A\(^{1}\) [\(\text{a}\) prep dial; < (a) worn down proclitic, OED a prep\(^{2}\)] or at. G

1. Of place: at, in, on.

1879 Rampini 63, 'Dem bush no grow a logwood tree!' said Bob. 1877 Murray Kittle 19, When I dead put it my coffin. 1956 Mc Man /ebi pikini get a bag a swilti a di pikini! Every child get a bag of sweets at the picnic. 1957 JN StAAnn [Where are you off to?] A\(^{1}\) tank fe wata man. [What are you going to put it in?] A\(^{1}\) wace pan cheese.

2. Of time: at, in; cf. OED a prep\(^{1}\), 8; sometimes derivable from of. T

1925 Beckwith 63 [Prov!]: If I don't ketch you a moonshine, I wi ketch you a\(^{1}\) dark night. 1957 JN [jini get mi kul go a tali ma man taim; ge mi cup full of tea in the morning.]

3. Of motion: to.

1873 Rampini 178 [Prov!]: Mean man go a market two time. 1956 Mc Man /jini waak tria mi go a maakt! I walked three miles to the market.

A\(^{2}\) [\(\text{a}\) prep dial; < (a) worn down proclitic, OED a prep\(^{2}\)] or of. BL G


A\(^{2}\) [\(\text{a}\) pron dial; <. (In written dialect spelt I, A, Ah.) I (alternative to the more common [mi].) BL G T

1879 Murray Feddin 'Perri 14, Ef de gal didn't 'peek, your mean man would a notice it sure [You never would have noticed it, I'm sure]. 1953 Dodd 5, Ah tek dis bush... I bawl it down. 1922 Beckwith 12, 'Jump mek a see!' [Let me see you jump!]

1929 Beckwith 100, A don't mind the wet a wet, but de 'prain a 'prain me foot!'. I don't mind that the foot sets, etc. 1957 JN StAAnn 26-6, Me dear Bredda Wasp, a hoo a yi yuh anything ef yuh help me out... Ah wi gi yuh a bite. 1956 Mc Man /a wanda if di wina redi/ I wonder if our dinner is ready.

A\(^{2}\) demonstr & rel pron dial; prob < that.G

A. demonstr: That.

1868 Russell I (Demonstr): A man 'gainst de fence ws ya yester-day.

B. rel: Who, which, that.

1957 JN /him a wena nek naiz, man? (Do you mean) the one who was making the noise, Ma'am?/ Is that the one?

A\(^{2}\) [vbl auxiliary dial; prob < as in a-going, a-fishing (cf OED a prep\(^{1}\), 13 b). Used before a word that indicate durative aspect or progressive action in present or future; see quotes.

Cf also DA. G

1873 Rampini 90, A provision ground in full cultivation— "with a bush in it", as the negroes call it—is a very picturesque sight indeed. 1950 Pioneer 35, All wen him have 'caison fe serious, him own lef a gun to show him teet. 1956 LEP StAAnn /him go a lak fi mi/ He comes looking for me; /mi had a hat mi/ My head is hurting me; /mi na yam mi dina/ I am eating my dinner (as opposed to /mi yam mi dina/ I (habitually) eat my dinner, etc. 1957 JN Sti, No—no—not a man a get this pretty one; No, no; nobody shal have this pretty one.

A\(^{2}\) [vbl dial; < is, and other forms of the verb to be. Am; is; are. G

1873 Rampini 181 [Prov!]: When man a magistrate, croaked da follow him. 1956 Mc Man /him a wan man lib ina di districk/ He is the worst man man in the district; [dem] /we yu mi a laik a di dimit? Are these the same as those you told me last week? 1957 JN Sti, You a me cousin so me coming to live wid you.

A\(^{2}\) [vbl dial; < is, and other forms of the verb the be. Am see also is. Introducing (and often intensifying) statements or questions) It is, There is, There are; Is it?, There are? There are? Also preceding interrog pronouns and adverbs similarly. G

1877 Murray Kittle 25, Watchman say, 'a so?' Mudfish say 'yes.' 1893 Banbury 21, A any way him run, oh, Me wi 'pull be oh, [Tell say it is (that) it rium (i.e. wherever, no matter where it rium)], 1907 Jekyll 65, A fun me a make, It's fun I am making, i.e. I am only pretending. 1953 Beckford Della /ja di siem we dem kaal wen Vai daara laiza sik/ [They called out in the same way when Vi's daughter Lisa was sick]. 1956 Mc Man /a bu ben ni-em im ti fiti di piiti-deem/ Who is it (that) saw him when he stole the potatoes? /a mi duwi misel/ Is it to who did it myself? 1957 JN /ja wan lilu grin buk mi rid it out av/ It is a little green book (that) I read it out of; [ja bra got duwi/ It is Brother Goto (who) did it?; [a tek; A fui in mi klain/ It is a joke; there are four in my class; a what you writing so long? What is it (that) you are writing so long?

A\(^{2}\) [pron!] intrusive transition sound, dial; freq after like, must, etc., prob due to phonetic analogy with W. African languages (e.g. Twi). (In written dialect it may be attached to the preceding or following word.) G

1952 Moreton 155, You no twist like a-m! 1873 Rampini 180 [Prov!] Trouble neber set in like a rain. 1877 Murray Feddin 'Perri 15, Ef I did hab money I mus' a ben hab a dish [of turtle]. 1912 McKay 33, Me own a true sweethearth. * There is a delicious caressing sound about this intrusional onomatopoeia: 1942 Bennett 29, 1945 JN Sti, Bop! /Bop!/ The pan fell on my head. 1950 Pioneer 35, Yu mussa feel sweet yuh feel yuh dem ee, Breddle Wasp! [You must feel sweet when your wings, oh, Brother Wasp?] 1957 JN /jum mos en a run/ You must have run.

a see HA.

aachi sb; cf Ewe atisi, a river fish. See quotes; cf aachibombo.

1955 LEp Sti (Elia), Archie, codfish cakes. 1955 Dec Sti (achichibombo) codfish fritters dropped from a spoon; West (aachi-bombo) an obscene name for saltfish fritters, more politely called just (aachi).

aaf see OFF.
aufa see AFTER.
aftall see AFTERLY.
aftawad(2) see AFTERWARD(S).
aai see AYE.
aai vb dial; an unusual pronunciation of urge; joil would be expected. G

aal see ALL.

aamtik see ARM-STICK.
aan, aant see AUNT.

aapetebi usaka phr dial; cf. Twi atopete, vultures; bi, some, certain one(s); naa k\(\dot{a}\), to obtain, receive, get; cf aphpetti. A preserved African phrase; see quote.

1955 Dec Port (Moore Town)/ aapetebi usaka/ A Maroon (speaking): 'the crows will eat you (when you are dead)'

aapetti see aphpetti.

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AABRA

AABRA

AABAY, ABBEY [ábbé, ábbé, ábél] sb; 1811 abbay, 1815 1829 abbay, 1825 ebbay, 1947 aby; <Twí a-bi, palm-tree. SC obá-makka.

1. The African oil-palm, Elaeis guineensis, which grows to a height of 20–30 ft; also the fruit of this tree, about 2 in. in diameter, resembling very small coconuts. (Sloane describes it under the name of Palm Oil-tree (1725 113, and 175 Tab 214). Abhay is however sometimes mistakenly applied to other oil-yielding palms, and Gosse’s description is in fact of the Macaw or Macca-fat palm.)

1811 Tiford xvi, Abdays (Elias guineensis). The fruit of a species of palm, called oil palm, which produces palm oil. They have a fibrous, yellow, oily pulp over the stone, and when boiled are pleasant and wholesome. 1834 Lewis 128. The abees, or palm-tree. 1831 Gosse 259. Ebbay Palm. 1855 Bickell No 478 [Prov.] If you trow-hole no big enough, you no to swallow abbee seed. 1945 LeP Stt ábél, ab. 1956 Mc Sele, Stt (ábbé).

2. Transf to the fruit of the broadleaf tree. (The evidence is inadequate, as this tree is not native to the Kgn area.)

1943 GL Kgn, Ábél, broadleaf seed.

ABBLY [ábbí] adv and adj dial; < ab Beverly.

A. adv: More ably, ablier, better. (Jekyll glosses ‘abably no me’, except me’, but cf No, this.)

1907 Jekyll 11, Brother Annancy. say.: ‘Not a man can do it abably no me’. B. adj: Able. Cf ABLY.

1939 DeC Port jyu wuon fain a maruun moo abib no mi fit paid you. You won’t find a Maroon more capable than I am at guiding you.

Abe sb dial; perh a var form of ABBAY 2. 1939 DeC Stt [ábey] temporary trash bag made at the field of grass or trash.

A B R U C T

ABEAY QATTY sb dial obs; the first element is unknown; cf. QATTY.

1943 GL no addr, Abeay quatty. A silver penny half-penny.

ABENG [ábeng] sb dial; < Twí abey, animal’s horn, musical instrument, etc.

1. A cow’s horn used as a musical instrument and for signalling, esp among the Maroons; see quot.

1890 Thomas 28. A glass of grog was served out all round, we gave three cheers, and Nelson produced the abeng, and with his eyes closed, and his body swaying to and fro, blew a tremendous trumpet blast which the north wind must have carried miles away among the woods and gorges below. 1913 Clerk 23. It is made of eight or nine inches of the small horn of a cow—sufficient of the tip is taken off to leave a hole the size of a pea. On the concave side of the horn and close to the smaller end, an oblong opening or mouth hole is made, about a quarter of an inch wide by about an inch long. The lips are placed to the oblong opening, and the thumb covers the hole in the tip, the opening and closing of which gives a variation of a bout a tone. The Maroons have a regular code of signals for the Abeng which is never divulged to any but their own people. (Largely from Thomas.) 1956 Mc Man. ‘The abeng (or akete) is still blown in Westmorland as a summons when there is some communal job to be done’.—Minister living at Retirement.

2. By extension: A conch-shell or any other form of Maroon bugle. (See also SHELL and its cpa.)

Abi see ABBAY.

Abo see ABBAY.

ABLY /lábli/ adj dial; < able. Cf ABBLY. Able, capable.

1956 Mc Stt /lábli/ I f can.

ABONG etron for ABENG; see KIAKE.

ABOO see abù. ABOUKANI sb obs; origin unknown, but cf gyaasha. A bull, in the ‘language of the Accompong Maroons’; see quot.

1915 Cambridge 336. ‘The Colonel’s’ brother told us he knew more of their old language (Coromantyn) than any one else, but we could get out of them was pig – brachio, bull – aboukan, cow – aboukreat. From a philological point of view one views them with suspicion.

ABOUKRESS sb obs; of ABOUKANI, and -ess. A cow.

ABOUT adj, adv, in technical use. sb bout vb.

A. adj: Of a sugar mill: in operation, working. 1812 Underhill 329. 1832 Wadell 71. 1873 Rampini 70. In spren, when the mills are ‘about’, the number of accidents in working them is. large. 1935 HPJ, ‘Still the technical term’.

B. adv: In the phrase to put about: set in operation, start working. (Cf OED put v, 34 b.) 1790 Beckford 104. ‘The common practice at the beginning of crop, is to set in all the able hands for one or two days previous to the putting about the mill, to cut as many cases as possible, that it may continue, when once set in motion. 1825 Bickell 74. For putting the mill about (viz. for making sugar) on a Sunday, there is a fine of £50. 1873 Rampini 74. He had paid £60 more to rig up the old mill, to ‘put it about’ as he phrased it.

ABRUCT adj dial rare; < abrupt (cf. plaba for parallel k/p alternation). 1943 GL Stt, Crabbi, abrupt.
ACEKEE

abu

abu1 [abu] sb, chiefly attrib; 1754 1774 aboo; cf Twi e-bo, grey potter’s clay; abo-abo, stone < abo, stones, rocks.

1. A dark reddish-black or dun-coloured clayey earth occurring in shale-like formation in damp places; it has a sweetish taste and was once eaten by negroes—cf DIRT-EATING.


2. Stony, stony soil.

1943 GL StM.

abu2 [abu] sb dial; cf Twi z-bi-die, a thick climbing plant; bọọ, odour, scent, smell. Among the Accompong Maroons: the jasmine, esp when used medicinally.

1956 Mc StE (accom) /buja/ a firefly; word interchangeable with qinu. 1958 DeC Port /ajabe/ the small firefly with light from the tail. Informant quoted old ‘Maroon proverb’: ‘Iwen daaknis kek u, aboja chrak! When dark-ness seizes upon you, the fiery tribes.

aburu sb dial; cf Hausa aburu, = iburu, a cereal… an important cereal grown mainly by pagan tribes. (Bargery).

1993 DeC Han, West /aburu/ a turned cornmeal mush, highly seasoned with country pepper. Used by the Guinea, Congo, and Nago peoples.

ACACEE sb obs, also attrib. = Acacia (cf DAΕ quo77 175%). For a time, at least, acacce seems to have been the form used in the发生的 Western Indies.

1756 Browne 251, Mimosa 1, The common Acacia, or Acacée-bush. 1956. The smooth Acacce. Mimosa 2. The spreading long-winged Acacce, or Sensible. 1835 Madden tit 90, The common Acacia or Acacce bush, which…goes here by the name of Cashaw.

ACACOU TREE sb obs; < Fr. acacou; cf OED acacou (1725-5) and CASHAW.

1696 Sloane 188, The Cashew or Acacou Tree.

ACACOU WINE sb obs; cf ACACOU TREE.

1707 Sloane xxiv, Acacou Wine, made of the Fruit so called, is very strong, keeps not long, and causes vomiting; ‘it reckoned a good remedy in the Dropsy.

ACAJU see ACACOU TREE.

ACCOM see akam.

ACCOMPONG sb; prob < Twi Owuaykumpong, a name for the Supreme Being, rendered into English as Accompong and understood to be a personal name (see 1793 Edwards 11 70, ‘The Koromantyn Negroes…believe that Accompong, the god of the heavens, is the creator of all things…’; etc.). Though the names of tutelar deities were often taken as personal names (cf Christaller Appendix E 601), it is unlikely that this should have been; a similar personal name such as Oklampond or possibly Akylumpiی could have been understood by the whites as ‘Accompong’.

1. Personal name: One of the Maroon leaders, Captain Accompong, brother and second in command to Captain Cudjoe, who concluded the Articles of Pacification on behalf of the Maroons of Trelawny Town, 1 March 1738 (cf 1736 Proceedings etc., xvi, xx). See quo 1803 below.] 2. Name of the Maroon village in St Elizabeth founded by this leader, and today one of the three chief Maroon settlements. 1774 Long tit fronts map, Accompong Town. 1803 Dallas 44-5, Cudjoe now augmented the body he had placed under the command of his brother Accompong, and established them on the northern border of St Elizabeth…a place where there is still a town called Accompong after his name. [Current 1961.]

3. A Maroon from this village. Obs. 1803 Dallas 1 120, But neither the Accompong, nor any other of the Maroon bodies, could be induced to join in the rebellion.


1906 Glosser 17 March [Letter from Colonial Secretary:] True Accompong by descent from Maroons.

ACHIBONG see aachibombo.

ACHIE see ACEK.

ACHIOTE sb obs; 1662 achiote, achiote, achiote, 1672 achiote; OJD 1796 → = ANATIA.

1662 Subbe 66, Achiô (as it is called by Hernandez) or Achiote, as it is usually called (Mr Gage calls it Achiote)…It is a Tree, that grows every where in the West Indies, without cultivation; it is regarded as well for its use in Painting, as Physick. It is a tree of an indifferent bigness, leaved somewhat like to an Elm…the fruit grows out in a Cod containing thirty or forty grains, which…yield a juice of a pure Vermilion colour: out of these grains…in the Achiote so called made. 1872 Bloms 14, Achiote or Anetto. 1863 Laws.

ACHIOTES, ACHIOTTE see prec.

ACHRAS sb bot; cf WD 2. Evidently used broadly of some Sapota tree or trees; see quo. (Not treated in the hist dictionaries.)

1826 Williams 290, An achar, which they call sylvo-colour;…the white achar (syllocolour).

ACHEE, ACEE [a/ki, háki/ sb; 1793 aka, 1794 → akee, 1807 acqui, 1834 achée, 1835 aca, 1890 → ake; < Kru a-dëe; and of Twi dëøkë, dëøkë, a kind of wild cashew tree and its fruits; cf 1864 Grissbach 125, ‘Blighia sapida…Akeeessia africana, Tuss.’ ODS akee, akee 1829 →, BL.

1. The tree Blighia sapida, introduced to Jamaica from W. Africa about 1778 (see quo 1794).

1794 Broughton tt, Nov. Gen. *The Akee [from] Africa [presented by] Dr. Tho. Clarke. 1778. *This plant was brought here in a Slave Ship from the Coast of Africa, and now grows very luxuriant, producing every Year large Quantities of Fruit; several Gentlemen are encouraging the Cultivation of it. I do not know that it has hitherto been described. 1801 Nugent 25 Sept., The akee, a tree that bears a large scarlet fruit, the inside of which, they say, when dressed is like a sweet-bread. 1871 Tudford 59, 1855 Maiden tit 65, The aca-tree from Africa. 1913 Harris 23, Akee.

2. The fruit of this tree.

1793 Edwards 1 203, Aka Another African Fruit, introduced by the Negroes. 1953 Murray 19 [Song:] Carry me akee go a Linstead Market.
ACKEEBUS

3. The edible flesh of this fruit; often eaten with SALTFISH.
1952 GFC StAnd /iki/ There is only one kind; the pod is the white that you eat; the seed is at the end of the pod.
NOTE In the E. Caribbean, where Blighia sapida is virtually unknown, Melicocca bijuga (the "Ace of Jamaica) is called ackee.
ACKEEBUS vb dial joc; < ACKEE + -bus, schoolboys' pseudo-Latin.
1943 GL StC, Ackeebus, mix with ackee.
ACKEE WALK sb; < ACKEE + WALK sb. A plantation or grove of ackee trees. (Used here as a place-name.)
1936 Martinez in Gleaner 3 Oct. 35; see WAPENN-BAFFEN.
ACKRA /akra/ sb, also attrib; cf Yoruba, Igbo, Efik akara. A flat cake made from blackeye peas, dried in oil. T
1893 Sullivan 33, Ackra cakes. 1943 GL Clar, ackra.
1955 DeC West /akra/. ACROBAT sb dial slang.
1958 DeC StM /akrobat/ a stupid fool.
ACTOR-BOY sb. One kind of JOHN CANOE dancer.
[1801 Nugent 25 Dec. Figures called Johnny Canoes. All dance leep and play a thousand anticke. Then there are groups of dancing men and women. Then there was a party of actors. Then a little child was introduced, supposed to be a king, who stabbed all the rest.] 1837 Belisario plate 1, KOO, KOO or ACTOR BOY. Such is the strange soul, the spirit which this plant to Histrionic honors is designated of late years, this class of John-Canoes has found but little inducement for the exercise of his talent. Ibid plate 3., Koo-Koo, or 'Actor-Boy'.
ada var pronunc of 'other'; cf aneda.
A DA MEK, A DAT MEK [a da mek, a dat mek] conj phr and int dial; < (it) is that (which) makes; cf A; cf also A IT MEK, A SO MEK, ETC.
A. conj phr: That's why.
1837 Murray Fradie' Permit 6. A dat mek all de week I do work, I can't hab no money. 1955 LEP StAnd /ja da mek, ju si, di wait piispl/. That's why, you see, the white people.
B. int: That's why!—an intentionally mystifying answer made to an inquisitive person's question 'Wa mek?' (used by schoolchildren). Also simply as a taunt.
1955 LeP Ste (Accom), [Story.] /Him go huon, tu kiz mada, se ma, evri die mi go a skul, yen tida wan, an mi hav enuying, dem se 'a da mek'. Wa mek dem de se? Diga ble, ni u no go wai di wil, di go gin yu a wip tunmaro, an eni wan tei ju so agen, bit im/.
ado see EDDO.
A-DOOR, A DOORS see adoo.
ADOPI sb dial; < Fante adinp, a species of ape (Christaller). [In Brit. Guiana adopi—Cruckshank.]
1943 GL Man, Adopi, A little hairy creature said to live in the bush.
ADROO, ADRU see next.
ADRUVE /adrü, adrü, ajü, häjü/ sb; 1725-> adruve, 1794 adru, 1817 adroo, 1892 hadrow, 1953 hadruve; cf Twi adura, powder, medicine, drug, physic; Ewe adri, moss used as a dressing for wounds.

AFASIA

1. A medicinal plant; esp in Jamaica Cyperus articulatus, a reed with a chive-like blossom which when crushed and mixed with rum is used as a dressing for fresh cuts and wounds. (Such preparations are also called ALL-HEAL or FRESH-CUT.) An infusion of the root was taken internally for diarrhoea and dysentery.
1725 Sloane Nat Hist 361, P.121.2. At the end of the entry in 1709 Voyage 121, Juncus cyprioper cf breckering genculacate. [...] add, An Cyperus Americanus castamus articulatus. [...] 1777. At the end add, Adruve of Mr Batham in his Manuscript Observations: of Jamaica Plants. whose Roots strongly. Take the Negreros take off the ramishm Smell which some of them have. It hath the same Colour, Taste, Smell and Virtues of the Contra- verra. 1974 Hurd 163, Rushees ...21. That which the negroes call adru. 1801 Dancer 563, For strengthening the Stomach etc. Adruve (Cyperus articulatus). The Roots aromatic and stimulant. 1820 Thompson 147, Adruve. In chronic diarrhea, it is singularly efficacious. 1891 Maxwell 36, Adruve. 1953 FGHC Han, Port/i/iu. 1953 WIMT 244, Cyperus articulatus 1. Adruve (Hadruve). (Digress 1. 1949 B.J.Boy.)
2. A preparation of this plant used as an ingredient in recipes (e.g. to drive away ghosts).
1929 Beckwith 94, Add 3d. hadrow, 3d. oil of life, 3d. oil of navel.
3. Attrib.
1817 Williamson 1 301-2, Where vomiting was exces- sively troublesome. the Adroo tea, was found useful.

adruu see prec.
adu /adu/ adv dial; < a-doors (cf. OED, ->1777), reinforced by such a form as Akupem aduño, the yard of a native dwelling (aduño his out doors). Outside; out of doors.
1907 Jekyll 138, An the Jar trow him outside a door. When he get out a door old lady said —etc. [1924 Beckwith 75. De me de deyin de boy de yard fo de whole day until rain come de day an' wet up all Massa Jesus close fo bitt. De boy was Samson de Comereres, an jus' tru Samson de Comereres me de close a wet up adu'do. 1926 Mc StAnd /put it adu/ but it is outside; SET /look out die adu/. Put is outside. But it is outside. Look out there outside; look outside. Also Clar, Man; not used by young people.

[ADVANTAGE /advantajj vb tr dial; < advan- tage sb; also in Trinidad, etc. To take advantage of, cheat, ill-treat (someone). BL G T]
1952 FGHC StAnd /duon mek im advantajj you/. Don't let how take advantage of you. 1957 LeP StAnd /no badda advantajj mi man/ Don't try to cheat me, man/.

ADVICE sb dial. A bit or piece of advice or counsel. BL G T
1924 Beckwith 156, De missus to said him, 'Out of you money an' three advice, which one you rather?' He said, 'I rather de three advice. ' De three advice—Not to for- sake de bridle which you cross; not to interfere in politics; you mustn't in haste in temper /
afaña /afañá, afená, afíni/ sb; cf Akyem afañá, word, var afaña, afonna. The Maroon word for a cutlass, machete.
1933 IFIP Accom, Afonna—Colonel Rowes's word for a machete. /GL Port, Affenna, cutlass. 1955 Mc Accom /afenná/ 'Maroon language' word for a cutlass.
1957 LeP Accom /afíni/.

AFASIA, AFASYAH sb dial; < Ewe afasé (or Akan afasé) an inferior kind of yam (Christaller). A kind of wild yam.
1890 Milne-Home, quoted in 1896 Bates 129, De Affassia. A greedy father of a family will give no share of his yams to any of his household who do not know the correct name of the vegetable. It is discovered by Affassia. 1943 Tol, Afassia, afasyah, a wild yam.
AFENNA

AFENNA, AFFANNA, afini see afana.

AFFASSIA see AFASSIA.

AFOO, AFO see AFU.

AFRICAN /ariˈknɛkən, həˈrɪkən/ sb and adj.
1. In Jamaica generally: Negro. Hence ‘African talk’ is broad dialect, or words thought to be of African origin. Freq derog. Cf BLACK AFRICAN. G
2. In St Thomas parish: A negro group living in the lowlands in the area of Morant Bay, its members, and their religious practices. (Moore 24; see Moore).
1951 Moore 9: ‘The African gods are from tribes and nations. Take Mauka Vodu, he is a great ancestral zombie who now is so strong he become a strong earth-mother’s daughter. Mauka Vodu is known to all in the lowlands. They are all Observant.’

AFRICAN ROSE sb obs. Unidentified plant.
1790 Beckford 1 32, The bushy richness of the oleander and African rose.

afterward(s) see AFTERWARD(s).

AFTER /ˈɑːftər, ˈɑːtə/ prep, conj, and int; 1865 ater (Russell 19); < after.
A. prep: 1. Of time: At intervals of, after an interval of (cf OED after prep 11). B. adj
1. at, to (someone or something): BL G T 1805-16 Slave Court Records (cited by Rampini 183) ‘He said, I would get sum-fum [be whipped], as the bush was sweating after me very much’. 1907 Jekyll 49, At Balboa, the Guinean pig was laughing after Rabbit.
1951 FGC StAd (dem a kaal aafa ya) They are showing at you or calling for you; jin true rau seun aafa di daag! He throws at a stone in the road.
B. conj or conj-adv: 1. Since, inasmuch as. (Passing into next sense.) BL G T 1924 Beckwith 156, He said, ‘De only way you will taste de older piece, let me pluck out de older eye’. De little boy said, ‘What must I do after I hungry?’ An’ him pluck out de older eye se ’ll him de balance of yarn left’. 1955 Bennett Bad Foot, But me blame yuh Bredda Nancy After yuh no go right. Fe go start up any fight. 1956 McMan (nɔ ru no waan kaan, man, aafa ya kyann driv it). You don’t want the car, man, seeing that you don’t drive it.

2. Considering that. (OED when 9; cf AFTER WHEN, of which this may be an abbr.) BL G T 1873 Rampini 173, Me can’t paint! After my grand-mother’s husband was a painter, me can’t paint! [He means, ‘Of course I can paint!’] C. emphatic word or int: 1. Introducing an expression of protest, showing annoyance or contempt, analogous to Really! Good heavens! (Perh < sense 1b.) BL N
1942 Bennett 33, Him say, ‘Me shouldn’t come so far back off him’. Him say, ‘Me not rich mo’ka ken’. [He says I shouldn’t come so far, but really! My poor little donkey is not a motor car.]
1944 Noh tan up fren front me load mahn, Gwan! Att I doan care. 1960 Dec CSL 1 172, atta ba’b’ia’a buo de go kil yu. ‘After [mill] Babiabuo is going to kill you.’

ALREADY adv dial; < after adv + -ly.
1958 DeC StAnd /afstalt/ recently, in recent years.

AMERICAN see CARESS (1).

AN ADV see ADD.(1).

AFTERWARD(s) sb dial; < afterward adv. Food left over (which may be eaten afterward, or later).
1958 DeC StC ‘afswawd, afswawds/ leftover food.

AFTER WHEN /ˈɑːftər wən/ conj phr. Of temporal succession: when. BL G
1956 McSt ‘joa aafa wen de wen tu bed, de lie di takking! So aafa wen de gone to bed, they hear the knocking; aafa wen di dop ri gaan, di man go a yaad/ After the dophy had run away, the man went into the yard.

AFU, AFU YAM /əˌfuː, əˈfuː, əˈfoː/ sb dial; 1814 > afo, 1733 > afo, 1907 1927 hafo, 1927 > afo, 1934 > afo, 1943 > afo, hafo, hafo, hafooh; cf Tw i afow, plantation, cultivated ground. A common variety of hard yellow yam. Sometimes the hard white yam, though this is usually distinguished as WHITE AFU. A fu buoan, red AFU.
1814 Lannan 11 309-10, Dioscorea . aculeata. This yam is called the Afo yam; it is of a smaller size and its inside is in yellow colour. 1873 Rampini 115, It is essentially the literature of a race, not of a nation. Its subjects are almost exclusively drawn from the common daily incidents of a country life. ‘It scarcely ever rises above Guango peas and Afo yams.’ 1907 Jekyll 17, Me go buy me little salt fish an’ me little hafo yam. [Note:] hafo (pronounced hafooh, really afooh, an African word), a kind of yam. 1927 Stafford 26, She is cooking Hafooh yam and sweet potato. 1934 Williams 33, The name of the common yellow yam in Jamaica is afo. 1943 GL SIVC, Hafoh; Stb, Hafu; Tz, Afo, Yellow yam. SjH, Hafsoh, Negro yam. 1955 LfG gen.

AFU, LUCEA /əˌfuː leˈsiː/ sb; see AFU. A white yam associated with the town of Lucea in Hanover; see LUCEA YAM.
1956 McPort /haˈfuː ljuːsi/. 1958 DeC gen /əˈfuː ljuːsi/ an afo (yellow) yam which is whitish; resembles the LUCEA YAM; it ‘has a greenish brown look’ inside after peeling.

AFU PUMPUH sb dial; < AFU IpUMPUH.
1943 GL Kgo, A kind of yam.

AGAIN /əˈɡen/ adv. BL G
1. In negative expressions implying a change of state or action since an understood time: any more, any longer (cf OED again, adv 4).

2. In negative expressions implying a reversal of something announced or expected: any longer, after all. T
1907 Jekyll 269, A man was reported to be dead. Next day came the intelligence: ‘He don’t dead any’, he is not dead after all, he is not really dead. 1957 No, a no gwinne beat you again, No, I don’t intend to beat you after all, He can’t be coming again, if he’s not here yet. He can’t be expected to come any longer, since he’s not here yet.
3. Also, in addition. (Cf OED a 5.). T
1957 JN, We ave tree East Indian, tree akee . . . Yes, an what again? Two hairy mango . . . We have three East Indian mangoes, three akee trees . . . That’s right, and what about mangoes? Two hairy mangoes. . . . Get you some full a tea East Indian tain um a papi gi me some a him again, I get my cup full of tea in the morning, and Father gives me some of his in addition.
AGAINST

4. Vaguely, as if seeking to recall something, or asking for its repetition (cf. OED again, adjective). 1787 J.H. What is the name of the pretty girl over at Miss Dorothy's?

5. As a post-verbal intensifier. 1957 J.W. Mama what you tink me hear again—'shop at the store with the mike at the door', Mama, just what do you think I heard? etc.

AGAINEE see gens.

aganga sb dial; for iguana or perch agama. 1952 F.C. And [aganga] lizard.


agidi /agidi/ sb dial; < Yoruba Agidi; 'a prepared meal of Indian corn, as a staple food'; also as a loan-word in Ewe.

1. Among the 'Guinea people' of Hanover: A dish prepared from yellow yam, grated, mixed with flour and fried in oil. 1950 D.C. Han /agidi/.

2. Among the 'Guinea', 'Congo', and 'Nago' people of Hanover and Westmoreland: A pudding made from the fine sediment of grated cornmeal, seasoned and boiled in a banana-leaf. 1959 D.C. Han, West /agidi/.

AGNUS CASTUS sb obs; cf OED. A name once erroneously applied in Jamaica to the castor bean.

1774 Long iii 712, Oil-must-tree. Agnus-castus—Ricinus communis. 1794 Bonham 229, Oil-nuts (Lin. Ricinus communis). These are so called from the great quantity of oil got out of them; and also vulgarly, but very erroneously, called agnus castus, they having no relation to that species; but everybody in Jamaica calls it agnus cassia, or olives, which they put to their blisters instead of molliet, and use no other.

A-GO vb auxil phr; < A-Go. Preceding another verb, this forms phrases expressing the future; cf similar use of Gwine. 1957 J.W. SNIE, Mama this man a-go turn teacher too, This man is going to become a teacher too; they a go eat off all the ripe plum an guava off de tree. They are going to eat up all the ripe plums, etc.

AGRICULTURAL adi dial. Applied in recent years to certain varieties of plants: Introduced by the Department of Agriculture; see quot.

1952 J.C. H. Port, agricultural calabash; SrC, agicultural cassava; 1959 D.C. gen, agricultural banana—the Lacatan banana.

AGUE /ayguy, hiego/ sb, also attrib. = OED ague 1, 'An acute or violent fever. Obs.'—but this survives in common use in Jamaica; also, ague fever. BA G T

AHA sb dial rare; orig unknown. 1945 GL no addr. Aha—a weed that grows on graves.

AHAM see akam.

AHM pron dial; < him. = HIM 2. See quot 1907 Jekyll 164.

AHOA see A-OAH.

AHMETTI sb dial obs; cf Twi a-pewi, a certain amulet (Christian), opete, vulture, deity (Turner 93). See quot.

(1822 Letter from the Virgin Islands 148 (Torrola) And superstition is on the wane among the negroes; they seem to consider that whatever alpette (spells) their magicians could once effect, these have long since failed before superior Christian inculcations.) 1826 Williams 145, Cato, holding up the amulet suspended from his neck (a bag containing among other things, teeth, and hair) cried aloud, 'While I wear this, Pluto, no one can take me'. And I, returned the other, 'have also an alpette, a charm, a better charm—I wear the white man's spell'.

AH WO see A-OAH.

ai see AYE, EYE.

aian see IRON.

ail see oil.

ail-not see OIL-NUT.

airis mas see IRISH MOSS.

AISE sb dial; a common dial sp for EARS. 2002 Bennett 27, All de strain me strain me aise. 1950 Pioneer gloss, Aise—ears.

A IT MEK conj and int phr; < it (it is) which makes. CF A DA MEK, A SO MEK. G

A. conj: That's why, that's the reason.

1868 TRIN. Lib 66, A it meek you see Green-lizard always lib 'pon tree. 1877 Murray Feddin Prettir 12, Becasum arter you drink you cross wusser mo an dog, sar. A it meek you be de ma call me indeggy, sar, mo no come see. That's why when you called me in there, sir, I did not come, sir.

B. int phr.

1959 D.C. ST, Di pikin den hai gwi di bwaal, sii tu imo sa, a hit meek, The children teased the boy, said to him, 'A it meek'.

aj sb dial; the regular folk pronunciation of adze. See also haij. N

1952 F.C. Man [aj]—right name is [ade]; also STANN etc; ST [haij].

aju see ADUDE.

akam /akam, hakam/ sb dial, also attrib; 1814 1846 1854 1861, Akam, a wild and inferior yam; < Twi akam, a wild and inferior yam.

1. A kind of wild yam which bears annually on the vine; eaten when other food is scarce.

1814 Lunan ii 310, Dioscorea. bulbifera. The negroes call this kind Acome, and they cultivate it on account of the fruit it bears on its stems; which is very irregularly shaped, of a brown colour, rough skin, about the size of Irish potatoes, which it much resembles in taste, either roasted or boiled. 1854-5 1754 i 68, Acome Yam. Dioscorea (aj) bulbifera. 1864 Grisebach 78, Acome, Dioscorea bulbifera. 1866 Russell 6, Aham—A creeping plant. —African. 1952 F.C. Han, STANN, SHE, STM, TRE [akam]; STC, STM [hakam].

2. See quot.

1956 Mc Man [akam], a growth on the ear resembling the yam; it is said to result from piercing the ear during the akam season.

akbil see HAWKBILL TURTLE.

AKKEE see AKEE.

akete [akete/; sb; cf Twi kete, a flute or pipe made of a reed; Ewe kete, Gu okete, flute.

1. Another name for the ABENG; the horn of a goat or cow used as a bugle, chiefly by the Maroons; but cf KETTAY.

1953 GL. ST Aketta, Maroon bugle. 1956 MC ST, ST [akete]; STM [akete]. 1958 D.C. Port, STM.
AKETTA

2. Since about 1930: The drums used in buru dancing; taken over about 1940 by Ras Tafari cultists in West Kingston.

1956, SAN Report 18, The old bura drums by which discharged prisoners were reintegrated with their slum communities was taken over into the Ras Tafari movement by Locksome. The burra drums became known as aketa drums and the old bura drums was replaced by the Nishiga drums.

AKETTA see prec.

akra see AKRA.

aksbil see HAWKBILL TURTLE. BL N

ALBECATO see ALLIGATOR PEAR.

ALBINO sb; cf OED 1777 → G

1774 Long ii 56, The offspring of two Negro-parents, if born with a white or light-colored reticulum, is called an Albino.

ALBION sb. The name of a sugar-estate near Yallahs, used attrub in ALBION CANE and ALBION SUGAR; hence also BROWN ALBION and WHITE ALBION.

1802 Nugent 6 March, Breakfast at 6, and start for Albion [Note: 1793 Candler Nugent 88, A well-known sugar estate, whence Albion sugar takes its name, as whitevacuum-pan sugar was first made at this estate somewhere about 1870.]

ALBION CANE sb. A variety of sugar-cane associated with Albion estate.

1932 FGC StJ. 1958 DeC StT.

ALBION SUGAR sb; see ALBION.

1893 Sullivan 64, One-and-a-half pounds of light brown or albion sugar. 1957 LeP StA(D) and Albion sugar (current).

ALDER TREE sb; cf OED alder sb, and DAE alder-bush. See quot 1864; better known as BUTTON-TREE, BUTTON-WOOD.

1796 Barham Index. 1864 Graisbach 781, Alder tree, West Indian: Conocarpus erectus.

ALEWIFE sb, also attrib; cf OED alewife ‘An American fish (Clupea serrata) closely allied to the herring; DAE alewif, the branch herring.’ In Jamaica, species of Balistes and Aletidae; usu called OLDWIFE. BA

1952 FGC StT (jelwwif); Clar (jelwwif jak).

ALEWIFE JACK see prec.

ALIA MAN sb dial slang; < alias + man. A confidence man; see raabaaba.

1961 Ja, Talk 217 /raabaa/ means specifically ‘an alias-man.’ and more generally a rough-spoken person.

alibou see ALLIBUON.

ALICIA see ALLIGATOR PEAR.

ALICE sb bot; perch < the name Aloysia, ‘Sweet-scented Verbena’—cf OED verbena 2 b.

1833 HP, Alice—the light purple Verbena.

aligeta see ALLIGATOR.

alikasha /alikasha/, ālikyācha, ālikākāsha/ sb dial; < ARRAGACHA.

1956 Ms Sta /halikasha/; Port /ālikyācha/—‘a plant resembling carrot in colour and shape, also called RELISH’. 1957 LeP StE /ālikasha/.

1-LIMBER adj dial; cf OED limber a, ‘gently moving, moving in a supple fashion.’

1922 McKay Gazette 18, Fields of mankind...Wild...sealpods leaves o blue, In de evenin light a-limber.
ALLIGATOR

payment or wastes his labour futilely. Hence, also, a stupid or worthless person. Esp in proverbial rhyming phrases: see quot. (Also in St Vincent). 1935 HPJ, "Alienbutton Wuk fe mattin'" (Man, StM, Trem). In northeastern St Ann 'mek alligator' - to work and not to pay. 1943 CL Trem, Alienbutton, a person who works for nothing; StM, Alienbutton, silly person. 1956 MPSt, a person donn mista imself - saitada wi enning - allibon wuk fi notn' A person (who) doesn't respect himself, satisfied with anything - alligator work-for-nothing. 1957 F. E. G. Fraser Gleaner 25 March, During my younger days in lower St Andrew it was used chiefly by small boys deciding cabies who went to frummiss in the hope of being cabs being chartered (but which remained unchartered) in a zipcode as such as this! 'Alienbutton, work for meeting. Get 'im pocket Full o' button.' 1957 Ansell Hart 23 March (letter), In Montego Bay about sixty years ago there was a fisherman named Albert Related. The saying it was often applied to him by the boys around - Alienbutton work fi food or Alienbutton go fi nuffin'.

ALLIGATOR [haligeta, aligeta] sb; cf OED. The native crocodile of Jamaica, Crocodylus acutus. BL G N T

1861 Hickeying 34, Jamaica... Alligator or Indian Crocodile, a amphibious Creature. 1864 Laws The Arms of Jamaica, And for the crest an Alligator. 1873 Rampini [Prov.] Alligator lay 895, but he has no fowl. 1906 Clinton 290, Alligators, or rather Crocodylus acutus, abound all along the south side of the island. [Current 1962.]

ALLIGATOR APPLE sb; also attrib; see quot. 17745; cf OED alligator 3; some analogy to the creature. ALLIGATOR PEAR was prob felt also. OED 1886. The fruit of the tree Ammona palustris; also the tree itself, usu called CORKWOOD.

1777 Browne 556, ANNONA 4. The Alligator Apple Tree, or Cork-wood... bears a fine sweet-scented fruit, of no disagreeable flavour; but it is said to be a strong narcot. 1853 Bateman 277. The same tree is used on this coast in the winter as a substitute for the Southside lagenom. [CF ALLIGATOR APPLE, Corkwood.] It grows in great abundance, but most prevalent on the Southside lagenom. When it is ripe, and drop into the water, the alligators watch them falling, and at the proper season of the year, are said to scavenge upon the tree. 1886 Griesbach 781, Alligator-apple Annona palustris.

ALLIGATOR PEAR sb; also attrib; see quot. 1696 alibaca, 1758 alibeca, 1788 - alligator; prob by popular etymology < some such form as abacatas (see quot 1696), bor-rowed from Sp. OED (s.v. avocado) suggests that alligator here is a corruption of avocado, itself formed by popular etymology from Aztec [i.e. Nahua] abacatl; but as alligator and avocado were equally familiar to Sloane in 1696, it is more likely that both words go back through separate forms to the Nahua source. Both are also independent formations (cf ALLIGATOR APPLE, ALLIGATOR WOOD) is also a possibility. OED 1763. - The avocado pear, Persea gratissima; the name being applied to both the tree and its fruit. Also called BUTTER PEAR, LONG-NECK PEAR. N


ALLIGATOR RUSH sb; so called because alligators were said to live among them. Acrostichum aureum; more commonly CRAB CATCH.

1943 NHN 11 7.

ALLIGATOR WOOD sb; so called, according to Sloane, because its musk-scented bark resem-bles the characteristic scent of an alligator; cf OED alligator 4; The tree Guarea glabrata, also called musk wood, WILD ACKEE.


ALL OF THAT adv phr dial. Expressing emphatic agreement: Exactly! Just so! G 1955 FGCG 41

ALL RIGHT /aɪə rt/ exclamatory phr chiefly dial. A common greeting in passing, or in parting. BA BL G T

1942 Bennett 18 [As a train leaves] Kiss Tayma. Tell John howdy do! Hai! 'Man yu hear ya? Hai! Bid 29, Ah-right me guyin yawn Tayma. [Current 1963.]

ALL THE /aˈlə dəl/ adv phr dial; cf ALL2 1. Preceding and introducing a common construction in which a word is repeated for em-phasis: however much, no matter how much; see quot. G T

1837 James 8, Sometimes he will leave his wife in the gig, and go in and out of the house, and talk with all the people, and all the while he doesn't eat, he can't call to him to leave off, no use. 1942 Bennett 25, But all de strain me strain me ase Mee couldn' ketch a wud him sey. BA FGCG 41, [As a train leaves] I'd knock you down with my right hand! That hand stuck fast all the same. Ibid 151, Jack didn' know'nout'n all the same, but jus' working his head.

ALL THE WHILE adv phr dial. Regularly, repeatedly, frequently, always. BL T

1957 JN Clar, I go to May Pen to buy things all the while.

ALLBUTTON see ALLIBUTTON.

ALL-Y-COCO sb dial; origin unknown. Some kind of plant or fruit (cf alkashia)? (Perh only a nonsense refrain.) 1935 HPJ, Green guava, green guava, green guava so sweet, Ally-coco, Ally-coco, Ally-coco so sweet. (Chorus to the ring game 'Postman.')

ALL YOU /aɪə juː/ pron phr dial derog; cf US Sth-you-all, of which, however, this is not an exact equivalent. You and people among them. 1942 Bennett 11 [One woman insulting another:] Gwan, all yu shoul'dn' walk a day, You clothes faya black-out. Ibid 13, Tannuday mah meck me Sidung, Tw sepp ... yuhsho, cho, All yu too high fe dis yah tramm, [Stil still, ma'am, let me sit down; stop mowing yourself about. People like you are too high-up to ride on this tramcar.] BA G

ALREADY /əˈrɛdi/ adv. Yet; in this sense dial. 1956 Me Man /dem sel aredi/? Are these sold yet? 1957 JN Bohener, I donn yu do dis bai yu. As a aredi? I wonder if the bus has reached Lorrimesse yet. BL G T

ALUMEE-SUPOTA, see SAPODILLA.

am /əm/ 3d pers pron dial; < him; cf. HIM, HAH. Used objectively: him, her, it. G T

1956 Mc DA /I bu yu pikin, yu da as yu lak wid am/ She's your child; do as you like with her; [ba bu ditw? di wi di wai taim, mi kyan yon am] Who did it? The only things are at the moment we can't own to it.

amasi /əˈməsi/ int dial; reduced form of Lord-a-mercy (OED lord l6b). Exclamation of sur-
AMATA

prise, constellation, etc.; sometimes ‘corrected’ in written dialect to Have mercy!
1943 GL, amany; ha many = have mercy; Clar, A many (corrected to Ha many); A prayer.
AMATA ppl adj; poss < Sp amada, dear, beloved. A cant word of a Morant Bay cult, said to mean ‘loved’.
1953 Moore glossary.
amba see AMBER.

AMBASANGA sb dial; cf AMBER and sanfai. = JACKFRUIT FOOT.
1943 GL, Ambasanga, a jackfruit foot.

AMBER /amaba/ sb dial; cf OED amber 4, A piece of amber used as an amulet to attract lovers. Obs’. 1604, 1691. A talisman or the like used for divination in the practice of obeah and orixas; see quotes.
c1843 Song (in 1845 Barbury 21), Amba do know me, oh! 1853 Barbury 21-2. The ‘amber’ was a talisman by which they [the Myalimen] pretended to divine. Both the mial and obeahman use it. Anything through which they look at the obeah [i.e. the magical objects or charm], is called an ‘amber’, the name is not confined strictly to the substance so called. 1907 Jekyll 171-2, ‘Me amber hit! me amber hit!’ [The singer is using an amber to help him find buried gold.] 1920 Beckwith 32-3, The ‘amba’ is, according to Mary Campbell, a fetch secured from the spirits of the dead by means of the myal dance. The dance takes place in the grave-yard. ‘The spirits carry you dancing all through the bush, then you come back to the grave and the ambas comes rolling to you over the ground.’ Ewan had one of these fetishes in the shape of a transparent little ball with red lines about it and something blue inside, according to Mary’s account. He soaked it in rum and kept it in a little pouch. 1959 Dec KB6. One obeahman told me that to obtain his ambas (which appeared to be a glass pendant from a lamp pull) he had promised the corpse of a hanged murderer and had removed it from the corpse’s mouth.

AMBER JACK sb; ODS, DA 1897-. The fish Seriola dumerilii and similar species, earlier called Amber-fish.
1873 Rampini 173, see quoting. BAY, HORSE-EYE GAVALLY.

AMBER-JACK CAESAR sb dial. A variety of the CAESAR fish that resembles the amber-jack.
1952 FGC StE. = BOTTLE-CAESAR.

AMBITIO sb dial. Self-respect. BL G T
1952 FGC StM.

AMBITONABLE sb dial; cf MANNERSABLE, etc. Ambitious.
1961 BLB Man [dem duon ambishanel]? They have no ambition.
ablinit see HAMLET.

AMBROSIA sb. A dessert made of local fruits; see quote.
1957 FFM 261. Genuine ambrosia is made with oranges, bananas, and grated coconut sweetened with powdered or granulated sugar.

AMELIA /amélia, hémélia/ sb dial; evid from the propname.
1. A kind of rough bed; also called FOURFOOTER.
2. See quote.
1959 Dec Tre /samélia/; a good bed with a headboard, with decorated head and footboard.

AN’ ALL

AMEN-PREACHER sb dial rare; see quote. A nickname for the JOHN CROW, from its black plumage, and from the strong dislike for evangelical missionaries felt by some at the time it was given.
1827 Williams 82, Abdallah told me they were called john-crows or carrion-crows till lately; but now, he said, they were called amen-preachers, because they finished everything, and eat it all up. 1940 HPJ, ‘Still current’.

AMERICAN sb dial.
1. See FRENCH SET-GIRLS.
2. 1958 Dec StT, a coconut rundown.

AMERICAN BROOMWEED sb bot obs; cf. BROOMWEED. Macfadyen’s name for Abe-tion americanum (ident. 1926 Fawcett 101).
1837 Macfadyen 86, Sida Americana. American Broom-

AMERICAN JESSAMINE sb bot obs. A name, never much used, for Ipomea quamoc-
clit; also called BARBADOS SWEET-WILLIAM, INDIAN CREEPER, INDIAN PINK, RED BELL-
FLOWER.
1756 Browne 155, Ipomea Quamoclit...The American Jessamine. This plant is cultivated in many of the gardens of Jamaica on account of its beautiful flowers and thick foliage. 1814 Luanian i 999, Browne calls it the American Jessamine...It is also called Indian pink.

AMERICAN MARMALADE sb obs. The Mammee-Sapota, formerly called the ‘marmalade tree’, and its pulp ‘natural marmalade’. (Cf. OED marmalade 2.)
1811 Tiford 57, Mammee Sapota...the fruit is of an oval shape, with a thick brown rind, and a very juicy, sweet, yellow pulp, called American marmalade.

a-mi-du sb dial; < Ja dial a ’me + du. It is I who do it (or have done it). A kind of yam: see quote.
The local name (in upper Man, StE, Tre) for the native wild yam Dioscorea trifida. This is an ‘obeah yam’, planted in provision grounds to discourage thieves. If a thief steals from the ground, the owner cuts a branch of what has been stolen (or some other branch—practice varies) and beats the a-mi-du hard with it. When the vine withers, the thief will too; or he will suffer some bodily harm. The a-mi-du performs vengeance for the beating it has been given. (GHF)

AMYRIS WOOD sb tech; < Amyris, the genus name. See quote.
1904 Swaby 29, Amyriswood. Amyris balsamifera. 1944 NHV ii 94. It seems probable that at least three species of [of] Amyris have been shipped abroad, formerly under the name of West Indian Sandalwood but now as Amyris Wood.

anabo /ánábó, hánábó/ sb dial; etym unknown, but cf FANCY-ANA. A tree bearing a pretty, liqueur-flavoured bean.
1952 FGC StT, Port.

AN’ ALL phr dial; < and all. A phrase which, placed after a noun or pronoun, means ‘even including’, and implies that the inclusion is unusual or surprising. (Cf All 1.) Cf also DOWN TO. BL G T
1907 Jekyll 147, ‘Time to so hard Hog an’ all a look work [Everybody at Including Hog, is looking for work].’ Ibid 272, Bushy Webb an’ all a pick coco-sinker. 1925 Beckwith 59 [Song] De time to so hard daag and all day look work.

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ANANCY

ANANCY, ANANCY [anansi, hananansi, nánisí] sb; [1859 Ananzí, 1868 Anansay, Anancy, 1873 → Nancy, Anancy, 1924 Anansi, 1943 Nance, Anancy, 1950 Anancy; < Twi anúnse, spider, Anúse, the name of a deity. BL N T

1. The central character of numerous fables, West African in origin, and extremely popular in Jamaica and many other parts of the West Indies. Anancy, the spider, pits his cunning (usually with success) against superior strength; he also symbolizes greed and envy. G

[1859 Darent Introdc., In all the West Indian Islands, ‘Anancy’ is the name of spiders in general, and of a very beautiful spider with yellow stripes in particular. The Negroes think that this spider is the ‘Ananzí’ of their stories; that his superior cunning enables him to take any shape he pleases. In fact, he is the example which the Africans take from which these stories came, have chosen to take as pointing out the superiority of wit over brute strength.] 1868 IRSAA 1 65, Anansay...is the jove, the 2nd of the family of the Sun, the god of riches. His great strength is in his cunning, and in his metamorphic versatility; he is-People’s Proteus. His parentage is utterly unknown—nor indeed does it seem referred to in any of the Anancy stories. 1873 Rampini 116. The principal hero of this autochthonous literature is the large black Anancy spider. 1932 Williams 35. It is peculiar to the Ashanti to use a sobriquet for the Supreme Being or Creator Anancy Koobro, the Great Spider.] 1950 Lancaster 44, ‘I came and asked my man ‘Nancy but him say mek Anancy know, him study a brain he work pon him. 1956 Lefè [hananansi, hananansi].

2. A harmless spider, as distinct from SPIDERS, which term in the dialect is freely reserved for the black poisonous variety: BLACK ANANCY; 1943 Gl. Port. Nance, spider; 1956 Mc StT. 1960 Institute of Jamaica exhibit, Anancy spider, Heteropoda venatoria.

3. Attrit, as in ANANCY ROPE, ANANCY STORY, ANANCY THUG, TOUGH, NANCY BAG, NANCY NET, etc. G

ANANCY ROPE sb dial. Spider web.


ANANCY STORY, NANCY STORY sb; < ANANCY + story. (Found widely throughout the Caribbean.) BA BL G N T

An inclusive name for tales favoured among the peasantry (and Jamaicans in general as children), either a beast-fable (in which case it is usually of European origin, and specifically from Ashanti, with Anancy the spider as its prominent figure), or a ‘fairy-tale’ (in which case it is usually of European origin, at least proximately). Sometimes features of both types are combined. Cf 1924 Beckwith.

a 1818 Lewis (1842) 127–8, ‘The negroes are also very fond of what they call Nancy stories, part of which is related, and part of which, observe, is not at all. It is, indispensible part of a Nancy-story. [Anancy does not appear in European tales given to children in galleys. So it seems to be an indispensable requisite for a Nancy-story, that it should contain a witch or a duppy, or in short some marvellous personage in the manner of one of ‘The Nine Machines’; 1877 Murray Kitele 17, Nobody would venture on a ‘Anancy’ story, till he had played the game. 1907 Jekyll title-page, Annancy Stories, Singing Sings. 1950 Sherlock in Pioneer 14. Here, then, is a collection of Anancy stories and dialect verse.

ANANCY TOUCH-TOUGH sb dial. An unidentified wild plant—perhaps one recalling ANANCY ROPE; cf ANANCY WIS, ti-tail. Also SC Anansi-tai, Anansi-tai.

1922 FGG StT.

ANANCY WIS sb dial; < ANANCY + WIS. 1929 Dec StT [hananansi wis] a fire, black basket-wire.

anaris see HAND-WRIST.

ANATTA, ANATTO janáta, anáto, nátá, nátó/ sb; 1670 1794 anotto, 1672 anatto, 1666 1801 anotto, 1774 1794 anotto, 1854–5 anotto; cf Sp (Peru) anate < Island Carib unato, but the derivation in English may be direct, or multiple, judging by the variations in early forms. (Cf Santamaria, Friederici.) OED a 1682+.

1. A low, shrubby tree, Bixa orellana (10–12 ft high), cultivated extensively in Jamaica as elsewhere in the tropics; once also called achote, roucou.

2. The dark orange-red berries (c. 1 in. diam.) which fill the pod of this tree.

3. The dye obtained from the wax resid of these berries, used for colouring foodstuffs and in preparing a cordial. 1672 Blome, Achote or Anotto. 1696 Sloane 150–1, Uruca de Kintes. Anatto of Legh. Anotto of Ligon... Anotto, 1756 Browne 214, Biza. 1... The Roucou, or Arnotto Tree. This curious shrub is so frequent in the coofer tales of Jamaica. All the seeds of this plant are covered with wax, which...is what generally goes by the name of Terra Orellana, Roucou, and Arnotto. 1801 Dancer 371 (Index of Diseases and Country Remedies) Cough, Asthma, Consumption—Liquorice Vipe—Calabash—Ochrow—Aronoto (etc.), 1834–5 TSIA i 60, Heart-leaved Arnotto, Bixa orellana. 1950 Pioneer 78, ‘I'm take aceke make soup 'im take natta calier'. She takes aceke to make soup, the take anotto to colour it. 1956 Mc Man [anatô]; StAnd [anotá, nató]; StT [anato, nato].

[Cf use of the word in StM place-names, which differs in form from use of the word otherwise; Long i opp 376, 1670 map, Anotto River; Ibid ii frontis, 1774 map, Anotta Bay; Edwards III appendix, 1794 map, Anotte Bay; 1888 Liddell Map, Anotto Bay.]

ANAWSY (ROPE) see ANANCY (ROPE).

ANBURY sb dial; < hand+berry. A fungal gall on a turnip or cabbage.

1952 NHN, Fungal gall...finger toe, or anbury.

ANCH sb dial; an irregular form of ANTS changing show of /ts/ to /ch/. 1907 Jekyll 257 [Song] Auch a bite me.

ANCHOVY PEAR sb, also attrib; 1696 1725 anchovies, 1756 anchovies, 1774→ anchovy; cf OED, 1725→. The tree Oarias cauliflora; also its fruit.

[1657 Ligon 38, 72, Anchove Pear.] 1696 Sloane 179, Palms affinis malus Persica. The Anchove Pear-tree. 1774 Long III 810, Anchovy Pear, or West India Mango. This beautiful tree is frequent in the mountains, as also in low moist bottoms. The fruit is about the size of an alligator’s egg, and much like it in shape, only a little more acute at one end, and of a brown, russet colour; when pickled it exactly resembles the East India Mango. 1866 Grievezach 781, Anchovy-pear tree. 1929 FGG StM (anchovies), Also have it for pickles years ago; haven’t heard it for a long time.

ANCOOL, ANCEL see UNCLE.