edmund, *Tobin*, St. Aubyn, *Toosey*, St. Osith, *Toomer*, St. Omer, *Tooley*, St. Olave; cf. *Tooley St.* for St. Olave St. and *tawdry* from St. Audrey. When the saint’s name begins with a consonant, we get, instead of aphesis, a telescoped pronunciation, e.g. *Selinger*, St. Leger, *Seymour*, St. Maur, *Sinclair*, St. Clair, *Semark*, St. Mark, *Semple*, St. Paul, *Simper*, St. Pierre, *Sidney*, probably for St. Denis, with which we may compare the educated pronunciation of *St. John*. These names are all of local origin, from chapelries in Normandy or England.

*Note*: See reproduction. Joyce draws an X on the right-hand side of the entry.

MS 47477-129, ScrTMA: ^+So help me symethew selluc sammarc, selluc & singin,+^ | *JJA* 51:130 | late 1932 | II.1§6D.\*0 | *FW* 253.12

### VI.B.9.126

(a) **Eoforwacer >**

VI.C.4.203(f)

(b) **Goderic (Roderic) / Goodrich / Godiva (Goodeve) >**

VI.C.4.203(g)-(h)

(c) **preNorman**

*Romance of Names* 68-70: GODERIC AND GODIVA

“England had now once more (A.D.1000) a King born on her own soil, a Queen of the blood of the hero Eadmund, a King and Queen whose children would trace to Ælfred by two descents. Norman insolence mocked at the English King and his English Lady under the English names of *Godric* and *Godgifu*.”<sup>1</sup>

(FREEMAN, *Norman Conquest*, v. 170.)

IN dealing with surnames we begin after the Conquest, for the simple reason that there were no surnames before. Occasionally an important person has come down in history with a nickname, e.g. Edmund Ironside, Harold Harefoot, Edward the Confessor; but this is exceptional, and the Anglo-Saxon, as a rule, was satisfied with one name. It is probable that very many of the names in use before the Conquest, whether of English or Scandinavian origin, were chosen because of their etymological meaning, e.g. that the name Beornheard (*Bernard*, *Barnard*, *Barnett*) was given to a boy in the hope

that he would grow up a warrior strong, just as his sister might be called Æthelgifu, noble gift. The formation of these old names is both interesting and, like all Germanic nomenclature, poetic.

As a rule the name consists of two elements, and the number of those elements which appear with great frequency is rather limited. Some themes occur only [68] in the first half of the name, e.g. *Æthel-*, whence Æthelstan, later *Alston*; *Ælf-*, whence Ælfgar, now *Elgar* and *Agar* (*Æthel-* and *Ælf-* soon got confused, so that *Allvey*, *Elvey* may represent both Æthelwig and Ælfwig, or perhaps in some cases Ealdwig); *Cuth-*, whence Cuthbeald, now *Cobbold*<sup>1</sup>; *Cyne-*, whence Cynebeald, now *Kimball* and *Kemble*, both of which are also local; *Folc-*, whence Folcheard and Folchere, now *Folkard* and *Fulcher*; *Gund-*, whence Gundred, now *Gundry* and *Grundy* (p. 37); *Os-*, whence *Osbert*, *Osborn*, *Osgood*. Other themes only occur as the second half of the name. Such are *-gifu*, in *Godgifu*, i.e. Godiva, whence *Goodeve*; *-lac* in Guthlac, now *Goodlake* and *Goodluck* (p. 197); *-laf* in Deorlaf, now *Dearlove*; *-wacer* in Eoforwacer, now *Earwaker*. [...]

These examples show that the pre-Norman names are by no means unrepresented in the twentieth [69] century, but, in this matter, one must proceed with caution. To take as examples the two names that head this chapter, there is no doubt that Goderic and Godiva are now represented by *Goodrich* and *Goodeve*, but these may also belong to the small group mentioned on p. 59, and stand for good Richard and good Eve. Also *Goodrich* comes in some cases from Goodrich, formerly Gotheridge, in Hereford, which has also given *Gutteridge*. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that our medieval nomenclature is preponderantly French, as the early rolls show beyond dispute, so that, even where a modern name appears susceptible of an Anglo-Saxon explanation, it is often safer to refer it to the Old French cognate; for the Germanic names introduced into France by the Frankish conquerors, and the Scandinavian names which passed into Normandy, contained very much the same elements as our own native names, but underwent a different phonetic development.

68n1: "Godricum eum, et comparem Godgivam appellantes" (William of Malmesbury, *Gesta Regum Anglorum*).

69n1: This is also the origin of *Cupples*, and probably of *Keble* and *Kibbles*. It shares *Cobbett* and *Cubitt* with Cuthbeorht.

VI.C.4.203(i)

**(d) Torrence**

*Romance of Names* 115: Among names for streams we have *Beck*,<sup>2</sup> cognate with Ger. *Bach*; *Bourne*<sup>3</sup> or *Burn*, cognate with Ger. *Brunnen*; *Brook*, related to break; *Crick*, a creek; *Fleet*, a creek, cognate with *Flood*; and *Syke*, a trench or rill. In *Beckett* and *Brockett* the suffix is *head* (p. 126). *Troutbeck*, *Birkbeck* explain themselves. In *Colbeck* we have cold, and *Holbrook* contains hollow, but in some names *-brook* has been substituted for *-borough*, *-burgh*. We find *Brook* latinized as *Torrens*.

115n2: The simple *Beck* is generally a German name of modern introduction (p. 149).

115n3: Distinct from *bourne*, a boundary, Fr. *borne*.

VI.C.4.203(j)

**(e) <100 of Hoo> Huntered**

*Romance of Names* 116: Spits of land by the waterside were called *Hook* (cf. Hook of Holland and Sandy Hook) and *Hoe* or *Hoo*, as in Plymouth Hoe, or the Hundred of Hoo, between the Thames and the Medway. From *Hook* comes *Hooker*, where it does not mean a maker of hooks, while *Homan* and *Hooman* sometimes belong to the second. Alluvial land by a stream was called *halgh*, *haugh*, whence sometimes *Hawes*. Its dative case gives *Hale* and *Heal*. These often become *-hall*, *-all*, in place-names. Compounds are *Greenhalgh*, *Greenall*, and *Featherstonehaugh*, perhaps our longest surname.

VI.C.4.204(a)

**(f) Dudeney**

*Romance of Names* 117: *Ey*,<sup>1</sup> an island, survives as the last element of many names, and is not always to be distinguished from *hey* (*hay*, p. 124) and *ley*. Bill Nye's ancestor lived *atten ey* (p. 34). *Dowdney* or *Dudeney* has been explained from the Anglo-Saxon name Duda, but it more probably represents the very common French name *Dieudonné*, corresponding to Lat. Deodatus. In the north a river island was commonly called *Holm* (Scand.), also pronounced *Home*, *Hulme*, and *Hume*, in compounds easily confused with *-ham*, e.g. Durham was once Dun-holmr, hill island. The very common *Holmes* is probably in most cases a tree-name (p. 118). In *Chisholm* the first element may mean pebble; cf. Chesil Beach. The names *Bent*, whence *Broadbent*, and *Crook* probably also belong sometimes to the river, but may have arisen from a turn in a road or valley. But *Bent* was also applied to a tract covered with bents, or rushes, and *Crook* is generally a nickname (p. 211). Lastly, the crossing of the unbridged

stream has given us *Ford* or *Forth*, whence *Stratford*, *Strafford* (street), *Stanford*, *Stamford*, *Staniforth* (stone), etc. The alternative name was *Wade*, whence the compound *Grimwade*. The cognate *wath* (Scand.) has been confused with *with* (Scand.), a wood, whence the name *Wythe* and the compound *Askwith* or *Asquith*. Both *-wath* and *-with* have been often replaced by *-worth* and *-wood*.

117n1: Isle of Sheppey, Mersea Island, etc., are pleonasm.

VI.C.4.204(b)

## Notebook VI.B.41

### VI.B.41.132

(b) **<sup>b</sup>Blanchard's / wh [horses]**

*The Romance of Names* 215: *Bayard*, a derivative of *bay*, was the name of several famous war-horses. Cf. *Blank* and *Blanchard*.

MS 47488-87v, ScrTsLPA: <sup>^</sup>+Blanchardstown newspeppers pleads ~~copy~~ <sup>^</sup>+coppyl<sup>+</sup><sup>^</sup> | *JJA* 63.148 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 607.34

(c) **surnames after conquest,**

*The Romance of Names* 68: In dealing with surnames we begin after the Conquest, for the simple reason that there were no surnames before.

(d) **<sup>b</sup>Vaughn, gough, [2<sup>nd</sup> unit substituted]**

*Note:* For the source see (i) below.

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ <sup>^</sup>+placelike<sup>+</sup> no timelike ~~absilent~~ <sup>^</sup>+absolent<sup>+</sup>, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ <sup>^</sup>+populose<sup>+</sup> with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~blo+~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pigthetails~~ <sup>^</sup>+pigthetailors<sup>+</sup> and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffyeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63.153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.02

(e) **seamer (tailor)**

*The Romance of Names* 170-1: We have already noticed the predominance of *Taylor*. This is the more remarkable when we consider that the name has as rivals the native *Seamer* and *Shapster* and the imported *Parmenter*, Old Fr. *parmentier*, a maker of *parements*, now used chiefly [170] of facings on clothes.

(f) **<sup>w</sup>Wynn's Hotel**

*Note:* For the source of the name *Wynn* see (i) below.

MS 47488-91, ScrTsMT: And house with heaven roof occupanters they are continually attraverse of its millestudinous windoors, ricocoursing themselves in playn unglish Wynn's Hotel. | *JJA* 63.155 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.15-6

(g) **<sup>b</sup>lloyd (grey) >**

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ <sup>^</sup>+placelike<sup>+</sup> no timelike ~~absilent~~ <sup>^</sup>+absolent<sup>+</sup>, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ <sup>^</sup>+populose<sup>+</sup> with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~blo+~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pigthetails~~ <sup>^</sup>+pigthetailors<sup>+</sup> and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffyeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.03

(h) **<sup>b</sup>boyd (yellow) >**

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ <sup>^</sup>+placelike<sup>+</sup> no timelike ~~absilent~~ <sup>^</sup>+absolent<sup>+</sup>, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ <sup>^</sup>+populose<sup>+</sup> with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~blo+~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pigthetails~~ <sup>^</sup>+pigthetailors<sup>+</sup> and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffyeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.04

(i) **<sup>b</sup>bain (white)**

*The Romance of Names* 216: A few adjective nicknames of Celtic origin are so common in England that they may be included here. Such are the Welsh *Gough*, *Goff*, *Gooch*, *Gutch*, red, *Gwynn* and *Wynne*, white, *Lloyd*, grey, *Sayce*, Saxon, foreigner, *Vaughan*, small, and the Gaelic *Bain*, *Bean*, white, *Boyd*, *Bowie*, yellow-haired, *Dow*, *Duff*, black *Finn*, fair, *Glass*, grey, *Roy*, *Roe*, red. From Cornish come *Coad*, old, and *Couch*,<sup>2</sup> red, while *Bean* is the Cornish for small, and *Tyacke* means a farmer. It is likely that both *Begg* and *Moore* owe something to the Gaelic adjectives for little and big as in the well-known names of Callum Beg, Edward Waverley's gillie, and McCallum More. The Gaelic *Begg* is cognate with the Welsh *Vaughan*.  
216n2: Cognate with Welsh *Gough*.  
Not located in MS/FW.

## Other usages

In the same draft IV§3.3, Joyce mixed in several other surnames from *The Romance of Names*. They are:

### (1) Mercer

*The Romance of Names* 169: Some names have become strangely restricted in meaning, e.g. *Mercer*, now almost limited to silk, was a name for a dealer in any kind of merchandise (Lat. *merx*); in Old French it meant pedlar—

“*Mercier*, a good pedler, or meane haberdasher of small wares” (Cotgrave).

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ ^+placelike+^ no timelike ~~absilent~~ ^+absolent+^, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ ^+populose+^ with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~bloet~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pighetails~~ ^+pighetailors+^ and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.03

### (2) Taylor

*Note*: For the source see 132(e) above.

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ ^+placelike+^ no timelike ~~absilent~~ ^+absolent+^, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ ^+populose+^ with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~bloet~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pighetails~~ ^+pighetailors+^ and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 000.00

### (3) Gooch >

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ ^+placelike+^ no timelike ~~absilent~~ ^+absolent+^, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ ^+populose+^ with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~bloet~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pighetails~~ ^+pighetailors+^ and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.04

### (3) Gwynn >

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ ^+placelike+^ no timelike ~~absilent~~ ^+absolent+^, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ ^+populose+^ with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~bloet~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pighetails~~ ^+pighetailors+^ and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.04

### (4) Duff >

MS 47488-90, ScrTsMT: It was also agreeable in our sinegear clutchless touring the no ~~place-like~~ ^+placelike+^ no timelike ~~absilent~~ ^+absolent+^, mixing up pettyvaughan ~~people~~ ^+populose+^ with the magnumoore genstries, lloydhaired mersscenary ~~bloet~~ blookers with boydskinned ~~pighetails~~ ^+pighetailors+^ and goochlipped gwendolenes with duffeyed dolores, like so many unprobables in their poor suit of the impossable. | *JJA* 63:153 | Mid 1938 | IV§3.3 | *FW* 609.05

### (5) Moore

*The Romance of Names* 216: A few adjective nicknames of Celtic origin are so common that they may be included here. Such are the Welsh *Gough*, *Goff*, *Gooch*, *Gutch*, red, *Gwynn* and *Wynne*, white, *Lloyd*, grey, *Sayce*, Saxon, foreigner, *Vaughan*, little, and the Gaelic *Bain*, *Bean*, white, *Boyd*, *Bowie*, yellow-haired, *Dow*, *Duff*, black *Finn*, fair, *Glass*, grey, *Roy*, *Roc*, red. From Cornish come *Coad*, old, and *Couch*,<sup>2</sup> red, while *Bean* is the Cornish for small, and *Tyacke* means a farmer. It is likely that both *Begg* and *Moore* owe something to the Gaelic adjectives for little and big as in the well-known names of Callum Beg, Edward Waverley's gillie, and McCallum More. The Gaelic *Begg* is cognate with the Welsh *Vaughan*.

216n2: Cognate with Welsh *Gough*.

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