

(Extract from) "A Poet in His Youth, and the Cuckoo-Bird." BY JEAN BROWLON. (In prose by Roberts Hroas, of Boston.)

"And who was the other man?" I asked. "Why, the devil, to be sure, who else?" replied our aged friend; "the thought of makin' sure o' Harry, but he failed that time, altho' I fear he he's got him safe enow by this."

CATCHEM'S CORNER, SODOM, AND HELL LANE.

The writer first mentions the origin of the names of many places in that locality, such as Wednesday and Wednesday, from Woden; Wyndford, from Sweeney; Cannon, from Canute; Gospel Oak and Gospel End; Hungary Hill, near Stonbridge, from the Hungarian refugees who pitched their tents there, and introduced the pottery-ware trade; Bull Stake and High Bullen, from the bull-baiting; Gibbet Lane, and other places, such as Thrortle-goose Lane and Bug Hole, the origin of whose names is lost in obscurity. He then comes to speak of Catchem's Corner, Sodom, and Hell Lane. The last named spot is near to the Bilston turnpike road, towards Sedgely Beach, and near to Hittinghall New Village.

"Where the robberies so serious as that?" I asked. "Ay, ay, sir," replied the patriarch, "yon little brook has been redden'd with men's blood many's the time. The robbers used to lie by the brookside, an' when travellers passed along the road they used to spring from their hiding-place, after the manner of Old Catchem, an' fell them at a blow. When they had robbed them, they tossed them over the little bridge into the brook, leavin' them to crawl away as best they could."

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