

there were those who were disposed to follow the dictate of at least one portion of the old rhyme—

Walke groundly, talke profoundly,
Drinke roundly, sleape soundly.

‘Ralph Sparewater,’ I fear, was a man of dirty habits, while ‘John Klenewater’ was a model of cleanliness.

But we have not yet done with sobriquets of an unpleasant nature. Men of miserly and penurious habits seem to have flourished in plentiful force in olden days as well as the present. ‘Irenpurse’ figures several times in early rolls, and would be a strong, if somewhat rough, sarcasm against the besetting weakness of its first possessor. ‘Lovegold’ is equally explicable. ‘Pennifather,’ however, was the favourite title of such. An old couplet says—

The liberall doth spend his pelfe,
The pennyfather wastes himself.

It is found in the various forms of ‘Penifader,’ ‘Panyfader,’ and ‘Penifadir,’ in the fourteenth century. ‘Pennypurse,’¹ ‘Halfpeny,’ and ‘Turnpeny’² are met with at the same time, and somewhat later on ‘Thickpeny.’ ‘Broadpeny,’ ‘Manypenny,’ now corrupted into ‘Moneypeny,’ ‘Winpeny,’ now also found as ‘Wimpenny,’ ‘Pinchpeny,’ with its more directly

St. George’s Guild, Norwich (V.). The former, I doubt not, was a crabbed peevish fellow.

¹ ‘Simon le Chuffere’ occurs in the H. R. This was a common term of opprobrium for a miser. As ‘Chuffer’ it is found in the *Townley Mysteries*.

² ‘The wife of Mr. Turnpeny, newsagent, Leeds, was yesterday delivered of two sons and one daughter, all of whom are doing well (*Manchester Evening News*, July 1, 1873.)

Norman 'Pinsemaille,' and 'Kachepeny,' with its equally foreign 'Cache-maille,' are all also of the same early date, and with one or two exceptions are to be met with to this very day.¹ It is a true criticism which, as is noticed by Archbishop Trench, has marked the miserly as indeed the emphatically miserable soul. 'Whirlepeny' is now extinct, but alone, so far as my researches go, existed formerly to remind men that the spendthrift character is equally subversive of the true basis of human happiness.² Several names combined with 'peck' and 'pick,' as 'Peckcheese,' 'Peckbean,' 'Peckweather,' and 'Pickbone,' seem to be expressive of the gluttonous habits of the possessors, but it is possible they may be but the moral antecedents of our modern 'Pecksniffs'!³

Our 'Starks' and 'Starkies,' if not 'Starkmans,' represent a word which can hardly be said to exist in our vocabulary, since it now but survives in certain phrases, such as 'stark-mad,' or 'stark-naked.' We should never say a man was 'stark' simply. A forcible word, it once expressed the rude untutored nature of anything. Thus, on account of his unbridled

¹ 'William Taylemayle' is found in the *Chronicon Petroburgense*. (Cam. Soc.)

² We may also mention 'Gilbert le Covetiose' (M.) and 'Robert Would-have.' We still say 'much would have more.' 'Robert Would-have, sergeant-at-mace, witness in trial before the Mayor of Newcastle, March 23, 1662.' (W. 16.)

³ 'William Rakestraw' reminds us of 'Piers Plowman's' rationer and raker of Cheape,' *i.e.*, ratcatcher and scavenger of Cheapside. A still more objectionable name was that of 'Adam Ketmongere' (H. R.), Ket = filth, carrion. 'Honorius le Rumonjour' (Rummager) (N.) would seem to have followed a similar calling. These sobriquets would readily be affixed upon men of a penurious and scraping character.