



BREWER'S DICTIONARY OF PHRASE & FABLE

REVISED & ENLARGED

27 MAR 1962
16
Ks. 23.45
423.1
B.06



CASSELL • LONDON

CASELL & COMPANY LTD

35 Red Lion Square · London WC1

and at

MELBOURNE · SYDNEY · TORONTO

JOHANNESBURG · CAPE TOWN · AUCKLAND

1779

All rights reserved

<i>First published</i>	- -	1870
<i>Revised edition</i>		September 1952
<i>Second edition</i>		December 1953
<i>Third edition</i>		September 1954
<i>Fourth edition</i>		January 1956
<i>Fifth edition (with revisions)</i>		February 1959
<i>Sixth edition</i>		January 1962

Made and printed in Great Britain by
William Clowes and Sons, Limited, London and Beccles

1161
SUDHIRA MEMORIAL LIBRARY
CHITTARANJAN CANCER HOSPITAL
37, SYAMAPROSAD MOOKERJEE ROAD
CALCUTTA-26, INDIA.

EDITORS' NOTE

THIS BOOK is too well known to need a detailed explanation of its purpose and scope. For three generations "Brewer" has proved a compendium of all such phrases and fables as the average reader is likely to come across in a book or encounter in the course of conversation.

This new edition has been entirely revised and brought up to date by the inclusion of many forms of expression that have arisen during the past years. In particular, a selection of the terms used in World War II has been brought in. "Brewer" contains a history of the chief figures mentioned in the mythologies of the world; a record of superstitions and customs ancient and modern; an explanation of phrases commonly in use in the English language of native origin or borrowed from other tongues; etymological information; the more common words of old cant and modern slang in everyday use in the English-speaking world. It comprises a glossary of scientific, historical, political and archæological terms and events; the stories of well-known characters from folklore or romance; local and national legends; references bearing on economic and scientific data, etc., etc.

A word should be said about the pronunciations that have been added to such words and names as it was thought might cause difficulties to readers. The English pronunciation of Latin has been adhered to. In the case of more modern foreign names that have been accepted into English our familiar pronunciation has been indicated. Don Juan, for instance, here appears as Don Joo'an, which, after all, is what Byron called him; Don Quixote as other than Don Kwik'zot savours of the Spanish-while-you-wait linguist. Where an attempt at foreign pronunciation has appeared desirable the reader is helped with an approximation as near to the native as any English tongue need try to make it.

Finally, in all references to the two Great Wars of this century, World War I indicates that of 1914-18, World War II that of 1939-45.

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION

VOWELS

a	as in far (far).	o	as in not (not).
â	„ fat (fât).	ô	„ no (nô).
â	„ fate (fât).	ô	„ north (nôrth).
aw	„ fall (fawl).	oo	„ food (food).
â	„ fair (fâr).		
e	„ bell (bel).	u	„ bull (bul).
ê	„ her (hêr).	û	„ sun (sûn).
ê	„ beef (bêf).	û	„ muse (mûz).
i	„ bit (bit).	ou	„ bout (bout).
î	„ bite (bît).	oi	„ join (join).

A dot placed over a, e, o, or u (â, ê, ô, û,) signifies that the vowel has an obscure, indeterminate, or slurred sound, as in:—

advice (âd-vis'), current (kûr'ênt), notion (nô'shôn).

CONSONANTS

“s” is used only for the sibilant “s” (as in “toast,” tōst,) the sonant “s” (as in “toes” is printed “z” (tōz).

“c” (except in the combinations “ch” and “ch’”), “q,” and “x” are not used.

b, d, f, h (see the combinations below), k, l, m, n (see *u* below), p, r, t, v, z, and w and y when used as consonants, have their usual values.

ch	as in church (chêrch).	n	as in cabochon (ka-bô-chon').
ch	„ loch (loch).	sh	„ shawl (shawl).
g	„ get (get).	zh	„ measure (mez'h'ûr).
j	„ join (join).	th	„ thin (thin).
hw	„ white (hwit).	th	„ thine (thîin).

The accent (') follows the syllable to be stressed.