Sometimes, though we scarcely ever notice it, words give clear evidence of where they came from: arrive makes it obvious that Frenchmen reached the river in this way, while Greek helps one to see that harmony came from making a joint, making things fit together. See if you can name the words whose history is briefly summarized in each of these cases. Get half of them right and you deserve a medal (originally a metal coin).

1. From a fabric woven with triple threads to a lattice
2. From a loincloth to a bed that is carried
3. From a Cervantes character to an egregious fool
4. From "the land of Carthage" to a whole continent
5. From a river in Colchis to a game bird
6. From a misunderstood "road, route" to a high point
7. From something thrown down to a bed
8. From breaking into pieces to a mêlée
9. From a ball of thread to a hint at a solution
10. From a square to a group
11. From a beating with a stick to a verbal reproof
12. From kneading dough to kneading people
13. From a freeman to a boor
14. From carrying in front to liking best
15. From a brigand to theft
16. From exceptionally courageous (as a lion) to a clown
17. From entire to secure
18. From an Arab military chief to a low servant
19. From groaning to singing
20. From a wagon-maker to a maker of anything out of wood
21. From an old cow to any small animal
22. From the driver of a mare to a political party
23. From a bird's claw to swooping down
24. From a muzzle to a face
25. From the billeting of soldiers to a messenger

Answers will be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

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WORD TRAILS OF ETYMOLOGY

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