

. . . the derivation of *granum*, *grain* may be referred to the head[ing]:
Grind, gride, gird, grit, goat, grate, greet. . . , crush, crash, etc.

Original meaning to *strike, rub* particularly *together*. That which is produced by such means is the *grit*, the *groats* or crumbs, like *fragmentum* from *frangere*, *bit* from *bite*. *Crumb, crumble* perhaps akin. To *greet*, to strike the hands together (?). *Greet, grief, wearing, tribulation*. *Grief* possibly connected. *Gruff*, with a sound as of two things rubbing together. I believe these words to be onomatopoeitic. *Gr* common to them all representing a particular sound. In fact I think the onomatopoeitic theory has not had a fair chance. Cf. ***Crack, creak, croak, crake, graculus, crackle***. These must be onomatopoeitic.

April (?), 1864

Moonlight hanging or dropping on treetops like blue cobweb.

Also the upper sides of little grotted waves turned to the sky have soft pale-coloured cobwebs on them, the under sides green.

Note that the beaded oar, dripping, powders or sows the smooth with dry silver drops.

Poetry at Oxford.

It is a happy thing that there is no royal road to poetry. The world should know by this time that one cannot reach Parnassus except by flying thither. Yet from time to time more men go up and either perish in its gullies fluttering *excelsior* flags or else come down again with full folios and blank countenances. Yet the old fallacy keeps its ground. Every age has its false alarms.

1866

For Lent. No puddings on Sundays. No tea except if to keep me awake and then without sugar. Meat only once a day. No verses in Passion week or on Fridays. No lunch or meat on Fridays. Not to sit in armchair except can work in no other way. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday bread and water.